

---

# THE LINK

---

**Methodist Link Churches Magazine**

**July - August 2018 Volume 53. No. 6.**

---



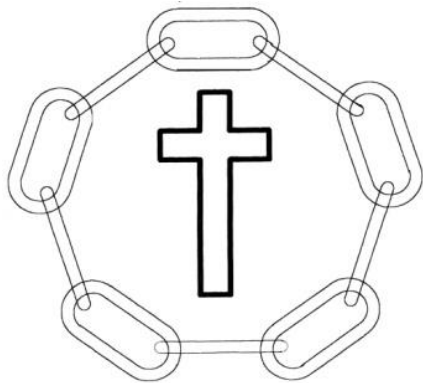
**BRENT KNOLL**



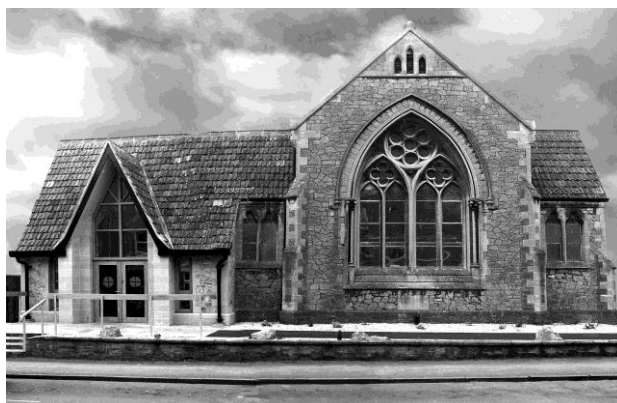
**BREAN**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM on SEA**

# Minister's Letter

## Summer

If you are visiting others, take the greetings of the churches in this Circuit with you.

If you are a visitor, welcome to this corner of Somerset.

It is wonderful that we are the family of God, and as we travel around on holiday, work or for whatever reason, we know that somewhere there will be a church (a fellowship of Christians) if not a church building to greet and sustain us. Here in this area we are pleased to be able to welcome people who are visiting us, not just in the summer months, to get to know them and to hear about their Christian life and experiences.

As I write this letter it is the longest day of the year (yes, I am very late, and the editor is chasing me) and someone said to me 'well it's all downhill to winter now'. I haven't had my summer holiday yet, so I wasn't really prepared to look on this day with that amount of pessimism. For me, far from being the sign of the coming of winter, this day reminds me of the constancy of the changing seasons. In fact, over the last few years we have had better weather in September than in May – perhaps not this year given the wonderful weather we have enjoyed.

Having said this, I am content to leave all these things in God's hands; to enjoy the summer (traffic and all) whatever the weather, because it will bring me into contact with sisters and brothers that otherwise I might not meet. In these meetings and conversations, we often discover just 'how great is our God' as the modern hymn puts it.

Sing with me.....How great is our God!

*Steve.*



# CALENDAR

## JUNE

- Sun 24th 10.30am B/H Burnham Church Anniversary  
Sat 30th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sat 30th 10.30am B/K Brent Knoll Praise for Pets See page

## JULY

- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Wednesday Group  
Tue 10<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Afternoon Tea & Bring & Buy at West Huntspill  
See page 11  
Wed 11<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm B/H Burnham Quiz Night  
Sat 14<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Tue 17<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning at The Home of Mrs. Joy Bishop 7 Naish Road See page 4  
Sat 21<sup>st</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 W/H Coffee Morning at West Huntspill see page 11  
Fri 27<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm. Fourth Friday at Wisteria Cottage Watchfield  
See page 4  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning

## AUGUST

- Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Stewards  
Sat 4<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 Brent Knoll Coffee Morning  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/K Brent Knoll Coffee Morning  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 Brent Knoll Coffee Morning  
Sat 18<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm B/H Trinity Entertainers at Burnham Methodist Church See page 4  
Sun 19<sup>th</sup> **LAST DAY FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2018 LINK**  
Fri 24<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm. Fourth Friday at Wisteria Cottage Watchfield  
Sat 25<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sat 25<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 Brent Knoll Coffee Morning

## SEPTEMBER

- Sat 1<sup>st</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Dorothy & Helpers  
Sat 8<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sun 9<sup>th</sup> B/K Brent Knoll Harvest  
Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning

**B/H Burnham, BR Brean, B/K Brent Knoll,  
E/B East Brent, W/H West Huntspill.**



# FOURTH FRIDAY

Fourth Friday is a new venture that will meet on the fourth Friday evening of each month, with a Bring & Share Supper, fellowship, conversation around a variety of issues NOT EXCLUDING religion and politics, and perhaps a bit of singing. We ask you to bring a main dish, or a dessert, or a drink and we'll put it all together for a pot luck meal. Meanwhile we'll talk about and around all sorts of things ; some of the conversation will be serious, some not. We'll meet from 7pm onwards at the home of John & Linda, Wisteria Cottage, Watchfield, Highbridge TA9 4RB – if you need transport please let John or Linda know.



## Coffee Morning

At the home of Joy Bishop

7 Naish Road

10.00 – 12.00

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July

Raffle & Bric- a Brac stall

In aid of Church Funds

## Trinity Entertainers

A Return Visit

An Evening of Singing and Entertainment

On Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>

At Burnham on Sea Methodist Church

At 7.00pm

Tickets available from

Dorothy May

01278 784204

In aid of Church Funds

# **BRENT KNOLL**

**Minister Revd. Steve Bennett**

The holiday season is firmly upon us and here at Brent Knoll we're looking forward to our annual August coffee mornings which will take place each Saturday of the month at 10.30am. We're all enjoy sharing refreshments, catching up and exchanging news with our Circuit and village friends. The first Saturday coffee morning (4 June) coincides with churches across the country marking the start of 100 days of prayer for peace and reconciliation in the lead up to the commemoration of the end of the Great War 100 years ago this year. To mark this, as well as the school room being open for coffee, our church will also be open for those wanting to mark the beginning of these 100 days of prayer. As in previous years, any monies raised from these coffee mornings will be donated to designated charities. This year these charities are the Weston Hospice, the MS Centre, the RNLI and All We Can. I will let you have details of monies raised for these charities in the September issue of The Link.

As this year flies by, I'm finding it hard to believe that I'm actually writing the "July/August" article for our church - but looking further ahead, we're also thinking ahead to September. One of the things to come out of the Circuit Review was the recognition that rural and town centre churches have very different opportunities for mission. Here in Brent Knoll, we're very conscious of parents and carers having busy Sundays as children play sports and take part in other activities over much of the weekend. So we have decided to open our church for a time of prayer on the first Monday of each month. It will afford an opportunity for parents and carers who begin their week with a frantic school run to enjoy a short period of calm at the beginning of their busy week. Since we've installed our beautiful prayer tree, we thought we could open this space of prayer to the village. Tea lights will also be available for those who would like to light one - either in prayer or in remembrance of a loved one. But don't think this is just for parents and carers! This time is for all who would like to spend a while in the peace and serenity of the church. There will also be someone in the school room if people would like to have someone to talk to or have a coffee during this time. The church will be open on Monday 3 September between 9am - 10.30am.

And of course, September is the month of Harvest and we will be holding our Harvest Festival on 9 September. This is one of our favourite times of the year as our chapel really does look its best decked out in seasonal fare as we look forward to this special service which will be followed by a home prepared shared lunch. We all love celebrating this special time in our country church calendar.

So until September, all that is left to say from all of us at Brent Knoll is that we wish you a safe, peaceful and restful Summer whether you are travelling far or enjoying time at home in our beautiful part of the world.

With every blessing

Rosemary Krull



**BRENT KNOLL METHODIST CHURCH**

**A Service of Praise and Thanksgiving for all pets and animals**

**All pets welcome great and small**

**Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> 10.30am**

**Refreshments and treats for all**



# EAST BRENT

A few weeks ago late on Saturday evening, I was told the planned preacher was not coming the next day. This resulted in some phone calls and lots of book work. Surprisingly the service was very well received, but a bit more notice would have been helpful!!

To celebrate our 147 years Church Anniversary Diana brought along a lovely cake which we all enjoyed with our coffee.

Andrew and I attended the stewards meeting at Brent Knoll to discuss the future of our Churches. The first half hour was spent telling us that Churches would have to close, we may not have a minister and that there will not be enough people to do the various jobs, as we are all getting older, I came away very despondent. I had hoped that this meeting was to discuss how we could move forward, not all doom and gloom. We were asked to discuss with our congregations – if we are not closing our buildings what are we going to do?? We discussed this (while we ate the cake). No one wanted our Church to close and were willing to take on any new ideas in the future, one of the hymns we sang last Sunday was ‘God is working his Purpose Out’ – perhaps we should all have more FAITH!!

The last of our pews have been sold and it was to someone who used to attend our Sunday School, this now gives more room in the hall. Most of the 14 pews sold have been bought by persons with some connection to our Church.

We are so pleased that the members who have been unwell are back sharing in our fellowship, we also send best wishes to Eileen Craig – we do miss you, but you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Jill Legg



# BURNHAM.

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

## STEWARDS COLUMN

Enjoying these very warm summer evenings when it's too warm to work in the garden (at least that is what I say to Helen) . I find time to reflect over the many years I have been a member of the Methodist Church.

When I lived in Birmingham our Local Methodist Church had major building problems and the decision had to be made knock the building down and start again or try to raise the funds to repair it. The decision was made knock it down and rebuild. We had a congregation of approx 200/250 folk per week as well as healthy lettings. We had many problems on the way including the builder going bankrupt but still the vision of what we were trying to achieve burned brightly. For four years we met in the local community centre and when the Church was finished we had walk of witness from the community centre to the new Church for our very first service in the new Church. The first hymn was 'Be still for the presence of the Lord is moving in this place'. There were a few of us that had put many hours into finishing the building and that hymn reduced us to tears.

Now twenty five years later I feel the same about the plans for where the circuit is going I have been privileged on your behalf to attend the bi-monthly meetings following on from the Meeting we had in April when over seventy folk meet to discuss the circuit and where did we think it will be in five years and ten years we listen to the plans for new housing both in Weston and Highbridge with excitement. Yes it has the same overwhelming feeling that I had all those years ago. The Lord is moving in this area. We at Burnham have a meeting planned for July with the Stewards asking the congregation to come listen, and join in to the planning meeting for mission in our area the date is Sunday July 22nd after morning service please make a date in your diary you can be sure of a warm welcome. We have a really great opportunity to spread the good news let us grab the chance with both hands

*Geoff Stait*



# BREAN

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

Gwennap Pit. Have you ever been there? It's a natural amphitheatre about 100 yards across formed from a collapsed mine. It has a special atmosphere. Judy and I first visited it on our honeymoon over 50 years ago. We've visited it a couple of times since but without there being people present. But John Wesley used to claim it as a favourite preaching place. He could get over a thousand people listening to him; and an elderly friend of ours can also remember such numbers in her lifetime. We spent a few days in Cornwall at the end of May and were delighted that on Pentecost Sunday afternoon, a service was being held there. I counted a couple of hundred people present and though I can't say that the style of worship was one I would normally find satisfaction in, the whole atmosphere was such that any differences of approach were more than compensated by the overall spirituality of the service. A couple from a local Christian motorbike group added colour to the occasion with some splendid waving of huge flags. If you ever get the chance to visit the place, it is well worth it; a few miles west of A30 south east of Redruth.

On our return it was hands to the pump for the Coffee morning in aid of Weston Hospicecare. As we sat in the church wondering where our anticipated deluge of visitors had got to, Rosemary walked in 'What are you doing inside? It's a lovely day we should be out there in the front of the chapel. 'So, we upped sticks and did what Rosemary said; and indeed, things did pick up. In the end we raised £105 to send to the good cause. So, thank you to all those who contributed and to those who came and supported us.

We have done quite well for visitors so far with 25 on Spring Bank Holiday and 20 on a couple of occasions since. Groups also use our chapel for fun and fellowship, Yatton on 16<sup>th</sup> June, and Locking Castle are due on 23<sup>rd</sup>

Not so welcome however was the inebriated visitor who ventured round the back of the chapel one afternoon and threw a breeze block through the window of the kitchen. A nasty bit of work to clear up and thanks to Anne and Rose for their efforts.

We have been well absorbed during the month in getting to grips with Jonah. It is surprising how many different perspectives have been given during the services. Our thanks to preachers for the efforts they have put into this series.

This is the last Link before September so here is a reminder about our Annual open-air service which this year is on Sunday August 12<sup>th</sup> at 4pm with tea and cake to follow. About 60 people came last year, so please do your best to support us if you can. There will not be a morning service on that day

The only other change to our services will be on 8<sup>th</sup> July when our joint worship with the Anglicans will be at St Bridget's at 9.15am

In the meantime, enjoy your summer. We hope it will be a very pleasant time for everyone.

Harvey Allen

# WEST HUNTSPILL



## **Afternoon Tea with a Bring and Buy Stall**

In aid of St Margaret's Hospice

Tuesday July 10th at 2.30pm

Do come and join us to support this community facility which cares for so many people.



## **Our next Coffee Morning**

**Will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

**10am – 12md**

**Table Top Sales**

**Donations to West Huntspill School**



## Minister and Circuit Superintendent

Rev. Steve Bennett,  
[steve.bennett@methodist.org.uk](mailto:steve.bennett@methodist.org.uk)

28A Caernarvon Way. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2DQ  
Tel. (01278) 784808

## Editors

Cedric & Dorothy May,  
[cedric.may@btinternet.com](mailto:cedric.may@btinternet.com)

6 Brightstowe Road. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2HW  
Tel. (01278) 784204

## Web Sites

Circuit Web site [www.wsmbos.org](http://www.wsmbos.org)  
[www.methodistchurchburnhamonseas.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonseas.org.uk)  
[www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org](http://www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org)  
[www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

---

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Deadline for the SEPTEMBER 2018 LINK is Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2018</b></p>
--

## LINK ORDER FORM

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 £6.00** per annum.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

POST CODE.....CHURCH.....

LINK **£3.00** Postage £..... Donation £..... Total £.....

Please make Cheques Payable to **“Burnham on Sea Methodist Church**