

FIVE ALIVE

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



FEBRUARY 2023

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FIVE ALIVE MAGAZINE

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by FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY

Rector's notes – FEBRUARY 2023

A fresh look at the Christian faith?

Last month I reminded readers of the process our deanery went through last year, which culminated in a new vision statement, namely

Living God's abundant life; sharing the good news of Jesus

This month we have a chance to put that into practice with the launch of the first Alpha Course we've done for five years. Alpha is an internationally renowned course which many millions of people have undertaken, and which has changed the lives of many of them. It's a Christian basics course really, but one where ALL people's questions are very much welcomed, and there's plenty of time for discussion.

This is how it will work: the course will be at St Euny Church on Thursday evenings beginning on 2nd February. The start time is 6.30pm, and we begin with supper. Last time we did Alpha, this was one of the nicest things, because it's chance to relax and chat, and get to know some people you probably haven't met before. After supper, we watch a specially produced 30-minute video, introducing the theme for the evening. After that we break into groups small enough to let everyone have a chance to speak, but not so small anyone feels under pressure to say anything. This is the time when everyone is free to ask any questions – there maybe things that have bothered you all your life about faith and God. We don't guarantee to be able to answer them! But we'll certainly join with you in those conversations.

Alpha is relevant whether you are new to faith, or not exactly sure what you believe, or you've been part of a church for decades but would like a fresh look at faith. Do get in touch if you'd like to know more before committing yourself to come. If you're coming, please let us know any special dietary requirements.

One other event to plug: on **Saturday 4th February at 4pm till 6pm BOTH Bishop Philip and Bishop Hugh are coming to our deanery – to Illogan Parish Church TR16 4SR**. This invitation is for everyone in Carnmarth North Deanery, and they would love to see as many people as possible. As well as praying and enjoying cake together, they will share their hopes for the future of the church in Truro Diocese, hear our hopes and concerns for our churches, and answer any questions you might have. There's no need to RSVP, just turn up on the day – and please invite anyone else who might be interested.

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

THE PILLARS OF THE CHURCH

The passing of a long-standing member of the Benefice was very near, and someone said quietly, “not another one, how many more?” It would be easy to think that the PILLARS OF THE BENEFICE were leaving us, and that the foundations were beginning to crumble. But that would be to forget that each one of us who seeks to follow the pathway of God’s love is also a pillar. Some are perhaps just finding their way, others may be distracted and others may be growing in strength. We give thanks for the PILLARS of the past, those who have reflected God’s love and done all that they could to keep the ‘struggling flame of faith alive’ for the pillars of today:

YOU CAN SHED TEARS

*You can shed tears because they have gone,
Or you can smile because they have lived.*

*You can close your eyes and pray that they will come back,
Or you can open your eyes and remember them as you knew them.*

*Your heart can be empty because you cannot see them,
Or your heart can be full of all that you shared.*

*You can turn your back on tomorrow and live for yesterday,
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.*

*You can remember them and only that they have gone,
Or you can cherish their memory and let it live on.*

*You can cry and close your mind,
You can be empty and turn your back,
Or, you can do what they would have wanted,
Smile, open your eyes, do all you can,
Reflect God’s love, hope and go on.*

So look at all that is going on in the Benefice, see the pillars growing and gathering strength and rejoice that YOU too are a PILLAR of God’s Church.



ST ANDREW REDRUTH

The Visit

June 1959 began as it carried on with days of mizzling rain and cool temperatures. The promise of a blistering summer was nowhere to be seen and any hope of an early dip at Porthtowan was just wishful thinking.

My Mother had been particularly busy around the house cleaning as my Aunt, who lived in America, was coming home to visit. My Father and my Uncle Harry had travelled up to Southampton in our Ford Consul to meet her boat as it docked. Aged 11, I remember wondering what she might bring me; my head full of impossible images considering she was travelling on a boat with limited storage space for her suitcases. My Auntie Gwen was known for her generosity, her kindness and thoughtfulness. I hoped for a beautiful, American dress amongst all the other things!

Our house at 7 Coach Lane was a warren of rooms, some of which did not get their full use, especially in the depths of winter. The rear of the house boasted, what had once been, a Wash House. This was now full of the usual home detritus of unwanted, unused and broken objects. My old bike with a broken chain, tin baths rusted up, an old arm chair, its stuffing hanging out. Boxes of china, broken picture frames, old curtains and garden tools that were no longer used. Beyond this Wash House was a cellar which was, as far as I remember, completely empty.

I had been quietly sitting in my bedroom, lost in my daydreams of wondrous American Presents when I became aware of a lot of banging below my window. I looked out to see my Mother, broom in hand, darting back and forth shouting "Shoo, out, go!!!" She had, it transpired, cornered a rat in the Wash House and had chased it to the cellar. It now had only one place to go and that was over the wall and into our next door neighbours garden. My Mother had always been fearless concerning all creepy crawlies, rodents and anyone or anything that posed a threat to her children! The rat was not stupid enough to take her on and made it's escape seeking sanctuary in the Jones' laurel next door. The idea of clearing out the Wash House was now well and truly shelved; the door firmly closed and the rat became a forbidden subject.

After all the manic cleaning and getting things ready for my Aunt, she actually made the decision to stay with another of her sisters at Pentare, Mount Ambrose. This was probably due to the fact that my Auntie Winnie could drive and had her own car, making visiting and day trips much easier.

I think my Mother was quietly relieved as she worried continually that the rat might appear and that would not do, not at all! Images of the rat appearing under the table during high tea plagued her for some time.

I did get my beautiful American dress and I wore it and wore it. We never did see that rat again and eventually the Wash House was cleared of all it's junk but the door was always kept firmly shut, just in case.

Pie Louis-Smith

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. The third Sunday is a Communion with new music.

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. Soup (which was AMAZING!!) 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. This again links with the **OPEN PANTRY** at St Andrew's, Pencoys.

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, hopefully in February, *WELL, some people think Jesus was born in March!!*. It will also be performed in Christchurch for all the Benefice.

NEW LIGHTS: Have you seen them???? After much discussion about lamp-shades etc. a decision was finally made and Christchurch not only has new lamp-shades but also an electrical system that is totally eco-friendly. There are lights everywhere!! There is even a new bank of performance lights. The absolutely, wonderful DAVE put them all in place in just three days. If you haven't seen them, come along to the **FIRST SUNDAY CHRISTINGLE EVENT ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5, 6.00pm**

Finally, may God continue to bless you in 2023; may you, your family and friends have peace and hope

FP

**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

The members of Flapjack are very grateful to our friends in the Methodist Church for welcoming us to meet in their church for our Sunday morning services until the end of March, as a warmth-saving initiative during the cold weather. We hope to return to St. Andrews Pencoys in time for our Easter celebrations, when our normal pattern of worship will resume. In the meantime, the said Holy Communion services on Wednesday evenings and the third-Sunday evening will continue at 6pm in the Church.

Our Christmas celebrations were enjoyed by everyone, the Tree exhibition was beautiful, and we thank all who participated. The Christmas Community Lunch, held in the Methodist Church, was attended by 25 people, who extend their grateful thanks to Kate and Fr. Peter for the delicious food and festive arrangements, and also to the members of the Methodist Church for the use of their excellent facilities. We were so pleased that Curate Chris, Becca and their family were able to join us at such a special time.

The First Sunday Evening Event on New Year's Day, 1st January, was our customary Epiphany Carol Service, when £300 (with additional donations) was raised to support the charity Toy Box, which exists to research and provide identification documents, birth certificates, etc., for 'lost' street children in large cities to enable them to receive an education and therefore a better future than a life on the streets. The next First Sunday Evening Event will be at 6pm at Christchurch Lanner on 5th February, celebrating Candlemas, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, when everyone will be most welcome.

Flapjack services and events during **February** will be:

'Warm Wednesday' community project, each Wednesday, 2-5 pm Methodist Church.
said Holy Communion each Wednesday at 6pm, St. Andrew's, Pencoys.

Saturday 4th February: Quiz, Pencoys Hall 7pm

Sunday 5th February: Flapjack Holy Communion 11.15am followed by Flapjack Meeting at 12.45 at the Methodist Church. **Lighthouse** young people's event, 3-5pm, Methodist Church.
Candlemas service, Christchurch, Lanner 6pm.

Sunday 12th February: Flapjack Family Event 11.15am, Said H.C. 12.30pm.

Saturday 18th February: Games (Bingo) Evening 6-8pm, Pencoys £3pp.

Sunday 19th February: Methodist Service 11.15am, H.C. at St. Andrew's 6pm.

Saturday 25th February: Bangers & Mash Methodist Church from 11am.

Sunday 26th February: Flapjack Holy Communion at the Methodist Church 11.15am.
Teatime Celebration Pencoys Hall, 4-5pm.

Jill Tolputt

ST EUNY

We still have the scaffolding, but the plastering of the ceiling in the west end of the south aisle arcade has been completed. Without a paint layer it still looks good and the colour merges with the older paint. The plastering was carried out by a company who are experienced in working in materials suitable for conservation purposes and have used traditional lime plaster, which works much better with the damp in old buildings. It is possible that the problems with the surface plasterwork in the west end of the church is a result of more modern paints having been used, so we will ensure that future work takes account of this need for specialist materials.

Our final service of Advent, which was the Christmas Eve carol service, was very well attended, with over a hundred people celebrating the readings and carols. A good number stayed behind to socialise over mulled wine and mince pies, a very pleasant easing into the Christmas celebrations. Fortunately this larger-than-usual number didn't appear to affect the number attending midnight mass, which was also higher than in previous years.

Open Café has resumed on Wednesday afternoons and is well attended most weeks. We are open from 2-4pm in term time and this has been registered on the list of 'warm spaces' available in Redruth.

The Feast of St Euny will be celebrated on the evening of Sunday January 29th. After the service at 6.00pm there will be a 'Feast Supper' of casseroles with rice and bread, followed by puddings. Vegetarians and vegans will be catered for, so please do come along if you can – there is no booking system, we are open to all and expect to have sufficient for all.

The wreath-making activities were popular and participants asked when the next one is? We will be running a similar event on the Saturday before Palm Sunday (Saturday 1st April), where we will make wreaths and other decorations suitable for Easter. Plans are at an early stage, so further detail will follow, but we expect to be open from 12-3.00pm with soup lunches as well as cakes and teas. Again, everyone who would like to attend is welcome.

Lisa and Dave have kindly offered to care for our Christmas Trees, which are potted, and we hope might survive to see another year. It was agreed by all who took part that the Christmas Tree Festival was fun, brought more people into the church and also managed to raise funds for the church, so we hope to run something similar next year. If you have any requests, ideas or contributions that you would like to make, please do contact Lucie or Linda or anyone else connected with St Euny. The activities could not have taken place without the support and help of many people from St Euny and other churches across the benefice, so thank you all. St Euny is setting up a 'social events' team. Several people have volunteered to help with planning and delivering events, and anyone who has anything to offer is most welcome to join us. Please contact Lucie, our churchwarden, if you are interested.

Linda Beskeen

ST STEPHEN'S TRELEIGH



It seems odd to be writing about Christmas services for the February issue of Five Alive but as the January issue was written and printed early for Christmas, hopefully those people who are no longer able to attend church in person will be interested.

On Friday, 9th December Treleigh School Early Years class came into church in full costume to perform their Nativity play and on Tuesday 13th December the school's Key Stage 1 class held their Christingle service led by Headmistress Helen Collinge. Both services were well attended by family members and a few of the Treleigh congregation. It was heart-warming to see the delight on the faces of the children and parents alike.

On Friday, 16th December the Ladies Group met at The Inn for All Seasons for their Christmas lunch. Our thanks go to Carol for arranging this and for the little bags of chocolates.

On Sunday, 18th December we held our Carol Service which, this year, involved not only Treleigh school choir but also some of the younger children, led by Fr. Peter, acting out the Nativity story. All the readings were by Treleigh school children and staff. Although differing from our traditional Carol Service, it seems to have been enjoyed by all and our thanks go to Fr. Peter, Deacon Chris and Robin and to Charlie who played the organ.

Owing to a family matter, Headmistress Helen Collinge who retired in January, was unable to attend the service and therefore the gift that was bought in grateful thanks for her wonderful commitment to working with the church throughout her time as Headmistress at Treleigh School, was presented to Deputy Head, Mr. S. Proctor who has been appointed Headmaster. Following the service refreshments were served in the Hall together with the usual raffle.

The 3pm Crib Service on Christmas Eve was led by Caspar who invited those children and adults attending to place a Nativity figure or animal in the Crib as the story was told. Our thanks go to Lynn who played her keyboard to accompany the Carols and songs.

Our 9pm Christmas Sung Eucharist was led by Caspar with Charlie playing the organ.

The Christmas tree lights twinkled and the candles in each window together with the floral arrangements added to the wonderful atmosphere of the birth of our Lord Jesus.

St. Stephen's Patronal Sung Eucharist at 10.30am on Boxing Day was led by Fr. Peter with Lynn playing the organ. Disappointingly, partly due to illness and some of the Treleigh congregation being away, there were few in attendance to celebrate our Patron Saint. Cake and Fizz was enjoyed by the few following the service as has been the tradition for a few years.

The people of St. Stephen's Church were saddened to hear of the death of Terry Waring, a faithful member and friend of Treleigh. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this time

Sending our best wishes to everyone for the New Year

Christine Cunningham

Foundation in Christian Ministry Course

My story so far....

A wise person once told me that it's never a matter of the individual choosing a church, rather that the church chooses you.

This was certainly the case for me, when I attended a funeral at St Euny in 1991 I didn't know that the church existed before that time. I came away afterwards having had my faith thoroughly re-energised and from that moment on always considered it 'my church'. However, like many people, my life was full, and actual visits to my church were few and far between.

This was until I had a breakdown, which catapulted myself and my family straight into the heart of the church, and the warmth of the welcome was so strong, I truly felt held by a set of hands larger and stronger than I had ever felt previously. I made a vow that I would repay this kindness as soon as I was ready.

Recovery from a psychotic break takes time, and I accept that it's something that I will be living with for the rest of my life. But over time I have progressed from being a broken person seeking sanctuary, to becoming a Churchwarden, who knows every inch of the church and is active in ensuring that worship continues. I have also trained as a local worship leader and Godly Play leader. I'm so lucky that I have been encouraged in this and enabled by people to achieve these things at the pace dictated by my mental health.

I am pleased that there is a growing core of people who are willing to pour their energies and talents into taking St Euny Church forward. Their enthusiasm has allowed me to engage in thought and prayer about where I see myself in the next few years

Since lockdown, and particularly as a result of my participation in the On the Way process, I have increasingly found myself asking 'what is church?' And I have been both surprised and challenged by the direction in which these thoughts have taken me.

Recently I have found myself strongly drawn towards exploring the possibility of becoming a lay pioneering minister, and I will be engaging with the discernment process for this in the coming spring. In the interim I am enrolled on a Foundation in Christian Ministry course. At present I am still retaining all my leadership roles at St Euny, but I am happy to encourage anyone who feels that they may want to work towards taking on a more proactive stance. So, this is my first task of my course, the second being to write a report on a bible study course with a view to running a Lent course this year. I'm fortunate to have Anya as a training companion.

I'm really thankful that St Euny Church chose me, all those years ago. Because I really feel that the love and support of so many people over the years have helped to mould the person who I am becoming. If anyone has any questions about this, then please do have a chat with me.

Lucie Rogers

My Christian journey and experience of the Foundations course by Anya Dolling

As a child we said the Lord's prayer in assembly but that was it as far as faith was concerned for me. My parents are not religious, and church was an alien concept.

My faith journey started (unbeknown to me) back in 2004 when my best friend died. I was half asleep one night and had a dream/vision where I was riding my horse through Pink Moors in St Day, it then changed to where I was watching myself ride. I noticed that I was off the ground looking out through small branches and leaves. I became aware of a bright white light up to my left in the sky, the light grew until it surrounded me. The light was beautiful but what was more profound was how it felt. It gave me a tremendous sense of peace, like no other on earth. I felt loved, completely and unconditionally and I felt such joy coming from this light. In that moment absolutely nothing mattered, and I wanted to stay in that light forever.

However, I was reluctantly woken from my dream by a police officer who was looking for my friend. Sadly, he was found but had committed suicide in Pink Moors, exactly where my dream was. This experience was and still is the most beautiful and profound experience of my life.

In 2012 my son started school and I would walk him to school past St Andrews Church. I started having feelings that I should go into the church. These feelings became stronger and more intense over a few months. It got to the point where it was all I could think about while I was at work! One morning in work I was heading to the toilets and as I touched the door, I had an overwhelming wave of these feelings that almost knocked me over. I decided that this was now getting ridiculous, so I walked into the toilets and looked up and said out loud "OK if your real, and you want me to go to church you're going to have to do more, as all these feelings I can explain away" (How rude was I!).

Suddenly in that moment I was reminded of my dream, I saw the light again in my mind and felt the feelings I had felt. At the same time a rather annoyed voice said, "I gave you that sign 10yrs ago, YOU just haven't been listening!" In that moment everything became clear, it was a revelation! That light was God!!

I honestly left those toilets like a new woman, and I think God may have needed a lie down out of exasperation! And so, my faith journey started, and I eventually went into St Andrews. I recently started The Foundations Course which has been brilliant. It's given me a taster of theology which has been fascinating. It's given me the chance to try and discern God's call in my life in a supportive environment. I would encourage anyone to give it a go as its really helped deepen my faith and feel closer to God.

CARNMARTH NORTH DEANERY

The Licensing of Revd Graham Adamson as Deanery Evangelist Enabler will take place at St Paul's, Chacewater on 26 January 2023 at 7.00pm and the re-licensing of Revd Caspar Bush as Rural Dean will also take place. Bishop Hugh will officiate. All are welcome to attend.

DEANERY VISITS 2023

Aim

Between January and June 2023, dates are set aside for +Philip and +Hugh to visit every Deanery. The aim is to give as many people as possible from local churches and communities face to face time with the Bishops, for them to share their vision for the future, to give space for questions, to pray together and to eat together.

The visit for Carnmarth North will take place on Saturday 4th February (4pm—6pm) at St Illogan Church. This is an open invitation to everyone.

A 'THANK YOU' FROM PEARL

Thank you for my present which was left on a pew in St Andrew's Redruth just before Christmas – I don't know who left it for me so was unable to say 'thank you'

With love from Pearl (aged 3)

FROM THE REGISTERS

FUNERALS

04 January 2022 Sheila Margaret Meyers St Andrew Redruth

WEDDINGS

21 December 2022 Damien Michael Cook and
Tabitha Marie Lean St Euny

BAPTISMS

17 December 2022 Henry Peter Boase St Stephen Treleigh
17 December 2022 Elliott Andrew Bill Boase St Stephen Treleigh

BOOK CLUB

It seems a long time since we all met, especially as our December meeting was cancelled because people couldn't make it for one reason or another. So we are really looking forward to getting together to discuss *The Lieutenant* by Kate Granville.

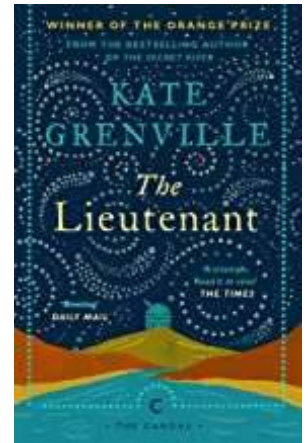
The Lieutenant is an historical novel loosely following facts based on the experiences of William Dawes, an officer of the Royal Marines who was on the 1788 First Fleet from England to the New South Wales colony.

Daniel Rooke is the protagonist on a journey of self discovery as he navigates the immoral waters of British Imperialism and its impact on the indigenous Australians. Becoming closer to Tamara, Rooke attempts to bridge cultural barriers through the formative power of language.

Our next book after this is *The Long Road from Kandahar* by Sara MacDonald. This is a novel that is at once heartbreaking and uplifting and it's focus on themes of war and loss, love and friendship across cultures is both topical and timeless. A very powerful story that follows the life of Raza who tends his father's goats among the almond orchards in the Swat Valley. Zamora, his father, must make a heartbreaking decision if he is to protect his youngest child from the Taliban . . .

Do think about joining us or borrowing one of our previous books from the book case in St Andrews to get a flavour of the range of books we read. If you want to know more then contact me on 219059

Margaret Saville



ST ANDREW'S RANDOMS PRESENTS
AN
"EVENING WITH IRVING AND COLE"
AT 7.00PM on FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY



At long last - and only a year late! - the Randoms production to the music of Irving Berlin and Cole Porter is finally taking place for one night only on Friday February 17th in St Andrew's crypt.

We have been practising night and day, dancing cheek to cheek and putting on our top hats in preparation for this musical evening. Once again we'll be stepping out to great tunes and coming together to sing about sisterhood, true love, sunshine in the morning and doing what comes naturally.

So if you fancy getting away from it all for a while and escaping to a past era of elegance and style, come along to the crypt for a pasty supper, a few bevvies and a couple of hours of musical entertainment.

After all, there's no business like show business and another opening of another show.

Tickets available now, £7:50, from Lez.

Licensed bar available on the evening. Show starts at 7:00pm



REDRUTH PCC

Since January 2022, St Andrew Redruth, St Euny and St Andrew Pencoyls, 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

St Andrew's Redruth dedicated its Christmas fundraising to the St Petroc's Homeless Charity and below is their 'thank you' letter.

Dear St Andrew's Church Redruth

Thank you for your donation of £927.00 to our Winter Appeal.

Your donation will go directly to providing emergency accommodation, supporting someone off the streets during the coldest months of the year.

Right now, there are thousands of people across Cornwall who are at breaking point and for many the pressures will become too much. Making the experience of homelessness as short as possible is critically important as the health and social consequences of spending even one night outside are extremely detrimental. We are only able to offer emergency accommodation over the winter thanks to the generosity of the community.

Your gift is sincerely appreciated and will make a positive difference. In the short term, we will keep our doors open this winter to those who need us. Over the longer term, we will continue to push for the changes that are needed to end homelessness in Cornwall. This is achievable and your support will contribute to the effort.

Thank you.

Henry Meacock, Chief Executive



My way to Compostella

Day 1 Part 1

It's the 19th April and our first day of walking the Camino. After an excellent breakfast, we left our B&B around 8.30 am and headed towards the Porte D'Espagne the ancient gateway to Spain and the start of the Route de Napoleon. The day was dry, cold and with a little wind, perfect for walking. The distance according to the guidebook was 25.1 kilometres 15.6 miles, but because of the accrued ascent of 1390 metres it added 6.9 km to the distance making the day's hike a total of 32Km, 20miles in old money.

It was not a crowded day as we set off, but clearly we were not the only pilgrims to be undertaking the trek this day. As we strolled the first mile of the gradual climb I wondered how many of those that I said Buen Camino (good Camino) would I see again. A couple of young Canadian girls, the Korean girl we met in the autobus station and the American couple with the bottle of Bacardi. The first 12.4 kilometres was on a metallic road which serves the homes and the Albergue Orisson, running in parallel to this road is the GR (Grand Route) 65 which is one of the great GR routes that take hikers along the high French Pyrenees. Our first stop was at the Albergue Orisson for a much needed rest stop. The climb up to this point was more strenuous than it looked on the map, but we were rewarded with a magnificent view of the valley we had just walked up from. The view became more enhanced with the appearance of 6 Griffon Vultures soaring above us, this area is renowned for the Vultures that live on these slopes. At a 1000meters (3280ft) the air temperature was certainly cooler so a hot coffee was very welcomed before setting off towards the summit. We continued on the road until we reached a point where the road turns back on itself and returns by a different route to St Jean.

At this junction there is a Cruceiro with a statue to the Virgin Mary. A place to stop and leave a prayer. This point gives the hiker a spectacular 360 view of the Pyrenees, here we left the road as we continued on a dirt track to the former border crossing at the Col de Bentartea at 1340 meters and the remains of the old Border post between France and Spain. As I crossed over I thought of the thousands of religious pilgrims who had gone before me, but also within the last 70 years those who fled Spain to France to escape the Franco regime and the many more who less than 5 years later risked their lives again returning to Spain to flee the Nazi regime. It seems that nothing much has changed since those events as people throughout the world continue to flee from repressive regimes!

Len Cunningham

The Proclamation of King William IV

by Michael Tangye

In the past years this writer spent many hours transcribing numerous reports of local news which were recorded in local newspapers of the Victorian and earlier, newspapers now recorded on microfilm. Each provides a rich source of information which, in most cases, have not been used in research. A whole new world is found, one which was only found acceptable as being normal, but today inspires sadness and even anger at the levels of inequality and unfairness prevalent in both local and national events. In the latter a report of the well known Battle at Rourke's Drift during the Zulu Wars in Africa tells us that 'a mountain of Zulu bodies built up' they being unable to engage the 'brave British soldiers' in combat having only spears against the constant volleys of rifle fire. One reads also of high levels of infant deaths, of tragedies in local mines etc. etc

Yet there were happier events to bring a little pleasure into their dull world, such as the Proclamation of the Coronation of William IV on a Saturday in July 1830, noted in the West Briton. William (1765-1837), the son of George III, became King on the death of his brother George IV in 1830. He became so excited that he drove around London personally greeting his new subjects. In his youth he had served in the Royal Navy where his commanding of vessels led to promotion to Rear Admiral in 1789, and Admiral of the Fleet in 1837. His niece, Victoria, as Queen succeeded him in 1837.

He was a popular King, as during his reign the Great Reform Act of 1832 act was passed which transformed the structure of Parliament and two major pieces of legislation in 1833, the Factory Act banning child labour and the Abolition Act which abolished slavery in the British Colonies.

The Proclamation at Redruth was held on a Saturday, an eagerly supported event attended by thousands who witnessed a procession at the large playground of the First Redruth Grammar School, then on the site of the present Tolvean House.

'At 11.00am all moved forward on the discharge of artillery (probably cannon of the Portreath Artillery Company) and the Advanced Guard of Yeomanry Cavalry (based at Tehidy), sixteen gentlemen on horseback bearing standards and banners featuring white rosettes. Officers of the Preventive Service (Coastguard) at Portreath followed in line abreast. Two trumpeters on horseback preceded a band of music, and the Parish Constables alongside two Pages sharing a white palfrey (a light saddle horse usually ridden by women) flanking the High Constable of the Hundred, mounted on a white charger, bearing the Proclamation set on a background of crimson silk.

The Rector of the Parish, supported by the two churchwardens, holding their white staffs embellished with rosettes, preceded the clergyman of Illogan and the Methodist Minister. Officers of His Majesty's Navy were followed by gentlemen and principal folk of Redruth and its neighbourhood—a rear guard of Yeomanry Cavalry ended the procession.

The Proclamation was read three times in Fore Street and once in the populous village of Plain-an-Gwarry before the procession returned to the grammar school, and then to Andrew's Hotel with ensuing harmony and hilarity. The band, stationed on a platform in front of the hotel, enlivened the scene occasionally with the national and other airs.'

Will Redruth be able to match the above when King Charles III is Proclaimed?

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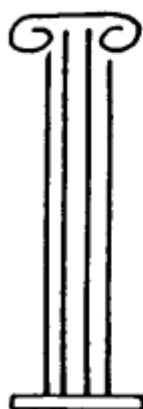


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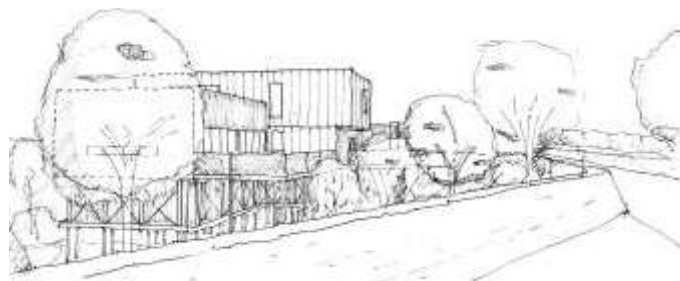
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