

Five Alive

The Magazine of the Redruth Team Ministry

St Euny Redruth, Christchurch Lanner, St Andrew Pencoyls

St Andrew Redruth and St Stephen Treleigh

(REDRUTH PCC - registered charity no 1204231)



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Giving our First and Best

At our last PCC meeting, I asked the PCC if they would be happy with me talking about money. They were, and so here I am! Over the next month I'll spend a bit of time considering our church finances, and making sure we are informed about where our money comes from and goes to. It is important we make educated decisions about how we support our parish financially.

"Church" (I probably mean the Church of England) has been rubbish at talking about giving and finance. Each parish is funded by the congregation through their generous giving and their fundraising efforts. That money needs to pay for upkeep of the building/s, any activities the church enjoys (Communion?!) and it needs to pay for ministry (ie the vicar's stipend and housing), support costs, training opportunities for lay and ordained folk, and diocesan staff who carry out some of these things. The ministry cost is paid as "Mission and Ministry Fund" to the diocese. The diocese then pays church commissioners each month to cover the stipend bill. There is not a magic money tree that pays for our churches or our vicars.

I feel really strongly that our aim as churches should try to cover our own costs; only relying on fundraising as a last resort which is often needed because our buildings are so expensive! I wrote this sermon back in 2020, but was interrupted! I share it now because it still remains relevant.

First off, read Acts 4. 32-37 and 1 Chronicles 29. 10-20.

As a little girl I attended a chapel which had frequent jumble sales. I would have been 6 or 7 so jumble sales were like treasure troves! The folk would faithfully carry their boxes of goods down from the cupboards where they were stored between sales and lay them out in heaps on the trestle tables. A broken toilet seat. a few cracked vases. Some of those brown glass mugs... badly scratched, some odd bits of cutlery including several fake bone handled bits, chipped plates, a bundle of broken coat hangers... you get the picture!

This jumble sale was an attempt to raise funds for chapel. It was done in God's name. And the minister, my dad, suggested that it was not a fitting way of representing God or of giving to God and the boxes were taken to the dump... probably by dad!!

Can I just say that the table top stuff I've seen here has been of a high quality so don't think I'm about to start dissing table top sales. I want to say something far bigger than that. But hold this example of "giving" in your mind as you read.

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You started with a reading from Acts where the first disciples were just beginning to set up organised churches. Initially the way they dealt with money was relatively simple: Those that had helped those that didn't. Joseph sold a field that then gave them a sizeable cash injection. It is also important to remember that they believed Jesus was returning at any minute so they didn't think they needed to plan for retirement; just to care for one another and to continue to spread the Gospel and plant churches.

But we can take a few principles from the attitude of this early church. The Jews had been used to a system called tithing: They gave their first and best ten per cent of everything; fish, herbs, harvest, money, oil, livestock; their first and best ten percent of everything to the temple. The rest was then theirs. It meant the richest gave more and better than those that didn't have much. And it meant that the Temple could redistribute the wealth. It was both a tax system and a means of giving to God; a means of worship. Giving their best and their first so their priority was always to put God first in every part of life. This would have bubbled over into the attitude of those first churches around Jerusalem where this culture of tithing would have meant the first Christians gave of their first and their best to the church. Their giving was part of their worship and their discipleship.

Whilst we are living in a different time and culture, where we may not give ten per cent (although many Christians do still do so as a way of giving sacrificially and out of worship) the principle of giving of our first and our best still should remain. But most of our established denominational churches have lost touch with this principle, and being British, we don't like to talk about money so it has fallen by the way and many Christians do not even think about what they give other than to make sure they give a bit. I remember Grandma handing me 2p to put in collection. Even in the early 80's this didn't buy much. She was teaching me to give, but it was an attitude of "what's left", rather than "first and best".

Anyway, Acts 4. They were great at generosity and sharing. I'm not suggesting we become a commune like they did. But I do want us to reflect on Giving as Something that is part and parcel of being a Christian. It's not an optional add on, but something we do in the same way we pray, love, and worship.

Here are some stats for you: The word believer or believing is used 272 times in the bible. The word pray, prayer or praying 371. the word love, loves or loving 371. the word give, gives or giving 2157. The bible is a book about giving. And our God is a generous God who made us to be generous too. Generosity and giving is the essence of Christian living. Giving is how we were created to be. God's economy is one of free giving: God gave us this world to care for and enjoy, God gave us his Son so that we can connect with him right from where we are and for ever and ever. God gives freely and God created us to give freely. God loves us freely, despite us not deserving or earning God's love.

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That chapel with the jumble sales was not giving freely. They were giving of their left overs; of what wasn't needed any more. And culturally I think much of the traditional church in Britain has done the same. We've adopted a mindset of fundraising, spending hours of time preparing and working to raise a few hundred pounds. We expect our community to keep us afloat. But nowhere in the bible, or in God's interactions with his people, does this seem to be how we are designed to live. We are not meant to have thermometers on the outside of our building showing how far off replacing the roof we are; we are meant to be giving freely of ourselves, our time, our money. God's economy is one of free gift and giving.

You also read a reading from 1 Chronicles. It's a point in Israel's history where there is relative stability. David is building the temple. He has called for people to give toward the temple project and they have given; gold, silver, timber, rock... these are not boxes of leftovers from last years jumble. People have given of their family heirlooms for the temple project.

David calls together the assembly of people who are gathering to celebrate the project and leads them in a litany of praise; praising God for his greatness and power and everything that God is.

David then says – “But who am I? Who are my people? that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand”.

David recognises that fundamentally all we have; our gifts, our riches, our time, our talents, our heirlooms, everything we are; comes from God. When we give to God, we only give what is already God's. The Israelite people gave sacrificially. They would never be able to replace what they gave to the temple project. It wasn't what they could afford or what was left, it was their first and best: Out of love for God. It's interesting that David never got to see his project completed. He invested in a project of which he never saw the fruit And that is so often the case, but it didn't stop him giving to it and believing it was worth while.

Giving can be a hugely uncomfortable subject. It can feel vulnerable, we can have deep questions about what exactly we are giving to, it can be costly, and it can mean we go without something else! I am not writing this with the intention that anyone empties their life savings or purely that the act of managing finances is in itself the answer. Giving has to be part of a bigger transformation and revelation. Sometimes that revelation can be triggered by the act of letting go of a hold of money; if you are fearful of not having enough and try to control that by keep a tight grasp on finance, then letting go and giving more sacrificially in a prayerful way can be a way of stepping out in faith. It's a way of releasing yourself into God's hands more and trusting God.

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If you have never really thought about giving as a part of your walk with God, but more as a transaction to enable church to be here, it might be that prayerfully deciding to give as a worship, rather than as a transaction helps you to connect with God in a new way, even if you don't actually change what you give. When a person gets married it is unusual for the household finances to be kept separate. So too with God; if we are truly in relationship with God then why would we not acknowledge that we give our money as well as every other part of ourselves to God, just as God gives himself to us

It might be that you give sacrificially and prayerfully, and know exactly what I mean when I talk about God's economy, and how giving as an act of faith in God; giving of your first and best; giving because you know that all you have is God's and of God's own do you give. it keeps the flow of generosity dynamic and real in your life and your relationships. Whether you choose to tithe 10% as a discipline because it helps you to be focused on your finances as God's, or whether you pay your bills and then look at what you have left, God calls us to give of our first, our best, and because God has first given to us.

If all we can ever do is say "yes Lord, I believe" then it is enough. God loves us not because we love God back or because of what we give. God loves us because God loves us and God gives to us because God loves us. But there is so much more of a relationship with God to discover than simply "yes Lord, I believe". Perhaps asking God into our financial affairs is one way of helping us to discover that relationship?

Revd Becca Bell

Thank you for your captions for last month's picture and the one chosen by Jason is:- "is it gold, frankincense or myrrh in your cup"



Whale 52

Last Friday, I flew into London for a training course on a new children's church programme. Whilst in London, I watched with my mother the most fascinating, heart-warming documentary about the "loneliest whale in the world.". I wanted to share this lovely story with you and how it spoke to me that Friday evening.

In the documentary, a filmmaker and scientists look for a mythical whale that was discovered decades ago. In the vast silence of the Pacific Ocean, a scientist found a single voice whale's echo—a lonely, persistent song at 52 hertz – it was unlike any other whale call ever heard. Too high to be a blue whale, too low to be a dolphin. No one knew who—or what—it was. They simply called it: **52**.

For years, no other whale seemed to answer. And yet this creature kept singing. To many, Whale 52 became a symbol of solitude. The "loneliest whale in the world." A voice calling out with no reply.

And yet... isn't that what many of us feel at times? We search. We pray. We cry. And it seems like only silence answers. But silence doesn't mean absence. In the closing moments of the documentary *The Loneliest Whale: The Search for 52*, something remarkable happened: they heard another voice. Another whale, singing at 52 hertz. The song was never solitary—it only seemed that way. Deep calling to the deep.

The same is true with our faith?

Rob Bell, in his *Nooma* film *Rhythm*, says, "When I think of God, I hear a song... It's playing all around us, all the time. The question is: are you in tune?" God is/has always been singing—through His Spirit, His creation, His Word. But His voice doesn't always thunder. Sometimes it hums beneath the surface, like a low, sacred frequency – 52 hertz. One that can only be heard when we're willing to leave the noise of the everyday and go deeper.

Scripture speaks of this mystery: "*Deep calls to deep.*" (Psalm 42:7) There is a place beyond shallow faith, beyond surface religion, where **the deep of us meets the deep of God**. Where our soul's cry is not an echo into emptiness, but a call answered by Presence. That's where He speaks. That's where He sings.

And here's the good news: when you seek Him in the deep, you'll find you are not the only one. Others are there. Praying. Hoping. Believing. Singing the same eternal song. Jesus taught us the rhythm of this song. To re-tune our hearts with the divine frequency already echoing across creation, across time and space. **God has not stopped singing—we have simply stopped listening, searching.**

So today, may you be like the filmmaker and the scientists. May you go beyond the surface of routine. Step into prayer, silence, Scripture. Because, in the deep, **the eternal song of God still plays**. And when you finally tune in—you may just hear Him singing to You. Amen

Revd Chris Harrigan

ST ANDREW REDRUTH

Last week I had the thrilling experience of taking a service of the word as a solo act at St Andrews Church; whilst it was nerve wracking, I thoroughly enjoyed the service, and hope that it passed muster!

I would like to thank the wonderful congregations both at St Euny and St Andrews for their support over the past few months; the wonderful people at St Euny have been extremely supportive during my “on the job training” with Jim, and the equally wonderful people at St Andrews made me feel extremely welcome, and were very encouraging.

For those who perhaps do not know, at the Redruth Team Ministry, a team of worship leaders has been put together to help ensure that there can be services in each of our churches, every week, where at all possible. It is vital that we continue to worship together; and not only maintain the strength of our church congregations, but build upon that for the future.

Jim Seth has been personally mentoring me over the past few months to support this process and [I sincerely hope!] will keep me under his wing over the coming months and years, to help me constantly improve and develop as a worship leader, so that I can do my very best for all 5 of the wonderful churches that make up the Redruth Team Ministry.

As worship leaders, we will be delivering "Services of the Word" - a service of the word is simply a service without the Eucharist (that is, without Holy Communion). A Service of the Word has the advantage of affording flexibility and variety. Worship Leaders can deliver a service which could be familiar, allowing us all to enjoy the traditional form of liturgy we all know so well; or offer something a little different, making use of alternative styles of worship. We hope and pray that the variety will be refreshing, enthusing and invigorating; we all love our traditional Anglican liturgy, but it is also wonderful to try new things, and tradition is only tradition because someone, at some time, decided to try something different.

We all share the same common goal - to ensure that the privilege of being able to worship God together, in our Churches here in Redruth, continues for generations to come; and for Christ's Church to flourish, so that we may all be lights in this world.

Please hold your Worship Leaders in your prayers, and we hope we can do you all proud!

Luke Roberts

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

FLAPJACK: *Four Lanes And Pencoys Join and Cheer the King*

Representatives of The FLAPJACK community were able to join Christchurch for Bishop David's walk round the Diocese. It was a very happy occasion and Christchurch was very happy to join with FLAPJACK in the visit.

The ecumenical links which are at the heart of FLAPJACK have influenced their 'sister' church in Lanner. Christchurch have seen what is possible and have organised a joint ANGLICAN / METHODIST study group with the chapel in Lanner. There are five meetings:

The history of Methodism, The history of Anglicanism, Graven images, Planning a united act of worship, Worshipping together.

There is also a united act of worship on SUNDAY AUGUST 3, in Christchurch at 10.00am.

THANKYOU for all your support to keep the 'Pencoys Pantry' open and well-stocked. The burden rests on the shoulders of Brian and Sheila and the community is so grateful to them for their faithfulness which keeps the pantry open. Recently there have been boxes of lettuces left in the pantry. Sadly, they are not popular and have rotted. Fresh produce is very difficult to store, but tins and packets are always needed.

ADVANCED FLAPJACK DATES

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>July 20</i>	<i>Pencoys</i>	<i>Baptism of Jessica & Otis</i>	<i>3.00pm</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>August 3</i>	<i>Four Lanes Chapel</i>	<i>FLAPJACK meeting</i>	<i>12.30pm</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>August 15</i>	<i>Four Lanes Chapel</i>	<i>VJ Day Event</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>August 17</i>	<i>Four Lanes Chapel</i>	<i>Village Songs of Praise</i>	<i>2.30pm</i>

SOME OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>June 29</i>	<i>St Euny Church</i>	<i>Joint Parish Service</i>	<i>10.30am</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>July 1</i>	<i>Treleigh</i>	<i>Healing Service</i>	<i>7.00pm</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>July 2</i>	<i>St Euny</i>	<i>DCC</i>	<i>4.30pm</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>July 6</i>	<i>LANNER Chapel</i>	<i>First Sunday Event</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>

(to raise funds for the Redruth Memory Cafe)

<i>Monday</i>	<i>July 8</i>	<i>Christchurch</i>	<i>DCC</i>	<i>6.00pm</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>July 8</i>	<i>Treleigh</i>	<i>Tea-Party</i>	<i>2.30pm</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>July 18</i>	<i>Crypt</i>	<i>Youth Event</i>	<i>4.00pm – 7.00pm</i>

FP

ST EUNY

Summer has been blessing us with warmth and an abundance of vegetation in the graveyard at St Euny. We are grateful for the help we have received in clearing the space in front of the north door, ready for our BBQ in July. The date for the BBQ has been altered to accommodate the date decided for the youth event, so the new date is Friday 25th July, 6-9pm. Please do invite anyone locally to come along and enjoy some food and conversation and sharing friendship.

Canon Pat Robson has sent us an update set of resources for the 'Celtic Quiet Places' scheme, ready for our summer visitors. There are now 108 churches in the group, St Euny is no. 88 in the Pilgrim Passport, St Andrew Pencoy's and Christchurch Lanner at 89 & 90 respectively. This is the third year of the scheme which has been supported by Ecclesiastical Insurances. This support is coming to an end, and we will have to find some funds to continue with the prayer cards, passports and stickers ourselves. The website is changing to allow for more information links and the ability to advertise events at our churches. The website is straightforward - <https://celticquietplaces.com/> .

As well as the Celtic Quiet Places invitation to visit churches, there is a 'Dragon Hunt' which has been set up for anyone aged 12 or under. If you see a dragon hiding in the church, take a photo and send it to **THE DRAGON MASTER, EPIPHANY HOUSE, KENWYN, TRURO**

CORNWALL TR11JQ to receive a dragon sticker and become a member of the Dragon Club.

(Parents/carers look out for small notices saying **HIC SUNT DRACONES** - if you see one you will know that HERE BE DRAGONS!!). We are inquiring about locating one at St Euny. Many thanks to all those who have been keeping the church open every day and enabling this to happen.

I remember well the conversation when Rev. Caspar visited my father in hospital with a copy 'A Cornish Celtic Way' by Nigel Marns. Canon Nigel has been Rector of the Mounts Bay group of Churches for about 16 years and is a keen pilgrim. His route follows 125 miles of walking in Cornwall, embracing many churches. A Pilgrim Passport is available for this walk, a small hardback book with space for the ink stamps at the churches on the route and for notes on the way. The Celtic Way goes for St Germans to St Michael's Mount, embracing two other well-known pilgrim trails, the Saints Way and St Michael's Way. Redruth Churches are not included in this, but nearby Portreath and Gwithian are, amongst others. Sadly, Canon Nigel is retiring due to declining health, but he continues to offer monthly pilgrimage walks on Saturdays, advertised on the Celtic Way website at <https://www.cornishcelticway.co.uk/>.

So, for those with visitors looking for a challenge, or to get some of our wonderful Cornish air, views and spiritual nourishment, we can participate in enjoyable Pilgrimage with focus and interpretation, engaging with either (or both) of these interesting suggestions. Perhaps we will gain inspiration for our wish to introduce wild church?

Linda Beskeen

CHRISTCHURCH LANNER



Christchurch remains open 10.00am– 4.00pm and Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday at 9.30am. The third Sunday is a Communion with new music and each Wednesday there is a Prayer Book Communion Service at 11.00am. *The LAST Sunday of each month will continue to revolve through the six worship settings and*

starts at 10.3am

(July 6 is a SERVICE OF THE WORD at Christchurch and will be led by Linda and Mary, both of whom are lay worship leaders in training.

THE CHRISTCHURCH SUPPER CLUB: Christchurch enjoys a SUPPER CLUB every three months. There is always lots of food etc. brought by the guests and a good time, by candlelight is had by all. The next Supper Club date is on **SATURDAY AUGUST 30 and will include, by popular demand, a QUIZ!!**

OTHER EVENTS AT CHRISTCHURCH: *Margaret's Last Monday Tea Party 2.00pm – 4.00pm.* The JUNE tea party is on Monday June 30 and the July date is July 28 and August is on **MONDAY AUGUST 25**

FUTURE EVENTS: The games afternoons and the film nights are advertised in the weekly pew sheet. **BUT** to avoid a clash with the Treleigh monthly tea-party the rotation for the games afternoon has been adjusted:- **Tuesday July 1, 15, 29 etc etc.**

ADVANCE NOTICE: These dates may help us to avoid diary clashes:

Saturday July	26	Summer Fete	2.00pm
Saturday October	4	Harvest Lunch	12noon – 2.00pm
Saturday November	29	Patronal Dinner	7.00pm Mary Anson's House
Tuesday December	16	Skyliner Carol Service	7.00pm

THE LIVING LIFE OF CHRIST

You may not know that Mary Anson, as well as her care settings in 'Anson Care' also runs a farm in her 'back garden'. Day after day, Mary looks after chickens, alpacas, pigs, sheep, cows and calves, donkeys and horses.

If that wasn't enough, Mary wants to offer her farm as the venue for a 'medieval mystery play' called 'The living life of Christ'. The date is yet to be approved by the parish PCC but will need: **performers, musician, singers** as well as a technical team.

The play will involve the birth of Jesus, his life and ministry, the crucifixion and the resurrection; ending with a celebration.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART OR WORKING ON THE TECHNICAL NEEDS OF THE PLAY PLEASE CONTACT Fr Peter 079 038 079 46

ST STEPHEN TRELEIGH



I'm sure most of the Parish will have heard of our Churchwarden, Mary's accident on 24th May, since when Mary has had major surgery and we all keep her in our thoughts and prayers for a good recovery and hope she will soon be home from hospital.

On Sunday 1st June we were privileged to hear a Service of the Word, led by Jason who led us in readings, hymns and prayers. Jason invited us to come forward and pick up a bead and a white ribbon, symbolising a prayer for peace in this troubled world. On threading the ribbon through the hole in the bead we could use it for our prayers. This was particularly appreciated by the congregation.

Flowers and chocolates were presented to our dear friend Pat Bassett, by young Teddy, on the occasion of her birthday and our organist Simon played Happy Birthday while we all sang to her. A birthday cake, made by Carol, was enjoyed in the hall after the service and Pat asked Teddy to help her blow out the candles which he did with much enthusiasm.

On Tuesday 3rd June we held our monthly Tea Party for Treleigh schoolchildren and their families, we seemed busier than usual and were pleased to have extra help on the day. We were especially honoured to have the new Bishop of Truro, the Right Reverend David Williams join us along with the Rural Dean, Graham and our Ministry team. Bishop David seemed very at ease talking to the children and parents and afterwards to all the helpers. The next tea party will be on Tuesday 8th July from 2.30pm onwards, all from our sister churches are welcome to join us.

On Pentecost Sunday Fr. Christopher led us in a slightly different service of Holy Communion which included the Baptism of 4 siblings, Isabella, Rowan, Rosalie and their baby brother Wilbur, a joyful occasion of which we were privileged to be a part. We wish them well as they take the Light of Christ with them on Life's Journey.

On Tuesday evening, 10th June at Chacewater Church, Anne was sworn in as our Deputy Churchwarden along with our other Parish Churchwardens, thank you all for your continuing service. Mary will be sworn in at a later date when she is well enough.

Our Annual Church Fete will be held in the Hawthorn Garden on Saturday, 19th July from 2pm, in the Hall if wet but please pray for fine weather so that we don't have to cancel Griff's Martial Arts performers and Redruth Town Band who are kindly playing for us. We welcome our fellow churches, including our Methodist friends, to have a stall if they so wish but please phone Anne on 01209 214532 to let her know so that we can arrange tables accordingly and if you have a gazebo or canopy that you can erect that would be especially helpful though we do have a few. We appeal to strong helpers on the morning to help set up please. See poster on separate page.

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At our DCC Meeting after our service on Thursday, 12th June, we discussed how we move forward in closer links to both Treleigh school and the Busy Bees Nursery.

Our Hall is used often but our cooker and second hand fridge freezer are old and no longer energy efficient so we discussed how we go about replacing them. Our regular hall users are Griff's Martial Arts Group and Redruth Town Band and is also used by the Miracle Theatre Group for rehearsals. It's ideal for birthday parties and a group of disabled young people enjoy meeting there with their Carers as there is easy access for wheelchairs. The Hawthorn garden is a bonus on such occasions. To book the hall please contact Carol Stewart on 07850 990605.

Christine Cunningham

BISHOP DAVID VISITS CHRISTCHURCH

It was as great joy for the Christchurch community to welcome Bishop David as he walked around the Diocese. The bishop managed to speak to everyone, the organisation of which he described as 'speed-dating'. THANKYOU so much to those who provided the lunch and managed the visit. The Bishop had a great time.

May God's blessing continue to rest on Bishop David, the new Bishop of Truro. AND as the summer beckons, may the parish rejoice in the sunshine, the beaches and being together.

FP

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISM

27 April	2025	Arlo Aaron Holland	St Andrew Redruth
08 June	2025	Isabella, Rowan, Rosalie and Wilbur Kenyon	St Stephen Treleigh

WEDDING

31 May	2025	Richard James Anthony Hicks and Samantha Nicole Agnew	St Euny
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FUNERALS

19 May	2025	Valerie Jocelyn (Val) Hoogelander	St Stephen Treleigh
29 May	2025	Veronica Rouffignac	St Andrew Pencoyls

RESURGAM CHAMBER CHOIR

**'Glorious Voices' a celebration spanning
500 years of English Choral music
at**

St Andrew's Church Redruth

FRIDAY 11 July 7.30pm

Free admission



BOOK CLUB

You can tell it is Summer-time because we were few in number when we met on June 2nd and several of our regulars were enjoying a nice break. We did, however, have a good discussion about *The Ladies Midnight Swimming Club*. Set in Ireland in a small village on the coast the swimming club was just three ladies who met occasionally to swim and chat at midnight. Jo and Elizabeth live in the village and know one another well. Lucy, Jo's daughter comes to visit for a short while with her son after the break-up of her marriage. Their lives intertwine, friendship strengthens as secrets are revealed and they share on the evenings they swim. Dan, a writer, comes to the village to try and discover something about his birth mother, whilst trying to work out his own future.

This was an easy read and said a lot about village life whether in Ireland or Cornwall or anywhere else for that matter - we don't always know what goes on behind closed doors! Some of us guessed fairly early on how one story line would end but there was also disappointment that one story line didn't conclude as expected but was left up in the air. A good holiday read.

Currently we are reading *The Paris Apartment* by Lucy Foley. This is a mystery thriller where a young woman, named Jess, investigates the disappearance of her half-brother, Ben, who lived in a peculiar apartment building. The story follows Jess as she delves into the lives of the building's eccentric residents to uncover the truth behind Ben's vanishing.

Following this, our next book is *The Rising Tide* by Sam Lloyd, a psychological thriller. The book captures perfectly the claustrophobic North Devon fishing village of Stengel in winter, bracing itself against the harsh and freezing North Atlantic waters. But when villager Daniel goes missing at sea aboard his yacht the *Lazy Susan*, there's also a storm of life threatening proportions on its way. And that's not all!!



We did read, *The Salt Path*. Back in 2017, so when we saw it was on in Redruth Regal a number of us went to see it, and thoroughly enjoyed the film, especially the Cornish scenery. Afterwards we were joined by a few more who had seen it independently, plus a couple of spouses, at the Buttermarket for some food and discussion about the film. A lovely evening out.

We meet again on June 30th at 10,00 at my house and then on July 28th but this time in the evening to enjoy a glass of wine. Don't hesitate to contact me, Margaret on 07930 471837, for more information or catch me at church, you will be very welcome to join us.

Margaret Saville

My Way to Compostela
Day 18
Carriòn de los Condes to Terradillos de Templarios.
27.3Km (accrued assent 100m=0.5Km)

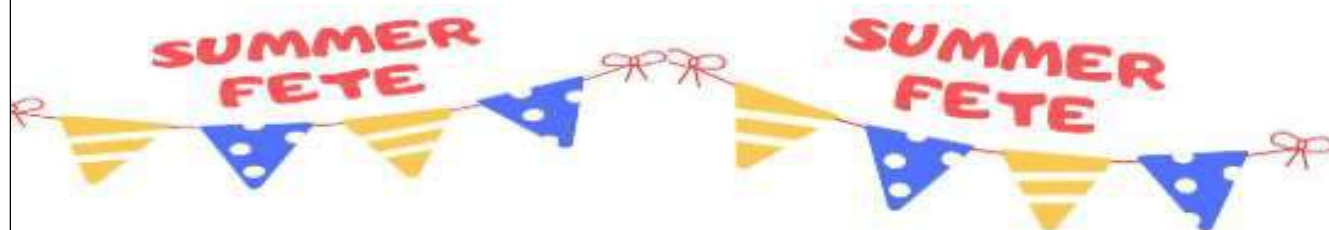
To say that we were pleased to arrive at Carriòn de los Condes would be an understatement as collectively our feet were hot and sore and longing for a long soak in cool water. Unfortunately that pleasure was somewhat delayed as we were faced with a dilemma. All the public albergues were full, which meant moving on till we found one with space for 4 or opting for a local Pensión (B&B) So it was that we found "Albe" a mid-priced one with 2 twin rooms at €25 per room both with the added luxury of having en-suite baths to help restore our aching feet!. Having rejuvenated our bodies and replenished our inner man/woman with the obligatory pilgrim's menu and not forgetting the accompanying regional wine, we headed off for a restful night. After an uneventful night we were up and on the route by 8am having first managed to have our necessary coffee and croissants. The only down side was that today's pathways were a repeat of yesterday's, flat ground with little or no shade and about 70% of a natural path that was the old paved Roman road the Via Aquitana which once connected this province to that of Astorga, luckily the day was dry and a little cooler. As we leave the town we pass Real Monasterio de San Zoilo dating back to the 11th century and connected to the Order of Cluny. It is now both a National Monument and a 5 star luxury Hotel (€250 per person per night) so a little out of our budget. Pilgrims can still wander around the cloisters and visit the burial places of the murdered Counts of Carriòn. From this point we continued on for 4.7Km to reach Calzana Romana the beginning of the old Roman road which still exists after 2000+ years be it with a renewal of the obligatory gravel coating. Back in the days when the Roman Legions came across this area it was a complete bog. To traverse this they built this road using it is believed, 100,000 tons of rock which they had to bring in as there was no local stone to be had. The road was lifted above the water table to avoid flooding. So we pilgrims thank the Romans for saving us from being bogged down. For the next 11.4Km we plodded on, the track was just as unforgiving as the previous day. There were a few places to stop along this section with picnic tables but water was limited so we were grateful of having topped up our supply and frankly, it was easier not to stop and have to start again!! The end of this section of the Old Road brought us to Calzadilla de la Cueva a small village with the main street forming part of the route. It's one of those places that today only exist because of the Camino with an Albergue for 80 and the necessary adjacent bar and restaurant. With a further 9.7Km to go we took a short stop here to take on some fluids and a Jamón Bocado (Sandwich), it also gave us a chance to rest our weary feet. (A little advice) never remove your boots in such a situation why, because it allows your feet to swell and you have a devil of a job to get the boots back on!!! 1Km from the village we came upon a stone on which had been carved 4 optional routes, one was stay on the path you are on or take a slightly longer one which was 300 metres longer and through woodland and along an escarpment to the highest point of the day at 900metres, so we took the high road for the next 5.4Km a welcome relief from the senda.

Continued

..... *continued*

This path took us into the small village of Ledigos with 3.3Km left to our intended stop at the albergue Jacques de Molay in the humble Village of Terradillos de los Templarios a former stronghold of the Knights Templar. The albergue is named after the last Grand Master of the Order and is recognised as the halfway point to Santiago de Compostela if you, like us, started in St Jean de Pied Port the start point of the Camino Francès (The French way)

Len Cunningham



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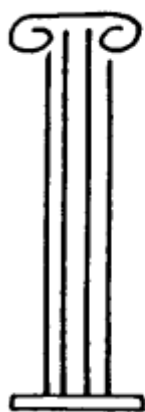


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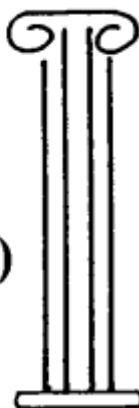
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