ISSUE 176 ■ DECEMBER 1994 17P

PJB

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST. BREWARD

ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS.—RAPHAEL.

Rector: The Rev'd Frank Harris

The Rectory, Blisland
Bodmin 851020

Churchwardens:

Blisland	Brig. Edward-Collins	Bodmin 850620
	Mr. R. W. T. Lee	Bodmin 850993
St. Breward	Mr. H. C. Hawken	Bodmin 850294
	Mr. T. Durston	Bodmin 72964

Sunday Services for December

The Parish Eucharist will be celebrated at Blisland at 9.30am. and at St. Breward at 11.10am.

Sunday School meets at the Village Hall at 11.00am.

Weekday Services

Eucharist at Blisland on Wednesdays at 9.30am.

Important Holy Days in December

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Thursday, December 8th. Eucharist at Blisland at 9.30am.

Temple - Advent/Christmas Service at 6.30pm. on Sunday, 18th December

Quiet Hour - at Blisland Parish Church between 3-4pm. on Saturday, 17th December in preparation for the celebration of Christmas.

Carol Service - for Christmas at St. Breward Parish Church on Tuesday, 27th December at 3.30pm.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve - Blisland - Childrens service at 5.30pm
Midnight Mass at 11.30pm

St. Breward - First Mass of Christmas at 9.30pm

Christmas Day - Eucharist at Blisland at 10.00am and at St. Breward at 11.15am.

Christmas Octave: Eucharist each day at 10.00am at Blisland from the 26th to 31st December.

Advent Carol Service - Blisland Parish Church on Sunday, 4th December at 6.30pm.

Letter from the Parish Priest

Dear Parishioners,

The seasons of Advent and Christmastide are very much concerned with the coming of Jesus Christ. Christmas with his first coming and Advent with his second, when we believe that he will return in majesty and glory to pass judgement on the world.

We need then, to ponder and reflect upon these things and ask ourselves what relevance they have in our own lives. Perhaps if we read St. Matthew's Gospel, chapter 25 verse 31 to the end and from the letter of St. Paul to the Philipians, chapter 2, verses 5-11, we might begin to discern the true meaning and significance of these holy seasons. For Christmas which is the festival of the Incarnation, tells us that in Jesus Christ, God became man, so that man redeemed in Christ might partake of the Divine nature. We need then to empty ourselves of all the defects in our human nature if we wish to enter into the very life of God himself. Advent on the other hand reminds us that as well as being recreated in the image of God, we are also stewards of his creation and this means the proper ordering of our lives. It thus further reminds us that we are accountable for our thoughts, words and actions and that there is a particular judgement to which all of us will be required to submit. Perhaps then, this is a good time in the Church's year, to give some real and sincere thought to the Sacrament of Confession. For there can be no worthy celebration of these two great seasons of the Church's year unless we heed the cry of St. John the Baptist to repent in the face of the imminent and awesome coming of the Lord.

These seasons stand then, for Love and Humility; Stewardship and Judgement. Let us reflect then, upon these qualities and make them a reality in our own lives.

With seasonal blessings,
Yours sincerely,
Father Harris

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

The Parish Priest will be available for the celebration of this sacrament at Blisland Parish Church on the following dates at the following times:-
Saturday. 17th December between 4.30 - 5.00pm.
Tuesday. 20th December between 4.00 - 4.30pm.
Wednesday. 21st December between 10.15 - 10.45am.
Saturday 24th December between 6.00 - 6.30pm.
or by appointment.

Fr. Harris is always ready to explain the significance and use of this sacrament to anyone who wishes to mature in their understanding and practice of the spiritual life.

I have been asked to print the following article on behalf of the Cornwall County Association for the Blind. If anyone would like more information please contact me for an address and phone number.

Cornwall County Association for the Blind has recently opened a Sight Centre in Truro which aims to help Blind and Partially Sighted people and others with a severe sight loss seriously affecting their everyday living.
The Sight Centre has rooms displaying equipment to help in everyday living - Talking clocks, watches etc. and many other gadgets. The specially fitted kitchen demonstrates ways to mark cooker controls and other aids to help in cooking activities. A Communications room displays 'talking' computers and print enlarging machines.
One of the most recent services is the introduction of a Low Vision Aid Testing service, which has a fully qualified Optician/Optometrist in attendance to recommend special equipment.
The overall object of the Sight Centre is to provide as much information as possible. together with an opportunity to gain practical experience with special equipment, so that blind and partially sighted people can, as far as possible, lead independent lives.
The CCAB is a Registered Charity founded in 1856 which ensures that all money raised is kept and used in Cornwall.

BLISLAND METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Sunday December 11th at 2.30pm. Preacher Mrs Williams

Sunday December 18th at 2.30pm. Carol Service
Preacher Rev Williams

ST. BREWARD METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Sunday December 4th at 9.30am. Preacher Rev'd Barlow
Family Service
" " " 6.00pm. Fellowship
Sunday December 11th at 11.00am. Mrs Garbett
" " " 6.00pm Rev'd Barlow
Sunday December 18th at 11.00am. Mr Bennallick
" " " 6.00pm. 9 Lessons & Carols
Monday December 19th at 7.00pm. Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday December 21st 10.00am to 11.30am Last Coffee
Morning of 1994 (none during Jan)
Sunday December 25th at 10.00am. Mr R. Hoskin
" " " 6.00pm. No Service

NEW YEARS EFFORT - 4th January 1995 at 6.00pm.

St. Breward Methodist Church send Christmas Greetings to you all and health and happiness in 1995. Coffee Mornings will start again on the first Wednesday of February. We look forward to meeting you all again for coffee and a chat and thank you for all your support during 1994.

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MEMORIES OF MY RETURN TO BLISLAND - R.A. DOWRICK

Last month I said how we were called up for the Battle of the Bulge. We were all set to go on Christmas leave. It was cancelled though and we were rushed over there and helped to push the enemy and his tanks where they came from. We completed this successfully after which we had our Xmas dinner a bit late but better late than never. We were brought back to England soon after to get ready for our final drop which was over the Rhine. The whole of the land armies had reached the river Rhine and were dug in. They couldn't cross as they were being bombarded with heavy shells, day and night from many heavy guns. So we had to cross over our Army and the Rhine, then over the enemy and drop behind them, to capture and put their heavy guns out of action so that our land army could cross over.

Our 6th Airborne Division and an American Division were given the task. General Montgomery sent us a message before we left England. It goes as follows " We are now entering the ring for the last round, with no time limit. Hitler thinks the Rhine is a great barrier. But to us it is just another stride in our path. So over the Rhine we go men. May the Lord God Almighty be with us all".

We set off next morning early and crossed the Rhine. It was a wonderful sight for the armies on the ground. They told us later when they met up with us the next day. How we almost blacked out the sun with the many planes carrying two Divisions with all our armoured jeeps and so on. Escorted by many bombers and fighter planes. It must have put the wind up the enemy too on the ground, seeing us coming over them. The biggest flight ever seen and has never been seen since. I will tell you how we got on next time.

..... to be continued

KEVIN COLMAN
ACCOUNTANCY and TAXATION SERVICES.
Coombeway, Nanstallon, Bodmin.
Telephone: 0208 831850

Mr Ginger Reed of South Africa (formerly of St. Breward) has sent the following article which was published in July 1935 in the Regnal Magazine from London. The young people mentioned, in order of appearance were:-

Hedley	Hedley Metherin (deceased)
Morley	Morley Tremaine (St. Breward)
Stoney	Jim Stone (deceased)
Tubby	Herbert Winn (Exeter)
Sambo	Austin Reed (in South Africa)

Mr Reed sends his best wishes to all readers.

ST. BREWARD CIRCLE MAKE SPORT IN THE CAMEL VALLEY

It is Wednesday night and our members are gathered together for a paper-chase. the second this year. They evidently anticipate a long run for they are scantily attired and lightly shod.

They are drawing lots to determine who shall be the 'foxes', this privilege (?) falls to long-legged Hedley and diminutive Morley. They grab the bags of 'scent' and are gone leaving a trail of paper and clouds of dust in their wake.

They have been gone five minutes, the 'hounds' can no longer be restrained and 'hit the trail' in pursuit of their quarry. Now they are jockeying for position. Stoney takes the lead while Tubby (appropiately named) brings up the rear, his Bovrilian face beaming like an October sunset. Onward they go, now west, now due south, everyone enthused with the thrill of the chase. Like a flash they are past the ruins of the Holy Well of St. James, which could scarcely have witnessed such a spectacle before.

The 'hounds' meanwhile are heading North running parallel with the River Camel which clatters onward unconscious (as yet) of the energy being expended on its richly timbered banks. Here a fallen tree lies athwart the river, Sambo is talking about using it as a bridge. Tubby volunteers to test it and is already half-way across. C-r-r-a-ack, "Mind yourself, Tubby!" The cry goes up too late, twenty stone - more or less - of humanity has made an uncermonious entry into the turbulent waters to the consternation and confusion of the 'denizens of the deep'. This episode has failed to wipe the smile off his face and the pursuers clamber on up an incline which has a gradient of 1 in 2½.

Forward backward, over hedges, through bogs, nothing is too much for them. Everyone is shouting; at last they have sighted the 'foxes' who are making the last bid for freedom as the hounds converge from every angle. It is all over. The sinking sun gives a sly wink at the perspiring company who are refreshing themselves at the farmyard pump.

ST. JAMES' WELL

It was a lovely October afternoon, the sun was shining through the trees reflecting the autumn tints of gold and brown, when my neighbour and I walked towards the valley to visit the old well. I had heard that English Heritage had 'preserved' it. Sixty years before, I first visited the site and then with great difficulty walked through brambles and dense undergrowth to reach the well, and wanted to see whether or not it had been 'improved'.

It was in 1856 that Thomas Quiller Couch, father of our renowned "Q" visited it and found a "dilapidated building standing in a sequestered valley, the old structure tottering to its fall". He goes on "my original drawing is not without small value as preserving a memory of an interesting relic". (I have a picture of this print). In 1891 visitors to the well were surprised to see it in much the same state and growing out of the top was a thorn tree, ancient symbol of spring and rebirth. Such was the well when I saw it all those years ago.

However the thorn tree has gone and the well has no water, it having been diverted by the farm below. In those far off days people visited the well and offerings of a farthing or a pin were thrown in the water to invoke the spirit of St. James to heal their sore eyes and other infirmities. More substantial offerings were probably made in the days when the monks inhabited the chapel of which the ruined wall is nearby. Their presence was last recorded in 1442.

The well is now quite accessible, after struggling up along a water-logged path strewn with many large stones suddenly the well stands out in an area cleared of undergrowth. The back of the structure has been rebuilt in a sympathetic manner to blend in with the front and the tall lichen and ivy-covered trees in the background grow criss-crossed as before. Given a couple of years weathering the stones will gather more moss and ivy and the spot and well will retain that aura of sanctity that one appreciates with the atmosphere that envelops these holy sites.

It is perhaps regretful that the water which gushes down in the field beyond could not have been channelled through to the well and an improved path made to lead up to it, but the structure will now survive many more hundreds of years.

During the incumbency of the then vicar Rev'd Miners, I remember taking part in a pilgrimage to the well on St. James' Day, July 26th. The crossbearer led a procession of the ten choristers of those days, followed by the vicar, members of the P.C.C. and congregation walked from the church along the school lane and out to Sunny Bank and down across the moor to the well where a service was held. It was necessarily a very dry and sunny day and a memorable one.

Grace Masters.

P.S. Could someone from Blisland write about the wells in their parish. The holy well and chapel now ruined in the wood near Tregenna, with its tragic superstition, St. Pratt's Well and Fairies Well Lane.

G.M.

ST. BREWARD A.F.C. & SOCIAL CLUB - ENTERTAINMENT FOR DECEMBER

Saturday	December	3rd	Ellen Van Day (Not to be missed)
"	"	10th	Members Only Party - Final Frontier
Wednesday	"	14th	Football Bingo
Thursday	"	15th	Senior Citizens Xmas Lunch 1.00pm. Morley Westcombe
Saturday	"	17th	Players Party - Disco with 'Jumbo'
Saturday	"	24th	Disco with Tim Keat
Monday	"	26th	Disco with 'Jumbo'
Saturday	"	31st	Disco with Tim Keat

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

CHRISTMAS FAYRE - for the British Heart Foundation on 14th December 1994 from 2.00 - 5.00pm. in the Band Room. with a free entry ticket prize raffle.
Cake Stall. Christmas Stall, Tombola and Refreshments.

CHRISTMAS WHIST DRIVE - for the British Heart Foundation fund on Thursday 15th December at 7.30pm at the Memorial Institute. Everyone welcome.

ST. BREWARD SILVER BAND

The 43th ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS of the SOUTH WEST BRASS BAND ASSOCIATION held on Saturday 5th November. Guy Fawkes Day. Once again the St. Breward Silver Band made the 'Sparks Fly' at this Contest. Competing against eleven other Bands in the 4th Section, they were awarded First Prize, and the Best Set of Basses Trophy. In spite of losing players, positional changes, and the Musical Director being confined to hospital for a short time, which disrupted the 'Run in' rehearsals. Micky Hunt said he was delighted the Band had coped so well with the technical "Suite for Brass". Each member receives a medal and the M.D. a plaque.

Sunday 4th December - The Band will be giving a Christmas Concert at Lanhydrock House 2 - 4pm.

BLISLAND PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup celebrated its first anniversary on 29th September with a Coffee Morning. We will be holding a Bingo Night on Wednesday, 23rd November at 7.30pm. in the village hall to raise money for the childrens' Christmas party. Lots of prizes to be won - all welcome.

Our playgroup leader is soon to leave us and we need to recruit a new one. If you are interested in the position please contact Y. Matthews on 850091.

Anyone interested in joining the playgroup is welcome to come for a free trial morning. We hold sessions on Mondays and Thursdays from 9.30 - 11.45am.

HOME FARM TRUST

Isobel and Tony Willcocks would like to thank all those who supported their recent event in aid of the above charity. The sum of £484 was raised and has been passed to the local committee of The Cornish Friends if H.F.T. They have asked us to express their thanks for your wonderful response. Special thanks to our band of loyal helpers.

A GRAND CONCERT
by
TRILOGY
(Sue, Rachel & Esther)

Also a Sketch by Blisland W.I.
on
2nd December at 7.30p.m.

Admission £2.50 to include a Pasty Supper. Proceeds for Blisland Village Hall Funds. Tickets available at Blisland Stores.

JOY'S PANTRY, Barn Park, St. Breward are having an OPEN DAY on the 3rd December from 10.am - 4.pm. Come and have a free cup of tea and a mince pie or scone. There will be several stalls and our usual display of home baking and additive free meat. Hampers can still be ordered for Christmas. There will be a raffle in aid of the Air Ambulance and each stall is donating one of the prizes.

Gladys Champion would like to thank everyone for their kind enquiries, thoughts and prayers during her recent illness and stay in hospital. The many cards, flowers and gifts were much appreciated, also the support that was offered to Dennis. It has all helped immensely towards my recovery.

The total of £200 was raised for the N.C.H. by way of the House to House collection and a Whist Drive at the Institute. Thanks to all helpers.

Gladys Champion

ST. BREWARD PARISH CHURCH - is holding a Coffee Morning in the Band Room from 10.00am - 12 noon on Saturday, 3rd December.
Cake Stall, Bring & Buy, Raffle. All welcome.

Julie Rowe from Bodmin married Simon Pengelly of Blisland at Bodmin Register Office recently.

BLISLAND W.I. GROUP MEETING

The group meeting was held on 20th October with Blisland W.I. host to 60 members in the Methodist Hall at St. Breward. It was a lovely meeting with a Bring & Buy stall and competitions. Mrs E. Walford, president of Blisland W.I. welcomed all members and visitors. Apologies were received from the VCO who was unable to attend. Mrs Cornwall, Assistant County Treasurer read out the county notices and also mentioned to us about the bursaries that are available to members of the W.I. to attend Denman College. Courses at Denman run from 2 - 5 days and cover a wide range of subjects. Prizes for the competition were given out.

Our guest speaker was Mr Snell and his talk was 'Discovering John Betjeman'. He told us stories of his life and read many of the poems of this quintessential poet of the suburbs, particular, jolly, nostalgic and wary of change preferring the countryside to the city. It was a delight to listen to Mr Snell and a vote of thanks was given.

The evening then gave way to refreshments and after this a play was performed by members and friends of Blisland W.I. The play was called "Poor Fred" and was well received by the audience bringing a happy ending to a lovely evening.

J.M.W. George.

Acclaim for St. Breward Writers Group. Christine Woolf who runs the group won the One Voice International Short Story competition with "Retribution" which has been recorded and published. Guinevere Daws was runner-up in the West Country Radio Play Writing competition with "Through Years of Memory" which will be broadcast during Christmas week on Radio Cornwall and June Whiteway has had two poems accepted and published. Poetry Now accepted "Scene from a train journeying somewhere" and "Emotions call and struggle" was accepted by Poetry Institute of the British Isles.

N. Hollister

The family of the late Fred Teague would like to thank all who gave donations in lieu of flowers. The sum of £250 has been presented to Warleggan Ward. Special thanks to Mr Raymond Hoskin for receiving the money.

BLISLAND W.I.

Mrs E. Walford welcomed members for the first of the afternoon meetings on October 19th. Apologies were given and business was discussed. Future outings include the trip to Exeter on 29th, November, also a carol service in Liskeard Parish Church on Friday, 16th December at 2.30pm where there will be readings and an address, and also a choir of W.I. members.

Mrs B. Donnelly attended the Annual Council Meeting with Mrs G. Masters and she gave us an interesting run down of the meeting. Mrs Rosemary Hawthorne was the guest speaker and the title of her talk was 'A Brief History of Unmentionables.' Mrs Hawthorne is a vicar's wife and has had many books published on the subject of ladies underwear. It was a most enjoyable talk. Other speakers were Mr S.G.I. Hamilton who spoke about Better Prostrate Health and Mr Oliver Baines talking about his work at the Cornwall Rural Community. Mr Henry St. John Smith Regional Director of the Tidy Britain Group presented a Certificate Gratitude to the Federation for the work undertaken by W.I. members. Next our vice-president Mrs Gwen Masters was presented with her award for the poem with which she came third in the Blaikley Salver Competition. Her poem was entitled 'Weather'. The members expressed their delight with a round of applause. Mrs Donnelly was also thanked for her report.

Our guest speakers for the month were Mr and Mrs Poynton on 'Making a Cornish Garden.' The first garden was a seaside garden, the design and working a terracing effect. The end product was shown to the members with slides and it was very beautiful with many bedding plants, but the weather, living so close to the sea was a battle in its self. They now live further inland and have a country garden which they brought from a wilderness, with many shrubs and trees and a group of silver birch. Mrs Walford gave them a vote of thanks and our members gave them a round of applause. Refreshments were taken and the meeting closed at 5.00pm. Our next meeting will be on November 16th at 2.15pm.

J. George

ST. BREWARD W.I.

Our first afternoon and a speaker clad in a gymslip - Mrs Pratt adopted a humourous method of conveying 'Growing up in the Thirties'. Memories abounded of childhood and in particular of school days for many members.

St. Breward is prepared to help with the maintenance of the Memorial Garden which seems likely to be situated opposite the shops on a tiny vacant area; the main problem is that we are all several years older since our first enthusiastic response to this idea!

At the Autumn Council Meeting at Hendra it was reported that the talents scheme had raised £5510 for general funds, with a similar amount to be divided among the institutes themselves. Further explanations were given about the 'shake up' at National level administration which featured so prominently in the national press. Our representative, Mrs C. Woolf, won £10 in the raffle and promptly bought a book about 'Knickers' which should make interesting reading, the speaker at the meeting having talked at length on this subject. It was stated that the W.I. movement requires 5,500 new members per year to maintain its numbers - are we able to attract five new members to our St. Breward Institute during 1995?

Some members are interested in the Land, Sea and Air Darts Trophy and Mrs P. Bousfield has offered the use of her table tennis table in the barn for anyone wishing to practise for the table tennis doubles. We were asked if we wished to have a table at Mrs. J. Cheeseman's produce day on December 3rd.

The December meeting will take place at Lanhydrock on December 6th and be followed by either a country tea or a cream tea for £2.95 in the dining room with the fire lit (probably most welcome on the day). May I also add that there is an exhibition of 85 landscapes in the Music Room by Stewart Lowden of Wadebridge - see page 37 in the N. Cornwall Advertiser. The bus will leave at 1.15pm from the shop, fare 50p.

Nominations were sought for the committee and also suggestions for next year's programme - now is the time to ensure that our W.I. provides you with what you want. It is always difficult to please everyone all of the time so let the committee know your views and suggestions, and help implement these ideas by agreeing to be nominated for the committee. Mrs M. Shelley won both the flower and the Item of 1930's Clothing compettiions - well done Margaret.

Anne Holmes

BLISLAND W.R.V.S. CLUB

Despite the continuous heavy rain on Tuesday, 8th November most members braved the elements to be at the village hall for the monthly meeting. We checked over the arrangements for our Annual Harvest Supper which takes place on Saturday, 12th November and all was in order. The remainder of the afternoon was spent on musical games at which there was prizes to be won. A good old sing a long developed, led by Bing Crosby and friends (on record of course). The competition 'A Pretty Cruet' set and judged by Mrs Gladys Hambley was won by Miss Pat Nelder who submitted a very attractive cruet representing a woodland scene.

Tony Ham

BLISLAND with TEMPLE & ST. BREWARD PARISH MAGAZINE

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Copy for January issue in by 10th December please.

May I take this opportunity to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year and to thank all the people who help with the magazine in any way especially Mrs Walford the treasurer and the people who distribute the magazine once it is printed. I must also thank all who contribute articles, those who place advertisements and to Mr. F. Hodges, who each month prints the cover pages on his computer. I have had a good response to my request for old pictures and photographs and these will all appear over the next few months. Please keep the articles coming in plus any comments you may have regarding the magazine.

Catherine McShee

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