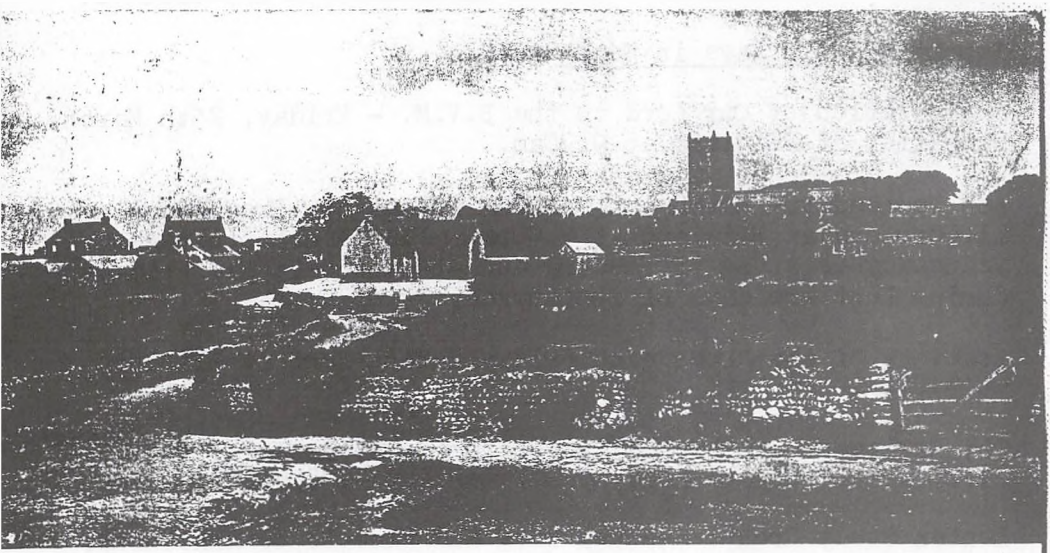
ISSUE 179■ MARCH 1995 17P

BLISLAND with TEMPLE and ST. BREWARD



St. Breward

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 March

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 at 9.30am on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Important Holy Days in March:-

Annunciation of Our Lord to the B.V.M. - Friday, 25th March. Eucharist at Blisland at 9.30am.

Ash Wednesday - March 1st - Eucharist at St. Breward at 11.00am and at Blisland at 7.00pm. Please note that Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence.

Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at Blisland at 4.00pm.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) celebrated every Friday during Lent at Blisland at 4.30pm.

Lenten Study Group: venue, date and time to be announced.

Sybella de la Tour Ward

Anyone who has any knowledge of the aforementioned person who was born between 1857-1880, who came from Boscastle and who was brother to Daniel Fulford Ward J.P. and who lived for a few years at Temple in the late '40's or early '50's are asked to make contact with the Rector of Blisland.

Letter from the Parish Priest,

Dear Parishioners,

The season of Lent has arrived and thus we should be giving some real and positive thought on how we can be more the better disciples of Our Blessed Lord.

Discipleship of course involves discipline and we all know that without it nothing worthwhile is achieved. For if people in everyday life spend much time and energy in pursuit of some transitory ambition, how much more should we as Christians seek to embrace a discipline whose object is to prepare us for eternity.

Such a discipline could well take the form of a 'Rule of Life'. For such a rule can both clarify the purpose of human life, a fact sadly lacking in most people's, and provide us with a disciplined life style within the context of our Christian belief, worship and practice. The outcome should result in a more informed, committed and loving relationship with God and our neighbour.

Anyone then, who seriously desires to pursue the Christian life should endeavour to give Christian discipline due consideration. For without it, there can be no real progress in the spiritual life. Do not hesitate then to consult with me, should you feel that you need help in formulating such a rule of life. For such a rule could assist you greatly if you truly desire to become a better disciple of Our Lord.

May God bless you then in his service.

Yours sincerely,

Father Frank Harris.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

Robert Richard Kay was baptised at St. Breward Parish Church on Sunday 22nd January.

Funerals

The funeral service for the late Ruth Hocking, aged 86 and formerly of St. Breward, took place at St. Breward Parish Church on Friday January 27th followed by interment in the churchyard.

The funeral service for the late Michael John Scott took place at St. Breward Parish Church on 2nd February followed by cremation at Glynn Valley.

The funeral service for the late William Edward (Eddy) Newton aged 66 took place at St. Breward Parish Church on Monday 23rd January followed by cremation at Penmount.

BLISLAND CHURCH

Three Youth Orchestras, the County Clarinet Choir, Flute Choir and Saxophone Ensemble under the musical direction of Janet Elston and Stephen Smith, will give a Concert in the Church, on Saturday 25th March at 7.30pm.

The Clarinet Choir was extremely popular when it last performed here and we are anticipating a 'Full House'! As seating is limited early booking is advised.

Tickets at £3.50 & £2.00 for concessions, to include light refreshments, available from: Blisland Village Stores; Honor O'Donnell 850001; Ray Lee 850993.
Proceeds to be shared between the church and Performing Arts - Cornwall.

BLISLAND METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

Sunday March	12th at 2.30pm.	Preacher Mrs Matthews
" "	26th at 2.30pm.	" Mr Hooper

ST. BREWARD METHODIST CHURCH PREACHERS FOR MARCH

Sunday March	5th at 9.30am	Preacher Rev'd Barlow
		Family Service
Sunday March	5th at 6.00pm	Preacher Mr Martin
" "	12th at 11.00am	" Mr Turner R.S.
" "	" 6.00pm	" Mr Osborne
Sunday March	19th at 11.00am	" Mrs Flint R.S.
" "	" 6.00pm	" Mr Toms
Sunday March	26th at 11.00am	" Mr Lake
" "	" 6.00pm	Fellowship

Donations in lieu of flowers for Mrs Parsons amounted to a total of £300. £100 was given to the National Childrens Home and £200 to Mount Edgcumbe Hospice. Thank you to all who gave so generously.

WOMANS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Calling all ladies of Blisland, Temple and St. Breward. Come and join in the Service at St. Breward Parish Church on Friday March 3rd at 7.30pm. Bring your neighbours and friends. Everyone welcome. Collection for Womans World Day of Prayer Funds. This year's speaker is Mrs Jenny Matthews of Summercourt, a farmer's wife and one of the North Cornwall Circuit Stewards.

The family of the late Mrs Ruth Hocking would like to say Thank You for everyones kind thoughts during their recent bereavement. Thanks to the bearers and Margaret and Mavis for the tea and refreshments, all who attended the funeral and to Mrs J. Harris for receiving the donations for the church.

ST. BREWARD NEWS

From 10th February villagers will have noted that our Postmaster for the last 6 years is retiring and that the new Postmasters will be his daughter and son-in-law, Nichola & Ian Levicki who will now take over the running of the village Post Office and Newsagents. We all wish them well and also a happy retirement to Derrick and Jeanne Adams who are of course remaining in our village.

Derrick and Jeanne Adams would like to thank all who have given their support in keeping our village Post Office open, and sincerely hope they will go on helping Nichola and Ian to keep this post office open.

Thank you all for your kindness, help and support given to us during our time spent at St. Breward Post Office.

The weekly Whist Drives held in the Memorial Hall each week raised monies for the following local organisations:- Doctors Surgery £152; Scouts & Cubs £61; Liberals £53; Institute £46.
Young and old players always welcome every Thursday at 7.30pm. Good prizes and refreshments.

The recent Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy stalls raised the total of £315 for the "Camelford & District Nurse Fund". Thanks to everyone who donated, gave items for sale and all who supported the event.

The "Kingfisher" group of the 1st St. Breward Guides recently made a Shanty House and raised £150 towards the new Home Trust Farm house at St. Teath. The group visited the house to present their cheque.

ST. BREWARD INSTITUTE & MEMORIAL HALL

Our Pantomime this year is 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Performances will be on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9th, 10th, 11th, 16th, 17th, 18th, March. Curtain up at 7.30pm. Tickets from Ann Hole, Hillcrest, Limehead, St. Breward. Tel: 851251. Cost is £2.50 and £1.50 for children.

The following article has been sent to me by Ginger Reed of Vereeniging, South Africa but formerly of St. Breward. Mr Reed had the article published in his local newspaper and thought it might prove interesting to readers of this magazine.

South Africa is continually being buffeted by political tornadoes; at present the word 'education' is ominously seen in the eye of the tornado. This causes violent upheavals and even disasters throughout the country.

As a spectator in these historic times I am forcibly reminded of the primary school in which I spent years of happiness 70 years ago. The school was situated on the edge of a moorland area in Cornwall, England. It was, and still is, a sparsely populated area which I now think of as being in the 'backveld' of England.

The school, built in 1852, showed obvious signs of age. It was built of granite with high rafters. To keep the interior respectable the walls were whitewashed every summer holiday.

It was a large room, accommodating all standards from one to seven in 'open plan' arrangement. The headmaster had standards 5,6 and 7 in his class at one end of the room. A teacher with standards 4 and 5 occupied the middle portion and another teacher at the other end had standards 1 and 2 in her class.

Imagine the discord of sound emenating from that room (my dictionary refers to this as 'cacophony'!)

Certainly not ideal conditions for learning. The infant class (grades 1 and 2) were in a small separate room. There was no staffroom, no electricity nor running water on the premises; water was fetched from an artesian spring, fortunately near the playground.

On average there were 78 pupils in the main room and 22 in the infants room.

There was one small washbasin for use by the four teachers and about 100 pupils. In the winter, heating of the premises was effected by a coal stove in each room. As can be expected overcoats were then a common sight in the classrooms!

When my mother was a scholar at this school at the end of the last century there was a school fee of one penny per week.

 cont on P. 10

MEMORIES OF MY LIFE IN BLISLAND - R.A. Dowrick

A few months later on came the big freeze of winter 1947. It started in February, solid frost day and night for about three weeks with temperatures well below. Then came the blizzards. I can remember when the first snow came, I was getting my cows and cattle in their houses on a Friday afternoon about 5pm. It started to snow heavy and went on for most of the night, also a gale started soon after. I know it took me about an hour to get down to the post office the next morning, climbing over all the drifts. The mail came out late in the afternoon, it was almost dark by the time we started to take around the mail. Walking of course. We had a lot more snow after and gales, we postman walked our rounds for about a month. Some lanes were full up with snow to the tops of the hedges. I know Trencreek was in my round and I used to take a short cut across a field to get in there.....

The only water that was at Mount Villa when I started farming was a well. My father-in-law George Hooper told me that when Mount Villa was built, before my time, 1908 I think it was, he went around near the house with a forked nuttal stick, when the stick twisted that is where he dug. It was only a couple of yards from the house. He went down 40 feet before he came to water. The water was coming out of solid granite, no earth around it what-so-ever. So that is where they had their water for everything. There was one snag though, he told me, the well always went dry in a dry summer. So he told me that now we had several cattle, pigs and poultry along with all our household use, when it next went dry something would have to be done. Sure enough it went dry that summer, or almost with just a trickle coming through. So George Hooper went to some place that same day on his cycle with a haversack on his back; he didn't tell me where he was going or what he was going to do. Anyway he came back a couple of hours later with his haversack full. He still didn't say what he had. We all sat down to dinner, after which George took me out to the well along with his haversack, he seemed very excited. I still did not know what he was going to do until he opened his haversack and took out its contents. He had dynamite, fuse wire, some sort of putty, Chisel and a hammer. So I knew then what he was going to do, he was going down the bottom of the well

and dynamite it. I was wondering though how he was going down. I soon knew though as in the meantime he had fetched a lantern and lit it. He then told me to catch hold of the handle of the windlass and hold it steady. He put everything he needed on his back, held the lantern in his left hand, held the chain that let the bucket in his right hand and stepped into the bucket and told me to lower him down which I did. I could hear him tapping away with his hammer and chisel and after a couple of hours he gave the chain a pull and shouted up that everything was set, all he had to do was light the fuse which would last three minutes. I would have to wind up the bucket as I have never wound before. I saw the match flare and he shouted and I wound. I got him up and he was out of the bucket and we managed to get into the outside toilet just behind us when the dynamite went off with a loud bang. My wife came out with her child George to see what was happening. We left it to settle for about an hour. I then said that I would go down and see what had happened. So I stepped into the bucket and catching hold of the chain, down I went. I must have got about 30 feet down when the bucket touched water so I shouted to George to stop. I had the lantern with me and could see all around me clear water. I was then pulled up and George reckoned there was 15 feet of water down there, Anyway from that day on even to the present day that well has never gone dry. So that was one job done and quite an experience.

.....to be continued.

COFFEE MORNING - Blisland W.I. are holding a Coffee Morning in the Village Institute on March 18th, 10.30 - 12.30 in aid of The National Meningitis Trust. Please come along and support this vey worthwhile cause.

In my school days government made great play of the assertion that education was free - yes it was for those that could afford it! In explanation of this paradoxical statement I should mention that the secondary school was several miles away, and pupils were eligible to attend this if they passed an entrance exam after reaching the age of 11. However there was no transport to the secondary school from our village, and boarding school was out of the question for 98 per cent of the pupils due to the depressed economic conditions. Need less to say I was one of the 98 per cent.

When I note the fine schools and educational facilities of today, I think that we, the scholars of 70 years ago, may have had a legitimate grouse, especially in the winter when we trudged to school midst snow and ice.

The school teachers had a union, a very strong union. It did not pertain directly to their trade so could not be classified as a trade union. They were an integral part of the village community and the union between them, the parents and the scholars was a big contribution to the academic achievements of the school.

P.S. A new school was opened in 1930 (after I left the school at the age of 14). Primary school children may now be 'bussed' to secondary school.

The old school is now the village hall. I believe the conditions I have outlined could have applied to many of the so-called farm schools in this country. The large number of people that attained high office after commencing their schooling in these farm schools is a tribute to the teachers who carried out, under very trying circumstances, what they deemed to be their duty.

Mr Reed also sent me two copies of school photographs taken when he was a pupil. Unfortunately when reduced in size to fit in the magazine they are not clear enough to print. But if anyone would like to see the larger photos please contact me.

I would like to thank Mr Luxon of Saltash who has sent in some old photographs of St. Breward. On the front cover this month is a picture of Churchtown taken in 1906.

Catherine McShee

As no-one else wished to stand for president, Mrs C. Woolf was duly elected as our 1995 President, with Mrs Sainsbury as vice-president, Mrs Shelley will continue as secretary.

A fast moving general knowledge quiz presented by Mrs Bousfield then brought the afternoon to a close. The March 7th meeting will be at 2.30pm still in the Village Hall when Mrs Metters and her son will talk on Chimney Sweeping.

Anne Holmes.

cont. from P 14.

ST. BREWARD A.F.C. & SOCIAL CLUB - Entertainment

Saturday	4th March	Ellen Van Day - not to be missed
"	11th March	Jumbo's Disco
"	18th March	Ricky Barnes
"	25th March	Pageant
"	1st April	Tim's Disco

The kitchen has started Sunday roasts again priced at £3.75. Bookings are advisable and can be made on 850030 (Joe and Doreen) or 850526 (Clubhouse). Steaks are also available by order.

Opening times are Saturdays, 4.00pm. to 9.00pm. and Sundays, 12 noon to 2.00pm with takeaways also available.

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ST. BREWARD PLAYGROUP

The Christmas raffle raised the sum of £46.60 for Playgroup funds. Many thanks to those who sold and bought tickets.

We would like to take this opportunity of welcoming Stephia Goulding, Corey Miller, Daniel Jones and Christopher Crane to Playschool and hope that their time spent with us is enjoyable.

Playschool meets at the Village Hall on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9.15 and 12 noon for all toilet trained children aged between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 years at a cost of £1.75 per session. Although we are full at the moment anyone interested can have their childs name put on our waiting list. For further information please contact Teresa Bunt 851292, Dawn Sleep 850447 or Shirley Crowle (Playleader) 850489.

BLISLAND PLAYGROUP

After the success of our last Bingo Night, the playgroup will hold an EASTER BINGO BONANZA on 1st March at 7.30pm. in the Village Hall. Everybody is welcome, lots of prizes to be won, all proceeds to the playgroup. We shall also be holding our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Village Green on Easter Sunday, 16th April at 11.00am.

The Playgroup relies on your support if it is to survive, so help us by coming along and having a good time! New members and helpers are always welcome.

BLISLAND SCHOOL REUNION - Notice to all pupils and staff past and present!

Blisland School is holding a reunion on April 7th 1995 at Blisland Village Hall, 7.30pm. to 1.00am. Refreshments, prize draw, disco. Over 16's £1.00, 16s and under 50p. For details and tickets please telephone 850828 or 851000 evenings. Also any old photos, memorabilia etc. would be very welcome.

BLISLAND W.I.

Mrs E Walford welcomed everyone to our January meeting and wished all members a Happy New Year. Business and correspondence dealt with advance notice of the Barbara Reed Trophy for the Royal Cornwall Show and the County Lunch at Trenython for those members who are interested.

On March 24th a Day School will be held at Probus Gardens. The day will be of interest for those would be gardeners and for those setting out their plots of land for the first time. Lectures and demonstrations will be held during the day to help people with any gardening problems. The cost is £3.50 for the day.

On March 18th Blisland W.I. are holding a Coffee Morning in the school institute 10.30 - 12.30 in aid of the National Meningitis Trust. Everyone is welcome to come along. Kenco Coffee will be supplying the coffee. This is a nationwide fund raising event with many W.I.s taking part so we hope the public will come along and support this very worthy cause.

The W.I. will also be holding a Coffee Morning in May, details will appear later.

This may be of interest to people who are not members of the W.I. It wasn't long after the opening of the first W.I. in 1915 in England that members were asking for their own paper, so in 1919 "Home and County" came about. The "H and C" has grown since those days to be larger, brighter, full of pictures and interesting information. Now the general public, through bookstalls are able to purchase it for £1.40 a month. Good fiction, cookery and craft; just the ticket for the winter evenings. Give it a try.

Our speaker for the meeting was Mr. D. Ellery on 'Cornish Wanderings'. He was very interesting, guiding us through some of the most delightful countryside, coastal scenery with many villages along the way. The photographer was first class, the aerial photography was the key point, showing us wonderful views of the countryside below.

A vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Barwood.

The meeting came to a close after refreshments. The next meeting will be on February 15th at 2.15pm.

J. George.

ST. BREWARD W.I.

Fifteen members attended the Annual Meeting held in the Village Hall and were pleased to welcome Mrs Alice Skinner, a former resident and member, as our visitor and official teller for the elections.

The notices included a day at Lanhydrock by the Cornwall Garden Society, a craft day at Bude on April 3rd for £2.50, a gardening day at Probus for £3.50, or venturing farther afield a visit to a working woollen mill, Coldharbour, at Uffcoombe in Devon to see a tapestry exhibition. Four members decided to attend the County Luncheon at Trenython Manor at Tywardreath. With lottery fever seizing the county our institute decided to risk a £5 flutter in the CFWI 300 Club in the hope of winning the main prize of £200 - watch this space!

The Community Bus AGM will be held on February 16th and our representative, Mrs J. Cheeseman, who with her husband Cliff, is deeply involved with the running, urged us all to use it or loose it; the current bookings not being sufficient to keep it running. A discussion was held to decide whether or not to return to the newly refurbished Memorial Hall for our monthly meetings; after a very close vote it was decided that we shall hold our March meeting at 2.30pm still in the Village Hall, then return to the Memorial Hall for the April evening meeting at 7.30pm thereafter.

Our able assistant treasurer, Mrs J. Teague, then read out the financial statement as prepared by Mrs G. Champion who was unable to be present; although the balance is considerably reduced it is still quite healthy and will be further boosted by events planned for 1995. Votes of thanks were given to both the treasurer and her assistant for their careful work. The secretary, Mrs M Shelley, then read out the long list of our institutes activities during the year - it cannot be said that we do not enjoy ourselves, whether on outings or at craft days and various fundraising events, certainly not all "jam and Jerusalem". This report was supported by our retiring president, Mrs J. Sainsbury, who thanked the officers and committee members for their support during her three years in office. The Competition Cup was then presented by Mrs Skinner to Mrs Shelley, with Mrs Bousfield second and Mrs Lowe third; the Flower Vase went to Mrs Lowe, with Mrs Sainsbury and Mrs Shelley second and third.

cont.on P. 11.

BLISLAND W.R.V.S. CLUB

Poorly weather, feeling poorly was the reason that only eight members turned up for our first meeting of the year. Although there were many games on hand to be played we sat and chatted about this and that, such as the local school, the concert in Wadebridge organised by the W.R.V.S. on the previous Friday, which four members attended.

The competition set by Miss June Runnals for any old cornish remedies was won by Miss Mildred Rowe. This provoked much more discussion when we reminisced of what we were given as children to cure our ailments, such as sweaty socks around the neck for sore throats or knob of sugar with a drop of eucalyptus. I suggest this would make interesting articles in the magazine if folks submitted their old remedies!

Tony Ham

BLISLAND with TEMPLE & ST. BREWARD PARISH MAGAZINE

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