

FIVE ALIVE

The Magazine of the Redruth Team Ministry

St Euny Redruth, Christchurch Lanner, St Andrew Pencoys
St Andrew Redruth and St Stephen Treleigh



MAY 2020
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FIVE ALIVE MAGAZINE

Subscriptions (£7.50 PER YEAR OR £1.00 PER COPY): please contact your Churchwardens

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Richard and Rosemary Robinson: magazine@redruthchurch.org.uk

by FRIDAY 22 MAY

Rector's Notes – MAY 2020

Still Church – but very different...



What a difference a month makes! The last Five Alive was printed only days before the present lockdown began, and the contents ended up rather out of date very quickly!

It's hard to imagine a series of events that could have done more to remind us that the Church is about people, not buildings. Our buildings maybe locked, but God's Church is definitely alive, though having to do things in different ways.

If you are reading this, it's probably on a computer or tablet. The internet is proving a godsend at the moment. About 70 different people have joined us live for our Zoom Sunday communion services, and because we record them, many others watch them later via the Youtube link. A more recent innovation is our daily 9am morning prayer service on Zoom, which is not recorded – look out for the links if you'd like to try that.

We're very conscious that some people simply have no access to the internet, so we have been posting the weekly prayer sheet to them, and keeping in touch by phone. It's a bit of a dilemma, because on the one hand we don't like excluding people from our worship, but on the other hand the worship wouldn't be happening without the technology. Also, because we are praying for our churches to grow, and looking for ways to reach younger generations, using technology gives us an opportunity to get the church out there in the internet-age which is just part of life for most people these days.

All this is happening in the shadow of this awful virus. And every one of us will be dealing with all sorts of emotions because of that – whether isolation, anxiety, frustration, boredom, or outright fear. Surely the most important thing for us to remember is that God walks beside us, always. That most famous Psalm 23, alongside its idyllic images of green pastures and feasting also has the image of the darkest valley: ***Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, LORD, for you are with me. (Good News Version).***

Continued on next page

As well as God being with us, it makes a huge difference to be supported by friends, and it may be that you are not feeling as supported by your church as you need to be at the moment. If that is the case for you, please do get in touch with any of the clergy, or anyone else you trust. We may not have got it right in each case, so please give us the chance to be more supportive if that is what you need.

With my prayers & best wishes

Caspar Bush (Team Rector)



The cross we carry up Fore Street on Good Friday
planted in my garden for Eastertide

Revd Graham writes

This month's cover, for our online magazine was submitted by Jason Hoole-Jackson of St Euny, who as well as being in training for licensed lay ministry is a keen photographer.

Wherever we see it, and we see them all over at the moment, the rainbow is a symbol of hope, reminding us of God's promise to Noah in Genesis.

And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth." So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

Genesis 9:12-17

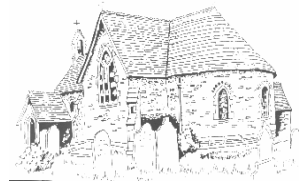
At the end of the story of Noah and the Flood, God unlocks the ark, unleashing the family and all the animals inside with a charge to be fruitful right across the new world he is giving them. After the seeming false start made by Adam, Eve and everyone else, God has better things in store for his creation and for humanity and so he unravels the tapestry and starts again. The rainbow is a sign of that fresh start. God makes a covenant with us, and he promises that when he looks at it he will remember his faithful promise to all the earth.

"Whenever you see a rainbow, remember God is love" went the "Mr Noah" song from my Sunday School days. But astoundingly it is God himself who promises to remember his covenant whenever he looks at it.

So the rainbow is a sign of hope. It is a sign of a fresh start. It is a sign of commitment. It is a reminder of God's faithfulness and care for all of creation.

It is so good to see the rainbow in windows right across town – alongside cut out hearts, candles, teddy bears and spring flowers. But the rainbow is not only a splash of colour and solidarity in the gloom, it is a reminder we need in these days: God has not left us. God is still in control. There is nothing in this current pandemic which has taken him by surprise. And so, we still share in that same task as Noah. To be fruitful on this earth does not mean to plunder it, but to tend it. And therefore, we have to tend to one another, enabling each other to flourish and to be fruitful. As a symbol right now for the care, commitment and courage shown by our health care professionals, I think it speaks volumes. May it also herald a fresh start for us in so many ways.

ST STEPHEN TRELEIGH



Treleigh Church is delighted to welcome Rev'd. Graham Adamson as he takes on leading our church as part of his curacy training. He takes on the leading of the pastoral care, mission activities and chairing the PCC. We all know Graham well and look forward to working with him when these unsettling times are over.

Our thanks to Rev'd Caspar Bush and his team for keeping communications going in these difficult days with Palm Sunday, Easter services etc available via Zoom and YouTube. Also thanks Caspar for the primrose extravaganza photographs at all five churches that we received via email and all on his morning run! Caspar's route took him to St. Euny, up to Pencoys and down into Lanner followed by Treleigh and finally to St. Andrew's Redruth before heading home.

These circumstances have got communities pulling together, with everyone helping each other and Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock everywhere reverberates with the sound of clapping for the NHS, even the banging of saucepans to make sure everyone knows how much we appreciate our NHS and all the key workers putting themselves on the front line....for us.

Many thanks to Rev'd Peter Fellows for remembering all his Pencoys Quizzers and sending out the April quiz sheet by email. It was a welcome distraction from all that is going on in the world and Dave & I thoroughly enjoyed the "brain work" even though we came very low down in the points list!

I do feel that this wonderful weather is God given to help us through these unprecedented times. There is a blackbird in our garden whose song would lift anyone's spirits, and the lawn is a mass of primroses, violets and forget-me-nots so much so that Dave is loathed to cut the grass!

Take care and stay safe

Trish Rowe (01209 218416)



Picture courtesy of Caspar

CHRISTCHURCH LANNER

Mothering Sunday

Although the churches were closed, we were still able to collect flowers from outside the church on that Sunday morning. We all practised social distancing as small groups of us chatted two or more metres apart!

A message from the Treasurer

As we are not able to hold fundraising events for the foreseeable future, we are now more than ever reliant on donations. The congregation at Christchurch can set up direct debits to pay their usual offertory on a monthly basis. If anyone wishes to do this, please note the following bank account details:-

Bank:	NatWest (Camborne Branch)
Account Name:	Lanner Parochial Church Council
Sort Code:	54-30-37
Account No.	05807638

We have already received some donations by post, and further donations can be sent to the Treasurer at 45 West End, Redruth TR15 2SQ. Please make cheques payable to Lanner PCC and keep a record of the payments.

A Lockdown Reflection

As will be the case for all those who write articles on behalf of their church for Five Alive, I have very little church news to tell you about. In essence, most upcoming events have either been cancelled or postponed, and I am unable to write about the Easter events that should have happened at Christchurch. However, Redruth Benefice has gone virtual, and those of us with the technology can continue attending church services and social gatherings. I am sure that each of us found a way to celebrate Holy Week and Easter, whether it was online or offline.

Liturgically, I found Holy Week particularly challenging because I did not have the usual structure of the week. Where I would typically be flitting back and forth to church for services, playing seasonal hymns and music, and feeling those range of emotions that you have throughout the week, I was at home doing everyday things. I think it was Maundy Thursday and I was in the kitchen cooking tea when a recording of "Drop, Slow Tears" was played on the radio. The beauty of this hymn and the way it was performed stopped me in my tracks, and I stood in the kitchen and cried. I recovered fairly quickly, but for that moment, I was overwhelmed with how ordinary life had changed so dramatically in such a short time.

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Since the lockdown, society as a whole has embraced new ways for people to come together and to work apart. In the week leading up to the lockdown, I had to think very quickly about how I could continue to earn money. I supplement my teacher's salary with private teaching and performing work, and I especially need the extra money now that I am on Adoption Leave. As each day went by, I was crossing out rehearsals, concerts, gigs, and other freelance work in my diary. I had no work for the foreseeable future, and I had nowhere to go of an evening.

An attempt was made to have a saxophone quartet rehearsal through Zoom and then Facebook Messenger: neither worked because of the time delay and lag, so despite each of us thinking that we were playing in time, the rest of the group could only hear some terrible cacophony. The result of our rehearsal was a set of photos of us trying out different effects on Messenger! Not the most productive of rehearsals, but it was good to see the rest of the group and catch up with each other. I do very much miss the social aspect of performing with others and the camaraderie that comes with being in a group. I also play with the Motown Pirates, and although the gigs come with a late night, nothing beats the feeling of playing great music in front of a large and appreciative audience.

For the second year running, I am Musical Director for Young Generation. We had only just cast this year's production of "Legally Blonde" at the end of February when we were soon discussing the future of the show. At first, we paused rehearsals with the intention of starting back up after Easter, but it soon became apparent that we would have to cancel the show. Fortunately, the licensing agency is allowing us to keep the show materials and also gave us the rights to perform it next year. There is some comfort in knowing that the show will happen, but it has been upsetting for many of the company's young people.

However, there has been an upside to the lockdown. I have quickly adapted to teaching most of my private pupils online via Zoom or Facebook Messenger. I had doubts and concerns before my first online lessons, but I am pleasantly surprised by how successful they have been. My pupils are rattling through new repertoire pieces, and this is no doubt because they have more time to practise! Learning exam pieces has been put on hold for the time being, and I see this time as an opportunity for them to learn well-known classics.

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I have been very, very, very busy over the last week or so with Cornwall County Choirs, which is part of Cornwall Music Education Hub. As a staff, we felt that it was important to keep our choirs singing and one of our major projects was to create a virtual choir performance. Now, at least two or three weeks before Will Keating got in on the act, we were given permission from Harry Glasson to arrange "Cornwall My Home" for the voices in our different choirs. To cut a long story short, at the time of writing, it is the eve of the launch of our film on Facebook and YouTube. My colleague Matt Douglas has created a stunning arrangement of the song, and he then mixed the audio tracks that our singers sent in. I had the task of creating the accompanying film. We just had a pre-premiere of the film and recording with the rest of the choir team, and we all shed a tear. There was something so poignant about our singers recording themselves at home during this worrying time, but being together as one on the screen. Please look up Cornwall County Choirs on Facebook and YouTube. We have a Just Giving link to Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust if anyone should wish to donate to our well-deserved NHS.

Julia Knight-Bennett



ST EUNY

Hello to everyone in these difficult and unprecedented times. We hope you are all okay and managing well in the circumstances.

Obviously, we don't have much news but we are trying to keep in touch with people via phone and online with Zoom.

Thanks to Revd Deb for distributing the Kruthyl creative packs for us to work on during the closure of our community cafe. Needless to say mine lies unopened! However, during this lockdown period I have tried my hand at the Japanese art of Kintsugi, which was successful, so I'm pleased about that! How about you dear friends in the community, what are you up to at this time? Please do let us know, we will be interested to hear. **Email: magazine@redruthchurch.org.uk**

We have a band of willing and able volunteers working in the community under the St Euny banner, collecting provisions and prescriptions for people. They are doing a sterling job so a big shout out to the following – Kathryn, Danny, Suzanne, Angi, Naomi, Helen, Trish and Ian. Thank you so much.

Our AED defibrillator cabinet became inoperable. However, after receiving instructions in situ on my mobile during my prescribed walk this morning, I am pleased to report that that all is back to normal. It is an invaluable resource in our community.

With more people at home and enjoying our local area and walking their dogs in our graveyards, which we are pleased they have the facility to use, we have received complaints that dogs are being allowed to run indiscriminately off lead. Notices were duly appended to the churchyard gates which, sadly, 24 hours later had been ripped off. Our graveyard and churchyard look so pretty especially at this time of the year and we want them to be enjoyed by all, but it is distressing to see them being misused. We ask that people remember the dearly departed loved ones who are buried in our graveyards. Thank you.

Stay Safe everyone.

Margaret Johnson



Picture courtesy of Caspar

NEWS from
St. Andrew's Pencoyts with Four Lanes Methodist Church
'FLAPJACK'

Working, praying and worshipping together as 'One in Christ'

"This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow. My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow. Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain, but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen" The Easter Anthem, sung for years by countless church choirs as the Introit hymn on Easter Day, epitomising the New Life of Spring (Resurrection), after the darkness of winter (suffering and death), featured in the Holy Communion service celebrated this year by the Archbishop of Canterbury in his kitchen on Easter morning. As we have been unable to worship together physically since our churches were closed on 17th March, it was wonderful to be able to join in with those timeless words from David's Psalmen. Eastertide worship (up to Ascension Day, this year on 21st May) has always been accompanied by two of our Lord's most beautiful creations, music and flowers, reflecting the wonders of our miraculous world. Some of our loveliest hymns echo the love and actions of so many selfless people during the current COVID-19 crisis, the resilience of the human and natural world and the immense spiritual treasury which has emerged.

"Now the green blade riseth ..." Just a few of short weeks ago, members of our incredible NHS, already overstretched, plucked new strength and determination out of their commitment, knowledge and skill, to fight, often self-sacrificially, for the life and health of others. Many have triumphed, and sadly some have succumbed, but none has been lost in God's eternal hands, whether they continue in this world or in the next amazing world, beyond our imagination. They will always be remembered. New and unexpected wonders have arisen out of apparent desperation, revealing the deep love and unselfish concern for others in the human spirit when fighting a common enemy. *The persistence of Spring:* A compost heap, in a corner of the garden, is bare one moment, then suddenly bursts into tiny green buds, then shiny 'green blades' and just a week later, is covered in an amazing array of wonderful bluebells with a fabulous fragrance!

"Oh joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and know that promise is not vain; that morn shall endless be." (from "O Love that wilt not let me go"); how wonderful that the rainbow has become our global symbol of promise and hope, as in Noah's time : the spectrum created by the Light of the World blending with the Water of Life, signifying the all-encompassing presence of Christ in all situations.

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“In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth” (John Oxenham), and ***“Bind us together,***

Lord, with cords that cannot be broken” (Bob Gillman). In our hitherto busy lives some have rarely found time to keep actively in touch with friends across the world, but this common threat has brought many together in the lockdown, via the Internet, eg. in Europe, Canada, North & South America, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand, to share experiences and renew old friendships. We thank God for those to whom he has given the knowledge and skill of modern technology to bring us the benefit of global communication, especially now, when we all need each other; and also for those with scientific knowledge, in their search for a vaccine.

“Be still and know that I am God” A Christian broadcaster recently referred to two incidents in St. John’s Gospel, Chapter 6, when Jesus told people to ‘sit down’ (thus commanding their attention), before feeding over five thousand with the Bread of Life, and then ‘he told his disciples to get into the boat’ at the darkest (most dangerous) time of the night, and demonstrated his power by walking to them across the water, and again, ‘Do not be afraid, for I have overcome the world’ (John, chapter 16). “ St. Paul tells us to ***“Pray without ceasing”***; ‘sitting down’, taking time out during this lockdown to share a living relationship with our Heavenly Father opens our eyes to his miracles around us, empowers us and enables us not only to BE Christ’s body on earth, loving and helping others, but, anointed by the Holy Spirit, to SPEAK our faith, and encourage others to share it.” This is surely God’s richest gift to us in challenging times: being able to assure others that he is constantly with us and banishes all fear; that we are (from the former ‘Searchlight’ acronym) **all In God’s Hands Together (LIGHT)**.

Jill Tolputt



Picture courtesy of Caspar

ST ANDREW REDRUTH

Blairily I peel open my eyes for the start of a new day in Quarantine. A child's voice, my son's, calls to me from his room. I clamber out of bed, narrowly avoiding waking my daughter, who climbed in with us at three this morning, and head down to see him.

Patrick is as usual bouncing out of his bed and ready to play. This morning he wants to build a hamster run, we don't actually own a hamster, but he really wants one. I join in sleepily, trying to keep up with a very fast moving narrative involving hamsters, Starwars and Playmobil. After ten minutes or so another voice beckons from the other room, my daughter Ellie has now woken.

The next half an hour to an hour is spent assisting, cajoling and generally pleading the children to get dressed, breakfasted and have their teeth brushed. This is a task, it seems, to rival even the greatest greek myth. It is a Herculean task!

When finally we are ready, we begin, as everyday, with Jo Wicks PE lesson. For those of you who don't know, Jo Wicks is a body coach. He has produced several books and tours his fitness sessions around the globe. Since lockdown began, he has been leading PE sessions from his home and donating the profits he has made through advertising to the NHS. For our family and many others, he is the start (or end for some of the people on the other side of the world) of our day. However a PE session with him usually involves me and James, my husband, simultaneously trying to keep up with his exercises, manage the bar room brawl that is our exuberant children and trying not to look, to anyone passing by, like we have a bad case of cabin fever. The other day we caused two walkers to almost jump out of their skins as we shouted "Banana Pants" as a part of our children's yoga session!

Then it is on with our home schooling. Currently we are at explorers school, last week was spy school. We have had some really good moments and some less good. We are all on a steep learning curve! As we find our way through to our own new version of normality the harder moments are fewer and even on a bad day or in a bad moment some good manages to come through.

One of the things we have all been enjoying each day is our time outside, we have a small garden which backs straight out onto Carn Brea and we have spent time in it as well as outside on our daily walks. One of the things, along with the additional family time, that I have loved has been that with the slowing down of human life has come this chance to see nature at its finest. Birdsong and starlight are clearer and animals have made themselves at home in our quiet streets.

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When we have our home church we have our doors and windows open wide and nature has found its natural place in our worship. Our daily walk has become spiritually uplifting, seeing budding springtime in each place and feeling a small spark of freedom as we climb Carn Brea and the views of Cornwall open up to us. The fresh air has definitely helped too when I've needed to take a break and breath some deep, calming breaths.

Our days are so different now, they are a big rollercoaster of emotion. I don't know if anyone else feels the mixture of laughter and tears when they stand outside and clap for the NHS on a Thursday, seeing those familiar faces, waving and smiling in that poignant moment and then the slight awkward moment when no one knows when the clapping is going to stop. My hope from this crazy time is this. That our world heals. That we find ways to make it better, less pollution, more family time, stronger communities and that afterwards we cherish each other more, that we take time to enjoy the hugs, the people who care for us and our families and the wonderful planet we live on. For now though it is back to my new normality. Planning space school for next week.

Fran Thurston



Pictures courtesy of Caspar

GIVING DURING THE LOCKDOWN

The last 5-6 weeks have had a huge impact on people's lives across the world and on a smaller scale within the Redruth Team ministry.

There is a new norm, with for many people their personal world being limited to the home in which they live. Who would have thought in February that Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday would be observed with everyone sat in front of their computer, laptop or smart device.

So thanks to the ingenuity and technical knowhow of our clergy team we have been able to continue our worship in a new format. Some things have changed however so like just about every other business and charity the situation has impacted on the team finances.

Most of the costs we incur are still the same, these relate to paying for our clergy and the upkeep of our churches. Our income has reduced with the loss of parochial fees, lettings income, cash collections and fundraising receipts. So this year every church is likely to be operating at a loss.

I know some of the team treasurers have already contacted congregation members to invite them to make their future giving by bank transfer and we are exploring other ways of making donations to our churches. St Andrews Redruth and St Euny have created QR codes to enable giving by mobile phone, these are shown on the next page and details of other giving opportunities will be given in future Five Alive's. A big thank you to those who have already set up a regular donation through their bank which is thankfully unaffected by the lockdown.

Some churches are also members of the Parish Giving Scheme with whom you can now set up monthly donations by telephone.

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The telephone number is:-

0333 002 1271

and the scheme numbers for the four churches who are members are:-

St Andrew Redruth	390 639 014
St Andrew Pencoyls	390 639 012
St Euny Redruth	390 639 013
St Stephen Treleigh	390 639 017

With God's help we will get through this. Also with the help of our always generous congregations we can look forward to having the finances needed to maintain our churches and restart our "Growing your Church" initiative which began earlier in the year.

Richard Robinson



St Andrew Redruth



St Euny

JUST LOOK FOR THE RAINBOW

When you are feeling sad and blue and life seems full of care
And worries overshadow you and woes are hard to bear,
Think of the promise made by God to Noah long ago,
That Rainbows in the sky are there to show He loves us so.

Just look for the rainbow whenever skies turn grey,
Just look for the rainbow to chase your cares away.
Just look for the rainbow when troubles make you blue;
A bright new tomorrow may be in store for you.

So next time you're feeling so all alone and sad
Just look for the rainbow, you'll find Life's not all bad,
For just as the sun's rays can filter through the rain
So Hope like the Rainbow, can make you smile again.

© *Pat Williams 2020*



MEMORIES OF TRELEIGH CHURCH

by Michael Tangye

Both Lent and Easter passed away rapidly this year. Radio and television transmissions of church services could not replace sharing such with a congregation in familiar surroundings. One's mind reflects on past years when the days of childhood and youth revolved around church and chapel.

This writer's memories of Treleigh Church commence with the Sunday School prize giving of 1936—a child's book, then presented by the Rev J Treharne Phillips, still survives and was subsequently enjoyed by my own children. In later years his daughter, Stella Turk, became a friend as the senior lecturer in Natural History at the Institute of Cornish Studies.

It was a large Sunday School with several classes of boys and girls in separate circular groups filling the church hall at 3pm each week. The annual nativity play was always a highlight; at the end of the second World War all those taking part travelled by an old bus along narrow roads, in darkness, to perform at Gulval church in West Cornwall; to nearly all of us at that time a journey to the distant unknown! We were led by the Rev Arthur Hawthorn, in his plastic hooded 'Flying Jeep', who was conversant with the route having regularly 'exchanged pulpits' with an equally powerful preacher, the Rev Canon Buckley.

The Treleigh church choir filled both the chancel and the south transept. Tenors were seated on the north side behind a row of seven or eight boy choristers, facing across the church to seven more boys, five basses and numerous ladies both sopranos and altos.

At certain times of the year an anthem was sung, after several weeks of Friday evening practice. The boys choir, conducted by Mr John Ratcliffe, was noted for its high quality of singing and enjoyed friendly rivalry with that of St Andrew's conducted by Mr Charlie Nicholas. (A later member of which Alan Opie, became a prominent professional international bass soloist).

The Treleigh choir boys were chosen to sing special music and solos at a Victory Parade for Camborne and Redruth held at the large Tuckingmill Chapel to mark the end of WW2. On another occasion we sang at the huge Fore St. Methodist Chapel in Redruth—'Flowerpot Chapel', so named because of the large stone 'flowerpots' surrounding its façade, some of which survive in Victoria Park. It was a special service for a large gathering of ladies Methodist groups and reflected the

Continued on next page

Rev A Hawthorn's eagerness to bring together both Anglican and Methodist congregations. It was notable that many Methodists at that time attended at Treleigh Church.

One memorable occasion is recalled of singing in a festival of choir boys, affiliated to the School of English Church Music, at Truro Cathedral alongside boys of Westminster Abbey, Canterbury Cathedral etc. Our parents later told us that they knew when we were approaching, not only by our good singing, but by the sound of farmer's son Jack Rowe's hobnailed boots (known as Hobby Stankers) resounding on the aisle!

It was a different world at that time when Cornish dialect and ancient customs were prominent, a time when one of the latter regarding the Cornish magic number nine prevailed. One such involved the initiation of any boy chorister at Treleigh Church. In 1943, on this writer's voice having been assessed by the choir master, it was deemed as being suitable for a choirboy.

On leaving the Church I was immediately confronted by thirteen choir boys and dragged to the northwest side of the building to a certain grave. "Are ee in?" asked a chorister. "Es" I replied. 'Before you can be one of us, you got be initiated' continued the chorister; the granite grave stone had suddenly taken on the appearance of a sacrificial altar! I was then told to walk around it ten times, each circuit loudly counted by chanting choristers, before being instructed to place my ear a few inches above it in order to 'hear the Devil speak'. On being asked "Can ee hear un?" my answer "no" was followed by "You can hear un now!" as my head was struck against the granite!

One would hope that this quaint custom was not repeated in other churches, resulting in concussed choir boys staggering down the aisle!

<<Talkabout>> Mawgan Porth to Polly Joke - © by Tricia Rowe

It was 1994 and Dave and I were walking the Cornwall Coastal Footpath as part of our retirement project. He had just retired, aged 53, and the freedom of the open 'road' called us!! We had walked a lot of the path at different times but the plan was to walk this in sequence in day sized chunks and follow it up with the rest of The South West Way, being Minehead to the Cornish borders on the north coast and Cremyll to Poole on the south coast. Which we did over the next three summers.

This time our planned walk from Mawgan Porth to Porth Joke, known locally as Polly Joke, had to be abandoned because half way there I developed migraine and we had to turn back. But better luck a few days later as we headed to Cubert where we caught the bus to Newquay, changing there for the bus to St. Mawgan. We had made an early start and were in Mawgan Porth and beginning our walk by 9am. It was a beautiful day and people were sitting outside and enjoying breakfast while a few people strolled on the deserted beach. Mawgan Porth is a lovely beach especially at this time of day when everything is fresh and mainly deserted.

Dave was the navigator and photographer on all our adventures and I was the recorder and writer. I carried a mini tape recorder with me, recording the whole walk as we went and transcribed my notes when we got home. At the time I was writing the walking articles for the magazine "Cornwall Today, Yesterday & Drekly", and as I transcribed my notes later the sounds of the roaring waves hitting the rocks and the seagulls wheeling and dealing merged with my voice on the recorder! Atmospheric or what?

The path rounds Berryl's Point and Beacon Cove, with Griffin's Point at the far side. Next comes Watergate Bay nestling in the valley with its vast expanse of beach, popular with families and surfers alike. A constant stream of people making for the beach laden with the usual seaside trappings, picnics, rucksacks, surfboards, windbreaks etc. Quite a few people on the coastal footpath now, strollers rather than distance walkers.

Heading towards Porth by way of Trevelgue Head and the lovely expanse of Porth's golden sand, we prepared ourselves for the urban sprawl of Newquay where the scent of the sea mingles with the aroma of fast food outlets and crowds of holidaymakers. Time for coffee and a Mars bar and the opportunity to buy some picture postcards. I had been buying postcards at every stop around the coast so will have quite a collection by the time we cover the rest of The South West Way to Poole in Dorset!

We followed the coastal outskirts of Newquay passing behind Fistral Bay and tramped the path to the River Gannel where the tide was in, crossing to Crantock Beach on The Fernpit Ferry. Still a lot of people on the beach as we walked through Polly Joke, and we sat on the cliff watching the afternoon change to evening as the sun got lower and lower in the sky. Mawgan Porth this morning seemed such a long, long time ago and so many miles....eighteen miles to be exact! From here we took the inland path to Cubert and back to the car.

An Easter card with a difference ...

An amazing, thought-provoking animated Easter e-card arrived in my inbox on Easter Day, sent from two good friends at St. Andrew's Pencoys. It opened with all nature gradually coming to life at dawn to the tune of "All creatures of our God and King" ('Lasst uns erfreuen' – also the tune to an old Easter hymn; if you know it please let me know, I just can't think of the words and can't find it in any modern hymnal). The scene moves gradually from a forest into a clearing and a beautiful garden with a rocky wall, where a huge rock slowly moves away from a large cave, while all the wild creatures creep nearer and look on in wonder, as a blinding light emerges from the empty cave. The figure of the Risen Lord gradually emerges through the light, which slowly fades as the figure moves gently away. The little animals' incredulous gaze follows the figure across the garden. We are left wondering what these dumb animals would have told us had they been able? Did God give them the privilege of physically witnessing the Resurrection, knowing that they were unable to tell anyone, and leaving us, mankind created in his image, to 'see' the miracle through the eyes of faith? Interesting.

Jill Tolputt

AND FINALLY!

You will notice that Five Alive is much longer this month. This is because there is no calendar to insert and it hasn't been restricted by the number of pages which are normally printed. As it is going on the website, some articles are longer than they would normally be. Once we are able to print the magazine again, we will need to revert back to one page per church and one article per person.

Hope everyone is keeping well and safe

Rosemary



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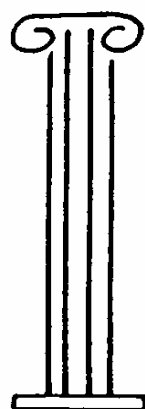
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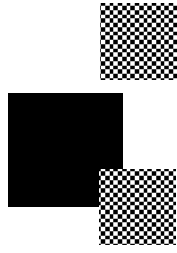
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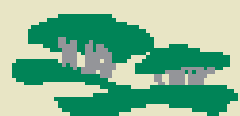
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