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Hastings
Parish Hall

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Saturday 11th December 2021
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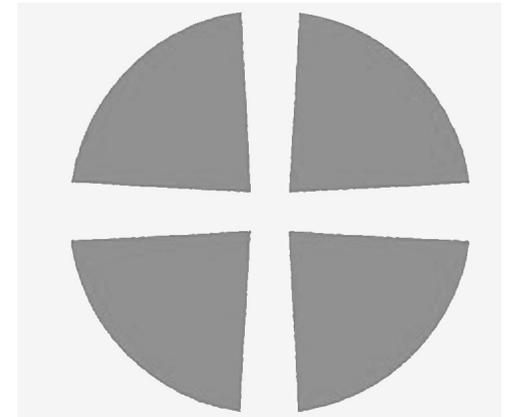
MAX TEAM SIZE 6

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Broadwell Mail is published by Broadwell Methodist Church and includes Anglican Church news and services as well as local community news and events. Contributions are gratefully received.
Please send copy for the February/March issue by noon on Wednesday 19th January to:
keithread@aol.com
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Broadwell mail



*Church and community
news brought to you by
Broadwell Methodist Church.*

**December 2021/
January 2022**



BROADWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Steward: Mr Pat Toole – Tel. 01926 632874

Circuit Community Chaplain and Administrator:

Kate Hitchcox – Tel. 07967 662251

From the Editor:

With a huge amount of copy to fill this edition I am not going to take up any more space except to wish – on behalf of all who help to produce *Broadwell Mail* – a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year!

These wishes are coupled with my own heartfelt thanks to all the contributors, with a special mention of Glenys Caunter and Clive Harridge.

Keith Read, Temporary Editor.

Suggested Bible Readings:

Week commencing: December 5th:

Malachi 3, vv 1-4 & Luke 3 vv 1-6;
12th, Isaiah 12, vv 2-6 & Luke 3 vv 7-18; **19th**, Micah 5, vv 2-5a & Luke 1 vv 39-45; **26th**, Isaiah 63, vv 7-9 & Matthew 2 vv 13-23.

January 2nd: Jeremiah 31, vv 7-14 & John 1 vv 10-18; **9th**, Isaiah 42, vv 1-9 & Matthew 3, vv 13-17; **16th**, Isaiah 49, vv 1-7 & John 1, vv 29-42; **23rd**, Isaiah 9, vv 1-14 & Matthew 4, vv 12-23; **30th**, Micah 6, vv 1-8 & Matthew 5, vv 1-12.

Your news for the February/March edition:

Please ensure all news and contributions reach Keith Read by noon on **Wednesday 19th January**. Printing is scheduled for Saturday 29th January.

Keith's e-mail address is: keithread@aol.com (Take care to get two Rs in the middle!) Or jot down your contribution and drop it in at *Hawthorn Cottage*, Broadwell.

Many thanks.

Remember in Prayer:

We continue at this difficult time to think of all who are lonely or distressed: those whose lives are filled with fear, and those who cannot or dare not leave their homes.

We pray for those who are ill, at home or in hospital, and all who are concerned for the health and wellbeing of loved ones. We also remember doctors, nurses, carers and all who are playing such a vital part. May they be given strength and patience to carry out their duties at this difficult time.

We remember those who now live in care homes who, at this present time, are longing to be close to family and friends.

As we draw near to Christmas let us remember those less fortunate than ourselves; those who are unable to join in the celebrations; the homeless and those who are on the margins of society, relying on charitable organisations to exist.

We trust that our prayers may bring hope and comfort to all in need.

May joy and peace be with you throughout Christmas and the coming year.

Sunday Services:

The next service at Broadwell Methodist Church is planned for Sunday December 12th at 6.30pm, when Miss Kate Hitchcox will be leading our **CAROL SERVICE**.

Our service on **CHRISTMAS DAY** will begin at 10.30am when we once again welcome Mr John Kay to lead our worship. Please note the earlier

Security cameras for Broadwell?

A meeting was called by the parish council on November 8th to seek residents' views on the prospect of installing two CCTV cameras on the approaches to the village to monitor vehicle number plates, accessible only in the event of criminal activity.

After comments and questions from those present, a show of hands, plus 'proxy votes' from those expressing interest but were absent, 43 persons were in favour with one abstention.

The parish council will therefore seek further information and obtain precise costings for installation and insurance and maintenance, then call another meeting to finally decide whether or not to proceed.

In the meantime, will those Broadwell residents who have not yet expressed an opinion as to whether they are in favour or against, please contact me by e-mail at paul.fennell@outlook.com phoning on 01926 815689 or dropping a note through our letterbox.

Sheila Fennell - Clerk.

Suspicious? Report it!

Following the Parish Council meeting, when concerns were expressed about suspicious activity, the following NHW advice is offered:

If you see something suspect phone 101 extension 3708.

If it is urgent always call 999.

You can email concerns to our local police team at rrs.snt@warwickshire.police.uk

You can call or leave a message for our local team on 01788

853851. Always give a description of vehicles, including the make, colour and registration number, and also descriptions of any persons too.

Sewer improvement scheme:

It was reported at the recent Parish Council meeting that Severn Trent Water have carried out a survey with intent to improve sewerage capacity in the village.

The water company intends to hold a meeting in the Victory Hall to explain the proposed work, which is expected to start in early summer, 2022.

Silver Surfers' success:

LH Silver Surfers' Big Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer raised an amazing £420 - £10 more than the pre-Covid 2019 event's total.

Held on Friday 24th September instead of their regular weekly computer and IT session, the event was part of the national Big Coffee Morning promoted by Macmillan Cancer.

"Sadly, foot-fall was down on 2019," said Tony Noble, one of the organisers. "However, people were extremely generous this year. We are really grateful to all those who supported us on the day, those who made donations and, of course, to all the Silver Surfers who switched off their computers and turned on their cookers to bake cakes!

"This was the third Big Coffee Morning that we have organised. To date we have raised a total of £1,420 for what everyone agrees is a most-deserving good cause."

Calling all organists....

Broadwell Methodist Chapel is looking for an organist to play at our short Christmas morning service and to occasionally play at our fortnightly services in the New Year when our current organist is unable to be with us.

If you can help us, please call our Steward, Mr Pat Toole, on 01926 632874. Many thanks.

CCTV cameras meeting:

On page 11 you will see the formal report from our Parish Council clerk. As Editor of *Broadwell Mail* I attended the meeting to report. I did not take part in the discussions.

Chairman Paul Fennell explained that the cameras would be located at Home Farm and at Hayway Cottage, Hayway Lane – effectively the two entry and exit points to the village.

Ed and Lucy Woodrow have offered to provide power and other facilities for the camera at Hayway Cottage and the Deeming family has undertaken to install (at their expense) power cables for the camera at Home Farm.

Questions regarding size and aesthetics of the cameras were answered and it was stressed that images from the cameras would only be viewed following any incident of crime in the village.

Keith Read.

Christmas Angels:

Thank you to all who have knitted Angels, *writes Rosemary Chapman.*

Deacon Georgina has asked me to take them to her at the beginning of December, ready to have tickets

attached and then be distributed. I know we have at least 60 to date as I write. This is a fantastic effort from our community, bringing joy to the recipients.



Look out for the Christmas Angels around Broadwell nearer to Christmas. They will be delivered mysteriously very early one morning!

Let's hope the weather is kind...!

A message from Dorothy:

I want to thank everyone from the Chapel for the beautiful flowers you kindly gave me and good wishes after my cataract operation. They lifted my spirit to recover well.

Thank you everyone for your cards and kind wishes.

With love from Dorothy (Pickering).

A Christmas message from...

... the Read family.

Chrissy, Keith and Codie Read wish all their friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and a great New Year.

As we have done for the past several years we will make a donation to a local charity in lieu of sending Christmas cards to people we are fortunate enough to see on an almost-daily basis.

In addition, Dora Read sends her love and best wishes to everyone from Bilton House where she has been resident for the past two years.

start for a morning service and do join us if you are able. All are very welcome.

In January, services at Broadwell Methodist Church will be held on a fortnightly basis starting at 11am on January 9th. Our preacher on that occasion will be Miss Kate Hitchcox while The Rev'd Andy Hardwick will lead our January 23rd Covenant Service, which will include Holy Communion.

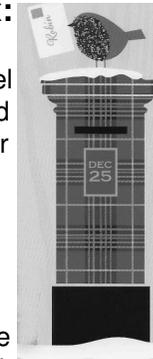
Christmas Post Box:

Our Christmas post box will again be at the Chapel from Friday December 3rd until Thursday the 16th for your Christmas cards to be delivered around the village and to those living outside the village who normally attend the Chapel. We regret we are not able to deliver beyond this area.

Cards will be sorted on Friday 17th for delivery well in time for Christmas.

Please ensure that all envelopes have the full names and addresses for the intended recipients as there are a number of families locally with the same surname.

If you would like to make a donation to Action for Children charity in lieu of postage stamps please pop it in the box in a separate sealed envelope or hand it to Glenys Caunter or Rosemary Chapman. Last year the record sum of £90 was raised via the post box, this was very gratefully received by Action for Children, who thank you for your support.



Congratulations to our Pat!

We are delighted to report that Pat Toole, our much-loved Steward, has proudly become a great-grandad!

His first great-grandchild – Oliver James Barnes – was born on 18th October to equally-proud parents, Louise and Christopher, who live in Southam.

Christopher is Sharon Barnes' elder son. And we mustn't forget Sharon, one of Pat's three daughters. The good news makes her a grandmother!

Coffee Mornings:

Our next two coffee mornings at Broadwell Methodist Church are scheduled for Wednesday December 8th, and Wednesday January 12th from 10.30am until 12-noon when all are welcome.

Please join us if you are able.

Over Sixties' Club:

On Wednesday December 1st, Over Sixties will meet for Christmas lunch at The Bell at Ladbroke, 12-noon for 12.30pm.

The January meeting will be the AGM and will take place at the Almshouses, Leamington Hastings. **Please note that the meeting will begin at 2pm.**

Christmas greetings from...

...Joe Byerley and his family who would like to wish all friends of Broadwell Methodist Church and Broadwell Flower Show a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Joe is now at Galanos House, Southam, which receives *Broadwell Mail* digitally and kindly prints copies for interested residents – *Editor.*

REFLECTIONS... ..REFLECTIONS

By Keith Read

As I write it's exactly two years since satellite pictures showed intensely-increased activity at a hospital in Wuhan, China. And we now know why that hospital was overwhelmed... This caused me to reflect on a conversation I had a few weeks earlier with a friend I've known for more than 40 years and who has become a highly-successful Midlands businessman. We'll call him Bob, because that's his name! Bob and his wife are devout Christians and, many years ago, created a charity called Christian Vision (www.cvglobal.co in case you are curious).

The pandemic crippled the charity's ability to meet with people around the world. But, by being creative with online activities, Bob told me it had actually increased the charity's outreach.

"The pandemic has been beneficial in bringing a massive change in mission effectiveness," he said. "Online engagements prior to the pandemic averaged 2 million a month. But, since the outbreak, the average has soared to between 30 and 50 million a month – with more than million a day being sustained!"

So the pandemic is not all bad news. And I'm sure all of us can find something that has improved since we experienced this most frightening of experiences. I certainly believe that our community has become even closer, even more-caring and even more special...

With a number of our congregation having knitted nativity scenes – and some currently working on one for the Chapel – this amusing verse should prompt some smiles! – Editor.

The Knit Before Christmas

'Twas the knit before Christmas and Emma sat there,
Bags of wool at her feet and more on the chair.
She sat there for hours, days, weeks and months,
Some days forgetting to partake of her lunch!
What was she knitting? We all wanted to know,
Was it hats, scarves and gloves to go out in the snow?
A car coat for Carol? Slippers for friends?
The frantic click-clack of the needles,
Where would it all end?
When all was revealed oh! What a delight.
A nativity scene, all colourful and bright.
Kings, shepherds and sheep – all knitted with care,
Mary and Joseph, heads bowed in prayer:
The shepherds were humble, the kings richly dressed
Each knew in their hearts they were equally blessed.
No matter the value of gifts we can bring
Nothing can equal the gift of 'THE KING.'
Emma's gifts through the years have brought much delight
But the nativity scene on that first Christmas night
Brought us all hope through a babe in a stall
And the greatest of gifts – SALVATION TO ALL.

Trustees of Broadwell Green & Hall:

At last our village hall is available for you to hire after the long closedown due to Covid, **writes Stuart Barrie.**

Already the hall has been in use and please contact Martin Wibberley if you wish to use the hall for a party or other event.

This year we have decided to scale down our Christmas event as it would be difficult to accommodate the stalls and all the visitors and, at the same time, ensure that everyone feels safe.

We are therefore inviting everyone to join us in the hall on December 11th, commencing at 10.30am, for a

Christmas Coffee Morning. Of course if you don't drink coffee there will be other refreshments plus mince pies and we will also have our great Hamper Raffle.

Look forward to seeing you – and a very Happy Christmas to everyone.

Christmas greetings from...

... Sue Middleton, who this year is making a donation to Myton Hospice in lieu of sending cards to her neighbours in Leamington Hastings and friends in the parish.

"I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and I look forward to seeing you in the New Year."

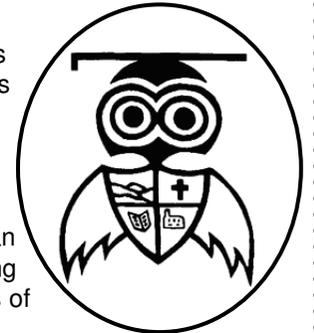
Leamington Hastings Academy's corner....

By Suzanne Marson – Head of School.

We continue to have a busy term at Leamington Hastings Academy. The children say their favourite elements of this term to date have been making Remembrance Day wreaths, wearing odd socks for anti-bullying week, learning about the similarities of different faiths in interfaith week and the various cooking activities that have taken place! The children also had a great time at an end-of-half-term pumpkin party where the pumpkin carving skills on display were extremely impressive! Photographs of all the pumpkins can be seen on our Facebook page.

We have lots of exciting events still to come this term. These include a workshop with a rock band, a pantomime visit, the opportunity to work with a local artist on a whole school project, nativity plays and, of course, a visit from Father Christmas who will be arriving on a tractor! We are also looking forward to our school Christmas service at All Saints Church and to joining in with the community Christmas Carol Service at St Nicholas' Church in Willoughby on the 19th of December at 4pm.

We have reached the time of year when families are applying for Reception places for the next academic year. We are not holding an open day this year due to the ongoing pandemic. But we are very happy to show families around the school on an individual basis. If you would like a tour of the school, please get in touch with the school office via e-mail (school.office@leamingtonhastings.covmat.org) or telephone – 01926 632359. We look forward to hearing from you!

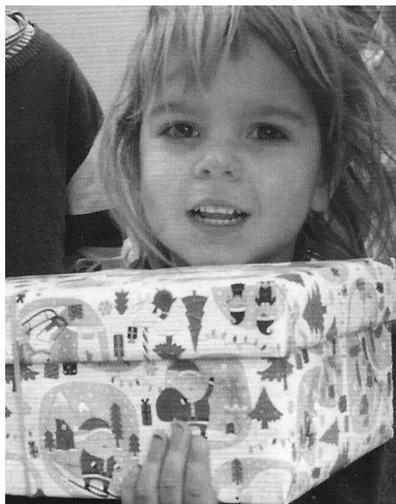


Your shoeboxes are on their way!

Once again, friends and neighbours in Broadwell have been more than generous filling shoeboxes for Christmas for children across Eastern Europe who are impoverished or without family, **writes Chrissy Read.**

On behalf of the children, and those at Teams4U who organise the annual Shoebox Appeal, very many thanks to everyone who contributed in any way. Broadwell filled a total of 40 boxes and monetary donations amounted to £65.

The boxes mean so much to the children and shows that they are not forgotten at this special time of the year...



Leam Valley Community First Responders:

We form part of a co-ordinated approach to saving lives, **writes Siobhan Knight.** We are volunteers who live within the Leam Valley Area. We work in partnership with the West Midlands Ambulance Service responding to 999 calls.



We do not respond in place of an ambulance but bridge the gap between the 999 call and the arrival of the paramedic or ambulance. However, as a first responder we will attend a wide range of trauma or medical related emergencies including cardiac arrest, heart attacks, strokes, unconsciousness, choking, epilepsy, diabetes-related incidents and road traffic collisions.

We are non-profit organisation and fundraise in our own right for uniforms, equipment and insurance, which is required as a CFR. Equipping a CFR costs around £1,000. We do this by public donations, holding talks and demonstrations, undertaking first aid at events and selling items at craft fairs/fetes.

As it would be beneficial for the communities within the Leam Valley Area, we are currently raising funds/sponsorship for a vehicle. If you would like to book a talk or demonstration or our attendance as First Aid at an event or even if you would like to donate, please get in touch. All enquiries and donations will be very much welcomed and appreciated. Please contact: Sue Waddington – Leam Valley Community First Responders at: susan.waddington@btinternet.com

Thank-you to hard-working volunteers:

Just wanted to say a big thank you to all the volunteers who turned up on a beautiful autumn Saturday morning to tidy up the Church yard and cemetery at Leamington Hastings – it is greatly appreciated, **writes Angela Woolliscroft.**

It was just five years ago that these areas were struggling to be kept tidy.

Since then, and mainly due to two very hard-working people, Ian and Lucy Sewell, the areas have been tamed, ivy has been removed from walls, grass cuttings have been removed, unruly hedges clipped and dead branches removed.

They have also encouraged the community to get involved.

It's amazing what can be achieved in a couple of hours with lots of power tools, wheel barrows and very willing volunteers! Indeed, more than 20 of us turned up on the most-recent clean-up blitz to preserve these peaceful areas for quiet reflection.

Many thanks again to everyone.



Family quiz-and-chips night:

Following the highly-successful Halloween Party organised by the newly-strengthened Parish Hall Management Committee, another exciting family event is being held on Saturday 11th December.

A quiz night will test and tease the grey

matter while a fish-and-chip van will stimulate the taste buds!

Entry is £5 per person (under-16s free). Teams can be a maximum of six.. Fish (or pies etc) and chips will be on sale from the chip van that is well-known locally. For more details, see the back page of *Broadwell Mail*.

Congratulations Andrew and Hannah!

Many congratulations to Andrew and Hannah Skyte on the arrival of their son, Noah Joseph Lund. His third name comes from his Danish great-grandmother. Noah was born on 5th October and weighed in at 6lbs 6ozs (that's 2.892 kg for those who prefer metric measures!)

Noah is just one of a number of Broadwell babies born recently. It's so good to see the growth of new young families in our community! We wish Noah, and all the recently-arrived babies, good health and happiness in the years to come.



Campervan's Christingle visit:

Elmer, the Circuit's outreach campervan makes a final 2021 visit to Broadwell for a Christingle service at 4.30pm on Friday 10th December.

He will be outside the Victory Hall with Kate Hitchcox, our Community Chaplain and her helpers and all are welcome – especially children, says Kate.

"We'll be making Christingles and singing some carols.

"But do wrap up warm as it's unlikely the recent unseasonably-warm weather could well be a memory come 10th December! However, there will be warming tea and coffee available and the Victory Hall will be open should the weather turn really nasty!"



Welcome to new neighbours:

A hearty Broadwell welcome to Steve and Kim Beck and their sons, Charlie and Billy, who have moved into the late Sam Wadland's bungalow.

Kim and Billy met several of us when they joined the first of our resumed Soup Lunches just a few days after arriving in Broadwell.

We haven't met Charlie yet as he is in his final year at university at Luton.

And a belated welcome to Jonathan and Rachel Postlethwaite. They have, over the past several months, been transforming one half of Jubilee Cottages on The Green. Work is now well advanced and the couple are fully resident here.

We hope that all our new neighbours will feel truly at home in Broadwell and enjoy our community, especially when events and gatherings start to return with easing of pandemic restrictions.

Broadwell Striders aid Pudsey and Children in Need

From Linda & Bob Haynes:

Yet again this year we had an excellent turnout to support Children in Need with a Countryfile walk around Draycote Water.

Many thanks all to the Broadwell Striders and friends! Although numbers were reduced this year due to holidays and work commitments, we still managed to raise £185. Hopefully we'll see you all again next year!

STRIDE-NOTE: to date the total raised by Bob and Linda's annual Countryfile walks amounts to more than £1,000 – Editor.

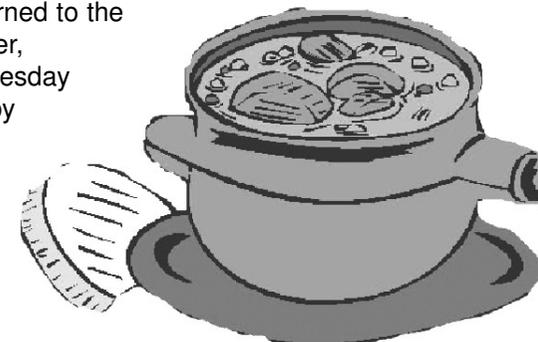


Victory Hall soup lunches return!

Broadwell's monthly soup lunch returned to the menu on Wednesday 29th September, Wednesday 20th October and Wednesday 17th November after being canned by Covid. All have been well attended. Take-away lunches were distributed to those who wanted to attend but, for various reasons, were unable.

Subject to any future pandemic legislation and rules, the plan is to continue with regular soup lunches. These will be on the third Wednesday of the month with the next on 15th December. The first in the New Year is scheduled for Wednesday 19th January.

A nominal charge of £1 is made for the lunches but additional donations are gratefully received. After deductions of costs, surplus funds will be donated, annually, to a charity chosen by the diners. To date the soup lunches – including those before the Covid lock-downs – have raised £280 for charity.



LH Bowls moves indoors for winter season

Leamington Hastings Bowls Club have begun their indoor bowling season (following Covid guidelines) at the new time of 2pm-4pm and it seems to be working well for the members, **writes Susan Turner.**

If you would like to come along and have a go, please come to the LH Parish Hall on Wednesdays from 2pm-4pm. You don't need any equipment, just wear loose clothing and flat shoes. The club has already welcomed new members Sue, Gordon, Wendy and Margaret. It's great to have you bowling with us.

A skittles night took place on Friday 12th November. It was a well attended evening among friends with a superb supper, prizes and a raffle. The event raised just over £326 for the club. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making this such an enjoyable occasion.

Work began on the bowls green in September, after the traditional Ladies v Gents end-of-season match. Ladies won, by the way. Preparation of the green for the 2022 outdoor season involves scarifying, spiking, reseeding, mowing and praying that the weather over the Winter and Spring will be favourable!

There has been some illness within the club over the past year and we all send our love and best wishes to those members who have been unwell.

