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# THE LINK

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## Methodist Link Churches Magazine

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July - August 2008 Volume 43. No. 6.

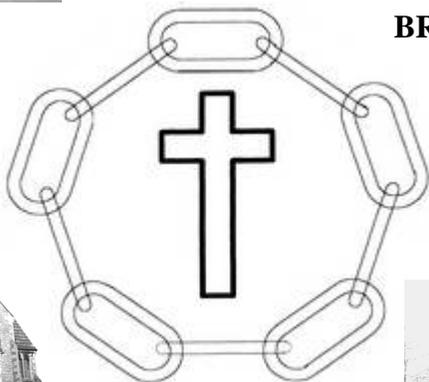
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**BREAN**



**BRENT KNOLL**



**BURNHAM ON SEA**



**EAST BRENT**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**

## *Ministerial Letter*

Dear Friends,

“What is a jigsaw? To me it is the putting together of different shapes to make a picture, some of which are more challenging than others. This week I worked on a 1,000 piece jigsaw of Great Britain. I began, as I usually do, with sorting the straight edge pieces and getting the frame in shape. I follow this with different areas of colour gradually building up until it is complete. I enjoyed this picture and found that I had a very good knowledge of the places on the map below North Yorkshire but when it came to the above and Scotland my knowledge was very limited and took much longer to complete. At the end I was one piece short. It was a new jigsaw given me at Christmas. I had broken all the packet seals. Two friends at the house looked where I had worked and no piece was to be found. Sometime later I suddenly saw the piece on the lounge floor nowhere near where I had been working in the conservatory. What a relief and joy that it was now complete!

To some of you “a Jigsaw” will be a carpenter’s tool. It will be a valuable piece of your carpentry equipment and you will have many items and memories to show the work it has helped you create.

Life is like this. The pieces somehow do not fit and a piece is missing and we wonder what is happening and what the future holds.

Events in life shape us into the people and families we are. We remember Jesus was a carpenter and knew the tools of the trade. He worked with people, challenging, helping, healing and caring.

In this holiday period, busy now with many visitors around, we look at putting the piece together as they share our community.

May they find our coastal area one that gives great pleasure and offers relaxation and enjoyment?

Every blessing

*Joyce F. Plumb*

## Funerals

Linda Christian on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Brent Knoll.  
Mary Pamela Gotfrey on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June at Burnham  
Harry Child on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June at Brent Knoll.  
Hazel Olive on Thursday June 26<sup>th</sup> at Weston Crematorium



## CALENDER

### JUNE

Thu 26th 7.00pm. Choir Concert "Singing Dancing Carpenter".  
Sat 28th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist –  
Everyone Welcome.  
Sun 29th 6.30pm. The Singing Children of Africa - All Welcome.

### JULY

Sat 5th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund - Choir .  
Sun 6th am. Traidcraft Stall in the Hall.  
Wed 9th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning at Hilary Wotton's.  
Thu 10<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm. Sponsored Knit-in for Arthritis Research.  
Sat 12th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist –  
Everyone Welcome.  
Sat 19th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of Secret World - Burnham  
Methodist Hall.  
Sun. 20th 6.30pm. Circuit Service at Burnham - Preacher Rev. A. Ward  
Jones - Bristol District Chairman.  
Tue. 22nd from 10.30am. Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy at Ruth & Bert Knott's  
65 Brent St. Brent Knoll.  
Fri. 25th 10.00 – 12.00. Coffee Morning at the home of Joy & Tony Bishop  
Sat 26th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist –  
Everyone Welcome.

### AUGUST

Sat 2nd 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund - Joyce &  
helpers  
Sat 2nd 10.30 - 12.00 Coffee Morning at Brent Knoll Methodist Church - All  
Welcome.  
Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> NCH Collection at Tesco - Collectors required please.  
Sun 3rd am. Traidcraft Stall in the Hall.  
Wed 6th OPEN DAY at Daphne Hills - Coffee's - Lunches –  
Teas – Everyone welcome.  
Sat 9th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist –  
Everyone Welcome.  
Sat 9th 10.30 - 12.00 Coffee Morning at Brent Knoll Methodist Church - All  
Welcome.  
Sat 16th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of Secret World - Burnham

Methodist Hall.

Sat 16th 10.30 - 12.00 Coffee Morning at Brent Knoll Methodist Church - All Welcome.

Sat 23rd 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.

Sat 23rd 10.30 - 12.00 Coffee Morning at Brent Knoll Methodist Church - All Welcome.

Sat30th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.

Sun 31st am. Traidcraft Stall in the Hall.

**SEPTEMBER**

Sat 6th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund - Wednesday Group.

Sat 13th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.

Sat 20th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of Secret World - Burnham Methodist Hall.



**CIRCUIT SERVICE**

**The Circuit Service on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm will be a special service** to recognize the work of the Local Preachers. Long Service Awards will be presented to: Mrs Joyce Pipet 40 years: Mr. Harry Kempson and Mrs Grace Male 60 years; Mr. George Warr 70 years. Worship Leaders will be welcomed and recognised: Mr. Norman Lester; Mrs. Edna Field, Victoria; Mrs. Hilary Malpas, Burnham on Sea, Mrs. Adele Lloyd, Locking Castle:

We look forward in this service together honouring those who serve us through the leading of worship. I trust that we will give our full support especially to Harry, Joyce and Hilary. J. F.P.



**From David Lee**

After I had preached at Burnham on Aldersgate Sunday morning, it was suggested that I should put part of the sermon into a contribution for the LINK. I am not quite sure which part was intended! But I hope the issue about which I am particularly concerned, our temperance and witness, or shall I say the lack of it. As we look at new ways of being “Church” in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and sharing the gospel, we must not forget the roots of Methodism and the way God has led us through the years.

One of the social problems that John Wesley and his contemporaries had to cope with was drunkenness alcoholism and the many associated problems is one of the pressing issues at this time, particularly among youth and underage children, also adults.

There were 93,500 drink related admissions in 1996 but by 2007 this had shot up to 207,800 to hospitals in England.

The medical profession and the police are pressing the government to bring in stricter controls, but that (as important as it is) is dealing with the symptoms not the causes. We, as Methodist must support government incentives, but more:- we have in the Gospel of Jesus, when actively proclaimed, the answer to the root problems behind alcoholism, boredom, fear, desire, to experiment adventure, excitement, peer pressure.

As Methodists we have to proclaim by example as well as by word. Why have I never touched a drop of alcohol? Because my father and grandfather were strict teetotallers “Old Methodist”.

As we grow closer together as Churches, this element of our social witness, is a contribution we can make to the whole life of the ecumenical movement.

David Lee.



**Burnham Methodist Church**

**SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE at 6.30pm.**

We are thrilled to have the

**African Children's Choir**

[www.thesingingchildrenofafrica.co.uk](http://www.thesingingchildrenofafrica.co.uk)

on this evening. They are really inspirational and we welcome everyone to hear their lovely voices and share in a really happy evening.





METHODISTS FOR WORLD MISSION  
South West Autumn Conference

at the

Ammerdown Centre, Radstock, Nr Bath  
31<sup>st</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2008

**"One God - Three Faiths"**

*"Jerusalem, the Heavenly City,  
..... the heart of our traditions"*

*Thoughts over the week-end will be led by a Rabbi,  
a Sheikh and a Christian as they explore common  
ground, and spirituality of the Abrahamic faiths.*

(It is the intention to follow and complement the study  
in 2007 of the Holy Places of Israel and Palestine)

Further details and Booking Forms from the secretary:  
Geoff Barraclough

7 Pine Tree Close. Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1 BP Tel: 01202 841240  
e-mail: [geoff\\_barraclough@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:geoff_barraclough@tiscali.co.uk)

A full programme and travel details will be sent on receipt of booking forms  
The Conference commences at 6.00pm. on Friday and concludes with an  
act of worship after lunch on Sunday.



All World Church Boxes will need to be emptied by the end of July  
Please hand them in. Also any donations for Word Church Funds will be  
gratefully received.



# **COFFEE MORNING**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July**

At the home of Joy & Tony Bishop

7 Naish Road

From 10.00am. – 12.00noon

In aid of the Redevelopment Fund

# **OPEN HOUSE**

**Wednesday August 6th**

At Daphne Hill's

11 Steart Avenue

From 11.00am.

Morning Coffee/Tea Lunches

Teas - Cakes /Scones

In aid of the Redevelopment Fund

## **LINK VILLAGES FELLOWSHIP**

The A.G.M. took place on Tuesday, May 27th. Following a very comprehensive report given by Mrs Celia Dewfall, the financial report was presented by Mrs Lillian Stone.

Mrs. Celia Dewfall stands down as a leader and Miss Evelyn Tucker was appointed as the new leader. Mrs Lillian Stone said that as she had been treasurer for 24 years, she would like to resign. Mrs. Janet Johnson was elected as Treasurer.

The remainder of the Committee were re-elected en bloc.

The Leaders for the next session 2008/09 are Mrs Christine Thomas, Miss Eileen Goundry, Mrs. Joyce Pipet and Miss Evelyn Tucker. Everyone was thanked for all they had done to make the Fellowship such a success.

Some members were looking forward to joining the ladies from Milton for their Anniversary meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> following the business meeting; Rev. Margaret Trapp led us in Communion.

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, Ruth & Bert Knott are hosting a Coffee Morning at their home – 65 Brent Street, Brent Knoll from 10.30am. There will be a Bring & Buy Stall. Everyone is welcome.

The first meeting of the next session will be on Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, when we shall again welcome the ladies from Milton Methodist Church.

Please look out for details of our meetings. Everyone will be welcome to join us. There is always a cup of tea and biscuits and a time of fellowship, we meet in the schoolroom of East Brent Methodist Church.

Eileen Goundry.



Can you imagine a teacher sitting at her desk grading these papers all the while trying to keep a straight face and maintain her composure! It comes from a Roman Catholic Elementary School Children were asked questions about the Bible. They have not been corrected in any way

1. In the first book of the Bible, Guinessis. God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.
2. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of ark. Noah built the ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day but a ball of fire during the night.
4. Sampson was a strong man who let himself be led astray by a jezebel like Delilah.
5. Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the apostles.
6. Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
7. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. After wards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments.
8. The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple
9. The seventh commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery
10. Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.

11. David was a Hebrew King who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.
  12. Solomon one of Davids sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines
  13. When Mary heard she was the mother of Jesus, she sang the magna carta.
  14. Jesus enunciated the golden rule which says do unto others before they do one to you. He also explained man doth not live by sweat alone
  15. It was a miricle when Jesus rose from the dead and managed to get the stone off the entrance.
  16. The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 Decibels.
  17. The Epistels were the wives of the Apostles.
  18. St. Paul cavorted to Christianity; he preached holy acrimony which is another name for marriage.
  19. Christians have only one spouse, this is called monotony
- Sent in by Dennis Dixon



## **HARRY'S Cuttings**

**From Jacques Loen Book  
"Face to Face with God"**

One day Madeleine Delbrel wrote this - for herself. It doesn't need a commentary. This is how a contemporary heard, kept and practised the Gospel, the 'Lord's Book', as she called It:

The Gospel is the book of the Lord's life. It was written to be the book of our lives.

It wasn't written to be understood, but to be approached like a mysterious threshold.

It wasn't written to be read, but to be absorbed

Each of its words is spirit and life. Agile and free, they only await our spiritual hunger, to fuse with our soul Living, they are like leaven, seizing on our dough and making it ferment with a new type of life.

The words of human books can be understood and weighed.

The words of the Gospel are experienced and borne

We assimilate the words in books. The words of the Gospel mould, alter and, you might say, assimilate us.

When Jesus tells us: ‘Do not reclaim what you have lent’, or, ‘Yes, yes, no, no: everything else is from the Evil One’ we are being asked merely to obey ... and arguing will not help us to do so.

What will help us is to-carry, to ‘keep’ - in the warmth of our faith and hope - the word that we want to obey between it and our will, a sort of pact for life will be cemented

Whenever we hold the Gospel in our hands, we ought to think that in it lives the Word who wants to become flesh in us, to capture us, so that, with his heart grafted on to ours and with his spirit plugged into our spirit, we can begin his life again, in another place, in another age, in another human society.

Putting the Gospel into practice like this means renouncing our own lives, to receive a destiny none other than Christ himself.



## **Arthritis Research**

Our annual Sponsored Knit-in will be held on Thursday July 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. We have a happy hour Knitting and chatting and the Arthritis Research Council are most appreciative of the result which generally amounts to £300.00 plus. Will knitters bring some double knitting wool and number 9 (3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>) needles. I have plenty of sponsor forms.

If you do not knit why not come along for a pleasant afternoon, and, of course, a cuppa, you will be most welcome.

Muriel Hyde.



## **NCH the Children’s Charity**

The collection at Sedgemoor Services Northbound on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> raised £212.00.

Tesco have given permission for a collection at the store on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. If you can help please see me.

Dorothy May

## EAST BRENT

It's always good to welcome old friends and new faces as well. A few weeks ago, as I arrived for morning worship, there was a family - grandparents, children and small grandchildren, on bikes, paused outside chapel. 'Grandma' was glancing at our main Church notice board while the children were being given assistance with their bikes and as I went into chapel I just smiled and said 'Good Morning'. Well, out in the country we do that kind of thing, even to complete strangers! A few minutes later, Grandma and Granddad were at our door asking Jill if they could join us for worship. They were, of course, made very welcome and it transpired that they had arrived in East Brent, just the evening before, for a week's holiday. The whole family usually attend worship together at their local Salvation Army Hall. Being on our doorstep at the right time for worship encouraged them to join us. The children, of course, were keen to continue their bike ride of exploration so the rest of the family didn't join us. We really enjoyed having such lovely visitors drop in and hope we added a good memory to their holiday in East Brent.

At the end of the month we celebrated our 137th Church Anniversary. A family service, this was led by Mr. Peter Richardson who visited us for the first time. We were not inundated with Brownies but there are two who regularly attend family service and we welcomed them as usual and hope they enjoyed the cakes, as did we all. Thanks to Jill for the cakes which helped to celebrate our anniversary.

We wish all those lucky enough to be off on summer holidays safe journeys and memorable times. Please leave some sunshine here for the rest of us.

Best wishes to all who are suffering ill health.

I am going to add a personal note here.

Many thanks to everyone for their support and prayers around the time of the death of my father earlier this year and now the death of my mother. I really appreciate the care of my Church family.

Margaret Scott

# BURNHAM.

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

## STEWARDS COLUMN

We send our greetings to all Link readers, hoping that the bright sunny days are reflected in brighter spirit! We are conscious that so many of our congregation are suffering in various ways, we do miss you within our fellowship, assure you of our prayers, and hope you will be well enough to be with us soon. We are especially delighted to hear that our Minister Rev. Stephen Hill is now well enough to return to full time ministry from 1st September, we know he is "itching" to start, and we welcome him back.

Our 129th Church Anniversary services led by Rev. Robin Hutt, was a happy time as we "Remembered" "Celebrated", and "Look forward" to the future. Our Anniversary Tea was very well supported and we give thanks to all who contributed to the weekend in many various ways.

A special big 'thank you' to our choir. Both Tim and Bridget who made our weekend extra special, and we thank all for their hard work.

Our Redevelopment Project is progressing well, despite the difficulties of connecting in the new drainage system with the existing one, due to movement over the years. The roof is taking shape, and the colour scheme for the new foyer has been chosen by members.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm. We are truly blessed to have the African Childrens choir singing in church. They are really inspirational and we do hope as many as possible will be able to come.

July 20<sup>th</sup> we are holding a Circuit Service at Burnham during which we shall be acknowledging the commitment and dedication of several long serving Local Preachers. A huge number of weekly services are led by Local Preachers, and Methodism would struggle to continue without their valued contribution. From our own church, certificates will be presented to Harry Kempson - 60years, and Joyce Pipet - 40years, also, we shall be 'recognising' several Worship Leaders who have studied to assist in some aspects of Sunday worship. The evening will begin from 5.00pm when our Weston churches arrive for refreshments prior to worship. Our Preacher will be our District Chairman Rev. Ward Jones. This is our way of saying 'Thank You' to our Preachers, and we invite as many as possible to attend this Service.

Every blessing. Eric, for the Stewards.

# BURNHAM REDEVELOPMENT

Money Raised to date: £130,256.10

We had a very enjoyable afternoon at the home of Cedric and Dorothy and say “Thank you”

## FUTURE DATES

July 9<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning at the home of Hilary Wotton

July 25<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning the home of Tony and Joy Bishop

August 13<sup>th</sup> Coffee, Lunch, Afternoon Tea at the home of Daphne Hill

Please give your support. Further details will be on the Weekly Notices.



## BREAN

[www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org](http://www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org)

Have you tried to concentrate on something when your mind is on other things? That is the case at the moment. After having a glorious week's holiday in Cornwall it's a case of down to earth and the LINK report. Yes it's that time of year when lots of members in all our churches will be packing their bags and if they have been able to fill their tanks will be driving off. We wish them all good weather and safe journeys and a time of relaxation and refreshment. On the other hand we hope that some of the crowds visiting our area may be moved to join us in Church.

We have a special occasion to look forward to. On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July it should have been a united service at St. Bridget's but St Mary's Church at Berrow are having a visit from the African Children's Choir at the morning service and naturally our friends of St. Bridget's want to go to hear them, so we have excepted the invitation to join them in what I am sure will be a truly blessed service.

We send our Best Wishes to all our Link and Circuit friends especially to those who are going through difficult and anxious times – we remember you in our prayers.

Lilian Stone.



# WEST HUNTSPILL

“Thank You” to everyone who supported our Coffee Evening with Entertainment, As well as having a very enjoyable evening, we raised a total of £150.50 for Christian Aid.



## BRENT KNOLL

Any preacher will tell you that choosing hymns can be a long process but sometimes one will just come to mind. This week it was Hymn 708 Believe not those who say the upward path is smooth. It was written by Anne Bronte, the youngest of the talented sisters who grew up in Haworth Parsonage, The surrounding moorland could be bleak and the pathways difficult but it could also be a place of great beauty and I think that the experience of this landscape is reflected in the hymn which reminds us that however hard the journey may be it is never without light.

We can always depend on the constancy of God's love which is there for each one of us. Life can be hard and we don't know what difficulties other people may be facing. There may be problems at work, problems in the family or simply the problems of growing older. It is so important that especially within the Church family we should try to show understanding, care and support for one another. Here at Brent Knoll we have had to say goodbye to one of our faithful members, who was finding the journey rather hard. We shall miss Harry Child very much but we are glad to know that he spent his last day in company with good and caring friends.

Our congregation is inevitably growing older but it is good that younger people still find our building a welcoming place. The 12 - 15 Club is on its summer break but the Shell Club continues and Mothers and Toddlers enjoy a happy time on Tuesday mornings.

Thinking of happy times we shall again be holding our coffee mornings on the first four Saturdays in August starting on August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10.30 – 12 noon. We shall be pleased to welcome friends from the village and the Link, even if Station Road is still closed!

Greetings to everyone.

Margaret.

# Minister

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## Web Sites

[www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk)  
[www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org](http://www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org)  
[www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

**The Deadline for the  
September 2008 “LINK” is  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2008**

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Please contact the Editor if you would like one.**

If you do not have the ‘LINK’ regularly and would like to do so, please fill in the slip and hand to a Steward. or send to the Editor.  
Price £3.00 per annum. Inland Post £3.00 per annum.

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