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# THE LINK

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**Methodist Link Churches Magazine**

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**September 2018    Volume 53. No. 7.**

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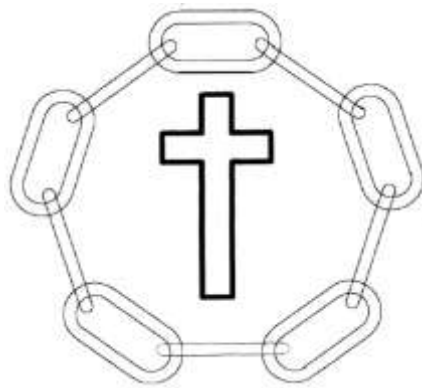
**BRENT KNOLL**



**BREAN**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM on SEA**

# **Minister's Letter**

## **A New Year – A New Link Group**

Welcome to the start of the Methodist year 2018/19, which will be an interesting year for our Circuit. Two of our Ministers go on Sabbatical in 2019, and in the same year all three Ministers will need to hold conversations about how the Circuit will be served by Ordained Ministry from 2020 onwards. The Circuit Leadership Team will be pivotal in managing these discussions over the next 12 months, and we are delighted that David Jordan (from Milton Methodist Church) has joined the team to help.

At our annual Conference, the Methodist Church asked all its offices, churches, and circuits to be forward thinking about the way they operate in the future. Our national officers have been asked to look at ways of working together in partnership, releasing resources held in one office for use by others. This is not just about money, but about all the resources, the gifts and skills that we have in the Methodist Church. The aim is to release these resources to enable the Methodist Church to prioritise its proclaiming of the Gospel and making new disciples of Jesus. Locally, we too are encouraged to look at the resources we have and ask, “Can we use them in different and better ways?”

We have already started on this journey. The Circuit Review informed the decisions we are now making as a circuit, and in the latter part of the last year we formed a new group – originally called Sedgemoor Stewards Group, but now renamed the Link Vision Group – to look at the challenges for the link group of churches in the year ahead. So far we have talked about a wide range of issues, including the possibility of combining resources to make new things happen. There are representatives from each church in the Link meeting together to talk about the ways of growing and developing in the years ahead. If you do not know

who represents your church, then ask one of your stewards, and ask them to keep you up to date with what is happening.

Whatever this year has in store, we know that

‘we’ll praise him for all that is past,  
and trust him for all that’s to come’

Joseph Hart (Singing the Faith 67)

*Steve.*

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## CALENDAR

### AUGUST

Fri 24th	7.00pm.		Fourth Friday at Wisteria Cottage Watchfield
Sat 25th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - 12.00		Brent Knoll Coffee Morning
Fri 31st	10.00 - 12.00	W/H	Coffee & Cake at West Huntspill Methodist

### SEPTEMBER

Sat 1st	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Dorothy & Helpers
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.45 - 10.30	B/K	Tea, Chat & Prayer at Brent Knoll Methodist
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 - 4.00	B/H	Wednesday Group -
Sat 8th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sat 8th	4.00pm	B/H	Messy Church - 1st Birthday
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	BR	Brean Service at St Bridget's
Sun 9th	10.30	B/K	Brent Knoll Harvest
Tue 11th	2.30pm	E/B	Link Villages Fellowship
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	B/H	Communion & Lunch Dorothy 784204
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning
Sun 16th	10.30am	B/H	Burnham Harvest
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 & 6.00	W/H	West Huntspill Harvest
Mon 17th	10.00		Julian Meeting at St Andrews Church
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	2.30 - 4.00	B/H	Tea & Chat Burnham Methodist
Sat 22nd	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sun 23rd		E/B	East Brent Harvest Rev. Steve Bennett
Sun 23rd	<b>LAST DAY FOR THE OCTOBER 2018 LINK</b>		

Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm.	Fourth Friday at Wisteria Cottage Watchfield
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - 12.00	B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - 12.00	W/H Coffee & Cake at West Huntspill Methodist
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	E/B	East Brent Harvest

## **OCTOBER**

Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	8.45 - 10.30	B/K Tea, Chat & Prayer at Brent Knoll Methodist
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.30 - 4.00	B/H Wednesday Group -
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 - 12.00	B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Choir
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	E/B Link Villages Fellowship
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	12.00pm	B/H Communion & Lunch
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	B/H Messy Church
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30	BR Brean Harvest & Meal

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



## **Churches Together**

This summer Churches Together had a Story and Craft Tent at the Apex Park Fun Day on August 1<sup>st</sup> for the first time. Several churches were involved in this venture including Burnham and West Huntspill Methodists. Lots of children and their families visited the tent and a good time was had by all. It seemed a really good thing for us to be involved with as a group of Christians.

At the AGM in July, Rev Sharon Crossman stepped down as chair and there will not be another meeting until November.

Here is a list of some of the regular meetings taking place at other churches in the area to which all are cordially invited.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in the month  
Prayer meeting 7.30pm Highbridge car park
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Tea and Cake at Our lady of the English Martyr
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Dementia Friends service 2.30pm St Andrew's
- Last Friday Coffee and Cake 10.00-12.00 at West Huntspill  
Methodist
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Tea and Chat 2.30 - 4.00 Burnham Methodist



Messy Church is 1-year old this month.  
We next meet on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September  
at 4.00pm in Burnham.

It will be a party!!!!!!

Since we began this outreach activity a year ago,  
between 8 and 14 children and accompanying adults  
have joined in craft activities, games, worship and a  
light tea each month.

A small team works to run Messy Church on behalf of  
the Link Churches. Since many activities happen at  
thesame time, the team is sometimes quite stretched.

A larger team is needed.

Could you...

Invite a child and accompanying adult to  
come and join the fun?

Join the team who run Messy Church in  
activities, or catering, or administration?

If so, without any commitment, you  
would be most welcome to come along on  
8<sup>th</sup> September.

Linda & David Patient (01278 779000)

## **Come join our choir!**

Singing is good for your general health and wellbeing. So why not come and join The BURNHAM & HIGHBRIDGE CHORAL SOCIETY on Thursday evenings during September - May at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, College Street, Burnham on Sea. TA8 1AS.

We're a friendly group of people, who enjoy singing various types of choral music which, as our repertoire grows, includes some more modern pieces.

We're a mixed choir, so Men & Women are welcome. There are NO auditions. The first 3 weeks are free, so there is no pressure to make a decision on the first night. The new season starts on THURSDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2018 at 7.30PM.

We look forward to meeting new people who enjoy singing as much as we do. You will be made very welcome. We have learning C.D's available to help you learn the music, also members will support and help you if you wish. So come and give us a try.

The Christmas Concert will be on Thursday 13th December 2018.

The Spring concert will be on Saturday 27th April 2019.

For more information contact 01278 783511 or email [jane.lee36@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.lee36@btinternet.com)

You may also visit our Facebook page where you will also find some video clips of our past concerts

. [www.facebook.com/BurnhamAndHighbridgeChoralSociety](http://www.facebook.com/BurnhamAndHighbridgeChoralSociety)

(You do not have to be a member of Facebook to do this)



## **Julian Meeting at St Andrews Church**

A gathering of people for a short period of quiet reflection followed by coffee on the Third Monday of each Month at 10.00am.

All Welcome



## **LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL.**

I will be again sending Shoeboxes filled with much needed items to this Brighton based charity. They deliver these boxes to the elderly and to families in the poorest countries in Europe, Moldova, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Romania.

If you would like to fill a shoebox either for an elderly person or a family I have leaflets telling what to include. If you are not able to do this but would like to donate

Items I would be very grateful to receive them. Items needed include toiletries, hats, gloves, scarves and socks. Candles with holders, pens and paper, mugs, cutlery as well as material shopping bags. The people they go to often live in shacks and have very little. You can find out more at their website, [www.linktohope.co.uk](http://www.linktohope.co.uk).

Thank you.  
Marian Foster

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### **A Musical Evening with The Trinity Entertainers**

Last Saturday evening Peter & I had the privilege of going along to an evening of music, fun & variety provided by The Trinity Entertainers.

It was a truly memorable evening of humour & musicality, with my personal favourite being a rendition of "You Raise Me Up".

Burnham on Sea Methodist Church provided the perfect venue for such an event, not to mention that delicious chocolate cake which I enjoyed during the interval!

So, thank you to Dorothy, Cedric & family for making it happen as well as raising a substantial amount of money towards Church funds.

Sandra Nelson

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# EAST BRENT

Well the New Methodist year is upon us and for the Link to restart its circulation with the September edition, also all the various meetings will re-commence.

We at East Brent have had several heart warming services attended by a reasonable congregation which one week included two visitors. On one Sunday we had an Own Arrangement not something East Brent welcomes particularly, but it actually went surprisingly well and we thank all our members for that!! East Brent does not have the complement of a Local Preacher or Supernumerary amongst us unlike the majority of Churches???

We were once told that a service had to have a recognised local preacher for it to take place and a previous member of our Church was told in no uncertain terms he was not to take our service because he was not accredited, although he had conducted many in his previous circuit in Chippenham. It of course can be a dangerous step having someone with no experience or training.

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August we were privileged to have the Rev. Jim McKnight take morning service with Holy Communion, how fortunate this circuit is to have such Supernumeraries come and retire amongst us, anyway we were very depleted in numbers that morning, as Joan and Tui had no lifts because of various special events taking place, Margaret Scott having a grandchild sleepover, Andrew holding his 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday (Happy Birthday Andrew).

We sincerely hope it will not be too long before Jim is planned at East Brent again and those that were absent realise what they missed!!

Jill and I have become great grandparents for the second time, and we hear Evelyn has because of her good progress, no need for a check-up for 6 months. It's so good to have good news to write about for a change.

Our Harvest is approaching and is on 23<sup>rd</sup> September with Steve, the week after 30<sup>th</sup> September is AGAIN own arrangement (what will be cooked up then??) it's followed by lunch and Church



Council. But before all that Rev. Pam Pembro will start the new plan off at East Brent on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and we look forward to all of this at East Brent in the New Methodist Year.

Gordon Legg

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## BURNHAM.

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

### STEWARDS COLUMN

*I hope you are all enjoying the lovely weather we have been having over the past three months. The farmers are not too happy and neither are the gardeners who need rain for their crops. The Farmers are saying that vegetables will be in short supply this year because of the drought.*

*As I am writing this, however, I have had to take my washing in as it is raining.*

*To all of our congregation who have or are on holiday we hope you have had and are still having a wonderful time and feel refreshed.*

*We have an all age worship service followed by a bring & share lunch for our **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September . Its also the start of the Methodist year new beginnings, new commitments.*

*We keep in our prayers all those who are sick either at home or in hospital and hope and pray that you will soon feel a lot better.*

*June Parry*

*On behalf of the Burnham Stewards.*

## Wednesday Group

I'm just letting you know that the Wed Group has decided to change the time of the meetings from the evening to the afternoon as it is more convenient especially in the winter, the time will now be 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month 2.30 - 4.00.

# BREAN

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

We hope that everyone has enjoyed the summer very much. But after the heat and drought of June and July, it has been something of a relief that the weather has eased back a little. Not so much abroad though, where heat has been a problem in many areas and latterly the vicious monsoon has struck part of Southern India with such terrible consequences. Those affected are surely in our hearts and thoughts. That goes too for Bali and Lombok in Indonesia where earthquakes struck last month. Our granddaughter was in Lombok when the first two or three quakes struck (though she claims she was asleep undisturbed by the first of them).

At Brean, we have been well supported by our visitors over the summer so far, though it always seems to happen that when two or three of the regulars are away that is also the day when several of our returning holiday makers are also absent; so, a regular 19 or 20 suddenly drops to ten.

In spite of the weather we had a very successful 'Outdoor' service on 12th August though the threat of rain brought us inside. Not so many attended as previously of course but 35 was still a creditable number. We were well supported by friends from Burnham, West Huntspill and Brent Knoll so thank you all for coming.

Well summer is coming to an end. It looks as though I shall have to mow the grass again now that the rain has started to flow, and hopefully flowers and vegetation will find a bit more energy again to liven up our gardens. Elsewhere the outside lights at the back of our chapel have sprung to life very regularly at 9pm as foxes (more probably) or badgers have started their evening prowl. No doubt we shall soon be hearing their mating call.

For the church at the beginning of September, it is like New Year as we pick up the traces of what was laid down in the Spring, so Happy New Year everyone from us all and may it be productive for everyone.

Our services continue through the month at 10.30am except for the 9th when we meet with the Anglicans at St Bridget's starting at 9.15am

Harvey Allen



# WEST HUNTSPILL



**Our next Coffee Morning**

**Will be held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept**

**10.00am – 12.00noon**

**Table Top Sales**

**Cakes and Biscuits**

**Donations to Macmillan Cancer Care**



**Come and Join Us for Our  
Harvest Thanksgiving Services**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

**11.00am Service led by Mr John Trebble**

**6.00pm Service led by Revd Steve  
Bennett**

**Refreshments and Sale of Produce  
follows evening service**

**Proceeds for Methodist Relief and  
Development Fund**



# BRENT KNOLL

[www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

Minister Revd. Steve Bennett

As I'm writing, the holiday season is far from over but you wouldn't think that by looking at the weather (or maybe you would!). However, I'm sure that none of us can complain after those long hot sunny summer days we all shared throughout June and July and I'm certain that every gardener and farmer within our community is very thankful for the much needed rain which followed the end of the heat wave.

Thank you to everybody who organised - and most of all attended - our Praise for Pets service earlier in the summer. There was an excellent turn out and we all enjoyed seeing our furry friends in our congregation (as well as our human ones, naturally!). A special mention should go to Barney and Zac, our own minister Steve's and his wife Liz's lovely cockapoos whose voices were in fine fettle joining in our praise in song. There was also a quite poignant moment as Rev Margaret blessed our prayer tree which included pictures of those animals who were either unable to be there or are sadly no longer with us. An additional special thank you also goes out to our toddler group who coloured in pictures of animals for us to decorate the church with and which brightened up the morning.

A thank you also goes out to all those who supported our August coffee mornings. Seeing our Circuit friends, together with those from the village is always an absolute joy. And as previously mentioned, four charities benefitted from your generosity. I don't have the final totals at this time but I will let you have full details in the October edition of The Link.

Looking ahead, September is not only the start of the new school year but, of course, is also the start of the new Methodist one. And we are going to start this new year by opening our chapel for a time of prayer on the first Monday of each month. Although we are thinking especially of parents and carers who do the frantic school run, the chapel will be open

to anyone who would like an oasis of calm at the beginning of their busy week. Our church has a beautiful prayer tree on which to hang your requests or a ribbon on. Tea lights will also be available for those who would like to light one - either in prayer or in remembrance of a loved one. Or please do just come and sit in the peace and calm of our chapel. There will also be someone in the school room if you would like a quiet chat or a coffee during this time. The church will be open on Monday 3 September between 8.45am - 10.30am.

As Autumn fast approaches, we will be giving thanks for all the good things the summer has given us as we celebrate our Harvest Festival on 9 September. Our chapel will be decorated accordingly as we give thanks for all our rural community has to offer. This service of thanksgiving will be followed by a home prepared shared lunch.

As we look forward to all Autumn has to offer, our young people are especially in our thoughts and prayers as we'd like to wish them every success and happiness as they begin school for the first time, return to school or embark on new adventures either beginning a new stage in their further education or as they enter the working world. We wish them every happiness and success. And, of course, every blessing.

Wishing you all a happy Methodist New Year from all of us at Brent Knoll.

***Rosemary Krull***



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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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**The Deadline for the  
OCTOBER 2018 LINK is  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018**

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