

# Five Alive

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



**JUNE 2024**  
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### **FIVE ALIVE MAGAZINE**

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

**Richard and Rosemary Robinson: [magazine@redruthchurch.org.uk](mailto:magazine@redruthchurch.org.uk)**

**Latest date for articles: FRIDAY 14 JUNE**

## Complete

Last night, I had the privilege of sharing a reflection on my ministry here in Redruth at the Deanery Synod. The rural dean believed it would be interesting to discuss the ministry involving my motorbike and the work God has been doing through it. While some might see the motorbike as a midlife crisis (hehe), for me, it symbolizes stepping into, joining, God's story. It represents His intimate knowledge of us, His blessings upon us, and our journey toward being made whole in Him.

The story starts back in the 1980's where I grew up admiring the likes of James Dean, Marlon Brando, Paul Newman, Steve McQueen and Tom Cruise, all of which rode motorbikes. They were the epitome of cool and represented excitement, adventure and freedom, a real freedom that I longed for, and I grew up always wanting a motorbike. It wouldn't be until my 40's and in priest training where God would bless me with the ability to get a bike and enjoy a new found freedom and peace that you only get from being on the road and being with and in a relationship with Him.

What you may ask has this anything to do with us and possibly our faith journey. Well, what I have learnt from this journey is that God delights in us. If we delight in him, he will give us the desires of our heart (Psalm 37:4). Not everything, but desires that will reflect him, that join in His journey. And this gift, God giving us the desires of our heart, what is it for? We are told in John 15:11, 'I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete'. He delights in us, in us being happy, he wants His joy to be in us and our joy made complete. We are complete in Him, and he makes us complete in joy. Is that not beautiful to know?

One of the most beautiful things about this gift, the bike, is that it has connected me with people, taken me to places, where I have been able to come alongside people, hear their stories, be a Christian presence where there was none before, for we are told in Colossians 4:5-6, 'Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.' We are to pioneer, to go out, be, where others are not.

May you delight in the Lord today. May He know the desires of your heart, and may you find your Harley Davidson, the thing that completes your joy, so you may share that joy with others this day. Through your joy, may they come to know God's joy in their lives and be complete in Him. Amen.

***Revd Chris Harrigan***

## ***JULY FIVE ALIVE***

As we are away on holiday for the above issue, Simon Cooper will be editing and printing the July issue of Five Alive. Please make sure articles are still sent to the magazine email which Simon will be able to access.

***Rosemary and Richard***

## THE WAVING HANKY!!

If you were unable to be in St Stephen's for the Pentecost meditation then you missed the 'Pentecost Dance' featuring Emma. Using ballet movements, Emma recreated the coming of the Holy Spirit through flames. That dance followed the movements of the readers who recreated the coming of the Holy Spirit through great wind, played on the organ by Charlie.

It is difficult to understand what went on 2000 years ago when the first disciples, soon to be apostles were inspired to go out into the known world to proclaim God's love as revealed through Jesus' ministry, death, resurrection and ascension. It is equally difficult to help children and young people to begin to understand the concept of Pentecost. That is where the 'waving hanky' comes in. The 200 children in an assembly could understand how a hanky could move if you blew it. They couldn't see what moved the hanky but they could see it waving in the air that surrounded it.

It is the same for us. We cannot see the Holy Spirit but we can see its effects through the lives of each one of us. Through kindness, forgiveness, generosity, empathy and care, the Holy Spirit can be seen at work in the world.

So, God bless you as you go out into the world and be someone that is like the 'waving hanky' of the school assembly, so that others may know that they are beloved of God, wherever and whoever they are!

*FP*



## ST ANDREW REDRUTH

### *A Saturday to remember*

My early pre school memories are mostly filled with images of hot, sunny days where the sky was a cloudless sea of blue and the days were filled with joy and fun. There was however, one particular Saturday that wasn't quite so perfect.

We had recently acquired a budgerigar. It had appeared, as pets often did, like magic. My Father would come home from work with stories about 'unloved, unwanted or about to be put down' pets and then from no where he would produce a box. In this particular box was a budgerigar!

After my Mother had recovered sufficiently from the shock of yet something else sharing our home, we made our way to the Pet Shop which was opposite Sam Lean's pub. This shop was definitely my most favourite place in the whole wide world. I loved everything about it. The smell of wood shavings, hay and seeds, the noise of the birds in their tiny cages, the baby rabbits, all fluff and big eyes and the gold fish. This small shop was paradise to a little animal lover like myself. Here my Mother bought all that was needed to house our new, little friend. 'Joey' was quite a handsome chap, blue like the summer sky and he would sing and chatter away all day long. In the evenings my Father would let him fly free in the living room while my Mother would pretend to disapprove.

We had only had him a short time when one Saturday morning he was found stone dead on the bottom of his cage. Everyone was so upset and after discussing what could have caused this, we buried him at the end of the garden, near the old Air Raid Shelter.

Later that afternoon, tummies full of pasty, my brother and I set up his wicket and stumps to play cricket. The Sullivan boys, Paul and Jerome appeared and I was then relegated to watching, not old enough to play with the big boys! The game was nearly over when my brother, batting, smacked the ball so hard it left the garden and went straight through the next door neighbour's garage window.

I remember now, so clearly, how we all sat at the kitchen table discussing what had happened while we waited for our neighbours to return. It was decided my brother, who was only 9, would go to see our neighbours, explain what had happened and offer to pay for the damage. As it transpired the lovely Mr and Mrs Peters were very understanding. It was agreed that their son would repair the window while we would pay for the glass.

I remember my Mother saying how proud she was of my brother for having the courage to face Mr and Mrs Peters like a grown up. I'm afraid all I could think about was what kind of a pet my father might bring home next? Perhaps a parrot, or maybe a squirrel. Even better, a little, white fluffy, baby seal! My imagination knew no bounds.

***Pie Louis-Smith***

## 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 until 4pm with optional Covid-safe precautions in place. Please take care, as Covid is still with us!

A good attendance at the First Sunday Evening Event on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, resulted in a total of £500 being raised to support The Prostate Cancer UK Appeal and the Chestnut Appeal, and we thank all who came and have donated to these very worthy causes. The next Event will be held at 6pm on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** at Four Lanes Methodist Church, supporting **The South West Community Chaplaincy**, working for those who experience "Life After Prison", to which all are welcome.

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

Said Holy Communion each Wednesday at 6pm at St. Andrew's, Pencoys.

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June** Quiz in Pencoys Hall 7pm

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** Flapjack Holy Communion Service 11.15am Methodist Church  
Lighthouse Young People's project 3 – 5pm Methodist Church  
First Sunday Evening Event 6pm Four Lanes Methodist Church

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June** **Flapjack Family Event**, with Holy Communion 11.15am  
St. Andrew's Pencoys

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June** **Games Evening** (Bingo): 6 – 8pm Pencoys Hall

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June** Methodist Service of the Word, 11.15am Methodist Church  
Holy Communion 6pm St. Andrew's Pencoys

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** Bangers & Mash Methodist Church from 11am

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** **Flapjack Holy Communion** St. Andrew's Pencoys, 11.15am

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June** Open-Air Holy Communion at **Carmenellis Churchyard** 7pm  
(Directions/bad weather, phone Brian, 214069 or Jill  
07809 043656) All welcome.

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June** Breakfast Service Methodist Church 9.30am

**Parish Holy Communion 10.30am St. Andrew's Church Redruth**  
Teatime Celebration Pencoys Hall, 4 – 5pm

The Wednesday Social afternoons continue at Four Lanes Methodist Church on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June, when all are welcome.

Our grateful thanks go to Richard and Rosemary (Robinson) for all their time, skill and work on our churches' finances and for producing the monthly Five Alive Magazine. We send them our sincere congratulations and good wishes as they celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

*Jill Tolputt*

## ST EUNY

With the blooming of the many spring flowers in the churchyard, St Euny becomes an attraction for many walkers and visitors exploring the area and the church. We have had several already, many of whom are reflecting on earlier family events and memories. As a part of our welcome we are running regular cream teas over the summer. These will be on Saturdays when there is no other event, such as a wedding, on the same day. The first will be on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, followed by Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May, from 2-4pm in the church. These are open to all, so please do encourage anyone who might be interested to come along.

Pentecost, celebrated on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, included another reflection written by Avril, whose Easter meditation was very well received. We are very grateful to Avril for her resilience and dedication to enhancing our worship in such original ways.

St Euny Community BBQ will be held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July from 6-9pm in the evening. We hope for the lovely weather which we were blessed with last year, but the church is available if rain threatens, so the event will go ahead regardless of weather. Everyone from the parish is welcome, so please invite anyone who would like to come along. There will be meat and veggie options, salad, Pimms and soft drinks or bring your own if you prefer. Our expert outdoor cooks, Charlie and Lavinia Green have agreed to do the honours, so we can look forward to an enjoyable evening sharing good food and company.

The Pascoe family have had a long term link with St Euny and as a recognition of the work of the church and in honour of a large family wedding this summer, they have gifted an urn, mugs and cups and saucers for the kitchen. We were in need of these as we struggle to meet hot water demands for large events and mugs are in short supply at times, so we are very grateful for their donation which has already been put to use.

The Celtic Quiet Places scheme continues and more passports are on the way. Three new churches have joined, which are: St Just in Penwith, TR19 7EZ; Holy Name, Boyton, PL15 9RJ; St Denys North Tamerton. EX22 6RY. These ensure coverage from the far west of Cornwall to one of the most easterly parishes, St Denys, North Tamerton, a 15<sup>th</sup> century church which is the only parish that stretches both east and west of the Tamar. If you are new to this, the scheme is open to all churches in the Diocese to stay open as a place of refuge and reflection. Each church in the scheme is listed on the website and in the 'passport' with details of opening times and facilities. You can buy a passport for £2 in any of the churches and there will be stamps in each place you visit to help complete the passport record. It is a great way to see Cornwall and become familiar with our fantastic church heritage, so please do let visitors or anyone who might be interested know about this.

The website is: <https://celticquietplaces.com/>

**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. *Due to the 'vacancy' the LAST Sunday of each month will revolve through the SIX worship settings and starts at 10.30am*

**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: **SATURDAY JULY 13**

### OTHER EVENTS AT CHRISTCHURCH

**Margaret's Last Monday Tea Party 2.00pm – 4.00pm.** Home made cake and lots of chat!! The next tea party is on **BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, MAY 27, 2pm – 4pm.** If you miss this one, then how about **MONDAY JUNE 24.** You will be very welcome.

### TOASTY TUESDAYS:

These continue every two week, the first one in June is **TUESDAY JUNE 4.** It is an enjoyable afternoon – 2pm – 4pm., with dominoes, cards and endless tea!!

### CHRISTCHURCH FIRST SUNDAY EVENT IN JULY

Looking ahead, this event is an event to pray for PEACE throughout the world. Pat Williams initiated this and has devised the liturgy. Hope to see you on **SUNDAY JULY 7, 6.00pm** in Christchurch.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

The Christchurch Summer Fete will be in and around Mary Anson's garden. There are rumours of 'walking with alpacas' as well as stalls, music and refreshments. **SATURDAY JULY 20, 2pm – 4pm** is the date.

### SUMMER HOLIDAY PROJECT 2024

Christchurch will be hosting TWO summer events for children and young people. The **FIRST** event on Tuesday July 30, in and around the church, the green and the tracks around the church. The **SECOND** event is to Ken's Farm on Tuesday August 20.

**FULL DETAILS OF THE PROJECT ARE IN FPs weekly sheet**

## ST STEPHEN TRELEIGH



After a week of warmer weather and the inspiration of the Garden Exhibition at St Andrews, my garden beckoned although I must admit I sat in the sunshine more than I weeded the pots. Or to put it another way the spirit was willing but the flesh was definitely weak.

Going back to the Garden Exhibition, the range of plants available not only from the garden centre's displays which were spectacular, but the smaller plants grown with love from people around the Parish. The children's gardens on a plate were full of imagination and colour. Oh and don't forget the scarecrows.

Thoughts have also turned to the planning of our summer fete on Saturday July 6th. As Christine explained last month if any of our sister churches would like to have their own stall, please contact Anne Youlton on 01209 214532 and she will give you any information you require. This is the day that our Hawthorn Garden comes into its own, and as Anne once told me that in the 35 years she has been helping at the fete we have only had one wet day. The hall is transformed into a cafe and is a cooling place to sit with a drink and a snack.

Our tea party when we welcome those collecting children from our neighbour Treleigh School who now come in for a cuppa and a chat before collecting the children and after with the children. We welcome anyone who is passing while our for an afternoon walk, so if you are looking for somewhere to go on the second Tuesday in the month please come and join us. This month the tea party was held in aid of Dementia Awareness and I am pleased to say we raised just over £100 for this worthwhile cause. Thank you for all who came, and our next party is on the afternoon of Tuesday the 11th June between 2 and 4 and all are welcome to join us.

At the time of writing, rehearsals are well under way for Father Peter's Pentecost Meditation. More of this next month.

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Christine Simmonds. Christine was the sister of Carol Coad and a great friend of Treleigh. On fete days she would often be found in the kitchen washing the dishes. In years gone by she was also a Sunday School Teacher at Treleigh. Our condolences go to Carol and her sister Barbara and all the family.

***Mary Harris***

## News from the Ministry Team

Following all the consultations with our five churches about the proposed changes to the first Sunday services the PCC met on Tuesday May 13<sup>th</sup> to vote on this issue. The Ministry Team again outlined the reasons for the proposal before leaving the PCC to discuss prior to the vote. The PCC voted to accept the proposal beginning in June. Therefore Christchurch Lanner will be hosting the 9.30 Holy Communion Service on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and St Stephen Treleigh will be hosting the 11.15 Holy Communion Service on that day.

July 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30 Holy Communion Service will be at St Andrew Redruth and the 11.15 Holy Communion Service will be at St Euny, and from then on will be alternate.

The Ministry Team is well aware that this won't be greeted with great enthusiasm by everyone but we do urge you to think about the bigger picture as well as the future. Please do all you can to encourage your people to support this proposal and to offer lifts to those without transport which will also help with parking.

Remember this is for a time limited period and after Revd Rebecca has settled in this may well change.

We do thank you for your support, your care and concern for the Ministry Team and looking ahead to the well-being of our new Rector.

With our love and prayers for you all, on behalf of the Ministry Team

**Revd Margaret**

## **BOOK CLUB**

The Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie turned out to be a good read but very hard in places, challenging everyone to remember that we don't know what goes on behind closed doors. The public face of Dad, a respected elder at church and in the community, was not the same face that his family experienced. We had a vibrant discussion about many issues that were raised in the pages of this novel – well worth reading and you can pick up a copy at St Andrew Redruth from the bookcase housing copies of many of our books. You'll find it near the coffee area.

**The Novel in the Viola** by Natasha Solomons is our next book

*In the Spring of 1938 Elise Landau, the cosseted and beloved 'baby' of an haute bourgeois Jewish family is forced from her home in Vienna by the rise of Nazism. Domestic servitude is a bit of a comedown but a welcome escape from the persecution to which her compatriots are being subjected. She gains her position in Tyneford House in part on the strength of a misworded advert [I will cook your goose]. Elise makes an unlikely parlour maid but she does alright and it's not long before the young master gives her English lessons. In the meantime his father is interceding with the German authorities on her parents behalf.*

**Still Life** is a debut novel by Louise Penny, first in a series of mystery novels featuring Chief Inspector Armand Gamache and set in Quebec. The book centres on the death of a beloved former teacher in Three Pines, a quaint village outside of Montreal. Gamache and his team soon realise that what appears to be an accidental death is murder . . .

**Margaret Saville**

# Venues for our Joint Parish Services

## Change to the list of Venues for our Joint Parish Services

Confession time from Margaret. I had forgotten that the Ministry Team had agreed to swap venues for November and December to accommodate the Patronal Festival of Christchurch Lanner. So please everyone, take note!

November	Christchurch Lanner
December	St Andrew Redruth

### 2024

June	30	St Andrew Redruth
July	28	Christchurch Lanner
August	25	St Euny
September	29	St Stephen Treleigh
October	27	Four Lanes Chapel
November	24	Christchurch Lanner
December	29	St Andrew Redruth

### 2025

January	27	St Euny
February	24	St Stephen Treleigh

### FROM THE REGISTERS

#### FUNERAL

24 April	2024	Dr Keith Henderson	St Euny
02 May	2024	Daphne Edith Tippet	St Stephen Treleigh

#### INTERMENT OF ASHES

03 May	2024	Roger Keith Charleston	St Stephen Treleigh
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# Staying well this summer

**It's important to look after yourself as temperature's start to rise. Here are some top tips for staying well in the heat.**

**Stay Hydrated:** Make sure to drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration. Avoid alcohol and caffeine, as they can contribute to dehydration.

**Seek Shade:** Stay in the shade, especially between 11 am and 3 pm when the sun is strongest. Wear a hat and light coloured clothing to keep your body cool.

**Cool Down:** Take cool showers or apply cool water to your skin or clothes. Cold food and drinks can also help lower your body temperature.

**Keep Your Living Space Cool:** Close windows during the day to keep the heat out and open them at night when it's cooler.

Remember, hot weather can affect anyone, but older adults, those with certain medical conditions, and people on multiple medications are more susceptible to the heat. Becoming too hot can lead to heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

The signs of heat exhaustion include:

- tiredness
- dizziness
- headache
- feeling sick or being sick
- excessive sweating and skin becoming pale and clammy or getting a heat rash, but change in skin colour can be harder to see on brown and black skin.
- cramps in the arms, legs and stomach
- fast breathing or heartbeat
- a high temperature
- being very thirsty
- weakness

Heat exhaustion isn't a medical emergency if the person is cooled down in 30mins. After this time, it becomes heat stroke which is a medical emergency and requires medical attention.

If someone has heat exhaustion, follow these 4 steps to cool them down:

1. Move them to a cool place.
2. Remove all unnecessary clothing like a jacket or socks.
3. Get them to drink a sports or rehydration drink, or cool water.
4. Cool their skin – spray or sponge them with cool water and fan them. Cold packs, wrapped in a cloth and put under the armpits or on the neck are good too.  
Stay with them until they're better and if they don't improve after 30mins seek medical attention.

***Anya Dolling—Parish Nurse***



## **TRELEIGH CHURCH FETE**

*Redruth Parish*

*Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 2.00 pm*

*in the Hawthorn Garden*

- ❖ *Cakes, Preserves and Plants*
- ❖ *Toys and Games*
- ❖ *Crafts*
- ❖ *Bric-a-Brac and Books*
- ❖ *Raffle and Tombola*
- ❖ *Refreshments*
- ❖ *Live Band Entertainment*
- ❖ *Griff's Martial Arts Demonstration*

***Come and join***

# 50's night entertainment 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024

It's great to look back at the glorious 50s. It's was a time of hope, (post Second World War) and there was a great sense of expectation, not least among young people. There were new sounds coming from 'across the pond' and a feeling of excitement for the future.

We are proud to say this is a joint '5 church entertainment'. You can get further details or reserve tickets (£10) from Trish Knights, Anne Youlton, Brian and Sheila Gannaway, Pie or Lez.

Proceeds, after expenses, will go to a local charity, (yet to be decided.)  
Raffle and bar open at 7pm.



Come along, enter into the spirit of the 50s! Enjoy a little cabaret, a pasty and pud supper plus the outstanding 'Pappa Do Swing' live music. Dust off those dancing shoes, (if you dare!)

## **NEWS FROM St John the Baptist—Montreal**

David and Margaret Paterson who have lived in Canada for some years have told me that they now have a new incumbent after a long wait! Trevor has three children and Margaret said that she hopes their small congregation will start to increase now that they have someone to lead. Trevor's details are below and he's looking forward to receiving Five Alive each month.

### **Revd Trevor Potter**

Incumbent | The Church of St. John the Baptist

233 Ste-Claire Ave, Pointe-Claire

[www.churchsjb.org](http://www.churchsjb.org)





**50's**  
Night

*Supper, Cabaret  
& Dancing*

**HERE**

**Friday**

**July 26th**

**St. Andrew's Crypt**

**from 7pm**



# My Way to Compostela — Day 11

## Azofra to Redecilla 26.3Km

After a light breakfast of coffee and croissant priced by the Albergue at 3 euros each, we were back on the trail by 8am with the likely hood of a very wet day ahead of us. As we were no longer sticking to the guidebook stops, we had no fixed plan, it would be weather dependant as to where and when we stopped. Then leave the Alburgue following the designated route, there is a alternative route that would have added at least half a days walk, but in this rain was out of the question. So we made our way out of the village climbing up through what would have been lovely scenery if not for the rain heading towards the small town of Ciruena. We pass a medical pilgrim maker as we head up to cross an irrigation channel 'Canal de la Margen' which we cross over to continue on farm tracks, which by now in the heavy rain have become clogged with the heavy red Rioja earth which clings to our boots and makes the walking harder work. As we approach Cirueña we are now on a hard stone track which takes us pass the Rioja Alta Golf Club and through an abandoned 'Area de Descanso' new suburbs half finished and empty with the 'Sevende' for sale signs dotted all over them. From here the route takes us out of the forgotten suburbs past a roundabout before turning left onto more sticky clogged farm tracks, that undulated over the surrounding fields to the outskirts of Santos Domingo de la Calzada. The town of Santo Domingo has a population of around 6000 and it will come as no surprise to you all, that it has a long and ancient history with the Camino going back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Legend has it that it owed its place on the Camino to Sant Dominic of the Road. Born to a peasant family around 1019, he was denied entry to the local monastery. Thereafter he spent his life improving the route and facilities for pilgrims passing through Santo Domingo, including building a pilgrim hospital and a church now the towns Cathedral. The Cathedral has a chicken coop, in which are kept a cock and hen. They are kept there as evidence of one of the Way of St James Miracle's.

"The story goes that a pilgrim couple with this son was passing through the town and stopped at one of the Inns. The Inn keepers daughter fell for the young man but as a devout lad he rejected her advances. Angered by his refusal (Hell has no fury like a !!!!!!!!!!!!!) she hid a silver goblet in his pack and accused him of stealing it. He was arrested and sentenced to hang, he was hanging from the gibbet before his parents discover what had taken place and they found him still hanging but miraculously still alive thanks to the intervention of Santo Domingo. The parents then rushed to the town's Sheriff and found him about to eat his supper. He refused to believe them that their son was still alive and stated that their son was no more alive that this chicken he as about to eat, at that moment the chicken stood up and began to crow, whereupon the Sheriff rush out and cut the lad down and granted him a full pardon" As we sat in the Protocol of the church to eat our lunch I was glad to be having a Jamon sandwich.

***Len Cunningham***

## MY SUNDAYS – AS A YOUNG GIRL

*By Juliet Jenkin*

Seeing the young children taking part in our Sunday services, reminded me of how my Sunday pattern used to be and how it has changed as I have 'matured'. (I do not use the word old but prefer mature but some people may question that I have never matured)

As a small child, on a Sunday, after getting dressed, I had breakfast. My Father had already gone to Church. (Once I was confirmed, I preferred going to the 8am service because if I took Holy Communion at 11am, I was made to fast for 3 hours beforehand!!!) Once my Father was back home, I had to change my clothes into my 'Sunday best'. As a family, we walked down the road for the 11am service laden with items to keep me amused during the service. I still have the children's Bible story book which I would read.

Returning home I had to change into my play clothes. I do not know how my parents managed it but once home after the service, we sat around the dining room table and enjoyed a delicious Sunday roast.

After dinner, I had to change again into my 'Sunday best' to go to Sunday School. Primarily, all were seated together for a general service. When a little older, I sat in the back row with the Bible Class age and I can remember very clearly, that as a result of us teenagers talking, a piece of chalk suddenly whistled past my ear. This had been projected by the wonderful curate that was talking to us. I considered myself reprimanded. Afterwards the crypt was divided into various classes depending on the persons age, with the Bible Class going into the vestry. After Sunday School it was to return home and change out of my 'Sunday best'.

Sunday afternoon tea time was always a very special family event. We would either have our Grandparents in for tea or we would visit them. As children, we always enjoyed this as we were given so much attention and even collected a bit of pocket money. Not being very happy at leaving them, it was home to change again into our 'Sunday best'.

I did not always go to Evensong in my Church but would travel with my Father who was possibly taking the service in another Church. This sometimes made me quite nervous because I was often asked to play a part in the service. The St Day old Church was one of my favourites. In spite of this, Evensong, both sung or said, is still one of my favourite services.

While at times complaining at the Sunday discipline, it strangely now gives me so much pleasure being able to laugh and reminisce at how my Sundays had and still have an affect on my life.

I expect many of us will have memories of how our Sundays were spent and how our lives evolved around the Church community. Perhaps we could have a memory page on the Church Community i.e. Tea Treats, Choir Trips, Scouts and Guides, Youth Club, Mothers Union etc. Some of the memories are now being repeated but under another name i.e. Church Players are now called Randoms. I would be willing to collect them.

**So:-**

Sundays are a special day, wherever you may be  
In a Church, eating roast dinner or with the family just for tea.  
Habits have changed as the years have gone along  
But the bond that Sundays give us will always keep us strong.  
Be happy on your Sunday, being thankful what comes your way  
Thanking our Lord for all his blessings and for giving us this day.

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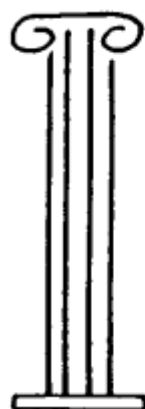


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