

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

10p

No. 8

NOVEMBER 1980



Blisland P.O. in 1901

Priest in charge: The Reverend C. R. Sargisson, The Rectory, Blisland.

Churchwardens (Blisland) Brigadier Edward—Collins.

Mr. G. Masters

(St. Breward) Mr. C. Greenaway

Mrs. S. Hutton

Bodmin: 850249

Cardinham 226

Bodmin 850331

Bodmin 850433

Bodmin 850761

PARISH CALENDARS

BLISLAND with TEMPLE

November 1st Saturday ALL SAINTS Holy Communion 10.00 a.m.
 November 2nd Sunday COMMEMORATION OF ALL SAINTS (Trinity 22)
 Parish Communion (Requiem) 10.00 a.m.
 November 5th Wednesday Mothers' Union 3.00 p.m.
 November 9th Seventh Sunday before Christmas (Trinity 23)
 Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
 November 13th Thursday Meeting of Parents -(see Sunday
 School Notes) The Rectory 6.45. p.m.
 November 16th Sixth Sunday before Christmas (Trinity 24)
 Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
 November 19th Wednesday Mothers' Union Corporate
 Communion 10.00 a.m.
 November 22nd Saturday CHRISTMAS FAIR Village Hall
 November 23rd Fifth Sunday before Christmas (Last Trinity)
 Feast of Christ the King. Parish Communion
 10.00 a.m.
 November 25th S. Catherine of Alexandria, Patroness of
 TEMPLE church. Holy Communion at TEMPLE 11.00 a.m.
 November 30th First Sunday in ADVENT (Fourth before Christmas)
 Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.

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ST BREWARD

November 2nd Sunday COMMEMORATION OF ALL SOULS(Trinity 22)
 Mattins 11.30 a.m.
 November 5th Wednesday Mothers' Union at Blisland 3.00 p.m.
 November 9th Seventh Sunday before Christmas (Trinity 23)
 Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
 November 16th Sixth Sunday before Christmas (Trinity 24)
 Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
 November 19th Wednesday Mothers' Union Corporate
 Communion (at Blisland) 10.00 a.m.
 November 23rd Fifth Sunday before Christmas (Last Trinity)
 Feast of Christ the King Parish Communion
 11.30 a.m.
 November 30th First Sunday in ADVENT (4th before Christmas)
 Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.

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FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

I often wonder what we mean when we so lightly and loosely use the word "religious" -- (this next bit is going to be a bit solid, but don't skip it)

The O.E.D. defines 'religious' as, among other things, "imbued with religion; pious. godly". It defines religion as "action or conduct indicating a belief in, reverence for and desire to please, a divine ruling power; the exercise or practice of rites or observance implying this."

It seems to me that if churchpeople are going to concentrate on the "rites or observance" bit of that definition to the neglect of other aspects, then we might as well shut up our three churches and sell them for domestic dwellings or something, -- and serve us right.

I have heard it said, for instance, that this magazine is not very religious or not very Church. This is the kind of remark that makes me indignant enough to sit down and write an article like this. I cannot refer to the contents of this current issue because I have to send my copy in before I can see the rest of the material, so I can only refer to last month's which as usual has the names of some of the Church officers on the cover, which also usually has a picture of an undoubtedly church-y nature as well. (Now I'm doing it myself, but as S. Paul would say, now I am speaking like a fool) and in September St Pratt's Cross fitted the Feast . But back to October - the first four pages were solid church stuff, including a splendid picture of the late Charles Cawrse with the children of our Blisland C.P. School, Dr Leslie, Rhoda Rickard our organist and and the Rector's left eye.

There were three further pages on Temple Church and its dubious marriages. And for the rest ? The great wheel at Gawns which pumped the clay one and a half miles from Greenbarrow Pit, a Parish Council report (we pray for the Councils regularly at Blisland and St Breward), St Breward Scouts and their need for helpers and an article on the bridges of the Camel and the de Lank, both of which were true to their ancient character when they successfully marooned the Rector on September 21st so that he could not become the

Vicar by crossing the de Lank (Work that one out!)

Now I maintain that this is all good religious stuff because it is what life is made of. I do not accept this nasty implied distinction between what is supposed to be sacred and what is supposed to be secular. It comes perilously near to implying that your religion is something separate from your life.

We are God's people and we live in God's world which he has made. The Greenbarrow workers and the men on the wheel, the mineral train at Wenford, the welfare of the young people, Scouts and school children, are all very much to do with God's world - through work and through other people we all learn more and more about what God has made. To me this is all "pious" and "godly" and has to do with the "spiritual and practical effects of religion". All life is fundamentally religious, and if the Church cannot show concern for the life of the people then we have not understood what the Incarnation is all about.

Come to think of it, what was it that our Lord used when he gave us the most "religious" of all observances? Bread and wine - common every day stuff, not very religious. Had he lived in this country now he would probably have used tea.

Conrad Sargisson

St Catherine's Day, Tuesday November 25th
Patron of TEMPLE Church

I hope that 11.00 a.m. is a good time for some of us to get to Temple on the feast day of that sadly neglected and beautiful place, - I mean neglected in the sense of its being a lovely place of worship - from which to stay away. The Crusaders, who built their church there were active in the cult of St Catherine and her legend flourished in Europe under their influence.

CRS

Burials

September 22nd	Mabel Sleeman of Pentor
October 6th	Lilian Iris Matthews of Pendrift
October 11th	Dorothy May Runnalls of Tregenna

Burial of Ashes

October 9th Gwendolin Edith Coggin of Lank

Our two communities have felt keenly the loss of so many of their valued members in so short a time. Especially is this true in Blisland, where our community is so small. The grief and loss was seen in the numbers attending the funerals, and that will have strengthened the mourning families. It was just as keen among the little group who attended the burial of Mrs Coggin's ashes. Her loss is felt by the little community at Lank. However where the Cross is there is always the Resurrection. May the souls of the departed rest in peace.

souls of the departed rest in peace.
C.R.S.

[illegible]

Holy Baptism

On September 14th , Lucy Elizabeth, infant daughter of George and Thelma Whitehouse, at St Breward.

W.V.R.S. Over 60s Club

We had our usual sunny warm weather for the outing to Falmouth in August, which was so much enjoyed that another day out, to Tavistock and Dartmoor was arranged.

This outing on September 19th was also spent in lovely weather (although it was wet and windy on Bodmin moor that day) and with so many friends supporting us we were able to fill the coach. This seems likely to be the last of our outings this year, and we now look forward to our indoor activities for the winter.

The harvest meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of September was also most successful and a very pleasant afternoon was spent with the Club members from St Breward. Mr Hambley auctioned the produce and a special tea was enjoyed.

As winter draws near and our activities are confined to the village hall we shall be looking for suggestions for speakers and other forms of entertainment. Come along with suggestions on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

G. M. Masters

MOTHERS' UNION

The combined branches of Blisland and St Breward M.U. continue to meet on the first Wednesday in each month.

In September, following the office which was said in Church, members adjourned to the Rectory. Mrs Eddy of Rock showed a series of slides depicting the Passion Play at Oberammergau, from which she had recently returned.

In October members met at the home of Mrs Miller, where the annual bring and buy stall effort was held, in aid of branch funds. A raffle was given by St Breward.

Miss Stewart illustrated her visit to the Hebrides with a varied selection of slides. A delightful tea followed.

G.M.M.

A house group is being formed to undertake the "Partners in Mission" study recommended by the Bishop and Diocesan Synod, and by the time you read this Jeremy Dowling, Chairman of the House of Laity will have introduced it to both our churches (October 26th)

Please contact the Rector -
or Vicar - for details

BLISLAND SUNDAY SCHOOL

September 14th was an historic occasion when us down here joined you over there for a combined Youth Service, helped by singers from Camelford Station Methodist Church. All wrapped up in the middle was the baptism of Lucy Elizabeth Whitehouse, may the happy start to her life in Christ be the beginning of greater love and unity between us. For those in need of inspiration and revival Camelford "Station on Sunday" at 8 p.m. is the place to find it.

I wish I could say the same of Blisland Sunday School which takes place at 10.00 a.m., but unless the children's parents are really committed it will be impossible to continue in its present form. The Rector has kindly invited all parents, teachers and helpers from both parishes to meet at the Rectory on Thursday 13th November at 6.45p.m. to consider the best way of meeting the needs of our young people. PLEASE make this a priority.

L.B.

BLISLAND YOUTH CLUB

We have not yet persuaded any of the fathers or big brothers of members to help with the Youth Club, however many thanks to one of our mothers, Shirley Hargreaves, who has undertaken to "give it a whirl" and see how things work out.

Now we have a new young man, Colin Greenaway, representing the Youth Club on the Village Hall Management Committee. This can only mean that he and his friends mean to come forward and

give a hand. Good luck
to them all, surely this
must mean things are
stirring at last.

SV

DO YOU PLAY CHESS ?

Would anyone interested in the idea of forming a Chess Club to meet and play in turn in member's homes, please contact Mr S. G. Langshaw at Morwenna, Tre-genna, Blisland (tel Bodmin 850652)

A MAN TO BE PROUD OF

Charles Cawrse, born in 1892, lived at Trehudreth from the age of ten, was a shrewd and successful farmer, a contented family man, lived to a ripe old age and died on 27th August 1980. Plain facts, indeed, but Blisland church was packed out for his funeral. The village stood shoulder to shoulder to honour a man whose qualities were those that gave rural England its strength, stability and style. The voices that sang the simple and moving hymn for him belonged to people who knew him very well, some of them for the whole of their lives. Talking to them lately it has been impossible not to be impressed by the affection and respect that was felt for him. "When we were lads" an old friend told me "We would work all day for he for no more than a plug of baccy."

Respect was sometimes tinged with envy, for it was not easy to keep up with him. He was always twenty years younger than his age, buoyant and full of vigour. At seventy-five he remarked ruefully to his son-in-law, as they crossed the yard together, "I'm failing Rod, I'm failing! You're getting ahead of me."

Now that he is ahead of us again we realise that his life not only revealed a grand character, but also reflected the life of Blisland through a period of unprecedented social change.

My first meeting with him was over the telephone, and as he described Wallhouse to me I had the impression that I was speaking to a jaunty young man. He was sorry he couldn't show me over that day as he was "Just now dressing to go to a wedding". I was disappointed so he suggested if I could be over within the hour his grandson would show me. I adjusted my mental picture, moved fast and expected to meet a small boy. When the grandson turned out to be John Runnalls B.Sc., I began to wonder what sort of a man this Charles Cawrse was.

I like to think of him dressing for that wedding. Already nearly eighty, upright, sturdy, with glowing skin, blue eyes alert and humourous and a warm smile, he was smartly turned out, button hole in place, shoes gleaming, a very handsome partner for his vivacious and lovely wife.

I don't think that picture was far wrong because in the following years I saw him in action and always there was that



Charlie & Mindy Cawrse

sense of style, of living life to the full, with zest and good sense. He was tough, ingenious, generous and he never broke his word. It was said of him that he was always ready to help anyone at any time lending whatever was needed from a horse and cart to a tractor, from a shovel to a pick axe. His advice was constantly sought for sick animals, for he had a great reputation as a home vet. His tender concern extended to all living things, and when his aunt was ill at Cassacawn he sat up and watched with her, night after night.

A tremendous worker, he was also a wonderful story teller aided by a sense of humour and a memory as clear as a video tape. A glass of homemade wine would get him into the swing and bygone days would live again.

Is there anyone in the parish who does not know how he started farming at the age of ten ? His father was killed in a trap accident when Charlie was a little lad, the eldest of eight children, he was sent to live with his uncle and aunt at Trehudreth. One day soon after he arrived, his uncle bought some ewes in the market, and according to custom asked for something to seal the deal 'for luck'. The vendor

reckoned he had already had his bit of luck, for he'd bought the ewes cheap, but he relented and threw in an ugly 'bob-tailed yaw', a ewe whose tail had been cut too close to her body. This ewe was given to Charlie, and soon by good management and the good luck that was to attend him all his life she produced twin lambs. It was not long before he owned quite a little flock and his uncle was telling him he should find some land of his own. Never at a loss, Charlie sold his lambs for five shillings each (that's 25p today), bought an empty cow for £5.00 and persuaded a neighbouring farmer to keep her for him in exchange for what milk he could get from her. Once again his luck held and the old cow gave him a calf which became the foundation of his herd. He was working evenings and weekends before he left school, and at fourteen worked full time dividing his daylight hours between Truhudreth, his mother's place at Little Trehudreth and Tremoreland at Cardinham.

Although his younger brothers joined up in the Great War, his place, as head of the family, was to stay on the farm, and in due course, when his uncle died, he was able to buy Trehudreth, and in 1919 brought his bride, 'Mindy' - Wilmot Mary Coppin, from Cardinham, to be his delightful and intelligent companion. I wish we had photographs of those times. Life was certainly very different, harder but much more social. There was little moving about, people stayed where they were in a relatively small world, and Charlie put all his energies into enriching that world. There was co-operation between farmers, and all the men would decide together when a field was ready to cut, and then they would make hay together. At haytime and harvest there would be tremendous activity both inside and out, as the hay and corn was brought to the yard, and ricks were built and thatched. In the kitchen all the women would help to prepare vast meals for enormous appetites - everyone had their place in the life of the farms, milking, making butter, rearing poultry, plucking and selling. Work was done by hand, scythes, sickles and the inevitable prong being absolutely essential. After harvest came threshing time when the threshing gang would move in with the steam thresher, hauled from farm to farm, and from rick to rick by the great shire horses.

Horses, of course, were a part of life, and Charlie and Mindy both loved them. He was a very good rider as many will remember from the sponsored ride in 1974, and Mindy, though



Charlie and granddaughter Susan when he won the prize for the oldest rider at the sponsored ride. He was 81.

she never learned to drive a car, would think nothing of packing up a picnic and driving the children in the jingle to Polzeath for the day, and even to Par. If it rained the umbrellas went up. Sometimes she would take them for a whole week, and they still remember the gipsy caravan on Tristram (now the carpark on Polzeath beach) and crossing the beach to fetch water from the adit on the far side. There might be all of twenty people on the beach in those days, when the jingles were parked on the dry sand and the horses were stabled in the buildings up the valley.

Charlie was never much of a one for holidays, regarding a night away from Trehudreth as a night wasted - the Motor Show and Smithfield were the exceptions - but he knew how to enjoy himself and give enjoyment. He was one of the leading organisers of St Pratts Sports (in those days St Pratts was a four day event. Church on Sunday; Sale on Monday; Tuesday to sleep it off and Sports on Wednesday) One of his horses Big Tim, a working horse, distinguished himself by winning the jumping events at St Pratts. As time went on he became the winner of many trophies for his mares and foals at the Royal Cornwall Show, of which Association he was an original



Scything in August 1980

member. He was very active in the NFU and although he was always a conservative, he was ready to make use of new techniques. He was among the first to keep Premium bulls at stud to improve local stock.

In 1939 he joined the Local Defence Volunteers, forerunners of the Home Guard, and with others kept watch on Blisland Beacon and engaged in manoeuvres at Tresarrett and Waterloo. At this time, too, he had a NAAFI contract to supply vegetables to the Services stationed in Bodmin. Many are the amusing stories told of his wife and wit in this enterprise. Contacts he made in the war added greatly to his knowledge of men and he came to be a shrewd judge of character.

Gradually he extended his acreage and in 1948 acquired his first tractor whose iron cleats had to be fitted with wooden wedges before it could be taken on the road. In 1966 Charles Cawrse became Chairman of the Bodmin Branch of the NFU. As the years went on he was able to enjoy the successes of his children and grandchildren. He was very proud of them, as they are of him, being as delighted with Susan's rosettes as with his son's OBE.

He was always appreciative and ready to give credit where it was due, nor was he ever a complainer or dull and dreary. Even when his beloved Mindy died, in 1975, he was prepared to 'travel the road alone', looking after himself and delighting to entertain his friends and family with a glass of homemade wine and a yarn. Asked why he did not retire he answered that he wanted to be "a competitor, not a spectator" and to the end of his life, when he appeared to open the Village Hall for the Jubilee celebrations, or as guest of honour at the school centenary, wherever he went he still turned many heads.

If ever there was a man that made you feel life is worth living, that man was surely Charlie Cawrse.

Lolita Bamford

ST BREWARD PARISH COUNCIL

I would first like to thank those of you who took the trouble to write and talk to us about "Silversprings". No decision has yet been taken, we will be discussing this matter at the beginning of November. Meanwhile your Councillors have spent quite a lot of time at meetings outside the Parish and I have decided to concentrate on two of these in this article.

Civil Defence

The County Emergency Planning Officers have been giving a series of lectures on what to do in the event of a nuclear war. It is thought that 80 per cent of the population of the County would survive the immediate effects of a nuclear attack on the important targets in and around the County. Because of our location the chances of survival within our parishes is comparatively good. However without information, practical help and careful planning, many folk would die of radiation disease in the weeks following an attack. Our Parish is revising its Emergency Plan, which will include all aspects of life after a holocaust. This now includes such matters as care of the elderly, provision of food and community feeding centres, medical assistance, communications advice and help with fall out shelters and so on. The Emergency Plan hinges on Community Advisers - trained volunteers who would advise and assist you. Apart from the Councillors, who have been trained, St Brevard now has five Community Advisers, probably as many as any other Parish in the County. If there is sufficient demand we will arrange an information evening regarding this subject.

Atoms for Peace?

Three of us have been to an information evening at Cambridge to hear some very distinguished men answering questions about Nuclear Power. One of those opposing the growth of Nuclear Power was Sir Kelvin Spencer CBE, a former Chief Scientist at the Ministry of Fuel and Power. This is an immense subject that should be dealt with at length, but briefly, I came away with the impression that the dangers of nuclear power are sometimes overstated (the industry has a very good safety record), but that the need for power was very much exaggerated. The panel did not dispute the Leach Report which says that we could reduce our fuel

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

BLISLAND

The Blisland W.I. meets every third Wednesday in the Month in the Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

After a brief summer break in August the W.I. is back in full swing again. Our September meeting started the 'New Term' off with an extremely interesting speaker, Mrs Harvey, who spoke and presented slides on the work, in all its aspects, of the staff and the patients of St Lawrence's Hospital. This was followed by an hilarious sale of vegetables, preserves and cookery kindly supplied by members - the proceeds being to boost our funds. Mrs Sharp was very brave and bought half of an enormous pumpkin. I am glad to say that she has since reported that jam made from it is super.

Final arrangements for the St Petroc Group Meeting were made, and we look forward to entertaining St Breward, Bodmin, Helland and St Lawrence W.I.s on October 23rd.

The vital cups of tea and weight defying food were supplied by Mesdames Langshaw and Ward-Lee and Mrs G Masters won the prize for the most amusing original

Limerick. Oh! It's all GO at our Meetings, so why not come along and see for yourselves. In October (before this comes out) Mrs Brown from Bodmin will be demonstrating yeast cookery, and November brings Mrs Spear, also from Bodmin, who will show us how to do simple Flower Arrangements. So can we tempt you ?

Eileen Walford

WIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWIWI

ST BREWARD

After some discussion of the next Group Meeting at Blisland, and of W.I. policy on Group activities in general, members were metaphorically transported to Austria, Italy and France when Mrs Wilkin showed slides and gave a graphic account of her recent tour and fourth visit to the famous and very moving Passion Play at Oberammergau. She and her projectionist were warmly thanked by Mrs J. Brown.

Plans were made for a fund-raising Coffee Evening with stalls and refreshments, to be held at the Red Cross Centre, St Breward, on Wednesday 19th November at 7 p.m.

Pamela Bousfield

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