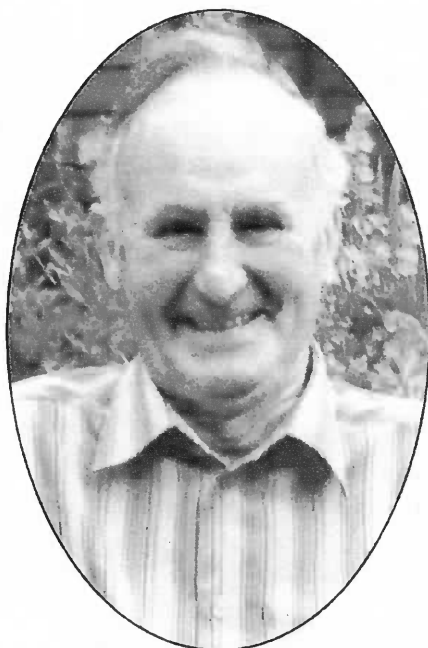


# Broadwell mail

*Church and community news  
brought to you by  
Broadwell Methodist Church.  
April & May 2025*



**Sheila Olorenshaw**  
02/06/1932 – 01/03/2025



**Patrick Toole**  
15/12/1935 – 02/03/2025

## **BROADWELL METHODIST CHURCH**

**Contact:** Wendy Williamson – 01788 812868

**Minister:** The Rev'd Brian Hutton – 07471 758022

## From the Editor...

It's always sad to report the passing of an individual, irrespective of whether or not they played a significant role in chapel and/or village life. But to report the deaths in the same issue of two – both of whom figured hugely in chapel and community affairs – is truly poignant. Many – both near and far – have been deeply shocked, saddened and emotionally hit by the news...

We send our sincere condolence and sympathy to the families of Sheila Olorenshaw and Pat Toole.

Broadwell Methodist Chapel, where a marquee was erected adjacent to the front entrance to increase seating capacity, was full to overflowing on Tuesday 18th March for the service to celebrate Pat's life. Less than a week later, on Monday 24th March, the scene was the same for the service to mark Sheila's long life, which was spent living entirely in Broadwell.

Tributes to Sheila and Pat are published in this issue on pages 5 and 6.

*Keith Read – Editor.*

## Your news for the June/July edition:

Please ensure all news and contributions reach Keith Read by noon on **Friday 23rd May** at the very latest. Printing is scheduled for Thursday 29th May.

But please do send Keith any news or other contributions **at any time**. Early copy always gets a good show! The e-mail address is:

[keithrread@aol.com](mailto:keithrread@aol.com)

(Take care to get two Rs in the middle!) Or jot down your contribution and drop it in at *Hawthorn Cottage*, Broadwell.

Many thanks.

## Suggested Bible Readings:

**April: 6th**, Isaiah 43 vv 16-21 & John 12 vv 1-8; **13th, (Palm Sunday)** Isaiah 50 vv 4-9a & Luke 22 vv 14-23 & 56; **20th, (Easter Sunday)** Acts 10 vv 34-43 & John 20 vv 1-18; **27th**, Acts 5 vv 27-32 & John 20 vv 19-31.

**May: 4th**, Acts 9 vv 1-6 & John 21 vv 1-19; **11th**, Acts 9 vv 36-43 & John 10 vv 22-30; **18th**, Acts 11 vv 1-18 & John 13 vv 31-35; **25th**, Acts 16 vv 9-15 & John 14 vv 23-29.

## Remember in Prayer:

We continue to pray for those who are ill or distressed; the lonely; those in any other need or trouble and those who care for them with such dedication. May they have the strength and patience to cope with difficult circumstances.

We remember too, all who have suffered the loss of members of family and friends, thinking especially of the families and friends of Pat Toole and Sheila Olorenshaw. We pray they may be sustained and comforted in their sorrow by the knowledge that others care.

As we commemorate the end of the Second World War 80 years ago, we remember the members of our armed forces who fought for the peace that we enjoy today.

We pray for peace among the nations of the world and for reconciliation between opposing religions. May those in government reject the ways of war and work together for justice and peace.

We remember the work of 'All We Can' and all similar organisations providing the necessities of life to those in greatest need, in this country and abroad.

May our prayers be the means of bringing some hope and comfort to those in need.

*Lord, in your mercy – hear our prayers.*

## Our Minister, The Rev'd Brian Hutton, extends this open invitation to you:

At Broadwell Methodist church we welcome new members and visitors and seek to explore ways we can continue to include and support everyone in our community.

*I wonder if, lately, you may have wondered about God? Or held some questions about spirituality or the meaning of life?*

*If so, you may just find some answers in conversations with us and in our coffee morning events. (See details on page 7)*

*Also, our church services are on the first and third Sundays of the month, at 11am, with various preachers and/or myself. In addition, there is a third, informal Fellowship gathering at 11am in each of the months when there is a fifth Sunday.*

*But please remember, where possible I am always happy to visit at any time and chat over a good cup of English tea!*

Sincerely,

*Brian.*



## VE Day: Lest We Forget...

As part of the nationwide celebrations of VE Day, Broadwell Methodist Church will be commemorating the end of the second World War on the weekend of May 3rd/4th with a Poppy and Parish Information display.

The event will remember and honour those who fought for the peace we enjoy today.



The chapel will be open on Saturday, May 3rd, 1pm until 4pm, and on Sunday,

May 4th, 2pm until 4pm. Tea, coffee and cake will be available on both days. Donations will be divided equally between The Royal British Legion and Broadwell Methodist Church.

You are invited to add to the poppy display by knitting or crocheting a poppy as part of our celebrations. Please tie your creations to the gates at the end of the chapel drive.

Thanks you.

## Family news:

We have received the following message from Pat Toole's family:

***"Thank you to everyone for your kind wishes, sympathy and cards following dad's passing."***

***"We have enjoyed sharing your memories..."***

***Sharon, Linda and Wendy and families.***

# LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

The Rev'd Brian Hutton

**GENESIS 28:16 – WHEN JACOB AWOKE FROM HIS SLEEP,  
HE THOUGHT: “SURELY THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE,  
AND I WAS NOT AWARE OF IT.”**

How do you wake up in the morning? With an alarm? Or maybe someone wakes you up? Or, maybe like me, you tend to have somehow an inner ‘alarm-clock-wake-up’ a few minutes before your alarm goes off...? I still set the alarm; but usually I am awake.



Do you wake up slowly? Or are you one of those people who, once awake, is up and gets the coffee going and breakfast on etc?

One of the most important things we are called, invited and urged to do while we are on this earth and in this life is to let God love us, and to wake up to the reality of God and God's love all around us. And to wake up – whether gradually or slowly over time – to the reality of God's presence, His power and deep affirmation of us long before we get into anything in the day.

We as human beings are invited to wake up and become aware of God's loving presence in our lives. In many ways in life – and in all its mysteries, wonders and love available to us – we are mostly all sleepwalkers. Jesus, three times at least in every Gospel, talks about staying watchful. Be aware, wake up.

Jacob wakes up and says: “*Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.*” God is with you and with me – no effort, work, merit or cost needed. The only thing we need is to pay attention.

Please don't think you have to go somewhere or be somewhere or get someone else to do it for you. I believe we are each to walk our path and wake up to the reality of God with us and the loving affirmation of who we are. And, dare I say the next sentence: **You don't have to go to church or chapel to wake up to the reality of God.**

But, let me declare, sometimes it does help...

God bless.

**Brian.**

## Sheila Mary Olorenshaw – 01/06/1932 to 01/03/2025

### 'Our Mum' – by Diane, Elaine and Alison

One of Mum's favourite sayings was *if I'm spared*. Well she was spared for 92 long and wonderful years living in Broadwell where she was loved and respected.

She was born to Rosa and Ernest Morgan in The Row, in 1932 where she grew up along with her brother Bruce, who still lives in the village. She attended Leamington Hastings School where several of her great grandchildren have also been educated.

Mum progressed on to Leamington College for Girls.

The family moved to Station Cottages, when her father was made Station Master. After a brief period of time they returned to live at Fairview, the Morgan family home.

It was when biking by Home Farm to go to the station to catch the train for work in Leamington that she caught the eye of Dad, who was milking his cows. He used to wave to her. They both enjoyed singing & belonged to the choir. Love blossomed & they married in 1954. I [Diane] came along the following year. Elaine and Alison followed. We had a very happy family life at Home Farm.



Mum has been a worshipper at this chapel all her life. Her faith has sustained her throughout. Both Mum and Dad sang along side family and friends in the Broadwell & Boddington choir, led by Uncle Bruce. Mum had a beautiful soprano voice which harmonised so well with Dad singing bass alongside. We girls can hear them both singing when we hear certain hymns. Mum was a gifted pianist and enjoyed playing the piano at home. At Christmas time the grandchildren would gather round her as she played carols for them to sing along to.

Mum was amazing! She cooked, sewed, knitted clothes for us, did all the decorating and always kept a well-tended garden as well as being there to support Dad. When she would say *I haven't done much with my life*, we would always tell her: that's simply not true! She always kept fit, and when the grandchildren were young she would join us for long bike rides. She kept up her daily (brisk) walk as often as she could even when it became so difficult for her – determined to keep going with keep-fit classes at the Parish Hall and, right up until she was 90, driving herself to a Thai Chi class in Dunchurch.

Thirty years ago Mum and Dad designed and built *Home Close* – their retirement home. It instantly became home, filled with family and love. Mum had the great pleasure of seeing her six grandchildren grow up, marry and produce 13 great-grandchildren. They all live locally and she saw them regularly. To quote Alice she was always "super glam"! We laughed at her shopping addiction, matching shoes, endless outfits, jewellery, hair and skin-care products. All this she kept up until the last! Her other great love was the Daily Mail – which she read from cover to cover as well as doing its crossword!

She embraced technology in her late '70s mastering the use of Google, WhatsApp and e-mail. We encouraged her to always have her mobile phone about her person. She loved Saturday afternoons when we all met up for tea, cake, and chat – a tradition lasting almost 48 years! Mum was 'Our Queen' – but she celebrated her 90th birthday with THE Queen, who was celebrating her Platinum Jubilee. Mum proudly lit the Broadwell Beacon surrounded by many villagers.

The greatest gift Mum and Dad bestowed upon us is 'each other' and family values were instilled in us from an early age. It's our job to make sure that continues. There's only one happiness in this life – to be loved and to love. Mum achieved both. Through love, Mum will be remembered and live on in our hearts.

\*The above tribute I have abridged from the family's eulogy for Sheila and which was read at the service to celebrate her life by Diane – Editor.

## Patrick James Toole – 15/12/1935 to 02/03/2025

### *'Our Dad' – by Sharon, Linda and Wendy*

Pat was born in London. He had an elder brother, Michael, and younger sister, Kathleen. They lived in Tooting for a few years before being evacuated to Boddington as a family in 1945. Pat didn't think much of school. He'd rather play football or help on the farm. One of his earliest friends was David Adkins and they remained friends throughout his life.

Pat left school at 14 and started work at the Parsons' farm in Boddington. He met Sylvia at LH Young Farmers' Club and they married in 1960 at Dunchurch Chapel. Following the wedding they moved to Park Lane Farm, Lower Shuckburgh, where they farmed on the Shuckburgh Estate with Sylvia still teaching at Hill School. Sharon was born in 1961, Linda in 1964 followed by Wendy in 1965



In 1969 came the big move to Old House Farm, Hill, following the death of Pat's father-in-law. When his sheep dog was too old to work Pat didn't replace him – he had Sylvia and three girls who would help on the farm! Pat also managed Michael Loveitt's farm at Dunchurch and was well-known in the Midlands as part of the Howkins & Harrison sales team.

Pat was a regular at Rugby Livestock Market on Craven Road, not only buying and selling his own stock but also transporting livestock to and from market for local farmers using his distinctive red Land Rover. Along with Gordon Johnson, he was responsible for a lot of fencing around the county and, in recent trips to various appointments, he pointed out fences he and Gordon erected decades ago that were still standing!

Broadwell Chapel life and singing were always a big part of Pat and Sylvia's lives. He loved singing in the Broadwell & Boddington Choir.

Although always on the go, Pat had to have a quadruple heart-bypass. It was touch and go as to whether he would come through the operation. However, as we all know he made an amazing recovery and he and Sylvia filled their lives with different activities including planting thousands of trees to create a wood, regular holidays aboard and even more involvement with LH Bowls Club, of which, he was a founder-member.

Pat had six grandchildren and was very proud of them all. Then followed two great-grandchildren with a third born just a week after Pat died. He followed all the grandchildren's lives with great interest and looked forward to hearing all their stories.

Pat was very community minded being deeply involved in Broadwell Chapel where he was Steward for 49 years. He was Chairman of LH Parish Hall, a Parish Councillor (and Chairman), a Flower Show Committee member (and Chairman and President) while at the same time holding a host of positions at his beloved LH Bowls Club. But we have to remember that behind Pat and all his many roles there was Sylvia – his personal PA – and, more recently, his daughters!

Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir was a favourite of Pat's. He'd even sung with them at a concert in Llandudno while on holiday in the town just to see the choir! He introduced us to the OWMVC by arranging many concerts locally and he was in the process of arranging another concert this year at LH Parish Church. The concert will go ahead on Saturday July 5th.

Pat was truly a family man. He led a full and busy life with his family, his work and with the greater community. And throughout everything, his Faith always remained incredibly strong.

*\*The text above I have abridged from the family's eulogy for Pat, which was read at the service to celebrate his life by The Rev'd Barbara Clutton, his close friend in farming and in Christian Faith – Editor.*

### Coffee Mornings:

Our popular coffee Mornings are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at Broadwell Methodist Church.

All are welcome to join us for tea/coffee and light refreshments between 10.30am and 12-noon.

Our next coffee mornings will be on April 9th and May 14th.

Please join us if you are able.

### Lent Lunch:

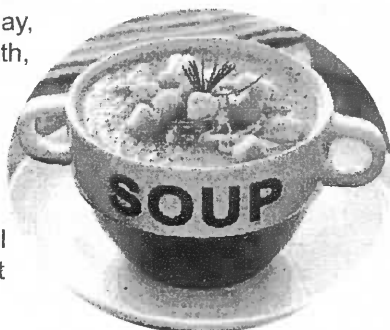
Thank you all who braved the chilly weather on Wednesday, March 12th, to attend the Lent Soup Lunch at

Broadwell Methodist Church.

Many thanks, also, to those who made the wide choice of delicious soups and those who helped in any way to make this annual event such a success.

Your generous donations amounted to approaching £200.

When additional donations are added and the final sum is known, it will be sent to 'All We Can' (formerly the Methodist Relief and Development fund) to help those in greatest need both in this country and abroad.



### Tea & Chat:

Please note that there will no Tea & Chat meeting at Leamington Hastings Almshouses in April. However, we will meet again on May 28th from 2.30pm.

### Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir Concert:

We look forward to the return visit of the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir on Saturday, July 5th 2025.

The choir was introduced to our community by Pat Toole some years ago when he organised their first visit, which was held at the Parish Hall.

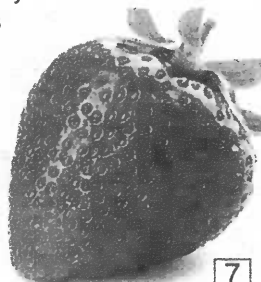
The choir's return visit will be held at All Saints Church, Leamington Hastings, at 7pm for 7:30pm.

Tickets, which will be available soon, will be £15, and include light refreshments. Please enter the date in your diary.

Proceeds will be donated in three ways: one third each to Friends of Leamington Hastings Church and Broadwell Methodist Church. The final third will be divided between the the following charities: the British Heart Foundation; Myton Hospice and Cancer Research. As usual, a raffle will be held with proceeds going to these three deserving charities.

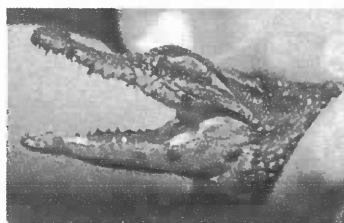
### Strawberry Tea:

Please make a note in your diary! This year's our Strawberry Tea will be held in the chapel grounds on Saturday June 21st from 3pm until 5pm. (or inside if it rains). Further details will be included in the June edition of *Broadwell Mail*.



## Bring your pets – croc if you have one!

*All things bright and beautiful  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful  
The Lord God made them all.*



The hymn chorus above explains why our Minister, The Rev'd Brian Hutton, is planning a special service on Sunday, May 18th at 11am, when the congregation – especially children – will be invited to bring their pets to be blessed.

"Being from Africa I have blessed various animals, like a basset hound (who would not stop howling), a baby crocodile (careful there with the fingers!), a pet rat and a pet mongoose," explains Brian. "You and your pets, whether two- or four-legged, are very welcome to come to this special service."

It's not unheard of for churches to arrange such services and Brian has conducted pet-blessing services in the past – including that one in South Africa with the crocodile! "I was a bit worried about losing my fingers," he admits. "But all went well."

It is proposed that the service will be held in the Chapel drive where there is ample room for animals to be accommodated. We hope to see you and your pet(s) there!

### Broadwell Flower Show:

On Saturday, April the 12th, the Broadwell Flower Show Committee will be holding its annual Spring Show, *writes Martin Wibberley*.

This will give all you budding cooks and gardeners the chance to show off your skills by entering flowers, vegetables, cakes and preserves into the show.

The schedule should be popping through your letterbox in the next few days so please join in and make this a show to remember as it will be an especially-poignant show for us this year following the recent death of Pat Toole...

This will be the first show for many, many decades where he is no longer a member of the organising committee and, more importantly, not running the auction of produce – something Pat has done with great skill and humour while raising a lot of money for good causes over many, many years!

8 Thank you Pat for everything you

have done for the Flower Show. You will never be forgotten and will always be in our hearts.

### Chance to become a Parish Councillor:

There is an opportunity to represent your fellow residents and the area in which you live, *writes our County Councillor, Dale Keeling*.

"Could you become a Parish Councillor for Learnington Hastings Parish Council," he asks.

"LH Parish Council also covers Broadwell and Hill? If so, the present Parish Council is able to co-opt interested volunteers."

Anyone who is interested in the role should contact County Councillor Dale Keeling via email: [dalekeeling@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:dalekeeling@warwickshire.gov.uk) or by telephone on 07895360442.

You can find out more online by going to the National Association of Local Councils website at: [www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk)



## 'Narrow as a carrot' will still be heard at LH Bowls Club!

This is a very sad time for the club, *writes Susan Turner*. We recently said goodbye to Pat Toole, a founder-member of our Bowls Club... Pat loved the club and, despite illness, continued to be a proficient indoor player, an active committee member, avid supporter, respected advisor and a coach to all members.

His running commentaries on play and bowling techniques will be missed. But phrases such as 'narrow as a carrot' and 'not enough puddin' will be heard on the bowls green for years to come as Members recall their great friend and bowls-green colleague!

And what great memories we have! Not only was he a founder-member, Pat was also one of those who actually planned and constructed the LH bowling green! He was for many years the green keeper and must have walked hundreds of miles behind the mower keeping the grass in tip-top condition regardless of what the weather did... Thank you Pat, thank you so much!

Our heartfelt love and prayers go at this time to Sharon, Linda, Wendy and all in their families.

What a great night we had on 14th February at our skittles evening! It was good fun with good food, good company and we raised over £500 to go towards improving and sustaining LHBC. Well done everyone involved!

We will be opening the bowls green on Saturday 19th April with the traditional game of President's team versus Captain's team. And we start our outdoor roll-ups on Wednesday 23rd April at 6pm and then every Wednesday until September. If you would like to come and have a go please just turn up! We have bowls you can borrow. Wear loose clothing and flat shoes. You will be made very welcome! Why not find and follow us on our Facebook page?



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### Calling ALL singers!

On Sunday 31st August 2025 there will be a Sung (Choral) Evensong at St Nicholas Church, Frankton, starting at 4pm, with refreshments served after the service, *writes George Browning*.

We have a local organ scholar who has agreed to play for us and the idea is to have a small choir from the joint benefice. Broadwell Methodist congregation is very welcome to join us too! The combined choir will sing

the Anthem, Psalms, and preces and responses. However, anyone in the congregation who is able to sing will be welcome to join in with everything except the Anthem.

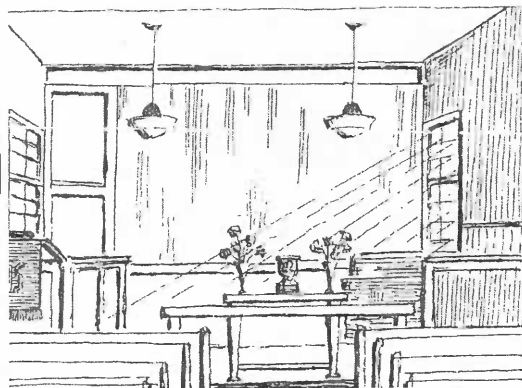
If you would like to join the choir you are invited to get in touch with me, George Browning, in the first instance. Preferably by email – [gnfb@live.co.uk](mailto:gnfb@live.co.uk) – or by telephone on 01926 632246. Thank you.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

# Broadwell Methodist Chapel

## Services for April & May

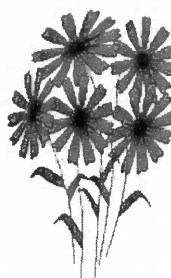
All services start at 11am  
unless otherwise indicated.



<b>April 6th</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	The Rev'd Brian Hutton
<b>April 20th</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	The Rev'd David Collinson <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>May 4th</b>		Miss Gillian Glenn
<b>May 18th</b>		The Rev'd Brian Hutton

## Flower rota

<b>April</b>		
	<b>6th</b>	Annegret Morgan
	<b>20th</b>	Joyce Latham
<b>May:</b>		
	<b>4th</b>	Glenys Caunter
	<b>18th</b>	Margaret Webster
<b>June:</b>		
	<b>1st</b>	Rachel Sensecall



## Cleaning rota

(Week ending...)



<b>April:</b>		
	<b>5th</b>	Freda Slater
	<b>19th</b>	Valerie Bostock
<b>May:</b>		
	<b>3rd</b>	Angela Woolliscroft
	<b>17th</b>	Rachel Sensecall
	<b>31st</b>	Alison Deeming

Broadwell Mail is published by Broadwell Methodist Church and includes local community news and events. Contributions are gratefully received.

Please send copy for the June/July issue by noon on Friday 23rd May to:

[keithhread@aol.com](mailto:keithhread@aol.com)

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