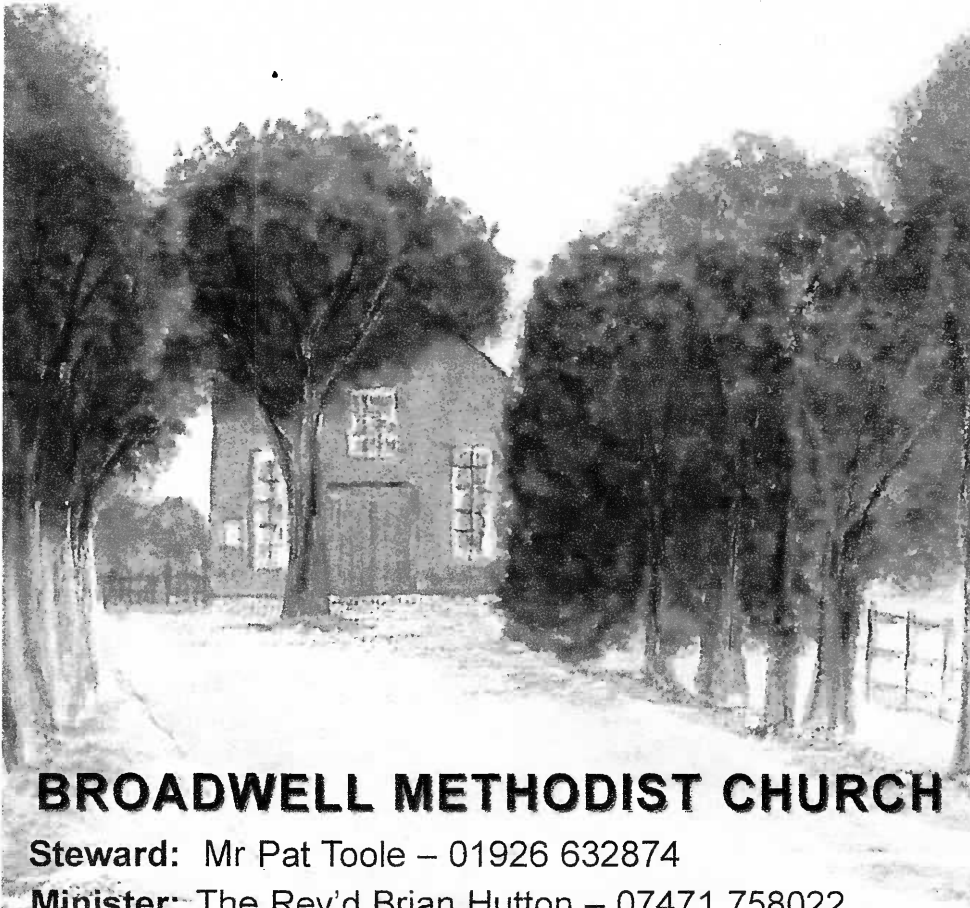


Broadwell

*Church and community news
brought to you by
Broadwell Methodist Church.
February & March
2025*

mail



BROADWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Steward: Mr Pat Toole – 01926 632874

Minister: The Rev'd Brian Hutton – 07471 758022

From the Editor:

Lots to get in this issue! So no waffle from me except to thank all contributors and hope you enjoy reading your newsletter.

Keith Read.

Suggested Bible Readings:

February: 2nd, Jeremiah 1 vv 4-10 & Luke 4 vv 21-30; **9th,** Isaiah 6 vv 1-8 & Luke 5 vv 1-11; **16th,** Jeremiah 17 vv 5-10 & Luke 6 vv 17-26; **23rd,** Genesis 45 vv 3-11 & 15 & Luke 6 vv 27-28.

March: 2nd, Exodus 34 vv 29-35 & Luke 9 vv 28-36; **9th,** Deuteronomy 26 vv 1-11 & Luke 4 vv 1-13; **16th,** Genesis 15 vv 1-12 & 17-18 & Luke 13 vv 31-35; **23rd,** Isaiah 55 vv 1-9 & Luke 13 vv 1-9; **30th,** Joshua 5 vv 9-12 & Luke 15 vv 1-8 & 11b-32.

Remember in Prayer:

We continue to pray for those who are ill or distressed; the lonely and those in any other need or trouble and those who care for them with such dedication.

We remember too, all who are sad, due to the death of members of family and friends, thinking especially of the family

Your news for the April/May edition:

Please ensure all news and contributions reach Keith Read by noon on **Friday 21st MARCH** at the very latest. Printing is scheduled for Saturday 29th March.

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:

keithread@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.

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and friends of Sheila Fennell, we pray that they may be sustained and comforted in their sorrow.

We pray for all who have been affected by recent extreme weather conditions, thinking especially of those affected by the snow and flooding, earthquakes and wild fires that they may find help and comfort through the kindness and friendship of others.

We remember the people in the war torn countries of the world, refugees and asylum seekers and all who are suffering poverty, injustice and deprivation and pray for fair distribution of the necessities of life.

We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they may work in harmony and make the right decisions to bring peace and justice to our world.

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

Lord, in Your mercy...

Hear our prayers.

Christmas services:

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Chapel Carol Service and at the Christmas Day Service. Thank you for coming. Hope you enjoyed the fellowship.

Thanks to those who decorated the chapel and to those who provided, and served, refreshments.

The Carol Service collection, which has been added to Chapel funds, amounted to £261. As is our usual custom, the collection on Christmas Day, amounting to £165, has been donated to Bilton House Residential Home.

Church Council:

The next Church Council meeting will be held at Broadwell Methodist Church on Wednesday, February 26th at 7.30pm.

Christmas post box:

Our thanks to all who made good use of the Chapel Christmas Post Box and for your generous donations in lieu of postage. These amounted to £85, which has been forwarded to Action for Children (formerly the National Children's Home).

Also, thanks to those who set up the post box and to those who so willingly sorted and delivered well over 300 cards.

Coffee morning & Lent Lunch:

Coffee mornings are normally held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Broadwell Methodist Church. All are welcome to join us for tea or coffee and light refreshments between 10.30am and 12-noon. Our next coffee morning will be on February 12th.

Please note: in place of the coffee morning on March 12th, we will be holding our traditional Lent Lunch from 12-noon until 1.30pm. Donations will be in aid of 'All We Can' (formerly known as the Methodist Relief & Development Fund) Please join us if you are able.

Tea & Chat:

Following the demise of the Over Sixties' Club, Tea-and-Chat meetings will be held at Leamington Hastings Almshouses on February 26th and March 26th from 2pm onwards.



Date for your Diary:

The Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir will be performing another concert on Saturday, July 5th 2025. It is being

held at All Saints Church, Leamington Hastings.

Please enter this in your diary and note the change of venue. Further details will be included in the next edition of *Broadwell Mail*.

Timely Reminder:



British summer time begins at 2am on Sunday, March 30th, when clocks

should go forward by 1 hour.

Jim and James – two good names for you to know!

Two local engineers have recently made changes in their careers that mean good news for many of us...

Jim Collett, who lives in Broadwell, has operated as a mobile mechanic for several years. He now has a fully-equipped workshop and recovery vehicle based in Napton where he can undertake all mechanical repairs and servicing.

Colletts Auto Repairs can be reached on 01926 699287.

James Rowland is known to many farmers locally as a highly-experienced agricultural engineer. For years he worked for a large Daventry-based agricultural and lawncare company but offering lawnmower and other power machinery repairs to local residents.

In December he formally started in business on his own account, operating from his workshop at his father's farm in Hill. So don't wait until the grass grows and you find your lawnmower won't start – give James a call on 07796 913300 now!

LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

The Rev'd Brian Hutton

2 Peter 1:5-7 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.



A few months ago, I had to take my car in for an MoT test. You may know the drill if you are a driver: engine check, brakes check, roadworthy check, tyres check... The period of Lent between Ash Wednesday and Easter could be described as our annual Spiritual MoT. Lent is a time to explore how we are doing spiritually, to examine ourselves and to check our levels of vibrancy and joy, to check our filters are clean (no lingering unforgiveness, cynicism or bitterness) and to check whether we have a renewed sense of the Oil of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

May I stretch the analogy a little further and invite us to perform a quick check of the following four MoT spiritual check points?

1, Personal. Are we personally growing in faith, trust, and intimacy with the Creator? Are we learning what it means to live with God and hear God through His word? (*2 Peter 1:5 Make every effort to add to your faith...*)

But this alone is not enough. Private prayer and private morality is not enough. And so, we need to also check:

2, People. Are we growing in your trust and intimacy of friendship with others? Are we being drawn deeper into community rather than further isolation? Are we exploring ways to forgive and let go? Are we serving the community? Are we regularly being generous? (*2 Peter 1:5 Make every effort to add to your faith goodness, knowledge, self-control...*)

But this is also not enough. You and I can be people of prayer and be open to care for the community, but we can do all of this with hard calloused grumbling religious hearts. We need to discover the right energy; and maintain our warmth of heart. And so, we check our levels of:

3, Peace. Do we have a sense of peace and content in our lives? Do we have peace with what has happened in our lives and with what we worry one day might happen? Are we regularly expressing gratitude and thanksgiving, do we have joy? (*2 Peter 1:5 Make every effort to add to your faith...perseverance and godliness...*) And, finally, we must check our levels of:

4, Purpose. Are we finding purpose and meaning in what we do and whom we connect with? Are we discovering God at work through us and through our lives. God ushering in His Kingdom values through our lives? (*2 Peter 1:5 Make every effort to add to your faith...mutual affection and love*).

And the best thing about the Spiritual MoT...? It won't cost you an arm and a leg!

Blessings,

Brian.

Big thank-you to all supporters of Broadwell soup lunches!

THIS LETTER FROM THE SERVICE MANAGER AT THE HOPE CENTRE AND RUGBY FOODBANK
HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY ROSEMARY CHAPMAN

Dear Rosemary,

I am writing to thank everyone involved with Broadwell soup kitchen for your extremely generous donation of £315 for the work of the Hope Centre. As a charity we are completely reliant on donations to help those in need with their homeless crisis. Your generosity will mean that we can continue with the aid and assistance we give people in their time of crisis.

Your very kind donation will help us to continue to assist those people who are homeless in Rugby. It is especially welcome at this time of financial hardship for many. During the last financial year we assisted 190 individuals through their homelessness crisis.

Here at Hope4 we continue to commit to campaign to raise awareness, to lobby those in positions of influence and to work towards the day when everyone has a place to call home. If anyone would be interested to hear more of our work, then please sign up to our supporter bulletin via this QR code.



Once again, a huge thank-you for your big-hearted gift to the Hope Centre.

Yours sincerely,

Adi Robinson.

A message from Rosemary Chapman and Martin Wibberley...

The soup kitchen has been running since 2019, although we did have to shut it down during Covid. Each month between 20 and 30 people come along to enjoy soup, bread, tea or coffee. But, most importantly of all, to meet friends and neighbours and chat. The soup is home-made and is donated by villagers.

The soup kitchen is held on the third Wednesday of the month in the Victory Hall and runs from 12-noon until 1:30pm. Everyone is welcome, so please do come along. The next date is Wednesday February 19th. Hope to see you then!

Broadwell Flower Show:

On Saturday 1st March, at 7pm, Broadwell Flower Show committee will be holding its annual Pancake Bingo evening in the Victory Hall, **writes Martin Wibberley.**

The evening is suitable for people of all ages – young and not-so-young! The cost is £1 per strip and that includes freshly-made pancakes at the halfway mark. Tea, coffee or squash will also be served. As always there will be fantastic

prizes to be won. It's a great fun evening and community event. So see you there!

Christmas Angels:

A huge thank-you to all who knitted and distributed the many Christmas Angels that brought cheer and happiness to homes in the village just before 25th December.

This part of the Chapel's outreach and networking has become another tradition that young and old alike look forward to!

Elinor Perry sleeps rough on Leamington streets...

By Keith Read

But it was all to highlight and support the needs of homeless women who have to spend every night sleeping rough. "Sixty percent of those who are homeless and in temporary accommodation are women," explained Elinor who lives with partner, Ian, at Beech House, off The Green. "That statistic is heartbreaking and it's why I am so passionate about supporting The Esther Project."

Elinor recently joined The Esther Project as a steering committee member. The project was founded by Lianne Kirkman, who is spending 10 consecutive sponsored nights sleeping on the streets of towns and cities across the UK to raise awareness about the urgent need for women-only services in tackling homelessness.

"When Lianne told me about the date for her first night – Saturday 1st February – it felt like fate," said Elinor. "It's the day before I celebrate 20 years of owning Pentlands Accountants and Advisors. What better way to mark this milestone by taking on a meaningful challenge?" Which is how she found herself in the cold with no roof over her, raising money through sponsorship for The Esther Project.

"I don't like the cold so I wasn't sure how I would handle it. But that's the point. It's all about stepping into discomfort to make a difference while raising much-needed funds for a cause that's very close to my heart".

Elinor knows times are tough. But she is hoping her clients, family and friends will all chip in with sponsorship. "No matter how small, every donation can make a big impact. Donations can be made via this link: <https://localgiving.org/ElinorsSleepout>

"Together, we can help Lianne amplify her message and drive forward change for the women who need it most."

Elinor's verdict on sleeping rough? "Everyone deserves a warm bed and a roof over their head..."



The Esther Project

"For me, it's just one night, but for many women, it's their reality."

To donate:
[localgiving.org/
ElinorsSleepout](https://localgiving.org/ElinorsSleepout)

Sheila Mary Fennell, 2nd January 1939 – 27th November 2024

By Keith Read

The funeral for Sheila Fennell took place at Leamington Hastings Parish Church on Friday 17th January attended by family, friends and neighbours, followed by burial at LH. The service took place three years to the day after the death of her husband, Paul.

Sheila had lived at Fairoaks on The Green, Broadwell since a few months after their marriage in 1968. They had met through their shared passion of flying and were members of rival aero clubs at Baginton Airport, close to where Sheila had been born.



After leaving Kings High School for Girls in Warwick, she joined the Midland Bank in Coventry and rose to become a Senior Cashier, at times working in various branches in Warwickshire.

In 1969 Sheila gave birth to son Andrew who was to spend a lot of his younger life in the back of her Tiger Moth as Sheila pursued her passion for flying and teaching others to fly. As a young learner-pilot she was described by her instructor as *'...handling aircraft with the deftness and skills that most young ladies handled bicycles!'* Over the years Sheila flew a number of aircraft, including a Spitfire.

But flying was not her only interest. Sheila loved all creatures feathery and furry, with pigeons her particular fancy. Injured birds, lost homing pigeons or any other animal in distress could be taken to her for compassion, care and – usually – rehabilitation. There didn't seem to be a serious pigeon-fancier in the country that she didn't know. And the same could be said about the country's notable pilots too!

With another of her many talents Sheila depicted aircraft, birds, animals and many other subjects in magnificent needlework. Framed artistic creations (often designed by her) won many awards and found homes as much-appreciated gifts among family, friends and neighbours.

For a while Sheila was Secretary of the Broadwell Victory Hall. But for many living in and around LH she was best known as the Clerk to Leamington Hastings Parish Council as well as to Bourton & Frankton Parish Council. And at one stage she was additionally Clerk to the Parish Council at Stretton-on-Dunsmore too!

I first met Sheila not long after moving to Broadwell in 1987 having known of Paul as a Director of Burbages, a thriving Coventry company. Burbages frequently featured in the business pages of the *Coventry Evening Telegraph* where I was, among a number of roles, Aviation Correspondent. Once Sheila knew I was not only interested in aircraft, but had actually learnt to fly at Baginton, I was instantly on her A-list for conversations! As the number of these chats increased it became very clear to me that she had a near-encyclopedic knowledge of a vast range of subjects and was an extremely interesting person with whom to talk.

In a guesture to the aviation world she loved, donations instead of floral tributes to Sheila are going to the Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance.

*THE EDITOR THANKS ANDREW, AND SHEILA'S BROTHER STEVE, FOR HELP IN COMPILING THIS TRIBUTE.

Busy year ahead (and new President) for LH Bowls Club!

By Susan Turner, outgoing President

Happy New Year!! I have truly enjoyed my year as President of the club and I would like to thank the committee and all members for their much-appreciated support. I wish Jim Payne a really great 2025 when he takes over as our next President.

After the Christmas break we're back playing indoor short-mat bowls. Please come and have a go on a Wednesday at 2pm in the Leamington Hastings Parish Hall. You can try three times for free to enable you to decide if you would like to join us. Benefits include gentle exercise, coaching tips, good company, laughter, a cup of tea and free parking!! If you're returning to bowls or a complete novice, everyone is welcome! We play indoors from September to April and outdoors from April to September.

February 14th sees the return of our popular skittles evening to raise funds for ongoing improvements to the bowls green. This event has to be experienced to be believed. So if you'd like to come along to enjoy a few rounds of skittles and a lovely home-cooked meal please call 01788 336913 for ticket information.

It's 40 years this year since work started to create the bowls green by a few club members under the supervision of Fred Cox, Leonard Ellward and Manton Dimbleby (the club's first President) and our own Pat Toole! Other members that worked hard creating the bowls green, carrying out such jobs as digging-out, levelling, measuring, fencing, making gates, laying turf, watering, (the list is endless), include Neville Cowley, Cyril Gregory, John Lines, Allen Neal, Gordon Royans and Ron Adams.

Club members continue to help with the maintenance of the green and our grateful thanks go to anyone who has played their part in sustaining Leamington Hastings Bowls Club. What a fantastic facility and a great legacy to have in the community. May the club continue to go from strength to strength. We have a Facebook page, so do look us up if you are interested.

Finally, to those members suffering from ailments and ill health, take care, rest, feel better and we'll meet up again soon.

The Leamington Hastings School Trust

The Leamington Hastings School Trust is open for Financial Grants. The Trust can provide financial assistance to encourage individuals or groups to develop interests and skills.

Applicants must fulfil the following conditions:

1. Under 25 years of age, resident in Leamington Hastings Parish.
2. At school or have been at school in maintained system for at least two years.
3. Must be for educational support. This includes social and physical training.
4. There is an emphasis on preparation for work in further education.

Grants will be awarded under the following categories:

A. TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH WHO ARE ON:

- i) An instruction course
- ii) A recreational opportunity
- iii) An educational visit

B. REMAINDER TO BE USED TO SUPPORT THOSE WHO EXPRESS A DIFFICULTY IN MEETING THE EXPENSES OF THEIR CONTINUING EDUCATION.

Each applicant to be supported by a reference from a Tutor or instructor and a statement of the expenses to be met on the form provided.

Application forms are available from:

Mr A. Allen, *Hill Farm*, Leamington Hastings, Rugby, CV23 8DX
Mrs R. M. Chapman, *Havencroft*, Broadwell, Rugby CV23 8HB

All forms should be returned by 7th April 2025

Very full autumn term is over – now for more in current term!

By Suzanne Marson
Headteacher

We have had a great first term at Leamington Hastings C of E Academy. The children have enjoyed taking part in outdoor learning, exploring the curriculum in practical contexts and taking part in school trips.

To date, we have visited Warwick Arts Centre to see the Smeds and the Smoos, have performed in a carol concert at Coventry Cathedral, and have taken part in some local visits such as visiting the Parish church.

The children enjoyed performing a nativity show for family members, which was enjoyed by all in attendance.

The school continues to have a buzz of happy children engaged in their learning, supported by our excellent team of staff. We are looking forward to attending a Birmingham Symphony Orchestra concert for children and the Oxford Science Museum in March. The children will also be learning through the topic of 'Our Bodies' in Key Stage One and 'Transport' in Early Years.

We are now taking bookings for children to attend nursery from September 2025. If this is something that you are interested in, and you would like to look around the school, please contact the school office on 01926 632359.



LH Parish Hall AGM

The annual general meeting of Leamington Hastings Parish Hall committee and trustees took place on Tuesday 21st January.

The Chair, Jill Ayres, welcomed members and representatives from three of the hall's regular users. In her annual review she reported that there had been increased usage of the hall during the past year. She thanked the Leamington Hastings Consolidated Charities Trustees for their continued financial support.

Considerable work had been undertaken in the programme of updating the hall and its facilities. This included decoration of the main hall and the committee room (thanks to Jaguar Land Rover's community assistance

project). In addition, all the main window curtains had been replaced with modern vertical blinds (thanks to a grant from the County Councillors' fund). All users of the hall are now able to take advantage of free wi-fi Internet connection. In the kitchen, a second, larger refrigerator is now in place and a bookcase has been provided for the Book Exchange.

A move to an online booking system and events diary is underway and facilities for online payments is now up and running.

All officers were re-elected:

Chair, Jill Ayres.

Honorary Secretary, Lars Maynard.

Treasurer, David Foster.

Committee Members: Tracy Thompson, Terry Devlin and Christian Fairburn.

Broadwell Methodist Chapel

PREACHERS FOR February & March

All services start at 11am
unless otherwise indicated.



February	2nd	The Rev'd Brian Hutton
February	16th	Deacon Georgina Brooks
March	2nd	TBA
March	16th	TBA
March	30th	Mothering Sunday & Fellowship and Coffee. All welcome!

Flower rota

February:	
2nd	Rosemary Chapman
16th	Daphne Morgan
March:	
2nd	Angela Woolliscroft
16th	Carla Tucker
April:	
6th	Annegret Morgan



Cleaning rota

(Week ending...)



February:	
1st	Sharon Barnes
15th	Rosemary Chapman
March:	
1st	Carla Tucker
15th	Wendy Williamson
April:	
5th	Freda Slater

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

Please send copy for the APRIL/MAY issue by noon on Friday 21st March to:

keithread@aol.com

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