

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

10p

No. 10

JANUARY 1981



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

January 4th Second Sunday after Christmas. Parish
Communion 10.00 a.m.

January 6th Tuesday. The Epiphany of Our Lord. Holy
Communion 10.00 a.m.

January 7th Wednesday. Mothers' Union 3.00 p.m.

January 9th Friday. "Partners in Mission" Discussion
Group: Rectory 7.30 p.m.

January 11th First Sunday after Epiphany. Parish
Communion 10.00 a.m.

January 18th Second Sunday after Epiphany. Parish
Communion 10.00 a.m.

January 21st Wednesday. Mothers' Union Corporate
Communion 10.00 a.m.

January 25th Sunday. Conversion of St Paul. Parish
Communion 10.00 a.m.

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ST BREWARD

January 4th Second Sunday after Christmas. Mattins 11.30a.m.

January 6th Tuesday The Epiphany of Our Lord. Holy
Communion at Blisland

January 7th Wednesday. Mothers' Union. Blisland, 3.00p.m.

January 9th Friday. "Partners in Mission" Study Group.
Blisland Rectory 7.30 p.m. Recruits
welcome.

January 11th First Sunday after Epiphany. Parish
Communion 11.30 a.m.

January 14th Wednesday. Parochial Church Council Meeting
7.30 p.m.

January 18th Second Sunday after Epiphany. Parish
Communion 11.30 a.m.

January 25th Sunday. Conversion of St Paul. Parish
Communion 11.30 a.m.

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PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

November 30th Terri Marie daughter of Terence
and Elaine Barbery, at Blisland

December 7th Joanna daughter of Charmian and
John Pilley, at Blisland

Joanna will be going overseas for some time, though we shall look forward to seeing her for a while next year. She has stuck to Sunday School through thick and thin and her Baptism was a most joyful and godly occasion, which some of us will always remember as we wish her well and continue to pray for her.

Burial Service

December 10th Arthur J. Hambley at Blisland

He died a week after suffering a stroke, and the village will miss him more than I can say. He was a good friend to our church. I always called him our Resident Auctioneer at church functions, for who knows how much money he raised for us over the years with all his good humoured and gentle powers of persuasion? We must be thankful that he lived to enjoy for a while the benefit of surgery which made him able not only to walk unaided, but also once again to ride his beloved horses. Not long before he died he told me how he had been able to take advantage of a dryish spell to get his garden ready for next year. We shall miss this gentle cheerful man and have a lot to learn from his grit and perseverance. We are all thinking of his widow and sons.

C.S.

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

A Happy New Year to all who live in these parishes and to all our many readers who live elsewhere. As I go about my work it is clear to me that this magazine arouses a good deal of interest and is eagerly sought after. The year ought to start with thanks to all who buy it and write in it and make its production possible.

January 6th is the Feast of the Epiphany, when the Wise Men came. From the gifts they brought, mentioned by St Matthew in three kinds, it is usually assumed that the visiting wizards or wise men were also three, but he does not say so. What is plain is that mysterious travellers came from far away, drawn to the presence of the child by their study of the stars; that they worshipped him as God, offering gifts of outward signs of affection and reverence. (What strange gifts for a baby.)

The gifts are that: an outward sign, sacramental in that they express an inward conviction of the heart as a result of faith. They were not content just to feel worship-full. Their will came into it. They took the trouble to make the journey. They did something about their worship in the outward action of the gifts.

There are in every place people who call themselves believers but who would not like to be tied down too precisely about just what they believe. There are also some who would claim the name of Christian but who do not see the necessity of going regularly to a place of public worship. There are also those who have at some time in the past been church - or chapel-goers, and who find that various pressures of life seem nowadays to stop them getting there. It seems to me that the wise men could have gone on being vague believers, being fearfully busy with their astrological gadgetry, and could have saved themselves a lot of trouble by staying at home and worshipping God under the beautiful blue dome of heaven. But they didn't. Theirs was the achievement of taking themselves in hand. They handed the will over to God, made a great effort by travelling in days when any journey was more perilous than any we may take from house to church. They may not even have known how to worship, but they simply got on with it. And they have taught us all.

The wise men may have got nothing out of their worship. Worship is not there to thrill you, give you satisfaction or move you to make you go again next week because you liked the hymn tunes, loved the language of the service or found the sermon helpful. (If any of that did happen, that is a bonus and you were lucky.) Worship can be at its most praise worthy when the music is dreadful, the language arid and the preacher just rotten, for then it is all give and no take.

That, then is partly what I believe the Wise Men's worship to be all about; pure, contemplating worship, just looking and offering yourself, as you would look at someone you love.

Conrad Sargisson



Leading the Carnival through Blisland
Arthur Hambley, much loved husband, father and grand
father, remembered with great affection by all who
knew him



The History of Jubilee Rock

The year 1810 was the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of King George 111rd, which is commemorated on Jubilee Rock. At this time Britain was fighting for survival against France. The war had already lasted for seventeen years, since 1793, and five more years were to pass before Napoleon was finally defeated at Waterloo. Manpower was becoming more and more of a problem as the years passed. Press gangs were active in the ports, recruiting officers in the towns and villages. Many of Blisland's families had already sent to the war, among them Edward Collins of Trewardale, a Captain in the Royal Navy, his brother Basset Collins of the 74th Regiment, killed at Badajoz in Spain in March 1812 aged 27, and William Morshead of Lavethan, Colonel of the 51st Foot, who rose to become a General before his death in 1822. An account of his army career can be read on his memorial in the Church at Blisland.

In October of this Jubilee year Lieutenant John Rogers came to Blisland with a recruiting party. He was well known in the village for he was the son of the churchwarden, John Rogers of Pendree (now Pendrift) who with William Lean had been responsible for the recasting of the bells some years earlier, -- his name and Lean's are inscribed inside one of the bells.

The arrival of twenty-four year old Lieutenant Rogers would certainly have caused crowds to assemble on the Green, drawn by the sound of the fifes and drums and the red uniforms of his soldiers. What success he had in getting recruits we do not know, but no doubt plenty of ale from the old Blisland Inn helped to swell the numbers.

Lieutenant Rogers seems to have been a gifted young man, an architect and a poet, who was probably responsible for the designs carved on Jubilee rock, not only as a tribute to the king, but to give a patriotic boost to his recruiting drive. He also composed the verses engraved on a brass plate which was originally fixed to the rock. This plate has since been removed and is known to have been in the possession of the Rogers family from whom it later passed to Wesley Rich of St Austell. Any information as to its present whereabouts would be of great interest.

John Rogers' designs included the figure of Britannia on the front, with the Royal Arms; on the sides the arms of the Duke of Cornwall and of the chief landowners in the district Sir Arscott Molesworth - at that time Lord of the Manor of Blisland, and Viscount Falmouth. Other emblems represented Industry, Agriculture, Plenty and Commerce as well as Masonic insignia. According to an article in Cornish Life magazine, in 1977, by Pat Munn, the arms of Rogers and Morshead were also incised but this is not certain.

Who carved the rock, and how long did it take ? We do not know. It may have been the soldiers or men from the village, what is certain is that the work in progress was watched by the villagers who were later entertained to a feast by the young lieutenant and his men. Legend has it that the hosts dined on the rock which seems a somewhat unlikely feat, however that may be, it is certain that the merry young officer later stood upon the rock and declaimed a song composed by himself. The event was long remembered by the people of Blisland who gave the rock its historical name.

The carvings must have been painted at this time for there are records showing that it was repainted in 1862, 1887 and 1897 for Queen Victoria's Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees respectively. Today the carvings badly need attention and are in danger of disappearing altogether due to weathering. There was a suggestion in 1975 that it should be repainted in honour of our own queen's Silver Jubilee, but nothing came

of it. I believe it was once the custom to outline the designs in black paint. It would be a great pity to allow this historic memorial to vanish for the want of a few hours' work.

R. Chadburn

How many of Blisland's organisations or individuals would be prepared to help if we set up a special 'Jubilee Rock Restoration Party' ? The editor would be glad to sponsor such a venture if volunteers can be found. Names and telephone numbers (or addresses) to me please at Lavethan, Blisland, or telephone 850487.

Ruth Lumley-Smith.

The Jubilee Verses engraved on the missing brass plaque.

Great George! Thy fame
without my skill
As the vast Rock of Ages
sure
Not subject to decay
shall still
Coeval with the world
endure

*

Thy matchless glory's
far above
The poet's or the
sculptor's art;
Thy virtues have engraved
thy love
Deep in each loyal
British heart.

*

Brave Cornwall's Duke,
whom all caress
Whom every manly motive
fires,
All patriots pray for
thy success
And heaven alone thy
breast inspires-

*

A Private
Soldier of the
4th Foot at the
time of the
Napoleonic
Wars.



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BLISLAND OVER 60s Club

The first Tuesday in December was a most enjoyable occasion when we entertained our friends to a Christmas tea. Mr Moore from Camelford, showed slides of great interest, including the Cornish Coast and some of the railways in the district. He also organised a quiz of twenty or more questions on the slides, which caught our imagination and many wrong answers! The winners were Mrs Walford and Mrs Miller.

Arrangements were made for the school party on the 3rd Tuesday and the next meeting in the Hall will be on January 6th, when we hope to welcome some new members.

It was with much sadness that we heard of the death of Arthur Hambley. He was a very active Committee member and will be greatly missed by us all, and we extend our sympathy to his wife.

Gwen Masters

ST BREWARD PARISH COUNCIL

Unlucky Footpath The result of the Public Inquiry into closure of Footpath 13 (Ryland Cottage to Churchtown) - see page 13 of the July issue, has now been made known, and the Inspector has upheld the Parish Council's decision to support the closure. I would like to assure those of you who are Ramblers or are concerned that we should not lose our ancient Rights of Way, that as far as I am concerned this is not the thin end of the wedge, but that this closure is part of the revision called for in the Village Plan. What may be of greater concern to those interested in preserving footpaths is proposed legislation that may make the District Council the final arbiter when it comes to footpath closure. As the District Council is ultimately responsible for footpaths, this could lead to a conflict of interest. At present a difference of opinion between, say the District Council and the Ramblers is decided by an independent Inspector at a Public Inquiry.



On the brighter side, there is to be a proper footbridge at the bottom of Mill (Duck) Lane to join the footpath that goes to Tor Down Quarry.

Silversprings The general feeling is that this project would be too ambitious and expensive for the Village. It was decided not to proceed. However this was not a unanimous decision and we all appreciate Mr Lloyd Hoskin's efforts. We are also grateful to Mrs Hall and the Commoners for their interest and help.

Planning? The District Council has recently approved an application to build a small estate in the field by the Band Hall. It is a condition of development that this be accompanied by more street lights and all the paraphernalia of suburbia, which some of us came here to get away from and many older residents may well feel is out of keeping with the village. Those of you who read the District Planning Committee Minutes (Camelford Library) will know that the Parish Council opposed this application and I think I should explain the Council's view, in case you think it is just sour grapes on our part. The District Council's Plan for St Breward states that there is an "... absence of any estate development," "... a trend which "... will and should be allowed to continue." The Plan goes on "The employment situation is a fundamental reason for carefully controlling the amount of land allocated for future development." In the 18 months that I have been on the Council, approval has been granted or renewed for about 40 new dwellings. Where are the jobs? Is St Breward to be a commuter centre for those major employment areas of Bodmin, Wadebridge and Camelford? Or are we to become a retirement centre? Commuters often shop where they work, and as Government cuts erode the social services increasing numbers of retired folk are going to need to move closer to their families for support. These are just two reasons why the Parish Council opposed this development. Others concern road safety, visual amenity and conserving development sites and sewerage capacity to provide a continuity of work for local builders over the next twenty years. I think these are good planning considerations which seem to have been disregarded - may be because we are in a remote area. For example, a developer recently built an extension including a car port for a fourth car and so on, out on the moor in what a Conservation Officer described to me as one of the last really wild parts of Cornwall - an area described in the County Structure Plan as of 'Outstanding

Natural Beauty'. The justification for permitting this (already completed) development, which the Parish Council considered inappropriate to the area, was "In view of the isolated nature of the site I do not consider that the development as a whole is unacceptable." What else would be "not unacceptable" ? A thirty acre caravan site? Another riding school ? I know that many people think that Planning is a pain in the neck, but we have got it, and it ought to be fairly applied to all -- not just to the pensioner who wants to add a porch to the front of his house but also to the developer who can afford to take a chance.

Boundary Commission Review Mrs Pauline Nottle has details of the Boundary Commission Review of County Electoral Divisions. We are in North Cornwall Electoral Division Number 7, which includes Advent, Camelford, Lesnewth, Otterham, St Clether, St Juliot, St Gennys and Michaelstow as well as St Breward. We are just a number, not a name, but if anyone can suggest a name for this group of Parishes, we would be glad to hear it.

In my next article I hope to bring you more on the improved parking plan for Penvorder and Rostalek - if I haven't been given a different portfolio by then!

Happy New Year

Andy Henderson

ST BREWARD VILLAGE HALL

--- F I L M N I G H T ---

Thursday January 8th

at 7.30 p.m.

TARKA THE OTTER

All proceeds for the Village
Hall Funds

Further details from the
Village Hall Committee

ST BREWARD PLAY GROUP

Second Hand Shop

The Christmas Shop on December 6th made a total of £80.10p. Of this the Play Group itself only had £10.00. This is a very small amount for all the hard work involved, so the NEXT SALE on 24th of JANUARY will be a HALF PRICE CLEARANCE SALE to clear all the stock we have. More news of other sales in the next issue

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

BLISLAND

Mrs Spear gave an extremely interesting demonstration of flower arranging with the closeness of Christmas in mind. She had several useful hints on how to make a little go a long way which was particularly appreciated considering the price of flowers. Mrs Spear also very kindly donated her finished works of art to the raffle so there were six very happy winners.

The competition was won by Mrs Hutchison for her pretty homemade Christmas card and the tea hostesses were Miss Tucker and June Runnalls who provided delicious food.

I hope you all had a splendid Christmas and wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year

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It was with deep regret that we heard of the death of Mr Arthur Hambley. He was always such a kind, cheerful and obliging person and his presence will be greatly missed by us all. For some years he conducted our Produce show auctions where his wit and good humour added a special flavour to the proceedings. He will indeed be hard to replace. Our condolences go to his

wife and family.
Eileen Walford

ST BREWARD

Mrs Davey gave an excellent and enthusiastic talk on the history of spinning and showed how it is done on spindle and spinning wheel. From her own wide experience of the craft, she was able to recommend spinning not only for its usefulness but as a satisfying and soothing occupation. Afterwards she judged the monthly competition for a piece of cloth woven by a member; Mrs J. Brown was first with a scarf spun, dyed and woven by herself; Mrs G. Gill was second and Mrs J. Greenaway third.

A letter was read from the late Mrs Coggin's daughter, Mrs Sullivan, from the USA, thanking the Institute for their expression of sympathy and saying how much pleasure her mother had had from her membership of the St Breward W.I. over the years.

Final arrangements were made for the Coffee Evening at the Red Cross Room. This proved to be a popular event with stalls of cakes, groceries, white elephant and nearly-new clothes, as well as raffles. A splendid total of £59 was raised.

Pamela Bousfield

Churchyard Memorials

Who has not paused at some time to read one of the poignant or interesting epitaphs on a headstone in the churchyard ? How often one meets a visitor from overseas searching there for memorials to his ancestors! They are an important source of information, not always available in the church registers, for people trying to trace their ancestry, and an object of pilgrimage for many visitors on holiday in the County.

Sadly, many inscriptions are becoming weatherworn, or even damaged through lack of care after the descendants leave the parish, or even earlier by a clearance scheme in some parishes. So the Cornwall Family History Society has set itself the task, as part of a national scheme, to record and index for posterity all the memorial inscriptions in churchyard graves in Cornwall.

To achieve the target within a reasonable time we need help from non-members of the Society, and so far we have no volunteers for Blisland and Temple churchyards. Can anyone help ?

It is a pleasant and rewarding way to spend a quiet summer afternoon. If you are interested you can get more information, and instruction on the method of recording which the Society needs, from the M.I. Project Co-ordinator, Mrs H. J. Hicks, Paradise, Boscastle ('phone Boscastle 250)

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Although there didn't seem to be so many people there this year, proceeds from the Fair held in the Village Hall in November were up on last years. A total of £178.29p was made (Last year it was £171. 18) Many thanks to everyone who helped, kept stalls, collected, attended, spent and enjoyed themselves.

PHOTOGRAPHS!

URGENTLY
WANTED

Please turn out
your drawers and
cupboards and see
what you can find
that will add to
the interest of
this magazine

PHOTOGRAPHS!

PHOTOGRAPHS

PHOTOGRAPHY:

EDITORIAL

Thank you to all who have helped the magazine in so many different ways -- and specially to the historians in both villages who have done so much good work in producing articles of lasting interest. It may not be known to all our readers that the Local Studies Librarian of the County Library has taken out a subscription, thus ensuring that all copies from Number 1, are in the County Library records.

Our regular contributors and reporters are usually very good (though I did wonder whether there was going to be any thing but blank pages for January) and when copy gets late, as some invariably does, it throws an extra burden on our printers. They have never let us down, and considering that they do the magazine at cost price, this too deserves much thanks.

Thank you also to the kind subscribers who have added extra when sending me their subscriptions for 1981. Owing to their generosity and income from all sources we now have sufficient funds to ensure the first nine issues of 1981. Full accounts are available for inspection at Lavethan.

One word more on subscriptions. Blisland readers who found a letter and a brown envelope in their December copies asking them to renew their subs for 1981 have responded well but one reader has returned the brown envelope containing £1.20 without giving his or her name. The envelope came via Blisland P.O. so was either handed to Mr Whiteway (thank you Mr W. for all your help) or was left at the shop (thank you too, Mrs Whiteway) If this could have been YOU, dear reader, will you let me know so that I can mark you as paid ?

The magazine thrives on the contributions, both large and small that are sent by readers, but there is one area where I could do with a lot of help. We are always short of pictures. Are there any photographers among you who would be willing to take photographs of various places in the two parishes, so that I have them by me for future numbers ? And how many more secret artists are there who are too shy to offer their services ? I have work for them too. Elsewhere I have asked for old photographs, but all old records are fascinating. Are there any diaries, nature notebooks, day books hidden away in your house ? If so will you let me borrow them so that they can be shared by all our readers ?

HAPPY NEW YEAR

R.L.S.

WEBBER TRAVEL

THE GARAGE, BLISLAND, BODMIN, CORNWALL

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Head Office

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

Below is the full timetable for our famous London run

Pick Up		DEP	RETURN
Penzance	Coach Park rear of Rly St	8.00 am	7.15pm
Hayle	Foundry Square	8.15 am	7.10pm
Camborne	Church, Main St	8.40 am	6.45pm
Redruth	Outside Railway Station	9.00 am	6.25pm
Truro	Coach Park WBM Harvey	9.25 am	6.00pm
St Austell	Polkyth Recreation		
	Centre Car Park	10.00am	5.25pm
Bodmin	West End Motors	10.30am	5.05pm
Liskeard	Bay Tree Hill	11.00am	4.25pm
Exeter Services	arrive	12.50	dep 2.30pm
	depart	1.20pm	arr 2.00pm
Leigh Delamere Services	arr	3.45pm	dep 11.30am
	dep	4.15pm	arr 11.00am
Junction 8/9 Stag & Hounds			
	(on Maidenhead Rd)	5.15pm	10.00am
Heston Services		5.45pm	9.30am
LONDON	Park House Hotel	6.15pm	DEP 9.00 am
	Sussex Gardens		

FARE £9.50 Return
£5.00 Single

READ UP
for return
journey

Blisland and St Breward Parish Magazine. Annual
subscription £1.20 (£2.40 by post) Full details
from The Editor, Lavethan, Blisland, Tel Bodmin 850487