

Pivot

**NEW BUILDING
2003 – 2023**

20TH

**ANNIVERSARY
EDITION**

The Magazine of



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**Donations
welcomed**



CONTENTS

| | Page |
|--|-------|
| Celebrations | 3 |
| Greetings | 4-6 |
| Joan White | 6 |
| Remembering | 7 |
| LOOKING BACK | |
| Building the Vision | 8-9 |
| From the Old to the New | 10 |
| Karibuni Children | 11 |
| Our Furniture Family | 12-13 |
| Developing our Logo | 14 |
| CELEBRATION EVENTS | |
| Quiz and Supper | 15 |
| Exbury Gardens | 16 |
| Boat Trip | 16 |
| Garden Party | 17 |
| Murder on the Swanage Express | 18 |
| Treasure Hunt | 19 |
| Sunflowers | 19 |
| Harvest Festival | 19 |
| Book of Prayers | 19 |
| THE CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY | |
| Alison and Martin | 20 |
| Eco-friendly Garden | 21 |
| Knit and Natter | 22 |
| Wendy House | 22-23 |
| Working with Children and Young People | 23 |
| MOVING FORWARD | |
| 20 years of BMC | 24 |
| Looking Forward | 25 |
| Anniversary Service | 24 |
| December Diary | 25 |
| Children and Families | 26 |
| Regular Events | 27 |

EDITORIAL

It is now twenty years since the first service was held in the ‘new’ building. In this special anniversary edition of Pivot we look at the links and progression from the old to the new. We have messages of greeting from our past ministers, and we look back at some of the practical challenges that faced us as we moved from the old to the new. The centre pages cover the fun and laughter we have enjoyed this year as we have celebrated this special anniversary together and with the wider community. We look at the difference the new building has made in helping to fulfil our mission of preaching the Christian message, offering Christian worship, and serving the needs of the community. The new building enabled us to grow in size and spiritually. Our new larger coffee lounge flourished and has become an important place for people to meet others. Many new activities were introduced, such as the Luncheon Club, Knit and Natter, Stepping Stones for those with memory loss, and a range of activities for children and families. The pandemic and its accompanying restrictions presented many challenges and sadly not all of the previous clubs have been reopened. There has been change but also continuity. Broadstone Methodist Church is busy again attracting all age groups and many users. It has achieved the Bronze Eco Church Award and has been at the centre of Broadstone’s regular Musical Markets. Some of these activities are highlighted in the later pages of this edition. As we look forward to the next 20 years we can foresee that there will be many more changes and challenges, and we pray that we will be given guidance to face these as they arise. As an epilogue, Deacon Gill offers us some thoughts and insights into how we should do this. We hope that you will find this edition of Pivot inspiring, as we turn our thoughts from celebration of the past towards the Church’s role in the future.

Grateful thanks to all those who’ve contributed to this special edition of Pivot.

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CELEBRATIONS

REV KAREN JAMES

Dear Friends

At Broadstone Methodist Church we have been marking, giving thanks, and celebrating the 20th anniversary of the extension and rebuild of our premises on the Broadway. There have been a range of activities such as a quiz, trip along the river, treasure hunt, a murder mystery, craft fair, and numerous opportunities to share in meals together. All have been very much appreciated and enjoyed and I would like to extend grateful thanks to those many people who have been involved in organising and preparing and supporting them. In November there will be a special service led by the Chair of District, bringing together all that we have shared.



In doing so we remind ourselves and our community that the foundation of all this is Christ. At the heart of all our practical service, is our care for our neighbours and the sharing of God's love to all.

The year 2003 feels like a lifetime ago and at the same time a recent memory. The world has changed, politically, economically, socially, and perhaps even spiritually. What stories

we have to share over this time- ones that will inspire and bring laughter as well as those that will hold painful memories. We rejoice in them all because they are part of our whole, communal story. We honour the heritage; we pay attention to our story today and we enable the story to grow in the way that it will.

And as we share, we are confident that God's spirit flowed through consistently and will continue to do so today and for the next twenty years. We do not know with certainty what the future will bring but we do know that God's spirit will continue to flow and sustain us in hope.

Every blessing

Rev Karen

NEW BUILDING
2003-2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

GREETINGS

FROM OUR MINISTERS SINCE 2003

Where have the years gone?



It only seems like the recent past that we came to view the Broadstone appointment, not 22 years ago. Where have the years gone? Having been involved in two major building schemes in previous appointments, I was not convinced that I wanted to be involved again, especially as this appointment would take me up to retirement. As we drove back to Chandlers Ford Christine convinced me that this appointment was right for us! When we arrived in late August 2001 we were greeted with the sad news that so far all the grant applications for the proposed new premises had failed. God

moves in a mysterious way and in the autumn of 2001 the fund raising team through sheer hard work and determination began to have some success in achieving promises of financial assistance. The rest is history as they say.

Again God provided for us because when the time came to quit our old building our friends at St Nicholas, Corfe Mullen, generously offered us use of their fine new premises for regular morning worship and our good friends at Broadstone URC were more than happy for us to unite with them for evening services.

I vividly remember the very cold day that our then MP, Annette Brooke, our oldest member, Nora Ball, and a young person, Jacob Horrigan, laid the foundation stone. As always in these schemes the actual completion and then the furnishing of the fine new premises always seem to take longer than imagined. Eventually the great day came and our good friend and past President of the Methodist Church, Rev Dr Leslie Griffiths, came to preach at the Opening Ceremony.

I trust and pray that the Church will continue to be a place of worship and support to folk in their journey of life and that the premises will continue to be a base for the community and individuals.

Christine and I look forward to sharing with you in your celebrations in November.

Robert McBain

Congratulations on your 20th Anniversary

It's a pleasure for me to send greetings on this significant period in the life of Broadstone Methodist Church. As I write vivid and cherished memories come to mind, as well as the feelings and emotions born during my years as your minister.

Space would not allow an in-depth recap of so many significant events, personalities, joys, challenges and sadnesses. Instead here's a few thoughts that come to mind.

The wow factor (!) of such a multipurpose suite of buildings, a vision becoming a reality as a result of much hard work and planning from amazing and gifted members of the church and the wider community.



The amazing removal of the protected tree in front of the building due to an unexpected disease, which allowed the true nature of the building to be seen, with the Cross at the centre as a testimony of the faith that we declare.

The competition to find a church logo that would lead all future church and centre communications and, of course, the new *Pivot* quarterly magazine.

Blessed with so many people during this period who were prepared to make things happen, new Worship Leaders, amazing Choir and Worship Group - Family Film Nights, Messy Church, Café Church, Meet and Greeters, Café Hosts and so much more!! What characters we met in the Coffee Lounge and the Wednesday Luncheon Club as well as those from the various groups that used the complex... I could say so much more, but it is not over!! The vision remains an ongoing reality and I salute you for your faithfulness, and pray that the Lord will bless each of you as you continue to 'serve the present age'.

"In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your path." Prov 3:6.

Liz sends her love,

God Bless

Chris Moreton

Congratulations



Dear Friends

Firstly, CONGRATULATIONS!

It's 20 years since the opening of the 'new' Methodist Church at Broadstone.

I was delighted to receive your invitation to write a few words for the special edition of *Pivot* Magazine. What an interesting task this has been for us - looking back through my old diaries and noting what an active church it was and still is.

I became the minister in pastoral charge at Broadstone in 2014 but Colin and I actually moved into the York Road manse in late 2015. My initial impression of the church building was one of light, warmth, welcome and functionality. What a wonderful place to worship God! I can remember saying to the stewards at the time whoever designed the building was a genius especially with the idea of having the Coffee Lounge incorporated as a central part of the church!

Enough about the building..... what about the 'real' church the people. What a hard working, supportive and productive group of co-workers you were.

That includes:

*Children and Family Worker
Stewards
Pastoral Team
The Prayer Team
Secretaries
Cleaners
Supernumerary ministers
Coffee Lounge Team
Flower Arrangers
Musicians
Pivot Team
Property Team
Choral Group
The Knitters and Natterers
to name but a few!*

I also want to mention especially the folk who came faithfully to church Sunday by Sunday singing and praying and praising our wonderful God. You are all amazing.

As for my special memories – there are so many but I will name a few and apologies for those I've missed out.

Here goes:

Knowing you all so well I could name each and everyone of you as I distributed Holy Communion.

Sitting by your bedsides praying with you and your families ... what a privilege.

The many funeral and thanksgiving services I conducted for those who are now promoted to Glory.

Baptisms at church and in the sea!!

The marriages I've conducted and filling in the Marriage Registers!

The Broadstone 'Churches Together' group.

Singing carols, harvest and Easter hymns in the Coffee Lounge

The Walk of Witness through the village.

The Remembrance Services.

The Parade dressed up as a Wise Man ... well there's a first time for everything eh!

The Christmas extravaganza where we had hundreds of the Broadstone Community gathering outside and inside the church.

The fabulous organ music and of course the musicians and singers in the Music Group

I remember the final act of worship I conducted in Cafe Church on the subject of 'death and dying' which was so apt considering it heralded the beginning of the Covid Pandemic.

I also remember what a generous and hard working group of volunteers you were during the pandemic looking after and supporting our local community on behalf of the GP practices in Broadstone. Challenging times indeed my friends!

Broadstone Methodists have provided so many happy memories and challenges and has been an such an important part of our many memories.

We send our love and prayers for you all especially at this time of celebration.

Rev Sue and Colin



PS aren't the grandkids growing up!

So Many Good and Exciting Memories

The memories I cherish from the 6 years I was with you from 2014 are first and foremost memories of all of you! Before I even started, you were the ones who prayed that God would raise up a new ministry to both the children and young families of Broadstone Methodist and to the community of Broadstone at large. Then by your faith, you set about developing the framework for this ministry which led to me being hired as the Children and Young Families' Worker. From my first day, you encouraged and supported me. You rolled up your sleeves and willingly gave of your time, energy and hard work to make this outreach to the children and young families the success it went on to be. Together we did it!



And what I remember the most is the laughter and fun we shared together while doing it. What a blessing it was to witness the ministry grow as new families joined in the various gatherings –

Thirsty Thursday, Broadway, Messy Church, Family Worship, Breakfast Church, Ladies' Craft Group, Ufee, Family Christmas Services, Summer Picnics and so much more! I was also privileged to get to lead assemblies, and teach classes in the first and middle schools, introducing the children to God's message of love for all and to Broadstone Methodist Church.

So, I would like to say thank you for giving me 6 years of so many wonderful memories! I know that the pandemic ended my ministry and closed the churches doors, but actually I had already given my notice a few months earlier as I knew my season at Broadstone Methodist was coming to an end.

God works in seasons, and I have no doubt that whatever is yet to come in the next 20 years, will be amazing because of your love and faithfulness to God's calling.

Karen Greene

Joan White's 100th Birthday

It was such a lovely day as I was invited to attend Joan White's 100 birthday party at the RNLi with some of our church family, and family, 5 generations !!! The room was filled with laughter and Joan was able to cut her cake, what an amazing lady.

Thank you Lord Jesus for family and friends.

Jan Attard





REMEMBERING

Pat and Barbara Talbot

In 1987 we returned from Yeovil to live in Pat's grandfather's house, built in 1939, and continued to return to our church in Yeovil once a month.

One Saturday morning we visited the old church's Autumn Fair where they were fund raising for the redevelopment and where David Spracklen provided us with a copy of the Business Plan. We returned in the afternoon where we took part in a competition to guess how long it took Hazel Rodenhurst to paint a picture. A telephone call that evening confirmed Barbara had won the painting.

On the Sunday morning we attended church where Rev Paul Mears welcomed us to the dais to collect the picture in front of a sea of smiling faces and a feeling of warmth and acceptance. The rest as they say is history. November 2003 and the new Broadstone Methodist Church



Centre is ready for opening. Some weeks earlier explanatory leaflets were delivered to every property in Broadstone detailing our new facilities and giving Pat's name and telephone number for contact as the Booking Officer. As neither of us were IT proficient we purchased a large Boots Diary using the old pen and paper method.

The phone started to ring with enquiries from people running all manner of different activities

and wishing to see the rooms we had on offer.

Within a few weeks many of these groups had taken up residence and we were home to U3A, Language Classes, Art Classes, Pilates and Tai Chai to name but a few.

The premises seemed to be occupied from 9am to late evening. The income from all the classes amounted to £16,000 in the first year.

The icing on the cake was the opening of our wonderful coffee lounge where the volunteers welcomed back "old" friends as well as many newcomers who have since become friends.

We continued with the bookings for some four years when we handed it back to the church where it became computerised with a paid administrator.

As we look back over the last twenty years Pat and I are grateful for the opportunity of being able to help our church family achieve their dream of "reaching out to the community" a reality.

Leila Mears

I found it very difficult to believe I had lived in Wimborne for 22 years, following 7 years in the Broadstone manse! The longest time I had lived in the same place before that was in Sheffield where I was born, and left at the age of 12.

20 years at Broadstone Methodist Church have been full

of friendship, faith, fun and flowing changes according to need and necessity. I have seen people move away, and sadly missed many who have died. Yet the church has always welcomed new people who are able to continue the growth of the ongoing variety of work that is undertaken by Broadstone

Methodists. It is a church family full of faithful members who give effort, time and talents to enable everyone, whether young or old the opportunity to see the church as an important part of their lives.

May God bless you all with continuing growth and vitality in the next 20 years and beyond.

NEW BUILDING
2003-2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

LOOKING BACK

Rev Paul Mears was our minister when we decided in late 1990s to demolish our old building and build anew from scratch. His boundless enthusiasm and commitment to the project ensured that it got off the ground, but it needed the hard work of very many people to achieve the final result. Jill Spracklen, who acted as communications secretary to make sure that all our members and friends were kept up to date with progress on the project, wrote the following article for our Church magazine in 2003. Sadly, neither Paul or Jill are here to celebrate this twenty year milestone, but their memory lives on both in our hearts and in the building.

(Reprinted from Link, 2003, our then Church Magazine)

BUILDING THE VISION

A Potted History

Jill Spracklen



The new premises of Broadstone Methodist Church Centre will be officially opened on 13 December 2003. We give thanks to God! Even then, we shall not have fulfilled our Vision, but we shall have a superb resource in which to fulfil our Vision.

How did it all start?

Back in 1997, our previous Minister, Rev Paul Mears, challenged the Broadstone Methodist people to explore the future of our church: Worship, Mission, Fellowship and Spiritual Growth, Youth, and the Church Building were the topics of those Vision Days.

In addition to other challenges which emerged, these discussions prompted us to acknowledge we had an ageing building, inadequate for our growing congregation and with very limited space and poor facilities for the community work we felt called to extend. The problems must be addressed. We had no intention of demolishing our building and starting again, but the Methodist Property Division and the District Commission called in to look at our situation thought otherwise! The advice given was 'pull it down and start again!'

This was, indeed, a challenge far bigger than anticipated, but our people felt it was from God, and after prayerful consideration, accepted this challenge.

At the outset, the enormity of the task came home to those involved (and at the time we were only talking about having to raise £750,000 – it rose to over £1.3m.). We were a group of people aware that we had little experience of tackling such a project, but we believed that when God calls, He enables – though, at the time, it





wasn't easy to see how this would come about!

God's hand in events soon became obvious. A link was made with a contact in Help the Aged (just sounding them out to see if we may qualify for a small grant!) and we learnt that in certain projects of benefit to the elderly, the Charity may offer support with the help of a fundraiser at no expense to the organisation. This was exciting news, but would we qualify?

The rest is history most of us know. After being guided by Help the Aged through a Feasibility Study, it was agreed our project did satisfy their criteria and Chris Hepworth was assigned to us as our fundraiser. He helped us produce a Business Plan and then worked alongside David Spracklen, Chairman of our Fundraising Team, sending letters of appeal to hundreds of Trusts and Charitable Organisations. Chris brought wise counsel from the wide experience of Help the Aged and supported David when

the going was tough...and, when it was really tough, introduced us to the Bradbury Foundation whose grant of £250,000 to our redevelopment fund really turned the tide! We are greatly indebted to them for all that they have done on our behalf.

Early on, the Redevelopment Team chose the slogan 'Building the Vision' to attach to our project, since then countless people have worked tirelessly towards building that vision. David Lambert, of Saunders, Architects, was appointed to design the building. His brief was difficult. Our site was small and we required space; he's achieved wonders. Bob Pickford and George Yates have, in turn. Chaired the Planning Team which bore great responsibility on behalf of the Church; Larry LaRiviere and Bob Jordan have liaised with the architect and contractors – an enormous task – I suspect at times they wondered if we were building St. Paul's Cathedral! Furniture has been moved out, and furniture will be moved in ~ man-power and

horse-power have been freely offered to these tasks. We have leafleted over 5000 homes in the locality giving them information about Broadstone Methodist Church Centre ~ people have folded these leaflets, others have walked the streets delivering them.

Thousands of pounds have been donated by our own people demonstrating their solidarity to the project. In addition, there have been countless fundraising events and we thank the many people who have organised and supported Fairs, concerts, shows, skittle evenings, line-dances...we even had a tea-dance, a sponsored swim and some sponsored dieting! We have had a variety of social gatherings, we've put on meals, eaten meals (and paid for them!) had Open-Air Theatre, made cakes, purchased cakes, painted pictures and sold pictures...in total our own Church has given or raised approaching half a million pounds. Together with the grants and donations from the Methodist Church and many Trusts and organisations, this building has been made possible. We acknowledge with gratitude the sacrificial giving of so many in both time and money.

Pat Talbot and his Operations Team now have the task of ensuring all that has been planned comes into being. Many helpers will be needed and it's another daunting situation, but we can look back and see where we've come from ~ with God's help, it can be done!

As we embark on the fulfilment of our vision to Share the Good News of Jesus and Serve the Community in our new suite of premises, to God be the glory!



**NEW BUILDING
2003-2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION**

FROM THE OLD TO THE NEW

COLOURED GLASS

The coloured glass panel between the Sanctuary and the Quiet Room was originally installed in the Broadstone Chapel in 1921.

It was given by Mr Osman Brown, an architect who lived in Dunyeats Road near the bowling green, in memory of his infant son.

Mr Brown designed an extension to the chapel in 1922, and his glass panel was retained in that and in subsequent extensions and now has pride of place in our rebuilt church.



ETCHED GLASS

The two panels, now hanging in the corridor outside the sanctuary, used to be the glass between the coffee lounge and the sanctuary in the old church. When that was demolished the panels were rescued and stored in a safe place but then, sadly, they were forgotten.

Recently we were reminded that they were there and now needed to be removed. As this coincided with the 20 year celebrations it was suggested that they could be framed and hung somewhere in the building. That proved to be something of a challenge due to hidden electrical cables. However after a great deal of thought and effort they now hang proudly in place. Many thanks to all involved in this challenging task. Do have a look at the wonderful designs.



TAPESTRY

The tapestry hanging in the church was made in 1990, and was originally in the old building. It was designed by Pam Wilson, who also supervised its creation, which involved very many members of the church community at that time - even if some did only a few background stitches. It represents aspects of life in Broadstone 100 years earlier when the first Methodist Church was built.

It now has a prominent position in the new sanctuary, and features in a recent guide to Poole, with the comment 'Forget life's rich tapestry; visit Broadstone's rich tapestry!' A leaflet with details of the scenes represented is available in the magazine stand.



PAINTING

In the corridor is a highly distinctive painting by members of the Tuesday evening Junior Club at the old building in October 2000. The youngsters were guided by Dennis Hill, but I'll leave its interpretation to you.



NEW BUILDING
2003–2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

KARIBUNI CHILDREN



When we started fundraising for the new building, we felt that it was important not to focus solely on our own financial needs, but to show support for a charitable project in the wider world at the same time. So it was agreed that 10% of funds raised locally by our own members and friends would be donated to the charity now named Karibuni Children, a small charity run by a Methodist minister and his family, who were known to some of our members.

her parents Corinne paid all her money at that time into the bank where the manager agreed to open an account for her charity with £2.56! Karibuni Children was registered as a UK charity in 1995 and has grown from there. The initial fundraiser was a sponsored bike ride from Edinburgh to London where she raised £13,500 – enough to start sending money to Kenya for an initial project. I remember Corinne, with her bike, coming onto the stage at the Royal Albert



This Charity began in an unusual way. In 1990 Rev Bill Murphy and his wife Joy and daughter Corinne took part in a 7 month exchange with a minister in Nairobi, Kenya. Corinne helped in the church pre-school nursery and was shocked by the number of children living on the streets. Three years later she suffered severe injuries in a car crash and as she was recovering the memory of those children came back to her. With support from

Hall during an MAYC London Weekend.

In the late Queen's Jubilee year Corinne was awarded the British Empire Medal for her charitable services to Kenya through the Karibuni Trust.

Today Karibuni partners professionally run projects in Kenya run by Kenyans many of whom have been educated by Karibuni support. There are nursery and primary schools and some wider community-based organisations geographically

dispersed across Kenya but all in deprived areas. The charity believes in the transformational power of education. Their objective is to help Kenyan children from some of the poorest backgrounds and release themselves from the cycle of poverty.

At any one time they are supporting around 700 children, living in slum communities, to go to school. This includes financial support, providing nutritious meals, uniforms, shoes, learning equipment and feminine hygiene products. They also seek to empower the wider family unit, supporting local developments of small workshops and classes.

Each year a small group of trustees and volunteers, covering their own costs, visit the major projects in Kenya to meet with key project partners, the families and also the young people who have completed their education.

We continue support with fundraising activities but, most importantly, with our prayers.

Joan Jackson

All images on this page ©Karibuni Children Photography: Nick Spollin – Gathering Voices UK

NEW BUILDING
2003-2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

OUR FURNITURE FAMILY

Mike Brooke talks to DENNIS HILL



There are seven items of church furniture that have an important place in the life of the church (apart from the chairs). One can't help but notice them every time we enter the sanctuary, but how much thought do we give to them? In design they are unique to our church even though one of the items has a different origin from the other six. These could be regarded as a family born out of the current church. They so well

reflect the architectural style of the building and yet retain a degree of individuality.

The family of six consists of the Pulpit, Altar Table, Lectern, Font, Bible Stand and Flower Pedestal. Traditionally these would be located at the eastern end of the church within the sanctuary but as our church is oriented north-south rather than east-west we find them at the south end within the area set aside for communion.

At the time the church was still a series of architectural drawings Rev George Yates approached Dennis Hill, then a church steward, with a view to designing four essential items: Altar Table, Pulpit, Lectern, and Font. Dennis, a highly respected local artist, accepted the challenge. Following close examination of several church furniture catalogues, Dennis decided it would be most appropriate if all the items were of a





contemporary style reflecting that of the proposed church.

Constructed in oak by a local firm, Church View Joinery, their simplicity and elegance are a lasting tribute to Dennis and all who were involved in the project. The only drawings that still exist are some sketches in one of Dennis' diaries and show the initial ideas for the Font. Looking at these it is hard to imagine that the finished item would be a unique and multi-functional feature that complements the Altar, Pulpit, and Lectern. Not only is it ideal for baptisms, but it can also serve as a pedestal for



flowers or other decorations. All four items were in place for the opening in December 2003.

It wasn't until June 2009 that the Bible Stand became part of the family. Carrying on with the simple but functional style it sits almost invisibly on the altar yet it is as important as its companions.

The final member of this family is the Flower Pedestal. It was completed in October 2013 in time for the church's 10th anniversary. It was donated by Leila Mears in remembrance of her husband, Rev Paul Mears, minister of the church from 1994 to 2001 and the person who 'drove the vision of our modern building'. It is a taller version of the font, and like all the other family members reflects, and even strengthens,

the strong architectural character of our church.

Finally, the cross. With hidden lighting and an elevated position on the South wall it overlooks the Sanctuary to act as a focus for our worship. It is a reminder not only of God's glory, but also of the sacrifice he made through the death of his Son so that we might be free.

Editorial Note

The first four pieces did not, originally, have the plinths as we see now but the height of the book slopes on the Pulpit and Lectern were found to be too low for taller people. The plinths were added, with shallow versions for the Altar and Font which did not need raising. The later Flower Pedestal was made to match.



**NEW BUILDING
2003-2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION**

DEVELOPING OUR LOGO

At the beginning of the 'Vision' thought was given to an inspiring identity which would focus both thinking and action.



The 'People on the Wall' image was created by Dennis Hill and from it Tee-shirts and Sweatshirts were produced. The 'Building the Vision' strapline was added to this and used as part of the fundraising campaign when people were invited to 'purchase a brick' and an acknowledging certificate was issued.



When the new building was nearing completion the Church Council made the decision that the new building should be called 'Broadstone Methodist Church Centre' and the signage, conforming to the standard Methodist identity was produced, as can be seen on the Noticeboard by the rear entrance and on the wall by the rear door.

At a meeting of the Communications Committee, after Rev Chris Moreton became our minister, it was suggested that we hold a competition to design a new identity. This was agreed by Church Council and the challenge was issued. Only a few members took this up and eventually the logo that we still use today was decided on. This links back to the 'People on the Wall' image, but now without the rows of building bricks and, during the intervening years, the word 'Centre' had been dropped from the name. The strapline 'the church in the community', which had been used from an early date, is included and 'tumbling blocks' have been added, which represent the various aspects of our mission and community involvement.

This logo has been in use for around ten years now and remains a positive identity.



NEW BUILDING
2003-2023

20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

CELEBRATION EVENTS

Anniversary Celebrations

When Di Skinner and Terry Millard were asked to organise the Anniversary Celebrations for the 20 years of our new church, they were very apprehensive, and took on the challenge with some reluctance. But what a splendid programme they laid on for us all! As well as the many memorable events, Di and Terry have arranged for 20th Anniversary t-shirts and pens to be made, a book of anniversary prayers to be published, and 20p coins to be collected.

Over the next few pages, we have pictures and articles about some of these events, to help those who went relive the enjoyment and community spirit they fostered, and to help those who didn't go realise what they missed!

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to Di and Terry for the effort they have put into this programme; but they would be the first to say that they wouldn't have been able to do this without a tremendous amount of support. Grateful thanks to all who have been involved in this successful community year!

The culmination of these celebrations is on Sunday 19 November, when our anniversary service of worship will be led by Rev Andrew de Ville, the Chair of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church, followed by an Anniversary Lunch in the Bradbury Hall.

QUIZ AND FISH 'N' CHIP SUPPER

Although it was the 1st April – April Fools Day – there was no foolishness when 67 people turned up in the evening for a General Knowledge Quiz with a Fish n Chip Supper.

It was lovely to hear the Bradbury Hall buzzing with so much chatter and banter but when it came to the start of the quiz you could hear a pin drop. The event was supported not only by church members but friends from the community.

We were grateful to the 'Chippie' on Canford Heath who supplied the fish n chips, a big undertaking for anyone.

The whole atmosphere of the evening took me back to prior 2003 when we were all fundraising, the camaraderie



and pulling together was amazing then.

Going forwards may we continue to organise and enjoy social evenings and truly be seen as *The Church in the Community*.

Di Baggs



EXBURY GARDENS



On a beautiful morning in May, Moira and I were given a lift in their car by John and Marilyn Greenaway to Exbury Gardens in Hampshire. It was a lovely ride as John took us on a scenic route through the New Forest. We arrived and checked in with Robert and Christine Maguire, and met



other friends from the church who had just arrived.

The gardens are at their best in May, with azaleas and

rhododendrons in full bloom. We wandered around admiring the flowers until we realised that we were quite hungry. Unfortunately, many others had the same idea, so the queue for food was long, but we eventually reached the counter, found a seat and enjoyed our snacks.

After lunch, we made our way to the steam railway, which was very popular and full of visitors, and just managed to get on the last carriage. This took us round one section of the grounds and was most enjoyable. We had a fantastic day, and thank all those who organised it in any way.

Ruth Baterson



BOAT TRIP

After many weeks of planning, on 17 June, 37 members and friends set off, just before seven, from Poole harbour for an evening boat trip to Wareham and back. Flaming June it was not and for most it was warm jumpers and wet weather gear to protect us from the elements. For those who had selected it a fish and chip supper was enjoyed at the harbour before setting off.



The duration of the trip to Wareham was about one and a quarter hours and provided views across the harbour and its many facilities. We travelled on to pass Brownsea and other islands to the west of the harbour before entering the Wareham channel. This narrows the further you venture up the river and with many boats moored on either side did not leave a lot of space to manoeuvre.

On arrival at Wareham a private boat had parked in the



reserved place for ours and we had a slight delay while this was moved by the owner before we could land. An hour was set aside to do as we wished, with strict instructions

to be back on board by the departure time or we would be stranded in Wareham. Some chose to walk around the area but many stayed and made use of the various hostleries near by.

The return trip was a reverse of our outward journey and as the light faded the lights in and around the harbour cast interesting patterns across the water. We returned to the dock about 10.30 having spent an enjoyable evening in pleasant company. It was a shame



about the weather but in the end did not detract from our time together.

Alison and Bob Jordan

GARDEN PARTY and 20 CHALLENGES

The afternoon of 23 July turned up as a really hot afternoon for the whole Church family to come together for fun and games as the culmination of the 'complete 20 things' with the opportunity to give it a go to throw 20 bean bags or shoot the bagatelle 20 times or something similar for people to complete their individual challenges.

Almost all the children connected to our church, one



way or another, came along with their families, from Junior Church, Thirsty Thursday, Messy Church, and additional grandchildren. There was a really happy atmosphere with the more



senior church members challenging the younger ones to some of the games on offer.

Lastly there was the opportunity to adjourn to the cool of the coffee lounge to enjoy a cream tea and cakes, with all the tables filled and where the hub-bub of people catching up was deafening. An excellent afternoon.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to its success.

Lynda Hurrell



MURDER ON THE SWANAGE EXPRESS

Passengers arriving for the 19.00 departure of the Swanage Express on 23 September were warmly greeted with a glass of bubbly (non-alcoholic of course) orange juice, before being transported back in time to the 1920's. Many added to the atmosphere by dressing in suitable 1920-1930's costumes.

After being welcomed by Rev Karen James, the evening proceeded in three stages; the first being a table quiz with the theme of Films and Television Programmes involving a wide range of detectives from across two decades. Much lively discussion took place. A second imaginative Music quiz followed with tantalising snippets from television detective theme tunes. While some tables pondered, we were delighted to have a clear outright winning table who obviously take their television viewing very seriously!

With tea and coffee flowing plus nibbles, our "little grey cells" were put to work as we



moved to the main stage of the evening. A dastardly murder had been committed in a railway carriage (off stage). Seven characters, all of whom were related or associated to the deceased, appeared in costume on the stage. Each gave their convincing account of why they could not have possibly committed the crime. Brendan Cox, on AV, provided steam locomotive sounds and pictures. The audience, around their tables,

deliberated and discussed the evidence to decide upon their verdict. Those taking part were: Richard Ayres, David Endicott, Marilyn Greenaway, Susan Hill, Hazel and Peter Humphreys, and Hilary Morgan.

Grateful thanks to Roseanne Field for arranging, organising and compering the evening. Much laughter was heard throughout and a happy atmosphere pervaded.

Linda Chester



CHURCH TREASURE HUNT

The weather was very kind to us that Sunday afternoon and the Treasure Hunt was fun and not too difficult. It was suitable for anyone with the ability to walk around the centre of Broadstone in search of the answers to the 20 clues which had been set by Colin and Bailey.

On arrival back at the Church Coffee Lounge they joined those folk who did not attempt the walk where they had another Quiz set by Mike Brooke matching photographs to the answers of the clues.



Tea/coffee and delicious cakes were enjoyed. After the answers of the Treasure Hunt were announced the winner was decided on a tie-break question.

Audrey Hugill



HARVEST FESTIVAL and Display of 20 pence pieces

Our Harvest Service was led by Dr Julian Tawn with gifts for the local Food Bank being brought before and during the service. Money donations were also made to All We Can, the Methodist charity supporting families and communities worldwide.



During the service the children also added to the display of 20 pence pieces which had been donated to the Anniversary Appeal for charity.

Following the service members enjoyed a Harvest meal together in the Bradbury Hall.



SUNFLOWERS

These sunflowers are in my garden. I bought the seeds for them at the Craft Fair for the sunflower growing competition which, unfortunately, didn't happen.

Many flowers are thought of as having a specific meaning and significance. Sunflowers are seen as spiritual flowers that symbolise Faith and Adoration.

Pam Preston



BOOK OF PRAYERS

written by church members



NEW BUILDING
2003-2023
20TH
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION

THE CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY

ALISON and MARTIN The First Wedding in the new church



It all began with a phone call to the Rev Robert McBain to arrange a 'get to know you' meeting. We thought we would look at plans of the new church but were in fact "interviewed" by Robert (in the nicest possible way!).

We began our worship journey with Broadstone Methodist Church as the new church building was being completed. We were very

warmly welcomed by the whole church but especially, Hazel and Benny, Joan and Roger and David and his late wife Jill. We served as members on the Social Committee and various rotas such as coffee and flowers.

We were married in July 2004. A big thank you to you Robert! We were blessed on the day by beautiful weather with sun streaming in the large west window. We remember that we were very well supported by the Broadstone Methodist Church team on our special day and everything ran very smoothly. We have featured a photo of us both in the new church and under the old fir tree at the front, which sadly was removed some years later on safety grounds.

It was very lively outside the church as the congregation spilled out into the "toast rack" for photos and to see us depart in our vintage wedding car. We remember we were also joined by members of the local Brownie pack who were in the church on the same day.

After a period of worship at All Saints in Branksome, we

have now returned to worship at Broadstone. The chairs and carpets and the overall fabric of the building still look the same as they did nearly 20 years ago! Very well done to the planners/purchasers at the time. The welcome back by familiar faces is as warm as our initial welcome and we look forward to rekindling old relationships as we continue our worship with you.

*Alison and
Martin*



FROM ANNIVERSARY TREE TO ECO-FRIENDLY GARDEN

a Journey in pictures

The Starting Point



A choice: Flowering Cherry



or Acer?



The work begins



The Acer was chosen and planted



The planting begins along with more clearance of old and dead shrubs



Wildlife is attracted to the bare soil and the luxury 20-room bug hotel and we have our first crab apples



KNIT & NATTER ENGAGING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

The Knit and Natter Group was started in 2015, and so is a relative newcomer to our community activities. All the same, the groups has joined in enthusiastically with the 20th Anniversary Celebrations.

We took part in the Easter Craft Fair that was held in the church in March. It was nice to see so many people coming into the church to support local crafters and small businesses with their various crafts. We were truly blessed that so many people were able to showcase their work and talents in crafting.

It has been medically proven that knitting and crocheting has five mental health and wellbeing benefits. These include:

Reducing stress and anxiety – the relaxing rhythm can help reduce mental symptoms.

Good for memory and ability to focus – it stimulates the brain keeping it active as you follow a pattern.

Improves social skills and boosts self confidence –it reduces loneliness and isolation.

Breaks your unhealthy patterns and keeps you busy – by keeping the hands busy, it can help stop reaching for unhealthy snacks, cigarettes or alcohol.

It is a way to give back – whether you are making a project for a loved one or a charity it is a way to give your time or share your expertise, giving you a sense of wellbeing.

A man at work, making something which he feels will exist because he is working at it and wills it, is exercising the energies of his mind and soul as well as of his body. Memory and imagination help him as he works. *William Morris*

We at the group already know the benefits, as we continue to meet over a tea or coffee in friendship, supporting each other with our vast experience and knowledge. You may have noticed the group sitting outside the church, taking part in *World Wide Knit in Public Day* on Saturday 10 June. We were very lucky with the weather as we sat under the gazebo, knitting and crocheting and were able to show the many people of Broadstone the various items that we make.



Those with eager eyes might have also noticed that King Charles and Queen Camilla came to visit for a short while. I think they must have heard about our 20th anniversary celebrations and wanted to join in!

Please watch this space for more activity in front of the church.



WENDY HOUSE

The Wendy House Toddlers Group is held on each Thursday of the week. After closure during Covid, we started back in September 2022 and had to rebuild. Of course, many of the children we had in the group (0 - 4 years) had started at primary school, so at first we were low in numbers. However, once word got around that we were

open again, parents, grandparents and carers started to come and bring their children. We now have around a dozen who come most weeks, and some who come now and again.

The children arrive at 10am and for the first hour they play with toys and equipment which has been put out by the Guide group the evening



WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

It may be a sign that I'm growing old but how things have changed in the last 20 years! There are now so many things for youngsters to do, and not just on a Sunday.

We've seen many changes in our work with young people over this time, as we've reached out to meet the needs of our community. Some, such as Junior Club and Holiday Club flourished for a number of years, but came to the end of their attractiveness to young people; others, such as Family Film Night, became victims of Covid; but some, such as Junior Church, carry on and we pray for their continuation. Here's a review of some of the more significant activities.

Messy Church

2011 saw the beginning of Messy Church, first of all on a Sunday afternoon and then moving to meet, usually on a Thursday morning, in each of the school holidays. Messy Church offers craft activities, all based on a theme, games, a short worship session in the sanctuary, followed by a snack lunch which usually includes a food item made during the activity session. Drinks are available throughout the morning. Parents and carers have the opportunity to help their youngsters with all the 10 different things to do. Numbers vary – the largest number we served with lunch was around 120! – now we are around the 40 mark with some people having to leave before lunch.

Children and Families Worker

In 2014 we were delighted to be able to appoint Karen Greene to be our Children and Families Worker providing more opportunities for work with families. Karen was able to make a big contribution with local schools, helping with their assemblies and building strong relationships.



Thirsty Thursday

This developed as a weekly after-school gathering with cookies and drinks, games and story time. Thirsty Thursday continues – now in the Bradbury Hall with Chocolate Brownies proving very popular!

Friday Night on Broadway

Broadway was another development offering a meal,

games for the children and the opportunity for parents, carers and other adults to share concerns and discuss relevant issues, to foster our vision to be church in the community.



Where do we go from here?

Sadly, 2020 saw the covid pandemic, and we were unable to give a proper farewell to Karen after her 6 years fostering our work with young people. Covid meant that we wouldn't replace her at the time, and for a number of reasons we haven't been able to do so since, but that is a possibility for the future. Our engagement with children and young people must feature strongly in discussion on our future role. New opportunities have come along with Musical Market days and Family Fun days, and we all need to think positively about how we can best meet the challenges of the future.

In the words of the hymn:
*We'll praise Him for all that is past
and trust Him for all that's to come.*

Joan Jackson

before (we are most grateful to the Guides for doing this each week). Around 11am we sit everyone in a semicircle and have a story, usually about farms and animals (all the children love the idea of living on a farm), and the children are, in spite of their age, usually very attentive. After that we have songs, a band with simple instruments in



which they participate with enthusiasm, and more songs at the end. The final song is always 'Twinkle, twinkle, little star', accompanied by lots of bubbles blown into the air by the leaders. After a happy morning together, we say goodbye to the children and parents/carers.

Jacky and Lynda



MOVING FORWARD

20 YEARS OF BROADSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

When I moved to Broadstone, just over two years ago, I knew very little about the church. It has been interesting to listen to those who have been here for many years and hear how it was decided that new premises were needed because the old premises no longer met the needs of the people.

Going along to the coffee lounge has enabled me to learn so much. Once the decision had been made, many people gave their time to raise money by doing various things, including making cakes and hosting meals. I understand that coffee mornings were a regular feature

in the old building and they played an important part. Others were able to use their gifts in different ways, using their time when someone was needed on site or contacting others who could help. I have learnt of offers of large donations towards the building, of obstacles that had to be overcome. The final result was this wonderful building.

I cannot imagine that it all happened without any difficulties or cross words because we are fallible humans, but what wonderful premises the church has enjoyed for these twenty years as well as being blessed

with a marvellous situation within the community.

But what of the future? – the next twenty years? Many of those who worked so hard are no longer alive or are no longer able to play an active part in the life of the church, but we thank God for all their hard work and the example they set us.

Now those of us here today must take our place and play our part in using these wonderful premises for the glory of God and so enable His work in Broadstone to continue.

Gloria Dennigan

NEW BUILDING
2003-2023

20TH
ANNIVERSARY

SERVICE
with Holy Communion

Celebrant and Preacher
Rev Andrew de Ville
Chair of Southampton District

Sunday 19 November
10.30am

Followed by
Anniversary Lunch

★

THE BROADSTONE CHOIR
**CHRISTMAS
CONCERT**

PERGOLESI *MAGNIFICAT*
HANDEL *HALLELUJAH CHORUS*
BRITTEN *NEW YEAR CAROL*
AND OTHER AUDIENCE & CHOIR CAROLS

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: IVY TAN
ORGANIST: JOHN RADFORD

7.30PM SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2023
BROADSTONE METHODIST CHURCH
TICKETS £15 (UNDER-18s: £8)

from Bob Williams at bobwilliams100@gmail.com or on the door, including refreshments
NEXT CONCERT: MOZART REQUIEM 30TH MARCH 2024:
NEW SINGERS WELCOME TO JOIN
Charity number 1107077; <https://the-broadstone-choir.mailchimp.com>

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT 20 YEARS

'Looking forward to the next 20 years' was the brief I was given to use or not to use for my article for the 20th anniversary of Broadstone Methodist Church since the re-build of the church.

I don't know that I should look forward to the next 20 years and try and say what they may hold for the church, because 20 years ago I would never have said that I would leave family and the sunshine of South Africa as an Ordained Deacon to minister in England where it rains 133 days a year; which confirms what our Lord God says through the prophet Isaiah in chapter 55 verses 8 and 9, *'for My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.'*

But what I do know concerning the next 20 years of ministry for Broadstone

Methodist Church is that God *Knows the thoughts and plans He has for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare (for prosperity) and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome'* (Jeremiah 29:11). God also says in the New Testament, in Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus, chapter 2, verse 10, *'For we are God's own handiwork (His workmanship) recreated in Christ Jesus that we may do those good works which God predestined for us, that we should walk in them.'* And you might be saying to yourself, 'Well that is all well and good, Gill, but how do we know what way is God's way? Or what are the good works God has predestined for us?' You know, when you know someone very well like your partner or spouse, you sometimes finish their sentences or you know what they're thinking; well it is the same with God, the more time we

spend with Him in prayer, in His Word, in stillness the more we will become familiar with His ways, and the good works He has predestined for us. Think about it for a moment, God told Noah how to build the ark, He directed Abraham and told him He was planning to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. I believe God wants us to know what His way is, and what are the good works He has planned for us to do so we can, like our Saviour Jesus, be about our Father's business.

I think we can all look forward to the next 20 years with expectancy. As for me, of all things I can hope for, for Broadstone Methodist Church in the next 20 years, is more of Jesus.

With blessings for today and bright hope for tomorrow

Deacon Gill



Christmas 2023

Saturday 2 December
Musical Market and Christmas Parade

Sunday 17 December
6.30pm **Carol Service** with Rev Karen James

Thursday 21 December
Messy Church 10am-12.30pm

Friday 22 December
11.00am **Carols and Cakes** in the Coffee Lounge

CHRISTMAS EVE Sunday 24 December
10.30am **Christmas Celebration**
11.30pm **Christmas Communion**
at Broadstone United Reformed Church

CHRISTMAS DAY Monday 25 December
10.30am **Christmas Day Celebration**
with Deacon Gill Judge

Sunday 31 December
10.30am **Favourite Carols and Poems**
at Broadstone Methodist Church
except where shown

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



JUNIOR CHURCH

Children are welcome to our Sunday morning services.

They join in the first part of the service and then go out to their own sessions where they take part in activities related to a Bible passage.

WENDY HOUSE

Our popular Wendy House toddler group (for babies and toddlers up to 3+ and their parent or carer) has restarted. It runs every Thursday, in term time, from 10am to 11.30am.



Story Time

THIRSTY THURSDAY

For school age children with a parent or carer, every Thursday in term time, after school until 4.15pm.

Refreshments, football, crafts, Godly play, and recently, bird feeding and bulb planting.



Meets once during each school holiday
All ages welcome with an accompanying parent or carer
The next is on **Thursday 21 December**
10am to 12.30pm
Light lunch included
Do come and join us at the Church for crafts and related activities

For Wendy House, Thirsty Thursday, and Messy Church, please enter by the back entrance of the Church from the car park. For the other events please use either entrance.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Weekly at 10.30am

(Holy Communion as announced)

with Junior Church and
Crèche at the same time

All are welcome

Tea and Coffee served after the Service

We also offer
Evening Worship
on Zoom

or a

Written and
Recorded Service

each week

Contact the Church Office for details

Tel: 01202 600696

Email: methodistchurch1@btinternet.com

Broadstone Methodist Church

COFFEE LOUNGE

for Fellowship and Refreshments

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Friday and Saturday each week**

apart from Bank Holidays

10.00am–12.00 noon

We look forward to seeing you and enjoying
chatting over a cuppa!



Sunday 28 January 2024
4.00pm

Churches Together
in Broadstone

**OPEN
FORUM**

with our local clergy

Knit & Natter

Mondays 10.00am – 12 noon
in the Sanctuary

Badminton Group

Mondays from 7.30–9.30pm
in the Bradbury Hall

Thursday Afternoon Group

2.30–4.30pm
in the Coffee Lounge

Currently monthly on first Thursday

STEPPING STONES DROP-IN

Second Friday of every month
2.30 – 4pm
in the Coffee Lounge

The next issue of



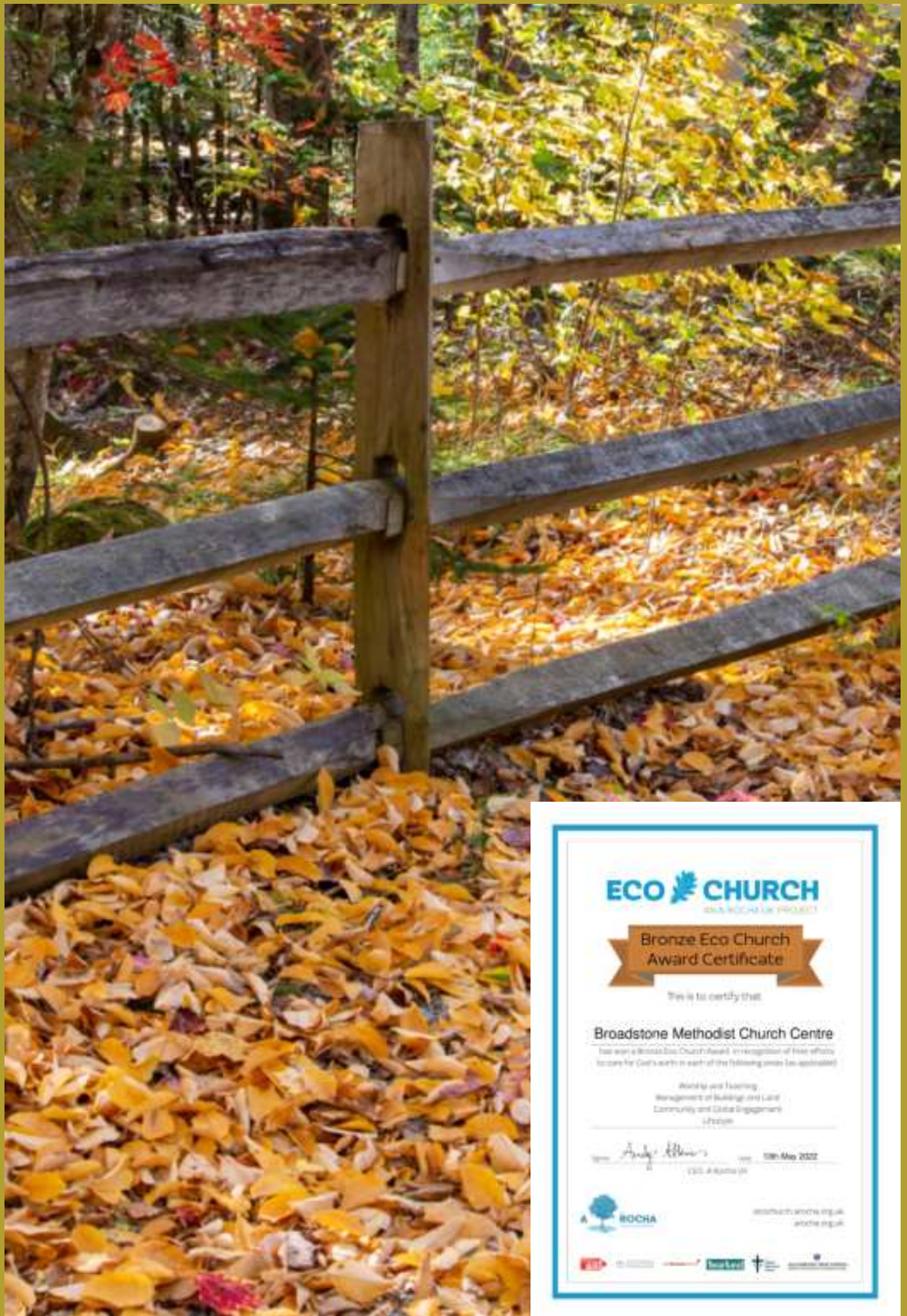
is planned to be published on
Sunday 3 March 2024

Articles, photographs and other contributions
should be submitted to the editors by

Sunday 4 February 2024

CARERS' GROUP

Second Thursday of every month
2.00 – 4pm
in the Coffee Lounge



ECO CHURCH
AND ROCHA UK PROJECT

**Bronze Eco Church
Award Certificate**

This is to certify that

Broadstone Methodist Church Centre

has won a Bronze Eco Church Award in recognition of their efforts
to care for God's world in each of the following areas (as applicable)

Worship and Teaching
Management of Buildings and Land
Community and Global Engagement
Education

Signed: *Andy Allister* on 10th May 2022
CEO, A Rocha UK



www.brothc.org.uk
brothc.org.uk

