

The



Broadsheet

November 2018



To know Jesus better,
And to make Him better known

We never remembered!

Many years ago I was a child soldier with a toy gun over my shoulder, playing games of war and no-one ever laid down the law to say: “STOP! That’s enough!”

It was fun playing with my toy gun and it was never a thought that my bullets could be killing someone’s son or a father with a son. It was just another soldier playing a game who would rise up from the dead to go home at night alive to be fed with mum’s warm crusty bread before being tucked in to a comfortable bed. That’s alright, isn’t it?

That was the story of my war game but now I wonder if I am to blame for not learning the great lessons of war while I was a child soldier with a toy gun over my shoulder. I can hear parents saying, “don’t spoil their fun, it’s only a toy gun” and every excuse under the sun being voiced to justify producing the toy gun. A mirror of the grown-up world where making weapons makes jobs and peace would mean no work for many!

We were just soldiers, or cowboys and Indians, and there were no innocent victims in the games that we played. There were goodies and baddies with no inbetweens (*that’s a good word, isn’t it*) and plenty of noise to disturb the neighbourly love! Bang-bang and other sounds I don’t know how to spell.

There was no role in our games for widows and orphans, the wounded and disabled or refugee families with no-where to go. We simply lived or died, won or lost, in battles fought and no-one ever taught the harsh reality of war. Well, I don’t remember any lessons from the eleventh day in November because that just seemed something the adults did. We just played the game of being soldiers with toy guns over our shoulders and there was always the baddie to blame. That made it right, didn’t it?

Now, if I was a child today I’d want to know how I can grow in a world at peace. I would want to learn the lessons of grandad’s war or even the one before and not have to fight anymore. Do the children today want it that way and do the adults do enough to give them a say?

We will never stop the games of war but we can do much more to remind children of the lessons from war and that it's not just a fight between goodies and baddies. We must remember the *inbetweenies*, the ones who aren't soldiers with guns on their shoulders, but innocent victims of so much injustice.

Our games are between soldiers, but the reality of war is with widows and orphans, refugee families, the wounded and disabled and cities destroyed by the guns and the bombs. Give them all a role in the games children play and then, maybe, our children will say: "Enough, enough, of the blood and the tears. We've had enough of growing in a world that doesn't do enough!"

So on the 12th of November* the children of Broadway will remember in some little way how they can have a say in how they want to grow in a world with no war. Let's give our children a voice because from their lips great wisdom can be heard and they are the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven!

God Bless Richard

* The Children of St Mary's Catholic School and Broadway First will lead a service of Remembrance at St Saviours Catholic Church at 10.45 am.

Someone died for me

a poem of remembrance

Remember one name.
Remember the voice.
The words still remain.
They're always the same.
Remember the choice:
Don't forget to forgive
if peace is to live...

*If you forgive and forget
you will die with regret
that you did not remember
the causes of war...
So remember and forgive
and find a new way to live
without the pain and sorrow
caused by your wars...
When you pause to remember
on a cold day in November
don't forget to forgive
if my peace is to live ...
I didn't die for a war to be won
but for God's will to be done
with a better tomorrow
lived together in peace...
You can't change history
but if you remember my story
you'll make a better tomorrow
without so much sorrow...
It was for your future I died
and in grief children cried
so please don't forget me
but forgive and be free...*

*Always remember and forgive
because if you forget to forgive
or forgive and forget
you won't know how to live...
Don't remember how I died,
but never forget why I died
because I gave you my life
in the battle for peace...
(Richard Becher)*

Services in November

All services start at 10.30am. Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments in the Church Hall after the service.

4th November	Rev. Richard Becher
11th November	Quiet Service of Remembrance
18th November	Rev. Richard Becher
25th November	Mark Pickering—Worship Group
2nd December	Rev. Richard Becher

Elder's Meeting 6th November

Church Meeting 19th November

Birthday Celebrations

Frank Waller 13th November



Dates for your diary

Quiz Night on 17th November Doors Open at 5.30pm, food delivered for 6.00pm (from Russells). Choices of Fish and chips, Sausage and chips, chicken and chips or veggie option.

Payment of £10 per person, plus food order to be received by 14th November.

Please contact Judith 01386 853255 or Wyn 01386 300756

Christmas Tree Festival

30th November, 7th, 8th December.

Helpers always needed to set up the trees and host in the church. Speak to Megan if you can help even in a small way.

Duty Elder Megan Thomas

Sunday 4th November

Welcome

Reading Michael Davies

Coffee Pat and Michael Davies

Flowers Sue Jones

Sunday 11th November

Welcome Julie Stickler

Reading Judith Gibbons

Coffee Virginia Becher and Judy Aiton

Flowers

Sunday 18th November

Welcome Eric and Marilyn Watts

Reading Sarah Williams

Coffee Judith Gibbons and Pat Davies

Flowers Muriel Nelson arranged by C. Waller

Sunday 25th November

Welcome Michael Davies

Reading Wyn Whitten

Coffee Judith Gibbons and Pat Davies

Flowers Sheila Payne

Duty Elder Shared

Sunday 2nd December

Welcome Bruce Wallace

Reading Pat Wallace

Coffee Sue Jones and Joanne Griffin

Flowers

Sunday 9th December

Welcome Laura Holt

Reading Laura Holt

Coffee Margaret and Roger Harrington

Flowers Joanne Griffin

Sunday 16th December

Welcome Jill Hedges

Reading Chris Walters

Coffee Pat Aberdein and Ann Walters

Flowers Flower Guild

Sunday 23rd December

Welcome Judith Gibbons

Reading Megan Thomas

Coffee Pat and Bruce Wallace

Flowers Flower Guild

Sunday 30th December

Welcome Wyn Whitten

Reading Sheila Payne

Coffee Judith Gibbons and Wyn Whitten

Flowers Pam and Alex Peters

Good Lunch Club – can our community keep the pot boiling?

You may be aware that the Good Lunch Club runs every two months on the fourth Thursday from 12.30 to 2.30 pm in the Methodist Hall in Broadway?

It attracts around 32 folk at each session and costs £6 for a three course meal (today was Tomato and Bramley Apple Soup, Lasagne and veg, Apple crumble and custard, and coffee). There is also a raffle of items that the lunchers donate, and a quiz.

It has been successfully delivered for over 15 years by a team of five people who source, cook, serve and organise the whole thing

After fantastic service to the community for so long ,the team have announced that they are hanging up their pinnies.

The last lunch will be on 22nd November 2018 in the Childswickham Village Hall

They would be delighted if a team carried the baton forward and would be happy to advise in the handover.

The ethos of the group and the friendly and inclusive way the activity runs is a **spot on fit with our other URC outreach projects.**

Namely, giving people a reason to get out of the house, enjoy themselves, meet new people, and – “Feel better and Enjoy life more”.

Could it be an opportunity for a team to take on an up and running successful activity and contribute to the life of the community?

CTIB have been asked if they are able support, and we are in discussions with some of our other local community partners too. We'll keep you posted.

Let Mark know if you think you might be able to help in some way.

Peter Nuttall (Susan's grandson), who is working as a Christian Youth leader with Scripture Union in South Africa, will be sharing something of his work with us during our Worship on Sunday 13th January 2019, and afterwards in conversations over Coffee and a Bring and Share Lunch.

This is being arranged by our Church in Society committee. More details in due course, but note the date now.

Meanwhile, here is an extract from his most recent Newsletter:

This month has seen lots of exciting opportunities for growth in children's Ministry on the South Coast and developing new School

Groups. On 1st September I ran a training day on Using Drama to teach. From this a number of opportunities have developed. One person asked if we could come and help develop their School Christian Group to make it more effective. And Lindani was able to meet with them. Some other people were inspired that they wanted to start something in their church for young people and the two ladies from Lindani's church were inspired to use drama in the way they teach at Sunday School. They had always thought that it was just about standing at the front and talking, but now they are being more creative and are excited about the next training event. So that was a win in many ways. It was good to see through the performances at the end that people had learned some lessons and put them into practise.

Christian Fellowship –“Pilgrimages”

Further to our discussions as a church about “being disciples” it was felt that people would value days out together for fellowship using the Nomads Community Bus

Vicki Packman is coordinating this for us and following suggestions from the congregation we have been investigating some options

Church Fellowship Day Out – Friday 9th November 9.45 till 3pm

St Mary’s, Fairford

“The stained and painted glass at Fairford is the most extensive glazing programme still surviving in any English parish church. Twenty-eight windows have been preserved, dating from 1500-15...they constitute the greatest ensemble of Anglo-Netherlandish glass in existence.”

So, we’re off to experience it. Nomads Community Bus, guided tour, time together for prayer and worship in the Lady’s Chapel. Let Vicki Packman know if you’d like to come. Cost £2 per person.

Pershore Abbey

The response to the suggested visit to Pershore Abbey on the evening of 8th December to hear the Worcestershire Male Voice Choir Christmas concert is very encouraging and the bus is now pretty well full. We shall be leaving the Church at 6pm

Let Vicki know if you might like to join the happy band

NEWS FROM TWAM

Meet Edwin

I am always amazed when I have the privilege of seeing our work in Africa first hand, to hear the challenges of those we support. Sometimes, the challenges seem impossible to overcome, yet they try so hard. I introduced you to Pastor Alfonse and his work with the Kasese Baptist Church in Uganda a few months ago, but return to him now. He is reaching out to street kids with tools, training, love and spiritual support. What he is achieving is truly remarkable.

Edison is 16 and one of the young men I will never forget. He asked Pastor Alfonse the question: **How can I survive when no-one cares for me?**

Edison asked this question when his father died and his mother asked him to leave. It is common when a parent is left alone that the boys are asked to leave and only come home if they can help support the family. For Edison that meant going to work in the one worst places in Uganda - a sand mine. He says: "I was mining sand because no one cared about me and I needed to earn money. My father died and left my mother to bring up five children. I am the youngest. I used to mine sand as I had to support myself and help the whole family." The work mining sand out of the river is a very hard and gruelling job that pays very little for very hard labour. It is not the place for a young man to be. Thankfully he was spotted by one of the volunteer community workers from Kasese Baptist Church and offered a place in their skills centre learning mechanics. Edison desperately wanted to accept but did not think he could because if he gave up his job and could no longer provide for his family he would have to leave home again. Pastor Alfonse spoke to his family and they realised what an amazing opportunity this was and decided to support him through his six- month training. TWAM provided all the tools for the training centre and once Edison completed his course provided him with a Mechanics kit. He says:

"Without this training I wouldn't get any job and do not know what I would do." So with the support of TWAM, Pastor Alfonse

was able to answer Edison's question, 'How can I survive when no one cares for me?' A wonderful answer to a desperate cry for help.

September Delivery

In September we sent out a huge 40 foot high cube container, over twice the size of our normal containers. It is now on its way to DR Congo. It contained

- 18 Treadle Sewing Machine , 93 Manual Sewing Machine
- 214 Electric Sewing Machine , 70 Haberdashery
- 11 Knitting Machine , 2 Ribber for Knit m/c
- 9 Machine Knitting Instruction/Pattern Books
- 28 Bag of Knitting Machine Wool , 13 Hand Knitting Pack
- 87 Carpentry Kits Trade , 25 Carpentry Kit Workshop
- 45 Saws Pack , 14 Wood Lathe , 8 Band Saw , 8 Table Saw
- 104 Desktop Computer , 50 Laptop Computer
- 10 Vices - Wood , 20 Builders Kit (Box of 2)
- 35 Groundworkers Kit , 10 Vices - Metal , 34 Motor Mechanics Kit , 10 Garage Kit , 8 Plumbers Kit , 10 Electricians Kit

Pat Wallace

Signpost Annual General Meeting

All who are interested are invited to attend
Monday, 12th November
at 7pm.

United Reformed Church,
77 High Street, Broadway

Broadway United Reformed Church
77, High Street , Broadway , Worcestershire. WR12 7AL
www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk

Minister	Rev. Richard Becher
Secretary	Joanne Griffin burcsecretary@outlook.com
Booking Secretaries	Margaret and Roger Harrington
Church E-mail address	broadwayurc@outlook.com

Articles for the next Broadsheet can be sent to broadsheet.editor@hotmail.co.uk or can be placed in the folder at the back of the Church
Closing date for articles 12th November 2018.

REGULAR MEETINGS

Monday	Broadway and Towerview Playschool 9am -12noon Elders Meeting (first Monday in the month)
Tuesday	Table Games Afternoon 1st Tuesday each month 2-4pm Tai Chi 6.30 -8pm
Wednesday	Broadway and Towerview Playschool 9am -12noon Neighbours on Line 2- 4pm every other week Threads 2pm -4pm 3rd Wednesday of month Music Makers 7.30 - 9.00pm
Thursday	Look After Yourself 10.30am—12noon Today's Our Day 2-4pm
Friday	PILOTS 6.30pm -8pm Fun and activities in a Christian environment during term time for everyone aged 4-18