

Pivot



The Magazine of

Broadstone Methodist Church



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CONTENTS

page

Happy New Methodist Year 3

Remembering 4

Sidney Anderson 5

Annette Brooke 6

Farewell from Rev Tony 7

Harvest Festival 7

Church Anniversary 7

Celebrations 8

The Return of the Allens 10

Forward Planning! 11

My African Adventure 12

– The Experience 12

Claire says Farewell 14

Nikki Joins the Team 14

Ioan's Prayer 15

Messy Church 15

Broadstone Fun Day 15

Church Garden Party 16

Remembering VJ Day 16

Table Tennis 18

Knit and Natter 18

Eco Church 19

Cafe Church 20

Children's Page 21

Regular Activities 22-23

and Meetings 22-23

EDITORIAL

This Autumn edition of *Pivot* began without a theme, but we have seen a theme emerge as events and articles have come together.

So, we invite you to ponder life's positives and negatives marking both community and individual milestones and achievements. It can sometimes be easy to miss out on significant events but the articles in this edition remind us that they are happening all around us on a regular basis.

Even the life of a magazine has its highs and lows. *Pivot's* predecessor, the *Link* (edited and produced by Sidney Anderson), was highly successful in communicating to church members. *Pivot* was seen as a different way of reaching out to the wider Broadstone community. In September 2012, with Andy Shenton as editor, the first edition was published. Andy moved on and in December 2015, with issue number 14, Annette, David and Brian began sharing the editorial role.

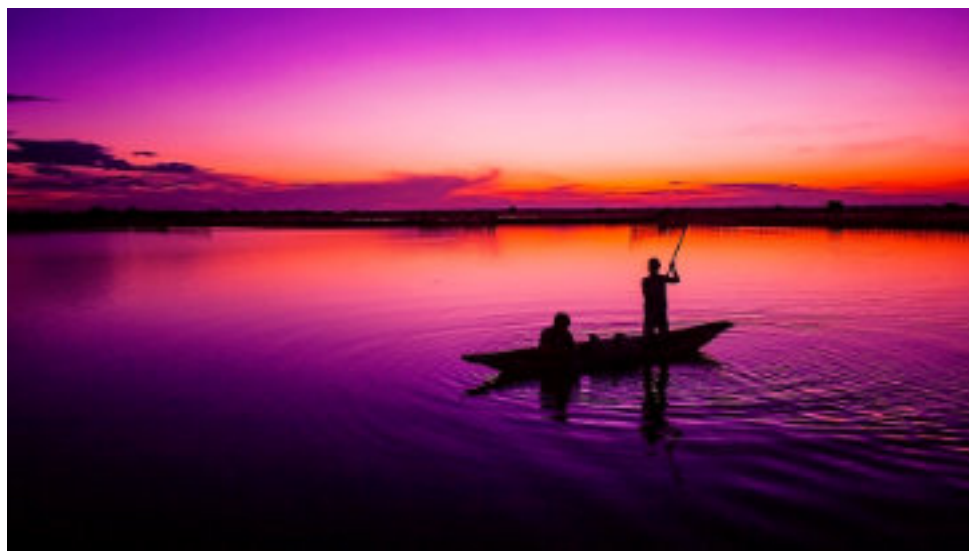
Now, 10 years on, we are saddened by the death of Annette, who was always full of enthusiasm and ideas for content, and we face the need to consider how we continue; indeed, if we can continue. We will need to talk with the Church Leadership Team and, hopefully, see a way forward for our much admired magazine. *Perhaps you have ideas to contribute to this discussion – do talk to us or the CLT.*

Thank you for your continuing support and contributions to *Pivot*.

We hope you will find something stimulating and worthwhile in this edition.

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Happy New Methodist Year

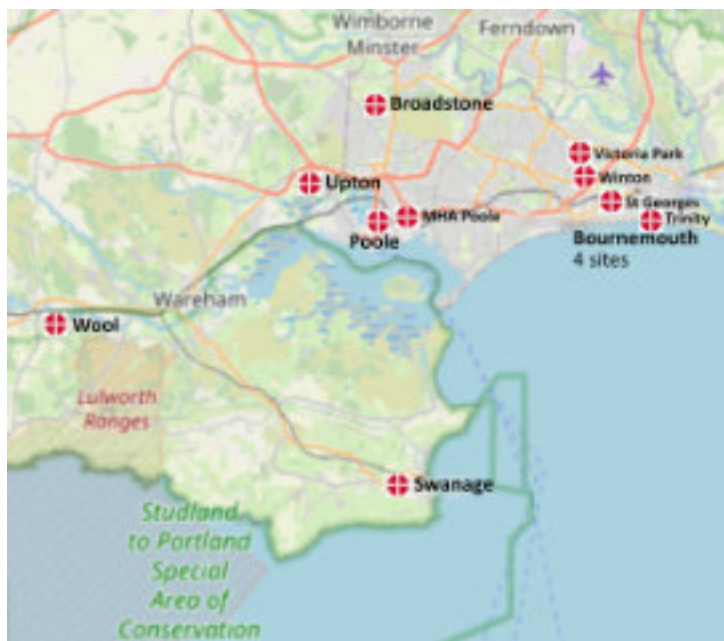
Rev Karen James



Dear Friends,

As September rolls around once more, I wonder how you are feeling about it? Thankful that familiar routines are returning, excited for (or anxious about) a new start, looking forward to a quieter getaway, or perhaps this month is just like any other.

Within the Methodist church, 1 September marks the start of the Connexional New Year. (The British Methodist Connexion is made up of all the districts of Scotland, Wales, and England, along with the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands and Shetland. From the smallest local church to the largest district we are connected together. Connexion is how ‘connection’ was spelt in the 18th century).



Broadstone Methodist Church is part of the Poole Bay Circuit (which stretches around from Bournemouth to Swanage), and we are seeing some changes this year. In July we said goodbye to Tony Cavanagh who had been Superintendent of the circuit for twelve years, and Deacons Suzie and Gill. They will be taking up new positions from

September. My colleague Sarah and I will be taking on the role of Co-Superintendents alongside our pastoral charge of the local churches. We will also be joined by a new colleague Reverend Gill who will have charge of the Bournemouth Church.

It is an exciting time. We are looking forward to exploring new possibilities and building on the foundations that we have been gifted. There is an element of trepidation; there is a lot of ‘newness’ in this change but there is also an ‘openness’ present as well. With the role there will be new, and at times demanding, responsibilities but there will also be chances to enable churches to build on the service to and care for the community of which they are a part. In doing so hopefully reflecting some expression of God’s love.

The opening verse of Chapter 3 from Ecclesiastes (in the Old Testament) reads “There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens”, before continuing with a comprehensive list of examples.

Things will be different, they may take time to adjust too, but difference can also energise and stir things up, letting us discover new opportunities and abilities. Allowing us to recognise the season in which we find ourselves and accept the work and who we are in this particular moment.

September is a month that oozes expectations and huge changes – it can, if we let it, be an overwhelming month. But everything has its time and its season – do not forget to live in the moment and to find those seasons of joy.

Every blessing

Rev Karen

Memories of my Dad, Sidney Charles Anderson

Susan Anderson

Dad was born on the 6 August 1927 in Beckenham, Kent; he was the eldest son of Sidney Frederick Anderson, a butcher, and Florence Dorothy Anderson nee Foster. He had two brothers, David, who died of polio aged 11 and Peter, who died five years ago.

Dad met my mum, Gwendaline Johnson, when her family moved to Windsor; they married at Alma Road Methodist Church on 20 May 1950.

Dad was in the RAF as a Flight Mechanic on Spitfire Engines and Meteors. When he came out of the RAF, he worked as a Bank Clerk in Worcester at the Midland Bank.

They moved to the village of Peopleton, near Pershore, in 1952. I was born in 1953 followed by my brother David who was born in 1956. Sadly, my mother died in 1986 and my brother in 2019.

Dad worked his way up the ladder in the Bank and our next move was to Wootton Waven, Warwickshire, where he worked in Henley in Arden. In 1963, we moved to Maidenhead,



where Dad was appointed as an Accountant.

In 1966 we moved again to Tring, Hertfordshire, where Dad had been appointed the Manager. At Tring Methodist Church he was both a Steward and Treasurer. Additionally, he belonged to the Prison Fellowship and he visited

prisoners in their cell at Bovington Youth Custody Centre.

We came to Broadstone in 1989. Initially he told the Church that he did not want to be a Steward, but soon took on that role. He also audited accounts for various Churches and Charities.

He joined the Gideons and worked on their behalf for a number of years and he also belonged to the Rotary.

My Dad faced his final illness with quiet strength. He rarely complained, drawing deep comfort from his strong faith, which carried him through even during the most difficult moments.

Dad passed away peacefully on 11 March 2025 at Forest Holme Hospice. He is now reunited with my Mum and my brother David.

I would like to thank everyone in the Church for their support and also the Rev Chris Moreton for his support throughout this difficult time.

I will miss Dad very much as I am sure many of you will.

Many of you will remember Sidney; perhaps fewer will remember the enormous contribution he made to this church for many years in producing the weekly notices at home on his own photocopier. He also produced the monthly *Link* magazine, predecessor to *Pivot*, for a number of years. This was a multi-page A5 publication which was delivered already collated, stapled and folded.

Sidney made his photocopying services available to other churches and organisations in the area too, which was widely used and appreciated.

We give thanks for such generosity and dedication to his Lord.

Editors

Annette Brooke

1947 – 2025

David Spracklen

We deeply mourn the loss of Annette, who died on the 20 August.

Annette has been many things in her life – a teacher at Talbot Heath School, a lecturer at the Open University, a local councillor, Mayor of Poole, Member of Parliament, a wife, mother and grandmother, a loving and compassionate friend, a committed supporter of everyone in the local community, a valued member of Broadstone Methodist Church. On top of all these, she has been co-editor of this magazine for many years.

We shall all miss her. Our lives are all diminished by her death.



Farewell

Rev Tony
Cavanagh



Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, I am filled with emotion—gratitude for the years we have shared together, sorrow at this goodbye, and hope for the future that God continues to unfold for us all, you here in the Poole Bay Circuit, and myself and Mandy, in our new Circuit, the Gatwick and Mole Valley Circuit.

It is never easy to say goodbye to a community that has become not just a congregation, but a Circuit family. I have been profoundly blessed to walk alongside you through times of joy, sorrow, growth, and transformation, and my heart is full as I reflect on all we have experienced and been through together.

When I first arrived here, we were overwhelmed by your hospitality and warmth, initially of course that was in the former Bournemouth Circuit, but after two years that same warmth and hospitality was evident across the new Circuit, when the Poole and Swanage Circuit joined in that journey. We were truly welcomed.

I remember those first Sundays – learning names, hearing stories, and discovering the unique tapestry that makes up this beloved Circuit. Over the years, as your Superintendent, I have witnessed remarkable acts of kindness and courage. Together, we have worshipped in spirit and in truth; we have served our neighbours in need; we have celebrated milestones and mourned losses; we have come through a Pandemic, and always we have learned what it means to be the body of Christ in this time and place.

I am grateful for the many ways you have supported and encouraged me – through your words of affirmation, your willingness to try new things, your openness to the movement of the Holy Spirit, and your grace and offering of forgiveness when I have stumbled or failed. I have grown as a minister and as a person because of our time together. Thank you for entrusting me with your stories, your prayers,

and your lives, and allowing me to accompany you on your journey of faith.

As I face the daunting task of packing up my study next week (as I write this), I cannot help but recall the moments that will stay with me for a lifetime: the quiet mornings in the sanctuary before worship, the laughter of children during Sunday School, uniformed organisation meetings and holiday events; the shared meals and fellowship, the sacred silence as we gathered around the Lord's Table, united by grace; the music – sometimes triumphant, sometimes gentle, always heartfelt – that has lifted our spirits and enabled us to worship our loving God.

I remember baptisms and confirmations, where as a church we welcomed new members into the family of faith. I think of weddings where we witnessed promises of love and fidelity. I remember hospital visits and home communions, where God's presence was tangible even in the midst of pain, uncertainty or sorrow. I remember funerals, too, where in moments of trust and togetherness, we have wept together, held hands, and proclaimed our hope in the resurrection.

However, no community is without its struggles, and our Circuit has been no exception. We have faced times of disagreement, loss, and uncertainty. There have been moments when the path ahead seemed unclear, when challenges threatened to overshadow our sense of purpose. Yet, even in those times, I have seen the strength of your faith and your commitment to one another. Through prayer, honest conversations, and mutual forgiveness, we have found our way to this time and space. I am deeply grateful for your resilience and willingness to grow – together and individually.

I must also express my heartfelt thanks to the church leadership teams – Circuit Stewards, colleagues, and all who give their time and talents to the life of this Circuit family. Your dedication has

been a constant source of encouragement and inspiration to me, and I thank you all for that.

Now, as I prepare to leave, with the Farewell Service this coming Sunday, I am mindful that what we have is not built upon any one person, but upon Jesus, our sure foundation. Ministers, they come and go, but the mission and ministry of this Circuit continues. I have every confidence that you will welcome Rev Sarah and Rev Karen as your new Superintendents, and Rev Gill as a new member of the staff team, even as you continue to work with others, Deacon Gill, Rev Chris and Dr Julian, together with the office team who support you in all you do, often behind the scenes. I know that you will do that with the same love and openness that you extended to me. I pray that you will support and encourage them as you have done me—sharing your ideas, your hopes, and your prayers along the way.

Though our journeys now take us in different directions, I know and trust that God will be with you and continue to guide you in all you seek to be and do, just as I know he will with me too. The seeds we have sown together – of faith, hope, and love – will continue to bear fruit. Change is never easy, but it is often the context in which God does His most creative and surprising work.

Friends, I will carry you in my heart and prayers wherever I go. I will eagerly await news of your continued growth and faithfulness. Please know that the bonds we have formed are not easily severed by distance or circumstance; they are woven together in Christ, who connects us all.

And so, I finish with the words of that amazing hymn of faith, penned by Joseph Hart. A hymn that I often turn too, but especially at times of change like we now experience:

*This, this is the God we adore,
Our faithful, unchangeable friend,
Whose love is as great as His power,
And knows neither measure nor end.*

*'Tis Jesus, the first and the last,
Whose Spirit shall guide us safe Home;
We'll praise Him for all that is past,
And trust Him for all that's to come.*

God Bless you my friends and always be assured of my love and prayers for you. Please hold Mandy and I in your prayers too as we both begin our new roles in Horsham.

Rev Tony

Former Superintendent Minister, Poole Bay Circuit

Harvest Festival



Sunday 28 September
10.30am

led by our own minister
Rev Karen James

followed by Lunch in The Bradbury Hall

Church Anniversary Celebration Worship

23 November
10.30am

led by
Rev Rachel Bending

You may remember the uplifting service led by Rev Andrew de Ville, Chair of the Southampton District,

at our Anniversary Celebrations two years ago.

Rachel took Andrew's place as District Chair in September 2024, having previously been Superintendent of the Ealing Trinity Circuit in SW London

We look forward to welcoming her to Broadstone

followed by

Anniversary Lunch

Celebrations

Gloria Dennigan



PAT AND BARBARA TALBOT

On 21 June a surprise party was held at the church for Pat and Barbara Talbot, arranged by their grandsons – and it was a great surprise for both of them! It was to celebrate Barbara's 90th that day and an early celebration for their Platinum Anniversary on 24 September, when some family members could not be there. Pat and Barbara were thrilled to actually have all their grandsons and great grandson together in one place, as this had never happened before.

Barbara was born in Bourne Valley Road Branksome, attended St Aldhelm's School and Parkstone Grammar School. She left school at 15 and worked as a GPO Telephonist at Westbourne Exchange.



Both Pat and Barbara are local to Poole. Pat was born in Cornelia Crescent, Branksome and attended St Joseph's Catholic School, (although not a Catholic). He was in the choir at St John's Anglican Church, Surrey Road. He left school at 14 and joined Bournemouth Electric Company which later became Southern Electric.

SHEILA LA RIVIÈRE

On Saturday 26 July a party was held at *The Potteries* for Sheila La Rivière's 90th Birthday.

We are so pleased that Sheila continues to worship at Broadstone. She and her late husband, Larry, have been connected with this church since they moved to this area many years ago when their children were small. They worked hard to help build the congregation as well as being actively involved in the new church building.





Barbara continues

On the 24th of September this year (God willing) Pat and I will celebrate our 70th Wedding Anniversary and I have been looking at how it all started. Although we lived very near to each other we met in the early fifties at St John's Church Surrey Road Youth Club, became a couple in 1953 following Pat's National Service, got engaged in 1954 and married in September 1955, living in my parent's four bedroomed house in Bourne Valley Road where Ian was born in October 1956 and Tricia in October 1959.

In 1960 we moved to Yeovil due to Pat's promotion within Southern Electricity and it was in Somerset that his life of serving the community really began. In 1963 I, together with two of my neighbours, joined the Women's Auxiliary Fire Service, where I learned to drive, went on exercises and where I remained until its disbandment some years later. Pat became a member of the Yeovil Without Parish Council closely

followed by joining the Royal British Legion Welfare Committee. In 1976 he became a Yeovil District Councillor being a member of the Housing and Works Committees. Soon after he became involved with the building of the new Crematorium in Yeovil, so that people did not have to travel to either Weymouth or Bath.

Pat also served on the Board of Management for Johnson Park, our local sports centre, became a Tax Commissioner and was a founder member of Birchfield Community Centre which, in 1977 for the Queen's Jubilee, decided to build a Community Hall to serve the east side of Yeovil where there were inadequate facilities. To this end they demolished an army hut on the west side of Yeovil and transported it and rebuilt it on the east side. Some three years later the Yeovil Town Council required the site for a new Doctors' Surgery and, after some negotiation, they offered Birchfield £30,000 and a site on the opposite side of the road. This enabled the purpose built

premises which still exist to this day and has one of its meeting rooms named the Talbot Room. Meanwhile I worked as Housing Officer for South Somerset District Council, brought up the family, made sure Pat was in the right place at the right time with the right paperwork and played skittles once a week in the Yeovil League (behind every great man, etc!).

In 1987 SSE closed the Yeovil office and transferred the staff to Bourne Valley, just a few yards from where I was born, and where we had started our married life. We also returned to the house his Grandfather had bought in 1939 in Lower Blandford Road, Broadstone.

After a serious illness Pat retired prematurely in 1991. One Saturday morning we found ourselves outside of the old Methodist Chapel where they were holding their Autumn Fair in aid of building a new church. We went to look for second hand books. Returning in the afternoon searching for jigsaws, Pat had two goes at guessing how long Hazel Rodenhurst had taken to paint a picture. He also picked up a copy of their Business Plan for the new premises. On Saturday evening I received a call to say I had won the picture and we duly arrived at church the following morning to collect the same. We were made so welcome and Pat was so taken with the plans for the new building that he got involved with the project and both of us have enjoyed taking part in the running of the premises. On completion of the new church Pat carried out the booking system for nearly four years, started the Wednesday Lunch Club and covered Reception, while I did coffee duties and also became a church steward. Pat also joined the Royal British Legion on their Welfare Committee, later becoming branch Chairman and Poppy Appeal Organiser.

We remain members of this wonderful Church Family.

We are thankful to God for all those who, over the years, have given so much of their time, wisdom and experience to enable the work of God at Broadstone Methodist Church to continue.



The Return of the Allens!

Clive and Adrienne Allen



On 21 July 2024 the Methodist Church in Lytchett Matravers held its last service and the remaining members had to decide what to do, and where to worship.

We had two things to consider. We wanted to continue to worship with our friends in the village at the Anglican Church, St Mary's, and also, we had to consider our Methodist roots with Clive being a Local Preacher. To continue in this work a Methodist membership had to be maintained. To this end then Broadstone was the place for us to be.

We had a very strong relationship with the congregation at St Mary's and we were members of the choir, still referred to as the Churches in Harmony Choir – there were more of us a few years ago! In fact, there were 2 winters when the congregation at St Mary's worshipped with us at the Methodist Church because of their heating problems! Rather than carrying all the hymn books 'up the road' we all used Singing the Faith, obtaining extra supplies with a grant from a village Charity. Those books have now found their way 'down the road' and are used occasionally at St Mary's and in particular by the choir.

We could tell you more, but this gives a flavour as to why St Mary's is important to us.

With regard to Broadstone Methodist Church, have we ever been away?!

Clive arrived here immediately after Easter in 1966 and lodged with Betty Pitcher, a Church member who lived in Higher Blandford Road. Naturally the Broadstone Church was attended on

the following Sunday. This was the small village Chapel, depicted in the tapestry, that sat on this site. To give an idea of its size – there was a central aisle with 4 seats either side! Just a little different today!

It was then that Clive met Larry and Sheila La Rivière and their 2 girls and a long-standing friendship began. They had arrived in the Autumn of 1965 and we shared a common employer, Plessey in Sopers Lane. Clive was on a Thick Sandwich course from university for a year.

Plessey then employed Clive from September 1968 and his Church membership was transferred that Autumn. Apart from Sheila, is there anyone else who was a member here then?

Meanwhile Adrienne was undertaking teacher training at Southlands (Wimbledon), the Methodist Training College, and completed the course in 1969. We married in August 1969 and set up home in Abbotsbury Road and Adrienne's membership was also transferred.

It was still that small village Chapel which was filling rather rapidly as Broadstone grew with the development of businesses in Poole and the influx of Methodists from all over the country, with a fair contingent in employment at Plessey!

Alongside the incoming members, we remember those who contributed so much to the vision of the development of the Church in this location – amongst many, there was Miss Sharland, Mr and Mrs Jack French, Cissie and Reg Durrant, Dolly

Baker, Maisie Fletcher, Olive and David Jones, Dennis and Margaret Pearson. The latter couples were the more recent 'newcomers' prior to 1967!

We are pleased to acknowledge that the vision has been maintained and developed.

We entered into the life of the Church here, particularly in the musical life and the formation of a review group, the Smoothies, which would entertain and raise funds for various worthy causes – including the Manse roof in Poole!

Our 2 girls had their initial upbringing here and we were ever grateful to the endless supply of frustrated Grandmas who were always volunteering to babysit! A crèche was started to allow us to share the role of organists for nearly 10 years.

After moving to Lytchett Matravers during the winter of 1979 we were often back in Broadstone – it's not that far away! In due course there was 7th Heaven, which rehearsed here, the girls attended the Youth Club (good supply of boys!!) and the Friday morning Shoppers Services amongst other events.

We are pleased to be back worshipping here taking some small part in the worship, playing the organ from time to time – picking up from where we left off 45 years ago – and continuing to lead worship as appointed, on the Preaching Plan, by the Poole Bay Circuit.

Have we seen change? A massive amount!

Thank you all for the warm welcome back.

Forward Planning!

Rev Elizabeth Rundle



Ssshh! I don't want to say it too loudly, but – Christmas is coming.

If you haven't seen them already, any day now the shops will stock all kinds of Christmas cards, gifts and confectionery.

Even with the exponential growth of e-cards and all means of social media, sending paper cards remains a huge £50 million annual business. Only a couple of years ago 1.3 billion cards were posted in the USA with the UK not far behind, sending around 900 million cards. Of course the festive season is a much needed major boost for deserving charities.

After personal Anniversaries and Birthdays, Christmas remains the third most popular time to send greetings. And what a choice! In our squeaky clean, politically correct culture, we can buy cards to wish each other 'A Happy Winterval', 'Seasons Greetings', 'Happy Holiday', and even 'It's the Season to Sparkle'. Do we ever pause to consider how those bland phrases miss the essential point of Christmas?

I'm not a total grunge, (I try my best not to be), I laugh at some of the wacky cartoons, I love pictures of cute animals and appreciate classic wintry scenes on Christmas cards. However, my point is that most images could be for any occasion.

Much of our received image of the Nativity has been moulded and stylised over the centuries by great renaissance artists and from towering stained-glass cathedral windows, when few had travelled to Bethlehem. And so, over the years, Christmas

cards have been modernised, stripped of Christian significance and given way to robins, penguins, decorated fir trees, snowmen, and cartoons... Members of the royal family even send out pictures of themselves.

None of these has anything to do with the birth of Jesus in the spartan surroundings of a stable 2000 years ago; the birth that changed history.

We have two occasions in the year when *every* Christian has the golden opportunity for silent witness; the two great Christian celebrations of Easter and Christmas. And, as the hymn writer Marguerite Kendrick (1927-2021) reminds us in Singing the Faith no. 207, **Jesus is the heart of Christmas.**

So – much as the clever secular cards raise a smile or an 'Aah!' – nevertheless, in sending cards that mention Jesus, depict nativity scenes or calligraphy declaring biblical

phrases such as 'The Light of the World' or 'Emmanuel, God with us', we quietly share with family and friends our personal approach to Christmas. No-one wants to appear boringly religious, but as John Bell from the Iona Community wrote; 'God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day'.

Having been part of the church for 76 years, I can do no other than put **Christ** into the **Christmas** cards I send. However, as religious cards are in the minority and often more difficult to find, we need to plan now.

Let's grab this unique opportunity to witness to what we believe is important.

Jesus is the heart of Christmas,
Give the Lord his rightful place!
Jesus is the heart of Christmas
Share him in each card you send.

Marguerite Kendrick 1927-2021



My African Adventure – The Experience

Bailey Odhams

In July this year, I took the opportunity to spend five days volunteering at the Mercy Njeri Primary School in Nakuru Kenya.

I was one of a group of twenty-one students and two teachers from Lytchett Minster School who made the trip organised by the African Adventures charity.

Walking into the school was a shock at first. More than fifty children squeezed into each classroom, many of them without

shoes. Around eight out of ten pupils came barefoot, yet what stood out most wasn't what they lacked, but how grateful and determined they were to learn. Despite the hardships they faced, the children were full of smiles and laughter, often far happier than those I see back home in British schools.

During my time there, I was able to share in some activities that brought us all together. I had taken along a speaker and we

spent time dancing to favourite songs like the Macarena. My friends and I taught some of the younger children lots of silly dance moves which had the whole class eagerly joining in.

I also taught lessons to older pupils on using natural forms for design, encouraging the children to sketch leaves and imagine how these could inspire products such as tables or lights. This was especially exciting for me, as it drew on the Product Design A-level I





had just completed, and it was incredible to see how creative and enthusiastic the students were.

As well as assisting with lessons, our group were able to help with some renovation work in the school by re-tiling the floor of one of the classrooms. Alongside these activities, we were also able to provide the school with some much-needed supplies.

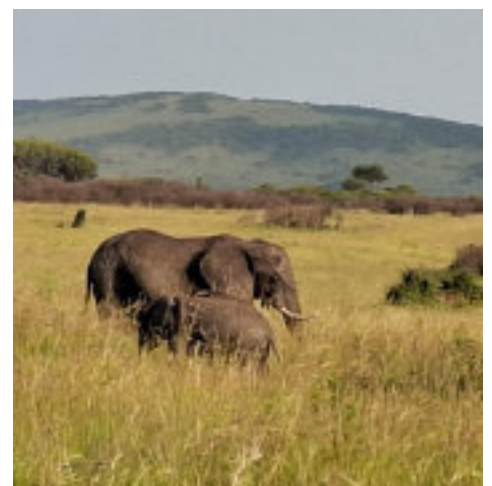
Thanks to generous donations, our group handed out 1,200 pencils, enough for each child to

have two, as well as a huge variety of stationery, clothes, and basic necessities such as general toiletries. Seeing the gratitude on the children's faces reminded me how even the simplest items can make a real difference.

To round off our trip, we were given the opportunity to visit the Maasai Mara. Experiencing the incredible safari landscapes and varied wildlife there was truly magical and we were fortunate enough to see amazing wildlife

such as lions, hippos, giraffe and Nile crocodiles. A large herd of elephants came close to us and we witnessed a cheetah actually hunt and take down an antelope. We also visited a Maasai village and had the chance to learn a little about their lives and culture. It was the perfect way to reflect on all I had learned during such a meaningful week.

Many thanks to all who supported me in making this unforgettable trip.



We were very sorry indeed when Claire Errington decided to leave us earlier this year, after seven years as our bookings officer and general administrator. Nikki Grounds has now taken on her role.

Here Claire shares her feelings about moving on, and Nikki introduces herself.

Claire says Farewell



I started in the Administration role at Broadstone Methodist Church in August 2018 after hearing about the vacancy at the Friday evening Broadway Group held at the Church. I had been a Stay at Home Mum since my eldest daughter, Amber, was born in 2010, followed by my Son, Callum in 2012, so it was the perfect job for me! We attended many Family Church events when we moved to Broadstone and were always made to feel so welcome and part of the local community.

I was thrilled to be successful in the role and I am very grateful to the Church family for being so supportive and helpful to me when I first started and this support carried on over the next 7 years.

It was not an easy decision to leave, but it was the right time for me personally, as my children are now at an age where I could look for new opportunities and challenges.

Thank you for making my time here at the Church so enjoyable, there have been lots of happy times, some sad times and some challenging times (the Covid pandemic in particular) but we've faced them together and always managed to come out the other side.

I will always remember my time here at Broadstone Methodist Church fondly and I'm looking forward to keeping in touch with you all. Thank you again for all the love, support and friendship given to me and my family over the years.

Nikki Joins Our Team



My name is Nikki Grounds and I began the role of Church and Bookings Administrator at the beginning of July. My usual working hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

I was born in Poole and raised in Broadstone. As a child and teenager I was a competitive Trampolinist and qualified as a Trampoline Coach when I was 20. I have a background of working in Exercise Rehabilitation having previously graduated from Bournemouth University with a degree in BSc Exercise Science, and last year I completed a CPD course in Neuroscience in Early Years. I also have a lot of experience of working within various administrative roles within the NHS. I am married and still live in Broadstone where we have chosen to raise our two young children, daughter Elodie and son Austin. In my spare time I like to do volunteering where possible and I like to keep active through walking, running and various sports. I enjoy spending lots of quality time with my family and we particularly like using our paddleboard and enjoying days out where we can explore near and far. This summer I have climbed Mount Snowdon for the second time. I like a good book and I'm also very creative with a passion for art, therefore I am often producing artistic pieces.

I am thoroughly enjoying my new role. It is a truly wonderful atmosphere and everyone has been so friendly, warm and welcoming, helping me to settle in well.

Joan's Prayer



Father God

We want to give praise to you
for the wonderful world we live in
which you have created,

I love the trees which I can climb,
and all the animals I see every
day.

We praise you that we have
special friends who can share the
fun.

Thank you God for being alive,
for life and breath,

for rain and sun,
for food fresh from the garden,
for the school holiday (hooray!),
and times when friends visit us
and we can visit our families far
away

With all these things you bless us.

Thank you.

Amen

Messy Church

Joan Jackson

Thursday 24 July saw around 35 children, ranging from babes in arms to grandparents, from 20 families enjoying a morning of activities, worship and lunch at BMC, based on the theme of 'Our Wonderful World.'

We met in the Bradbury Hall from 10am where 11 different tables offered a variety of things to do all centred around the theme. We always have one activity where food is involved so this time decorating biscuits with icing, sprinkles and chocolate drops proved popular. There was also the opportunity to paint butterflies, thread bookmarks, decorate plates with heart shaped pictures, create fish from mosaic pieces, make cards to send, ducks using hand shapes, turtles from coloured plates, fashion hedgehogs from air drying clay, the usual collection of puzzles, pictures and wordsearches and a giant collage of trees, flowers, birds and butterflies. These can be seen in the David Jones room. Throughout the morning, drinks were available for everyone, and also an opportunity to explain the day's theme. We were able to share a simple version of the Bible story of Creation.

About 11.25am it was time to move downstairs for a time of games in the Sharland Hall and then a time of simple worship in the Sanctuary led by

Rev Karen. While these were happening downstairs all the activities were cleared away in the Bradbury and the tables rearranged ready for a snack lunch after the worship session. This time we enjoyed bacon rolls, with cheese alternative followed by the decorated biscuits. We always sing Grace beforehand using a variety of songs and words.

Everyone is encouraged to collect the things they've made before leaving for home after a fun filled morning. There is no set charge but we do have a basket near the door and welcome donations towards expenses.

Many thanks to all who help lead the activities and staff the kitchen. We would love to have more helpers so let us know if you might be available. Our next session is on Thursday 30th October – theme to be decided.

Here is the hedgehog prayer which the youngsters were able to take away and also a pledge to look after these interesting creatures.

*Thank you God for hedgehogs
For their protective sharp spines
And sparkly bright eyes.
Help us to care for them and all creatures
That live in hedgerows and woodlands.
Amen*

Broadstone Fun Day

On Sunday 6 July the four churches from Churches Together in Broadstone set up their gazebos next to each other on the Lower Recreation ground to join in the annual Fun Day. Each church had a different activity offering games, biscuit decorating and also a safe place for children to enjoy craft activities. It's good to be together and show a united Christian witness at such a well attended and popular event.

BMC offered the opportunity to decorate biscuits or have a go at the

'Match the Buttons' game to win a small prize. Lots of fun was had by all who stopped by and we also had the opportunity to share details with the community of all the things which we can offer as a church on the Broadway.

Probably about 100 visited us and we were kept busy making more icing and wiping sticky fingers!! It was wonderful to see all the children, and some adults, enjoying eating their fantastic creations. It was super to be able to take part in such an enjoyable community event.

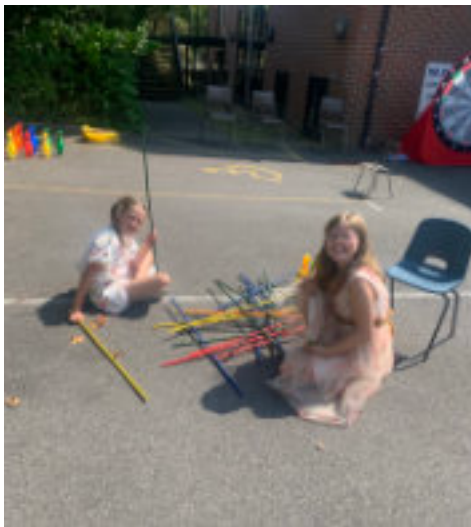
Church Garden Party Remembering VJ Day Sunday 17 August

Our church community gathered for an engaging and nostalgic VJ Day celebration. Participants were treated to a variety of quizzes that

included identifying photos of celebrities born in that memorable year, guessing the weight of certain weekly rations, and

matching hit song titles from 1945 with their respective artists. It was a fantastic opportunity for everyone to reminisce about a





pivotal time in history while enjoying some friendly competition.

The atmosphere in the coffee lounge was vibrant, adorned with Union Flag bunting that added a festive touch. Thank you those

who set up the garden games, baked and served delicious cakes, and prepared the quizzes and to everyone who participated. We look forward to more events that bring us together in fun and fellowship!



Table Tennis at Broadstone Methodist Church

Mike Brooke



Despite a slow start and small numbers, up to 3 members, the table tennis evening is now becoming well established as a healthy and enjoyable activity.

If you were to drop by between 8.15 and 10.00pm on a Tuesday evening you might see two highly energetic and skillful people involved in an extremely competitive game of ping pong.

On the other hand, you are more likely to see the same two players struggling to keep the ball on the table, hit it over the net or even hit the ball at all. Seriously, table tennis is a fun game to play and whatever your standard, whether beginner or expert you are very welcome to join us.

Remember, Tuesday night is Table Tennis night between 8.15 and 10.00pm.

Knit and Natter

Terry Millard



Broadstone Methodist Knit and Natter Group is currently having a well earned break over the summer holidays, although you might find many of our knitters in the coffee lounge having an informal get-together.

We have been continuing to work on a variety of projects, ranging from cosy blankets and hats to intricate scarves and sweaters, that go to many local charity groups. These include, Mission for Seafarers, local care homes, Ferndown Food Bank, Variety (the children's charity), Blandford Cares (supporting refugees) and Poole and Bournemouth Hospitals.

The members support each other in a number of ways, exchanging knitting and crocheting tips and techniques, along with giving support and fellowship in a safe and friendly

atmosphere. All of course over a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit!

Although we are still in summer we have already started making Remembrance Day poppies and hats and scarves that will go to the YMCA to support their 'Big Sleep Out' which takes place in October.

Many of you with eagle eyes might have spotted that we have new post toppers outside the church. Please come along and take a look.

The Broadstone Methodist Knit and Natter Group meet in a relaxed friendly atmosphere over a cup of tea or coffee (kindly sponsored by Lesley Shand Funeral Directors) every Monday during term time, 10am - 12 noon, in the Sanctuary at Broadstone Methodist Church.

You can bring your own project or join in one of the charity projects, where wool and needles are provided. All skills welcome.



Eco-Church

Mike Brooke

Our Eco update this time reaches beyond the Methodist church. As part of our eco work we meet four times a year with teams from St John's, URC and St Anthony's as Broadstone Eco-churches Together. Our last meeting was held on 29 July with an agenda that fell into three distinct sections.

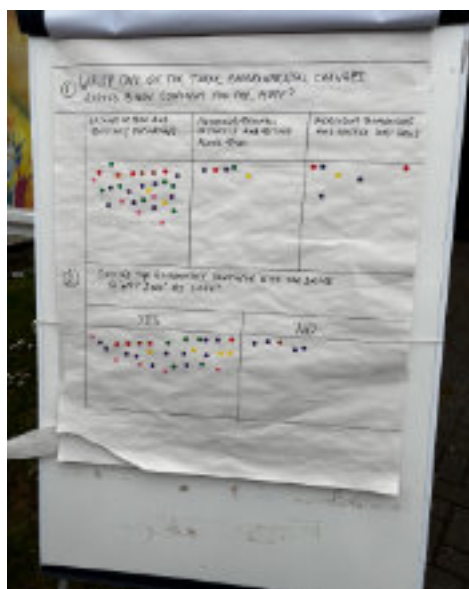
First on the list was the Eco fair that was held at the beginning of June. Fortunately, the rain held off, but the wind gathered strength and at times it was difficult to keep items in place. Apart from the Broadstone in Bloom team whose multitude of excellent plants proved a major attraction, we were joined this time by Broadstone Neighbourhood Forum. This organisation can fund projects which are designed to offset any development that takes place in the "village", the money coming from a levy placed on new housing. On display were the proposals for changes to the area outside M & S as well as information about community gardens. It is hoped a site for one can be found in Broadstone. Certainly, the idea proved of interest to those who visited the stall. Broadstone Eco-churches Together offered free wildflower seeds and gave away over 100 packets. Many attendees also contributed to our straw poll which sought opinions on the decline in butterfly numbers, increased intensity of rainfall, increasing temperatures and the Government's approach to net zero. It would seem that residents



are more concerned about the decline in butterflies than other aspects of climate change, yet they are all inter-related.

We all agreed that the fair had been a success, consequently we will be organising another one for the same time next year. Look out for details on our notice board and also on-line.

The second item – updates from each church – proved fascinating. St Anthony's have carried out a wildlife survey and identified several interesting species on their land including the stunning Jersey Tiger moth and lie hawkmoth. A small frog was also discovered. Foxes and hedgehogs have also been reported. The church is hoping to achieve the bronze award in the not too distant future. With a green house and some fruit trees they have been able to supply some fresh produce to the Corfe Mullen food bank.



St John's regular summer fayre included an eco-stall this year. Amongst the attractions on offer was a wild-life spotter activity which proved very popular with the children. Earlier in the year church members had carried out their first Count on Nature survey during which 17 species of birds were identified along with 20 miscellaneous species, including insects and spiders. More recently they have taken part in the Big Butterfly Count and noted three species on their land. Their eco team will be involved in Creation Sunday service on 7 September.

The alterations at the rear of the United Reformed Church have now been completed. This has created a more usable set of rooms which are exceptionally well insulated, and which also benefit from the ground source heat pump that has been installed. This will make a significant contribution to the church's green credentials. We will be keeping in close contact with the church while we explore alternative heating arrangements for our own building – our boilers won't last forever!

Something for everyone to look forward to in late autumn – the next carbon footprint survey will be due. There could be an award for whoever shows the greatest reduction in carbon dioxide emissions over the last year.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way to making our path to becoming an eco-church an interesting and enjoyable experience. For those who help in the garden you may like to know that since its major facelift we have seen an increase in number of bees, hoverflies and butterflies/moths. The list now includes hummingbird hawk moth, "old lady" moth, large white and holly blue butterflies.

There is also a good crop of crab apples if anyone would like to make crab apple jelly.



Marilyn Greenaway

Our May Café Church took the form of table discussions under the title of “What a Wonderful World.” Each group received a selection of pictures, mainly from calendars or greetings cards which depicted some aspect of the natural world. Participants were asked for any hymns or Bible passages suggested by the pictures – the overall answer being “How Great Thou Art.”

After enjoying our tea and cakes Joan further introduced the topic by talking about the Celtic idea of “thin places” where God’s presence was felt to be especially near and how such places can lead us to special and spiritual moments.

We were then asked, as groups, to write either a psalm or an acrostic inspired by one or more of our pictures. This led to some interesting discussions about the world we live in and the finished results are attached.

In conclusion we shared what had been written and sang the hymn “Come to us Creative Spirit” (StF 726) before reading Psalm 8 together and closing in prayer.

Acrostic Psalms

Powerful God we praise you.

Rejoicing in your creation.

Abounding in love we praise you.

In meekness we seek your majesty.

Splendour of wonder we praise you.

Eternal God, whose love is as great as your power.

Climbing apes swinging in treetops to and fro.

Robin resting on the garden spade.

Energetic insects fluttering from flower to flower.

Amarzing artistry of woven nests and spiders’ webs.

Things we hear but cannot see.

Undulating uplands where wild deer roam.

Rockpools home to myriad marine life.

Everything has its special place.

Set in this wonderful world.

Created Psalm

I will praise you, O God,
for you are great and wonderful
and merciful.

Majestic is the Lord and worthy
of praise.

The Lord my God has shown
us greatness.

He has shown his love to me by
sending Jesus to save us and by
His everlasting love.

His works declare that he is a
great creator.

I will praise the Lord because to
me he is redeemer and saviour
and mighty and loves us and
cares for us and is eternal.

Create your own Psalm Acrostic

Decide on a subject and a suitable related word, write the word down vertically and, as in the example in the centre column, start each line with a word beginning with the letters, to meaningfully express your subject.



WHO AM I?

The last letter of one name is the first letter of the next name.

J _ _ _ _ S

- Mary's first child
Luke 1:30-31
- Hannah's son
1 Samuel 1:20

W _ _ _ T

- He wrote the second Gospel
- Followed Elijah
2 Kings 2:15

_ A _ _ _ M

- The first man
Genesis 2:20
- Baby in a basket
Exodus 2:1-10

_ _ _ _ _ S

- A wise king
1 Kings 4:29
- He built an ark
Genesis 6: 13-14

_ H _ _ _ _

- Wrote the 28th book of the Bible



WHICH BOOK IN THE BIBLE...

- ... is the **first**?
- ... is the **last**?
- ... has the **most** chapters?
- ... is the **last** in the Old Testament?

How many books are there in in the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the whole Bible?



FIND THE BROTHERS



BENJAMIN HARAN
ISAAC MOSES
AARON JOSEPH
GAD SHEM
JAPHETH JAMES
JACOB ASHER
JOHN ESAU
CAIN ISHMAEL
PETER ABEL
ABRAHAM ANDREW



DID YOU KNOW?

In the Bible there are: 31,173 verses, 1,189 chapters, 773,692 words.
The longest word is in Isaiah 8:1
The longest verse is Esther 8:9
The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek



Can you find **JESUS** and all the Apostles in the word search?



ANDREW
JOHN • JAMES
THOMAS • MATTHEW
• SIMON • THADDEUS
BARTHOLOMEW • PETER
PHILIP • JAMES • JUDAS

J O J E S J U D P H T E J
M J U D M A T T H E W A E
A O D J A M E S I M O N S
T H A D D E U S L E H D U
T N S I M S T H I W O R S
N O T H O M A S P E T E R
A B A R T H O L O M E W S

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) meets 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 30 October 2025

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
12 October 2025
4.00pm**

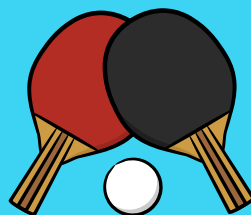


TABLE TENNIS

**Tuesdays
8.15 – 10.00pm**

Badminton Group

**Mondays from 7.30–9.30pm
in the Bradbury Hall**

Knit & Natter

**Mondays 10.00am – 12 noon
in the Sanctuary**

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 7 December 2025**

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

Sunday 2 November 2025

CARERS' GROUP

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

