

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

10p

No. 17

AUGUST 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. Hutten

Bodmin: 850249

Cardinham 226

Bodmin 850331

Bodmin 850433

Bodmin 850761

PARISH CALENDARS

BLISLAND with TEMPLE

August 2nd	Pentecost 8 (Trinity 7)	Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
August 6th	Thursday Transfiguration of Our Lord	Holy Communion 8.00 a.m.
August 9th	Pentecost 9 (Trinity 8)	Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
August 15th	Saturday Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
August 16th	Pentecost 10 (Trinity 9)	Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
	<u>Evensong at Temple 3.30 p.m.</u>	
August 23rd	Pentecost 11 (Trinity 10)	Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
August 24th	Monday St Bartholomew, Ap.	
August 30th	Pentecost 12 (Trinity 11)	Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.

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ST BREWARD

August 2nd	Pentecost 8 (Trinity 7)	Mattins 11.30 a.m.
August 6th	Thursday Transfiguration of Our Lord	Holy Communion 10.30 a.m.
August 9th	Pentecost 9 (Trinity 8)	Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
August 16th	Pentecost 10 (Trinity 9)	Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
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Our cover shows an unusual view of Blisland Church

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

We are all appalled by the news of rioting in some of our major cities. Mob hysteria is a phenomenon which probably develops easily in a crowd of youngsters who are bored. They are fair game for recruitment by trouble-makers who do not seem to want to see our country happy or thriving.

Apart from the degradation of mass unemployment boredom comes, surely, from emptiness of mind? If that is so, then there must be something wrong with home and school. Family life is lacking in something if young people treat home as a place to be avoided whenever possible. Home, social and educational environment must be deficient if young people face the world so as to find it drab and uninteresting, unequipped with any richness of mind to occupy themselves in any worthwhile pursuits. How far our country has slipped if our youngsters must go on the rampage to find their fun.

All this led me to my dictionary to check the word "vandalism" and the original Vandals. At first I thought I was reading of a "manic tribe" who invaded Western Europe in the fourth and fifth centuries, migrating to North Africa in A.D. 428. Even with the knowledge that they were wilful destroyers of anything beautiful, venerable or worthy of preservation, it still seemed odd that the dictionary compiler should allow himself to imply comment (though Dr Johnson did) with the somewhat emotive "manic", relating to a state of mental derangement. On reading it again I found that my eye had slipped a line and that "manic" had left its first syllable on the previous line so it should have read "Germanic". However, the mindlessness of the vandal as a destroyer still applies.

Lack of respect for property, usually someone else's, is all too evident around us. Such lack of respect includes trespassing, picking, stealing or scrumping, and poaching. To intrude upon someone else's property without leave shows lack of respect, not only for the place, but for its owner, and for people in general.

The Christian mind in these matters is clear. Other

people matter. They are to be treated with respect. That applies to all of them, those we like and those we don't like. They are children of God like ourselves, as dear to him as we are.

The Christian uses another word, too, for respect, one which goes deeper and higher, and that is reverence. On the human level of everyday we approach it when, for example, someone is asleep and we therefore creep about softly to avoid waking them. Now apply that to holy places, holy things, holy people and God - and you have reverence. The Christian goes yet further, using another term: godly fear. That is the loving reverence for God which is without fright, fearing only to do anything which is not pleasing to him. If you fear and reverence God, you respect other people in their persons and in what is theirs.

Our respect must include the persons of the vandals, rioters and trespassers even if they act unworthily of it. We must have a Christian care for them in their sickness and emptiness of mind. That they are as they are is our responsibility in every community. We have produced them. If we profess to be Christians, then perhaps our own respect, reverence and godly fear need to be examined and deepened. Only then shall we give our young people a vision of what this country can be.

Conrad Sargisson

PARISH REGISTERS

Burials

June 12th 1981 Wilfred Masters.

Our little community can ill spare such a man as Wilfred, who enriched our life by being the good and kind man that he was. At the burial service Father Conrad spoke particularly of his smile and cheerful greeting which radiated warmth to his friends. Behind that was strength of character and solid goodness, revealing itself in that true compassion which senses where people are and what they may be suffering. That, in its turn, came from our Lord, for Wilfred

had great and lively faith. Tregenna and the parish will not be the same without this lovely family man and friend, for whom we give thanks and whom we commend into God's care. We all think of his family.

July 10th 1981 William Albert Sedman .

Although Mr Sedman had not been well for some time he had been about the village to the last. We shall miss seeing him sitting in his usual place on the corner of the Green. He lived to be very old, cared for by his daughter, Mrs D.A. Runnalls for the last four years, and he seemed to have taken well to their move from Tregenna Road to Pen Tor. Again, we commend him to God and remember his family down to the great grandchildren.

CS

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Michael Cardew of Wenford - awarded the CBE in the Birthday Honours

## W.R.V.S. Over Sixties Club

We were again able to fill our coach with members and friends for a days outing over Exmoor on Tuesday 7th July, and enjoyed the most glorious weather.

We have arranged a further outing on August 4th, taking the coast road from Cawsand and Rame Head to Looe. Coach leaves the village at 12.30. Further particulars from Miss Tucker.

Again we have to report the loss of a loved and valued member, Wilfred Masters.

Wilfie was a little man with a great heart, which failed him suddenly on June 8th. He is greatly missed.

Some time ago there was a programme on TV on the life of the late Joyce Grenfell; and an article in the Radio Times saying she had written her own epitaph. We both thought it was worth remembering, and we gave it to Isobel. She has now reminded me of it and I hope it will give us comfort and courage.

If I should go before  
the rest of you  
Break not a flower nor  
inscribe a stone  
Nor when I'm gone speak  
in a Sunday voice  
But be the usual selves  
that I have known

Weep if you must  
Parting is hell  
But life goes on  
So sing as well.

G.M.Masters



Wilfie Masters, the seventh generation of his family to have lived and farmed at Tregenna. For many years he was the 'pork butcher' of the district, killing and cutting up pigs for the Salting Kieve which most country people then possessed.

His father was the original haulier with horses and waggons, which business Wilfie revived for a short time, until he decided to stick to the farming which he preferred.



The School at Waterloo built in 1880

### GOING TO SCHOOL IN BLISLAND

In 1980 Blisland School at Waterloo celebrated its centenary. Kelly's Directory of 1914 describes it as a Public Elementary School (mixed), built in 1880 for 126 children. The average attendance at that time was 95, the master Frank William Jury. Three years later attendance seems to have dropped to an average of sixty - barely half the number originally intended.

The school was built following the Education Act of 1870 which advocated compulsory schooling for all children between the ages of five and ten. Twenty three years later this was raised to eleven and two years later to twelve. In 1914 it was raised to fourteen where it was to stay until after the second world war. School boards were set up to establish and maintain the schools which were financed from the rates assisted by government grants. At first parents had to pay ninepence a week for each child - a high fee for parents with large families, and it was not unknown for a different child to be sent each day of the week so that as many as possible got a little

1883



bit of learning for the one ninepenny fee. However in 1891 the fee was dropped and elementary education was free for all. Before 1870, in the years following the Industrial Revolution commercial interests had opposed education for children because they were too useful as cheap labour in mines, factories and mills. The Factory Acts slowly reduced the children's hours of labour and at last, as society in general recognised the iniquity of putting young children to work, the idea of free elementary education for all became accepted.

Before 1880 if the children went to school at all it was to the old school on the Green - now the Village Institute, which has the date 1842 over the door. This was described as a National School, and was maintained by the church. In fact before the 1870 Act all education was in the hands of religious organisations or private benefactors. It seems likely that the chapel at Under-tise also ran a school. When the new chapel was erected in 1880 the old one may have become a school room. Can any of the chapel members add to our information about this ?

Small children used also to go to the Dame's School to learn the three Rs - this was in Lease Cottage and there are people in the village who remember hearing from their grandparents who attended. Mr Stanley Runnalls



and Mr Owen Harper remember being told about it and Mr Harper (see A Temple Childhood in our June issue) praises the education his father received there, for which they paid a penny a week. Mr Runnalls's wife's Grandmother attended - she was Amelia Poad, and her teacher Miss Catherine May retired to Cassacawn Cottage where Mr Runnalls himself now lives.

In the Second World War many evacuees came to Blisland and the old school by the church gate became a school once more, with Miss Stick taking the infant classes there. Five classes were taught in the three classrooms at Waterloo and another was taught for a short period in the village hall. There was no school canteen, so every day, wet or fine, the children trudged through the Ham and up the hill to the old chapel on the Green for a hot dinner. Coats were hung in the stables of The Royal Oak (now a private home ) and Mrs Elsie Rickard was the cook. Many people still in Blisland must remember the delicious meals she prepared. Our illustrations (kindly lent by Mrs Richards) show the children in former years. But haven't any of you got some pictures of the war-time school? If you have please let us borrow them so that they can be shared and recorded for future generations.

E. R. Chadburn.

## BLISLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Over the last few months the Parish Council has been very much involved with numerous Planning Applications for erecting houses and bungalows; conversions of old buildings and extensions to existing ones throughout the parish. Last January the responsibility for making the final decisions for Planning Applications, whether Outline or Full, was transferred from the County Planning Department to the District Council Planning Department. With the population explosion and more and more people coming to live in Cornwall the County is now being developed more quickly than at any time in its history. I don't think any of us would want to see Blisland turned into an Urban Area - it is far too beautiful to be spoilt - but development can be done with good taste and a sense of what is fitting to an essentially rural area, and on the whole District and Parish Councils do try to contain new building in designated development areas. But this general policy is never as easy as it looks on paper. Of course there are requests for buildings to be put up in other parts of the parish, and these are not treated lightly, they are given very thorough consideration and are viewed from all aspects. One of the first questions we ask is: 'What effect will the proposed new building have on the village?'.

Within the last few years we were faced with a real crisis when our school was threatened with closure - fortunately this was averted, but it could happen again, and the only safeguard is to keep up the numbers of children going to the school. So any family bringing children into the parish can only be regarded as an asset. There are other considerations such as water supply, sewage disposal, destruction of healthy trees in order to clear the area for building, suitable access and so on. But of course, although the Parish Council are asked to give their observations and recommendations the District Council has the last word.

Regarding the conversion of old buildings I think the consensus of opinion is that it is preferable to see them restored and made habitable rather than

allowing them to fall into a state of decay, although in view of the acute housing shortage I am sure that we would all much rather they were restored for use as permanent homes than simply as holiday homes - but this is a matter for the Government. As in so many areas there are pros and cons, and the scales have been heavily weighted against the landlord of permanent lets, who is understandably wary of letting his property to tenants who are far better protected by the law than he is.

Extensions don't usually upset anyone and are quite straight forward, but if you have any grievances over building proposals, whatever they may be, you have the right to make your objections known to your Planning Officer - ie to Mr B. Coombes, Barn Lane, Bodmin. By the way, all Planning Applications concerning this parish are displayed in the Post Office by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Whiteway, so no one should ever feel that they haven't had a chance to know what's going on.

I was very pleased with the response to my article in the June issue of the magazine about the Public Meeting to discuss celebrating the Royal Wedding. The meeting was well attended and a lot of constructive ideas were put forward. Mr Colin Hardy took on the task of Chairman of the organising committee, and with his helpers and the good will of the village I'm sure a bumper celebration will be about to take place by the time you read this. The Parish Council have donated £50 towards the event, and lots of people are organising their own fund raising events to swell the kitty. I look forward to seeing you all on the Green when we shall all be blurry eyed from watching the box, and glad to take a breath of fresh air and a bite of the goodies on offer.

Eileen Walford.

ST BREWARD PLAYGROUP  
would like their supporters  
to know that after the total  
of £117.52 had been made a  
sum of £58.76 was handed to  
the toddlers group for the  
purchase of a slide.

## ERNEST COLMAN

It was with regret that we learned of the death of Ernest Colman, and everyone in St Breward has lost a friend as well as a devoted and enthusiastic historian of the parish.

Although Ernie left the village as a young man he never lost touch with the community. His first job after he left school was to work in the offices of the De Lank quarry, and here too he forged a deep and abiding interest which never waned

At the age of twenty-eight he was sent to Cardiff in connection with the shipping of the stone. Later he joined the Inland Revenue in St Austell from where he was transferred to Leamington Spa, Coventry and finally to Exeter where he lived until his death.

Ernest Colman's interest in St Breward church and village affairs brought him back to the village on regular visits to his sister-in-law, Mrs P Colman of Higher Penquite; then he would be seen in all the old haunts happily gleaning some new items of local interest to add to his

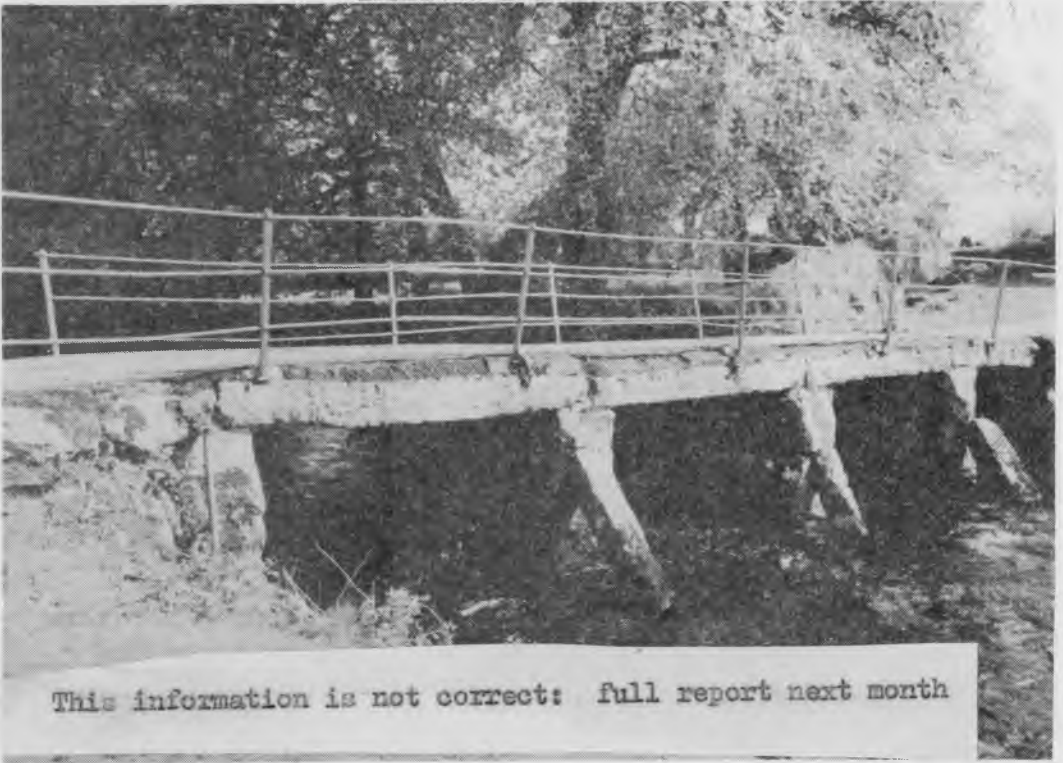


already unique collection of records and photographs. Reference to these have formed the basis of several articles for this magazine.

Apart from his tremendous interest in everything to do with the art and craft of granite mining, dressing and use which led him into wide researches into the building of many light-houses and monuments, his great love was the open moor, and together with his wife he always enjoyed their early morning walk over Lady down.

C.H.

## BRADFORD BRIDGE THREATENED



This information is not correct: full report next month

Bradford Bridge which is currently under threat. The bridge is regularly used by the bulk milk tanker when it goes to Higher Bradford farm to collect milk, and already the sides have been damaged on more than one occasion. Presumably this is why the powers that be think it would be a good idea to widen this lovely old clapper bridge. The idea seems to ignore two important facts. First this old clapper bridge is of great importance and the whole character of Bradford would be ruined if it were to be replaced by a wider modern construction, and second the river is easily fordable at this point (below the bridge) and there seems no good reason why the ford should not be widened and given a solid bottom, thus enabling the tanker to get to the farm without crossing the bridge. Please could anyone concerned and willing to protest get in touch with the Chairman of the Camel Valley Protection Group at Lavethan, Blisland, Bodmin (850487).

# NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

## BLISLAND

Well last month's meeting certainly sorted out the fit ones amongst us. Miss Shepherd came from Bodmin Comprehensive School to talk on keeping fit, but it was not long before she had us all out on the floor doing exercises to music. I'm sure there must have been a few aching muscles in Blisland next day.

We unfortunately do not have a meeting in August. Our next meeting is not until September 16th, when Mrs Sebbage will be speaking on Gardening Under Glass. By that time I hope most people will be looking for a relaxing evening after their summer busyness.

We are very pleased at the moment with the increased numbers we have been getting at our meetings, and we hope this is just the start of a continuing trend. Hope we see YOU there.

PS We have now changed the meeting time to 7.30 p.m. - still on the third Wednesday in the month in the Village Hall.

Judy Iivil

## ST BREWARD

Mrs Hooper came from Port Isaac to show some excellent coloured slides of Cornwall, which provided a running quiz for members to identify the location of each one. The President, Mrs P. Luke conducted the Quiz and Mrs A. Skinner gave a vote of thanks to Mrs Hooper.

Mrs G. Brown gave a lively account of her visit to London, where she had attended the A.G.M. at the Albert Hall, representing St Breward and Blisland.

Four members volunteered to take part in a county table-tennis competition to begin shortly. Does anyone know of a table on which they could practise ?

We do not meet in August so our next meeting will be on September 15th when Mrs Rundle will be talking to us about "Tri-chem" - what this is all about will be revealed on the day !

Pamela Bousfield

## NORTH CORNWALL HUNT

Terrier and Pot Dog Show  
and Garden Party will be held  
at Butts Farm, St Mury on  
July 31st

at 6.00 p.m.

Pot Dog judged 6.30 p.m.

Terriers judged 7.30 p.m.

Refreshments; stalls; side-  
shows. Entries on the field

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Congratulations to :

Mrs PAMELA LUKE  
who was designated vice-  
president of the Methodist  
Conference in session in  
Norwich recently. Mrs Luke  
is circuit steward for  
Camelford/Wadebridge and a  
well known local preacher.  
Her husband, the Rev. R. H.  
Luke is a past chairman of  
the Cornwall Methodist  
District and was formerly  
minister of Wesley Church,  
Newquay. They now live at  
Boulders. St Breward.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

ST BREWARD SCHOOL 1920  
(see photoo last month)

Back row:

Annie Curtis, ↑ Jack Champion, ↑ Nora Allen, ↑ Beatrice Lawry.

Phyllis Drew, May Rowe, John Tregidga.

Mr Thomas the teacher

Lloyd Hoskin, ↑ Herbert Tremaine, Frances Webber, Charlie ↑  
Mary Greenaway, Alfreda Colman, Flossie ↑ Armstrong, ↑  
Lawrey-Fred Teague.

Len Greenaway, ↑ Clara Rich, ↑ Phyllis Roberts ↑ Ivy Rich.  
Fred Bate, Bill Finnemore, Joe Rowe.

Front Row:

Cyril Armstrong, ↑ Ronald Tremain, ↑ Jack Roberts ↑  
Wilfred Armstrong, Bill Colman, Albert Teague.

As remembered by Miss Marion Tremaine and sent in by Peter  
Nottle, who also tells us that the man in the photograph of  
Spare and Hawken's delivery van is Mr Joe Rowe. Many thanks  
to Miss Tremaine and Peter. Can anyone do the same for the  
1930 picture of Blisland's top form on page 9 of this issue ?

Or even - does anyone recognise an old gran or grandad in the  
1883 picture? It would be well worth recording these for  
future village historians, so do send in what you can.

Editor.

# Webbers Travel

## HOLIDAY AND EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL

THE GARAGE BLISLAND BODMIN CORNWALL

TEL: BODMIN 850236

DURHAM JULY 11<sup>TH</sup> 8 DAYS ABSOLUTE BARGAIN £98  
BOURNEMOUTH SEPT 5<sup>TH</sup> 8 DAYS PLENTY TO SEE £99  
\* \* \* \* \*

## Relax, Eat Well, See New Places

SCOTLAND SEPT 21<sup>ST</sup> 9 DAYS SUPERB SCENERY £163  
ISLE OF WIGHT SEPT 19<sup>TH</sup> 8 DAYS BEAUTIFUL ISLAND £108  
\* \* \* \* \*

## TRAVEL WEBBERS

### THAT EXTRA LONG BATH

Thank you so much to every-one concerned in making the Coffee Day such a happy and successful occasion. So far we have banked £153.03 and contributions are still coming in. Liz and David Corns

### INTERIOR & EXTERIOR DECORATING

For careful work at  
fair prices please  
contact

Derek Harris  
8, Pentor, Blisland

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