
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

September 2012 Volume 47. No. 7



BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



WEST HUNTSPILL



EAST BRENT



BURNHAM ON SEA

Minister's Letter

It has been quite an eventful Summer despite the lack of sunshine! Several major national events have served to take our minds off the weather. In June we had the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II – who could ever forget the amazing sight of all those boats – large and small – in the flotilla which took place on the Thames? Have you ever before seen a bell tower on a moving boat? The image that remains with me is of the choir which sang before the Queen, in pouring rain, soaked through with hair plastered to their heads but their spirit undaunted.

Then there was that fantastic concert held at the end of The Mall, outside the gates of Buckingham Palace. The memory that I will hold of that will be of Madness playing “Our House” on the Palace roof while the most amazing images of life in an ordinary working class streets was projected onto the front of the palace walls!

Then of course we have had the Olympics – an event which has captured the imagination and spirit of the whole country and made everyone proud to be British! Despite the usual negativity that we have come to expect from the British media the whole organisation was a triumph and the British team did us proud coming 3rd in the medals table behind only the USA and China.

Of course the Olympics were not just for the Athletes or for Londoners. The games took place in venues all over the country and many volunteers took part helping to make the event the success it was. This included many churches across the country which took up the challenge issued by the “More than Gold” initiative which the Methodist Conference last year endorsed for Methodism. The Methodist recorder this week reports how thousands of Churches have gained a fresh confidence through participating in events that served local communities. More than Gold executive officer David Wilson explained: “Churches across the UK have stepped out to run events large and small including big screen festivals, fun days and kids clubs, and time after time they have experienced outstanding success by way of the quality of what they have done and the numbers that turned up. The impact has been to raise the profile and credibility of churches in their communities especially where they have joined hands to work together”.

This just highlights what can be achieved with the right spirit, and it is important that churches do not lose the impetus that has been created by the Olympics. Churches need to keep on finding ways of connecting with their communities in all kinds of ways however small. Because it is through such connections that relationships are made, that the profile of the church in the community is raised and that the church can come to be seen as relevant and making a positive contribution to the community, rather than as an outdated and irrelevant institution.

We have much to be thankful for at this time: at Burnham, the news that grants have been obtained that will make it possible to go ahead with a new heating system, hopefully in time for the winter. A group will also be working on a new development / mission plan for the future, with support from a District Team of enablers.

West Huntspill is looking at ways in which the church can build on its existing community links and create new ones. At Brent Knoll the Emmaus course is continuing with several well established groups in partnership with the Anglicans. Brean continues to welcome visitors holidaying in the area and to provide a meeting place for locals and visitors alike at the weekly coffee and chat. Churches Together are looking at the way forward for the Youth Project now that Sarah has finished her course, and are making good progress with the setting up of the Foodbank (for which Burnham Methodist are doing their bit by offering temporary storage facilities).

So as the Summer draws to a close and we look forward to our Harvest Festivals – let us give Thanks to God for all his blessings.

Blessings,

Rev. Andrew.



Deaths.

Joan Underwood - Funeral at Burnham on July 17th.

Baptism.

Cameron Troy Hampson at Burnham on July 22nd.



CALENDAR

AUGUST

Sat.25th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning.

SEPTEMBER

Sat. 1st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning with Stalls & Raffle in aid of the Heating Fund - Wednesday Group.

Wed. 5th 3.00 onwards Afternoon Tea & Stalls at Dorothy & Cedric's 6 Brightstowe Road - All welcome.

Sat .8th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning.

Tue.11th 2.30pm. E/B LINK Villages Fellowship - Dedication – Rev. Andrew Biggs.

Sat.15th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning in aid of Educate the Kids (in Kenya)

Sat.22nd 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning.

Tue.25th 2.30pm E/B LINK Villages Fellowship - Behind the Scenes of the Coronation Mr David Matthewson

Sat.29th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning.

OCTOBER

Sat. 6th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning with Stalls & Raffle in aid of the Heating Fund - Choir.

Tue. 9th 2.30pm E/B "LINK Villages Fellowship - Milton Ladies Tea Rev. Kath Allen"

Sat.13th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning.

Tue.16th 7.30pm B/H Church Council.

Sat.20th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning in aid of Educate the Kids (in Kenya)

Tue.23rd 2.30pm E/B "LINK Villages Fellowship - The Wild West (1860 - 1900) Mr and Mrs Steve and Lynne Pigeon"

Sat.27th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning.

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



LINK VILLAGES' FELLOWSHIP

Once again we welcome everyone to the Link Villages' Fellowship

We meet on the second and forth Tuesday afternoons of each month at East Brent Methodist Church at 2.30p.m.

As a break from the last few years we have decided to invite the ladies from Milton Ladies' Fellowship to a later meeting instead of the first

On September 11th, we hold our Dedication Service which will be conducted by Rev. Andrew Biggs

On Tuesday, September 25th, Mr David Matthewson will take us behind the scenes of the Coronation.

We shall welcome the ladies from Milton on October 9th when the speaker will be Rev. Kath Allen. There will be time for a lovely chat with them after the meeting over a delicious tea.

Mr and Mrs Lynne will take us to the Wild West from 1860 - 1900 on October 23rd

Please come and join us and receive a warm welcome.

Meetings usually last about 1¹/₄ hours and always end with a cup of tea and biscuits

Eileen Goundry.

SHOE BOXES FOR ROMANIA

West Huntspill Primary School will again be sending Family Shoe boxes to Romania and Moldova. If anyone can fill a shoe box with essential items or has items such as soap, shampoo, flannels, small toys, note books, new gloves, hats or scarves that would help fill a box, or donate £3.00 to send a box, please contact Marian Foster on 785360.

BRITISH RED CROSS

Would you be prepared to give up 2 hours on a Saturday morning to help in your local Red Cross Shop, Victoria Street, Burnham, working as a trainee Asst? We urgently need a kind and sympathetic person to undertake this extremely rewarding and worthwhile voluntary job.

Could it be you?

If you are interested please ring June Garton on 01278 794638, or call in the shop on a Tuesday morning between 10 am and 12 noon.

We need you to join our friendly team.

June Garton, Team Leader.

Harry's Page

(from his daily Bible readings)

**TEAR
DOWN
THAT
WALL!**

READ:

Ephesians 2:14-18

Having been justified
by faith we have
peace with God
through our Lord
Jesus Christ,
through whom also
we have access by
faith.

--Romans 5:1-2

The Wall. For people living in East Germany over 50 years ago, those two words were the only ones necessary to describe the barrier erected on 13th August 1961. That date marked the beginning of the construction of a concrete barrier that separated East and West Germany. Eventually the wall became nearly impenetrable – secured with barbed wire and armed men. Yet in 1989 the wall was torn down, removing the barrier between the countries.

Another wall needs to be removed as well the wall between humanity and God. That barrier was built in the Garden of Eden

when a man and a woman committed the first act of rebellion against God (Gen. 3). We all have continued that rebellion ever since! Can you visualize that impenetrable wall? Isaiah 59:2 says: "Your sins ... have cut you off from God" (NLT).

Jesus' death and resurrection, however, has made reconciliation with God possible (2 Cor. 5:17-21). All those who accept Christ's sacrifice for sin will have the barrier of sin torn down and be reconciled to God. Christ's death has also demolished other restrictive walls - between the Jews and Gentiles, slave and free, male and female (Gal. 3:28).

Don't let your own 'wall' of indecision prevent you from accepting God's gift of salvation. -- Cindy Hess Kasper

The veil is rent; in Him alone

The living way to heaven is seen;

The middle wall is broken dawn

And all mankind may enter in. – Wesley

The Bible is a record of man's complete ruin in sin and God's complete remedy in Christ. -- Barnhouse



TEMPTATION enters through three doors The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. 'That's how it entered the Garden of Eden. 'When the woman saw that the tree was good for food [the lust of the flesh], that it was pleasant to the eyes [the lust of the eyes], and a tree desirable to make one wise [the pride of life], she took of its fruit.; (Genesis 3:6 NKJV). Satan has no new tricks; he just dresses up the same old temptations in new attire. "The lust of the flesh' is anything you recklessly go into debt for, manipulate for or violate your integrity for. 'The lust of the eyes' has to do with your perception. By the time you start seeing clearly, you've lost a great relationship or walked away from an opportunity, only to look back and say, 'I was foolish. If only I'd waited. The pride of life is the most subtle, therefore the most dangerous. You need a certain amount of pride to succeed in .life. So when does pride cross the line? When you start exalting yourself, when you neglect God and think your success is the result of your own effort; when you can't admit you're wrong; when you're willing to go all the way to the bottom, fighting and blaming others. Someone who cannot repent cannot be restored. After his affair with Bathsheba, David wrote, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise' (Psalm 51:17 NIV).



AFTERNOON TEA

Wednesday 5th September

3.00pm. onwards

At the home of Dorothy & Cedric May

6 Brightstowe Road

**Cake stall, Bric-a-Brac, Kenyan Jewellery, and
Raffle**

**Proceeds to Church Heating Fund and Educate the
Kids (in Kenya)**

Transport can be arranged

**Enjoy
Singing?**

**Making
Music**



We're a very friendly group.
Who enjoy singing together.

We're a mixed choir, so
everyone welcome, especially
Tenors, Baritones and Basses.
Come on don't be shy.

There are no auditions.
Reading music is an advantage,
but it's not necessary.
There is no excuse because the
first 3 weeks are FREE.

Now what have you got to lose?

Our programme for next
season includes:-

Saint Saëns -
Christmas Oratorio.

Vivaldi's - Gloria
And excerpts from :-

Les Misérables

So don't miss your
opportunity to sing these
exciting pieces of music.



Registered Charity Number 1091212

Burnham & Highbridge Choral Society

We meet on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in
the Methodist Church hall, College Street, B.O.S.

Contact person: Mr Bev Hearn 01934 732041

or visit our New Facebook page

Date: 6th September 2012 Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

BREAN

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

Welcome back! It's now two months since the last issue of the Link but it is no easier to find 'something different' about which to write than it was for July. It makes me wonder whether it would be easier if the Link magazine came out every second month throughout the year!

We've had rain, a few holidaymakers, more rain, the Olympics, more rain, and now it's the football season with the cricketing summer coming to a splashy end. The Paralympics is about to start. And that's it.

So, in true Methodist style, happy New Year; for September marks The Beginning.

We have welcomed a few visitors throughout the summer and one of our regulars, Steve Pigeon, took the service that was down on the plan as 'LA'. It was a very happy occasion. Steve and his wife, Lynn, are very keen on Country and Western and all that goes with it, so in the middle of the service they gave us an excellent rendering of a couple of gospel numbers in country and western style.

Rosemary has been busy with the farm and her holiday business and has not been available to play the organ in these past Sundays, so we have reverted to our music machine when necessary, though Luke has kindly helped us out on the organ two or three times.

We are disappointed that the group who have been using our premises for their Dolls' House making club, have had to give up because of falling numbers. They have been welcome visitors for the last couple of years. It makes us aware how vulnerable we all are these days and how reluctant people are 'to join in. 'The signs of the times.

We remember Lilian Stone in our prayers. After a stroke a month ago she has been in Weston Hospital but is now expected to move to a Nursing Home, probably in Brent Knoll, for continuing care.

We shall resume our coffee mornings in September, from about 10.30 on Monday mornings. We are but few in number but, as for our coffee after worship on Sundays, we meet together round a single table to share our news and chat. If you are in our vicinity you will be most welcome.

Judy and I have been part of the U3A Photography Group taking pictures of parts of Burnham over the summer. Five years ago the then Group took pictures of places in the town as part of the 15th Anniversary of the U3A. Now the 20th Anniversary project has been to capture interesting details that help to

make up those places – odd signs, moss growing out of drainpipes, drain covers, entrances to shops, roof lines and the seagull netting, architectural features and so on. Walk up the street with a camera in your hand and it is surprising what there is to see. We miss so much in the comings and goings of our lives.

So don't miss out in September. It's a time for new beginnings in our church. However disappointing the summer has been there is always something to look forward to.

Harvey Allen



West Huntspill Methodist Church

**Please Come And Join Us
As We Give Thanks At Our**

HARVEST

SERVICES

Sunday 9th September

11.00 am Rev. Karen Murphy



**6.30 pm Rev. Mike Wilkinson who; will be
giving an illustrated talk on the work of
The Methodist Relief and Development Fund**

Refreshments and Sale of goods after the evening service for MRDF

WEST HUNTSPILL

Over 23 years ago at a Church Council meeting we were discussing Fund Raising Events, it was pointed out that the West Huntspill Horticultural Society held a show in August with some groups using it as an opportunity to raise funds for their projects.

We asked and were granted permission to have a stall and every year since then we have been present.

We sell various Jams, marmalades, Chutneys and Craft items made by our members and friends. We have developed our own labels which mean our customers take away a product with our name on it.

It is a great way of keeping ourselves in the public eye and it is good to serve our community in this way. We have regular customers who make a bee-line for our stalls



BRENT KNOLL

Minister Revd. Biggs

I'll be the first to admit that I am not a great one for spectator sports (with the exception of watching my beloved Arsenal) but I was transfixed by the Olympics from the opening ceremony until the close. There was something so uplifting about it. People seemed more cheerful, shoppers in queues were talking to each other about the latest medal count and Union Jacks adorned houses, cars and people alike. I'm hoping the media takes a good look at our Olympic heroes and spends more time writing about these role models and less time concentrating on the likes of overpaid footballers and their wives, models who are self-confessed drug takers and celebrities who are famous for - well - just being famous. I would rather our young people have posters of Mo Farah and Charlotte Dujardin on their walls than Katie Price (aka "Jordan") and "comedian" Russell Brand.

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer - weather and all - and that you have all come back from holidays refreshed and relaxed. As I was typing out Brent Knoll Methodist Church's schedule I couldn't believe I was seeing the words "Harvest Festival". Has the summer really gone that quickly? (Or, as some may ask, did it ever arrive?) On a personal level,

Autumn is my favourite time of the year in Somerset. It's usually drier, sunnier and more beautiful than any other time of the year. I hope you all enjoy it as much as I do.

God bless

Rosemary Krull

PREACHERS FOR SEPTEMBER AT 10.30AM

- 2nd September: Rev Andrew Biggs (Holy Communion)
- 9th September: Rev John Le Sueur
- 16th September: Rev Andrew Biggs (Harvest Festival)
- 23rd September: Local arrangement
- 30th September: Mr David Lee



EAST BRENT

Once again the time has come for me to put pen to paper for the September edition of the Link on behalf of East Brent.

This year I think has been a year of events, first there was the Olympic flag being carried through the West country villages, if by any chance you waited on the roadside to see it, it was over before you could look round.

Then came the celebration for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, which was really lovely to watch all the pageantry.

Then we had the first Britain to win the Tour de France, and now as I write we have the Olympic games, which began with a fantastic opening ceremony and up to now we are doing very well in the medal table.

We are very happy at Church with the increase in the number of our congregation, and it was lovely to welcome Eileen back with us.

We also have a new loop system installed, which is wonderful for anyone such as myself whose hearing is not good, and this is greatly appreciated.

Our weather hasn't been good this summer, but we all hope it will improve later on, with that I will wish you all a good Autumn.

God bless everyone of you

Ruth Moxey

BURNHAM

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

Steward's Column

Well how things change – a couple of months ago I said that I was stepping down as a steward but as things turned out it seems that after all I was needed; so I stayed on.

We have had to say good bye to a very dear friend Joan Underwood who passed away on 5th July and whose funeral took place at our church on 17th July. She will be very sadly missed; we continue to pray for her family and especially Wynne - you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

We have managed to get in a few coffee mornings which have been financially very successful so thank you to those who opened up their homes for us it has been very much appreciated.

We have also celebrated the baptism of Cameron Troy Hampson on 22nd July and the church was packed to overflowing, which was great to see.

On August 12th we had another successful Local Arrangement Service which was lead for us by Daphne Hill. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the service, so well done Daphne.

We hope that some of you have managed a week or two out of the rain, and that you have returned refreshed and ready for the tasks ahead. It doesn't seem possible that we are about to enter the season of autumn because we do not seem to have had a summer!

The rota of members taking on tasks that once the stewards held has been wonderful, they come in cheerfully and ready to start on whatever tasks we ask them to do. Thank you to all the volunteers.

At the beginning of August I was lucky enough to go to Gloucester for a weekend with my husband and a couple of our friends, it was a wonderful weekend. The highlight for me was the Cathedral which holds a lot of history including the tomb of King Edward I. It also boasts a beautiful blue, modern window which is outstanding. It is hard to believe that the building of Gloucester

Cathedral began in 1089 but it reports that there was a place of worship there as long ago as 700AD.

We continue to pray for Beth Bridges who is still unwell and for all those of our circuit who are unable to attend worship for whatever reason. We pray that God's healing spirit will be with all those who are ill and hope they will soon feel better once more.

With every blessing,

June.



Educate the Kids (Charity in Kenya)

On 25th June Sue & I left Burnham to travel to Gatwick Airport and from there on the flight to Mombasa.

Sue had learnt that a team of 16 Students were to spend 2 weeks of their holiday painting the schools. Sue wanted to meet them and let them know how much this would be appreciated. It was therefore a very big disappointment to learn from the manager at the Hotel on the day after our arrival that the students had cancelled. A big disappointment to everyone concerned

However there were many visits for us to the schools so we were kept busy. My camera was well used taking photograph of all the children who are sponsored locally and then these are given to their sponsor on our return it was also good to get a small group photograph published in the Methodist Recorder. I received a letter from a lady in Grantham who saw the photograph and recalled being brought to Burnham Methodist Church as a young child in the early 1940's.

Our monthly Coffee Mornings are being well supported. Thank you for your interest in the charity and all the support you give,

Dorothy May

Minister

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

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October 2012 “LINK” is
Sunday 23rd September 2012**

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The LINK September 2012