

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

10p

No. 20

NOVEMBER 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

November 1st	ALL SAINTS. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity (8th before Christmass) Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
November 2nd	Monday. Commemoration of All Souls. Requiem 10.00 a.m.
November 4th	Wednesday Mothers' Union 3.00 p.m.
November 8th	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity (7th before Christmass) Remembrance Sunday Parish Communion 10.00 a.m. Remembrance Service 3.00 p.m.
November 15th	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity (6th before Christmass) Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
November 18th	Wednesday. Mothers' Union Corporate Communion 10.00 a.m.
November 21st	Saturday. Blisland Parish Church Christmass Fair: Village Hall 2.30 p.m. (Diocesan Synod all day at Truro)
November 22nd	Twenty-third (last) Sunday after Trinity (5th before Christmass) Feast of Christ the King. Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
November 25th	Wednesday S. Catherine, VM, Patroness of Temple Church. Holy Communion at TEMPLE at 10.30 a.m.
November 29th	First Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
November 30th	St Andrew, Ap. Holy Communion 10.00 a.m.

ST BREWARD

November 1st	ALL SAINTS. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity (8th before Christmass) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
November 4th	Wednesday. Mothers' Union at Blisland, 3.00 p.m.
November 8th	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity (7th before Christmass) Remembrance Sunday Mattins and Act of Remembrance 11.30 a.m.

November 15th Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity (6th before Christmass) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
 November 18th Wednesday. Mothers' Union Corporate Communion at Blisland 10.00 a.m.
 November 21st Saturday. Blisland Christmass Fair Diocesan Synod all day at Truro
 November 22nd Twenty-third (last) Sunday after Trinity (5th before Christmass) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
 N.B. Mattins on the second Sunday this month
 November 29th First Sunday in Advent (4th before Christmass) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.

PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

On September 27th 1981, Emma Louise infant daughter of Richard and Karen Narkivell of Treswallock Farm, was baptised at the Parish Communion in St Breward Church. She was welcomed into the family of the Church by a large congregation.

Burial

On September 23rd, Leslie Morrison Arthur Roy Rickard, at Blisland.

Roy died while I was away, and I was relieved to know that the service was taken by my old friend Canon Barrie and that Mrs Barrie was kind enough to play the organ. Roy was a faithful and conscientious Sexton of Blisland Church, although others of his family had to deputise for him latterly. He had struggled against illness ever since I have known him. I was concerned when I was away last year, and he was much amused at the relief I must have betrayed when I returned, that time, to find him so much better. In all the nursing that he has needed over the years Rhoda and Muriel

between them always contrived to see that the organist was in her place for services. We admire Rhoda's courage in carrying on her duties uninterrupted. May he rest in peace. CRS

Cremation at Penmount

Francis Beaumont Morris Reynolds

Beaumont Reynolds has died after a short illness, though some of us had been anxious for him for some time. He and his wife, Doris, were most regular and valued members of our St Breward Church family, missed in the winters which they have spent in their beloved Spain, which was their home for some years.

Beaumont was large hearted, warm and welcoming with beautiful manners. He was a splendid host, who really was pleased to see you, and he was very kind to me. Behind him was the Army, great expertise in antiques and a host of interests that made him delightful company. You felt he was good, one of those "St Barnabas people" whom you come across from time to time, "for he was a good man, full of the Holy Ghost and of faith." (Acts 11.23). God rest him and strengthen Doris, his wife.

CRS

St Breward Methodist Church

HOLY MATRIMONY

Saturday September 26th 1981

Mervyn Charles Chipman of St Neot to
Rosemary Anne Rowe of St Breward

Bride and Groom are both members of St Breward Silver Band, and were given an Arch of Honour made by their colleagues holding their instruments over them, as they left the church.

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Minor repairs to Blisland Church roof have revealed that someone has been busy up there on a low level behind the tower, hacking off bits of lead (fishing weights?) from the flashing. What a mean and stupid thing to do. As a result of this water has got in doing damage to an extent as yet unknown. I have written about petty pilfering before as a symptom of the very reverse of the respect for persons and property and places (and holy ones at that) which all right thinking people will want to be in evidence in a harmonious community. Will everyone please keep an eye open when in the neighbourhood of the church and take appropriate action in the event of any suspicious goings-on, which might suggest that the culprit is repeating his rotten and furtive deed while sheltered from public view ?

Remembrance Sunday, November 8th, will be an opportunity to reflect upon and pray for that harmonious community. Just because you have to be middle-aged or over even to remember the Second World War, let alone the First, does not mean that anyone too young to remember should have nothing to be thankful for. Born some years after that First War, I have vivid memories of the traffic and busy-ness of a great city coming to a halt at 11.00 a.m. every November 11th, as the factory hooters sounded the beginning and the end of the 'Two Minutes' Silence. Yes - the traffic actually stopped, and people got out of their cars to stand bare headed in prayer. It impressed the schoolboy that so many had died for him to grow up free, that there were many still suffering from wounds and bereavement, and that there were many of his elders who had done brave things, for which he should be thankful. My father never said much about what he had endured in Flanders, though he did say once, in another connection, that he disliked rats because their feet were cold when they ran across your face (and of course, like any boy, I had to go and say "When was that?").

All of that is still valid, and doubly so after two world wars that preserved our democracy. That fact

and the threat of inroads upon it, with dark clouds on world horizons, should impel us to take Remembrance-tide seriously, and to make time to treat it as a time of prayer. We should also look forward in prayer for harmony.

What has the peace of the world to do with me?
Or what can I do for the peace of the world ?

I think the answer is to begin with yourself: yourself and God. Is there peace within? Is there harmony between yourself and God? Or does guilt make you avoid him ?

Next, is there peace between you and your immediate circle? Does any jarring note disturb the harmony of the village and parish ? Burying of hatchets takes determination, strong wills and much humility.

Harmony in the heart, peace within yourself and with God. Harmony in the community. Harmony in the nation. Harmony between nations. That's the pattern, but it begins with you.

Conrad Sargisson.

ST BREWARD HARVEST
THANKSGIVING

The Sale of Produce and the
supper realised £192.00

* * * *

The Parish Church organ is undergoing a major overhaul, the first since it was installed in 1954. The cost will be £1,850, including VAT. Over the years we have accumulated a reserve fund for such an emergency and consequently we are able to pay £1,000 immediately. The remaining £850 is being raised by donations and free-of-interest loans. Work has already begun and is being carried out by Heales of Saltash.

G.M.Masters

ST BREWARD CHURCH IN A
NEW LIGHT!

The Parish of St Breward has at last become the proud owner of new shades, hung on new chains. Mrs Harper of Shallowbridge most kindly donated the £10 she won in the prize raffle, and Mr Cyril Greenaway got us the lights. On the Saturday before Harvest Festival Mr Colin Crowle spent the best part of a day hanging the lights. We are all so very grateful to them, and we know all the congregation enjoyed this new light in our old church.

CHINA CLAY in BLISLAND and TEMPLE

There are many reminders in Blisland today of the time when Blisland was important in the China Clay industry. The two ponds at Durfold and Carwen are the pits where china clay was first dug on Bodmin Moor - this was at Durfold in 1860 and at Carwen in 1871. At Durfold the remains of the settling pits can still be seen in the woods near the pond. Previously Durfold had been worked for tin and copper, and it was probably during mining operations around 1850 that the china clay was found. Carwen is the site of an old Celtic village dating from 300 AD, and of an earlier settlement dating from pre-Christian times. Hut Circles can still be seen near the stream between Carwen and Under-tise. Tin and copper may have been the reason for these earlier settlements.



Durfold Pit showing the beautiful barns (left) and the house (right) before the woods spread across the valley

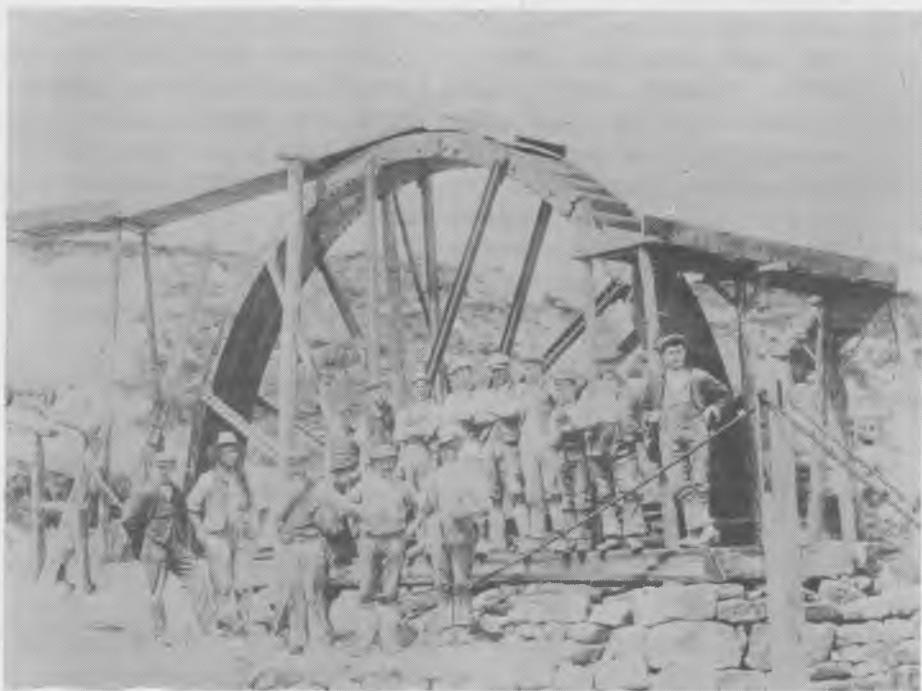
The clay works at Durfold were worked by Frank Parkyn, the son of a prosperous wool merchant who had been sent to live on Bodmin Moor for health reasons. He stayed at Durfold Manor House - an old Elizabethan mansion with a stone circular staircase, recently rebuilt after a disastrous fire some years ago. By 1871 Parkyn had also opened Carwen pit, followed by Greenbarrow at Temple and the Glynn Valley pits in 1880, pits at Cardinham and Lerryn by 1894, and others further afield in the St Austell area. His first company was known as The Central Cornwall China Clay Works. John Truscott of Cassacawn was captain in 1871, John Rowe in 1883. By 1884 Parkyn was in partnership with Woodman Peters and the company was known as Parkyn and Peters.

Transport of clay off the moor was a constant problem. It was carried in carts from Durfold and a few of the huge flat stones forming the route across the field to the road can still be seen on the road to Undertise. The carts went downhill through the village and on to Tresarrett, where the clay was loaded on railway trucks on the line built from Wenford Bridge to Wadebridge in 1834. This was one of the earliest lines in the country and had originally been built to carry granite from the De Lank quarry. It is interesting to note that when the building of this railway was first promoted in 1832, and a subscription list for £25 shares was opened by Sir William Molesworth, the name of Parkyn appears among the subscribers, showing that the Parkyns were interested long before he opened the Durfold pit in 1870.

The late Mr Owen Harper's father used to drive one of these clay carts. Their weight did a tremendous amount of damage to the roads. The width of the tread on the wheels which was originally four and a half inches, was increased to six inches in 1911, to prevent the road surface from being so badly cut up. Later underground pipe lines were laid from Durfold to the drying sheds near the railway at Tresarrett - the iron pipe can still be seen crossing the stream near the bridge at Waterloo. The rest of the pipes are presumably still underground. Rent was paid by the clay companies to landlords over whose land the pipe passed. Mr Stanley Runnalls, who used to farm at Poldhu, was still paid rent long after the pit at Durfold had closed down.

The dries at Tresarrett, where the Durfold clay was dried are still visible there but in ruins, as is the quaint old bridge across the Camel just below the road bridge, across which the men coming to work from the other side, would cross to the dries. The clay was dried over coal fired furnaces - the chimney is still standing and Mr Edward Greenaway of Waterloo remembers working there as a youth. Snakes, including adders, used to be attracted by the warmth of the fires and he remembers how they would catch them in scoops and burn them in the fire. They used to drop from the roof on to his head and shoulders, and the men would say 'Let'un be boy, let'un be.'

Before those dries were built the clay would be dried in open beds in the sun. The remains of some of these can be seen up on Trehudreth downs near the source of the moorland stream that once fed the wheels at Durfold, Gawns, Trehudreth, Cassacawn and Lavethan, before joining the Camel at Tresarrett. Near the raised drying beds is the entrance to the tunnel that once went under



We have no date for this picture of clayworkers at the Durfold pit, can anyone help ?

the A.30. Through this tunnel went the rods from the Gawns wheel to Greenbarrow pit. (For a full description of the Gawns wheel, see our issue of October 1980).

Although the Gawns wheel has now gone the great trough in which the wheel turned, the water tower which fed water to the wheel and the engine house that was built later when the wheel was driven by electricity can still be found at Gawns.

According to the local historian Mrs R. M. Barton there was also a mine called Wheal Annie, or Anna, opened by 'two London gentlemen', described as a short distance south of Derl (probably a misunderstanding of the name Durfold) Can any of our readers remember the location of Wheal Anna? If so please let the editor or Mrs Chadburn know, as it is very soon going to be impossible to locate it, as those who may remember hearing of it are getting fewer and fewer.

Also within the parish boundary is Hawk's Tor where a clay pit was opened on ground then owned by Sir William Onslow. This working, of which some remains can still be seen was short-lived and not commercially successful - the last load was taken by horse and cart, to Padstow, in 1880. Nearly fifty years later a new pit was opened on another site on Hawk's Tor by Sir Richard Onslow and was managed by his son. The first clays were sold in 1931, during the slump, and in a short time Onslow was ruined. In 1933 the whole concern was sold to the Great Hawks Tor China Clays, and shortly after that Bowaters bought shares in this concern. Until very recently Hawks Tor was raising 25,000 tons annually, and was a steady employer of labour from Blisland.

Owing to my having to go abroad at very short notice this issue of the magazine has been cobbled together in a great rush, and I must apologise to any reader who finds the contents and the layout in any way below standard.

My daughter Jane is again most kindly going to be responsible for collating the pages when the magazine returns from the printers, and for getting it out.

RLS

LETTERS

From the COMMITTEE of the ROYAL WEDDING CELEBRATIONS EVENT

Dear Editor,

We should like to reply to Mrs Vause's letter in the October Issue.

The Royal Wedding Celebration Committee have decided to ask Prince Charles's approval to the distribution of the fund raised on his Wedding Day as follows:

- a) One half to be donated to the Loretto House Charity
- b) One half to the reparation of the Village pond.

If his approval is not forthcoming the village will have to have a further meeting to discuss the matter.

I have talked to a lot of people who enjoyed the Celebration on the Green on the Royal Wedding Day, and I should like to put it on record, on their behalf, and on my own, that everyone would be sorry if any of the Committee felt that

there was any personal attack on them together or as individuals. A Village is really only as viable and strong as its young people, and Blisland needs the energies and the good will of Mr Hardy and the young parents who came forward and worked so hard to get the Event together. It would be a very great pity if any disagreement were allowed to dampen their enthusiasm in future.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

DE LANK CHAPEL Correction

Mrs Marshall has pointed out that a typing error appeared in her article about De Lank Chapel last month. It was in 1932 (not 1923) that the Wesleyan, United Methodists and other Methodists joined together as the Methodist Church.

My apologies to Mrs Marshall for misquoting her.

Editor.

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BLISLAND VILLAGE HALL

A WHIST DRIVE in aid of Village Hall Funds will be held on Friday

NOVEMBER 6th

at 8p.m.

Entry 60p
Prizes include Wine, cakes, potatoes, biscuits and many more

L.M.A.R.(Roy) Rickard



Roy, as he was known to all his friends, was born at the Mansion House in Blisland. From the age of five he went to the Sunday School and eventually became a server, a chorister and later a ringer. He often spoke of how he would accompany the late, and much loved, Reverend E. A. Clarabut on his visits to Lavethan, Tregenna, Trewardale, Newton House and others, visiting the sick. In his youth he was a keen soccer player and a great supporter of the North Cornwall Football Association.

He had a profound understanding and knowledge of horses and dogs, and was a successful breeder of racing whippets. He won the Championship of Cornwall with his whippets and held it for many years.

During the second war he was at Bristol doing munitions work, and prior to that he had turned his hand to many skills including china clay working. After the war he was our Village Postman . In 1948 he became the Sexton of the parish and other areas. He was a familiar sight at Church functions, when he would be responsible for the auctioning of goods. He carried on with this until ill health forced him to give up. For the last years he lived and farmed at Leaze.

May he Rest in Peace.

R.J.R.

BLISLAND PARISH CCOUNCIL

As I am sure you are all aware, to obtain a Council House or Bungalow in Blisland is no easy matter, and to clarify the situation for people who may think they have been overlooked, the Parish Council thought that an article on the subject would be in order.

The demand for housing in our village is quite large, not only from local people but also from other surrounding areas. A list of applicants is kept by the Housing Department of the North Cornwall District Council at the Barn Park office. If at any time you feel that you have been overlooked it is always worth checking to see that during the revisions, your name has not been left off.

While the Parish Council does its very best to support our local applicants, the Housing Committee has the final word. Then, of course, there is always the odd emergency application which fortunately does not happen very often, because it takes precedence over all others. These do have to be accompanied by a letter from their doctor and the Welfare Officer, and the case does have to be one of 'extreme hardship'. Also, when consideration is being made for future tenants of a vacant house, the size of the family and the number of rooms available are a major factor.

Council Housing is only erected when there is seen to be a great need, so even if you think the chances of ever getting a home in Blisland seem very slim, still apply, because if the waiting list is long enough, and if funds are available, the N.C.D.C may be moved to erect more homes. Persistence quite often pays off.

A further account of our Parish Council activities will be reported shortly.

Eileen Walford

W.R.V.S. OVER SIXTIES CLUB

After all the outings we appreciated a talk on Sept. 15th by Mrs Lumley-Smith on Ecology, providing much food for thought about the world in which we live. We were especially grateful to her for coming at such short notice, and hope she will come again at some future date.

The Harvest meeting on October 6th was very successful and profitable, with a very good attendance of members and friends, making an enjoyable afternoon.

Mr Langshaw was auctioneer and £20 was added to funds.

We were pleased to welcome

other members were absent through illness. This has been a sad year and we now have to remove Roy's name from the register, although he hasn't been able to join us for some time. To lose so many of the community in such a short space of time is something we can ill afford and we offer our sympathy to all the families.

Some thoughts from
Patience Strong

Bring comfort to our
thinking
Blessed with memories
we have known.
Give us courage to our
duties
And faith to live alone.

G. M. Masters



Roy Rickard

Roy Rickard Bequest

The money given in lieu of flowers in memory of Roy Rickard has produced a total of £65.00. Some of this will be used to provide new globes for the processional candle holders, and the remainder will be put into the Tower Restoration Fund.

DFR

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Blisland

St Breward

A warm welcome was given to Mrs J. Jackson-Gamlen as a new member and to several friends who had been invited to this meeting in the hope of increasing membership. So it was to a good gathering that Mrs P. Rundle of Bodmin gave her talk about Tri-Chem oil painting; she showed how this form of painting, direct from the tube or with a brush, could be applied as a decoration on glass, china, wood, leather and many kinds of cloth. She was warmly thanked by Mrs Busbridge.

An invitation to take part in a Quiz Competition against Young Farmers Clubs was announced and accepted; the team of four to be chosen during the winter.

The speakers arranged for October and December have been interchanged.

There will be a fund-raising Coffee Evening with stalls at the Red Cross Centre on Friday 20th November at 7.00 p.m., to which all will be welcome.

Pamela Bousfield

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of our President, Judy Ivil, who has moved out of the district. In the meantime our Vice Presidents are to take turn about in running the meetings, meanwhile if anyone wishes to contact the Institute will they call me please.

Mrs Sebbage came to us in September and gave an interesting and instructive talk on 'Gardening under Glass' - from glass jar to greenhouse! We were Mrs Sebbage's first audience and I hope she will have gained enough confidence to carry on with a subject that she knows so much about.

October brings our Harvest Home, each with a friend we hope. For future reference Mr Thomas will be joining us in November, for a talk on Bonsai, so those of you who find a garden too much, get some miniature inspiration.

If there are any new comers in the district, we would be pleased to welcome you, we normally meet on the third Wednesday in the month (put back to the second in Dec.) in the Village Hall at 7.30. If you feel a bit shy ring me (850512) and I'll take you along and hold your hand.

Stella Vause
Hon. Secretary

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Blisland and St Breward Parish Magazine

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