

# Five Alive

**The Magazine of the Redruth Team Ministry**  
St Euny Redruth, Christchurch Lanner, St Andrew Pencoys  
St Andrew Redruth and St Stephen Treleigh



**DECEMBER 2022**

**Price £1.00**



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### FIVE ALIVE MAGAZINE

**Subscriptions (£8.00 PER YEAR OR £1.00 PER COPY):** please contact your Churchwardens

**Articles and advertisements: please contact:-**

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**by FRIDAY 09 DECEMBER**

## Rector's notes – DECEMBER 2022

### Faith in the future

In this last Five Alive of 2022, it's hard not to notice that this has been another really hard year. Just when we thought the pandemic was coming under control, Russia invaded Ukraine, leading to our dramatic cost of living crisis. We've had three prime ministers, and endured chaotic financial markets. We had that respite in June to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and then she died, uniting the country in grief, and now King Charles is on the throne. Across the UK and many parts of the world summer heatwaves reached new levels, and as I write COP 27 is struggling to agree about how the richest nations can help the poorest nations cope with the effects of climate change in the years to come.

But life goes on. Even if on the grand scale some of the issues seem totally beyond us, and cause us and those in our communities so much anxiety, we each have opportunities to do what we can to make the future a bit brighter, at least for the local communities we live in.

A few days ago, I saw St Andrews' Creation Care Champions David and Joan planting bulbs in the church grounds ready for the spring. The autumn has been so mild that out in the fields a lot of crops are more advanced than usual – but planting those crops themselves is actually an act of faith. The seeds are planted in faith that they'll grow, and in faith that the farmers will make more money selling them than they spend growing them.

Our faith is centred on God's extraordinary gift of his son Jesus. Into our dark world, God sent not the instant answer to the world's problems. But in that helpless child he gave hope and light that would be for the whole world – though at his birth it would still be many years before Jesus began his ministry to reveal God's love, to show us how to live, and ultimately to give his life for the salvation of the world. As the angel announced to those poor shepherds in their fields "good news of great joy for all people", it was just the beginning of that long process. But God begun something irreversibly wonderful!

As we venture into a future that is uncertain in so many ways, let us hold on to the glorious good news that, whatever the uncertainties in our own lives, and in our nation and the whole world, **God is with us**. God loves his creation so much that he sent even his own son to live as one of us. God is with us for the long haul. May he give us courage and hope, as well as joy, for the journey.

*With my prayers and best wishes*  
*Caspar Bush (Team Rector)*

## ***I Don't like Christmas!!***

I don't know about you, but I don't like Christmas...!! That's not entirely true, I do like Christmas but it's the long dark nights which I don't like, even if you are hunkered inside in front of a lovely open fire. There is definitely a thing where some people struggle with their mental health during the winter months. It wasn't until 1984 that research in The Archives of General Psychiatry included the phrase "seasonal affective disorder" to describe the depressive episodes found in some populations. Apparently, we are affected by the lack of Vitamin D, obtained from sunlight, which is why our mood can be low during the colder months, especially for those living in areas that receive lower amounts of sunlight. To counter this, some experts have suggested artificial lightboxes as a tool to ease into the darker days that accompany colder months, which is known as light therapy - "What light therapy does is compensate for the lack of exposure that we get from natural sunlight". A false light. A compensation.

However, this could be for another reason, something deeper, something more spiritually related. What the dark can represent is the lack of hope. As we know, light is essential for life and growth. Without light, the natural world withers and dies; it is the same for us: without light, we wither away. Where there appears to be no light, it can appear that there's no hope. However, one can argue that there is no such thing as 'true darkness'. There is always light, no matter how minute. It only takes one star to defeat the night sky.

The Bible reminds us that there is hope, that Christ is the light of the world, and that darkness cannot overcome the light. Martin Luther King Jr once said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness because we need light to do so. In the same way that we need the light of the sun to dispel the darkness of earth, we need the light of the Son, Jesus to remove our spiritual darkness". John 8:12 says, "When Jesus spoke to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. No follower of mine shall walk in darkness; he shall have the light of life." Not only that, Ephesians 5:8, tells us that we are children of the light, we carry that light of hope that Christ did. We carry Christ himself – the light of hope.

We are reminded in the amazing poem by Dylan Thomas.

"Do not go gentle into that good night,  
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light."

However you are feeling, wherever you are in your life, God still has work for you to do, he still has a purpose for all of us, and we still hold the command to go, love and serve the Lord and make disciples of all nations.

Do not go gentle into that good night. The light is coming, and we should press on in anticipation.

Amen

***Revd Chris Harrigan***

## WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Advent, from the Latin word *Adventus* meaning *to wait for the arrival of an important person*. For us, the waiting is symbolised by the lighting of Advent candles in the Advent wreath, Sunday by Sunday. But in *VENEZUELA*, the faithful can't wait to get to the Christmas Mass, they *ROLLERSKATE* to church!! In *GREECE* where children believe their presents arrive by *BOAT*, they decorate model boats and even have a decorated boat in the town square instead of a tree!! In *POLAND*, on Christmas Eve, it is thought that animals, who were such an important part of the Christmas story, are able to speak. So, children will ask their pets questions!!!

As we wait for Father Christmas to come down the chimney, with the reindeers parked outside, the lighting of the Advent wreath, Sunday by Sunday brings a deeper understanding of the first Christmas Day.

*THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT: The Word of God in the Old Testament*

For centuries, the prophets had foretold the birth of a Messiah, a Saviour who would free the people from darkness. **THE CANDLE OF HOPE**

*THE SECOND CANDLE OF ADVENT: The people of God*

The second candle represents the people who were part of the first Christmas, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, the Magi,. **THE CANDLE OF PEACE**

*THE THIRD CANDLE OF ADVENT: Mary the mother of God / the Theotokos*

Traditionally a pink candle and representing Mary's YES to God and enabling Emmanuel, 'God with us' to be born. **THE CANDLE OF JOY**

*THE FOURTH CANDLE OF ADVENT: John the Baptist*

The final candle helps us to remember that each one of us, like John the Baptist must prepare the way, so that God's love may surround all people, throughout the world. **THE CANDLE OF LOVE**

**The fifth and final candle in the Advent wreath, usually a white candle is lit as Christmas Day dawns and reminds us that Jesus, the light of the world is with us.** This year, as you see each candle lit, may you be enabled to prepare to welcome Jesus into the world, and rejoice in God's love for us all.

**FP**

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Many thanks to all contributors to Five Alive throughout the year  
We wish you all and our readers, a very happy and peaceful Christmas  
and look forward to your contributions continuing in 2023

*Richard and Rosemary*



## ST STEPHEN'S TRELEIGH



On Sunday, 30th October at 3pm a Remembering Service was held inviting those who had lost loved ones over the past year or so to come and reflect with prayer, hymns and poetry. There was the opportunity to light a candle in their memory as names were read out. We especially remembered our dear friends, Trish Rowe, Rose Waring and Peter Robinson, faithful members of St. Stephen's Church who died in the past year.

On Wednesday, 2nd November at 7pm, Caspar and Deacon Chris led the All Souls Sung Holy Communion Service with names of our loved ones being read out and votive candles being lit in their memory.

The monthly Friday evening Healing Service on 11th November was led by Reverend Margaret, Deacon Chris and Jason who also showed 2 short videos from the recent 'Difference' Course.

We were invited to say what we had felt following these videos which had also been shown at the weekly courses that had taken place in the Benefice.

Our Remembrance Sunday Sung Eucharist was led by Deacon Chris and Reverend Margaret and we were fortunate to have Lieutenant Commanders Helen and Ross attend in their smart Naval Uniforms with Helen laying the Poppy Wreath at the altar and reciting the Exhortation before the 2 minute silence, following which Helen recited the Kohima Epitaph.

Forthcoming events: please see posters on separate pages:

Saturday 2nd December, 2-4.30pm Christmas Fayre and Afternoon Tea, with a donation to Children's Hospice SW.

Tuesday 6th December at 7pm - Skyliners Concert of Christmas Songs and Big Band Numbers in aid of the Hall Improvement Fund - £5 on the door to include tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall following the concert.

Sunday 18th December at 6pm - Carol Service with Treleigh School Choir followed by Tea/coffee, mince pies and a raffle in the Hall.

Saturday 24th December at 3pm: Crib Service for the young and not so young.  
and at 9pm: 'Midnight' Mass.

Sunday 25th December: no service at St. Stephen's, Treleigh but please see St. Andrew's Redruth, St. Andrew's Pencoys and Christchurch Lanner for their service times.

Monday 26th December at 10.30am: St. Stephen's Patronal Sung Eucharist with cake and fizz following the service. All welcome

***Christine Cunningham***

## ST EUNY

Preparations for Advent and Christmas are well under way at St Euny. Open Cafe on Wednesday afternoons has been busy as a workshop preparing decorations and craft activities for children as well as providing ideas and support for our Christmas Tree festival and wreath-making afternoons. We have several local groups decorating a tree and two Saturday afternoons of music, wreath-making, children's crafts, stalls and light refreshments, including soup lunches, mulled wine and mince pies. This is an opportunity to open the church and welcome in people who might not have visited St Euny before or who are unfamiliar with the church today. Open Cafe on Wednesday afternoons will also extend a welcome to visitors with additional refreshments, Christmas music and craft activities.

Our Saturday open afternoons will be December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> when wreath-making workshops will take place. If you wish to book for a wreath-making session please do email [lindabeskeen@gmail.com](mailto:lindabeskeen@gmail.com) or telephone 01209 204280. Wreath-making will be charged at £7-50p, a bargain compared to the other offers you might find!

Advent Sunday on 27<sup>th</sup> November will see our customary Advent Carol Service at St Euny at 6.00pm. We will be serving mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.

The Christingle Service at St Euny will take place in the afternoon of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December and is open to all, but is especially attractive to children. A Christingle will be created by everyone in the congregation, led by Lucie.

The Church will be in use for the CN4C Christmas Lunch on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, so there will be no other activities on that day.

Many people enjoy the service of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve, to be held at 6.00pm at St Euny. We will serve mulled wine and mince pies after this service, a possible warmer for those planning to attend midnight mass at St Andrew's later.

Once again the Cornish language organisations will be offering a very special local service of carols and lessons in Cornish, with a bilingual service sheet, on Sunday afternoon 1<sup>st</sup> January at 3.00pm in St Euny with refreshments afterward. A unique event which gives us a chance to remember the everyday language of our home, spoken and understood by all until just a few hundred years ago.

We look forward to welcoming the local organisations who will be supporting our Christmas trees and all who wish to join us in the coming month to sing, worship, pray and socialise.

***Linda Beskeen***



**St. Andrew's Pencoys with Four Lanes Methodist Church**  
**'FLAPJACK'**

***Worshipping, praying and working together as 'One in Christ' St. Andrew's Church remains open daily from about 10am-4pm with optional Covid-safe precautions in place***

On Tuesday, **29<sup>th</sup> November** at 7pm, there will be a live candlelit concert by **WILL KEATING**, of The Oggymen, at St. Andrew's Church Pencoys, to which everyone is invited. Tickets to Include refreshments are £10 are available from Fr. Peter (07903 807946 or [baptism66@gmail.com](mailto:baptism66@gmail.com)). On Wednesday, **30<sup>th</sup> November**, the Patronal Holy Communion Service will be at **5pm** followed by a Bring & Share Patronal **Supper** in Pencoys Hall at **6.30pm**. Everyone is welcome.

Flapjack services and events during **December** and over **Christmas** will be:  
Said Holy Communion each Wednesday at 6pm, St. Andrew's, Pencoys.

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December: Quiz** in Pencoys Hall, 7pm, £1 per person (please bring your own refreshments)

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December: Flapjack Holy Communion** at Four Lanes Methodist Church, 11.15am, Lighthouse (Young people's project, parents and carers welcome) from 3-5pm and **First**

**Sunday Evening Event**, a Taizé service with live music from Pip, Fran and James at 6pm at Four Lanes Methodist Church to celebrate ADVENT and featuring World AIDS Day.

**Friday & Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> December: Staging of Christmas Tree Exhibition** (please contact Sheila 214069 or Jill 07809 043656 for further details), running until 5<sup>th</sup> January.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December: 1-3pm Santa's Grotto** in **Pencoys Hall**, then Lantern Procession to the **Flapjack Christmas Fair** at the **Methodist Church** (from 2-4 pm)

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December: Family Event** at St. Andrew's Pencoys, 11.15am followed by said Holy Communion at 12.30pm and at **3pm** a **Pets' Carol Service** at St. Andrew's.

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December: Holly Tree Lights & Remembrance Books** St. Andrew's 7pm

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December: Games Evening (Prize Bingo)** in Pencoys Hall 6-8pm £3 pp. Please bring your own refreshments.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December: Village Carol Service** at the Methodist Church, 2.30pm; Holy Communion at 6pm at St. Andrew's Pencoys. (No morning service)

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December: Holy Communion 5pm** then Coach Trip to local village Christmas Lights, leaving at 6pm and ending at Hayle for Fish & Chips. (Please contact Fr. Peter if you wish to go).

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve: Crib Service** at 5pm St. Andrew's; "Midnight" Mass of Christmas at 10pm. (St. Andrew's).

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Day: Holy Communion 11.15am** St. Andrew's, followed by Community Christmas Lunch at the Methodist Church 12.30pm for 1pm. Booking essential, names to Fr. Peter by 12<sup>th</sup> December please. There is no charge but donations will be most welcome.

***The Members of Flapjack wish everyone a peaceful Advent and a very Happy Christmas***

***Jill Tolputt***

# CHRISTCHURCH LANNER



Christchurch remains open 10.00am – 4.00pm and Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday at 9.30am, except on the second Sunday when an informal all age event (CHAMP) is held and Holy Communion 11.00am and follows the Prayer Book rite.

## **TOASTY TUESDAYS**

In response to the church and government initiatives both locally, and nationally Christchurch Hall plans to be open every Tuesday afternoon from 1.00pm – 4.00pm from **TUESDAY DECEMBER 6**. Soup, bread, tea and coffee etc. will be available as well as games and chat!! This links in with the **OPEN PANTRY** which has been available since the covid lockdowns.

## **WARM WEDNESDAYS**

A similar response has been put in place by the FLAPJACK community who will open the Methodist Chapel in Four Lanes every Wednesday afternoon from 2.00pm – 5.00pm from **WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7**. This again links with the **OPEN PANTRY** at St Andrew's, Pencoyls.

## **CHRISTMAS AT CHRISTCHURCH**

The season starts early with **SOCK 5** on **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2pm-4pm**.

You will be able to meet St Nicholas, buy some crafts, raffle tickets and teddy bears, and take tea in 'Margaret's tea-room.

**CAROLS with the FOUR TUNES** is on **TUESDAY DECEMBER 13, 7.00pm.**, followed by mulled wine / juice and mince pies

The **CRIB SERVICE** is on **CHRISTMAS EVE, 3.00pm** and will be followed later by the **BETHLEHEM MASS, 8.00pm**

## **A ROCK NATIVITY**

The 'Don't Stop Believing' Youth Theatre Group which is part of the life of Christchurch is working hard on this project which will go into residential settings AFTER Christmas

***Finally, may God bless you all this Christmas and on into the New Year***

**FP**

## ST ANDREW REDRUTH

### The early 60s. A Time of change

The beginning of the 60s were a great time of change for all my family. My elder brother was not just growing up but was also growing away from me. The days of sitting under our garden wall and making catapults and pea shooters together were now long gone. He no longer required me to oil his cricket bat or help with polishing and dubbing his Army Cadet kit. Instead he spent hours playing snooker in our Living Room listening to the likes of the Everly Brothers on our reel to reel tape recorder with his friends. Little sisters, both big and small were firmly shut out!

My darling brother seemed to change overnight. His once blonde, floppy hair was now slicked back. He wore bright luminous socks in pinks and greens and he had a friend with a motorbike! I was not the only one struggling with these changes. My father spent his days frowning over the tops of his glasses or rushing to turn down the over loud music.

Saturday nights had become THE night. My brother would spend hours preening in the bathroom preparing to go to Tabbs, a dance hall above the arcade in Redruth that had once been Tabbs Hotel. Tabbs was run by Mr and Mrs Williams, members of Treleigh Church whom my Mother knew well. This was probably the only reason my brother was allowed to go.

My brother had bought, with his birthday money, a pair of silver grey pointed toed shoes fastened with a shiny silver buckle and strap. These shoes proved to be just "A bridge too far" for my somewhat conservative and strict Father and my brother was told to return them or get rid of them. Under no circumstances would they be allowed in the house! So week days and nights these grey, silver shoes spent their time hidden in the laurel hedge that separated our house from the Jones' next door only to be smuggled out on Saturday nights and worn with great illicit pleasure.

To this day I don't know what happened to the silver grey shoes but I do know I still love the smell of Linseed Oil and Brasso as it evokes many happy memories of growing up. I still enjoy listening to the Everly Brothers and all music of that time as well as a game of snooker, if I'm lucky!

Tabbs, of course, has long since gone as have many things in Redruth. What is left though are great memories and they never die.

*Pie Louis-Smith*

## *BOOK CLUB*

We were pleased to welcome Becca to our group especially as she has encouraged her other book club friends to read Meredith, Alone. This proved to be a very interesting book with most of us wanting to read on each time we picked it up. Her story slowly unfolded as she began to take steps back into the world; a story that many people would be able to relate to as she shared her early childhood experiences of neglect and lack of love from her mother and the traumatic experience of rape. What saved her throughout her life was the love of her sister and her best friend Sadie. New relationships with Tom and Celeste led her to take those important steps to leave her home.

This book, along with many others that we have read, is now available in a new bookcase at St Andrew's Church Redruth. Please just help yourself and enjoy reading something different.

On December 2<sup>nd</sup> we are *sharing* poems that have meant something to us, hopefully quite a variety that will cover a number of different subjects. We will then have a break in January and gather again on February 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss our thoughts on *The Lieutenant* by Kate Grenville.

This is an historical novel loosely following the experiences of William Dawes, an officer of the Royal Marines who was on the 1788 First Fleet from England to the New South Wales colony. There he sets up an observatory to chart the stars, but this country will prove far more revelatory than the stars above!



If you require any more information about the book club please ring me on **01209 219059**. Please note the change of phone number due to unforeseen Circumstances

***Margaret Saville***

## REDRUTH PCC

Since January 2022, St Andrew Redruth, St Euny and St Andrew Pencoys, combined To become Redruth PCC. The separate bank accounts for these churches are now no longer in use; any payments for these churches should now be made to:-

Account Name:- Redruth PCC  
Bank:- Lloyds  
Sort code:- 30-97-00  
Account Number: 00183108

### INCREASE IN COST OF FIVE ALIVE

*In view of the current increases in the cost of living especially in relation to energy costs it has been necessary to increase the yearly subscription to £8 which is the first increase since 2019. The cover price remains at £1 per copy. We hope you will still continue to support us in 2023. Subscriptions are due in November/December in advance of the January 2023 edition being published.*

### NEW YEAR'S LUNCH

Because of the many other commitments of the Redruth PCC churches, it has not been possible to book a pre-Christmas lunch this year, therefore we hope to be able to celebrate together in the New Year. Further details will be published as soon as they are available.

### **FROM THE REGISTERS**

#### **BAPTISMS**

|                                   |                           |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 20 November 2022                  | Alfred John Andrew Curnow | St Stephen Treleigh |
| 20 November 2022                  | Mark Andrew Samuel Curnow | St Stephen Treleigh |
| <i>Correction to 25 September</i> | Millie Joan Ashleigh Reed |                     |

#### **WEDDINGS**

|                  |  |                     |
|------------------|--|---------------------|
| 28 October 2022  | Edward James Morton and<br>Caitlin Sara Barrington-Smith | St Stephen Treleigh |
| 05 November 2022 | Jacob Richard Lee Williams and<br>Chelsea Ann Trenberth  | St Andrew Redruth   |

*Correction to 15 October*

*The wedding as shown on 15 October at St Euny re Penfold/Pengelly was cancelled*

#### **FUNERALS**

|                  |                  |                   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 21 October 2022  | Millicent Morgan | St Euny           |
| 03 November 2022 | Nerissa Pearce   | St Andrew Pencoys |
| 18 November 2022 | Margaret Reed    | St Euny           |

#### **BURIAL OF ASHES**

|                 |                          |                     |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 14 October 2022 | Barbara Oliver           | St Stephen Treleigh |
| 21 October 2022 | Christina Mary Macdowell | St Stephen Treleigh |



## Skyliner Big Band....

...present an evening of Christmas Carols and Big Band numbers in aid of the **Hall Refurbishment Fund**

**Treleigh Church**  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>  
December  
@ 7.00pm

**Tickets on the door - £5.00** - to include tea, coffee and biscuits in the Hall afterwards



## Treleigh Church Christmas Fayre and Afternoon Tea

Saturday 3rd December  
Treleigh Community Hall  
2.00pm - 4.30pm

- Christmas baking
- Books, gifts and goodies
- Raffle
- Great company

If you can't come to the Christmas Fayre but wish to support our Church, please scan or photograph this code to make a donation.  
Thank you so much for your support of Treleigh Church.



## FLAPJACK

St. Andrew's Church, Pencoyds with Four Lanes Methodist Church

**Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Santa's Christmas Grotto**  
**in Pencoyds Hall from 1 -3 pm**  
**then Lantern Procession at 3 pm**

to

**CHRISTMAS**

**BAZAAR**

**At FOUR LANES METHODIST CHURCH**  
**from 2p.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Bumper Raffles Tombola Cakes**  
**White Elephant "Christmas Surprise" Stall**  
**Seasonal & Craft stalls Refreshments**

**Everyone welcome**

## ST. EUNY CHURCH REDRUTH

### Christmas Tree Festival



St Euny Church will be holding a number of services and Christmas Activities in Advent & Christmas 2022.



There is something for everyone, so please do come along, see the Christmas Trees in church and enjoy celebrating Christmas at St Euny.

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November –Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 12.00pm-3.00pm

Church Open 12.00noon to 3.00pm; children's crafts, soup lunches, light refreshments.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 6.00pm

Advent Carol Service

Weds 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2.00pm-4.00pm

Open Café: Church Open, festive music, light refreshments, mulled wine & mince pies;

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 12.00pm-3.00pm

Christmas Wreath Workshop (£7.50p), Children's Christmas Crafts soup lunches, mulled wine & mince pies, light refreshments

Weds 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2.00pm-4.00pm

Open Café: Church Open, festive music, light refreshments, mulled wine & mince pies

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 4pm

Christingle Service: an opportunity for all ages to make your own Christingle

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2.00pm-4.00pm

Open Café: Church Open, festive music, light refreshments, mulled wine & mince pies

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 12.00pm-3.00pm

Christmas Wreath Workshop (£7.50p), Children's Christmas Crafts soup lunches, mulled wine & mince pies, light refreshments

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 6.00pm

Christmas Eve Nine Lessons & Carols

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, 11.15am

New Year Service of Holy Communion

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, 3.00pm

Cornish Language Carol Service (bilingual); refreshments.

Thanks to Wilko, Redruth who have sponsored our Christmas Trees

## **CHRISTMAS IN HOSPITAL**

The Camborne Redruth area has always been willing to support our local hospital(s) at Christmas. When the Friends of Camborne Redruth & Barncoose Hospital was formed after the inception of the NHS, they made a concerted effort to ensure that no one was forgotten at Christmas, if they had to stay in hospital. The two hospitals were the Camborne Redruth Hospital for gynaecological, children and outpatients and the Barncoose Hospital for the elderly.

In the early years, for Camborne Redruth Hospital, the Friends provided the children's ward with a Christmas tree, fairy lights, brittles, decorations and tinsel. Father Christmas appeared on Christmas Day to give each child a gift from under the tree. Fr. Grimwade, a St Andrew's priest, was a ventriloquist. Three ladies gave their ration points to buy sweets for the children. Woolworths donated biscuits. There was also a party for the Out Patients Department. The patients in Barncoose Hospital had a Christmas party in the New Year when they received their biscuits. Tonkin's and Channon's bakery provided two 12lb Christmas cakes.

Often local butchers donated the joints of meat for the Christmas meals. As a child I can remember being told that I had to visit the children's ward on Christmas Day before I could open my own presents. The climax of this visit was when a member of the Hospital Friends carved the joint, on the ward, before another Friends' member gave the patient their meal.

In the week prior to Christmas, a group of people, which could be an outside choir or from a Church, would walk around the wards singing Christmas carols and reading a different part of the Christmas story in each ward. There were always a few patients whose family were not living locally. A special effort was made to sit and encourage them to sing along. This was an emotional event and would often cause a tear to be shed.

Plans for the hospital festivities changed over time. Before the pandemic, the Friends bought sufficient presents and cards to ensure that each patient had a gift at Christmas. The staff, in all departments, were not forgotten when each department was given a box of biscuits. It is hoped that this practice will be returned this year.

As we draw nearer to our personal Christmas activities, please give a thought to the patients and staff of our hospital.

***Juliet Jenkin***



## *EXCERPTS FROM A DAILY JOURNAL*

*South Island, New Zealand, by Michael Tangye*

Nov 24th To South Island by Ferry—a pleasant voyage in calm seas before passing through the Cook Straits to Picton. Then by shuttle bus to Kaicoura where we sailed amongst several whales after booking into a pleasant guest house. Its owner of Scottish descent insisting that we should accompany him on a tour of the area before eating. We reluctantly accepted his kind offer—only later to be charged ten dollars— a true Scot!

Nov 26th To Christchurch. Stayed with Sister Deirdre Nelson whose forebears were Portreath Tangyes, she a nun of the Catholic Church who we had entertained when she visited us in Cornwall. She is now in charge of a large convent. As a member of the Christchurch Cornish Association she had asked me to bring slides of Cornwall, and to talk not only of the history and beauty of Cornwall, but I included parallel views of the sub-tropical plants of both Cornwall and Scilly—particularly of Tresco. Thirty folk of Cornish descent attended. That same evening whilst Pam and I sat at the convent a fierce earth tremor made the settee sway along with the building!

Nov 28th At the Christchurch Museum and Art Gallery is an oil painting by Adrian Stokes (1854-1935) featuring 'Among the Sandhills at St Ives', and another of 'The Beach at St Ives'. Then with our host to a neighbour descended from a Camborne mine blacksmith emigrant who came here from South America in 1860—his son became a Methodist Minister.

Nov 29th To Ankoura with our host—a French Settlement of 1840—a whaling centre. En-route we encountered a road traffic accident—an Australian motor-cyclist on his first day of holiday had sustained a chest and head injury. The usual cluster of bystanders looking on, hands in pockets, lost as to what to do! I had to attempt mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, reluctantly because of the presence of so much blood—all to no avail after wishing that I had my paramedic equipment with me! We also visited the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Christchurch, a magnificent building with rows of impressive columns—probably the best building in New Zealand.

Nov 30th To Hanmer Springs the main thermal resort of South Island, situated at the foot of snow peaked mountains. It is both a winter and summer resort for skiing and thermal baths—the latter a series of large pools with temperatures varying from 37°—40° all surrounded by flower beds and to the benefit of arthritis and stroke patients. We passed through a huge tunnel to Lyttelton a bustling port cut from solid rock by Cornish miners of the past.

Dec 1st To Dunedin We passed through Oamaru, when the famous round boulders lie on the beach, before descending to Dunedin where the Scottish settled in 1848. Photographed a huge statue of Robert Burns along with the Municipal Building beyond—Victorian buildings, built from the wealth of gold mining. We visited the Otago Peninsula, renowned for its wild life—the hills are steep, the city extensive. En-route we passed Pendarves and a restaurant called REDRUTH!



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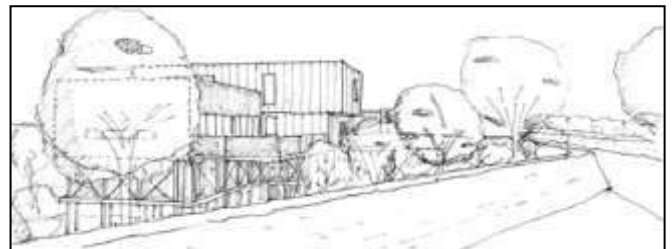
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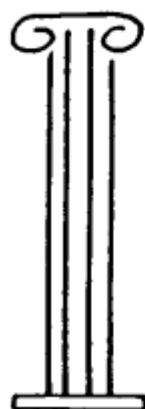


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