

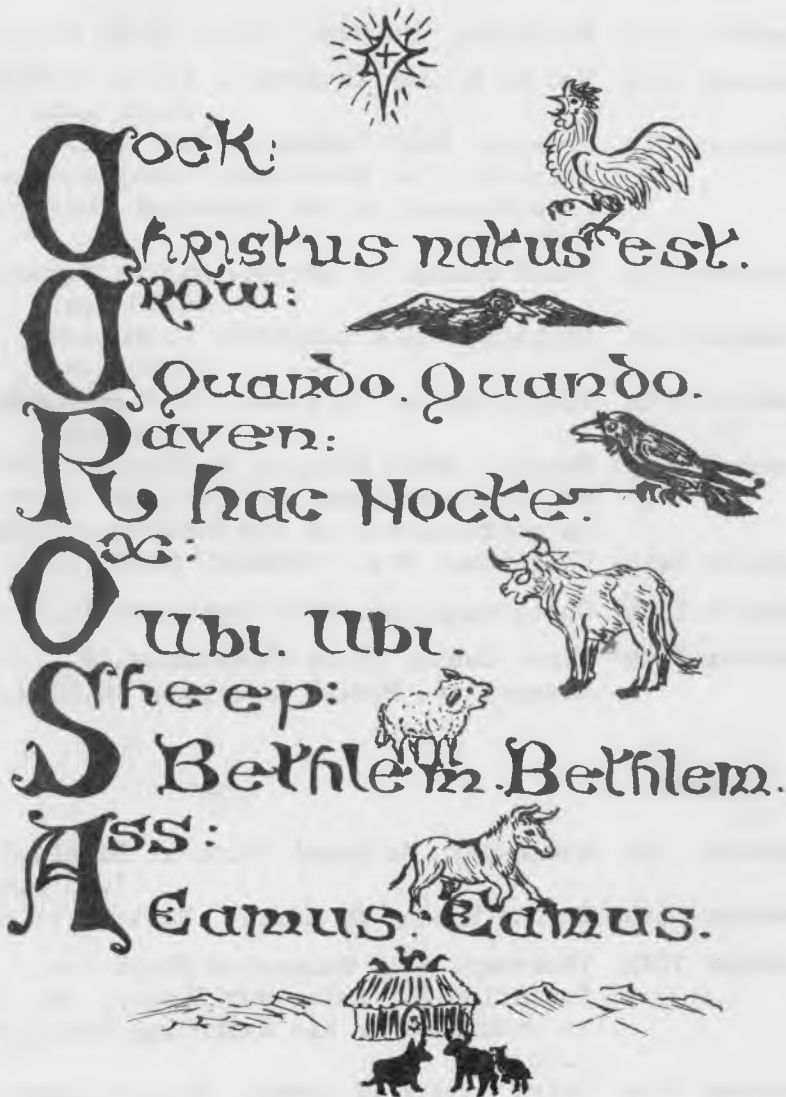
BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

No. 21

DECEMBER 1981

10p

Mrs Bournefield



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

- December 2nd Wednesday Mothers' Union 3.00 p.m.
- December 6th Second Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion
10.00 a.m.
- December 10th Thursday Holy Communion 8.00 a.m.
Intention for Peter our Bishop who is to
be enthroned in his Cathedral Church at
3.00 p.m.
- December 13th Third Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion
10.00 a.m.
- December 16th Mothers' Union Corporate Communion
10.00 a.m.
- December 20th Fourth Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion
10.00 a.m.
- December 21st Monday. Carol Singing in Blisland. Meet
at the Church gate at 7.00 p.m. There will
be refreshments at the Rectory afterwards.
- December 24th Christmass Eve. MIDNIGHT MASS 12.00
- December 25th Christmass Day. Holy Communion 10.00 a.m.
- December 27th First Sunday after Christmass. St John
Evangelist. Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.

ST BREWARD

- December 2nd Wednesday Mothers' Union at Blisland
3.00 p.m.
- December 6th Second Sunday in Advent Mattins 11.30 a.m.
- December 10th Thursday. Holy Communion 10.30 a.m.
Intention for Peter our Bishop, who is to
be enthroned in his Cathedral Church at
3.00 p.m.
- December 13th Third Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion
11.30 a.m.
- December 16th Wednesday Mothers' Union Corporate
Communion at Blisland 10.00 a.m.

- December 18th Friday School Carol Service in Church
2.00 p.m.
Carol singing, meet at Churchtown 6.30 p.m.
- December 20th Fourth Sunday in Advent. Parish Communion
11.30 a.m.
Service of Lessons and Carols. 3.00p.m.
- December 24th Christmass Eve. MIDNIGHT MASS at 11.00 p.m.
- December 25th Christmass Day. Holy Communion 11.30 a.m.
- December 27th First Sunday after Christmass. S. John,
Evangelist. Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.

THERE ARE NO ENTRIES IN THE PARISH REGISTERS THIS MONTH

ST BREWARD METHODIST CHURCH

PREACHERS for December and January

SUNDAY	Morning 11.00 a.m.	Evening 6 p.m.
December 6th	Mr Gibbons Family Service	Rev. P. Barber
December 13th	Mr Hancock	Mr Rose
December 20th	Mr Wickett	Rev. Luke 9 Lessons and Carols
December 27th	Mr Wilton	Church Fellowship
January 3rd	Camelford Station Young People Family Service	Rev Darlington
January 10th	Rev Darlington	Mr Flanders
January 17th	Bodmin Young People	Mr D Jones
January 24th	Mr A Jones	Mr Olde

21st December CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT in
the Sunday Scholl at 7.00 p.m.

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

The great event for the Diocese of Truro before Christmass is the enthronement of the Right Reverend Peter Mumford as our Bishop, on 10th December. He asks Parish Priests to celebrate the Eucharist with their people in the morning of that day, and you will find that covered in the calendar of both parishes. Please be with me at the altar at 8.00 a.m. or 10.30 a.m. if you possibly can, so that we may do as our Bishop asks, by praying for him. But pray for him even if you cannot come to church.

The enthronement has already had to be postponed from a Saturday morning because of the effect upon Christmas shoppers and town trade of the reservation of a car park for a big congregation at the Cathedral.

One must not make judgements without knowledge of the circumstances, but if that difficulty could have been overcome there would have been a lovely opportunity for the Church to bear witness to the world by being seen in strength and of showing that there are in life things more important than shopping. The shoppers would also have had that chance to be blessed of the Bishop, newly enthroned, outside his Cathedral (the church where he has his cathedral or throne).

The world is much the same from Bethlehem to Truro, isn't it ? The population census that required Mary and Joseph to be in the city was also a trading opportunity for the shop people to make a bomb. Because of the crowds there was no room at the inn.

Now, my dear people of Blisland with Temple and St Breward, are you at Christmass for God and the things of the spirit, or for Mammon and this world's goods? No room? Too busy ? No time ? Got the family and visitors to see to, their presents, their food ? That care for home life is as it should be, but if God is left out, with no room for the birth of his Son, then we shall have let this world's goods become this world's bads.

At the heart of Christmass is spiritual food:-

St Breward 'MIDNIGHT MASS' 11.00 p.m.

Blisland at Midnight

Blisland Holy Communion at 10.00 a.m. Christmass Day

St Breward Holy Communion at 11.30 a.m

There are carol services too, but these are in addition to, and by no means a substitute for, our Christmass Communion, where God seems to lean out of heaven to touch each one of us.

"God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son"

Notice that in the paragraph above I wrote that his touch is on 'each one of us'. That is true. He loves you, gave himself for you. At Christmass he submitted himself to his own conditions, laid down for the physical world, to become man, like you. Those conditions to which he submitted were very much of this world now: the Infant becomes a refugee to be safe from a dictator king.

Christmass, then, is about the God of the here and now: farm labourers working (shepherds guarding their sheep), a crowded town with its census, politics and commerce -- and God and his angel in the middle of it all. Allow your sense of wonder to be rekindled and let it keep glowing.

A Joyful Christmass to you all

Conrad Sargisson

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The collection at the Combined Remembrance Day Service at Blisland Church on November 8th was £9.00

This month's cover has been specially drawn for us by Miss Pam Bailey of St Tudy

Obituary

Mr Cecil Self died recently at Calne, Wiltshire. He had been a subscriber to our magazine for many years. As a youth he lived here, was a regular server at church and retained a fond interest in Blisland all his life. At one time he was employed at Lavethan, and used to enjoy reminiscing about those days when he lived in the old house. Our sympathy goes to his widow in her loss. May he rest in peace.

Copy for January must come to the editor by December 7th - the magazine has to go to the printers a week early to avoid being lost when they close for their Christmas holidays.

From the Chairman of Blisland Parish Council

On reading the reply (in November) from the Royal Wedding Celebration Committee, to Mrs Vause's article in the October issue of the magazine, I feel I must step in and clarify the issue. In the July Parish Magazine, which came out at the end of June, it was quite clearly stated in an article signed by Colin Hardy - and I quote 'Money taken is expected only to cover costs but should there be any over this will be donated to one of the Duke of Cornwall's nominated charities.'" Now, if as I understand from Mr Hardy, this sentence was a misprint, then it could quite easily have been corrected in the August issue, which was circulated at the end of July, thus saving all this wrangling which is currently going on. As this was a public statement, and the magazine has a wide circulation in the parish, it is only fair to say that the majority of the parishioners would be under the impression that any residue would go to a Charity for the disabled. Having made a public statement in black and white you cannot change horses in mid-stream. I think the entire business is extremely distasteful and mars the whole memory of the celebrations which were such a success, especially when it seems that we have to go outside the Parish to settle our differences. I trust the subject will soon be brought to a close and we can forget the whole thing.*

Now on to lighter matters. You will all be delighted to hear that after last night's debate at the Parish Council Meeting, on the subject of the local budget for 1982/83 we are able to maintain the rate at 2p in the pound. This is including a contract with the N.C.D.C. to have the Village Green cut six times a year. I'm sure you will agree that this is a remarkable achievement on the part of your Parish Councillors, who inspite of ever rising costs have contrived to spend your money within the limits without reduction of any part of the services. The decision to have the Green cut by outside labour was taken after much discussion and eventually it was put out to tender, which was only done after the Parish Council had to conceded, with great reluctance, that the grass cutting simply was too big an undertaking to be done by relying on volunteers. So the N.C.D.C., which offered the most

favourable terms at £21 per cut, were given the job. We shall keep the mowing machine until we see exactly the sort of operation the N.C.D.C. make of the operation.

As this will be the last article submitted until after the Christmas holidays, the Parish Councillors join me in Wishing you all a very very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Eileen Walford

- * No further discussion of the matter will be published in the magazine, but we should like to tell our readers how the money has been allocated, when the matter has been resolved.

Editor

A VERY VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS and PEACE
and JOY in THE NEW YEAR to
all our readers

WALKING FOR THE HALL

On Sunday October 4th sixteen adults and children took part in the sponsored walk to raise funds for the Elisland Village Hall Fund. A total of £89.00 was raised.

The cup for the highest sum raised went to Mrs June Whiteway with £28.75.

Many thanks to all our gallant walkers and to their sponsors for this successful effort, and to Mrs Vause for providing the teas at the finish.

Eileen Langshaw
Treasurer

CONCERT

St Breward Guides and Brownies are putting on a concert on

DECEMBER 11th
at 7.00 p.m.

at the Sunday School

All proceeds will go to
the Home Farm Trust

This is our annual Christmas Charity for Children. Please come along and support us.

AN EXCEPTIONAL MAN

This feature on the Rev. Edward Vernon Collins has been specially written for the magazine by his younger grandson, Charles Digby Thurstan Collins, now living in Suffolk.

Vernon Collins, Rector of Blisland from 1892 until his death in 1913, was an exceptional man. He was Rector at a time when renovation of churches in the worst Victorian taste was commonplace, yet Blisland was restored magnificently. Secondly, he was the twelfth consecutive generation of Collins clergy. Thirdly he was an outstanding craftsman in embroidery and much of his beautiful work is still to be seen in his beloved Blisland Church.

He was born in Bodmin on Christmas Day 1849, one of the six children of J. B. Collins who was eight times Mayor of Bodmin. A year later his uncle, the Rev. Charles Matthew Collins, inherited Trewardale and took the surname Edward-Collins.

There can be no doubt that Vernon Collins's most important and lasting contribution was the major restoration of the church at Blisland. Within a few months of becoming Rector he had appointed a young architect, F. C. Eden, to survey and carry out rectification of unsatisfactory earlier repairs and the extensive restoration of the building. The main task was completed by 1894, but the detailed work continued throughout Vernon Collins's ministry - the bells were restored in 1908, the Norman font rescued from the churchyard and restored in 1911 and the lectern installed in 1912. Eden's work, completed in only two years, has stood the test of time and of changing public taste, a splendend and lasting memorial to two far-seeing men.

An interesting article appeared in the 16th July 1892 issue of Chambers Journal. Entitled "Hereditary Clergyman", it touched, with a deliciously dry sense of humour, on



The Reverend Edward Vernon Collins

the possibility of genius and ability being transmitted from father to son. It concluded that inheritance of a good stock of their ancestors' sermons may well have encouraged the choice of a preaching career to some young men, merely to utilise their heirlooms! The following is an extract from the article:

"One of the oldest of the clerical families is the Collins family of Cornwall. This was founded at the Reformation by one of the earliest married priests, a certain Edward Collins who was instituted Rector of Illogan in 1533. He and his descendants were Rectors of the same place for the next one hundred and fifty-one years, a break of twelve years excepted. For a period of three hundred and fifty years some member of the Collins family has been in holy orders."

Before the Reformation still earlier references to Collins or Colyns priests is recorded. John Colyns was Vicar of Gwennap in 1404, moving in 1418 to Ludgvan. Thomas Colyns was ordained priest in 1486, Prior of Tywardreath in 1507 and resigned under a cloud, as Vicar of Fowey in about 1532, in favour of his nephew Henry Colyns. The stock of sermons, albeit a little outdated must have been substantial.

Unusually for a remote country parson, Vernon Collins accepted on several occasions to stand as Chaplain to the British Community at Rapallo and elsewhere in Italy, during the winter months. He carried out much of his embroidery work during these visits, sitting close to the window, and needing, by then, two pairs of glasses for the finer stitching. Already by 1902 he was reported in the Truro Diocesan Magazine, to have "provided the Church with a full set of vestments and other embroidery of unusual beauty, all of which is the work of his own hands." More of his work is preserved in Bodmin and in Truro Cathedral. This work did not limit his constant visits to his parishioners, and in a parish as widespread as Blisland, his tall figure was frequently to be seen riding the moorland tracks - a much loved and respected man.

By any standard Vernon Collins was a remarkable man. A traditionalists who brought back long lost customs to

his church; a man of sure taste in beautiful things; a wit with a lively sense of fun and a conservationist who helped and guided the preservation of the church in which we now all rejoice.

He was buried at Blisland near the church porch, as was his son Charles Edward Vernon Collins, 44 years later. His wife, Susan, asked to be buried beside the path she had trod so often, which still leads to the Rectory.



This undated photograph of the interior of Blisland church appears to have been taken before the restoration, but the altar is already adorned by a cloth embroidered by the Reverend Vernon Collins.

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

St Breward

Excitement ran high when members of St Breward W.I. "divined" water under the Red Cross Centre ! It was a dramatic scene as those pacing slowly along the corridor, with great concentration, found the rods turning miraculously in their hands, as they crossed the point where a water-pipe lies under the floor, and their success was greeted with cries of astonishment. Mr Donald Bridge, the husband of our secretary, had given us a lecture on "Practical Dowsing"; he described how he had learned the skill and insisted that most people possess this latent ability, if they will only practise and develop it. He explained how he can divine not only water but a variety of metals, earthenware and other substances in the ground, and can even assess the depth at which they lie by using two L-shaped pieces of wire cut from a pair of metal coat-hangers. Mrs G. Brown thanked Mr Bridge for a fascinating talk and demonstration.

Arrangements were made for giving tea and entertainment to the Club for the Handicapped at the Cleese Hall in Camelford in November.

Because of the proximity of Christmas, the December meeting of the Institute will be held on Wednesday, 2nd December instead of the usual third Tuesday of the month.

Pamela Bousfield

W.R.V.S. Over Sixties Club

There was a good attendance at the meeting on October 20th, when a session of Bingo was enjoyed.

Arrangements for our shopping trip were finalised and this took place on November 3rd. Thirty-five members and their friends enjoyed a day in Truro. Once again we were blessed with good weather - it was about the finest day for five weeks and we are beginning to expect this on our "special" days.

November 17th will be a social afternoon and we are arranging our Christmas tea-party on December 1st. To this we shall be inviting our St Breward friends who have supported us so well during the year.

We hope that by then those members who have 'missed out' lately through various causes will be able to come and enjoy our festive get together, and we shall be looking forward to a 'full house'.

Gwen Masters

DESIDERATA

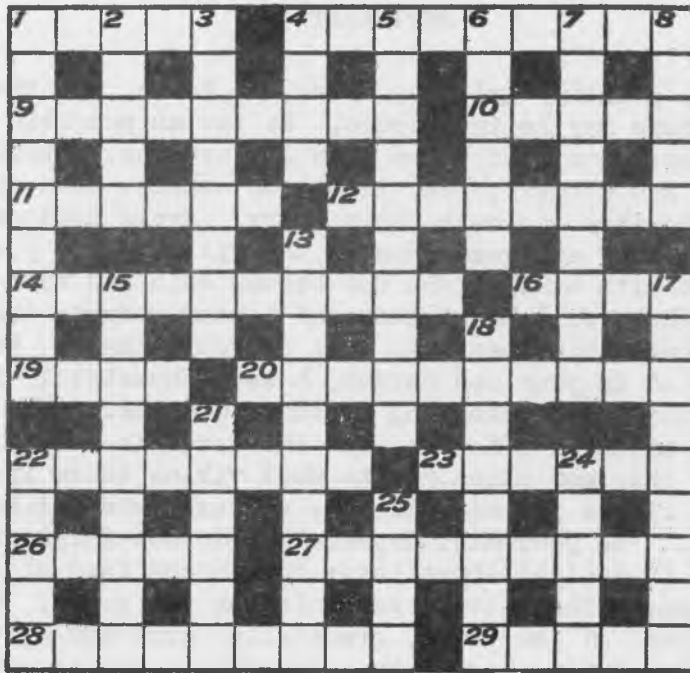
Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak the truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the Spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace with your Soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

FOUND IN OLD SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH, BALTIMORE, U.S.A.

Dated 1692

I am indebted to Mrs Bousfield who sent me a copy of the above which seemed to me to have all the right ingredients for a Christmas message. RLS

PRIZE CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1&4 Seasonal greetings to 12 across and 27 across(5,9) | 20 You would need them with headers down stairs! (10) |
| 4 see 1 across (9) | 22 Conifer which wastes away ? (4 4) |
| 9 Feeling when one's sat in confusion (9) | 23 I am two to damage (6) |
| 10 The wrong horse to back (5) | 26 --- of S.S.R, or Jack perhaps (5) |
| 11 At the end, like a cobbler (5) | 27 See 1 across (2, 7) |
| 12 See 1 across (7) | 28 Shiny sets make a combination of ideas (9) |
| 14 Three-cornered (10) | 29 Casts off the outhouses (5) |
| 16 Who made thee, little one? (4) | |
| 19 It goes with hatred and malice (4) | |

DOWN

- 1 It is taken off the
bough for Christmas (9)
- 2 The weakest of the
litter (5)
- 3 16 across when a little
older (8)
- 4 One of the collection,
for instance (4)
- 5 The captain of the
tower ? (10)
- 6 Some soda with the
brandy (6)
- 7 Make a mess of man's
image (9)
- 8 Fiddle when the game is
up (5)
- 13 Supporters of the church
maybe (10)
- 15 Necessity's child (9)
- 17 Does he get them if he
sits thus on his horse?
(9)
- 18 Skips along (8)
- 21 Smell, mostly fish ! (6)
- 22 Fruit, perhaps Victor-
ian ones (5)
- 24 Christians thus salute
the happy morn (5)
- 25 Flows backwards (4)

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Well we've tried poetry and now we'll try that almost forgotten art - letter writing.

Please choose someone you are fond of and who is away from home, and write them a letter telling them all about YOUR CHRISTMAS DAY - or the whole CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY or just one special CHRISTMAS TREAT. Make your letters as bright and amusing as you can - and illustrate them if you want to. Put your names and ages (and addresses please) with them and send them to me by January 8th. Prizewinners in each age group will be given in the February issue, and the nicest letters will be published. Perhaps some of you could even send the REAL letter to a granny or an aunt or another relation who is away, and send me a copy. It would be a pity to waste all that effort.

Editor

The crossword has been set by Mr Donald Bousfield who has most generously offered a prize of £5.00 for the first correct solution opened. Completed (or partly-completed!) entries should be sent to D.G. Bousfield, Hantergantick. St Breward, Bodmin by Friday January 8th. Prizewinner's name and the solution will appear in the February issue of the magazine

Webbers Travel

SPECIAL OUTINGS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

London Weekend: Saturday December 5th.

Adults £9.00 Return

Children £8.00 Return

Day Trip to Truro: Saturday December 12th

Adults £1.50

Children £1.00

Day Trip to Exeter: Saturday December 19th

Adults £2.50

Children £1.75

ALSO: VERY SPECIAL SMITHFIELD SHOW FULL RETURN
JOURNEY AND ACCOMMODATION ONLY £36.00

For details of departure and return times from your
nearest pick-up spot please telephone or call.

Coming in January - Another LONDON WEEKEND - for details
see this space next month, or call us for information

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CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY TRAVELLING IN 1982

THE GARAGE BLISLAND BODMIN CORNWALL
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Blisland and St Breward Parish Magazine

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each.

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