

The Magazine of the Redruth Team Ministry

St Euny Redruth, Christchurch Lanner, St Andrew Pencoys
St Andrew Redruth and St Stephen Treleigh
(REDRUTH PCC - registered charity no 1204231)



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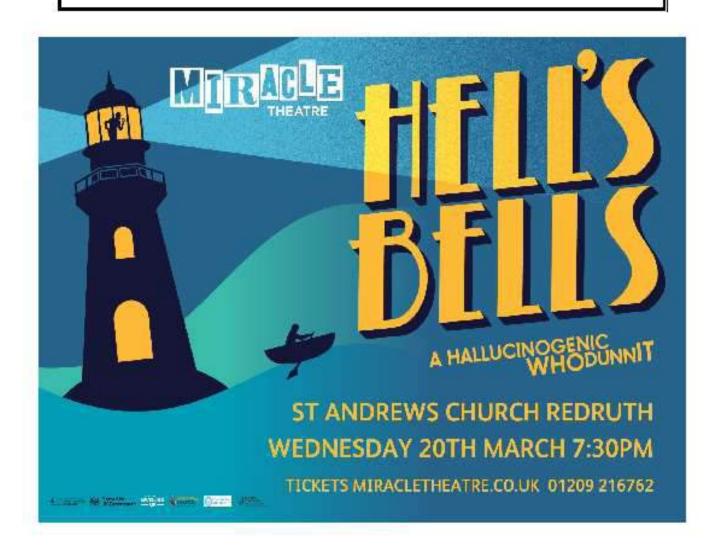
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by FRIDAY 15 MARCH

Dirt

For the last week or so I have been contemplating the meaning and the reality of Lent through prayer and reading. This week we had our Ash Wednesday service which reminds us of the start of the Lent journey which is a way of sacrifice and self-examination. I love some of the language from the Ash Wednesday service which reminds us that we are but dust (Adamah) and that we should examine our mortality as Christ had to accept his. We are held in the tension between our baptisms and our eventual funerals, and find hope in God's unwavering love.

As we begin the journey of Lent—forty-plus days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving—we remember who we are, who we're called to be, and most importantly, who God is. We are invited to embrace our mortality and brokenness, allowing God to be God for us.

American pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber reflects on Ash Wednesday. She describes it as a moment when our lives, like a long piece of fabric, are pinched in the middle. Our baptisms from the past and our funerals in the future converge in the present. Water and words from our baptisms meet the earth and words from our funerals. In this meeting, we're reminded of God's promises and our identity as God's beloved. No sin, darkness, or grave is beyond God's reach; God loves us back to life – he breathes, Ruach (pronounced roo-akh), into the dirt.

In the NOOMA video series by Rob Bell, the video titled "Dust", Bell explores the concept of Adamah, which means "dirt" or "ground" in Hebrew. He draws a profound connection between our human origins and the biblical story of Adam, who was formed from the dust of the earth. In this thought-provoking video, Bell invites viewers to consider their existence as a beautiful paradox: we are both fragile and resilient, made from the same substance as the earth itself. Just as God breathed life into Adam, we, too, carry the divine spark within us. Our mortality and imperfections are not limitations but reminders of our shared humanity and our connection to the Creator.

Through the lens of Adamah, Bell encourages us to embrace our earthly nature, recognizing that we are simultaneously dust and divine. It's a powerful reminder that our lives are both fragile and sacred, and that even in our brokenness, we are beloved by God.

Amen

Revd Chris Harrigan Assistant Curate



THE TRIDUUM

Holy Week is the most solemn and glorious week in Christianity. It can be argued that the week is more sacred than Christmas! This is because Holy Week commemorates the final week of Jesus' life, the purpose for which Christmas happened.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday (when Jesus made his final entrance into Jerusalem) and ends with <u>Easter</u> Sunday. Several events and liturgies are enclosed within the three days known as **THE TRIDUUM** which is from sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday. The word *TRIDUUM* comes from the Latin words meaning *THREE DAYS*.

This year, HOLY WEEK will be celebrated and kept within the new united parish of Redruth by sharing the events and liturgies across the **SIX** worship settings.

The week starts on Holy Monday and continues through Holy Tuesday and Wednesday with the **Stations of the cross** being shared at 6.00pm at Pencoys, Christchurch and Treleigh respectively.

The sacred **TRIDUUM** begins on Maundy Thursday with a reconstruction of the 'Last Supper' in the Crypt at 6.30pm.

The events of Good Friday will he remembered at St Euny from 12 noon – 3.00 pm. Holy Saturday lights the first Easter fire at the Chapel in Four Lanes and is repeated at the dawn fire on Easter Day at St Euny.

Finally, the glorious festival of Easter Day will be celebrated for the united parish at Treleigh, at 10.30am. The parish Paschal candles will be lit from the FLAPJACK Easter fire which will light the Treleigh fire.

Have a prayerful and transformative Lent and Holy Week so that you may rise with Him on Easter Day.



ST ANDREW REDRUTH

The daffodils and grape hyacinths which are flowering in the church garden are a welcome sight after the past months of rain and cold. Many thanks to the gardening team who maintain this and who have made this such a welcoming and peaceful setting for our church. Inside we have had some stunning arrangements of flowers over the Christmas and Epiphany period, many thanks to Mary and Barbara and all those who help to make this such a special part of our worship and praise.

The St. Andrew's Randoms rehearsed enthusiastically for their spring performance "Transports of Delight". Tickets sold out rapidly and we are very grateful to those who are prepared to tread the boards for our entertainment as well as all those fellow travellers who come along and offer support. There is a lot of talent within our church and it is a delight to see it on display.

Becca and Lez are organising another 'clothes swap' event on the evening of Tuesday March 7th at 7.00pm in the Crypt. If you have not yet been to one of these, they are a relaxing and friendly way to spend an evening and possibly meet new people. Do come along with a maximum of three items of clothing to swap and enjoy refreshments and good company whilst you browse for something new to 'glam-up' your own wardrobe.

On May 10th and 11th St Andrew's will be hosting the parish "Great Garden Exhibition", where we will bring the outside in with all things "gardening." Looking ahead, the St Andrew's Arts Festival theme this year will be announced very soon, so expect some exciting exhibits, workshops and entertainment.

We are still continuing our collaboration with The Ladder – the new arts Century in the old Passmore Edwards library – and there are several amazing events coming up in both the crypt and the church over the next few months. So please keep an eye out for these in the weekly prayer sheet and local advertising.

Creation Care continues to make an impact in our parish, with Joan and David representing us at Diocesan meetings and presenting their fantastic stall at parish and wider events. Look out for the green felt hearts to demonstrate love of the environment!

Linda Beskeen and Lez Seth

STOP PRESS: The 'Transports of Delight' event raised £504.00—a fantastic amount

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!

At the First Sunday Event on Sunday 11th February, a total of £150 was raised to support Médecins Sans Frontières, and we thank all who came and donated to this very worthy cause. The next First Sunday Evening Event will be at 6pm on Sunday, 3rd March at Four Lanes Methodist Church, supporting The Leprosy Mission. All are welcome. Flapjack services and events during March will be:

Said Holy Communion each Wednesday at 6pm St. Andrew's, Pencoys, followed by Lent Study Course at 7pm (ends at 8pm)

Please note that all Sunday MORNING services are held at 11.15am at Four Lanes Methodist Church until 14th April.

Saturday	2 March	Quiz in Pencoys Hall 7pm
S unday	3 March	Flapjack Holy Communion Service 11.15am; Flapjack Meeting 1pm
		Methodist Church; Lighthouse Young People's project 3–5pm
		First Sunday Evening Event 6pm Methodist Church
Sunday	10 March	Mothering Sunday Family Event 11.15am with Holy Communion
Saturday	16 March	Games Evening (Bingo): 6–8pm Pencoys Hall
Sunday	17 March	Methodist Service 11.15am
		Redruth APCM St. Stephen Treleigh Church Hall 4pm
		H.C. 6pm St. Andrew Pencoys
Saturday	23 March	Bangers & Mash, Methodist Church, from 11am
Sunday	24 March	PALM SUNDAY, 10.45am Blessing of Palms, St. Andrew's Lych
		Gate, then procession to Methodist Church for H.C. at 11.15am
HOLY WEEK		
Monday	25 March	H.C. with Stations St Andrew Pencoys 6pm
Tuesday	26 March	H.C. with Stations Christchurch 6pm
Wednesday	27 March	H.C. with Stations St Stephen Treleigh 6pm
Thursday	28 March	H.C. with Seder foot-washing and watch at St. Andrew Redruth
		Crypt 6.30pm
GOOD FRIDA	GOOD FRIDAY 29 March Devotions from 12 noon to 3pm St. Euny Church	
Holy Saturday	y/Easter Eve	New Fire 8pm Four Lanes M.C.
EASTER DAY	31 March	Parish Holy Communion 10.30am St. Stephen Treleigh
		Teatime Celebration, Pencoys Hall, 4–5pm

Warm Wednesdays continue at Four Lanes Methodist Church on 13th and 27th March, when all are welcome. The members of Flapjack wish everyone a faith-filled Lent and a joyous and blessed Easter.

ST EUNY

St Euny Feast was celebrated on Sunday 4th February with an evening service at the church. Thank you to all those who attended, I hope you will agree that it was a most lively and vibrant celebration at which we were joined by the Whippletree Ceilidh band and their friends who played to us before, during and after the service. Drawing on medieval dance origins Hetty and Chris Bevington not only organised music and dance, leading a Serpent dance around the church, but also cooked up a frumenty for us all to sample. Frumenty is a dish of grain, usually wheat or barley, boiled in sweet cow's milk or almond milk, and flavoured with cinnamon and mace, sometimes adding salt, saffron, honey or egg yolks. In the 14th Century it would include meat, beef or mutton, and form a nutritious main meal. On non-meat days porpoise or beaver tail might be included, both of these qualifying as 'water' based animals rather than from the land. A beaver tail resembles the scaled surface of a fish and in later times it became a mostly sweet dish and is thought to have been the origin of the Christmas Pudding, which was made richer and thicker, adding more dried fruit, breadcrumbs and eggs. By 1650 This form of Frumenty was a popular dish at Christmas, but it was banned during the Commonwealth and re-established later, possibly under the reign of George 2nd who liked the taste of plum pudding. As a festive indulgence it was a most appropriate addition to our feast as we emerge from Christmas into Candlemass, with an alternative recipe available for the vegans amongst us.

Our Feast Service was followed by a substantial spread with thanks to all those who contributed to this and for FP for organising and presiding at the service and the sink on the evening. The band continued their playing whilst we were eating, adding to a very relaxed and sociable atmosphere.

Our great friend, Pat Ince, will be brought to St Euny to lie overnight on Monday 4th March before a Requiem Mass at 1.00pm on Tuesday 5th March. Pat has had a huge impact on St Euny and the benefice and we will provide refreshments at St Euny after the service. The last Sunday evening service of January fell two days after International Holocaust Memorial Day. Thanks again to Father Peter, we held a most moving service of remembrance of this terrible event in living memory, offering prayers for victims of other persecutions and genocides situations that have happened since, in spite of the vow to "never forget". In these times of deep uncertainty and threat of war it feels so important that we continue to remember and offer this opportunity to all in our benefice.

We hope to build on the Easter activities initiated last year at Caspar's suggestion, so please do look out for information from the pew sheet.

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 APRIL 13, 7.00pm

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 **MONDAY MARCH 25** which is a good way to start Holy Week, remembering the triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

TOASTY TUESDAYS

You will remember that 'Toasty Tuesdays' began last year as part of the Diocesan 'Warm Spaces' initiative. As the weather grew warmer, the event changed to become a 'games afternoon' and ran fortnightly. From TUESDAY JANUARY 9 'Toasty Tuesdays' returned as a WEEKLY event from 1.00pm – 4.00pm. There will be soup, bread, cake, biscuits, tea, coffee and the games will continue to be a feature. **EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME.**

FEBRUARY FIRST SUNDAY EVENT

On SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11 (note change of date) at 6.00pm the Event raised funds for 'Medecins Sans Frontieres'. These doctors work in places of conflict regardless of borders. **THE EVENT RAISED £150.00 FOR THESE BRAVE MEDICS.**

THE WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

This takes place EVERY Wednesday after the 11.00am BCP service of Holy communion. The group looks at the readings for the coming Sunday and tries to relate it to their own experiences both past and present. BUT IN LENT THE BIBLE STUDY IS REPLACED BY A JOINT METHODIST / ANGLICAN STUDY GROUP ON THE HYMN "AMAZING GRACE".

Please check the weekly sheet for the venue, Church or Chapel.

WITH BEST WISHES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

ST STEPHEN TRELEIGH

On Sunday, 21st January we welcomed Charlotte Daisy Caro Dobbs (Charli) into the family of the Church when she was baptised by Reverend Margaret during the Holy Communion Service. Her big brother, 2 year old Teddy brings so much joy to us all and we can see that Charli is already getting to know us as she gives her beaming smile and baby babble, we will have her reading one of the lessons in a few years' time, I'm sure Izzy (Harrigan) could give her some lessons as she has read the Gospel beautifully with very little notice.

By the time this goes to print we will have held our monthly Tuesday afternoon Tea in the hall for the children and families of Treleigh School when they return from half term. The next one will be on Tuesday 12th March. The school community club recently did a litter pick around the school area including the churchyard for which we are so grateful.

The 7pm Service of Holy Communion with Ashing on Ash Wednesday was presided over by Reverend Chris and we thank Reverend Margaret for supporting our small congregation. The Redruth Parish APCM will be held on Sunday, 17th March at 4pm in Treleigh Hall with tea and cake.

There are Electoral Roll Forms at the back of the church for anyone not on the list but who wishes to be added.

On Maundy Thursday we will have our weekly 10am service of Holy Communion after which we will strip the Altar and Sanctuary as we would normally do at an evening service. Instead some of us will attend St. Andrew's Church Redruth at 7pm to share the Seder Meal, Service and Watch.

While we are disappointed at not having our 10am Good Friday Stations of the Cross, a St. Stephen's Church tradition for many many years, we do understand the pressure that our Ministry Team are under and sincerely thank them for all they are continuing to do since Caspar moved to Wiltshire. However, we do hope that next year we may be able to reinstate this wonderful tradition which was always held in the churchyard or Hawthorn Garden, weather permitting, where the beauty of the wild flowers, primroses, crocuses, celandines and daffodils together with the bird song and chatter helped us feel closer to our Lord Jesus Christ at this most Holy time in the Church Calendar.

We look forward to welcoming our friends from our sister Churches on Easter Sunday at 10.30am for a wonderful Easter Eucharist after which there will be tea and cake in the Hall. Congratulations to our dear friend Zoe on the occasion of her 90th birthday. We hope you had a well-deserved celebration with your family and friends.

Christine Cunningham

World Day of Prayer

Please do think about attending this annual service, previously called Women's World Day of Prayer, as it has been written by Palestinian Christian women. It is a very moving and informative service about what it means to live in a place where people of different faiths are trying to live together. It is especially important to give prayerful support during this present conflict. This service is for everyone, of any gender or age and has a profound message to share. There will be opportunity to chat with people after the service as we enjoy light refreshments.

World Day of Prayer 2024

Friday March 1st 2.00 pm

Redruth United Methodist Church [Wesley Building]

prepared by the Women of Palestine

Marhaba Hello

Assalamu Alaykum Peace be upon you

Wa alaykum Assalam And peace be upon you too

EASTER SERVICES

This year the Ministry Team in consultation with all churchwardens are celebrating the new Parish of Redruth by coming together throughout Holy Week and Easter Day. It has been most encouraging these last few months to worship together each month as we travel around our six worship settings, tinged with a little sadness that some people feel unable to worship other than in their own church. We hope that will change as we encourage others to give it a try and think about offering transport.

We have incorporated what has happened traditionally in each church as well as visiting each of our worship centres during the week, culminating in a Parish celebration of Easter at Treleigh, the fifth Sunday of the month. We do hope that you will support as much as possible, sharing together and getting to know one another better during this special time. The Ministry Team would like to thank the churchwardens for their graciousness in considering the workload the Team is carrying, and easing the burden during this busy period leading up to Easter. Below are listed the services and venues.

Holy Week

Pencoys	HC + 5 Stations of the Cross	6.00 pm
Christchurch	HC + 5 Stations of the Cross	6.00 pm
Treleigh	HC + 4 Stations of the Cross	6.00 pm
St Andrew Redruth	Seder Meal, HC + Vigil	6.30 pm
St Euny	Three Hour Devotion	12 noon
	Christchurch Treleigh St Andrew Redruth	Christchurch HC + 5 Stations of the Cross Treleigh HC + 4 Stations of the Cross St Andrew Redruth Seder Meal, HC + Vigil

[*This will begin with Diworth an Gollan followed by timed sections so that anyone may come and go silently during the three hours. There will be a published timetable in plenty of time for you to make your choices. There will also be the Walk of Witness with other denominations in Fore Street and Stations of the Cross at Four Lanes Chapel at 11.00 am]

Holy Saturday	Four Lanes Chapel Easter Eve Vigil		8.00 pm
EASTER DAY	St Euny	Dawn Vigil + Easter Fire	time tbc
	Treleigh	Parish Service + Easter Fire	10.30 am

We look forward to welcoming you at each of our venues and hope you will take the opportunity of experiencing something different this year.

Revd Margaret Interim Chair of the Ministry Team



HEALING SERVICES

During each month there are a number of opportunities to experience different services on a Sunday at Pencoys, Four Lanes Chapel and St Euny in the evening, many of which are well supported from across the Parish of Redruth. Our mid-week services of Holy Communion are also well attended, especially Wednesdays at St Euny which is followed by the Open Cafe. So it is a bit of a mystery that our monthly Healing Service gets very little support, especially as we are called to continue Christ's healing ministry. Perhaps we need reminding of what James says in his epistle

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

We do have a faithful band who come each month but surely this is something that more people would benefit from. You don't have to have the laying on of hands or anointing, just come and share in the prayer and the peace. You can also come on behalf of someone else that you have concerns for.

The Laying on of hands and anointing is very gentle and peaceful and done as privately as we can make it. Please do think about coming to experience something of the healing power of Christ in your life; healing is something we all need. If you have any queries or worries about the healing service do please have a word with either Fr Peter or Revd Margaret.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE APCM?

On March the 17th 2024 we will be holding our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). This can be likened to an AGM of any other organisation, where the previous year's activity is reported on and discussed and jobs are shared out among the willing volunteers.

The rules for our meeting are set out by the Church of England; including who can attend, who can vote, and any decisions made are legal and binding.

We actually have two meetings on the day. Firstly we hold the Annual Parish Meeting (APM). This can be attended by anyone living in the parish whether or not they attend church. At this meeting we elect our churchwardens and their deputies. We will elect 1 churchwarden from each church plus a deputy should one be available.

Churchwardens must be:

Baptised Regular Communicants On the Electoral Roll Over 21

Following this the APCM takes place where we hear reports on the year's activities and elect members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). This year, as we are now all one parish, we will elect 2 members from each of the 5 churches plus 2 additional members regardless of which church they attend. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

PCC members must be:

Baptised Regular Communicants On the Electoral Roll Over 21

The voting for all these positions is on a 'First Past the Post' basis and all attendees at both meetings will have a vote. However, should you wish to attend the APCM and vote or be nominated to sit on the PCC you will need to be on the electoral roll.

As the voting system is 'First Past the Post' it will be necessary to use voting slips rather than by show of hands. It would be helpful therefore if all nomination forms were completed by Sunday 10th March, passed to your Churchwarden who can then pass them to me. Don't forget we have TEA and Cake at this meeting!!

Jeff Saville - (Vice Lay Chair PCC)

March is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

The ovaries are two small oval shaped organs located either side of the womb in a women's pelvis. The ovaries sit close to the fallopian tubes and are supported in place by a layer of tissue called the peritoneum. The surface of the ovaries, fallopian tubes and peritoneum are very close together and therefore cancers in this area are often grouped together to be called ovarian cancer. In fact, doctors think most ovarian cancers start in the cells at the end of the fallopian tube and travel to the ovaries or peritoneum.



Ovarian Cancer affects 7000 women a year in the UK with two thirds of those being diagnosed too late when the cancer is harder to treat. Therefore, early diagnosis is vital for saving lives.

Some studies, however, suggest that 90% of women don't know the main symptoms of ovarian cancer. The symptoms can be very similar to other more common and less serious

conditions so its always important to consult your GP.

Although five-year survival rates for ovarian cancer are improving, other cancers, such as breast cancer had better survival rates two generations ago than ovarian cancer does today! Therefore, this month is a great opportunity to spread the word about this much overlooked disease. So, start the conversation with friends over coffee or ask me for a chat if your concerned about possible symptoms.

ovarian.org.uk have launched their 'Walk in Her Name' campaign this March, where you can sign up to their step challenge and together walk 100km to raise funds for life saving research.

Anya Dolling Parish Nurse

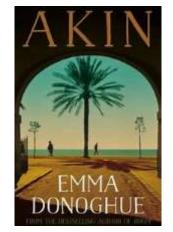
BENEFICE BOOK CLUB NEWS

There were a few people missing from our last meeting or various reasons but the two of us who read the book **Demon Copperhead** by Barbara Kingsolver found it to be one of those books you didn't want to put down. We were taken through Demon's childhood following his difficulties through to his teen years where things began to look brighter for him. New opportunities arose for him to make changes in his life with his grandmother taking an interest in him, teachers at the school recognising his talents, a new guardian to help him with his sport and a friend from the past who had always been kind to him. But always something went wrong until a final tragedy and support from a motherly soul to kick his addiction to drugs. Well worth the read!

For our meeting on March 1st we will share our thoughts on Akin by Emma

Donoghue. We are looking forward to reading how the relationship between Noah and his great nephew develops from being strangers to a closer and meaningful relationship. Akin is a funny, heart-wrenching story of an old man and boy, born two generations apart, who unpick their painful story and start to write a new one together.

Just to keep you interested, following Akin we will venture forth with a crime novel, A Murder Inside by Frances Brody. A job in the Prison Service is not for everyone. The training is hard, the cells are bleak and a thick skin is needed. Nell Lewis loves helping prisoners and when she is promoted in 1969 to governor of



HMP Brackerley with transforming the renowned run-down facility into modern open prison for women. Just as Nell is settling into her new role, events take a dark turn when a man's body is discovered in the prison grounds. The mystery deepens when one of their female inmates goes missing and a cross country search ensures.

Much to look forward to help us relax – why not join us?

Margaret 219059

FROM THE REGISTERS			
08 February	2024	WEDDING Dan Williams and Georgie Ardley	St Andrew Redruth
FUNERALS			
25 January	2024	Norma Ruth Letcher	St Euny
05 February	2024	Douglas Pollard	St Euny
16 February	2024	Graham Riches	St Euny

REDRUTH PCC

The Redruth Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held on Sunday, 17th March 2024, at Treleigh Church Hall at 4pm. All parishioners are very welcome to attend.

Pastoral Group

Just a reminder to everyone in our churches to look out for one another. If you have concerns about someone who is not well and would like a visit or holy communion at home please tell your church warden or your pastoral co-ordinator (listed below). You may also have noticed someone missing from church over a number of weeks and don't know why. Please do let us know, it's better to hear from two or three people than not to hear at all.

Your co-ordinator is:-

St Andrew Pencoys Fr Peter

St Andrew Redruth Pie Louis-Smith and Lavinia Green

St Euny Jason Hoole-Jackson

St Stephen Treleigh Ann Youlton Christchurch Lanner Linda James

The co-ordinators try to meet once a month to pray for those in need and support one Another

Revd Margaret and Fr Peter

SPRINGBOARD EVENT CARNMARTH NORTH DEANERY

Carnmarth North Deanery held this event on Saturday 17 February 2024 which was organised by interim Rural Dean Revd Graham Adamson, to showcase the many welfare, religious and social activities taking place in our churches

The Redruth team was well represented with some colourful displays co-ordinated by Father Chris aided by FP. Joan and David brought their excellent Creation Care stall. Other activities covered included:-

Parish Nursing

Warm Space

Open café

Arts Festival

Lighthouse

Crafty Club

Each activity was given the opportunity to make a short address to the well-attended meeting.

Presentations from other deanery churches included Open Café, Drop-ins, Open the Book, Women's Zone, Messy Church, Wild Church and the Community Chaplaincy







My Way to Compostela — Day 9 Logrono Rest Day

The best plans of mice and men went astray on the evening of our arrival in Logrono. Having found a small pension to stay, it only had one room for 4. As luck would have it if we wanted the room for 2 nights we had to share. The other party was an Australian couple, Kevin and Ann who we had met on day one and again in the Pamplona Albergue where Andrew assisted them to send some photos back to Australia. So not total strangers, having said that we had already and will on many occasions to come, share rooms with total strangers! Our evening plans to meet Tata did not transpire. He planned to stay with his Aunt but it turned out that on his arrival at her home, he found that she had been taken to hospital having broken her arm, so we had to forage for a suitable Tapas bar for ourselves. Not in itself a great hardship as there were more than enough to choose from. Our return to the shared room was a little later than planned and we were careful not to disturb our sleeping fellow peregrinos. They returned the favour by being quiet as they left the following morning at 6am.

Logrono is a beautiful ancient university city with lots to see, so after a filling local breakfast we set out to see something of this vibrant city. It was a Saturday and there appeared to be a lot of local activity around partying. We came across a stag party, who clearly were intent on having an extended bar crawl around the city, preceded by what I can only describe as La Rioja's equivalent of Falmouth Marine Band!! But with more musical talent. Coming out of a music shop, which Andrew had to pop into to sample a Guitar or two, who should we bump into but our dear friend Clive, who had just exited the 3 star hotel he had booked into due to lack of Albergue accommodation, or so he said! After some gentle arm twisting he joined us as we met up with Tata for lunch and yes in his favourite Tapas bar which we somehow managed to miss the evening before. After lunch Spanish style, no hurry, Clive headed back to his hotel. Funnily enough he declined to take up my offer of cancelling his 3 star room and join us in the shared 4 bedded room. Tata headed off to his Aunt's as she was at home with her arm in plaster and Andrew and I returned to our humble lodgings to do a little smalls washing. As we walked back to the Pension we passed the Stag party with the band gamefully playing on, with all the right notes but not necessarily in the right order. Having completed our washing, we ventured out to do shopping for our supper and supplies of snacks for tomorrow. By this stage of our stay it was clear that maybe we should not have had a rest day, as we were restless and felt that we should be on the road again. So supper was had and an early night was the intention with a 6am start, except the Band had other ideas and it became very clear to us that their intended last stop for the evening was in close proximity to or accommodation!!

Len Cunningham

MORWENNA'S (AVRIL'S) STORY

By Sheila Gannaway 31/01/2024

Behind us now!? Oh Yes It Is! Our Pantomime is done. Thank you Avril, for the play, We all had so much fun!

We hope that you enjoyed it too, Some highlights here recall, The Sisters trying on the shoe, To find it much too small.

Who can forget when Rose and Petal Did the Flora Dance, Grabbing partners from the crowd, They didn't stand a chance.

our giving to the Charity, So gratefully received, Together we, and all of you, Five Hundred pounds achieved.

Everybody took their part,
The crowds and players too,
To see the Church so full each night,
Was wonderful to view.

A future show, you never know, Maybe? Just watch this space. If Avril plans to write again, Who knows the time and place.

But just for now, we'll take a bow, The Pantomime is done. With words from yet another show, "God Bless us, everyone."

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