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# THE LINK

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## Methodist Link Churches Magazine

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June 2013 Volume 48. No. 5.

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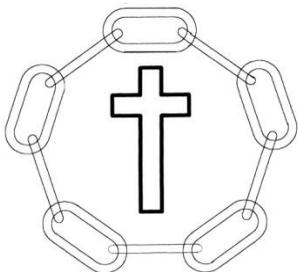
**BREAN**



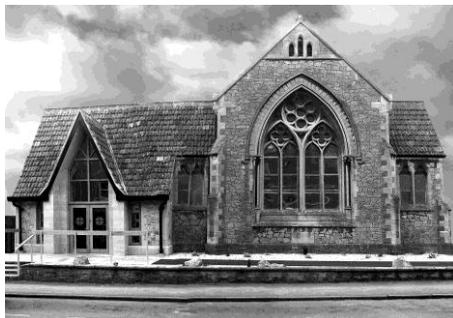
**BRENT KNOLL**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM ON SEA**

## Minister's Letter

The deadline for this Link falls while Julie and I are away on our trip to Israel - 19<sup>th</sup> May. It is also Pentecost. It is also Aldersgate Sunday.

Pentecost is a “red letter” day in the church year, quite literally since the liturgical colour for Pentecost is red. The feast of Pentecost celebrates the descending of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples after Jesus had ascended into Heaven, as described in Acts 2. In the UK it was often known as Whit Sunday and until 1971 the following day, Whit Monday, was a holiday, then replaced by Spring Bank Holiday.

Until fairly recently Whit Monday was a day of celebration in many places, with parades, brass bands, fairs and dancing. I remember attending a parade that used to take place through the streets of Kingswood just outside Bristol. All the local churches would take part – dressing up floats, marching with bands and carrying banners. I marched with the Boys' Brigade on a number of occasions. This is something we seem to have lost.

The name is a contraction of White Sunday but the derivation of that seems uncertain. Some sources suggest that it comes from Anglo Saxon - *hwitmonedei* in an early 13th-century document. Others say that the day was always known as Pentecoste until the Norman conquest when white began to be confused with wit (or understanding). Others say that the name comes from the white garments worn by new Christians coming to be Baptised on that Sunday, or from a tradition of the young women of the parish coming to church in new white dresses.

Whatever the derivation the coming of the Holy Spirit was an important event that marked the beginning of the Christian Church. After the events of Holy week, the disciples had hidden themselves away, nervous in case they too faced the accusations that Jesus had done. After the coming of the Holy Spirit they were immediately filled with a confidence and enthusiasm that enabled them to go out and spread the message of Jesus to all they met.

This season of Pentecost pray that the Holy Spirit might work through us also and empower us to spread the gospel message to all whom we meet also.

Aldersgate Sunday is a day to “remember 80 million Methodists around the world, to worship God and to remember the work of the World

Methodist Council as it unites, encourages, resources and takes forward God's mission through Methodist churches spread across 152 countries worldwide”.

You can find out more here : <http://www.methodist.org.uk/prayer-and-worship/methodist-special-sundays/aldersgate-sunday>

Blessings

Rev Andrew



## Calendar

### JUNE

- Sat 1<sup>st</sup> 10.00 – 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning Stalls & Raffle in aid of the Heating Fund
- Thur 6<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm B/H Thursday Fellowship - 'Keep Active'.
- Sat 8<sup>th</sup> 10.00 – 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
- Wed 12<sup>th</sup> 12.30pm B/H Church Lunch (Dorothy May)
- Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00 – 12.00 B/H R.N.L.I Coffee Morning
- Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> 3.00 - 4.30pm E/B "Summer Songs of Praise East Brent Methodist Hall
- Wed 19<sup>th</sup> 3.00pm on Strawberry Tea at Dorothy's & Cedric's  
6 Brightstowe Rd.
- Thur 20<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm B/H Thursday Fellowship - AGM – Rev. Andrew Biggs.
- Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> 10.00 – 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
- Sat.22<sup>nd</sup>.9.30am-4.30pm Circuit Study Day at Locking Castle Church "Family Friendly Churches
- Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> **LAST DAY FOR JULY - AUGUST LINK**
- Tue 25<sup>th</sup> 10.00- 5.00pm. Flower Festival at Bishops Palace Wells
- to
- Sat. 29<sup>th</sup> 10.00- 2.00pm Ros is hoping to arrange a coach tel. 783652
- Sat 29<sup>th</sup><sup>†</sup> 10.00 – 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
- Sun 30<sup>th</sup> 10.30am B/H Church Anniversary led by Andrew

### JULY

- Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 10.00 – 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning with Stalls & Raffle
- Wed 10<sup>th</sup> 12.30pm B/H Church Lunch (Barbara Williams)
- B/H Burnham, BR Brean, B/K Brent Knoll,  
E/B East Brent, W/H West Huntspill**

**Strawberry Tea**  
**at Dorothy's & Cedric's**  
**6 Brightstowe Rd.**  
**From 3.00pm**  
**Teas - Cake Stall – Raffle Bric a Brac**



**BURNHAM & HIGHBRIDGE**  
**CHORAL SOCIETY**  
Registered Charity Number 1097213

**Musical Director required**  
**from September 2013**  
 by Burnham and Highbridge  
 Choral Society

This friendly and enthusiastic Society  
 meets on Thursday Evenings between  
 September and April.

For more information please contact  
 Our Secretary Jane Lee by email:  
[jane.lee36@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.lee36@btinternet.com)



**The Towans**  
**Summer Fete**



**Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**At 2.30pm**  
**To raise funds for**  
**The Rotary Club**

**2.30pm**  
**Display by**  
**The Kestral Majorettes**

**3.30pm**  
**Display by**  
**St Andrews School**  
**Country Dancers**

**Cream Teas**  
**Available All Afternoon**  
**£2.50**



## TRINITY ENTERTAINERS

What a lovely evening we enjoyed on May 11<sup>th</sup> listening to the Trinity Entertainers.

The programme was varied with a mixture of modern, traditional, spiritual and barbershop plus solos and recitations by some of the Choir.

It was such a pity that the number of people from the Church was only 19- this included Andrew & Julie, Dorothy & Cedric and Nigel & Jo – thus making 13 from the congregation.

The Choir members travel quite a distance for their rehearsals each week and it seemed a shame that there were only 30 people in the audience.

This concert was arranged to help to pay off the Heating Fund – Would people be happy to sit in a cold church if the efforts to raise funds had not gone ahead.

During the concert, one lady had a surprise! Cold rain dripping on her shoulder, then on her legs. – This during a very moving poem written by a Choir lady. Will there be support in future for the roofing fund?

For those who did not come – You MISSED A GREAT EVENING.

From a very appreciative member, who sold seven tickets to friends.



## HARRY'S PAGE

### SHOW HOSPITALITY

'...GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY'

*Romans 12:13 (NKJV)*

MAKING OTHERS feel loved and valued is a hallmark of discipleship (John 13:34-35). Welcoming newcomers was important in the early church, and it's just as important today.

Social customs may change, but God's Word doesn't Jesus said. Anyone who receives you receives me..." (Matthew 10:40 NLT). As a follower of Christ it's your job to make new people feel like part of '...the household of faith' (Galatians 6:10). Established friendships within churches can easily become religious cliques where we smile and speak to newcomers, but spend all our time with a select group of people we already know. Most of us are satisfied with our existing circle of friends, so we need to be looking for ways to include others. People come

to church hoping for love and acceptance, and move on. So keep your spiritual antennae tuned to people who seem uncomfortable and out of place. Most people have had at least one negative experience in church, so they need some extra TLC. (Tender Loving Care).!

The Bible says, 'Carry each other's burdens...' (Galatians 6:2 NIV). Genuine warmth and caring attract people. First impressions count Church should be a place where our love for people who are hurting is evident from the minute they walk in the door. And remember. God doesn't just use these relationships to meet the needs of those coming out of difficult situations—

He uses them to mature us too.



## I'M SORRY, MAN

READ:  
Matthew 5:21-26  
Be reconciled to  
your brother.  
--Matthew 5:24

When my son in law and I attended a sporting event, we enjoyed watching both the game and the people around us.

One of those people showed both the bad and good side of humanity.

This man had apparently lost track of his seat. As he was looking for it, he stood squarely between us and the field. A man sitting in front of us also had his view blocked, so he told the man, "Could you move? We can't see."

The lost man responded sarcastically, "Too bad." A second request got a similar but more heated response. Finally the man moved on. Yet later there came a surprise. He returned and told the man he had blocked, "Hey, I'm sorry, man. I was upset that I couldn't find my seat." They shook hands and the incident ended well.

That interaction made me think. As we go through life striving to find our way, situations may frustrate us and cause us to respond to others in an un-Christ like way. If so, we must ask God to give us the courage to apologise to those we have offended. Our worship, according to Jesus, depends on it (Matt. 5:23-24).

We honour God when we make reconciliation with others a priority. After we have been reconciled, we can then fully enjoy communion with our heavenly Father. –Dave Branon

*It's not easy. Lord, to swallow our pride and ask others to forgive us. But You want us to seek reconciliation before worship can take place.  
—Help us to seek forgiveness when necessary.*

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**Confession of sin is the soil  
in which forgiveness flourishes.**



## The Sanctuary (Watchet)

Last month (April) I went to the opening of “The Sanctuary” in Watchet, an exciting “next step” for the Watchet Baptist Church.

During the last few years the Church have set up 40hour Prayer weekends FRIDAY 6.00pm to SUNDAY MORNING, and people have signed up for 1 hour or a 2 hour slot to cover the whole weekend. The prayer room was set up in the Methodist Church, because the Baptist Church meets in Knight Templar primary School on Sundays. The room was arranged with pictures, paper pens etc, to aid and inspire those who spent an hour there. A vision was born for a peace in the centre of

Watchet to be used as a Church / Community / Prayer Centre, and in May 2012, renovations began to convert a former shop into what has become 'The Sanctuary', a lovely welcoming space, in Swain Street in the centre of Watchet. Several Church groups, prayer walks and prayer weekends, meanwhile the Church family has grown and a number of Christians have moved to Watchet, sure that God has called them to live there and be part of his work in that place.

As the early Church was founded and nurtured in prayer and on through the centuries, how much we need to pray, certainly at home, but also in community with other believers, for surely "more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of" If anyone or group would like more information about "The Sanctuary" which has at its heart a prayer room. Please visit

Email [info@thesanctuary.org.uk](mailto:info@thesanctuary.org.uk) [www.thesanctuary.org.uk](http://www.thesanctuary.org.uk)

Tel. 01984 248169

The booking page of the website will give you more information.

Celia Dewfall

PS. A small group of us are hoping to go for a Prayer Retreat Day in September, and would welcome anyone who would like to join us.

(01278 788334)



### **GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT GOD (3)**

**ALL THE BELIEVERS DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO PRAYER;**

**Acts 2:42 NLT**

THEY TOOK prayer seriously. The New Testament church was conceived in the womb of prayer. After ten days of united prayer in the upper room, 'Everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit.' (v. 4 NLT). What happened next? They launched a church that's still impacting the world after two thousand years. Did their prayer-life diminish once the church was established? Not in the least

'All the believers devoted themselves to prayer; It remained a prayer-conditioned fellowship. It was born, bathed and brought to fruition in prayer. They bequeathed us the empowering biblical principle that nothing important and lasting happens without prayer. Today if you want to get a small crowd in church, call a prayer meeting!

Question: How much do you pray? What makes you a stranger to the place of prayer? Is it the myth that prayer is hard work? It's not if your priorities are right do you wear yourself out, worrying about things as though everything's up to you? Prayer will make the hard bits of your life easier, and more fruitful. Consistent prayer lifts you to a higher, positive place where you learn how to accomplish more while experiencing a deep peace of heart and soul. Jesus said: Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me...I'll show you how to take a real rest Walk with me and work with me watch how I do it learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay

anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly" (Matthew 11:28-30 TM). Seriously, can there be a better way to live?



S<sup>t</sup> Andrews Church  
Bournville

Weston s Mare

## **GRAND SUMMER FAYRE**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 10.00am - 2.00pm.**

**In The Healthy Living Centre**

Various Stalls, Tombola's and Raffle

Refreshments throughout the Fayre



## **EAST BRENT**

On Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup> we had for our local arrangement a Service of readings, poems and favourite hymns chosen by our congregation which we all enjoyed very much, it was all put together by Jill to whom we would like to say a big thank you.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> at our fellowship meeting we had a demonstration on homemade chocolates which was most interesting with a great variety of fillings and flavours with an extra flavour suggested by one of our members!! I'm sure it inspired some of us to have a go at making some ourselves perhaps for present giving!!

It is very nice on the last Friday of every month to meet with our friends of West Huntspill Chapel for their coffee morning (and very nice cakes as well) with a Fair Trade stall and other stalls where very often you can find that little something which one has been looking for.

We are looking forward to a **Summer Songs of Praise** in our Hall on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 3pm – 4.30pm**, we hope lots of people will come and

enjoy the singing and fellowship so please for us at East Brent make a note and perhaps an effort for something different.

There will of course be cakes and tea/coffee.

ALL OF THIS FOR FREE

Margaret Green



## BURNHAM

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

Food for thought

I wonder how many of you listen to the religious broadcasts on Radio 4. For those who are up early, at about 5.40 am there is a prayer for today. At about 7.45 or 7.50 am there is the thought for today. From 9.45 to 10.00 am, on long wave only, there is the morning service, which includes 2 or 3 hymns, a reading, a talk and a prayer. This even takes precedence over the cricket test matches on long wave! Usually one of the hymns is one I know and it can run through my head for the next few hours, so I'll be singing as I work or shop or drive. A brief time spent with God in our private prayers and Bible studies can set us up for the day, but I find the shared time with the radio is also very good, knowing I'm sharing with others.

We all need our daily bread bought at the supermarket (or other shops), but we also need our daily spiritual bread, our conscious contact with God, and how much more beneficial this can be if shared with others – we can share our knowledge with them and also receive their knowledge which can enlighten us. So why not join us for our monthly Bible Study and Prayer Groups on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month at 2.30 pm – you will be most welcome – and the Bible Study group follows the lunch club, so why not come for both.

We pray for those in our Circuit and District who will be involved in the stationing of new ministers in 2014 – yes, the process has started – may they make wise choices. Pray also for those ministers who will be seeking new appointments, that they (and their families) will be placed in the right situations.

We remember those who are unwell and pray they will soon be feeling better and we ask for God's comfort for those in any distress. May God bless us all.

May 19<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, so we are all beginning a new year and another chance to make New Year resolutions. Happy Birthday to you all.

Hilary Malpas

# BREAN

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

## **Nothing to report from Brean.**

For my recent birthday I was bought an application for my computer that turns the words I say into print. I hope I get lots of use from it because I have always felt that starting to write a sermon or even this article each month is horrendously difficult.

It is a very impressive tool and as long as I speak slowly and clearly it is very good at interpreting what I want to say. Sometimes though, it tries to say things that I am certain I have not said and at other times it comes up with some humorous alternative. One of the best recently was when I tried to quote scripture and said 'come over to us in Macedonia', the computer insisted that I had indeed said 'come over to us on Saturday.'

I don't know if this will be a five minute wonder and that in a month or so I shall discard the application as bothersome, but so far it is quite fun and I am writing this using it.

Judy and I have just spent a week in a gite (computer said 'sheet') in France that Judy's (computer wrote 'the dude's') brother had rented near Josselin. It was an enjoyable week though the weather was cool and showery at times for much of the period.

We came back to a relatively warm weekend and on the Sunday (however did the computer think that was 'on the phone'?) it was good to see a larger congregation than normal. Our summer visitors are back you see, and it was good to welcome Steve and Lynne and the Southfield (computer said 'self billed') Farm group among others.

It is good to share the summer with holidaymakers but the downside is that we lose our organist from time to time as the camp site dictates.

Not having been around for several days I asked our people after Service as to whether anyone had got anything for the Link this month. They thought about it for a while but then they said no they had nothing new at all.

Recently, some of the ladies have been working with their friends from St Bridget's (computer said 'some widgets') to make cakes for a stall at Berrow Fayre, at which a goodly sum was raised for the churches.

It has been part of the joint cooperation by the churches in Brean (computer said 'ruin'). I guess we shall talk about it when we have an EQ many cool (work that one out for yourself!) council meeting later in June.

So then anything to report from Brean? Computer said No!

Harvey Allen

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## BRENT KNOLL

### Minister Revd. Biggs

We'd like to say a big thank you to all who attended and organised our Spring coffee morning in April. It was lovely to meet and chat with our village and Link friends and we raised £108.55, £55 of which was donated to the MS Centre.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our Church anniversary followed by a shared lunch. It only seems like yesterday since we enjoyed our last one - this year really does seem to be flying by.

Some members of our congregation and ecumenical friends who attend our Emmaus course have been under the weather over the past few weeks. I'm sure it doesn't need saying but you are very much missed and are in our thoughts and prayers.

God bless

Rosemary Krull

### PREACHERS FOR JUNE AT 10.30AM

2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Rev. Biggs (Holy Communion)
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Mr. Len Horlock
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Mr. Chris Luker
23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Rev. Margaret Trapp
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Mr. Trevor Hunt

## Minister

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## Web Sites

[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)

**The Deadline for the  
July- August 2013 “LINK” is  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2013**

**LARGE PRINT COPIES (A4 format) of the “LINK” are available.  
Please contact the Editor if you would like one.**

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