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# THE LINK

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**Methodist Link Churches Magazine**

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**March 2018    Volume 53. No. 2.**

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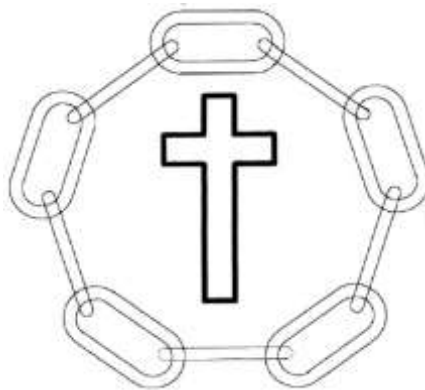
**BREAN**



**BRENT KNOLL**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM on SEA**

# Minister's Letter

## My Lent

It is often said “The year seems to fly by!” and for many of us it does not seem that Christmas and the New Year celebrations were that long ago.

Yet here we are in the season of Lent when our thoughts turn from the baby Jesus in the manger, to the adult Jesus, his ministry, his servanthood, his death, and his resurrection. No longer are we able to gaze comfortably at the account of shepherds and angels. Instead we are confronted with the realisation of what God has actually done through that baby, through that adult, through his Son.

In this season we are not simply observers of a story, but participants in the reality of human nature's failings and shortcomings, and recipients of what God has done for each one of us. Here in Jesus' journey to Jerusalem and in his obedience to God, the promises made to Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds take shape and are fulfilled. This is ‘Christ the Lord!’

Our challenge during Lent is not to let this time ‘fly by’ without being both participants and recipients. Our challenge is to journey with Jesus so that, in some way, we end Lent being different from the way in which we enter it. Our challenge is to be changed and renewed ourselves, to make the season of Lent ‘My Lent’ rather than seeing it as just another part of the liturgical cycle of the church.

How we do this will be as personal as the saving grace of God is for us all. For some it may mean a deep and serious look at their lives and what God calls them to do. For others it may mean a change in priorities. For others it may mean taking up a challenge.

How will you make this Lent .....‘My Lent’?

Perhaps this prayer will help you.

*Dear Lord, help me to be part of the amazing journey that re-discovers your wonderful love for me. By the power of your Holy Spirit, lead and guide me through this time of Lent.*

*Steve*

**Birthday** Our Congratulations to Sylvia Wright on her 100<sup>th</sup> on 11<sup>th</sup> February

## **Deaths**

Mr Tony Bishop Thanksgiving Service at Burnham 14<sup>th</sup> February



## **CALENDAR**

### **FEBRUARY**

- Sat 24th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Tue 27th 7.30pm Lent Course "Whole Life Worship" at Baptist Church  
Tue 27th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Berry & Fred Jenkins – 'The Good Life'

### **MARCH**

- Fri 2nd 10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer at the Catholic Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs  
Sat 3rd 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Wednesday Group  
Tue 6th. 2.30pm Lent Group at Sunnycrest Brean  
Tue 6th. 7.30pm Lent Course "Whole Life Worship" at Baptist Church  
Wed 7th B/H Wednesday Group - Easter Thought from Rev. Steve Bennett  
Sat 10th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Tue 13th 2.30pm Lent Group at Sunnycrest Brean  
Tue 13th 7.30pm Lent Course "Whole Life Worship" at Baptist Church  
Tue 13th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Bill Fisher - 'Tales from the Potting Shed'  
Wed 14th 12.00pm B/H Communion & Lunch Dorothy 784204  
Sat 17th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning  
**Sun 18th LAST DAY FOR THE APRIL 2018 LINK**  
Sun 18th 10.30am BR Joint Link Services at Brean  
Sun 18th 3.00 - 6.00pm PASSION SUNDAY - Victoria Methodist Church  
Tue 20th 2.30pm Lent Group at Sunnycrest Brean  
Tue 20th 7.30pm Lent Course "Whole Life Worship" at Baptist Church  
Sat 24th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sun 25th 3.00pm Palm Sunday - Crosses on the Knoll followed by  
Sun 25th 4.00pm Palm Sunday - Service at St Mary's East Brent  
Tue 27th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Holy Week devotions – Rev. Marion Hance

Tue 27th 7.30pm Jeff Lucas evening at Berrow Church. See – Feb LINK  
 Thu 29th Maundy Thursday  
 Fri 30th 10.30am Good Friday Service  
 Fri 30th 12.00nn Good Friday Walk of Witness from Catholic Ch to St. Andrews  
 Fri 30th 7.00pm Good Friday Service at West Huntspill Methodist  
 Sat 31st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning

**APRIL**

Sun 1st EASTER SUNDAY  
 Wed 4th B/H Wednesday Group - Silly Games Evening  
 Sat 7th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Stewards  
 Tue 10th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Malcom & Heather Gale  
 The New Room, Bristol  
 Sat 14th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
 Sat 21st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning  
**Sun 22nd LAST DAY FOR THE MAY 2018 LINK**  
 BH Burnham, BR Brean, B/K Brent Knoll,  
 E/B East Brent, W/H West Huntspill.



**Easter offering envelopes**

As is our usual custom in the circuit, the Easter offering envelopes will be given or put out prior to Easter.

While the offering is co-ordinated by Methodist Women in Britain, all the money collected goes to support the World Church.

At the dedication service, which is on April 28<sup>th</sup> at Brean at 4.00pm, there will be the opportunity to hear more about how some of the money is used, and all are invited to attend.



**Friends of Burnham on Sea War Memorial Hospital**

Our next event is our “Party Night” at The Oaktree Arena (Bristol Road, Highbridge TA9 4HA) on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March. We still have some

tickets available so if you would like to join us contact Bernie on 01278 785727. The theme this year is 'Starry Starry Nite' so wear something sparkling. Doors will open at 7:30pm and tickets cost just £15.00 to include food, entertainment will be from the ever popular "Lipinski Band"

**I wonder if you can help –**

We have great news for you on July 8<sup>th</sup> from 2pm we are holding our second "Garden Party" in the hospital which we hope you will support; there will be cream teas, games, table top sale, a 'Crafty Corner' and lots more.

**What we need now** is quality 'as new' items, such as Bric-a-Brac, Jigsaws, CD's, DVD's, unwanted gifts, toiletries, toys, jewellery, hats, scarves, gloves, bottles of alcohol, boxes of sweets/biscuits/chocolates. So with spring in the air..... is it time to have a sort and see what you can let us have?

You don't need to worry I will collect any items from your home, just give me a ring on 01278-323794 or 07977 191799 to arrange a collection day and time to suit you or email me on [ceri160443@sky.com](mailto:ceri160443@sky.com) I would love to hear from you.

We are always looking for **new members** if you would like to become a 'friend' you can pick up a leaflet from the hospital or go to our Website for information on how to join us, it only costs a minimum of £5.00 per year. [www.friendsofburnhamhospital.org.uk](http://www.friendsofburnhamhospital.org.uk) You can also follow us on 'Facebook'.

Watch this space for future announcements and as always I am more than happy to hear from you.

Once again, in anticipation, thank you for your support

***Ceri Joyce***

Marketing and Publications

Friends of Burnham Hospital





## **Burnham on Sea Trefoil Guild**

Hello,

We are the Burnham on Sea Trefoil Guild, a happy friendly group of ladies who meet in St. Andrew's Church Hall every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in the month from 2.00 to 4.00pm and you would be more than welcome to come along and see what we get up to.

Many of us have been Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Leaders but this needn't deter you – This does not stop you from joining. All are welcome.

The Trefoil Guild offers its member's opportunities to meet with Friends, make new ones, develop new interests, and tackle new challenges and sometimes holidays together. It also provides fun, friendship and activities for its members, as well as support for the Guiding movement and the local community

Does this sound interesting to you? Then why not pop in sometime and try a taster afternoon. Do bring a friend.

For more information please contact  
PAT PAYTON on 01278 780799  
or JUNE GARTON on 01278 74638



### **EAST BRENT**

Sorry. No report received



### **BURNHAM.**

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

### **STEWARDS COLUMN**

Usually at the time of Lent we are looking forward to Easter and the special services that will be held. This year Good Friday is on March 30th and Easter Sunday is April 1<sup>st</sup>, earlier than some years, so we can hope

for sunny days and better weather but we may not get them. As I write this column I am sitting on a cruise liner heading north for home, just passing the coast of Portugal. Our family say the weather in England is still wet, even snow some days and the temperature is usually hovering around the 0 degree mark. I should be sitting in a deckchair enjoying the sun but we have left the sun behind and are in the midst of a storm with gale force winds. The other day we were caught in a terrible downpour in Gran Canaria while visiting a lovely cathedral. We enjoyed the beautiful artwork inside, especially the gold Madonna while wind and rain lashed outside. Our guide then explained that the island had had very little rain in the last two years and this was the first real rain for months. She showed us the nearby reservoirs which were almost empty. She added that their prayers had been answered. We were glad for them and felt we had no right to complain about the long awaited rain. I do feel that there is reason in the world if we only stop and listen, then take time to understand this great world around us that God has given us. We may not always like what we get but we have to remember there are many people in the world who would love to have what we have.

It has been a sad time in Burnham church as we have lost one of our members. Tony Bishop passed away at the end of January and his funeral was held on February 14<sup>th</sup> at our church. We miss seeing him on Sunday mornings. We send our prayers and thoughts to his wife Joy.

Sunday February 11th was a very special day for one of our church members. Sylvia Wright, our oldest member and still a regular at Sunday Morning worship, celebrated her 100 birthday. She has been a Methodist all her life. I have know her since I was born as she and her husband Cyril and my parents were all friends and members of Highbridge Methodist Church before it closed in the 1987-8s. I am sure you will join with me to send your congratulations to Sylvia at this special time.

Marian Foster.

Steward.



Editor note:- Have a look at this site

<https://capturehighbridge.wordpress.com/religion/methodist-church/>

# BREAN

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

I realised soon after I had written the last contribution to Link, that I had omitted to mention the passing of Daphne Smith/Price and to add a few words of appreciation.

To the best of my knowledge Daphne and Charles Smith arrived in Brean in the late 1970s. They were soon fully involved in the life of both chapel and village communities. Daphne was a leading light in the Women's Institute, and was particular adept in a wide range of needlework skills. Her husband, Charles became active in the Residents' Association. Daphne also played the organ in the chapel (or was it still a harmonium at that stage?), Charles was Treasurer for a while, and they both joined in other events with gentle enthusiasm. Above all this they were particularly good at encouraging others, and perhaps this is the greatest gift that we can give to others in our churches at this time. Unfortunately Charles died after a decade or so; in time Daphne met up with and married a neighbour, Walter Price. Soon after Walter died, Daphne left us to spend the remainder of her days in the Swindon area among her wider family. She continued to subscribe to the Link up to her death. They were good people and are remembered with affection. At the end of January nearly 20 of us enjoyed our Sausage and Beetles evening. Sausage and mash, beans and onions, started off the event and then we played a full card of Beetle, moving from table to table under Fred's steady direction. Judy, helped by pudding contributions from others, did the catering and many thanks to them for their hard work.

February started with a joint service in our church at which our Anglican friends were present, and then a shared service at Brent Knoll where East Brent members were present also.

On the day this Link is published we have our Church Council meeting and soon after that we shall meet with St Bridget's to see if we can re-envision our working together for the good of the village and of each other.

March sees Caravan and Chalet sites begin to open and with that we shall welcome old friends and, hopefully, new ones too. And then as



March gives way to April, some of us will be making April Fools of ourselves by climbing Brean Down to welcome Easter morning (I guess).

As the day's grow lighter and the Spring flowers blossom in our gardens and hedgerows, we welcome Spring, a glorious time of the year.

*Harvey Allen*



## **BRENT KNOLL**

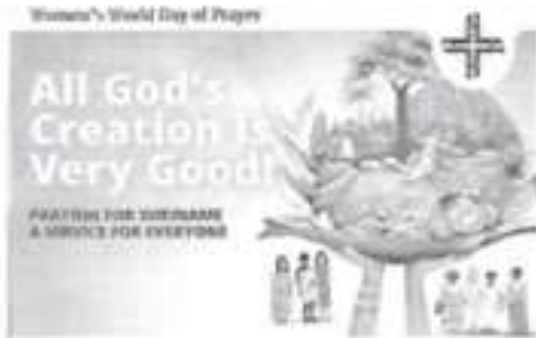
Thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning last month. This was held as a fundraising event for the charity Balloon Ventures and was organised by Heather Poulter who will be going to Uganda for three months doing voluntary work for this charity. Heather told us that she reached her target amount but all donations towards the work of this charity will still be welcome. We do, of course, wish Heather our very best and although we will miss her for three months she will very much be in our thoughts and prayers.

Looking ahead, Rev Steve will be taking a Palm Sunday service at the top of the Knoll at 3pm which will be followed by a service at St Mary's Church in East Brent which will include refreshments afterwards. And as we look towards Easter, our own Margaret Trapp will be taking our Easter Sunday service which will include communion.

Every blessing from all of us here at Brent Knoll Methodist Church.  
Rosemary Krull



# WEST HUNTSPELL



Methodist Church

Women's World Day Of Prayer  
Friday 2nd March 2018  
At 2.30pm  
West Huntspill Methodist Church

**All Are Welcome**

Refreshments after service

This service has been written by the women in Suriname in South America, a country that has a vast rainforest and a wealth of natural resources. The service is asking us to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife, by being aware of the damage pollution, and abuse can do to this wonderful world we live in. This service will be held throughout the world on this day. Starting in Samoa at sun rise and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa. It will be heard in more than 95 different languages and 1,000 dialects. This is a truly global day of prayer for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it.



Good Friday Mediation

30th March at 7pm

Led by Revd Steve Bennett

Easter Sunday 1st April

6am Sun Rise Service on top of Brean Down

OR Brean Beach for those unable to climb

No service at 11am at West Huntspill, but, Sunday evening communion service at 6pm led by Revd Steve Bennett.

Date for your diary:

Christian Aid service on Sunday 15th April 3pm at St John's Church Highbridge when the guest speaker will be Samuel Williams, the S/W Christian Aid representative

# Minister and Circuit Superintendant & District Chairman

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## 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)

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Deadline for the APRIL 2018 LINK is Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b></p>
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## LINK ORDER FORM

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