Memories of Butter Tor Farm.

DQB

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

December 1987 No. 92 15p

Rector:	The Rev. Prebendary Edwin G.J. Stark MA	
	The Rectory, Blisland.	Bodmin 850249
Churchwardens:		
Blisland	Brig. Edward-Collins	Bodmin 850620
	Mr. G. Masters	Bodmin 850331
St. Breward	Mr. H.C. Hawken	Bodmin 850294
	Mrs. S. Hutton	Bodmin 850761

KALENDAR & ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 1987 Intention

Tue	1	Feria	Holy Eucharist Blisland 10.00am	Homeless
Thu	3	St Francis Xavier		
		Holy Eucharist	St Breward 10.30	Retreats
SUN	6	ADVENT II		
		Parish Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	The Parish
		Mattins	St Breward 11.30am	
Tue	8	CONCEPTION OF THE B.V.M.		
		Holy Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	Mothers
Thu	10	Feria		
		Holy Eucharist	St Breward 10.30am	Children
SUN	13	ADVENT III		
		Parish Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	The Parish
			St Breward 11.30am	
Mon	14	St John of the Cross		
		Holy Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	Teachers
Thu	17	Feria (O Sapientia)		
		Holy Eucharist	St Breward 10.30am	Teachers
SUN	20	ADVENT IV		
		Parish Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	The Parish
			St Breward 11.30am	
Thu	24	Christmas Eve		
		Midnight Mass	St Breward 10.00pm	The Church
		Midnight Mass	Blisland 12.00	
Fri	25	CHRISTMAS DAY		
		Morning Mass	St Breward 10.00am	
		Morning Mass	Blisland 10.00am	
Sat	26	St Stephen		
		Holy Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	Martyrs
SUN	27	CHRISTMAS I		
		Parish Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	The Parish
			St Breward 11.30am	
		Service of 9 Lessons & Carols	St Breward 3pm	
Mon	28	Holy Innocents		
		Holy Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	Children
Tue	29	St John the Evangelist		
		Holy Eucharist	Blisland 10.00am	Theologians
Thu	31	Holy Eucharist	St Breward 10.30am	World Peace

Tue 15 CHRISTINGLE SERVICE AT BLISLAND 2.30pm
Fri 18 CAROL SINGING AT ST BREWARD 6.30pm
CONFESSIONS BEFORE CHRISTMAS Mon 14 Blisland 10.30am

My dear Parishioners of Blisland, St Breward & Temple,

About the year A.D. 1000 Aelfric, Abbot of Cerne in Dorset, wrote an Anglo-Saxon Homily on Christmas which began:'My dearest brethren, our Saviour, the Son of God, co-eternal with and equal to His Father, who was ever with Him without beginning, vouchsafed that He would on this present day, for the redemption of the world, be corporally born of the Virgin Mary. He is Prince and Author of all things good and of peace....'

Abbot Aelfric very concisely reminds us what Christmas is. Christ's Mass commemorates the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. He was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that humble handmaid of the Lord, whom we honour. His foster father, Blessed Joseph, was a working man. When the Holy Family went to Bethlehem to be taxed there was no room for them in an inn and so the Holy Child was born in a stable amidst the cattle and His first visitors were simple shepherds led by a star.

What Abbot Aelfric wrote almost a thousand years ago must be remembered to-day. Christmas has become increasingly commercialised and for many people it is a secular rather than a sacred Feast. There are two ways in which it may become a sacred rather than a secular feast. There is goodwill among those who send Christmas greetings to their friends but a sacred rather than a secular Christmas Card should be sent. This will remind both the sender and the receiver of what Christmas is. It is also sold in aid of some charitable society it will remind both the sender and the receiver of the plight of the poor, the undernourished and the sick. Then there are Christmas presents galore to be purchased and presented. The majority of such gifts are secular rather than sacred. But as we give them and receive them we should recall those gifts presented to the Christ Child by the Three Wise Men - gold, frankincense and myrhh - and what they stood for - the Kingship of Christ, the Worship of Christ and the Death of Christ.

Christmas is Christ's Mass and at Midnight Mass or Mass on Christmas morning we must remember that at that Mass we plead the Passion of Christ as we rejoice at His Birth. May you all keep a Holy and Happy and Blessed Christmas and pray for the Peace of the World and the Unity of the Church.

God Bless you and all whom you love,

3. EDWIN STARK

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas tree in Britain is really quite a modern custom. Prince Albert introduced it, when, in 1840 he cut a small tree on the Windsor Castle estate and brought it in to please his young wife Queen Victoria. An angel stood on the top branches and the rest was decorated with candles, sweets and small presents. Prince Albert did not invent the custom it was already a common practice in his native Germany to bring in a tree on Christmas Eve, the religious feast day of Adam and Eve. Then the trees were decorated with apples; this way had been going on for hundreds of years.

It is remarkable that this pleasant custom should have taken so long to cross the Channel because German settlers in America were decorating their fir trees in the 17th century.

Spruce is the most popular Christmas tree followed by the fir. The most famous Christmas tree in Britain is erected in Trafalgar Square each year. It is a gift from the people of Oslo in gratitude for Britain's help in World War Two.

When I was a child growing up in World War I it was not easy to buy fir trees; you went with your parents into the countryside and gathered a large branch of holly which was decorated. Today many artifical trees take the place of the real thing. We look forward to seeing again the illuminated Christmas tree on top of the Church Tower shining out its message of goodwill over the village.

G.M.

Parish Registers

HOLY BAPTISM

James Charles Harper at St. Breward Church on Sunday, 1st November.

Abé Anne Struggles at Blisland Church on Sunday, 15th November.

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

This took place on Saturday 5th September and was in aid of churches all over the county. The idea was to cycle to as many churches and chapels as possible and be sponsored for each one. The idea originated from East Anglia where it is flat and they do not have our hills to contend with! However, undaunted, our family set out at 12 noon. The first stop was St. Breward Chapel followed by St. Breward Church where luckily we arrived before the wedding. I don't think our tracksuits would have fitted in! But we did stop and see the lovely flowers arranged for the service. We then went on down Mine Hill and up the other side to join the main road. Here it started to pour with rain but we pressed on until we found shelter under a tree and met another cyclist coming the other way. Our next stop was St. Tudy Chapel where they kindly lent us a towel to dry out and gave the children drinks.

On to St. Tudy Church and then as the sun came out we steamed our way down the back road to St. Mabyn Church where we were all grateful for a drink. Upon reaching the cross-roads at Longstone the children wanted to go home but bribed with a promise of an ice lolly at Blisland Post Office we rode straight on down to Tresarret and up to Blisland where the said Post Office was luckily still open and Mrs. Vause was sitting in her garden waiting with some contributions for the Parish Magazine!. After checking in at Blisland Church we cycled home past Tregenna and Key Bridge and finally home. Looking on the map I reckon we cycled at least 14 miles up and down, not bad for a nine and a six year old.

St. Breward raised £9, Blisland £10 but the total for Cornwall as a whole was approximately £9000.

Next time I hope more people will take part as it is a lovely way to see the countryside and see views you miss in a car.

Catherine Mcshee.

May I take this opportunity to wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and to thank you all, who have been so appreciative of my efforts at editing this magazine.

C.M.

THE STORY OF MY CHILDHOOD.

By Winifred Jane Sandercock (neé Powell).

I was born in April 1903 on a farm by the name of Butter Tor near Roughtor and Brown Willy and not far from the now famous Jamaica Inn. My two brothers attended school near the inn; I was too young and wasn't compelled to go in those days. It was a long rough track over the moors, this being the easterly part of the Bodmin Moors.

The only means of transport was by horse. Our doctor came from Camelford on horseback, a distance of about seven miles; we were seldom sick having the pure fresh air and the freedom of the moors; also good wholesome food such as milk, butter, and home-cured ham. Our groceries were delivered once a month from the nearest village of St. Breward.

Our farm dwelling was situated in the valley by a shallow stream with a granite foot-bridge where we used to play. Also over the river that ran noiselessly through the moors was a large granite bridge, the stones were so huge it made one wonder how it had been built; the work must have been very hard - it is still standing.

From our house we could see Garrow Tor, Roughtor and Brown Willy. It was beautiful - the scent of the heather and gorse must be experienced to be believed.

My mother allowed us to go to Garrow Tor to play, the nearest hill to our home. At that time there were a lot of Highland cattle on the moors; in very hot weather they used to stand in the river near our home to get away from the flies, they were lovely animals. Also on the Tor were goats with their kids skipping over the rocks.

In the summer the snakes were numerous, my brothers used to hunt them. I went along to watch, it was very exciting and we never came to any harm.

How lonely and desolate it looks now, the farmhouse and outbuildings are in ruins.

On Sundays we went to Fernacre, a dwelling about two miles from our home, to attend church service - chairs were placed around the room which had a stone floor on which we had to kneel. Mothers with their babies were there, some crying, but no-one took any notice. I often wonder how they got there; it must have been on foot.

If we ventured far from Camelford we rode in a cart. It was often dark when we started for home, but the dear old horse Bessie would see us safely home. There was only a rough wheel track from Roughtor Ford around by the foot of Roughtor, when nearly home we had to cross the river,

which gave us children a great thrill. In all the years we lived there we never had an accident: 'God is good'.

I would like now to have some of the cooking my mother did; coal was unheard of, all our food was cooked in a cloam oven, or by turf fire which never went out. Large fountains were hung in the open chimney giving us ample hot water. I cannot remember seeing a baker or a butcher, and only once a doctor, when I was vaccinated - we thought he was a wonderful gentleman - it was quite an occasion.

When we were born a capable woman called Emma nursed my mother. She did the nursing, cooking and housework - she was wonderful, coping with her own housework and family as well. She lived to a good age.

To be continued next month.

BLISLAND VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE URGENTLY need a secretary for their Management Committee.
Please apply to the Chairman Mike Trevarthen, Bodmin 850907.

Blisland Village Hall and School are holding a BINGO in the Village Hall on Friday 11th December.
Eyes Down at 7.30 pm. Raffle and Refreshments.

ST. BREWARD CHAPEL

21st December: Carols by Candlelight at 7.00pm. in Chapel

25th December: Christmas Morning Service at 10.30am. in Chapel

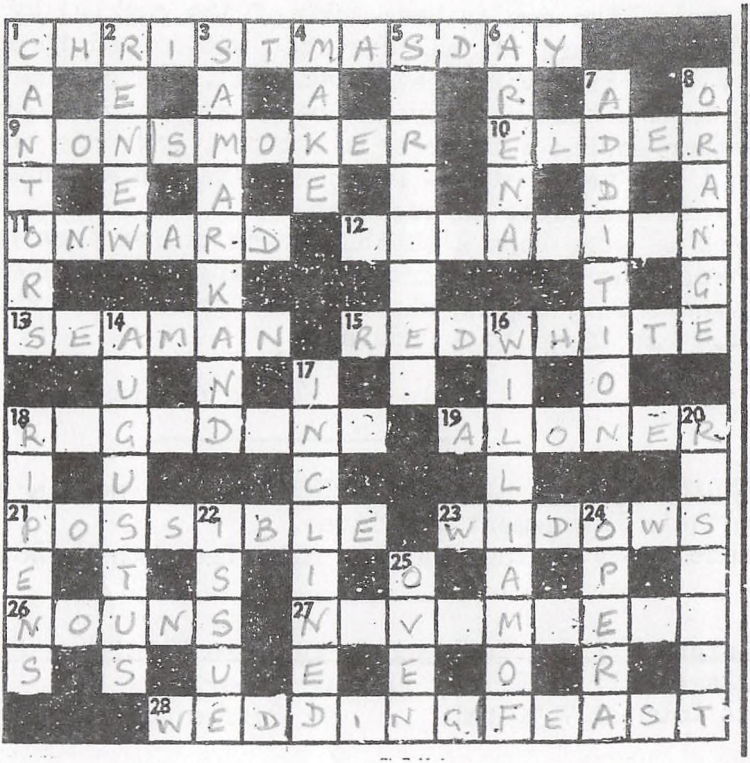
27th December: Nine Lessons & Carols at 6pm. in Chapel.

6th January: New Year's Effort - more next month.

ST. BREWARD METHODIST CHURCH COFFEE SHOP

Open on Wednesdays from 10.00 to 11.30am. Join us for coffee and a chat.

A CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



Gardening Savings

By Hook or by Crook

This phrase dates back to the time when, by ancient custom, farmworkers had the right to gather firewood from the trees belonging to the landowner for whom they worked. They could cut branches from bushes and hedges by means of a hook and pull down dead branches from trees by using their shepherd's crook. So the tenant obtained his firewood by hook or by crook.

To-day the expression implies getting what you want by one means or another.

G.M.

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Feast of the Holy Nativity (9,3)
9 Railway carriage (3,6)
10 Aged berry (5)
11 .... Christian Soldiers (6)
12 Hesitation. He has gone for 100. (8)
13 A manse hides him (6)
15 Three cheers for the ___, ___, & (3,5)
18 French dances (8)
19 He is not with the others (1,5)
21 May be (8)
23 Dowagers (6)
26 Zero among religious (5)
27 Its leaf is red & its sky chill said Scott (9)
28 Garment required for this (7,5)

DOWN

1 Singers (7)
2 About north east, then west (5)
3 Tamerlane's capital (9)
4 Cornish place loses right (4)
5 They are rendered (8)
6 Sphere of action (5)
7 Something extra (8)
8 See 16 down
14 One of the Caesars (8)
16 The National Debt began in his reign (7,2,6)
17 Tend to (8)
18 Rest in peace, east, north, south (6)
20 Take it easy, do not stand (4,3)
22 Progeny (5)
24 Sometimes soap, sometimes grand (5)
25 Cooking place (4)

Solution next month.
Thanks to the vicar for this crossword which will give us all something to ponder over during the festivities.

BLISLAND NEWS

BLISLAND PARISH COUNCIL.

Rural Post Offices seem to be having a raw deal at the moment; several have had to be closed and many staff have had their hours cut. This information comes from the Community News Magazine, who say that, "the bell tolls for the rural post office".

The Parish Council wish to alert people to this fact, as in a small community like Blisland, the Post Office and village shop is very much the hub of the area.

Further details available on this subject and other community matters can be found in the Community News magazine in the village hall.

Barbara Sharp.

BLISLAND YOUTH DRAMA WORKSHOP

will be giving two performances of

"THE SNOW QUEEN"

by
Suria Magito and Rudolf Weil
in the Village Hall, Blisland
on
Friday and Saturday evenings January 15th and 16th
Full details in the January magazine.

BLISLAND YOUTH DRAMA WORKSHOP

To help with the expenses for the visit of "THE SNOW QUEEN" in January, I shall be serving tea, coffee and mincepies at 'Skyber Rhyn', Pendrift, on Wednesday, 2nd December, from 10.30 am. to 12.30 pm. and 2.00 pm. to 4.00 pm.

Please come and support the young people and adults of Blisland and St. Breward, who are working very hard to make this production a success.

WENDY GURR

BRING & BUY STALL Admission 50p RAFFLE

ST. BREWARD NEWS

The village united for their Remembrance Day service held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Rev. Prebendary Edwin Stark; Mrs. J. Greenaway was the organist and the lesson was read by Mr. Graham Blackburn. Included in the congreation were members of the St. Breward Guides, Brownies, Scouts and Cubs with their leaders. The wreath was laid by Mr. H. Bessell.

A short service was held at the Red Cross Centre and War Memorial for those who died in the 1st World War, conducted by Mr. C. Hawken. The wreath was laid by Mr. P. Nottle.

The British Legion standard bearer at both services was Mr. Fernley Parsons.

Collection at the Parish Church amounted to £61-80 and the village collection raised £145-39, a total of £207-19.

House-to-house collections in aid of the National Childrens Home amounted to £152-50. Collectors were. Betty Hoskin, Sylvia Rowe, Jacqueline Lewis, Nesta Teague, Lorna Parsons and Pauline Marshall. Mrs Parsons wishes to thank all the collectors for their help.

A successful session on the bingo, in aid of the St. Breward Scouts new building fund, raised over £80.

Arthritis Care: the A.R.C. collection for St. Breward in October was £101-64.

ST. BREWARD SILVER BAND

The Band have a busy December with concerts at Wadebridge, Camelford and Tintagel. Weather permitting the Band will play around the village before Christmas.

Sunday 13th December at Lanhydrock House, National Trust, 2 to 4pm. Join the Band for Christmas music, N. Trust shopping, coffee and mince pies.

Wednesday 23rd December at Port Isaac. Christmas Carols with the friends of Port Isaac around the streets and estates at 7.00pm.

BLISLAND W.I.

Our membership has risen to twenty with apparently more to come, so with the help of visitors it was almost a 'full house' for our October meeting.

The President, Mrs. Wendy Gurr welcomed us all and proceeded with the business and pleasures of the evening.

The final arrangements were made for our entries to the Wadebridge Produce Show and as its the first time we have participated for many years it will be interesting to see how we fare.

Wendy Gurr gave an interesting report of the Autumn Council Meeting held at Truro. During that meeting reasons and advantages were put forward for holding local Annual Meetings in the Autumn. So after a brief discussion amongst ourselves we have decided to fall in line with many other Institutes in the country.

Our speaker Mrs. Barber from St. Breward accompanied by Mrs. Metters gave a very detailed talk on 'Diseases of Modern Times' accentuating on the possible causes of such through the food we eat. Many of you may know Mrs. Barber as a yoga instructress. If anyone has a reoccuring illness or complaint and feels Mrs. Barber can help she says she would be delighted to hear from them.

It was decided that for the winter months the meetings will be held in the Institute; being a smaller room it is easier to heat and we do have to watch our finances. The Parish Council have assured us that they will come to a financial agreement with the Village Hall Committee so there is no money loss there.

Mesdames Richards and Runnalls were the ever welcome tea hostesses. Mrs Wendy Barwood won the competition, 'An Item of Food Cooked with Wholemeal Flour' with a super cake. The next night Thursday, we all attended the Group Meeting, the hostesses being St. Lawrence Hospital. It was a most enjoyable evening. Mr. Ken Duxbury gave an animated and informative talk on his canoeing trips round the coast of Cornwall. Mr. Duxbury stayed on for the refreshments and joined in the Community Singing which rounded off the evening. Blisland should be particularly proud of Mrs. Doreen Miller and Mrs. Wendy Gurr who were prize-winners in all the competitions; Congratulations. A successful and happy evening.

Don't forget if you would like to join us next month, our meeting is in the INSTITUTE.

Eileen Walford.

ST. BREWARD W.I.

Twenty two members were present to see another selection of first class slides presented by Mr. & Mrs. Hooper of Port Isaac, this time about their holiday in Austria; they made us feel like booking a holiday there straightaway. Mrs. Hooper really knows her subject and is never at a loss for words.

Our treasurer, Mrs. J. Taylor, gave a report on the day school for treasurers held recently; it is likely that a 'Thrift Club' may be started so that subscriptions may be paid in instalments.

Once again a few members may visit the Crafts for Christmas in Wadebridge Town Hall. Our own Christmas Fair will be held in the Red Cross Centre at 7pm. on November 26th with a good variety of stalls and raffle.

Mrs. J. Hawken, M. Metters and M. Willetts went to the Age Concern Meeting in Camelford to represent the W.I.

It was felt that there are already so many commitments in the autumn for Harvest Festivals and the run up to the Christmas festivities that to alter the W.I. Annual Meeting to the autumn would not be advisable, therefore the vote was against altering this from February.

Mrs. A. Holmes gave a report from the Autumn Council Meeting at Hendra which she had attended that day, once again a very interesting gathering with good speakers and all the up to date information about the W.I.

Mrs. J. Jory won the competition for the best holiday photograph and Mrs. J. Greenaway once again produced the flower of the month (well done Joey).

Eleven members made up a party to go to the Group Meeting at St. Lawrence's where they saw a film by Ken Duxbury about his canoe trip around Cornwall. Mrs. J. Hawken was third in the Craft competition, Mrs. Champion second in the floral section and Mrs. Colwell (our new member) took first place in the novice section. A very successful and enjoyable evening.

On January 19th we have our Social Evening when all members provide the 'sit down' supper and games are the order of the day; suggestions welcomed to make the evening go with a swing.

Our December meeting is on the 9th a WEDNESDAY, when Mrs. Coad will demonstrate Christmas cake icing.

Anne Holmes

UNSCRAMBLE THE FOLLOWING BOOK TITLES AND AUTHORS TO FIND CHRISTMAS CAROLS.

1. Winkle and Goose - C.S.G.
2. Hulo, I yam a tall coffee.
3. Shingle tint.
4. Thinkable interim - D.E.W.
5. Rithel felt snow.
6. Big jell snel.
7. Eternal sink haggle - D. Harsh
8. The handy Violet - H.L.Y.
9. 'Ere we Knights.
10. Ethel - The Boomtown Fillet.
11. My Swiss Waiter - Harry Muchoe.
12. M.S.Y. - Hilda Corby.

Answers next month.

Gardening Hints

Roses flourish in the garden if you add watered down blood from the meat to the soil. The nitrogen from the blood is very good for the plants.

Use the leg part of old tights to tie plants in the garden to supports. This works well and does not cut into the stems and of course is free.

Keep a pot of mint growing in the kitchen to keep the flies away.

Aubrey & Sylvia Rowe

I'm sure that I speak on behalf of all the people of St. Breward in wishing Aubrey and Sylvia Rowe a long and happy retirement after 27 years of doing the milk round.

In all the time we have known them they have always remained cheerful and helpful despite getting up at 4 o'clock in the morning!

C.M.

W.R.V.S. Monday Club Report.

On October 19th we had a very interesting and informative talk from Mr. L. Trudgeon of the St. John Ambulance on 'Home Care for the Elderly'. Although things are familiar in the home everyday conditions still hold hazards to be looked for to prevent accidents. Mr. Trudgeon was thanked and another talk on the subject will be arranged in the spring.

The competition 'Plate of fruit to be auctioned' brought many entries and was won jointly by Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Willcocks. After tea these and a variety of gifts were auctioned and brought good prices thanks to the generosity of members.

October 27th was our Harvest Supper, when 48 people were entertained by the Bodmin Singers after a marvellous meal prepared by members. All the signs were that a good time was had by all!

November 2nd was a social afternoon; members enjoyed having their personalties told according to the Chinese horoscope. The Age Concern Community Bus is in operation and proving popular. Names were taken for the trip to Truro. The competition, 'An heirloom', was won by Miss Rowe with a horse brass over 100 years old.

Arrangements were made for our Xmas teaparty in December.

Gwen Masters.

BLISLAND with TEMPLE & ST. BREWARD PARISH MAGAZINE

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Mrs. B. Sharp, Tor Farm, Temple. Card. 363

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Copy for January issue in by 10th December please.

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