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April/May 2000

keeping members and friends in touch...

From the Editor:

Lots of copy this month and only a limited amount of space. So I'll not waste any of it except to add my own tribute to May Collett.

Someone famous once said (and without my *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* to hand I can't check who it was or how it went...) that people usually only spoke well of others after they had died.

One of my two abiding memories of May was how lovingly everyone – quite without exception – spoke about her while she was alive. That's a truly powerful tribute to a wonderful lady.

The second memory is of her sitting in her porch at *Sunny Brae*, taking the afternoon and early-evening sun. She always had time to share some pearl of wisdom – and you inevitably departed feeling wealthier in wisdom for having listened to her.

Keith Read

Suggested Bible readings (for weeks beginning):

April 2nd, 1 Samuel 1 vv 20-28 & John 19 vv 25-27; April 9th, Jeremiah 31 vv 31-34 & John 12 vv 20-33; April 16th, Psalm 118 vv 1,2 & 19-29, & Mark 11 vv 1-11; April 23rd, Isaiah 25 vv 6-9 & Mark 16 vv 1-8; April 30th, Acts 4 vv 32-35 & John 20 vv 19-31; May 7th, Acts 3 vv 12-19 & Luke 24 vv 36-48.

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: **BROADWELL MAIL is** :
: **written by Glenys Caunter** :
: **and edited by Keith Read.** :
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Those who need our prayers:

Please remember all those coping with bereavement, health problems or injury and other family problems which are causing concern. At this time we think especially of the family of May Collett in their sadness as they come to terms with their loss; Charles Olorenshaw, as he enters hospital for surgery, and Gladys Collett as she awaits the results of further tests following her recent admission to hospital for a few days.

Don Rishworth:

Following Don's death on Saturday 19 February and his cremation the following Friday, Joan asked us to pass on this message:

"Joan Rishworth and family of Broadwell wish to thank everyone who gave them such a lot of help during Don's illness and also for the many letters and cards of sympathy they received."

Many prayers were said for Don, and his family, during his illness. And there were prayers for his family in the days and weeks after his death.

We will remember him with great fondness.

Church Council:

The date of the next Church Council meeting is May 9th in the Chapel schoolroom, at 7.30pm, when all are invited to attend.

Thanks:

Gordon, Eileen and Margaret thank all friends for their concern and prayers for their mother, May Collett, during her illness. Sincere thanks too for condolences and tributes received following May's death.

Special thanks to everyone who helped prepare the Chapel for the Thanksgiving Service and to those who worked so hard at the get-together in the Parish Hall afterwards. It really helped to have so much support and so many willing hands. Thank you to all.

We are pleased to inform you the amount donated to Rugby Myton Hospice in lieu of floral tributes has amounted (so far) to £559.00.

Easter:

Easter is a time associated with eggs, lambs and flowers. The Crown Imperial lily, otherwise known as the Crown of Pearls, faces the ground and has a pearl-like "teardrop" within each floret. According to Folklore it could not bear to look at Jesus, hanging on the cross, so it bowed its head and wept...

The Good Friday walk from Broadwell to Birdingbury using the field footpaths, weather permitting, provides an opportunity for meditation on The Way of the Cross.

This year the walk will be led by the Rev'd Ted Lyons and will begin at Broadwell Methodist Church at 12.00

noon. You are invited to join in the whole or just part of the walk with readings, prayers, hymns and songs at Broadwell, All Saints Church Leamington Hastings, the Birbury, the Playing Field in Birdingbury and, finally, St Leonards Church, Birdingbury.

Lent Meetings:

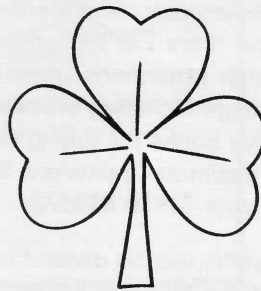
The Lent Course continues on the theme of The Prodigal Son on April 6th at 7.30pm at 32, Main Street, Birdingbury, when the subject will be The Father. The final meeting will be on April 13th at 7.30 at Broadwell Methodist Church and the subject will be Living the painting.

Easter Offerings:

Easter Offering envelopes will be found in the pews during the Easter period to enable you, if you so wish, to make a contribution which will be gratefully received by Women's Network for ongoing work at Home and Overseas.

Irish Evening:

The Irish Evening, held at the Parish Hall on March 24th was a great success and we would like to say a big thank you to all who worked so hard by cooking, selling tickets and serving supper to over 150 people.



All this effort has produced a contribution to our funds of just over £400. We hope all our visitors enjoyed the event and were not too shattered to enjoy a restful weekend.

Week-day coffee mornings:

Our next coffee morning will be held in the Chapel Schoolroom on Wednesday, April 12th from 10.30am until 12.00 noon. Please come along with your friends and neighbours for coffee, tea and light refreshments.

These informal gatherings provide an opportunity to meet and get to know one another a little better. Further coffee mornings are planned for May 10th and June 14th.

Open Gardens:

At the Open Gardens meeting, held on March 21st, we were informed that 13 residents had offered to open their gardens from 2.00pm until 6.00pm.

Strawberry teas will be served at the Chapel and tea and cake in some of the gardens. The Victory Hall will hold an exhibition of Millennium photographs and archeological finds and there will be various stalls and other attractions spread around the village including a book stall. Please give books for this to Beryl or Ken Chaplin at Greenview, Broadwell, or phone 01926 813422.

Profits will be divided between Rugby Myton Hospice Appeal, Broadwell

Victory Hall and Broadwell Methodist Church.

The next event planning meeting will be held in the Victory Hall on ~~May~~ ^{APRIL 18th} ~~2nd~~ at 7.30pm. Do come along and join in!

Spring Show:

The annual Spring Show will be held in Broadwell Victory Hall on Saturday, April 8th. Produce to be staged from 1.30pm-3.00pm. The show will be open to the Public at 4.30pm and the auction will take place at approximately 5.45pm. For details, call Jean Adams on 01926 812274.

Over 60s' Club:

As the venues for the April and May meetings of the Over 60s' Club are, as yet, undecided, details will be circulated to members as soon as they are to hand. Alternatively, phone Gladys Collett on 01926 813172.

On May 20th the Over 60s' Club is holding a Coffee Morning with cake stall in the Victory Hall.

Concert:

As part of our Millennium celebrations it is proposed to produce a concert of 19th- and 20th-century music. Those who would be interested in joining the former Broadwell and Boddington Choir are invited to come along to a meeting in the Chapel schoolroom on Thursday, May 4th at 7.30pm.

Olive May Collett, 1908-2000

May Collett, our oldest member, died in Walsgrave Hospital on March 11th. She was 91.

Born Olive May Goode in Broadwell on May 20th 1908, she was known to everyone as 'May'. She was educated at the local school and left at the age of 14 to work on her father's farm. May was never happier than when riding her horse – exchanged for pony-and-trap 'family transport' after her children were born!

May and Basil Collett were married in 1929 on her 21st birthday. The reception was unusual in that it included a cricket match in which all 100 guests took part.

Their first home, where Gordon was born, was at Barby. Three years later they moved to Grandborough where they became very involved with the Methodist Chapel. Six years later they moved to *Sunny Brae*, in Broadwell. By this time the family had grown to include Eileen and Margaret. *Sunny Brae* was to be May's home for the next 58 years. And 'home' it was... an open house to all who called there. Many recall the Sunday evening sing-songs around the piano after the evening service.

Not long after their children married and left home, Basil died leaving May a widow at just 49... Too young to claim a widow's pension, she had to earn her own living again. She returned to rearing calves and keeping poultry – work she enjoyed. She was determined to manage on her own, asked for very little help and never complained. She was always willing to help anyone in trouble by offering advice, support and physical help.

May was a familiar figure walking to and from her farm buildings and delivering eggs around the village until she finally retired at the age of 70. She then spent a

great deal of her time tending her vegetable garden, giving away much of the produce and actively supporting the village flower show.

May was greatly involved with the life of the village – helping with teas at the tennis club, organising the annual Chapel visit by our blind friends from Rugby (which continues to this day. This year's visit is on May 2nd). May was very concerned with the work of the Methodist Church, which she attended regularly, always arriving well before the service was due to begin.

About five years ago, after many years of good health, she was admitted to hospital – the first of many visits. Despite having quite serious conditions she bounced back each time, returning home to live independently (but with increasing support from her family). Two years ago, after yet another serious illness, she made the decision to part with *Sunny Brae*. In her own words she was "Well blessed with a loving, caring family," and was happy for them to take over.

May was most recently taken ill on February 29th and admitted to hospital on March 6th. She was given the best treatment possible but, on the morning of Saturday 14th March, she quietly slipped away to be with her Maker.

May will be remembered for her quiet courage in facing up to all the problems life threw at her; for her cheerful countenance; and for her willingness to help others with their problems...

She is survived by her three children, her 12 grandchildren and her 32 great-grandchildren.

May Collett will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Letter from our Minister:

Dear Friends,

Of all the questions that hang like flies around the cross of Jesus, the one asked by Pilate is perhaps the most universal. John 18:38 tells us that, during Jesus's trial, "Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?' "

Living in an age dominated by scientific technology, we tend to think of truth as something objective, even impersonal. Certain things can either be proved or disproved by scientific methods. Sometimes faith is put under the same microscope as any other evidence. Proof is the certainty that people ask for.

People are often sceptical about accepting anything that cannot be proved. Also we tend to treat human views on almost any other matter as just that person's or group's way of seeing things. One person's opinion is thought to be no worse and certainly no better than anyone else's.

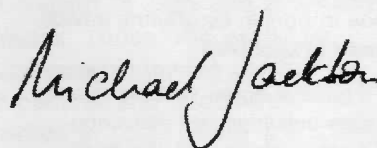
There are, of course, different kinds of truth. The kind of truth that Jesus dealt with was personal truth about God and people.

We are so conditioned into believing that truth is always objective and impersonal that it needs a complete readjustment to accept that this may not be the whole truth. Some truths are to do with the nature of faith, hope and love and they are not discoverable by scientific enquiry.

They are, in fact, reached through personal relationships. Philip Brookes, a Victorian preacher and hymn-writer defined preaching as 'Truth through personality'. Pilate was not the first or the last person to miss this point. When he asked his famous question, Jesus had just said to him: Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice".

Unless we want to listen to God's voice about our lives, this kind of truth will always elude us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Jackson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Visit:

On the afternoon of Tuesday, May 2nd we look forward to entertaining our friends from Rugby, who are visually impaired. Please let Evelyn Royans know if you are able to help with the preparing and serving tea.

Upper Boddington:

Our friends at Upper Boddington are celebrating their Chapel anniversary on the evening of May 2nd and have invited Broadwell members to participate by choosing and singing two items from *Mission Praise*.

Please inform Sylvia Toole if you have a favourite hymn/song you would like, and if you are hoping to attend this event.

Church of the Good Shepherd:

The Church of the Good Shepherd has recently been re decorated and to celebrate its renewal there will be a service of Holy Communion and Thanksgiving in the Church on Sunday, May 14th at 6.00pm.

All are welcome.

Plant Sale:

The annual plant sale in aid of funds for the upkeep of the Village Green and Victory Hall will be held at the Victory Hall on Saturday May 13th from 11.00am until 1.00pm. Be sure to get you bedding plants!

NCH

The large bottle to collect your unwanted out of date coins and foreign coins does not appear to be filling very quickly... If you have any such coins please help our Youth Group to help NCH by either placing them in the bottle or handing them to a member of the Youth Group.

Circuit events:

April 21st, Good Friday service at Bilton at 11.00am.

April 21st, Good Friday Meditation at RMCC at 7.30pm.

May 6-10th, *Bible Comes to Life* Exhibition at RMCC.

May 13th, Concert at Dunchurch by the Good News Singers at 7.00pm.

May 20th Garden Party at Long Lawford.

Marathon man!

Finally, please spare a thought (and some cash) for Richard Heckford, Willoughby's own marathon man.

Richard, who is Charles and Sheila Olorenshaw's son-in-law, is preparing to run the London Marathon to raise money for the Parkinson's Disease Society. As a working farmer Richard's pretty fit; but at 42 he knows it's going to be tough... Let's help to ease his 26 miles of pain by sponsoring him and supporting a very deserving cause. Cheques to 'PDS Rugby Branch' c/o The Heckford Family, Manor Farm, Willoughby.

Glenys Caunter.

Preachers planned for April/May:

Services are at 11.00am unless otherwise marked.

April 2nd	Mothering Sunday Family Service, Mrs Gillian Glenn,
April 9th	The Rev'd Michael Jackson.
April 16th	Palm Sunday, Mr Guy Towers.
April 23rd	Easter Day, Holy Communion, the Rev'd Michael Jackson.
April 30th	Mrs Eileen Hunter.
May 7th	Mr Kenneth Ridley.
May 14th	Family Service, The Rev'd Micheal Jackson.
May 21st	Mr Alan Kirkham.
May 28th	The Rev'd Ted Lyons.



Flower rota:

April 2nd, Valerie Bostock; April 9th, Rosemary Chapman; April 16th, Freda Slater; April 23rd, Chrissy Read; April 30th, Mavis Randie; May 7th, Rachel Sensecall; May 14th, Annagret Morgan; May 21st, Angela Wooliscroft and May 28th, Wendy Williamson.

Cleaning rota: (week ending)

April 1st, Rosemary Chapman; April 8th, Monica Sensecall; April 15th, Judith Dimbleby; April 22nd, Sheila Olorenshaw; April 29th, Evelyn Royans; May 6th, Sylvia Toole; May 13th, Freda Slater; May 20th, Valerie Bostock and May 27th, Wendy Williamson.

