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BROADWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: The Rev'd Michael Jackson
Tel: 01327 702431 (*Day off: Monday*)

Steward: Mr Pat Toole
Tel: 01926 632874

K *ee*ping members and
friends in touch...

March/April
2001

From the Editor:

You'll begin to tire of reading yet another apology; but I'm afraid an extremely full diary prevented me from getting this edition of *Broadwell Mail* to bed during the last week of February.

So sorry if you were expecting your edition seven days' earlier than it arrived... My only mitigation is that February is a very short month!

Please bear in mind that many of the events you will read about in this edition were planned before the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. Please check with organisers that arrangements are still in place because postponement of some seems inevitable...

Finally, on behalf of our local livestock farmers, please do use common sense during this critical time. Careless actions could cost livelihoods.

Keith Read.

Suggested Bible readings

(for weeks beginning):

March 4th, Psalm 91 vv 1-2 & 9-16 & Luke 4 vv 1-13; March 11th, Psalm 27 & Luke 13 vv 31-35; March 18th, Psalm 63 vv 1-8 & Luke 13 vv 1-9; March 25th, Psalm 32 & Luke 15 vv 1-3 & 11-32; April 1st, Psalm 126 & John 12 vv 1-8; April 8th, Psalm 118 vv 1-2 & 19-29 & Luke 19 vv 28-40.

Those who need our prayers:

We think of all who are ill; those in hospital and those at home. We remember especially those from our own community:

**BROADWELL MAIL is written by
Glenys Caunter and edited by
Keith Read.**

Gladys, who is making progress; Ted Hopkins, who is undergoing further investigation; also Peter Olnor and Peter West.

We remember their families as they face each anxious day, hoping to hear good news.

We pray for those coping with bereavement especially the Rev'd Mary Bailey on the death of her great friend and companion, June Hart.

At this time please pray for those associated with the agricultural industry as they come to terms with the position in which they find themselves as a result of the outbreak of foot and mouth, a feared and highly-dreaded disease...

We continue to remember the victims of various natural disasters throughout the world and we are thankful for the aid-workers trying to relieve their suffering. We may feel we are unable to do much to help but we are able to remember them in our prayers.

Annual Church Meeting & Church Council Meeting:

The Annual church Meeting and Church Council Meetings were both held on February 13th when financial and other annual reports were presented.

Mavis Randle reported a healthy balance in the benevolence fund and she thanked the Rev'd Michael Jackson for his help in obtaining and delivering Christmas gifts to our more-senior members. Many letters of appreciation for the bowls of bulbs have been received.

The meeting recorded its thanks to Mavis for organising the Christmas gifts year by year.

Discussion took place on the new

legislation relating to 'Gift Aid' which replaces Covenanted Giving. Taxpayers are encouraged to make their gifts through the Gift aid scheme and further details may be obtained from Geoffrey Slater.

Charles Olorenshaw felt the time had come for him to resign from the post of Covenant secretary. Thanks were expressed to Charles for the work he had done during the many years he had held this post. Chrissy Read offered to become Gift Aid secretary and this was accepted by the meeting.

The state of the Chapel drive is still causing concern and a small committee was appointed to explore various avenues for funding the resurfacing work. Meanwhile, fundraising events would be organised. The first of these will be a sponsored walk on the afternoon of March 31st, beginning at 1.30pm. (See separate details in this issue).

An evening event on similar lines to the Irish evening (probably with a Scottish theme) will be held in the Autumn and an 'Old Tyme Christmas' evening on Friday, December 14th to begin at 6.00pm. Further details of these two events will be given later.

World Church (formerly Overseas Missions):

Sheila Olorenshaw invites you to join her at her home, *Home Close*, on March 20th at 7.30pm for a fund-raising Coffee Evening in aid of World Church funds. Bruce Morgan will be showing a video which he has compiled entitled *Freedom - The American Dream*.

There will be a bring and buy stall.

Youth Group:

We are pleased that our youth group still meets each Friday evening during term

time. This has been made possible by the parents of the members who have organised a rota which enables the groups to continue with sufficient adult supervision.

Baptism:

On March 25th, our Family Service included the Service of Baptism when we were pleased to welcome Katy Allen into our Church family. Katy is the daughter of John and Anne Allen of *Washbrook House*, Hayway Lane. The service was conducted by the Rev'd Michael Jackson.

We have subsequently received a lovely thank-you card from John and Anne expressing their family's appreciation of the warm welcome extended to them by members of the Chapel.

Coffee morning:

Our next monthly Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday, March 14th from 10.30am until 12.00 noon in the Chapel schoolroom. If you are free on that morning we would welcome your company. Please do join us, if you are able, for coffee or tea and light refreshments - and, of course, a friendly chat!

We thank you for your donations in February which amounted to £25.50.

Indian earthquake appeal:

Pat and Sylvia Toole wish to thank all who, in any way, supported their Coffee Morning with Bring-and-Buy stall at Old House Farm, Hill on February 24th. The amount raised, in aid of the Indian earthquake appeal was £287.00.

Our thanks to Pat and Sylvia and their family for arranging this event in double-quick time.

Letter from our Minister

Dear Friends,

About the mid-1980s the Methodist Conference gave ministers the opportunity of a sabbatical – a full quarter's break from normal church duties. This was to be used in a way that would be creative for their future ministry and for them personally.

Last year, at the Huddersfield Conference, this option was made compulsory and I have already shared with the Church Council that I am due to take a sabbatical this year, beginning on the 5th May.

This will mean that, with holidays, I shall not be available for normal duties until 1st September.

Sunday services will be covered by the circuit staff and preachers and any pastoral emergencies will be referred to the appropriate Minister. Full details of the arrangements and cover being provided will be made known.

Sabbaticals are at least two things:

they are a way of providing what doctors, teachers, managers and others receive as a matter of course – that is in-service training or professional development;

they are also a gift to Ministers by the Church which says that it is recognised that we need time to resource our ministry and to look afresh at our own spirituality and humanity.

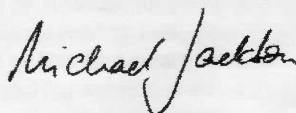
To my own amazement I have decided to look at evangelism.

Why? Because the Church needs to find ways of sharing and proclaiming the good news about Jesus Christ in ways that are relevant to people today, that are cringe-free, that do not fit into stereo-typed images of evangelical activities, that are not geared up to big events (rallies, missions, etc), that are not needlessly aggressive, but are part of the everyday, on-going life of the Church. We need to be respectful of others, but also confident, not about ourselves but about the love of this God of ours.

If there is time left I also hope to do something on music and worship and to try to get know a little more about this stretch of land bounded by Southam, Daventry and Dunchurch.

This last point simply leads me to say how conscious I and so many others are about the present crisis which threatens livestock farmers. Words of sympathy are easily said and prayers will not remove a disease. Nonetheless, the farming community remains in the thoughts and prayers of many. I hope that by the time these words are read the situation is no worse and hopefully better.

Sincerely,



Mothering Sunday:

Our Mothering Sunday Family service on March 25th will be conducted by the Rev'd Michael Jackson. As is our custom, the children will receive flowers to present to their mothers. You are invited to join us, with your family, for this special service.

Sponsored walk:

Everyone is invited to take part in a sponsored walk on Saturday, March 31st starting at 1.30pm from the Chapel. If you are unable to manage either the seven- or the 12-mile routes, we would welcome help with marshalling, taxi-driving or serving refreshments. Please contact Sylvia Toole as soon as possible if you are able to assist.

Sponsorship forms are available from Rosemary Chapman, Freda Slater and Sylvia Toole.

If you wish to participate without sponsorship you are very welcome to join us. But we would ask you to make a donation to the funds which will be used to help defray the cost of resurfacing the Chapel drive.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS EVENT IS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION OR POSTPONEMENT DUE TO FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE RESTRICTIONS. **BE ALERT FOR FURTHER NOTICES.**

Thank-you messages:

Bert and Hilda Faulkner wish to thank those who sent messages of condolence and those who attended the service at Oakley Wood crematorium on January 16th.

Joe and Ellen Byerley thank you all for your kind thoughts, cards and prayers. Ellen says "Joe and I are now both well on the way to good health".

Gladys' family thank you all for your kind thoughts and prayers. She is in good hands and slowly improving in the Mulberry Unit at The Hospital of St Cross. Your cards have helped her along, as have your prayers. Valerie thinks that Gladys is now strong enough to have more visitors but not all on the same day please!

Thanks too from Gordon and Irene Woodward for the cards and presents received on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. It was certainly a day to remember!

A letter of thanks has been received from the Rugby branch of the Parkinsons Disease Society. The cheque for £266.75 (proceeds from carol singing, donation from the concert and surplus from the Millennium celebrations) will be used for district nurses to receive specialised training in the care of parkinsons disease sufferers.

Training costs a total of £1,200 for the three-month course which has a recognised qualification on completion. Thank you for your help.

Events at Grandborough:

Friends at Grandborough invite you to join them on Friday March 9th at 7.00pm when Mr Jim Russell will be showing another selection of his natural history slides in Grandborough Village Hall. There will be a collection in aid of World Church funds.

You are also invited to a Sankey Evening at Grandborough Village Hall on Saturday, April 4th at 7.00pm.

Over 60s' Club:

The March meeting of the over 60s' Club is on Wednesday 28th, when Mr Paul King will be telling *Amusing Legal*

Tales. The meeting begins at 2.30pm at Leamington Hastings Parish Hall. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Retirement:

February 28th sees the end of an era in Broadwell with the closure of the village Post Office on the retirement of our Postmistress, Joan Rishworth.

Joan has been supplying stamps, paying pensions, weighing parcels and dealing with all the other aspects of a village Post Office, in Broadwell, for more than 30 years. We thank her for her contribution to the life of the village during this time and wish her a very happy retirement.

A presentation to Joan took place in the Victory Hall on Saturday 3rd March when villagers marked her service and retirement with a floral arrangement, a gift of two huge fully-planted flower tubs and a cheque for £171.50 (the balance from the collection held in the village) for Joan to "spend as she wished." Her immediate reaction was to ask everyone if they would mind if she donated the cheque to Myton Hospice. "It's what Don would have liked," she said. Spontaneous applause from villagers crammed into the Victory Hall signalled their total support for her generous action.

Bunny Sitwell:

We were sorry to receive news of the death of Mrs Bunny Alban, better-known in this locality as Bunny Sitwell. Mrs Alban, who was 93, was one of the last direct links with the Sitwell family to whom Leamington Hastings Parish owes so much.

Dates for your diary:

MARCH

9th Missions evening Grandborough Hall 7.30pm.

14th Coffee morning Broadwell Chapel 10.30am.
15th Circuit meeting Lutterworth 7.30pm.
20th Coffee evening and video, Home Close 7.30pm.
25th Mothering Sunday Service, Broadwell Chapel 11.00am.
28th Over 60s' Club, Parish Hall 2.30pm.
31st Sponsored Walk starts from Broadwell Chapel 1.30pm.

APRIL

4th Sankey Evening at Grandborough Hall, 7.00pm.
6th *Pilgrim's Progress*, L.H. Church 7.30pm.
11th Coffee morning, Broadwell Chapel, 10.30am.
13th Good Friday Walk starting at Broadwell Chapel, 12-noon.
21st Spring flower show, Victory Hall
25th Over 60s' Club, Parish Hall, 2.30pm.

Lent Activity:

Something very different this year to our previous series of Lent Meetings! **See the advertisement opposite.**

Theatre Roundabout is a two-person team (husband-and-wife) who have toured the country and abroad presenting specially-adapted plays to great acclaim. Indeed, their previous appearance at LH brought considerable praise and appreciation.

The ticket line number in the advertisement is that of the Rev'd Bill Griffiths at Willoughby. However, you don't have to call so far if you require tickets or information since Sylvia Toole has volunteered to look after the sale of tickets in the Broadwell/Hill and neighbouring areas.

Sylvia's number is 01926 632874.

Glenys Caunter.



**Leam Valley Churches'
Ecumenical Group**

present for Lent:

The Pilgrim's Progress

John Bunyan's classic specially
adapted for two performers.

Sylvia Read and
William Fry

Director:
Robin Crawford.

**Leamington Hastings
Parish Church,
Friday 6th April, 7.30pm.**

(Seats to be taken by 7.25pm prompt)

Tickets: £3 or £10 for a family (two adults, two children).

For ticket information call 01788 890309

Preachers planned for March/April:

Services are at 11.00am unless otherwise marked.

March 4th	Mr Ken Harris.
March 11th	The Rev'd Michael Jackson, Holy Communion.
March 18th	The Rev'd Kenneth Renouf.
March 25th	The Rev'd Michael Jackson, Mothering Sunday Family Service.
April 1st	The Rev'd Laurie Churms.
April 8th	The Rev'd Tom White, Palm Sunday Family Service.
April 15th	Mr Ken Hitchings, Easter.
April 22nd	The Rev'd Michael Jackson, Holy Communion.
April 29th	Mr D Atkinson from Northamptonshire – Local Preachers' Sunday



Flower rota:

March 4th, Sylvia Toole; March 11th, Daphne Morgan; March 18th, March Irene Woodward; March 25th, Sharon Barnes; April 1st, Valerie Bostock; April 8th, Rosemary Chapman; April 15th, Freda Slater; April 22nd, Chrissy Read and April 29th, Mavis Randle.

Cleaning rota: (week ending)

March 3rd, Sheila Olorenshaw; March 10th, Evelyn Royans; March 17th, Sylvia Toole; March 24th, Freda Slater; March 31st, Valerie Bostock; April 7th, Wendy Williamson; April 14th, Sharon Barnes; April 21st, Ellen Byerley and April 28th, Alison Deeming.

