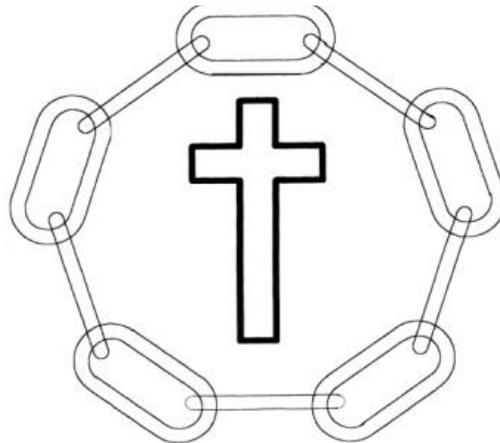

THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

July - August 2016 Volume 51. No. 6.

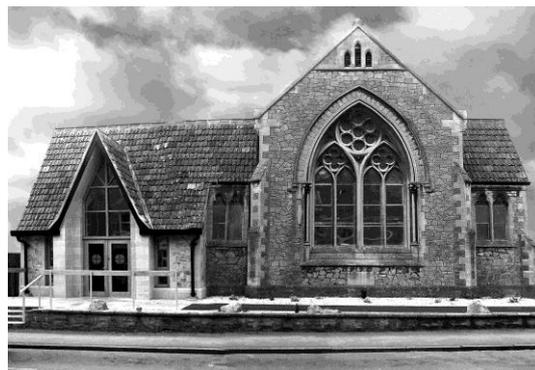


BRENT KNOLL



EAST BRENT

WEST HUNTSPILL



BURNHAM

Minister Letter

Give me a break!

The main holiday season will soon be upon us. It will be a time when millions of people will take that 'well earned' break, a time of rest and relaxation.

However, the reality of a holiday is not always like this. Aeroplanes will be full, the beaches will be crowded, and the roads will grind to a standstill. No doubt there will be a strike or two that will disrupt travel arrangements. People will eat too much, drink too much, get too much sun. On top of all this the frustration of not being able to 'let it all go' will spoil even the most carefully planned holiday. Rather than having a relaxing and refreshing time many people will return to their daily lives more stressed out having had a break than they would have been without it! That's not really the way it's meant to be...is it?

It is very biblical to take time out. Jesus often took time away to gather his thoughts and be with his Father. One of the delights, but also the problem of his ministry, was that he was never left alone. He was always surrounded by people who had one sort of problem or another, always the focus of attention, always giving to those in need, showing God's love. What he said and did often brought him into conflict with the authorities, and even when in the sole company of his disciples, he constantly had to explain his teaching to them because they did not understand. So he went away to quiet places; not to indulge himself but to pray and be with God, using this time to seek inner peace and a recharging of his batteries.

Jesus showed us what true 'time out' is all about, what it means to take a break! And many in our church will be seeking this type of renewal. Whether these are our folk holidaying elsewhere or people joining with us who are on their own journey of relaxation and recuperation. I hope we can all see holiday time not as self-indulgence, but more about a time to reflect on God's generous and abundant provision, about prayer, and about giving time and space to allow the Holy Spirit to refresh our lives. This sort of break is one that is really worth having anytime of the year.

Steve

Calendar

JUNE

Sat 25th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham
Sun 26th 10.30 B/H Church Anniversary Preacher Rev Dr
Jonathan Pye - District Chairman
Sun 26th B/H Burnham No Evening Service

JULY

Sat 2nd 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by the
Stewards & Thursday Fellowship
Sun 3rd 10.30 B/H Family Service at Burnham
Sun 3rd 6.00 B/H Evening Service Rev. Jim McKnight
Sat 9th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham
Sat 9th 7.30 W/H Methodist Church – Concert by Caprione
Community Choir All welcome
Wed 13th 12.00 B/H Holy Communion
Sat 16th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H League of Friends Coffee Mornings at
Burnham Methodist
Sun 17th 6.00 B/H Evening Service Rev. Steve Bennett
Cafe Praise
Mon 18th 10.00 B/H Burnham Property Meeting
Wed 23rd 10.00 – 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham
Wed 27th 12.00 B/H Shoppers Service at Burnham
Fri 30th 10.00 - 4.00 B/H Flower Festival at Burnham Methodist
Sat 30th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham
Sat 30th 10.00 - 4.00 B/H Flower Festival at Burnham Methodist
Sun 31st 2.00 - 4.00 B/H Flower Festival at Burnham Methodist
Sun 6.00 B/H Evening Service Deacon Gary Hoare

AUGUST

Sat 6th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by the Choir
Sun 7th 10.30 B/H Family Service at Burnham
Sun 7th 4.00 **Link Service at Brean**
Wed 10th 12.00 B/H Holy Communion
Op 15th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham
Sat 20th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H League of Friends Coffee Mornings at
Burnham Methodist
Sun 21st LAST DAY FOR THE SEPTEMBER LINK
Sun 21st 6.00 B/H Evening Service Rev. Steve Bennett
Cafe Praise
Wed 24th 12.00 B/H Shoppers Service at Burnham
Sat 27th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham

SEPTEMBER

- Sat 3rd 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by the
Wednesday Group
- Sun 4th 10.30 B/H Family Service at Burnham
- Sat 10th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham
- Sat 17th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H League of Friends Coffee Mornings at
Burnham Methodist
- Sun 18th LAST DAY FOR THE OCTOBER LINK**
B/H Burnham, BR Brean, B/K Brent Knoll, E/B East Brent,
W/H West Huntspill

6.00pm Evening Services at Burnham

3rd July Rev. Jim McKnight.

17th July Rev Steve Bennett **Café Praise**

31st July Deacon Garry Hoare

7th August Link Service **4.00pm at Brean**

21st August Rev Steve Bennett **Café Praise**

COFFEE MORNING

Tuesday 5th July

10.00-1200

At the home of

Joy and Tony Bishop

7 Naish Road

In aid of the Roof Fund

Saturday 9th July 7.30pm
West Huntspill Methodist Church
Caprione Community Choir
Evening Light Entertainment
Fellowed by Tea/Coffee
& Collection
Everyone Welcome

FLOWER FESTIVAL
29th to 31st July 2016

A Flower Festival is being held in
Burnham on Sea Methodist Church
College Street .

The Church will be open on
Friday 29th from 10.00am to 4.00pm.
Saturday 30th from 10.00am to 4.00pm.
Sunday 31st from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Refreshments will be available
All Donations will be for
The Church Roof Fund.

Sunday 14th August

2.30 onwards

OPEN GARDENS

At 15 Stoddens Road Cake Tea/Coffee

Towen's Cottage Berrow Road

Biscuits & Tea

6 Brightstowe Road Cake & Tea

Donation for The Roof Fund

BRENT KNOLL

www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com

Minister Rev. Steve Bennett

Well at the time of writing, summer is definitely upon us (and I do hope I haven't spoken too soon). So a timely reminder that we will be holding our annual summer coffee mornings on each Saturday during August between 10.30am and 12.00am. It goes without saying that all are welcome as we look forward to seeing our Link friends over a coffee and refreshments.

Another summer event takes place on 1 July when the Allsorts Community Choir will be holding an evening of music at St Mary's Church in East Brent at 7.30pm. The event is free but donations would be appreciated in aid of the Children's Hospice South West.

From all of us at Brent Knoll Church, whatever you're doing, whether you are going away or enjoying a "staycation", we wish you a warm, sunny, safe and happy summer.

God bless

Rosemary Krull

EAST BRENT

We had expected to be lounging (sleeping) in our new chairs by now, but things don't always go to plan as they have been delayed by three weeks!!

Our Church looks a bit bare as over half of the pews have been removed and sold already. There are still four left if you would like one, complete with a red velvet cushion. I'm hoping everyone will agree to having a coffee area at the back of the Church when the chairs are in place, for our after service coffee and chat, instead of staying in the main part of the Church as they do now. Hopefully this will avoid any spillage on the chairs.

It was a pleasure to welcome Gary to our morning service last week, complete with prayer board. He gave a brief explanation and encouraged everyone to write something on it which a few did, a fitting end to the 1-11 prayer event.

Some of our congregation have been unwell over the last few weeks, Evelyn, Margaret G and Gordon (with a very painful back).

I'm looking forward to a couple of months free of meetings over the summer, there seems to have been a lot lately, and I am tired, or is it just that I'm getting old!!

Jill Legg



BURNHAM

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

STEWARDS COLUMN.

Its good to be writing the steward's column again after a few years with no steward's responsibilities. When I resigned to spend more time with my husband there were only two stewards. Now there are six! This makes life as a steward less daunting as we can share the responsibilities and work as a team.

The big event of the month of June is our Church Anniversary on 26th June and we are honoured and delighted to be joined by our Chair of District, Revd. Dr. Jonathan Pye to lead our worship. By the time you read this the service will have taken place but I know that we, as a congregation are really looking forward to it.

Things are moving forward at a pace here in Burnham – we are having more evening services (and from September there will be services every Sunday evening to which all are invited). Our first House Group for many years has been started by Revd. Jim McKnight and hopefully others will follow. Our Saturday coffee mornings continue to flourish and our new initiative of once a month Tea and Chat afternoon for lonely folk is still in the trial period but those of us who attend enjoy it enormously. The monthly Churches Together lunches which have moved from the Baptist Church to our church are doing very well and a great service to the community.

We look forward in July to the Flower Festival (please see the Flower festival page in the Link). I'm sure the church will be festooned with flowers and will look beautiful. Even if you are not preparing a display please come along and enjoy the

flowers and all the hard work that everyone (especially Dorothy) has put in to make this a success.

We have lots of coughs and colds going around at the moment and many of our congregation are under the weather. We wish them well and a speedy recovery – and we wish the same to everyone in the Link who is unwell at this time.

It has been a joy to welcome Mary Chalker back to church after the sad death of her brother John. She wishes me to thank, on her behalf, all those who sent their condolences, by letter, card or phone call and to say that she is grateful for your support at this time.

On behalf of the stewarding team here at Burnham I send everyone good wishes for a great summer. May the sun shine brightly on all your endeavours!

Every Blessing

Ann Hall



BREAN

www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org

Last Saturday the folk from Yatton Methodist Church brought about 55 of their number to enjoy our facilities in their fun day. They were the first this summer, of churches from round and about, who seek to make use of what we can offer. Locking Castle are due in the next few weeks and there could be more after that.

We joined in with the rest of the Circuit in the PrayerFest that Deacon Gary Hoare set up last month to help us look at ourselves and our future, and to think of each other. Our

nominated day coincided with our monthly joint service with the Anglicans. We held a prayer fellowship before our service and prayer was the subject of the worship afterwards. Joyce Pipet organised the whole event with visual and sound accompaniment, and a splendid occasion it was too. In the evening we joined with the rest of the Circuit at the final service of the sequence, held at St Andrew's, Bournville. Our thanks to Gary for the work that he put into making the 1 to 11, 11 to 1 campaign so successful.

Those of us who attended the Circuit Meeting in the following week were greatly impressed by the work that Gary is doing in the Circuit and especially in Weston, involved in various schemes in the churches there from helping Victoria work out their future plans in a very fluid situation, to bridging the gap between church and community on the Bournville Estate, work with young people at Milton, with Street Pastors in Weston town centre, as well as efforts to build up the fellowship at Church Road and Uphill. The choice of replacing one of the Weston Presbyters with the specialist work of a Deacon looks to have the makings of a real success story.

We are also trying to look to the future. In May we sent round new notices to all the campsites along our stretch to advertise the services in Anglican and Methodist churches of Brean. Over thirty were distributed. The response so far has not been brilliant but it is early days yet and we do think that we have seen people at our worship that we might not otherwise have done. Increased advertising outside of our own church is also planned in the coming weeks.

On August 7th our service will be in the open air at the front of our church. It will start at 4pm and be led by our Superintendent minister. Well, it was he who challenged us to embark on this initiative in the first place. I can't say that we were greatly enthusiastic but we recognise that it is the right

thing to do in this holiday area. So we need a bit of support please. Will you come? There's tea and cake afterwards!

This is the last Link before the summer holiday period, so we wish you all the very best for this time, and hope that we are all suitably refreshed for the start of a new Methodist year come September. Our Anglican friends will welcome their new priest-in-charge at the end of August so September will herald a new start for them too.

Harvey Allen



WEST HUNTSPILL

Saturday 9th July

West Huntspill Methodist Church

Caprione Community Choir

Evening Light Entertainment

Fellowed by Tea/Coffee

& Collection

Everyone Welcome

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Web Sites

Circuit Web site www.wsmbos.org
www.methodistchurchburnhamonseas.org.uk
www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org
www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com

<p style="text-align: center;">The Deadline for the SEPTEMBER 2016 LINK is Sunday 21st August 2016</p>
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