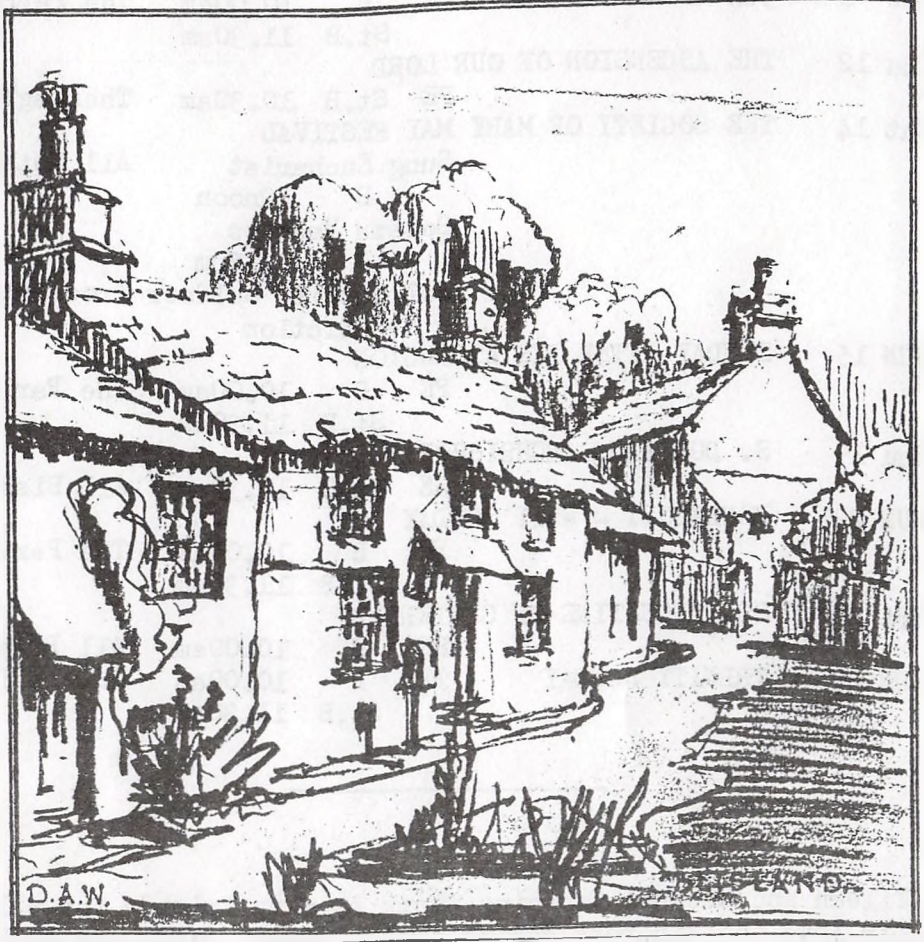
Bampfield

# BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST BREWARD

May 1988 No. 97 15p

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|---|---|---|
| Rector: | The Rev. Prebendary Edwin G.J. Stark MA<br>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 MAY 1988

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SUN 1 | 4th AFTER EASTER | PE | B | 10.00am | The Parish |
| | | Mattins | St.B | 11.30am | |
| Tue 3 | SS.PHILIP & JAMES, APOSTLES | | | | |
| | | HE | B | 10.00am | Missionaries |
| SUN 8 | 5th AFTER EASTER | PE | B | 10.00am | The Parish |
| | | | St.B | 11.30am | |
| Thu 12 | THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD | | | | |
| | | PE | St.B | 10.30am | Thanksgiving |
| Sat 14 | THE SOCIETY OF MARY MAY FESTIVAL | | | | |
| | | Sung Eucharist | | | All Mothers |
| | | | B | 12noon | |
| | | Solemn Vespers | | | |
| | | | B | 2.15pm | |
| | | followed by Outdoor Procession & Benediction | | | |
| SUN 15 | SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION | | | | |
| | | PE | B | 10.00am | The Parish |
| | | | St.B | 11.30am | |
| Thu 19 | S. DUNSTAN, ARCHBISHOP | | | | |
| | | HE | St.B | 10.30am | All Bishop |
| SUN 22 | PENTECOST - WHIT SUNDAY | | | | |
| | | PE | B | 10.00am | The Parish |
| | | | St.B | 11.30am | |
| Fri 27 | ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY | | | | |
| | | HE | B | 10.00am | All Priests |
| SUN 29 | TRINITY SUNDAY | PE | B | 10.00am | The Parish |
| | | | St.B | 11.30am | |

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Eileen and Michael Browning thank so many friends for all their love and kindness during twenty years. They are going to a Residential Home; The Fawns, Ivybridge, Devon. PL20 0LQ This is a Christian based Nursing Home where they have been praying for a clergyman to be their chaplain.

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My dear Parishioners of Blisland, St Breward & Temple,

May is Mary's month and you will notice from the advertisement in this month's Parish Paper that the Cornwall Branch of the Society of Mary will be coming to Blisland on Saturday, 14th May. Nearly 2000 churches in England were dedicated to Our Lady before the Reformation and to this number were added 81 in the first half of the 19th century and 116 in the second half of the 19th century. Cathedrals and parish churches throughout the land have Lady Chapels. In the Lady Chapel at Blisland the Blessed Sacrament is reserved.

Why do Christians honour Our Lady and why is 1988 in the Western Church kept as a Marian Year. In our own parishes, why do we find a statue of Our Lady on the left immediately we enter St Breward Church and a statue of Our Lady in a niche opposite to the main entrance to Blisland Church. Because the Blessed Virgin Mary was the Mother of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, God Incarnate. She was chosen by God the Father because of her purity and humility, her obedience to the will of God and her acceptance of sevenfold sorrows. With Mary Magdalene and John the Beloved Disciple she stood at the Cross of Jesus. Jesus placed Our Lady and John in each other's care. 'Woman behold thy son' Jesus said to Our Lady and to John He said 'behold thy mother.' There is a wonderful sense in which Our Lady is the mother of us all.

The great centre of devotion to Our Lady in England is at Walsingham which is popularly known as England's Nazareth. It was a great place of pilgrimage in the Middle Ages and has become so again during this century. There is an annual pilgrimage from Cornwall to Walsingham but it is a long journey. My own pilgrimage there last year was by a circuitous route. One has only to go as far as Blisland Church to ~~feun~~ find a statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. It is on the window ledge in the Lady Chapel.

Wherever we may chance to be we can always remember Our Lady and seek her aidan and during Eastertide we say 'Joy to thee O Queen of Heaven,
He whomthou wast meet to bear,
As He promised, hath arisen,
Pour for us to Him thy prayer.'

Eastertide is followed by Ascensiontide and on Thursday, 12 May we keep the great feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. It is one of the occasions in the Christian Year when our two parishes should worship together as one family and so on that day Blisland will come over to St Breward at 10.30 am for the Ascension Day Eucharist. we also commemorate two archbishops of Canterbury during the month of May. St Dunstan will be commemorated at St Breward and St Augustine at Blisland. On both these feast days we must remember Robert, Archbishop of Canterbury as he prepares to preside over the Lambeth Conference this year.

Mention of Archbishop Runcie reminds me to make mention of those priests who have f kindly celebrated the Holy Eucharist u during my absence through illness. I am very grateful to them indeed. I am now trying to celebrate at both parishes on Sundays and gradually I hope to celebrate on week-days as well. Please refer to the Kalendar. I have recently received letters from Father Berowning and from Eileen his wife to which I have replied. We shall all miss them greatly at St Breward but the time had come for them to have a change of scene and we wish them a long and happy retirement.

God bless you and all whom you love,

EDWIN STARK

THE REV. MICHAEL & MRS. EILEEN BROWNING.
A tribute to our Faithful Friends.

A large number of villagers will miss having them amongst us owing to their retirement to Ivybridge.

Michael was well known and respected in all Christian Denominations having arrived in St. Breward in 1968 and being appointed Priest-in-Charge at St. Breward Parish Church where he remained for a number of years, retiring in 1975.

During his period of duty, he was an ardent visitor to every household, especially the sick, aged and the housebound. Many enjoyed his sympathy and fellowship.

It was when the appointment of Rev. Paul Hancock came about and services curtailed in the Parish Church, Michael found the calling to join the Methodists at their evening worship and later to assist, taking occasional services by request.

Following from this inovation he agreed to be included on the Circuit Plan where he was a valuable leader until December 1987.

Together with Eileen one of his favourite pastimes was walking, especially on the moors, finding there the many historical features most interesting to them both.

Mrs. Browning was also actively engaged with the Youth and it was with her guidance and encouragement the Brownie Pack was started in 1973.

Together with other keen and loyal helpers, the Guide troop was formed in 1975. With her rank of District Commisioner, her interest remained high, always an active fund raiser and on hand to offer help with sponsored walks etc. In fact when the old De Lank Sunday School building was offered for sale Eileen and Michael made available sufficient money to secure the building for a permanent Guide and Brownie Hut.

The annual Pantomime given by the Guides and Brownies which delighted many an audience were mainly organised by them; Michael having written most of the scripts and actually appearing in one production, 'Red Riding Hood', himself.

I am sure you would all wish to join me in wishing them a happy time together.

H.C.H.

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## "A History of St. Breward"

This book, sub-titled "The life of a moorland village", is to be published in mid-June. There is to be a launching party on Saturday morning, June 25th, from 10.30 - 12.00 at the Methodist church at Row, when you may buy signed copies of the book. Details of this party, to which everyone is invited, will be given in the June magazine, but please book the date now. It will be easy to remember - Book Launch in the morning, Band Fete in the afternoon.

Regular readers of the magazine will have seen references to the St. Breward History Group from time to time. It may be of interest to know something of how the book has come to be written. It all began when my husband and I attended several series of classes in Camelford on local history, given by Mrs. Veronica Chesher of Exeter University. Then, when the Blisland with Temple and St. Breward magazine was started in 1980, Mrs. Lumley-Smith asked my husband to contribute articles about local history. When Mr. Ernest Colman, born and bred in St. Breward and a lifelong student of its history, saw these articles, he asked to meet us and was happy to share his deep knowledge of St. Breward with fellow enthusiasts. When he died in 1981, he left his large collection of papers in our care in the hope that one day a proper history might be written and a village archive set up. He had frequently been irritated by having to go to Truro for information about St. Breward and wanted people to be able to refer to records in the village. During the next 3 years we sorted the Colman papers into 40 files on various local subjects.

In 1981-2 Mrs. Chesher gave a course of classes in St. Breward enjoyed by 20 people from St. Breward and 2 from Blisland. Some of these people and others who responded to a notice in the magazine, formed the St. Breward History Group in 1984. Meeting together only once or twice a year to discuss progress, problems and plans, this group worked on their chosen subjects, conducting their own research in county records, libraries and local sources. Other St. Breward people were co-opted in due course to write on the subjects which had not already been adopted. In this way more and more people became involved in contributing to the chapters or in answering the questions of those who wrote them, in lending photographs and other records, typing manuscripts or giving other help or advice.

Now we have reached the exciting stage where the completed book is in the hands of the printers. Only some proof-reading, checking and indexing remain to be done. But, to save the expense of engaging a publisher, we are handling the work of publication, publicity and sales ourselves and this is going to be a tremendous challenge. More about this in next month's magazine.

Mrs. P.J. Bousfield.

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ST. BREWARD PARISH CHURCH

The P.C.C. earlier in the year, decided to employ a church cleaner. This decision was taken due to the fact that several of our voluntary helpers could no longer help due to ill health.

However, since the commencement of this scheme, many have offered to contribute towards the cost, for which we are extremely grateful.

It was thought that this announcement would give others, if they so wished, the oppotunity to contribute also.

Thank you.

H.C.H.

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WESLEY FINNEMORE. FARMER

I left school in 1908 at the age of fourteen and lived with Father at Hallagenna - he farmed Hallagenna and Palmers. He'd had Hantergantick as well for about 12 months. We were all tenant farmers in those days. Sir William Onslow, who lived at Hengar Manor, owned twenty farms in St. Breward Parish which he let on yearly tenancies, and there were other landlords like Lord Robartes and Lady Morshead. All the farmers were part-time, too. Father worked in the quarry. There was only one full-time farmer we knew, a man called Inch at Henneward, who got all his living farming his own land.

Almost my first job was to take a cow and calf up to Camelford one Friday afternoon to sell at the weekly market held at the bottom of Fore Street down by the bridge. It's still called the Market Place. I had to lead the calf by a string round its neck and the cow followed all the way, five or six miles. Father told me I was to bring them home again if I couldn't get £13 for the pair. I got £14 for them. That same calf, without the cow, would cost at least £150 today. Another time Father sent me in a pony and trap to buy a calf. There were a lot of cattle-houses there then where there are lovely houses now. I asked the dealer if he had any calves for sale and he opened a calf-house door in the street and offered me two at thirty shillings each. I took them both. On the way home I got as far as Fentonadle and Mr. Jasper stopped me and asked,"Are calves dear today?" I said they wern't giving them away, but he could have one of mine for £2. He took it, so Father only had to pay £1 for his calf, which grew and did well.

Eventually Father gave up Hallagenna, turned over Palmers to my brother who was working in the clay kiln at Wenford, and took Cargelly, a farm of about 90 acres further out on the Moor. Some of it was rough ground and the rent was £64 per year. All Sir William Onslow's farms had commoners' rights on the moor. Our agreement was to summer our stock there and winter them on the farms; you couldn't put out on the moors in summer any more than you could rear at home in winter. But while they were out in summer you could grow and cut more fields of hay and corn and make more fodder, so we could keep a bigger number in the winter. We used to run our sheep on top of Roughtor when we lived at Cargelly.

Also we could cut turf for the fire. I've cut thousands of turves. Some summers were too wet to dry them but mostly we got them in. And that was the best kind of pasty that came from under a turf fire. Mother would put a bit of cast iron down on the floor in the open chimney, put the pasty on it, then put a pan over the top and cover it over with hot turves. It was the best pasty.

There was the ruins of an old cottage at Corgelly. My father lived there once, in the old cottage, when he worked for the farmer. That cottage has gone now. I've heard Mother say the boys were rearing sow-pigs in the window in this old cottage when her sister-in-law came along. "Mother," they said, "light the light!" But Mother wouldn't. She didn't want this lady to see this poor cottage and the pigs in the house.

Father left school when he was nine to come home to drive a team of oxen. That was in 1863, and they ploughed with oxen then. He used to tell me that when the flies took hold of the oxen they would take off, and away they'd go, and you couldn't stop them - they'd go right down into the river, he said, and you couldn't stop them. I saw them ploughing with oxen when I was in Palestine in the war, and also in France when I was coming back, but here in St. Breward I don't remember anyone in my time ploughing with oxen.

I started drawing coal from Wenford to Stannon with three horses and a waggon. The price was five shillings a ton, and I earned about 16 shillings a day. I was about 17 or 18 then. And I did all the horse-work on the farm. Nearly every farmer grew corn in those days; now there are very few in this parish who do. No silage was made; there was only hay. There were about fifty little fields on Corgelly and from them the hay had to be loaded onto a wagon and brought into the mowhay. There were no lifts or tractors then. We used to get up early in the morning to cut the grass so it wouldn't be so hot for the horses to work. Cutting about one acre an hour was the limit and then we had to have a man to sharpen the knives - they'd soon be dull if there were mole-hills in the field. Today they cut from four to six acres an hour, and no knives to sharpen. On our farm now, three men and one woman cut and save 100 acres of silage in a week or so and they all ride to do it. I tell them sometimes they don't know what work is.

I had to join the Army in the spring of 1917. Boys who weren't old enough had to come along and take our place. Alec Masters came out to Corgelly to take my place, so the farm was worked all right. When my Father was married he couldn't read or write. Mother taught him to read print, but he could never read handwriting or write his name. He always signed with a cross. So when I came home from Palestine in 1919, almost my first job was to go to Hengar on behalf of my Father and buy our farm from Sir Roger Onslow. The price was £1,200.

Father died in 1929, when times were again very bad for farmers - but this farm at Higher Lank was being advertised and I took it. I brought down the same number of cattle as we kept on Corgelly, but I couldn't keep the sheep in the fields. They were either in our neighbours' fields or in the woods, hitched in the brambles. At that time, luckily, our Government subsidised sea-sand for improving the land, and I spread nearly 10 tons an acre for most of the farm. We had no more trouble with the sheep. We spent all we could on manure and sand, and the farm was soon able to carry twice the number of cattle. We used to get sea-sand from Sandry, down Rumford way. He brought hundreds of tons to Higher Lank. Before we seeded out a field, we'd put a coat of sand on it. Sandry would dump it inside the gate. I'd carry it out with the cart, carry it out in heaps and then spread it by hand with a shovel over the whole field. They don't use much sea-sand now, I don't know why. It was hard work. But the hardest work of all, I think, was cleaning out the calves' house. We used to clear it out about twice a winter and there would be about two foot of manure. I used to take my shirt off to do that job. Now, of course, they have got those big sheds that they go in with the bulldozers. They don't work nowadays.

Subsidies came from the Government wothout our asking or expecting them for rearing calves. For the compulsory TT test we had £3 for each bullock for the first year; £2 for the second year, and £1 for the third year - and we had 100 cattle then. By the time we got our farm in good condition we could have managed without the subsidies. So that money was left in the bank and we were able to buy Higher Lank in 1952. So with God's help I have been a successful farmer.

# THE SOCIETY OF MARY

## MAY FESTIVAL 1988

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF

## BLISLAND

## SATURDAY 14th MAY 1988

(by kind permission of Preb. Edwin Stark)

12.00 noon SUNG MASS

(followed by Picnic Lunch)

2.15 pm SOLEMN VESPERS

Outdoor Procession

BENEDICTION

(followed by Tea in the Parish Hall)

PRIESTS and SERVERS are invited to robe

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PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH - If the weather is fine we hope to picnic on the village green - Tea and Coffee will be available in the Parish Hall.

If wet - we have the use of the Parish Hall.

Contributions of Sandwiches, cakes, etc for Tea will be greatly appreciated.

The village of Blisland is situated just off the A.30, signposted 2 miles east of Bodmin. The village, with its fine old buildings and almost unique village green is an ideal setting for the May Devotion. The ancient parish Church, with its fine interior furnishings, presents the Catholic faith at its best.

ALL ARE WELCOME PLEASE BRING YOUR FRIENDS

THERE IS AMPLE PARKING SPACE

## WORLD WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER IN MENORCA

I read the account of the World Women's Day of Prayer in St. Breward in the April magazine with great interest. I was unable to attend it here this year, but I was thinking of you all on the same day, when I was invited to take part in the equivalent service held in Villa Carlos, Menorca, where we were on holiday.

The form of service was of course identical except that, as the congregation was half Menorcan/Spanish and half British residents and holiday makers, we had leaflets in both Spanish and English. The address was given by a young Spanish woman who had lived in Brazil for 15 years and who spoke with great feeling about the problems of that country whose women had devised this year's service. An English translation of her address was then read. The hymns were sung simultaneously in Spanish and English to the same tunes.

The service was held in a chapel which used to belong to the big Roman Catholic church in the town. Having no use for it some years ago, they had handed it over for the use of the Protestants - a good ecumenical gesture. It was a small simple whitewashed building with a pretty gallery and we were a mixed congregation of about 30 Protestants and Roman Catholics.

Pamela Bousfield.

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## SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF BLISLAND WITH TEMPLE CHURCH

Major C.F.T. and Mrs. V. Edward-Collins invite you to lunch at Trewardale, Blisland on Wednesday May 18th from 12 noon to 2p.m. Bring and Buy Stall and Raffle. Tickets £2 at door. In aid of the above Society.

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Mrs. Rhoda Rickard of Blisland has kindly washed and ironed all the linen at Temple Church and it was all back in place in time for Easter.

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BLISLAND W.I.

There was almost a 'full house' to welcome V.C.O. Mrs. Bancroft, and prospective V.C.O. Mrs Brown, to our Annual Meeting. This was Mrs. Brown's second visit, as a trainee, to this important event in our calendar - maybe, in 1989, she will be on the V.C.O. list and will join us in her official capacity.

We were very sorry that Mrs. Walford declined to stand for the Committee this year. After nineteen years as a committee member, fifteen of them as President, it will take time for everyone to adjust to your absence, Eileen! However, after such a marathon we won't deny you your 'retirement'. Thank you from all of us for all you have done over the past years.

We were sorry too, to be losing the services of Mrs. Margaret Garvey as our secretary. She has coped with her duties in this last, very busy year, in a most efficient manner. Thank you, Margaret. Mrs. Marjorie Horton also felt she needed a rest from committee duties. Thank you to you Marjorie for all your help and support this past year. Fortunately Mrs. Isobel Willcocks was willing to continue as our treasurer. We know she will keep the books and guard our funds in her usual consciencious manner. As our numbers have almost doubled this year, it was decided to increase the committee by one. So we have four new faces, Mrs. Sandra Bone, Mrs. Betty Donnelly, Mrs. Joyce George and Mrs. Mary Aspinell, making up the numbers with Mrs. Gwen Masters, Mrs. Doreen Miller, Miss June Runnalls, Mrs. Isobel Willcocks and myself as president again. Mrs. Bone is the new secretary and Mrs. Aspinell, assistant treasurer. With such a committee behind me, I know we are going to have another full and interesting year.

We are always pleased to welcome prospective new members and visitors to our meetings. These are always held on the third Wednesday in the month, at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall Why don't you come along and join us - we enjoy meeting new people and you can be sure of a delicious spread and a good cup of tea to go with a friendly chat. Till next month. . .

Wendy Gurr.

Since this report was written, Mrs. Walford has been ill. We send all good wishes for a full and speedy recovery, Eileen and look forward to seeing you back in circulation again soon.

ST. BREWARD W.I.

The outing to the Wenford Pottery brought out twenty members and two visitors, (one from Zimbabwe!). Mr. Seth Cardew made us very welcome and proceeded to show us the different stages in the making of the enormous variety of pottery on show. Interesting to hear that the kiln had to remain unused during the war in case the glow in the sky attracted enemy bombers! To complete the evening, Seth created a jug 'before our very eyes', making it all appear so effortless. Returning to the Red Cross Centre for our tea and biscuits our new treasurer, Mrs. G. Champion, explained the budget for 1988/9, and Mrs. J. Hawken reported on the visit of six of us to the Well Woman clinic in Camelford. We were reminded that St. Breward will be one of the Institutes preparing refreshments at the W.I. 70th Jubilee at Pencarrow House on July 2nd. Preparations are on hand for our own 60th celebration on May 3rd when the County Chairman, Mrs. Rosemary Slee, will be the guest of honour.

Several members hope to go to the skittle evening at St. Neot on May 4th, also to the Variety Show at Wadebridge on April 30th.

Our May 17th meeting will be a talk on Care of the Elderly, (and probably touch on other topics also), by Mrs. Sambourne of St. Breward.

Finally an apology from me about the Air Ambulance Coffee 'Morning' which should have read Coffee Evening - a sad oversight especially as we had to alter the venue in 200 copies because Mrs. Jean Roberts is leaving about that time and Mrs. P. Bridge kindly volunteered her house instead.

Anne Holmes.

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ADULT DRAMA GROUP

There are four or five people who have expressed interest in forming an Adult Drama Group. Are there any more Ladies or Gentlemen, who would be interested, not necessarily on the 'acting side' but in the many, varied backstage activities? Perhaps we could start off with an adult version of the 'Youth Drama Workshop'! Do contact me, Wendy Gurr, on Bodmin 850119, if you would like to join such a group.

W.R.V.S. MONDAY CLUB REPORT.

On March 21st a speaker was booked representing the St. John Ambulance but had to cancel at the last minute owing to transport difficulties; something every organisation dreads. Did we falter? Thankfully, No. We had an afternoon of great activity, in which two of our oldest members won the prize for bowls, which wouldn't have happened had we been listening to a speaker. Good comes out of everything. A new member, Mrs. Ham, won the competition for a First Aid Box, which was also good.

We are hoping to go to Tavistock and Dart Meet on Monday May 9th, to celebrate our 14th Birthday, leaving the village at 10 a.m. There will be a few seats if anyone cares to join us. Book early.

An appeal has been made to support the Village Shop and Post Office. It is only when we lose something that we realise how it is valued. A village without a Post Office or Shop is a sad place, don't let that happen to Blisland.

Gwen Masters.

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BLISLAND with TEMPLE & ST. BREWARD PARISH MAGAZINE

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