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# THE LINK

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## Methodist Link Churches Magazine

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June 2008 Volume 43. No. 5.

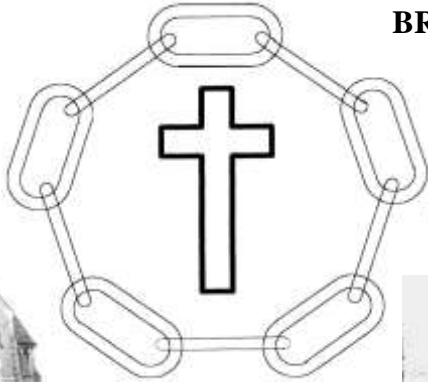
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**BREAN**



**BRENT KNOLL**



**BURNHAM ON SEA**



**EAST BRENT**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**

# *Ministerial Letter*

I suppose all of us have moments when a memento of a place, a person or a special occasion seems so real it could have happened yesterday. A greeting from a former District Chairman a few weeks ago had that affect on me.

It sent me back to the three circuits I served in South Wales, covering three very different areas, life styles, even variations in the Welsh language. In Cardiff, a cosmopolitan city, Tenby in the far west with its glorious beaches, and Glan Ebbw in one of the valleys known for their now worked out coal mines and steel works

Well one of my churches that shall remain nameless, had a visit which involved a ride in a ferry boat, from John Wesley. Well I've been asked on a number of occasion; in the strangest of places "Have you been converted?" But never have I been asked the question John Wesley always asked on such visits "are you growing?" He got so little response so the story says that he removed all their names from the Membership Roll. For him conversion was the beginning of a life with constant growth in our knowledge of God and his purposes, our likeness to Jesus Christ, and our witness to God's unchanging love.

I wonder how well we have done? The building work on the Burnham Church is certainly growing, but are we?

*Beth*

## **From GRASMERE METHODIST CHURCH**

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If after Church, you wait awhile.  
Someone may greet you with a smile.  
But, if you quickly rise and flee,  
We'll all seem cold and stiff, maybe  
The one beside you in the pew  
Is perhaps a stranger too.  
All here, like you, have fears and cares,  
All of us need each other's prayers.  
In fellowship we bid you meet,  
With us around God's Mercv Seat.

# CALENDER

## MAY

- Sat 24th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.
- Tue. 27th 2.30pm. LINK Fellowship - A. G. M. Rev Margaret Trapp.
- Sat 31st 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.

## JUNE

- Wed. 4th 8.00pm. Wednesday Group - A.G.M. And Meal,  
Sat 7th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund – Thursday Fellowship.
- 10.00 – 4.00. NCH Collection at Sedgemoor Services.
- Sun. 8th 10.30 & 6.30. 129th Church Anniversary - Rev. Robin Hutt.
- Sun. 8th 5.00pm. 129th Church Anniversary - Afternoon Tea - All members of the Link invited.
- Wed.11th 10.00am. LINK Communion at Burnham - Cancelled.
- Wed.11th 3.00pm on Afternoon Tea at Dorothy & Cedric's 6 Brightstowe Road.
- Sat 14th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.
- Sun 15th 11.00 & 6.30. West Huntspill Anniversary Service.
- Fri. 20th 7.00pm. West Huntspill Methodist Church Coffee Evening, Entertainment and Table Top Sale.
- Sat 21st 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of Secret World – Burnham Methodist Hall.
- Sun 22nd LAST Day for items for the July - August LINK.  
Fri 27th Concert by the Choir “Singing, Dancing Carpenter” In aid of Church funds.
- Sat 28th 10.00 - 12.00. Shoppers Coffee Morning - Burnham Methodist – Everyone Welcome.
- Sun. 29th 6.30pm. African Children's Choir at the Evening Service Burnham Everyone Welcome.

## JULY

- Sat 5th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund – Choir.
- Wed. 9th 10.00am. LINK Communion at East Brent - Cancelled.
- Wed. 9th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning at Hilary's Wotton's
- Thur. 10th 2.30pm. Sponsored Knit in aid of Arthritis Research Burnham.
- 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.



## LINK FELLOWSHIP

On April 8<sup>th</sup> we were pleased to welcome Miss Ruth Burt who told us of work being done in Rwanda to help the widows and orphans after so much genocide in that country. Many of the women were raped and beaten after their husbands had been killed. She showed examples of pictures and cards intricately made using strips of banana leaves. Several of us bought the cards, the monies from which go to provide much needed aid.

As Bridget and Tim Christian were unable to be with us on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. we arranged a members' afternoon with several giving readings or choosing their favourite Hymn. There was a successful Bring and Buy Stall.

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed Mrs Beryl Griffiths to tell us about the Granny Trek. She and her husband had done many long distance walks over many years - one from John O Groat's to Lands End when her husband was 60 and she was 50 years' old. She decided that they could raise much needed funds for charity. As the Children's Hospice at Barnstaple was being planned, she decided to raise funds for this project. She started planning to do her Granny Trek and gained help from people across the route she was to travel - Lowestoft on the extreme East Coast to St David's Head, Wales - a total of over 500 miles. She set off with her two dogs - Finnish Lapphunds and a friend who was to drive a back up car and take care of domestic arrangements along the way. En route she had arranged to do mini treks and funds were raised by these groups. She raised over £70,000 on this trek which lasted over 6 weeks. To date, she has raised over £137,000 for The Children's Hospice at Little Bridge House, Barnstaple and the new Children's Hospice at Charlton Farm, Wraxall. She still does a Granny Trek in the Spring each year at Charlton Farm. She had brought her dogs with her and they stayed very still but watchful near her. She brought Photos and

at the close passed around her collecting bucket. A very inspiring afternoon.

The next meeting on Tuesday, May 27th. will be the A.G.M. which will be led by Rev Margaret Trapp.

Our Meetings will recommence in September when we shall be pleased to see anyone who would like to join us for an afternoon of fellowship and cup of tea.

Eileen Goundry.

**SUNDAY JUNE 8th.**  
**BURNHAM METHODIST**  
**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.**

**Preacher: 10.30am. and 6.30pm. Rev. Robin Hutt.**

Afternoon Tea at 5.00pm prior to the Evening Worship.

We warmly welcome all members of  
the "LINK" churches to join us  
for tea and evening worship.

# **AFTERNOON TEA**

At the home of

**Dorothy and Cedric**

6 Brightstowe Road.

Burnham on Sea

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

3.00pm onwards

Everyone Welcome

Raffle and Stalls

In aid of the Redevelopment Fund

Transport can be arranged

**Burnham Methodist Church**

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

We are thrilled to have the

**African Children's Choir**

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

# HARRY'S Cuttings

## THE LORD IS THE JUDGE OF OUR MOTIVES:

Solomon said, 'We may think we know what is right, but the Lord is the judge of our motives.' Writer Isabel Wolseley says, 'I'm a placid, get-along-with-everybody person. But that changed when my friend and I had a disagreement. I told her I was right, and why, and others commended me for having been right. The trouble is, I didn't feel any better...I felt worse. "Lord," I prayed, "You know I was right, so why do I feel so terrible?" I stewed for several days then I sensed His answer: "Yes, you were right, but your attitude was wrong!" I won a little victory in a difference of opinion, but I'd lost in the realm of friendship. I asked my friend to forgive me. She did, and our relationship was restored. This happened several years ago, and know what? I can't even remember what the argument was about. It seemed so all-absorbing at the time. Not now.'

Don't let your need to 'always be right' rob you of opportunities to show grace and allow God to deal with others. To the hard-headed amongst us James writes, 'Be quick to hear [and] slow to speak' (James 1:19 NRSV). You must earn the right to *speak* into someone's life, and that takes time. It also means trying to *understand* what they're going through; otherwise they'll tune you out. Ask yourself, 'What's my goal? To win the argument? To look good and sound smart?' That's a guaranteed formula for damaging relationships. Paul writes, 'Let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes' (Ephesians 4:23 NLT). Bottom line: when you pay attention to the Holy Spirit He will tell you when you need an attitude adjustment.

Bible in a Year Reading: Titus 1-3, Mark 12:35-44, Ps 88:9b-18, Pr 11 -27-29

## SEIZE THE DAY

Before entering the broadcasting field, Jim Valvano led the North Carolina State University basketball team to a national championship. Then cancer developed in his lower back. Invited to address the Duke University squad, Jim had this to say "Life changes when you least expect it to. The future is uncertain. So, seize this day, seize this moment, and make the most of it

God gives us an urgent directive in Hebrews 3:13, "Exhort one another daily while it is called –'Today' lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." Why is there such a strong insistence on *today*?

It may be that *today*, this very day could be the last one in our time here on earth Today may be your last opportunity to accept God's gift of salvation, or if you know the Lord already, to share His love with a friend or loved one.

James has this warning about presuming upon our tomorrows: "You do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away" (4:14). Seize the opportunities that God gives you today. That's sound advice--not just for basketball players, but for all of us.

Vemon Grounds

Redeem the time---God only knows  
How soon our little life may close;  
As every passing moment flows,  
Redeem the time!---Anon.

Plan as though you'll be living for a century;  
live as though you'll be leaving today.



## 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 ( $3\frac{3}{4}$ ) 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.



# BRENT KNOLL

[www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

'Road Closed' the notice said in fact it was open for the weekend but many of our village friends must have thought they were unable to join us for our Spring Coffee. However, despite this set back we had a successful morning with laden stalls and good fellowship raising the sum of £321.00 We are so grateful to all who worked and gave to achieve this result.

On Pentecost Sunday we celebrated our 171<sup>st</sup> Church Anniversary conducted by Rev. Robin Hutt and were glad to see so many present for an inspirational service. Robin reminded us of Ezekiel and his vision of the Valley of dry bones linking it with the coming of the Holy Spirit moving over the waters in creation, when Jesus breathed on his disciples and said "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20) and then in wind and fire (Acts 2) and how the coming of the Holy Spirit makes Jesus real to us. After the service 31 members and friends went to lunch at the Berrow Inn.

Our Shell Club is continuing into the summer with some exciting outdoor activities and we are pleased to report that we now have our own web site which Sue Cox has put together so comprehensively. It is [www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

In these days of terrible disasters in Myanmar/Burma and China with concerns at home over our economy and loss of family values (to name a few) the prayer for day 21 in the manual seems singularly apt.

Let our trust be in you O God, that nothing may disturb or frighten us. Teach us that all things are passing and that you are changeless. In patience let us strive and quietly achieve. You above meet every need and in you we can lack nothing. Amen.  
Teresa of Avila 1515 - 82.

God bless you all.

Kathleen Burrridge.

# EAST BRENT

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April we had a very enjoyable Link Fellowship meeting in our hall, it should have been a “Musical Afternoon” but Tim and Bridget Christian were unwell (I hope they are feeling better now), so we had another members afternoon with many varied poems and readings by various members which included a very interesting ghost story. We only have two meeting before our summer break and by the time you receive this LINK that break will have started so I would like to wish all my friends a wonderful summer (Warm I hope) and I will look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April was the fourth Sunday on which is always a family service in our Chapel. It was led by Rev. Stephen Marr whose text was “Life is a journey” We would like to thank Stephen for his easy to follow and understand theme for the younger ones of our congregation (Also the older ones)!

We hear that our friend Tom Hadfield has not been very well and has been in hospital but is now out again and all in East Brent send our love and best wishes and hope he continues to do well.

Margaret Green.

# BURNHAM.

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

## STEWARDS COLUMN

As I began to write this, the weather had turned cold and wet after some very hot days. We always say we cannot rely on our English weather. Both the warmth of the Sun and also the rain are needed to enable our fruit, vegetables and flowers to flourish.

At our AGM in April we learned that Chris would be standing down as a Steward and her last Sunday on duty would be May 25<sup>th</sup>. We thank Chris for all she has done within the team. However Chris will be continuing with her Traidcraft stall and work for MRDF and Christian Aid. We welcome 3 new Stewards. They are Ann and Barry Hall and Patrick Manning. We look forward to working together.

During June we have 2 special dates. On June 8<sup>th</sup> it will be our 129<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary and we are to welcome Rev. Robin Hutt to take both services. At 5.00pm prior to the evening service we are to have a tea. We look forward to sharing at time of fellowship during tea.

The next special service will be on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm when we are to welcome the African Children's Choir who will be touring part of the UK. A group visited Burnham in 2006 and if you did not manage to hear them then, I can assure you that it will be an evening you will really enjoy.

It is good to see the progress of the work on the new entrance and toilet area. The fact that the work is taking place on our premises is causing interest and talk among the people who pass by.

At this time of year we notice that some of our congregation are away on holiday. We wish them an enjoyable time away and that they return refreshed.

We also remember in our prayers all those who are unable to come along to worship, It is good that our Minister Stephen is feeling better and has been able to join in our worship.

Dorothy, on behalf of the Stewards.

# BURNHAM REDEVELOPMENT

Thanks are due to everyone who worked so hard towards the Rainbow Spring Fair. We had a great time with a lot of people coming and sharing.

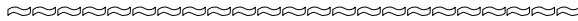
## Forthcoming events

- June 11<sup>th</sup> Afternoon Tea at Cedric and Dorothy May's.
- July 9<sup>th</sup> Coffee at Morning Hilary Wotton's
- August 6<sup>th</sup> Lunch at Daphne Hill's

We continue to watch the work of the building with great interest especially now the walls going up.

Have a look on the web site for the latest pictures showing the progress at

[www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk/photographs2.htm](http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk/photographs2.htm)



## NCH The Children's Charity

The House to House collection during April raised £752.00. I would like to thank everyone who helped either by collecting or donating.

On Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> there will be a collection at Sedgemoor Services Northbound. If you are able to help please let me know

Dorothy May



## SUNDAY 29th. JUNE at 6.30pm.

We are thrilled to have the  
**African Children's Choir**

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

# BREAN

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

Another month has gone and looking back we mentioned about the D.I.Y. services - I understand that the congregation in Burnham was larger than usual when they held their D.I.Y

It makes us wonder what this is saying to us - is it that there are folk who could be doing more as part of their Christian service - perhaps with a little push could take a more active part just a thought. We have another chance this quarter to be willing to take part.

We are very grateful to all our local preachers and ministers who take our services but the day comes for them when they feel they must ease up and take a break.

Did you read Harry's article in the LINK last month? It is worth reading it again - about those who are feeling, their age. We may not be able to do the jobs we used to do, but prayer doesn't take too much energy and is a great power given to us to sustain those who are in the front line. So we press on thankful for all the blessing we enjoy - the lovely sunshine and the beautiful blossoms on the trees everywhere and the plentiful supply of food we enjoy - wouldn't the people of Burma and China who have survived the terrible disasters that have struck their countries just love to be able to enjoy them too.

We send God's Blessings to all in the Link especially those who are going through a difficult time.

Lilian Stone.

# WEST HUNTSPILL

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

SUNDAY JUNE 15th

11am Revd Joyce Plumb

6-30pm Revd Robin Hutt

A warm welcome to everyone

West Huntspill Methodist Church

*WELCOME YOU TO*

*A COFFEE EVENING  
WITH*

*ENTERTAINMENT &*

*TABLE TOP SALES*

*ON*

*FRIDAY 20th JUNE*

**7pm with Entertainment commencing at 7-30pm**

**PROCEEDS to CHRISTIAN AID**

## **Prayer Plus**

A group meets every Friday, 1-45pm for 2pm start at Janet's 7, Grange Rd, West Huntspill.  
A warm welcome awaits anyone who would like to join them

# Minister

**Rev. Stephen Hill, 28A Caernarvon Way. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2DQ**  
stephen@hill735.fsworld.co.uk Tel (01278) 782306

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## Web Sites

[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)

**The Deadline for the  
July - August 2008 “LINK” is  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

**LARGE PRINT COPIES (A4 format) of the “LINK” are available.  
Please contact the Editor if you would like one.**

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