

The Broadsheet



July 2021



Midsummer dawn—Thetford Forest Fran Pickering

To know Jesus better,
And to make Him better known

Dear Friends,

The pandemic has given many of us more time to reflect on the many aspects of our lives that we take for granted and appreciate what we have. In this area with low rates of Covid-19 we have been spared the worst of it. Most of our loved ones have not contracted the disease and even fewer have spent time in hospital or died.

As a key worker I have worked throughout but I have had all the time I would have had seeing family and friends face to face free. Zoom, messenger, skype, teams, emails, snail mail, phone calls etc combined have still left me with some 'free' time.

Rick has spent all his spare time gardening-I am sure he deserves a gold medal from the RHS for effort! As for feeding the birds, encouraging wildlife, growing our own vegetables, making a wildflower meadow, replacing the liner on one of our reservoirs.....

I have spent some time contacting friends/family who are ill (one with long covid) across the world and I am struck by how kind and appreciative many people have become. Normal activities have now become major events such as having coffee in a garden socially distancing.

This awful virus has given us time to pause and reevaluate our priorities. What are the most important acts we can do?

As the bible says:

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all

in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (**Colossians 3:17**). Every believer has an opportunity to show their gratefulness to God by doing good works for others. It is the Lord who gives us the strength to serve, to give, and to work.

This is what I believe this virus has allowed us to focus on. Everyone can make an adjustment to be more grateful for everyday experiences. Our environment in many cases is better than before covid-less air pollution, better tended gardens, more eco initiatives, more birds.... WE HAVE MUCH TO BE GRATEFUL FOR. ALLELUIA!

With every blessing,

Laura

Thank you to everyone who has played a part in making the church land more bio diverse.

Your generosity has meant the project is now complete.



We no longer need any more plants.



At least until the Autumn. 😊

Why not have a wander round and enjoy this new space?

The Eco Church steering team

Christian Aid Week Broadway 2021

Cash or cheque donations..

The Street collection, our own Church Collection and the Book Stall raised £1778.52 . This, together with Gift Aid tax recovery, raised the total sent to CA to just above £2,000!! A huge thank you to all gave or assisted in any way.

In addition the Just Giving Page set up by St Michaels produced £ 240 before the addition of Gift Aid .

Emergency Fund

On 24th May a further £ 100 was send to the Oxygen for India Fund run by British Asian Trust. The Emergency Fund has now returned to being a non-specific fund.

Ann Walters CISC

Open the Book

Although we have not been able to visit the two schools in Broadway over the past year, we were able to provide copies of the Youth Bible to all the leavers as usual.

We hope to resume in September if circumstances permit.

Michael and I think our group started in 2002 - we joined the Gloucestershire training group, with about seven or eight other people from different churches. Most of the others left over the years, usually as they were leaving Broadway, so Michael Eden, Mark and I are the only members of the original group and next year we celebrate 20 years of story-telling. (That may be cheating, as we lost a

year in 2020). Fortunately, new members joined us, so we were able to keep going.

A visitor came from Ghana to watch our presentation a few years ago and International OtB launched in Ghana in 2016. Later this year it is due for launch in Kenya and Albania. The aim is to have OtB in every region of the world within five years.

It is strange to think that it all started with two volunteers going into Bedford schools in 1999 and grew from there.

From small acorns.....

My thanks to all the volunteers who have , and still are, coming in on Monday mornings, and to the church members who support the team.

Margaret Harrington

A Date for your Diary

A Saturday morning talk, organised by the Church in Society committee will be given on October 2nd at 10.30am by Helen, one of the Campden Home Nursing team.

The group have widened their scope of care into a broader area, and now have a meeting centre in Aston Road in Chipping Campden for various groups, including our own Broadway Cancer Support group. The committee hopes that as many members and friends as possible will support this, as it will be the first time for many months that a Saturday talk can be given in person, rather than via Zoom.

Margaret

Birthday Celebrations

15th July Sheila Lovibond

16th July Eric Watts

26th July Alex Peters



Flower Rota

July 4th Virginia Becher

July 11th Laura Holt

July 18th Vicki Packman

July 25th

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

Mavis and her husband John were members of Oulton United Reformed Church; on moving to live in South Littleton they began to worship with us at Broadway where they felt very much at home and, by transfer of membership, were warmly welcomed on 4th March 1990.

Leslie and I were privileged to share many years of personal friendship with Mavis and John. It's impossible to reflect on them as separate individuals so our friendship grew through a shared love of hospitality. Mavis loved inviting us to supper – we were always invited to arrive at 7.30 in the evening, but eventually got accustomed to the meal being served about 9.30; the talking went on until the early hours with the conversation varying from football, religion and politics!

Mavis loved music – enjoyed playing her grand piano and singing in the Littleton Ladies Choir which, for a time, was conducted by our youngest Son, Ian. Sadly, in her later years, Mavis' eyesight deteriorated but this never stopped her making the most delicious pastry (nothing weighed or measured), but I was always invited to help with the serving.



For many years, we spent New Years Eve together with Don and Norma, friends from Oulton Church, celebrating the arrival of a new year rotating between the three homes. The occasions at South Littleton included a telephone conversation with John and Mavis's daughter Sally in Australia.

Ours had been a real friendship, based on common interests and a common faith. Truly blessed that our paths crossed.

Joanne

Prayer for Zimbabwe

Wilbert Sayimani

Lord God, in pursuit for justice, freedom and civil liberties, we pray for the leadership of Zimbabwe. Give them wisdom, vision and a desire for justice. We bring before you men and women serving prison sentences for crimes they did not commit. Men, women, and children struggling to put food on their tables as all their means of survival have been thwarted. Lord, we pray for the eroding economy of this land. Weed out all corrupt elements to prepare for the kind of governance that you desire. We pray for those risking their lives crossing borders in search for greener pastures elsewhere, which for some remains a “pie in the sky” even when they get there. We bring before you those dying in hospitals or at home with no access to drugs or better facilities. We do not forget those sacrificing their own lives for the sake of others. Doctors, nurses, teachers and all other civil servants fighting for the good of all. You are a good God and you hear the prayers of your people. Hear us Lord and come and heal Zimbabwe. Amen

Wilfred and Wendy in the vegetable garden.

Story 13

Wilfred and Wendy had been visiting Aunt Agatha and after a good sleep they said their thanks and goodbyes and set off for home. Some time ago, the worms had built lots of tunnels to enable them to get around quickly and easily so it did not take them long to get to the vegetable garden. As it was nearly morning they found some side tunnels and went to sleep. It seemed as though they had hardly got to sleep when the ground began to shake. Worms were wiggling everywhere trying to escape the shaking ground. Wilfred and Wendy did not know where to go or where their relatives were. Wilfred very carefully looked out of a hole.

He saw something he had never seen before. It was sort of like the thing that cut the grass except the cutting bits were digging into the soil and chopping it up. Wilfred knew they had to



get out of the way as quickly as possible or they would be cut into little pieces. “Quick, find a tunnel and get back to the rockery,” he said to Wendy. Wilfred soon found a tunnel they had made a long time ago and it wasn’t long before he found his way home. He waited and expected Wendy to come wiggling along behind him, but she did not appear.

After a while he decided to look for her and then realised it was not a sensible thing to do as she could be anywhere. Several worms came past but they had not seen her. Wilfred was really worried but there was nothing he could do except wait. He tried to go to sleep but couldn't. A horrible thought kept coming into his head, perhaps she had not escaped the chopping up machine and would never come back. As worms can only count to one he did not know how many days had passed, but it seemed a lot. Wilfred was just about to give up hope when he heard a familiar voice, it was Wendy. They gave each other a really big wormy cuddle. Wendy told him she had taken the wrong tunnel in the panic that had occurred and did not know where she was, so just kept wiggling on. After a while she realised she was not far from the compost bin, so Aunt Agatha could not be far away. She asked a passing worm to take her to Aunt Agatha's house, which it did. Aunt Agatha was very surprised to see her but had heard all about what had happened. Apparently it was a machine called a rotovator that had caused the problem. After some food and a good sleep, Aunt Agatha asked some worms help Wendy get back home, which they did.



It took several days for Wilfred and Wendy to get over their adventure and return to normal. Wendy snuggled up to Wilfred, "I don't want to leave here again, we have a lovely home looking out onto the garden, some family and good friends. Why risk getting chopped up, eaten, squashed, dried out and getting lost". Wilfred thought about what she had said and wondered if she meant it, after all most of the ideas came from her. He had been really scared when she did not come home and wondered if any other creatures got frightened when their friends and partners got lost. "Ok," was all he could say.

Did Wilfred and Wendy have any more adventures? We will have to wait and see if Oi You writes them!

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

Minister	Rev. Richard Becher
Secretary	M. Tunwell secretary.broadwayurc@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 Friday 23rd July 2021

A Note from the Editor

Due to family commitments in August I shall not be compiling the
Broadsheet .

The next issue will be sent out at the end of July for August and
September so if you have anything for either of those months you
wish to have included please forward it to me by 23rd July.

The Broadsheet will then be sent out at the end of September for
October.

Kath