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# THE LINK

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## Methodist Link Churches Magazine

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June 2012 Volume 47. No. 5.

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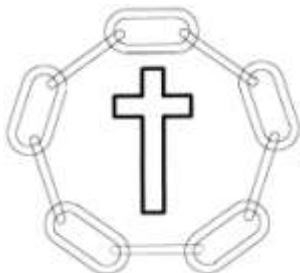
**BREAN**



**BRENT KNOLL**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM ON SEA**

## Minister's Letter

Do you sometimes have days when your best laid plans don't quite come off? Yesterday's day off was one of those: I had intended to mow the lawns front and back – all that rain has made them spring up and while they look quite pretty with all the buttercups and daisies I know they need to be cut now or the job will be much harder in another week or two.

All was going well - I got as far as getting out the mower and plugging in the extension lead and then went to the drawer in the garage where I keep my gardening gloves. They were nearly new gloves and I'm sure they were in very good condition last time I used them a few weeks ago but now all I found was a pile of fluffy cotton!

Further investigation discovered that Julie's new bag of bird food had developed a hole and that there were now large piles of bird food in each corner of the garage. I also noticed the tell tale little black droppings that told the story – we had mice!

So instead of mowing the lawn the rest of the morning was spent pulling out all the boxes and drawers from the garage and cleaning them out. At least it gave me a chance to clear out some junk!

It wasn't until I had reached the very back corner of the garage, with most of the contents now spread out on the front lawn (good job it wasn't raining!) and pulled out the final shelving unit that I found the nest tucked down in the darkest and most inaccessible corner – a mother with four babies rolled up in a great ball of chewed up newspaper and wrapped round with nice soft bits of gardening glove!

As I looked at them I was reminded of these words from Psalm 8:

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honour. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8 is a song of praise which recognises the greatness of God's accomplishments in creation and the special place which he gives to human beings within it. It reminds us that God's work can be seen going on all around us and that we have a special responsibility within and to it. What will be our response?

Rev. Andrew



## CALENDAR

### MAY

- |      |       |                |  |
|------|-------|----------------|--|
| Fri  | 25th  | 10.00 - 12.00. | W/H Coffee Cake and Chat plus stalls at West Huntspill<br>Methodist Church |
| Sat. | 26th  | 10.00 -2.00    | B/H SPRING FAIR Stalls etc Coffee / Teas & Light<br>Lunches                |
| Sun. | 27th. | 6.30pm         | Churches Together Pentecost Service at Hope<br>Baptist Church Highbridge   |
| Sun. | 27th. | 6.30pm         | No Evening Service at Burnham  |

### JUNE

- |      |     |                |   |
|------|-----|----------------|---|
| Sat. | 2nd | 10.00 - 12.00. | B/H Coffee Morning with Stalls & Raffle in aid of the<br>Heating Fund.          |
| Sun. | 3rd |                | Jubilee Weekend 3rd June – Possible Churches<br>Together service at Marine Cove |
| Wed  | 6th | 8.00pm.        | B/H Wednesday Group - Treasure Hunt followed by<br>Fish & Chips                 |

Thur 7th 2.30pm. B/H Thursday Fellowship - Corpus Christi  
 Sat. 9th 10.00 - 12.00. B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
 Tues 10th 2.30pm. Milton Ladies Fellowship Annual Rally Speaker  
 Rev. Ann Farmer. All welcome  
 Wed. 13th 12.30pm. B/H Church Lunch.  
 Wed. 13th 2.30pm. B/H Bible Study Group All welcome.  
 Sat. 16th 10.00 - 12.00. B/H Coffee Morning & Stalls in aid of Educate the Kids  
 Tue. 19th 7.30pm. B/H Church Council  
 Thur. 21st 2.30pm. B/H Thursday Fellowship - AGM.  
 Sat. 23rd 10.00 - 12.00. B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning ??  
 Sat. 23rd B/H Safeguarding Course Burnham  
 Sun 24th 10.30am. B/H Church Anniversary All age worship led by Rev.  
 Russell Herbert, (Minister at Clevedon &  
 Superintendent of the Gordano Valley Circuit)  
 Wed 27th 2.30pm. B/H Prayer Meeting at Church. All Welcome  
 Thur. 28th 2.30pm. B/H Thursday Fellowship - Knit-in for Arthritis Care.  
 Fri 29th 10.00 - 12.00.. W/H Coffee Cake and Chat plus stalls at West Huntspill  
 Methodist Church  
 Sat. 30th 10.00 - 12.00. B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning

## **JULY**

Sat. 7th 10.00 - 12.00. B/H Coffee Morning with Stalls & Raffle in aid of the  
 Heating Fund - Stewards  
 Sun. 8th Action for Children Sunday  
 Wed. 11th 12.30pm. B/H Church Lunch.  
 Wed. 11th 2.30pm. B/H Bible Study Group All welcome.  
 Sat. 14th 10.00 - 12.00. B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
 Sat. 21st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning in aid of Educate the Kids  
 (in Kenya)  
 Wed. 25th 2.30pm. B/H Prayer Meeting at Church. All Welcome  
 Fri 27th 10.00 - 12.00. W/H Coffee Cake and Chat plus stalls at West Huntspill  
 Methodist Church

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



**THE METHODIST CHURCH**  
**College Street,**  
**BURNHAM ON SEA**

# Spring Fair

**MAY 26th**

**10.00am.- 2.00pm.**

## VARIETY OF STALLS:

Home Made Cakes – Handicrafts – Groceries

Chocaholic – Jewellery – Bric a Brac

Raffle & Competitions

Coffee/Tea & Biscuits

**Admission Free**

**In aid of the New Church Heating**

e-mail:-sylviabadman@btinternet.com.

Dear Friends,

## **Milton Methodist Ladies Fellowship**

On behalf of the members of our fellowship at Milton I would like to invite the ladies of your Church (and any gentlemen who wish to come) to our annual Rally at Milton Methodist Church, Milton Hill, which will take place this year on Tuesday, 12th June.

The service starts at 2.30 p.m. and will be followed by tea in our schoolroom to which you are all invited.

Our guest speaker this year is the Revd. Ann Farmer, we look forward to an inspiring talk.

In order to assist with the catering I would be grateful if you could Let me know by Email or by telephone, if any of your members are able to join us on this occasion, and approximately how many.

With all good wishes

Sylvia Badman

Vice President



## **CHURCHES TOGETHER PENTECOST SERVICE PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

This service will take place at Hope Baptist Church in Highbridge on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm.

There will be NO evening service at Burnham that evening.

# "CHORALS GOT TALENT"

Clarinet, Guitar, Cornet....these were some of the instruments played by members of the Burnham and Highbridge Choral Society, at their end of season party.

The entertainment started after having enjoyed the refreshments.

While some members played instruments, others provided a selection of humorous poems, including one about an 'old' bird. There was also a quiz, which was easy, when the answers were given out! And of course, this might surprise some of you, some singing. All I will say is that it wasn't the usual music you would expect from a Choral Society! Don't worry, the Minister was in attendance. The evening ended with the enthusiastic singing of the popular songs from the 'Last night of the Proms'.

Well, what a night it was, so watch out Simon Cowell there's a lot of talent at the Choral Society.

So if you would like to attend next year's social evening, and see what we really get up to, then all you have to do is, come & join us at 7.30pm on 6th September at the Burnham Methodist Church hall! We have been told that we are the friendliest of Choral Societies and are very welcoming. There are NO AUDITIONS, so you won't have to worry about singing on our own. No-one is ever judged at our choral society. There's no excuse, if you enjoy singing then come along and see what it's like. You never know, you might enjoy it.



## FOOD BANK

The Food Bank has begun distributing food parcels to those in need. There is now a continuing need for donations of the required items – eg tinned and packet food. Please keep giving your donations to this vital project. The collection box will remain in the foyer at Burnham.



# **Reports from the Representative Session of the Bristol District Spring Synod Nailsea Methodist Church, Nailsea 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012**

The **Representative session of Bristol District's Spring Synod** was held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012 at Nailsea Methodist Church under Gordano Valley Circuit. It started by the worship lead by three probationer Ordinands for this connexional year at the Methodist Conference at Plymouth, Rev Sharon Lovelock, Rev Andrew Portage and Rev Denise Yeadon, with their inspiring testimonies and call to the ministry. Rev Rachel Borgars has organised the singing from 'Singing in Faith' Hymns book.

Rev Carrie Seaton (Synod Secretary) moved a motion to appoint Rev David Alderman (Deputy Chair) as 'Acting Chair' due to Rev Ward A Jones (Dist Chair) was on Sabbatical. Synod agreed to appoint Rev David Alderman as an Acting chair.

The whole Agenda was based upon the aspects of on a Theme, "Proclaiming the Faith" under various heading divided into two sessions with a lunch break.

**Confessing Faith:** Rev David Alderman thanked the ordinands and officially welcomed the Synod and asked the host Circuit to welcome and share the practicalities Synod were welcomed by the Superintendents of the Gordano Valley Circuit, Rev Dr Russel G Herbert. Synod has been asked their permission to grant dispensation who has requested. The letter of Greetings has been notified. A special note of greetings has been agreed to be sent to Her Majesty the Queen for celebrating her Diamond Jubilee being Queen of UK. Rev Carrie Seaton has also notified some alteration in the agenda and it was amended and agreed. A memorial has been agreed to be sent from the North East Somerset and Bath circuit to the Conference concerning levy on the Model Trust Fund. Offering agreed to support 'Phakamisa' Project and 'Willows Counselling'. She has also mentioned what she received from Rev Mandy Stevens that we are delighted to tell Martin Blokeman and Wendy Tucker has been accepted for Presbyteral Training. Finally notified by Andrew Owens regarding the Local Preachers day of the Evangelical revival on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012. The Scrutineers appointed as it was mentioned in the Synod Agenda. Voting papers for the Synod has been distributed to the seats with the correction notified that it was not the Circuit but should be read as 'Synod' to be used for voting in favour of to be approved / disapproved for the Differed Resolution from Clause 4 of the Deed of Union from the last Methodist Conference.

**Celebrating Faith:** Good news and the stories from the Circuits has been shared by Gwyn, Carrie and Dave Chandler has been invited to share the stories happening in their circuit in this slot re the 'hand written Bible', 'Food Banks' and 'Sheep Hunt'.

**Resourcing the Faith:** The Rev Andrew Prout brought the matter from the District Policy Committee but firstly he invited Rev Dr. Peter Hatton to share event happening in the New Room of the Bristol district which gives opportunity to us to resource the faith.

Then he shared the concern from the DPC is in need to get one minutes Secretary as Margaret Naish has stepped down last year. Synod also is asked to agree to the closure of the Tinhead Methodist Church in the Wiltshire United Area due to the society moved out to a local Anglican Church several years ago. Also seek approval to bringing of the sharing agreement for St Martins and St Marks Church and for Church Cottage in the Parish.

Voting for Deferred Resolution of the Deed of Union Clause 4 of the Methodist Conference has taken place by voting on Ballot. Result came later by the scrutineer was 102 – Approved and 6 Disapproved.

Rev John Emmett explained and presented some of the features of the District's new Website.

Rev Rachel Borger advertised re the 'Bridging the Gap' and presented the event and it's purpose on DVD. This event is going to take place on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Jun 2012 at Nailsea Methodist Church, Nailsea, under Gordano Valley Circuit of the District.

Mr Robert Beckham (Dist. Treasurer) presented the Finance statement of the District with recommendation to appoint HWCA Bristol as Chartered Accountant for this year. Also aware that by next year the Connexional assessment is expected to increase by 7%.

**Reaching Out in Faith:** A very nice presentation and display were made by Mike Fishers from 'Willows Counselling' at Swindon working internationally and 'Phakamisa Project' at South Africa for the needy young children and their parents to provide the educare was presented by Glenda. The retiring collection has been split into these two projects. Synod Break for Lunch.

After Lunch, Andrew Prout put forward from the DPC for the adoption of the Mission Statement which Synod adopted as a practical way forwarded to the District Policy committee. The authorization of the persons named other than the Minister to celebrate the Holy Communion which Synod agreed. Change of the new name of the District has been notified to Synod subject to approval of the Conference and after that transferring all the legal document of the Bristol District in the new name of the district.

**Enjoying the Faith:** Emma Mills, newly appointed District Youth work enabler, enthused the house by her team presentation re the Youth work in Bristol district.

**Developing Faith:** Synod break into groups and discussed, 'what inspired us today that we will share with our Circuit and what new ways of proclaiming the faith will we expect.

**Sending Out in Faith:**

**As part of the closing administration, Synod appointed Rev David Alderman to continue as 'Acting Chair' until Ward's return from Sabbatical (with the exception of the days when Ward will be at conference).** After closing administration and courtesies it was concluded by the 'closing worship', by using the resources from 'More than Gold', "An act of Praise".

- Rev Ajay Singh.  
Assistant Synod Secretary,  
Bristol District Synod.



## Harry's Page (from his daily Bible readings)

### The Old Windmill

READ

**Galations 6:6-10**

He who believes in me as the scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. --John 7:38

A man who grew up on a farm in West Texas tells about a rickety, old windmill that stood alongside his family's barn and pumped water to their place. It was the only source of water for miles.

In a strong wind the windmill worked well, but in a light breeze it wouldn't turn. It required manually turning the vane until the fan faced directly into the wind. Only when properly positioned did the windmill supply water to the farm.

I think of that story when I meet with leaders from small churches in remote areas. Many feel isolated and unsupported--giving care while no one seems to care for them. As a consequence, they grow weary and struggle to bring life giving water to their stock. I like to tell them about the old windmill and our need to daily reposition ourselves --to intentionally turn toward the Lord and His Word and to drink deeply from Him who is the source of living water.

What's true for church leaders is true for all. Service for God flows from within, outward. Jesus said, "He who believes in Me,...out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" (John7:38).It's when God speaks to our depths that we are able to touch the lives of others. To refresh others, let's return to the Source of life regularly. --DavidRoper

When our hearts grow weary,  
When our spirits dim,  
He will go before us,  
Leave it all to Him. --Anon.

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**When you're weary in life's struggles,  
Find strength in the Lord.**

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**'I WILL GIVE YOU SHEPHERDS ACCORDING TO MY HEART' JEREMIAH 3:15 NKJV**

HERES a sad statistic Over 50 of those who enter the ministry leave it within ten years because of discouragement Make sure that doesn't happen to your pastor. Picture this: Joshua's soldiers are down in the valley fighting the Amaleldtes. Above him on a hill top sits Moses with his hands raised toward heaven. As long as his arms are raised the battle

goes their way. But if you've ever tried to hold your hands up for long, you quickly grow weary and lower them. The moment Moses does that, the battle goes against Israel. So Aaron and Hur hold up his arms and the tide turns in favour of Israel, it wasn't just Joshua's ability to fight, it was Moses' ability to hold up his arms that won the day. Aaron and Hur kept a leader from fainting so an entire nation could be saved. God said, 'I will give you shepherds according to my heart who will feed you with knowledge and understanding' If God has given you a pastor who loves, leads and feeds you. Support them. Hold up their hands! In the Old Testament tabernacle the candlesticks had to be kept burning day and night because their Light represented God's presence among His people. If a light so much as flickered, designated servants moved in immediately to refuel it and restore it to its original glow. Are you getting the idea? It's your responsibility to make sure the light doesn't flicker in your church or the fire go out in your pulpit. So pray for your pastor every day. And be sure to encourage him every chance you get



## **EAST BRENT**

On Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> May we held our penultimate fellowship meeting. How fast the time has flown since we started back last September after the summer break. Quite a few favourite hymns were chosen and Evelyn had looked up some facts about them which were most interesting and then we enjoyed singing them (how hard Evelyn must have worked) and I am sure we all appreciated it and had a very enjoyable afternoon. We have one more meeting which is our A G M meeting and then it is this year's summer break and I expect lots of people are looking forward to their holidays. Let us hope that we will have more sun than we have had recently, I'm sure that we will all benefit from a bit more sunshine.

A couple of weeks ago we had a larger congregation than usual due to visitors to this area (on holiday I think), it is lovely to welcome new faces to our chapel.

Last Sunday we welcomed Vicki back to our service, it was lovely to see her as she was a member of our chapel a few years ago. It is always nice to have past members visit us from time to time not only because they were members but also because they are good friends as well.

I wish all our fellowship members a happy and warm summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Margaret Green.



# BURNHAM

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

## Action for Children

The Good Friday offering for Action for Children was £67.80

The recent House to House collection raised £99.47. Only two collectors braved the wet & windy April.

Action for Children Sunday will be the 8<sup>th</sup> July. Envelopes will be placed in the Church for your donations.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Dorothy May.



# BREAN

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

I'm positive they weren't there when I got up that morning but when I looked out at the end of the day; the field opposite was filled with them. There they all stood, white most of them, filling the field like a herd of cows quietly munching the grass.

Caravans, I'm talking about. Not the big, static ones that cost £30,000 and more. But caravans like those we get stuck behind on our roads - except that they didn't all come together. They will have been kept in close order storage locally over the winter, and just put out to await the loving expectation of their owners fresh from the stresses of the city.

The peace and quiet of our village is due its annual visitation. The stuttering start to the holiday season will become a full roar as the four day Jubilee Bank Holiday season descends upon us. Mixed emotions always at this time of the year. You never know whether and how much the fringe brigade will disrupt proceedings and make life unpleasant for the vast majority of holidaymakers and residents alike.

But there are compensations. Most are fun to be with. Most have come 'just to get away from it all'. And some, just some, will find their way into

our fellowship. Some will be old friends, some new. Some like, Steve and Lynn have already made an appearance. So welcome again both of you, we've already had the flags out this last month! Bring your friends.

Our joint service this month was conducted by Rev Andrew at St Bridget's. Our covenant allowed him to take a full Church of England Service of Holy Communion there and it was appreciated by all, not least by the Anglicans who were present. This month we have our Joint Church Council.

Happy Birthday to Lilian. 101 years old at the end of May, and still bright as ever.

It was good to see so many people at the Circuit Service held at Burnham to celebrate and dedicate the Easter Offering. I counted 30 people down just one side. Double that and add the choir, and there must have been 70 to 80 people there. You can always tell how ready people are for worship by the way they attack the first hymn. I think they enjoyed it. The sound filled the place nicely. It was a very good service, we had been well fed at the tea beforehand, and it was very satisfying to see so many people from across the Circuit.

Our best wishes to our Superintendent Minister, Rev Robert Channon, whose mother died recently. Robert, you have had your share of personal loss in the last few weeks. We pray God's blessing on you and your family.

Harvey Allen



# **West Huntspill Methodist Church**



**Anniversary**  
**Evening of Light Entertainment**  
**Friday 15th June - 7.30pm**



**Coffee & Tea served from 7.00pm**

**Craft and Produce**



**Stalls**



# BRENT KNOLL

At the time of writing, the sun is out and the sky is blue. A vast difference from the weather two weeks previously which was best summed up by Rev Andrew's first words on the Sunday after our horrific gales. "Welcome. And well done!"

I still have to get over the fact that I have moved to "The Land of the Summer People" believing the weather was always glorious. A misconception quickly rectified by a local friend who asked, "But didn't anybody actually *tell* you about the wet summers here *before* you moved?" Well obviously not. But I'm not suing anyone as I wouldn't change my new home for the world.

Our Church's Spring Coffee Morning was held at the beginning of May. Many thanks to everybody who took part. And that doesn't just include the hard workers. It also includes everyone who attended and without whom the morning would have been pointless.

And on behalf of every grateful member of our congregation - our wonderful organist Joan retires at the end of May. I cannot say how lucky we are to have had Joan's talents, kindness and sense of humour. On a personal level - "thank you Joan for playing at my mum's thanksgiving service. Every time she came to Brent Knoll she thought you were wonderful. And so say all of us.

God bless

Rosemary Krull

## PREACHERS FOR JUNE AT 10.30AM

3<sup>rd</sup> June Rev. Stanley Pipet (Holy Communion)

10<sup>th</sup> June Mrs. Julie Biggs

17<sup>th</sup> June Local arrangement

24<sup>th</sup> June Harvey Allen



## Minister

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

**The Deadline for the  
July – August 2012 “LINK” is  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

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

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The LINK June 2012