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BROADWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: The Rev'd Michael Jackson

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K *Keeping members and
friends in touch...*

July/
August 2002

From the Editor:

No room for any extra words this month except to say that we'll be back after the summer break with another *Broadwell Mail* early in September. Enjoy your holidays!

Keith Read.

Suggested Bible readings (for weeks beginning):

July 21st, Romans 8 vv 12-25 & Matthew 13 vv 24-30 & 36-43; July 28th, Romans 8 vv 26-39 & Matthew 13 vv 31-33 & 44-52; August 4th, Romans 9 vv 1-5 & Matthew 14 vv 13-21; August 11th, Romans 10 vv 5-15 & Matthew 14 vv 22-33; August 18th, Romans 11 vv 1, 2 & 29-32 & Matthew 15 vv 21-28; August 25th, Romans 12 vv 1-8 & Matthew 16 vv 13-20; September 1st, Romans 12 vv 9-21 & Matthew 16 vv 21-28; September 8th, Romans 13 vv 8-14 & Matthew 18 vv 15-20.

Prayers for others:

Please continue to remember all those who are sick, especially at this time the Rev'd Bob Austin and the Rev'd Peter Longbottom and their families. We think too of Frances Whitehall, Lorna Cowley and Edna Butler, all of whom are making progress following surgery.

We pray for all who have suffered bereavement, remembering the family of Dorothy Stokes.

At this time of the year we remember the many Methodist

Ministers who will be moving to other Circuits. Please pray for them and their families, that they may soon settle into their new surroundings. We also think of those who are retiring from the Ministry especially the Rev'd Bob Austin, that they are able to enjoy their new lifestyle.

Open Gardens and scarecrow trail:

Despite the cloudy start July 7th turned out to be very pleasant by the time people began to arrive for the Open Gardens and Scarecrow Trail. More than 70 scarecrows turned out to enjoy the scene from all angles; some on the roofs, some in trees and ponds, while others were simply standing or sitting. Some were working and some leisurely fished in the pond or sat around picnicking. Imaginations had certainly run riot providing a great community effort and I'm sure all who participated will agree it was great fun.

We were sorry that the Rev'd Michael Jackson was unable to be with us on the day, but we had a suitably dressed scarecrow at the end of the Chapel drive.

To conduct our morning service, we were pleased to welcome the Rev'd Brian Tebbutt, and his wife Christine, from Ravensthorpe in the Northampton Circuit. After the service they visited the gardens

and various activities. Both said how much they enjoyed their first visit to Broadwell and how much they looked forward to returning.

'The Threshing Barn Cafe' (alias The Victory Hall) with a collection of memorabilia and festooned in cobwebs and spiders did not put anyone off lunch or tea. Strawberry teas at the Chapel and teas at *Havencroft* were in great demand.

Many people appreciated the opportunity to visit the Church of the Good Shepherd with the display of millennium kneelers and the exhibition in the Chapel, which caused much reminiscing.

Organisers, helpers and visitors all agreed that there was a very happy atmosphere and the smiling faces were all the evidence one needed to conclude that this was indeed a very enjoyable occasion. Much time and effort goes into producing such an event but this was made much easier with so many of the village community working together. On behalf of the organising committee, the Chapel and The Victory Hall, a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who helped in any way at all.

At the moment it is too early to publish any financial details. However, these will be available at the 'wash-up' meeting in the Victory Hall at 7.30pm on 5th August (do come along) and will be included in September's *Broadwell Mail*.

Our Calling:

The second meeting to discuss the 'Our Calling' leaflet will be held at

7.30pm on Friday, July 26th at Old House Farm, Hill, the home of Pat and Sylvia Toole. All are welcome to come along to join in the discussion and share their thoughts and views on the questions posed under the headings of worship, learning & caring, service and evangelism.

Long service:

On August 11th Mrs Connie Smith will occupy our pulpit for the last time. After 50 years as a Local Preacher, she is retiring. We are grateful to Connie for the many times she has conducted our services and trust she will now enjoy sitting in a pew, rather than standing in the pulpit, each Sunday.

NB: This item's heading does not refer to any of Connie's services!

Coffee Morning:

Wednesday, August 14th is the date of our next Coffee Morning, in the Chapel Schoolroom from 10.30am until 12.00noon, when all are welcome to join us for coffee or tea and light refreshments and, of course, a chat.

We look forward to your company in this friendly, informal atmosphere.

Welcome to new Super:

At RMCC on Saturday, August 31st, we welcome the Rev'd Christine Dybdahl as Superintendent Minister of our Circuit. The recognition of Mrs Sheila Wilson as Lay Chaplain at Onley will also be included in the service which begins at 7.30pm.

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LETTER FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

People no longer expect to find God in the churches, but they are still interested in spiritual matters. That kind of statement is heard time and time again in the newspapers and on TV. So where do you find, or more importantly, *how* do you find God? The other question is what sort of God are you looking for? The God of Jesus Christ? The Methodist Jesus, the Catholic, Baptist, Anglican, United Reformed etc. Jesus? The God of Jehovah's Witnesses, of Mormons? The list soon becomes endless. That is without mentioning major world religions like Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism etc. Perhaps none of them appeal to you, but you are still looking.

I write as a Christian who belongs to the Methodist Church, but I hope that what I want to say about finding God may ring bells with others. *God presents himself to me through other people.* That is not the only way He speaks to me. I find him speaking to me through the Bible, through the natural world and in a number of other ways. He also speaks to me through other branches of the Christian Church and through other religions. A Swiss Christian of the last century wrote that God may speak to us through a flute concerto or a dead dog. He is not confined to one way of speaking.

I am utterly convinced, however, that God is not to be found or enjoyed through some super-spiritual atmosphere that has no place for the joys and sorrows of ordinary people.

We cannot find and enjoy God without people. In this world God speaks to us time and time again through people; through their tragedies and suffering, through their creativity and abilities, through all that makes them weak and vulnerable, through all that makes them celebrate and be joyful.

As a Christian, I believe that is why God thought it worthwhile to become, as we are – human – in Jesus of Nazareth in first-century Palestine. The Bible tells us that he enjoyed a meal with friends, attended weddings, got angry and upset and showed enormous compassion in helping the poorest and weakest in his society. I believe it is God's way of saying how much he values us, that He does not want us to be so spiritual that we are not human, but rather to be so fully human, that the spiritual is all wrapped up inside and you can't separate them out. The Bible puts it this way – God is for us.

With Blessings,

Michael Jackson.

Congratulations:

We offer our congratulations and good wishes to Joe and Ellen Byerley who celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on August 3rd. We trust they will enjoy many more years of happiness together.

We also offer our best wishes to Tom Bostock (Gladys Collett's grandson) and Charlotte Welton of Rugby whose wedding takes place at St Marie's Church, Rugby on July 27th.

Harvest Thanksgiving:

Our Harvest Thanksgiving celebrations are planned for Sunday 29th and Monday 30th September. Sunday's services will be led by ~~the Rev'd Barry Gent, who is no stranger to Broadwell~~, and Mrs Jenny Carpenter, from the Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh.

The Harvest Supper and sale of Harvest gifts will be held on the following evening, Monday, September 30th at.

Fuller details will be given in September's *Broadwell Mail*.

Bilton House:

Monica Sensecall and Sheila Olorenshaw wish to thank all who baked cakes and gave donations for the cake stall at Bilton House garden party on July 6th which raised £180.00.

We thank Sheila and Monica, who have manned this stall on our behalf for many years, for once again representing Broadwell Methodist Church.

Jubilee memento:

We were pleased to welcome WPC Paula Haydn, our Community Beat Officer, and her colleague to present the Golden Jubilee mugs.

All were invited to the Victory Hall on the evening of June 28th to enjoy a cup of tea, a piece of jubilee cake and to share in the presentation of a commemorative 'Broadwell' china mug to each child living in the village.

Over 60s' Club:

Judith Dimpleby has kindly invited all members of the Over 60s' Club to join her for strawberry tea in her garden on July 31st. We look forward to an enjoyable time in lovely surroundings.

Flower Show:

The annual Flower show will be held on The Green on Saturday, September 7th, opening at 3.00pm.

In addition to competitive classes for flowers, fruit and vegetables, there are cookery and handicraft classes and special classes for children of all age groups. All classes are

open to everyone so come along and join in the fun. Schedules giving full details will be distributed around the village. For further details or copies of the schedule please phone Jean Adams on 01926 812274.

The following day, Sunday, September 8th, a united community service will be held at 10.30am in the marquee on The Green when all are invited to come along and share in this now traditional informal act of worship for everyone.

Thanks:

We have received a letter from the Friendship Circle at Daventry who, on May 14th, enjoyed a walk across the fields and around Broadwell village and then rounded off the evening with refreshments at the Chapel.

Friends at Grandborough thank you for your support at their Songs of Praise evening on June 30th, when the collection for Rugby Myton Hospice amounted to £120.00.

Grandborough Open Gardens:

Grandborough Open Gardens weekend takes place on July 27th and 28th.

On Sunday 28th you are invited to a Taize-style service at St Peters Church, Grandborough at 6.30pm. The service will be led by the Rev'd Michael Jackson and the Rev'd Bill Griffiths.

You will recall that, as part of his sabbatical, the Rev'd Jackson visited the Taize community and was deeply moved by the experience.

Dorothy Stokes, neé Price:

We were sorry to learn of the death of Dorothy Stokes in Overslade House Nursing Home on Sunday, July 14th.

Dorothy was the only child of Austin and Eva Price and spent her childhood at Dunchurch where she attended Sunday School and Chapel; indeed she told me her's was the first christening at Dunchurch Chapel. After her marriage Dorothy and Colin lived at Bilton but still maintained Church membership at Dunchurch and it was following Colin's death after a long period of ill-health that she transferred her membership to Bilton in 1999.

She was very happy there and was becoming very involved with the activities, such as table tennis when she was diagnosed as having motor neurone disease. This was a big blow to Dorothy but the great faith she had was very evident. As the disease took the use from her limbs and she was unable to care for herself she decided it was time to look for a care home and chose Overslade House.

Until the time of Colin's death he and Dorothy enjoyed coming to Broadwell especially for such occasions as the Harvest Festival and the Flower Show but as Dorothy did not drive she was then unable to visit as often as she would have liked. The family has

always maintained links with Broadwell and had a special interest in the Chapel.

John Price, one of Dorothy's ancestors, is described in Arthur Olorenshaw's book 'Broadwell' as being "The Original local Father of Methodism and a pioneer of the Methodist Cause at Broadwell". Dorothy's maternal grandparents, John and Susannah Smith were also very much a part of Broadwell Chapel and the table in the vestibule was given in their memory. Both her mother and her uncle, Sid Smith were members of the original Broadwell Methodist Choir.

Joyce Latham and Dorothy have been browsing through many records to try to establish the location of John Price's house in Broadwell. The search will continue and Joyce would be grateful for any clues that might have been handed down. The following paragraphs were written by Joyce as a tribute to Dorothy.

John Price, together with his wife Mary and baby son Thomas, moved to Broadwell to live, in 1815. There had been Prices in the Parish of Leamington Hastings from the earliest recorded times, though John himself appears not to have been born there.

Mary gave birth to another son, William, in 1815, soon after she and John arrived in Broadwell, and went on to have several more children. John worked as an agricultural labourer during the week, but as a local preacher in the Welton Primitive Methodist Circuit, his weekends would have been busy fulfilling preaching appointments throughout the district. I think of him walking the tracks to Napton and Long Itchington, Watford, Crick, Barby and Hill Morton, where I see him planned to take services during the fourth quarter of 1833.

In March of 1832, John sought to bring Methodist services to Broadwell by applying to the Bishop's Court in

Lichfield for permission to hold Methodist meetings in his home. A licence permitting this was granted on 18th April 1832. We must presume that the meetings continued to be held in his home until, in 1835, a special room was erected solely to fulfil this function. This room, capable of seating eighty people, must indicate the strength of Methodism in Broadwell at that time. Indeed, at the Ecclesiastical Census of 31st March 1851, fifty people are recorded as having met there in the afternoon, with an average of sixty people being noted at meetings during the previous year.

Where was John Price's house in Broadwell? At the time of the Tithe Apportionment Act of 1843, he was occupying and working land, known as "part of Drury's Green", and owned by Walter Watson of Grandborough, on which stood two dwellings - now one - Stoney Cottage.

John Price died in January 1852, aged 72 and was followed very shortly, in August of the same year, by his wife Mary. They are buried at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings. Their son Thomas, born in Moulton, Northamptonshire, married Ruth Warwick and continued to live in the Parish, at Kites Hardwick. In his older age, as a widower, he moved to the Alms Rooms at Leamington Hastings, where he died in 1901, aged 87. He and Ruth were the great-grandparents of Dorothy Stokes (nee Price).

Dates for your diary:

Please refer to individual news items for details.

On leave!

We take a break until the next edition of *Broadwell Mail* early in September.

Glenys Caunter.

PREACHERS APPOINTED FOR AUGUST 2002

All services start at 11am unless otherwise indicated.

July 28 th	The Rev'd Michael Jackson, Holy Communion.
August 4 th	Mr Guy Towers.
August 11 th	Mrs Connie Smith.
August 18 th	Mrs Eileen Burgess, All Age Worship.
August 25 th	Mrs Alan Kirkham.
September 1 st	The Rev'd Kenneth Renouf, Holy Communion.
September 8 th	Mrs Gayne Beasley. Community Service in the Marquee on the Green starting at 10.30am.

FLOWER ROTA

July 28 th	Sheila Olorenshaw
Aug 4 th	Evelyn Royans
Aug 11 th	Margaret Webster
Aug 18 th	Sylvia Toole
Aug 25 th	Daphne Morgan
Sept 1 st	Irene Woodward
Sept 8 th	Sharon Barnes

CLEANING ROTA (Week ending)

July 27 th	Angela Woolliscroft
Aug 3 rd	Rosemary Chapman
Aug 10 th	Monica Sensecall
Aug 17 th	Margaret Shaw
Aug 24 th	Sheila Olorenshaw
Aug 31 st	Evelyn Royans
Sept 7 th	Sylvia Toole

Broadwell Mall is edited, and published 10 times a year on behalf of Broadwell Methodist Church, by Keith Read.

Main text by Glenys Caunter.

All contributions are always gratefully received.