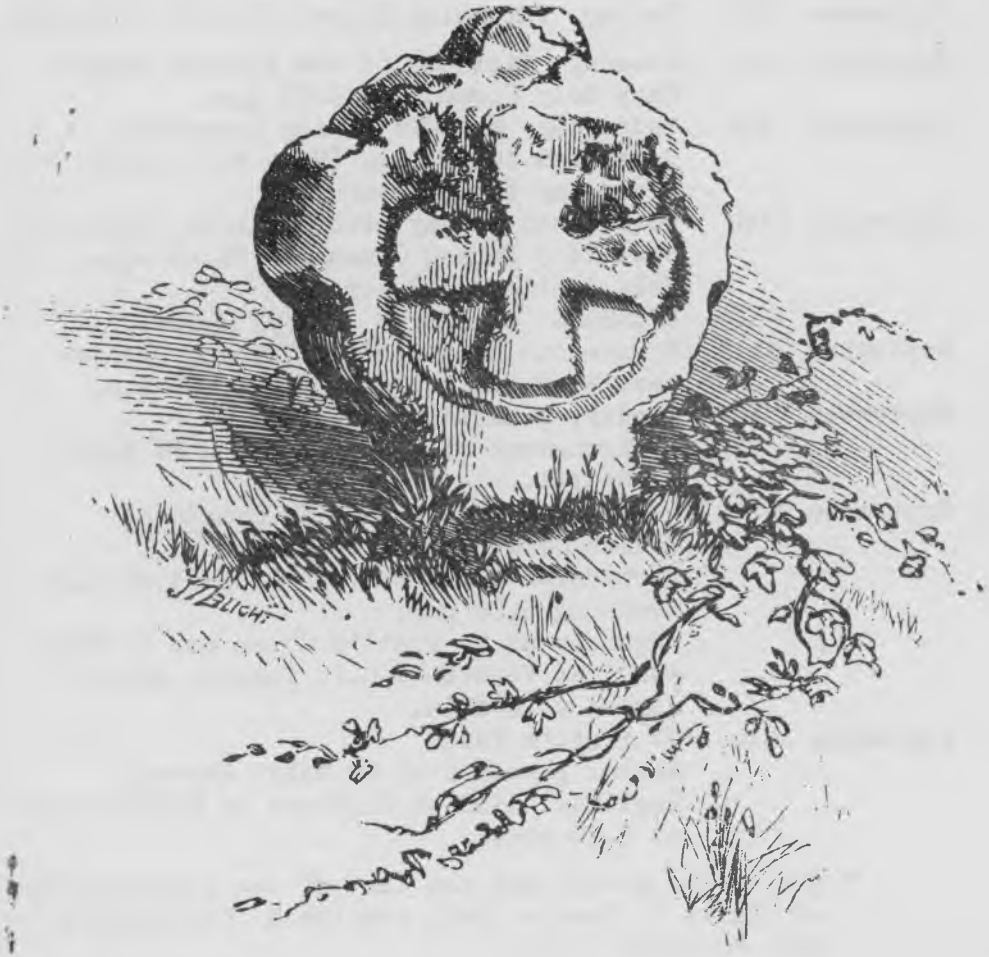
Mrs Benefield

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

10p

No. 18

SEPTEMBER 1981



Priest in charge:	The Reverend C. R. Sargisson, The Rectory, Blisland.	Bodmin: 850249
Churchwardens (Blisland)	Brigadier Edward—Collins.	Cardinham 226
	Mr. G. Masters	Bodmin 850331
(St. Breward)	Mr. C. Greenaway	Bodmin 850433
	Mrs. S. Hutton	Bodmin 850761

PARISH CALENDARS

Blisland with Temple

September 2nd	Wednesday Mothers' Union 3.00 p.m.
September 6th	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 13) Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
September 7th	Monday Parochial Church Council 7.30 p.m.
September 8th	Tuesday Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Communion 8.00 a.m.
September 9th	Wednesday Mothers' Union Corporate Communion 10.00 a.m. (NB - the second Wednesday for this month)
September 13th	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 14) Parish Communion 10.00 a.m. Holy Baptism 2.30 p.m. EVENSONG at TEMPLE 3.30 p.m.*
September 20th	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 15) Parish Communion 10.00 a.m.
September 21st	Monday, S.Matthew, Apostle. Enthronement of Bishop Graham, St Paul's Cathedral.
September 27th	FEAST of St Protus and St Hyacinth Parish Communion 10.00 a.m. Procession to St Pratt's Cross 3.00 p.m. Evensong 6.00 p.m. Preacher at St Pratt's Cross and at Evensong The Venerable G.F. Temple, Archdeacon of Bodmin.
September 28th	St Pratt's Fair. Rector preaches at St Mabyn Harvest Festival. Also at Calstock on October 4th at 6.30 p.m.

* The second Sunday and the last of the summer series of visits to Temple. Next service S. Catherine's Day, November 25th.

St Breward

September 2nd	Wednesday Mothers' Union at Blisland 3.00 p.m.
September 6th	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 13) Mattins 11.30 a.m.

September 9th	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion at Blisland, 10.00 a.m.
September 10th	Thursday Parochial Church Council meets at 7.30 p.m. for an OPEN MEETING to which all are welcome. The Vicar introduces discussion on the Alternative Service Book
September 13th	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 14) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m. EVENSONG at TEMPLE 3.30 p.m.
September 20th	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 15) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
September 21st	S. Matthew Apostle. Enthronement of Bishop Graham at St Paul's Cathedral
September 27th	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity (Pentecost 16) Parish Communion 11.30 a.m. (See Blisland Calendar for St Protus and St Hyacinth)
October 4th	Trinity Sixteen (Pentecost 17) Harvest Thanksgiving. Parish Communion 11.30 a.m.
October 6th	Evensong 7.00 p.m. Preacher: Canon Gordon Ruming, Rector of Calstock. Harvest Supper and auction follows.

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FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

I have found the manuscript of a talk on Blisland Church, headed "Broadcast", and probably given in association with a BBC transmission from the Parish Feast celebrations in 1945. It speaks of the 'panic-stricken sidesmen searching far and wide for seating accommodation for the faithful in church.

While I wish none of our good church officers any harm or anxiety I hope they will be overwhelmed with seating problems for the rush of churchgoers all day on the Feast of Saints Protus and Hyacinth on Sunday 27th September. The Archdeacon of Bodmin, Father George Temple, is being generous of his time on his first official visit, preaching at St Pratt's Cross and at Evensong. I want the village there in full strength please, to hear him. All communicants should prepare themselves to receive the Holy Food that day, in thanksgiving for our beautiful church and for its witness to the Faith over hundreds of years. Yes that means going to church three times and being there the greater part of the day at ten, three and six o'clock, and it is the least we can do in response to our Lord's goodness to us.

Think of those who brought the news of the killing of two Christian brothers in Rome, news perhaps already a thousand years old when the church (itself already old from Norman times) was re-dedicated in 1436. Was it a 15th Century traveller from here who brought back a relic of the saints to his home parish ? Or was the cult of these two saints already ancient here (St Pratt's Cross?) by the time of that recorded dedication ?

Think, again, of all who have worshipped here since 1436, and in the Norman church before the church was enlarged and the waggon roofs and the carved bosses and figures were put up. Many of those predecessors of ours (and ancestors of many of you) are buried in the church and churchyard. We are one with them and our two saints in worship, and in that sense a solitary person at prayer in Blisland church is a worshipper among many thousands.

Finally, if that does not move you, think of how much God loves you. Try to be better at letting God love you, and let your and its expression in worship begin from there.

Conrad Sargisson

THOMAS ROWLANDSON and ST BREWARD

In St Breward Church, hanging against one of the pillars, is a copy of a sketch by Thomas Rowlandson, entitled "St Breward Church in the Eighteenth Century " from a water colour drawing in the British Museum. Who was Thomas Rowlandson ? How did he come to sketch the interior of the church ?

There is no great mystery about Thomas Rowlandson himself. He was a painter and caricaturist who lived from 1756 to 1827, whose work was well-known and appreciated, though he was not perhaps as distinguished as William Hogarth before him. He had studied at the Royal Academy at the age of fifteeen and, after three years of study in Paris, was already exhibiting at the Royal Academy by the age of nineteen (1775). But, although a Londoner he loved the countryside - he is described as tall, muscular, quick-striding and sparsely covered - and by a lucky chance he became particularly friendly with Mr Mathew Michell, a London banker, who not only owned a house in London, but also had inherited Hengar, St Tudy, from a kinsman, Colonel Sam Michell, whose father married into

the Billing family, the original owners of the estate. Mathew Michell evidently enjoyed Rowlandson's company as well as his art. Together they made many visits in Southern England, notably Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. They also toured the continent, doubtless at Michell's expense, for he was a wealthy patron and Rowlandson's finances were seldom in a sound condition. It is difficult to be precise about Rowlandson's visits to Hengar, but it is probable that he was there about 1784 and again in 1805, 1806, 1810 and 1812. Michell died in 1817 and left £100 to "his friend Thomas Rowlandson" in his will). During his life Rowlandson produced thousands of drawings and paintings, many of which are in public collections - and some of their titles clearly refer to this part of North Cornwall - "A view of the River Camel", "Cottage at the foot of Router Mountain", "Cottage near Devil's Jump" "Bodmin Moor" and so on. Typical of his country-side drawings is that reproduced in The Cornwall Shell Guide, by John Betjeman, "The Valley of the Camel or Allen River, St Breward".

There are several versions of the interior of St Breward church, the one illustrated here came from the Victoria and Albert Museum. It is interesting to compare the details both of furniture and congregation with those to be found nowadays!

Donald Bousfield

(For this brief note about Rowlandson I owe much to the researches of Mr Ernest Colman, who died, alas, recently, at the age of eighty.)

MORE CONTRIBUTORS WANTED

I think the most popular feature of our magazine is without doubt the stories we have from our own people of St Breward and Blisland. There must be lots more, so please will any one with a good story to tell of their own childhoods or their grandfather's and grandmother's get in touch with me and I will be glad to come and see them. Photographs too, please - I know there must be lots and lots there, and you lose nothing by lending them to the magazine - they will come home to you undamaged.

Editor (tel: 850487)

PS Contemporary photographs wanted too, please --
Did anyone take pictures of our Wedding Day celebrations ?

How St Breward celebrated the Marriage of the Duke of Cornwall

It seemed as though the entire population of St Breward, augmented by some sixty young people from the North Cornwall Pony Club Camp at Fellover, congregated on Mine Hill, on a beautiful summer evening, to celebrate the wedding of Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer. The St Breward Silver Band, conducted by Micky Hunt, played selections and also accompanied the hymn singing during the brief Service led by the Vicar and the Revd.H. Luke. The Revd. Michael Browning lit the great bonfire which burned splendidly and must have been visible for miles around, as were those of Bodmin and St Mabyn. Hot dogs and other goodies were eaten and the evening ended at a packed Disco in the Village Hall, organised by the Football Club in conjunction with Mr Christopher Vanderplank with his target Disco. Everyone in the village was full of praise for the organisation and we thank them all for their efforts.

S.C.

We had hoped to publish a photograph of St Breward's Wedding Day procession, but it didn't arrive in time. So in its place here is a procession from an earlier time - can anyone spot what was happening ? Answer in our next issue!

ST PRATT'S CROSS

St Pratt's Cross is one of fifteen crosses to be found in Blisland and its neighbourhood. They are described by J.T. Blight in "Ancient Crosses and Other Antiquities in East Cornwall ", published in 1858, with additions by Sir John Maclean in "Trigg Minor" published in 1868, and by Mr G.E. Ellis and Mr T. A. Lumley-Smith.

St Pratt's Cross stands by the roadside near Church Bridge where St Pratt's Holy well used to be. The well was buried when the bank above it was pulled down about 1840, but the spring of fresh water still flows from the hedge by the side of the road.

The cross originally stood over the holy well until it was thrown down and broken in 1829. This is how it came about: Towards the end of the reign of George 4th the Tories were in power under the leadership of the Duke of Wellington, who was Prime Minister. The party was facing very much the same difficulties as the Conservertive government is facing today. Troubles in Ireland; high prices and taxation; unemployment and demands for Parliamentary reform. In 1829 the Catholic Emancipation Act was passed, allowing Roman Catholics to become Members of Parliament for the first time. Other offices were also opened to them, all except those of Lord Lieutenant and Chancellor.. This caused a storm of protest in the country; 173 Tories voted against it and the Duke of Wellington fought a duel with Lord Winchelsea who had charged him with deceiving the country. Meanwhile in Blisland the Reverend William Pye, who was Rector from 1780 to 1834, was very angry and in a fit of temper showed his displeasure by smashing St Pratt's Cross!

The broken cross, according to Sir John Maclean, was then sunk, for safety, up to its neck in the earth a few yards from its original site. There it remained buried until 1902, when it was taken up and re-erected where it now stands, by Sir Warwick Morshead of Tregaddick, to commemorate the Coronation of Edward V11th. When it was thrown down in 1829 the shaft was broken about a foot from the bottom, but the restoration was so skilfully carried out that the union of the two parts is scarcely noticeable. It was mounted on a rough square granite base sunk nearly level with the ground. This may have

Our cover shows St Pratt's Cross buried to the neck in earth. Below the Procession leaving the village in 1958, led by the Rector's son, Francis Madge. Can anyone name the followers ?

been the original base. It is a typical wheel cross - round-headed, with three cruciform projections surrounded by boldly carved beading with a central cross in relief. It stands 5ft 6ins tall, the width of the head being nearly two feet.

It is impossible to say how old the cross is. It may even go back to pagan times and could have been a holy standing stone before missionaries carved a cross on it, and used it as part of the Christian ritual. I was once told that Blisland churchyard was originally circular in shape and could have been the site of a stone circle similar to the Trippet Stones and Stripple Stones near Hawks Tor, places of worship in pre-Christian times. These conjectures, if true, plus the fifteen stone crosses that could be very old in origin, would mean that Blisland's role as a religious centre go far back into antiquity. A thought to conjure with, perhaps, as we watch the present day procession and service on the feast of St Protus and St Hyacinth.

R. Chadburn

Blisland Celebrates the Royal Wedding

I am sure that everyone who joined the unique wedding celebrations on the Village Green on the evening of that day will want to thank Colin Hardy for the splendid way in which he organised the event. His own comment follows - but I didn't think we could let all his own list of thankyous go in without remembering how much is due to him. It was a splendid and memorable thing to see so many people enjoying themselves together on the Green.

Editor

On the evening of the Royal Wedding Day, many people came to the Village Green to watch and participate in our own event to celebrate the marriage of the Royal couple, Prince Charles and Lady Diana.

The evening started at 6.00 p.m. with a flag and banner competition with prizes awarded to Fiona Webber, Tina Ward, Keith Hargreaves and Stephen Ward (joint effort), consolation prize, Judith Hill. This was followed by a long sports programme most ably organised by Mr Stan Langshaw. All the events were well supported, packed with incident and participants included children, mums and dads and grandparents. Sweets and small money prizes were presented by Mrs Walford and the P.A. system was operated by the Disco entertainers.

A wheelbarrow race around the Green replaced the pram race as difficulties in obtaining prams meant that there was only one official entry. Six brand new wheelbarrows on special loan from Bodmin Timber Ltd (and now for sale at £14.15 plus VAT) charioted six pairs of competitors taking turn and turn about as pushers and riders in a speedy one and a third circuit circumnavigation of the Green, complete with thrills and spills. Keith Matthews and Ivan Greenaway were the winners.

In a four sided contest of Tug-of-War the men in the Pub team defeated the Garage team in the final pull off. Mr C.R. Greenaway officiated.

Mr Brice Brown looked after the Lamb Roast during the afternoon. The lamb was supplied by John Bate and the timber for the fire by the Rector, Keith Webber and Charlie Rush. A large quantity of ice-cream was sold

by Josephine Green; tea, coffee and squash was served by Sue Haggart and Jean Ward. The barbecue food was cooked by Shirley Hargreaves, Brenda Hardy, Frank Dixon and David Pearson, with assistance in cooking and serving from Liz Martin, Eileen Pengelly and Brenda Pearson.

The ticket draw for a souvenir tin of biscuits was won by Miss M. Parnell and there were seven other prize draw winners. All the prizes, including the superb large souvenir mug were most kindly donated by Brigadier and Mrs Edward-Collins .

The disco music in the marquee proved very popular with the young and young at heart, and finished at 11.00 p.m.

I would like to thank the team of committee members who met many times during the preparatory weeks before the event: Liz Corns, Shirley Hargreaves, Tina Mussell and David Pearson, also David Corns for his assistance in putting up the bunting and Mr J. Hammond for helping to take it down. The bunting has been put in the Village Institute for safe keeping. My thanks also to the team of grass cutters before and after the event: Eileen Walford, Doug F. Roberts, Keith Hoskin, John Sleep, Simon Draper, John Hammon, Brian Mussell, David Corns and Stan Langshaw. Also Des Hammond for his time and use of his truck, Colin Chandler for organising the marquee, Malcolm Price, Keith Webber, Peter Pengelly and Harold Rich who all helped or contributed to the setting up of the barbecue units. My grateful thanks also to all the people who helped in any other way and to those who kindly held coffee mornings and evenings to raise funds for the event.

In all the Village celebration of the Royal Wedding was a happy and successful event, an occasion which took place in a delightful setting, was blessed with fine weather and was enjoyed as a family event - and an evening which will be remembered for a very long time.

C. Hardy.

At a village meeting in the Institute on August 5th, it was decided that the remaining monies in the Blisland Royal Wedding Celebration Event fund, amounting to £120 should be divided between reparation work in the duck pond area of the Village Green and the Loreto House Charity for severely mentally and physically handicapped children.

The Future of Bradford Bridge

A meeting was held at the bridge between Mr Truscott of the Department of Minor Works and various interested parties from Bradford and Blisland. At this meeting several important points emerged.

1. The bridge is clearly in a poor condition and if it were not strengthened there would be a serious risk of injury or loss of life.

2. The alternative suggestion for using the ford for access to Higher Bradford by the MMB's tanker is not feasible because of the height of the water when the river is in spate. As it had rained heavily for two nights before the meeting, this point was illustrated in a pretty convincing manner.

3. The Department staff responsible have every intention of carrying out the necessary work with the least possible damage to the amenity of the surroundings. The upstream pillars and fronting stones will be temporarily removed, and will be replaced after widening and strengthening have taken place.

4. The road on the far side is not going to be straightened, indeed it will be somewhat more curved to facilitate the passage on and off of the large lorries.

5. And finally it must be pointed out that attractive as this traditional clapper bridge is, it is not particularly old, having been built in 1928, to replace the old foot-bridge.

Of course everyone must be concerned that the unique charm of Bradford should not be spoiled, and one cannot help wondering if this isn't the thin end of the wedge, and fearing that shortly we shall hear that the whole corner is to be demolished and widened, so we must all be sure we do know when these things are planned. Meanwhile we must accept the assurances given us by Mr. Truscott. When the work is completed we shall publish photographs of the old footbridge, the 1928 bridge and the 1981 widened version.

RL-S

Blisland Church Flower Rota

September 5th and 12th	Mr Thomas
September 19th & 26th	Mrs Corns & Mrs Chandler
October 3rd & 10th	Mrs Draper
October 10th	HARVEST FESTIVAL
October 17th & 24th	Mrs Walford & Mrs Mrs Vause
October 31st & November 7th	Mrs Lumley-Smith & Mrs Talbot-Smith
November 14th & 21st	Mrs Richards & Mrs K. Webber

November 28th, December 5th, 12th&19th NO FLOWERS

FLOWERS

Please will anyone who cannot manage the date assigned make their own arrangements to change; and please will everyone make sure that their dead flowers are removed in time for the next lot

School photograph Blisland 1930

For reasons not explained our printers chose to leave the captions off our two Blisland school photos last month - these gave the names of the respective school masters. In 1883 this was Mr Davis. No one has volunteered any information about the names of his pupils who would be 110 years old - more or less - if they were alive to tell the tale! However Mrs M. Webber of Blisland has supplied the following names for the 1930 picture. One she's not quite sure of, and one she does not remember at all - Can anyone help ?

Back Row: (reading from left to right)
Donald Best, Orlando Hooper, Jack Pearse, Mable Rowe, May Halls, Joyce Lange, Myrtle Wills, Marjorie Webber, Minnie Pearce, Phyllis White, Joe Keat (?) Mr Hawken (Headmaster)

Middle Row:

George Dowrick, Evelyn Rowe, Mona Northcott, Valerie White, Daphne Cawrse, Edna Male, Phyllis Nottle, Winnie Holman, Henry Keat.

Front Row:
Bill Greenaway, Clifford Runnalls, Douglas Kellow, Frank Harris, UNKNOWN and Austin Axworthy.

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

ST BREWARD

The President, Mrs Pamela Luke, was warmly congratulated by all those present, on being designated Vice-President of the National Methodist Conference.

After a brief business meeting members set off in four cars for the Churchtown Field Study Centre at Lanlivery, a trip specially arranged because 1981 is the Year of the Disabled. They were taken round by Gordon, a member of the staff, himself disabled. With great humour and enthusiasm he showed them the dining-room, library, sitting-rooms, bedrooms, indoor heated swimming pool and the rooms devoted to photography, pottery, stone-cutting, art and natural history. Members were tremendously impressed to hear that the handicapped adults and children who spend holidays here also take part in sailing, canoeing, farming and gardening as well as other energetic outdoor pursuits. It was generally agreed to have been a wonderful and moving visit, eliciting universal and wholehearted admiration for the splendid work being done here by staff and guests alike. The evening ended with a meal in Lostwithiel.

There is no meeting in August so the next meeting will be on September 15th, when it is hoped that members will bring neighbours and friends who may like to consider joining the W.I.

Pamela Bousfield

BLISLAND

Well for all those that were there there can be no need at all for me to say what a successful evening we had on the day of the produce show. I think all the hard work put in by so many of our members really paid off when we saw everyone enjoying themselves, and prizes going to so many non-members. Even the judges had good words to say about the quality of everything.

I must take this opportunity of thanking all those who helped and gave so much of their time, both before and on the day, without whom the whole thing could not have been possible. I also think special thanks ought to be extended to Mr Langshaw - who considering he is not a W.I. member put in a lot of personal effort for our show, and also to Mr Sleep who not only produced an amazing number of entries and walked away

with half the prizes between him and his family, but also donated three lovely shields as trophies to be given every year. We really appreciate his thought for our W.I., and we mustn't forget his hard work clearing up so marvellously for us.

Hoping not to leave anyone out I must thank all the people that entered something even the ones who didn't win prizes - without you there wouldn't be a produce show. At this point I feel I must congratulate Mrs Walford for winning the cup for most points in the show. Well done!

Many thanks to everyone who came along that day, we hope we may see some of you at our next meeting in September - 3rd Wednesday - 7.30 - Village Hall. See you there!

Judy Ivil

W.R.V.S. OVER SIXTIES CLUB

The Over sixties outing to Cawsand, Rame Head and Looe, on Tuesday 4th August, was again favoured with lovely weather although the beautiful scenery around Rame Head was obscured by dense sea mist which cleared by the time we reached Looe.

We go to Perranporth on August 18th and hope to have another day out on September 1st - Enquiries about the latter to Miss Tucker.

It may be of interest to know that donations to the Home Farm Trust, in lieu of flowers for Wilfie (Masters) amounted to £205.50. which has been gratefully acknowledged. Thanks to all of you who contributed.

We wish Mrs E Webber a speedy recovery after her operation at the City Hospital, Truro.

G.M.Masters.

Lavethan Open Day

Very many thanks to all who came and helped to make our Open Day such a happy occasion. To all who contributed in any way to stalls and games, to those who parted with their money and to that indomitable pair of untiring cafe girls, Beryl and Dot, who made sure you all got plenty to eat ! We made a total of £207 after deductions, so £100 of this has been sent to the Guide Dogs for the Blind and £107 has gone into the magazine's account to secure a goodly number of copies. Thank you for coming. See you next year.

RLS

STOP PRESS

We hear that Owen Harper is in hospital in Bodmin and send him our sincere wishes for a speedy recovery

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WEBBER'S MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

ON THE EVENING OF FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 4th

In aid of the Freedom Fields Hospital Long Bath Fund,

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This is the TOUR you mustn't miss. Have fun and at the same time support this worthwhile cause

PLEASE TELEPHONE FOR DETAILS AND SEAT RESERVATION

PLEASE DON'T DUMP YOUR UNWANTED HARDWARE

LOOK IN THE CORNISH GUARDIAN - OR THE YELLOW PAGES THERE IS SOMEONE THERE WHO WILL PAY YOU FOR YOUR USELESS OLD SCRAP INCLUDING THAT CAR -- SO WHY DEFILE OUR MOORS BY DUMPING IT IN OLD TIPS ? IT'S MUCH MORE PROFITABLE TO HAVE IT TOWED AWAY AND BE PAID. IF IN DOUBT RING THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR ADVICE

Blisland and St Breward Parish Magazine

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