
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

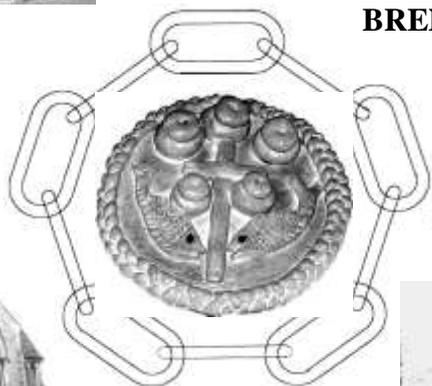
October 2006 Volume 41. No. 8.



BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



BURNHAM ON SEA



EAST BRENT



WEST HUNTSPILL

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

At the moment of writing this month's letter I'm not sure if it's a mid-life crisis or just my youthful enthusiasm bubbling over again.

Over the past few months Matthew has been getting ready to take his first driving test. So to prepare for this we've been planning to buy his first car which happens to be a classic red Mini. I can confirm that it's easy to park and with a little tinkering here and its great little car to drive.

We've got over the problem of whose car it is. Now it's over to me to offer help and advice when changing the spark plugs, oil change and locks etc and remember to keep out of the way until asked.

We all should know and understand that only time will tell?

I've been reminded by this that it's more than passing on knowledge (avoiding taking over). It is a sharing of information and experience. The other component to this is to remember that Adam is mechanically minded as well so he doesn't get left out which could ultimately mean that I get promoted to supervisor and the maker of tea.

In Church, we need to share our experience, learn from each other and remember to take a back seat which may be more difficult than we think. Can I remind everyone that this month we hope to begin our house fellowship groups, so listen to the notices for more details.

Every Blessing

Stephen

CALENDER

SEPTEMBER

- Sun. 24th 8.00pm. OPENING THE DOOR - Methodist Church Hall, Burnham on Sea, see Sept LINK
- Tues. 26th 2.30pm. The LINK Villages Fellowship – Dedication Service - Rev. Stephen Hill.
NCH Collection at Somerfields.
- Sat 30th

OCTOBER

- Thur. 5th 2.30pm. THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP - Mrs Joyce Beard - Frank Foley in Highbridge.
(SALES TABLE)
- Sat. 7th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning - Monday Club
- Sun. 8th am. Traidcraft Stall Burnham
- Mon. 9th 8.00pm. **Monday Group** - Pudding Night at 36 Abingdon Street.
- Tues. 10th 2.30pm. The LINK Villages Fellowship – Rev. Samuel from Churchhill
- Wed. 11th 10.00am. LINK Communion at East Brent
- Sat 14th 10.00 - 12.00. SCF Coffee Morning and stalls.
- Sun.15th 8.00pm. OPENING THE DOOR - Methodist Church Hall, Burnham on Sea, see Sept LINK.
- Mon. 11th 7.30pm. Circuit Men's Supper Club - Speaker – Jean Routly - "Thrills & Spills of a Church Organist"
- Thur. 19th 2.30pm. THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP - Rev. Margaret Trapp.
- SUN. 22nd** **Last Day for items for November LINK.**
- Tues. 24th 2.30pm. The LINK Villages Fellowship – Mrs. Pat Cromer MBE.

NOVEMBER

- Thur. 2nd 2.30pm. THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP - Mr. Rupert Farthing - Waste / Recycling.
- Sat 4th 10.00 - 12.00. Coffee Morning in aid of NCH The Children's Charity.
- Wed. 8th 10.00am. LINK Communion at Brean.
- Sat 11th 10.00 - 12.00. SCF Coffee Morning and stalls.
- Sun. 12th am. Traidcraft Stall Burnham.
- Mon. 13th 8.00pm. **Monday Group** - Film & talk on Uganda by Daphne Hill at 11 Steart Drive.
- Tues. 14th 2.30pm. The LINK Villages Fellowship - Paul Temple.



NETWORK

I have received a letter from Ruth Lord, Secretary of the Circuit Network Committee, thanking everyone who helped in any way to make our response to the Blind Aid Africa Appeal such a success. This includes those who prepared and hosted the Network afternoon in Brent Knoll Village Hall, those who arranged the tea, who provided the very yummy eatables, and those who provided the equipment asked for by Mrs Rosalie Lees.

Mr and Mrs Lees were delighted, and went home with their car packed to the roof with your donated goods. But they would like even more, so if you still have any of the following items to spare we will get them to the next circuit committee meeting on October 6th, Required. Radio cassettes players, headphones, portable (none electric) Typewriters, Braille paper, tapes, Books on Tape, Braille Frames, Styluses.

This was Ruth Lord's last letter as our committee secretary, and I am sure that all who have worked with her over the years are grateful to her for all her hard work and her friendly approach.

We now welcome our new Secretary, Mrs. Di Smart, and look forward to working with her.

Muriel Hyde.

Web site www.blindaid.org



St Andrew's Bournville Ladies Rally

I am writing to invite the Link Ladies fellowships to our rally at St. Andrews on the Bournville on October 17th. Mrs. Jean Le Sueur is to be our Speaker and we would be pleased to welcome ladies from our Link Churches. I will be in touch nearer the time and will look forward to being able to share our service with some of you.

In Christian love.

Gwen (Cox).

CIRCUIT MEN'S SUPPER CLUB

The monthly Men's Supper Club starts its programme on Monday 16th October at Victoria Methodist Church when Jean Routley will reveal the "Thrills and Spills of a Church Organist".

The programme includes the best range of speakers available, the equal of any Club or institution in the area [be it Rotary, Probus, WI etc] and offering a wonderful evening of fellowship for £4.50.

What do you get? In addition to a first class speaker, a wonderful meal prepared by the ladies of Victoria Church [the term 'Supper Club' doesn't do justice to a three course meal plus tea or coffee] encouraging men to participate in a Circuit based event with others of like mind and commitment.

A date for your diary. The Christmas Meal will be on Monday 15th January 2007 at the Seaward Hotel facing Knightstone Island.

Programme cards are available from Norman Lester – ☎01934 525475. or Dorothy May ☎01278 784204.

ADVENT QUIET DAY

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER
10.00a.m. – 3.00p.m.

MILTON METHODIST CHURCH
“WHAT IS ADVENT?”

Come and explore the meaning of Advent
through reading, meditation,
music, craft and prayer.

Opening and Closing worship.

A light lunch and other refreshments will be available at a small cost, so I would be grateful if you would let me know if you are coming by **Monday, 27th November.**

Thank you.

For more details, please contact Di Smart on 01934 645202

METHODISTS FOR WORLD MISSION
MWM (South West) Conference
17th – 19th November 2006
at "Sidholme" – Sidmouth
See September LINK for Details



LINK VILLAGES' FELLOWSHIP

Our 2006/ 07 session commenced on Tuesday, September 12th., when, as usual we welcomed the ladies from Milton Ladies Fellowship. Unfortunately, Revd. Robin Hutt was not able to be our Speaker as his brother had just passed away after a long illness. We were pleased to welcome our new Superintendent Minister, Revd. Terence Young, who told us of his life - how he started as a Telephone Engineer prior to candidating for the Ministry where he trained at Handsworth College. Before coming to Weston-super-Mare, he was in Darwin, Lancashire where there was a very active LE.P. He told us that Darwin has a population of 4,000 with 300 Assylum Seekers from various parts of the World and how these people were helped. He was also involved in Local Radio in the Districts in which he had served. Following the service, we all moved into the Schoolroom where everyone enjoyed a delicious tea.

On Tuesday, September 26th., we shall hold our Dedication Service which will be led by Revd. Stephen Hill.

Revd. Samuel from Churchill will be our Speaker on Tuesday, October 10th.

We shall be pleased to welcome anyone who would like to join us on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month for an hour of Fellowship which ends with a cup of tea and biscuits.

Eileen Goundry

BURNHAM

Stewards Column

On September 3rd at the start of the new Methodist year we were very privileged to welcome our new Superintendent Minister Revd. Terry Young and his wife Catherine to take the evening service. It was good to see friends from all the churches within the Link. After the service we were able to chat with Terry and Catherine while we shared fellowship when we had Tea and Coffee. We shall look forward to his years of ministry in our Circuit.

September also marks the beginning of the new school year. We remember those children who started school, moved to a new school or moved away to work or university or college. We remember them all.

We also had to say our farewell to Terry and Jean Isherwood as they have moved from Burnham to live near Malvern. When they were in ministry in Burnham during the 1980's they arranged so many LINK activities. We wish them much happiness in their new home.

During September all the churches within the Link have celebrated their Harvest Thanksgiving Services. We look around at all the wonderful colours, of flowers and trees. Even though there was the long dry, very hot spell we have been amazed at the amount of fruit.

We can think of the words of one of our Harvest Hymns No. 350
Hymns and Psalms

Praise and thanksgiving,
Father, we offer,
For all things living
You have made good;
Harvest of sown fields,
Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields,
Blossom and wood.

As we move into October the fellowship meetings have commenced. The new programmes are available. Do support them.

We remember all those who are ill at home or in hospital and those unable to get to worship. We remember you all in our Prayers.

Dorothy May on behalf of the Stewards.



THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP

The group resumes meetings on a 21st September after a long summer break.

Len Mitchelmore, the President and a few other members have not enjoyed the best of health since the last meeting in May.

We look forward to an interesting programme which includes Frank Foley's early life, sharing favourite recipes to include tips on all sorts of things - and Christmas Carols being played by the East Brent, Bell-Ringers.

New members will be very welcome to come along on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 2:30pm



REDEVELOPMENT FUND

Money raised during the Year Sept 1st 2005 TO Aug 31st 2006.
£16,335.27

OCTOBER EVENTS

October 7th. Coffee Morning Monday Club

October 9th "Pudding Night" at 36 Abingdon Street.

NOVEMBER 18TH CHRISTMAS FAIR 10.00 TO 12.30PM

If you can offer any help on Sat. at the Fair, please let Joyce know as soon as possible.

Watch for "Car Boot" Date.

Recipes needed by June Nethercot.

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, letters, calls and flowers during my time of treatment.

I have been staying with my daughter Karen and James her husband, since the beginning of February. It is good to be back in my own home. The result of my scan was good so I look forward now to be able to return to church.

Ann.

Yes Ann it is lovely to have you back.



Many thanks to everyone for your good wishes, cards, etc. As you will know the hip operation went very well indeed and I am getting about with no trouble now. It was very reassuring to know that people cared and I praise the Lord for my recovery.

Love to you all. Chris Wray



pudding Event

Pudding event at 36 Abingdon Street on the 9th October. day time from 1pm -2.30pm evening 6.00pm -8.00pm cost £1.50 for coffee and pudding and extra puds £1.00 Everyone welcome.

Please check I am here or at mums before coming ☐783652 just in case I am called away again.

Rosaleen Anderson.



EAST BRENT

What a marvellous summer we have had. Is this the effect of Global Warming or is it just better than normal?

However two of our best friends have ended their earthly life. We were able to attend Rev. Rex's (Oldham) thanksgiving service on 17th. July. There was an attendance of over three hundred in Victoria but the service itself was very disappointing and did not do justice to a remarkable man and a fine minister. Perhaps there were too many ministers taking part but the tribute to Rex was more of a sermon than a tribute. Rex had many fine qualities. He was a good preacher and a good visitor - qualities that are not always evident. I would commend the tribute paid to Rex by Norman Wallwork in the 17th August edition of the Methodist Recorder. Read it if you get the chance. Although Rex was very proud of each of his stationings, perhaps the one he talked about most was Downham Market, where he established a cafe and social centre. It was fitting that the floral tributes were divided between Downham Market and East Brent, where Rex had given so much of his time and energy.

On 3rd August Dave Fortune passed into the Heavenly Kingdom. Dave had a difficult life. His first wife died after a long illness and he lost an only son to a childhood illness. He was diabetic, had heart and stroke problems and eventually a brain tumour but he was a breath of fresh air to our Congregation. Not many people travel sixty miles each way to attend Sunday Service but as Dave used to say, "You are my family". Dave's great ambition was to preach in East Brent and the sermon and the prayers had already been prepared. Dave was a local preacher but a combination of red tape and administrative problems did not allow this to happen. It is ironic and rather sad that Dave and Chris were married only last December in East Brent by Rev. Rex and witnessed by the whole Congregation. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gwen and Chrissie.

Life however must go on and our thoughts turn to our Harvest on 24th September. The fine weather would appear to have produced an abundance, particularly of soft fruit, and although we cannot say that we are a farming Congregation, we all need to eat and everything cannot be imported from China. After the service, we shall sell the produce and what is left over will be given to the Free Church Care Home in Weston.

We welcome Terry Young and our old friends Stanley and Joyce Pipet into the Circuit but we are sorry to lose Terry and Jean Isherwood. It was good to have them back, even if only for a short time but we wish them well as they move to Gloucestershire. It is not impossible that we shall see them again some Sunday. We hope so!

David Craig.



Reverend Terry and Jean Isherwood

On behalf of the Church family at East Brent I would like to thank both Terry and Jean for their friendship, for sharing in our morning worship, and for just being with us.

We will remember Terry for his preaching, his advice, his humour and his many stories. They will always hold a special place in our hearts and we shall miss them.

We wish them happiness in their new home and if they feel the need to move again that they will move back here

Jill Legg.



WEST HUNTSPILL

PRAYER PLUS

A series of Housegroups being held at
7, Grange Road at 2.00pm.

The home of Mrs Janet Johnstone

It is proposed that the group will meet twice a month, on alternate Tuesdays, commencing on 19th September & will cover all aspects of prayer. The titles of some of the sessions that have already been suggested are:

Why do we Pray, Confession / Repentance, Thanksgiving.

Everyone is welcome,

Please give Janet a ring on 780636 if you would like to come, but have no transport.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Harvest Thanksgiving Services, especially to the Revs Neville Kent and Carole Gill for making our worship so inspiring. Due to people being away on holiday & sickness we were unable to have our usual supper this year, but thanks to some very generous donations, financially, we were only 5p down on last year's total, something from which MRDF will benefit.

BREAN

Is it really a month ago that I had to get pad and pen to write a report? How time flies and here we are again. Thank-you to Harry for the verse he sent in last month. I can hear someone say, “what verse” look up the last LINK and see. If only we all lived as the poem says - what a commitment and how different life would be. - It is worth reading again.

Congratulations to Barbara and Bill on their Diamond Wedding. Isn't it lovely to get a bit of cheerful news. We do hope they had a great time and will see many more years together.

We joined our friends of St. Bridget's on Sunday for their Harvest Thanksgiving. The church was beautifully decorated and it was great to see almost a full church. Our own minister preached on reaping the Harvest and the outcome of the reaping

Today we have heard the sad news of the passing of Robin Hutt's brother. He was very ill while Robin was our Minister so it must be a grateful release from his sufferings. We extend to Robin our deepest sympathy and remember him and his family in our prayers.

Well the weather says it is summer but at last much of the traffic has gone and children are back to school so a great number of visitors have gone too. We do hope they have enjoyed their stay and feel better for it. Now we face the winter when we shall have our Fellowship and different classes to attend and we pray that our faith will be strengthened as we meet together.

We send our love and best wishes to all who are poorly or lonely and lift them up in prayer.

Blessings to all

Lilian Stone

BRENT KNOLL

What a perverse lot we are! We wilted and grumbled through the heat of June and July, we took a dim view of the wet windy August and now we have an Indian summer, we mutter about “the evenings drawing in”. I can't claim to be any better than anyone else on this score but I do love this lovely land of ours which wouldn't be as it is were it not for our unpredictable climate.

This is something I think we appreciate most at the harvest season. At Brent Knoll we enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration in a chapel glowing with autumn colours and the redolent of fresh fruit and vegetables I'm still trying to work out how two stalwart leeks managed to suspend themselves from the Communion Table legs with no visible means of support - levitation? Thank you Gill and all who worked so hard to create a background of beauty for our worship. This was led by the Reverend Stephen Marr and we are more than grateful to him for his inspiring and thought-provoking words - the whole service was a joy.

At this point I ask you to forgive me for a personal note creeping in - Bill and I have been totally overwhelmed by the cards, flowers and greetings which have made our 60th anniversary such a wonderful occasion. It culminated on Sunday when after the Harvest Service we shared a lunch in the Parish Hall with over 50 friends, who, if noise and laughter is anything to go by enjoyed themselves as much as we did. So thank you everyone. We feel truly blessed to belong to such a lovely Church family.

Sadly several were unable to be with us due to health reasons, but for Sue, Keith and family it was a time of sadness as they mourn the loss of Sue's father after a long painful illness. Frank was full ready to go to his rest but the family is left with an aching gap and we pray they may be comforted and sustained as they adjust to life without the father figure.

By the time you read this, the Youth Club will be in full swing, details on the chapel door or from Sue and Keith.

And now full steam ahead for Christmas!

Barbara Drew.

Minister

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

**Deadline for the
November 2006 “LINK”
Sunday 22nd October 2006**

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Please contact the Editor if you would like one.**

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