
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

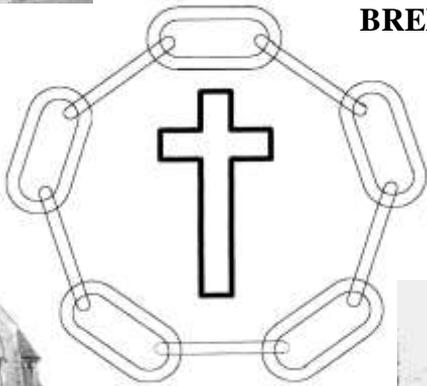
September 2006 Volume 41. No. 7.



BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



BURNHAM ON SEA



EAST BRENT



WEST HUNTSPILL

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

Over the summer month's much has continued to happen within the Link Churches. Plans have been continued to be made with the Redevelopment scheme at Burnham. We welcomed the Circuit Network to Brent Knoll for their main District fund raising event for Blind Aid (if you have any old typewriters it would help this charity) which included guided walks around the village and of course walk up the Knoll led by Margaret. In August, we held our monthly Link communion service at West Huntspill and of course we have had various coffee mornings and events which always benefit our social and fellowship life together.

Over the next few weeks all the Link and church activities will begin again. So don't forget to pick up the information sheets and programmes. By mid - October, we begin our house groups, we have missed our house groups over the last year but after such a break it can give us a new start. We will need people to offer their homes to host a group and also people to offer to lead. This will take some organisation to co-ordinate but we can greatly benefit from the spiritual and fellowship it can provide. If you are interested please see me. I hope all of the Link would feel that they can contribute.

Finally, we begin our first evening service at Burnham with a communion service led by our new Circuit Superintendent Rev. Terry Young. I would be great if this could be a joint event at the beginning of the Methodist year for all Link members.

Let us continue to pray for and support the Link churches through this New Year and also our Link Fellowship which meets at East Brent and our monthly communion service.

Every Blessing

Stephen

A TRIBUTE TO REX OLDHAM

From the Supernumeraries

Everyone who knew Rex will miss him. To us he was a trusted colleague and well loved friend and together with Gwen shared all that was going on in the Link and the Circuit. He was a faithful member of the Supernumeraries Communion Group and was with us until very recently. We shall miss his kindly words of encouragement and friendly spirit.

Over the past few years there have been several occasions when the Link has been without a minister in pastoral charge and the supernumeraries have been left to cover. Rex always took a leading role in this and would be the first to volunteer when any need became apparent. When he was not well we sometimes had to try to conceal a gap in the Plan as Rex would still offer to fill it. As we took on extra duties, such as the monthly Link Communion, we were sharing together and the fellowship we enjoyed will always be with us. Rex had the great ability of remembering everyone he met by name, which some of us find difficult! He was concerned for everyone's well being, and would often phone to find out how they were or just to have a chat.

Joyce remembers especially the kindness of Rex and Gwen following her road accident when a call would be made with cakes, made by Gwen, and very much enjoyed! Rex also went with her to share a service at Spaxton so that she could start at Preaching again.

It was always a pleasure to be present when Rex was leading worship. Rex was a gifted preacher and story teller with a lovely sense of humour. All was carefully planned and his preaching held a deep conviction of his love of Christ.

Officially, Rex retired – “sat down” - in Methodist parlance, many years ago but in reality never did. Almost immediately after coming to Burnham he returned to Bristol South Circuit when they were in difficulty. Also in his early years of retirement Rex shared with Joyce in leading a Burnham House Fellowship and his leadership was always appreciated. We remember Rex and Gwen coming with us in those days on our Annual Trip to either the Mendips or Quantocks and enjoying a Cream Tea.

Preaching and pastoral care were the breath of life to him, spiced up, of course with a regular shot of sport, particularly cricket. Always available to other people he was in many ways a very private person and very modest about his own work and achievement. His home life with Gwen and family provided a haven while he continued to spend himself in the service of other people.

He was indeed one of “John Wesley’s preachers”. We mourn the passing of a true man of God but also rejoice with him as “all the trumpets sounded on the other side.”



CALENDER

AUGUST

Sat. 26 th	10.30 - 12.00.	Brent Knoll Coffee Morning
Tues. 29 th	7.30pm.	Induction of Rev. Terry Young at Victoria.

SEPTEMBER

Sat. 2 nd	10.00 - 12.00.	Coffee Morning
Sat. 9 th	10.00 - 12.00.	SCF Coffee Morning and stalls.
Sun. 10 th	am.	Traidcraft Stall Burnham
Sun. 10 th		West Huntspill Harvest see Sept LINK
Mon. 11 th	8.00pm.	Monday Group - Talk by Macmillan Nurse
Wed. 13 th	10.00am.	LINK Communion at Brent Knoll
SUN. 17th	10.30 & 6.30.	Harvest Burnham
SUN. 17th		Last Day for items for October LINK
Mon 18 th		Harvest Supper
Tues. 19 th		INSIDE Hospice Care at Uphill - see Sept LINK
Sun. 24 th		OPENING THE DOOR - Methodist Church Hall, Burnham on Sea see Sept LINK

OCTOBER

Sat. 7 th	10.00 - 12.00.	Coffee Morning
Sun. 8 th	am.	Traidcraft Stall Burnham
Mon. 9 th	8.00pm.	Monday Group - Pudding Night at 36 Abingdon Street.



Special Birthday

Doris Smart **100** on 10th August

Funerals

Rev. Rex Oldham Thanksgiving Service at Victoria on 17th July.

David Fortune on 15th August at Calne.

A church in Washington state which grew in 14 years to more of 4000 people make this commitment to each other –

“You'll never knowingly suffer at my hands.
I'll never knowingly say or do anything to hurt you.
If you're down and I can lift you, I'll do that.
If you need something and I have it I'll share it with you.
If I need to I'll give it to you.
No matter what I find out about you.
No matter what happens in the future, either good or bad –
My commitment to you will never change.
And there's nothing you can do about it”

From Jerry Cooks book - “Love Acceptance & Forgiveness”.

Wonder isn't it !

From Harry Kempson.



“BLINDAID AFRICA”

A wonderful afternoon was shared in the Circuit at Brent Knoll on Wednesday August 2nd. Over sixty people gathered with Margaret to walk The Knoll and some of the more adventurous succeeded in reaching the top! Many friends from the Weston side of the Circuit visited the refurbished Church and liked what they saw.

Our thanks to Ruth Knott and her helpers from the Link for providing a splendid afternoon tea and organising the event.

Our many thanks to all across the Circuit who sent typewriters, tapes etc.

The estate car taking them was full to the roof!!!!

Joyce.

Web site www.blindaid.org



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

"ON THE EDGE"
**Exploring how the Church in Britain
can catch the vision and fire of
the World Church**

Speaker:

Tom Stuckey, B.Sc.,B.D.,M.Th.
(President of Methodist Conference 2005-6)

Prayers through the week-end will be led by

Rev. Ed. Standhaft
*formerly,
Mission Partner in Zimbabwe.*

Student Guests from M.I.H. Bristol
Will make their own personal contributions.

Further details and Booking Forms from the secretaries:

*Geoff Bairaclough
36 Venator Place, Wimborne, Dorset. BH21 1DQ Tel: 01202 841240
Rev John Mountford,
"Bemrose", Stone Lane, Wimborne. BH21 1HD Tel: 01202 881963*

Inside Hospice Care

An evening of insight and inspiration led by

Rev'd Karen Murphy.

**This is a Circuit Mission and Justice Event
For members of the Weston and Burnham Methodist
Circuit**

**Meet 7.15pm for Coffee and Biscuits
on
Tuesday 19th September 2006
@
Jackson Barstow House
28 Thornbury Road, Uphill.**

This evening will provide a unique opportunity for you to see inside the building and meet some of the staff who aim to meet the Physical, Social and Psychological needs of those who use this valuable service.

**For further information contact Chris Williamson,
Secretary, on 01934 511715**

Evening arrangements:

- 7.15pm Assemble and Coffee/Tea & Biscuits
- 7.30pm Introduction by Karen "The Chaplain's perspective who is the care for?"
- 7.45pm Member(s) of staff talk about their role
- 8.15pm Questions and discussion
- 8.45pm Closing Devotions in the Chapel
- 9pm Close

DO YOU ENJOY SINGING?

You will receive a warm welcome from a friendly group of singers that make up the Burnham and Highbridge Choral Society if you come along to the Methodist Church Hall, Burnham-on-Sea, on Thursday September 7th at 7-30 p.m.

Rehearsals, which are on Thursdays, are enjoyable, for the conductor believes that rehearsals are to be enjoyed rather than endured!

Come along and see for yourself! If you need more details please ring 01934 732041

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# OPENING THE DOOR

*Come and pray for a greater move of God  
in this area and join in a time of joyful worship.*

Methodist Church Hall, Burnham on Sea  
Doors open 7.30 for fellowship, worship starts 8.00

Sunday 24th Sept  
Burnham Community Church

Sunday 15 Oct  
The Gospel Tabernacle Church

Sunday 19th Nov  
New Covenant Church, Shaftesbury

Evening arranged by WORSHIP BRIDGE For information 01278 788219

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## **Elderly couple seeking house or bungalow**

To rent on a permanent basis within Burnham or District, 2 bedroom if possible.

Would be prepared to carry out property maintenance if need be as part of permanent rental agreement.

Our home has been here in Perth, Western Australia, for a good number of years but my wife and I are now looking to return to our grass roots, Burnham being the one closes to us.

Should any members with that kind of property to rent and who would be looking for honest, and reliable tenants be interested we would love to hear from you. Further information can be willingly forwarded on demand.

John & June Coulson,

46, Nollamara Avenue,

Perth, 6061, Western, Australia.

E Mail [johnjime@arach.net.au](mailto:johnjime@arach.net.au)

Received via our Website with further correspondence.

~~~~~

BURNHAM

Hello dear Friends,

This summer has been a time of loving farewells and (hopefully) warm welcomes. Sadly, our dear friend Rev Rex Oldham passed away and many of us were able to attend the service of Thanksgiving in celebration of his life and ministry. We thank God for all he brought to our Circuit, but especially for his preaching ministry and the warmth of his welcome to all. Our prayers continue for Gwen and family. Several of our members continue to be poorly and we remember the m in our prayers, looking forward to the day when they can share with us again.

On July 30th we joined with the Circuit for our farewell to Norman and Barbara Wallwork. We wish them much happiness as they continue life and ministry in Dursley, and we look forward to the arrival of our new Superintendent Minister Rev Terry Young, with his Welcoming Service on 29th August at Victoria 7.30pm.

We are also delighted to welcome Rev Stanley and Joyce Pipet to our Circuit and pray they will find much happiness and fulfilment in their retirement here.

Our Redevelopment Project is still progressing- fundraising has continued over the summer months and we have enjoyed fellowship together in this cause. We are extremely grateful to all who have worked so hard towards making our vision become a reality. Unfortunately, we still fall short of the sum needed before we can commence work, so we have asked Members if they will prayerfully consider making an Interest Free Loan to the Church, for a period of 3, 5, or 10 years. We have already had a favourable response from several generous members, and we thank God for this.

June (Nethercot) is collating a book of favourite recipes to aid our efforts, and would welcome any contributions from the 'Link' or beyond- especially seasonal and Christmas recipes or hints!!

Autumn will be arriving soon and as we move into this most glorious Season we hope and pray that through our worship, fellowship and service we will bring glory to God, enabling us to grow in faith and confidence in Him.

Every Blessing.

Eric.



Arthritis Research

Our Annual sponsored knit in on July 13th raised £353.00, and the Gift Aid donations will enable Arthritis Research Campaign to reclaim over £27.00 worth of tax from the Inland Revenue. I have received a very appreciative letter from headquarters, and they asked me to pass on their thanks to all the knitters and to all who sponsored them.

Muriel Hyde.

Tim and Bridget.

Wish to record their most grateful thanks for all the wonderful cards, messages, good wishes, visits and PRAYERS, following Tim's heart surgery. Also to thank God for their own doctor, Dr Hayne, and Dr Walker and his marvellous staff at Musgrove Park Hospital. Heartfelt thanks to Alice, Len and John for looking after the music.



REDEVELOPMENT FUND

BURNHAM ON SEA REDEVELOPMENT FUND

Money raised from Sept.1st £6290.27

July August has seen a number of money raising events. We had a good afternoon Tea at Dorothy and Cedric's.

A very good Dinner followed when we heard something of the history and value of our antiques.

In August a very enjoyable Tea/Coffee Evening was held at Priory Gardens.

A successful and busy Jumble Sale was organised by Dorothy.

We express our grateful thanks to all who organised and supported these events.

There will shortly be a Meeting to organise the Christmas Fair and other money raising events – watch the Church notices.

Any ideas to Joyce.

Thank you.



FOR SALE

Petrol-driven rotary lawn mower with grass collector.

Good working order £30.00

Proceeds for the Burnham Methodist Church Redevelopment Fund.

Contact Stanley or Joyce Pipet, ☎ 01278 795764

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## Thank you

I wish to say thank you to Dorothy for kindly bringing me a lovely bunch of flowers on behalf of the Church, it was greatly appreciated. Dorothy is always a welcome visitor.

God bless,  
Iris Loat.

~~~~~

I wish to thank you for the lovely flowers, cards and phone-calls which were much appreciated. I am improving slowly and thank you again.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Lily Roper.

~~~~~

## Congratulations

Nigel entered the Methodist Recorder photographic competition earlier in the year with his photograph of the Low Lighthouse and Sunset.

Today August 24<sup>th</sup> the results and photographs are published in the Methodist Recorder. His photograph is highly

# WEST HUNTSPILL



## Harvest Thanksgiving Services

to be held on

Sunday September 10th

Preacher at 11am Revd Neville Kent

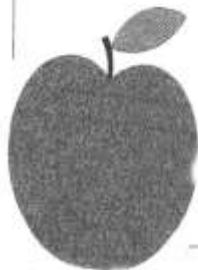
&

at 6-30pm Revd Carol Gill

Evening Service will be followed by

Light refreshments & Sale of Produce

Proceeds for Methodist Relief & Development Fund



# BREAN

Here we are again back in harness after a wonderful holiday. Our location was situated on a lovely headland where we couldn't hear the sound of a car but only the music of blackbirds and skylarks - it was heaven. But everything must come to an end and we came right down to earth when we arrived back in Burnham and Brean with the roads blocked with traffic and people.

Quite a few things have happened since Harvey's report in June. Sadly we have said "Farewell" to Rev Rex Oldham a true and faithful servant and will be sadly missed. Also we have expressed our thanks and best wishes to Reverend Norman Wallwork as he left to take up a new appointment. But how pleased we are to have Rev. Pipet and Joyce come to join us and we wish them a very happy retirement. We shall soon be welcoming our new Superintendent Reverend Terry Young and family and assure them of our best wishes and our prayers as he starts his ministry among us.

So it is all change at the moment. Yes even the weather - wasn't it hot but we shall soon be complaining it is too cold.

Harvey mentioned our L.E.P here in Brean. We are all meeting together on September 14th to try to decide how best we can serve God here in Brean. Please make a note of the date and remember us in your prayers that we shall be led to do what God is asking of us which is not always what we want to do. We shall be uniting with St. Bridget's on September 10<sup>th</sup> for our Harvest Service and our Minister Stephen will be preaching. As usual Brean is crowded with visitors and we had a lovely surprise a few Sundays ago. We were just about to start our service with a very depleted congregation when a group of about a dozen folks all mixed ages came in. It appears they had been on holiday in different parts of the area and had all decided to meet in Brean and all came to us for the service. Our schoolroom resounded with happy chatter and laughter as they enjoyed a cuppa with us. Let us hope they will repeat it again.

We send our best wishes to everyone especially those who are poorly or sad and lonely. Be assured of our prayers and thoughts

God bless

Lilian Stone

## BRENT KNOLL

In my diary of 1948 I see that I was challenged by the lines “if every member was just like me, what kind of a Church would our Church be” and so considered the contribution I was making then to my church in Abergavenny. But I soon realised that no member could possibly be “just like me” because we all have different gifts (see 1 Corinthians Chapter 12 verses 4 and 5) There is however one gift, indeed privilege, which we all have and that is PRAYER. The New Prayer Handbook “Amazing Grace” reminds us what a valuable resource prayer is in our personal and church lives. We can join with people all over the world in their thanksgiving and intercessions. This week's Recorder headline urges us to “Keep on Praying”

We at Brent Knoll are looking forward to our Harvest Thanksgiving on 10th September when our service will be conducted by Reverend Stephen Marr. After disposal of Harvest Gifts we will join Bill and Barbara Drew to celebrate their Diamond Wedding. We congratulate this dear couple who contribute so much to the life of our Church, we thank God for them and wish them every blessing. It is good to be sharing in fellowship again with LINK and village friends in our August coffee mornings and thank those to organise them.

Our Toddlers group restarts on the 5<sup>th</sup> September and news of the youth club will be in the next Link.

We remember in our prayers those who mourn, those who are ill, on holiday or unable to attend worship.

Finally instead of those words of my youthful challenge we can take comfort in the following from Mahatma Gandhi.

I am only one, but I am still one.  
I cannot do everything but still I can do something,  
And because I cannot do everything  
I will not refuse the something I can do.

Kathleen BurrIDGE



## Minister

Rev. Stephen Hill, 28A Caernarvon Way. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2DQ  
[Stephen@Hill735.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:Stephen@Hill735.fsworld.co.uk) Tel. (01278) 782306

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## Web Sites

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

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