

FIVE ALIVE

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



Caspar and Alice

With all good wishes and prayers from the Benefice

SEPTEMBER 2023

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Sun Kissed

While on holiday this week, I have been engaging in some quiet, reflective morning prayer and listening to podcasts in between swims in the Adriatic Sea and the embrace of the hot sun (apologies, Cornwall ☹️). I am experiencing a profound sense of calm and peace for the first time in a while, allowing my mind to wander and be free from the demands of everyday life.

I share this not to boast, as I understand that the weather back home might not be ideal. Instead, I want to reflect on the insights that this tranquillity has brought to me and encourage us to contemplate today.

In a podcast, I'm currently listening to, the speaker (Rob Bell) discusses a story from Mark's gospel where Jesus, after healing numerous people and attracting a large crowd in need of help, does something unexpected – he leaves. Instead of doing more, he moves on. His disciples express their confusion, given the overwhelming need, but Jesus responds, "Let's go somewhere else."

When the demand seems highest, Jesus chooses a different path. He retreats to ground himself, recharge, and pray. He doesn't conform to the world's expectations; instead, he pauses, separates himself, and gathers his strength through prayer. This gospel model guides us in how we should live our lives.

Today, we live in a culture and a world that often suggests we should do more and give more when the need is great. While this is sometimes true, it shouldn't be the norm for every day, as it doesn't align with how Jesus lived. Jesus' model.

Interestingly, the disciples' understanding is limited to the immediate demand right in front of them. Sometimes it is easier to keep doing, rather than to stop. It can feel better to keep 'doing', however, God doesn't ask for our 'doing' rather than our 'being'. This is something that those who serve others must be aware of, as many of us fall into the trap of only addressing the visible demand without pause.

Upon reflection, I ask myself, "Why have I been feeling so exhausted?" This has been a long year filled with change. There is a lot to take stock of, a lot to ponder and to give thanks for. Additionally, what should we do with the constant demands? Perhaps I'm simply tired of criticizing myself for feeling tired. I've adopted a little catchphrase for myself: "If you can't stop, you're stuck."

In the Psalms, we're advised to "be still and know that I am God." How can we truly know God if we don't take moments of stillness? To stop and listen to what He has to say. However, achieving stillness isn't always easy. It requires intentionality; it's both a choice and something that goes beyond choice. It's the way of Jesus – a way, a truth and a life.

Are we feeling stuck today? What might need to stop for you? Where do you need to find stillness? Perhaps in your stillness, you can experience the love of God, his peace, and his sun-kissed embrace.

Amen.

***Revd Chris Harrigan
Assistant Curate***

STUDY GROUPS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

The following groups will be available in September and are open to EVERYONE.

WEDNESDAY 11.00am – 12.30pm from September 6 for six weeks

This 'Upper Room' group led by Margaret and Christopher, follows the weekly 10.00am service of Holy Communion at St Andrew's Church Redruth and will follow a variety of themes.

WEDNESDAY 11.45am – 1.00pm

This weekly Bible Study is held every week and follows the 11.00am service of Holy Communion at Christchurch Lanner according to the Book of Common Prayer. The group studies the readings for the coming Sunday both in the context when they were written, and how they relate to our faith journey today. *You may want to bring lunch / snack. Drinks and biscuits are provided*

WEDNESDAY 7.00pm – 8.30pm on-going from September 6

This 'Upper Room' group meets at Dumblederry Orchard, Robin and Trish's home and is led by Jim. It will follow the theme of 'Pilgrimage' through worship, prayer and music.

THURSDAY 6.30pm – 9.00pm from Thursday September 7 for seven weeks

This course, entitled 'MOVING ON' follows on from the recent Confirmation classes. It is led by Christopher and Jason and will be held at St Euny.

FRIDAY 7.15pm-9.15pm

We usually meet around the first Friday of every month at Anya's house but the date is confirmed at each evening at 19.15 and we're reading our way through the new testament over drinks and nibbles. Anyone is welcome if they just give Jason (0786 6391952) or me a message (anya.sandry@gmail.com)

Details of Study Groups for the season of Advent will be available in due course

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE ABOVE GROUPS ARE OPEN TO ALL.

ST STEPHEN'S TRELEIGH



Here we are again with August almost over, but who would have thought it the way the weather has behaved. Certainly not the 40+ degrees that most of the continent has encountered, I suppose we should be thankful that we have not had the awful forest fires to contend with. Our prayers are with those from all over the world who have lost not only homes and lively-hoods but more importantly family and friends.

We have had Caspar's last sermon at Treleigh, but he has one more Baptism with us before his final Benefice service at St Andrews at the end of August. He will be sorely missed but we wish him and Alice well in his new parish. Our loss is their gain.

The ladies of Treleigh had an enjoyable lunch at Lanner Garden Centre earlier in the month. Doreen's face was a picture when her chicken platter arrived. It would have fed nearly all of us. Great value for money though.

The ladies this morning agreed to wholeheartedly support Trish with her Macmillan Coffee morning/afternoon on Friday 22nd September in our hall. Times have not been sorted yet but one thing is sure, there will be cake, cake and more cake. Details will be in the Sunday prayer sheet nearer the time and also on our Facebook page. Please come along and support this very worthy cause.

Mary Harris

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

CONFIRMATION

Three of the young people who attend Christchurch regularly were confirmed in their faith by Bishop Hugh in Saint Euny Church at the end of July. Each one chose a confirmation name and were given a book to reflect that new name:

Finn: Henry / William: Martin / Isabella: Jesus. The young people, together with Perran have extended their involvement as servers at the altar as they now act as acolytes, crucifer and carry the Book of the Gospels at various moments within the Sunday service

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

This new venture which is proving to be very popular takes place every Wednesday after the BCP communion service. The group study the readings for the next Sunday; searching for the theme that joins the four readings and relating it to our faith journey in these troubled times.

CASPAR'S WELCOME INTO THE MARDEN VALE BENEFICE (Salisbury Diocese)

This service of welcome is at 3.00pm on SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24. A 19 seater coach has been booked and there are a few seats left. Some people are travelling independently but if you want to wave a hockey stick or a scarf from the coach window please contact GFP 079 038 079 46.

THE AUGUST FIRST SUNDAY EVENT

The event featured Roxie who shared her experiences of living alongside her mother who struggled with Alzheimers. It was an exceptionally moving occasion and the immediate collection was £250.00. This has now risen to £350.00 and our hope is to raise £400.00 which will support Roxie's 'walking marathon' around Salisbury and Stonehenge in September.

THE JULY EDITION OF 'FIVE ALIVE' DETAILED ALL OF OUR REGULAR EVENTS

SO PLEASE CHECK THEM ON-LINE. www.redruthchurch.org.uk but here are some of them:

TUESDAY GAMES

'Toasty Tuesdays' have ended to be replaced by TG (Tuesday Games). This will take place every other Tuesday which continues at **2pm – 4.30pm** on **August 29 and so on!!** You will be VERY welcome to join in whatever the games are, which could be: **BINGO, WHIST, BOARD GAMES etc.** as well as enjoying tea, coffee, juice and even CAKE!!

THE CHRISTCHURCH SUPPER CLUB

This is a new initiative and it is hoped that Christchurch will welcome guests from all over the Benefice. The idea is quite simple – you come along, bring something to share and we simply spend an evening together. The time is **7.00pm** and the next date is: **SATURDAY**

SEPTEMBER 9 / 7.00pm

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Christchurch are very happy to welcome teams of community volunteers who are making a difference to the surrounding grounds and hopefully will restore the porch leading into the hall. THANKYOU so much to all involved.

continued

..... *Continued*

OTHER EVENTS AT CHRISTCHURCH

Margaret's Last Monday Tea Party 2.00pm – 4.00pm. Home made cake and lots of chat!!

The Last Friday Film Club doors open at 6.30pm., camera rolling at 7.00pm The cost is £5.00 which includes ice-cream!!

With very best wishes from everyone linked with Christchurch

(PS. The OPEN PANTRY is still there and donations are gratefully received!!)

FP

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

05 August	2023	Chelsea Ann Williams	St Andrew Redruth
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WEDDINGS

12 August	2023	Albert David Jay Bennett And Kyra Jayne Hoon	St Andrew Pencoys
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FUNERALS

08 August	2023	Margaret Joan Rowe	St Euny
17 August	2023	Mary Thelma Williams	St Euny

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

ST EUNY

Our last Communion Service at which Caspar will have officiated was on Sunday 20th August. We are sad to see him go and wish to send our thanks and best wishes to Caspar and Alice and all of their family as they embark on their new life in Calne. He will be a hard act to follow and we feel very blessed to have had his service in our parish.

'Mining Sunday' which takes place on Sunday 10 September will follow the usual pattern of a reflective walk from Basset Stamps, via St Euny mine to the church. Departure from Basset Stamps is at 10.00am and the service at St Euny will be at 11.30am. A pasty lunch will follow so we hope that as many as can will come and help remember this core aspect of our heritage.

Bishop Hugh's visit on 19th July for the Confirmation and re-affirmation was a most joyous affair and we were very pleased to see the church so full. Many people stayed afterward for refreshments and conversation which gave us a good opportunity to socialise. Thanks to Anya for a superb Confirmation cake which had three separate layers, all of which were eaten with relish.

As you enter St Euny you will see a white-glazed pottery stoup on the table to your right. This has been created by Lucie, our churchwarden as she learnt and developed her new-found skill as a potter this year, and is a very attractive addition to the church. If you look closely you will see the Paschal Candle holder, also created by Lucie for the church and for which we are grateful. This is in the chancel on a stand in full view and holds this year's Easter Candle. Both of these have been blessed by the bishop and we hope that they will serve us for some time.

We now have an entry on the 'Celtic Quiet Places' website with some information about the church and facilities. A lot of new churches have been added over the past few weeks, so there is now a lot more to see. We have committed to remaining open until the end of September during daytime, but if anyone has thoughts about the continuation of this, please do let us know.

Having had several summer events and keeping the Open Cafe open has attracted people into the church for social communion, Holy Communion and to look at the architecture as well as pay respects to relatives and ancestors. One advantage of this has been an increase in the number of people who have expressed an interest in bell ringing. Clive Reynolds is in church regularly and will pass on the names of anyone interested to Ian who runs the St Euny Tower.

Sadly for us our faithful and brilliant organist, Charlie Bickford, will be spending two months in France, to be near his brother, in September and October. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who feels that they would be able to play either the organ or the piano for services, so that we can continue the wonderful tradition of hymn singing at St Euny. We wish Charlie well and hope that all goes well. We will miss him and look forward to seeing him again soon.

Linda Beskeen

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

Worshipping, praying and working together as 'One in Christ' St. Andrew's Church remains open daily from about 10am-4pm with optional Covid-safe precautions in place (covid is still with us)

At the First Sunday Evening Event on Sunday 6th August at Christchurch Lanner, we welcomed Roxie Pollard from the **Alzheimer's Society**, who spoke very movingly about the many aspects of Alzheimers and the devastating effect that this disease has on its sufferers and their families. To support the Society she is preparing to undertake a 26-mile trek around Stonehenge in September, in memory of her Mother who died in February, for which she had already raised £300 with a target of £350. We thank everyone who came to support this event and those who continued to donate at the Family Event the following Sunday. The next event will be held on **3rd September** at Four Lanes Methodist Church at 6pm when the theme will be 'Bliss', the U.K.-based charity which supports struggling new-born babies and their families, working to improve ways to help them. Everyone will be most welcome.

The Village Songs of Praise on 13th August was a very happy event well attended, when we enjoyed singing chosen hymns and were entertained by Tin & Tonic choir. This was followed by a delicious tea, for which we thank Jenny and her friends. A heartfelt plea for new male singers was made by a member of Four Lanes Male Choir, who was sad to report that numbers were declining. If you know of any male singers who would enjoy joining this prize-winning and internationally famous Choir, do please let us know. (Jill: 07809 043656)

Flapjack services and events during **September** will be: Every Wednesday at 6pm Holy Communion at St. Andrew's Pencoys

Saturday 2nd Sept: Quiz, Pencoys Hall 7pm

Sunday 3rd Sept: Flapjack Holy Communion 11.15am followed at 12.45pm by Flapjack meeting, Lighthouse 3–5pm and the First Sunday Evening Event 'Bliss' charity 6pm all at the Methodist Church.

Sunday 10th Sept: Flapjack Family Event at St. Andrew's 11.15am, said H.C. 12.30pm

Saturday 16th Sept: Games (Bingo) Evening 6–8pm Pencoys Hall.

Sunday 17th Sept: Methodist Morning Service, 11.15am. Methodist Church, Holy Communion St. Andrew's Pencoys, 6pm

Saturday 23rd Sept: Bangers & Mash, Methodist Church, from 11am

Sunday 24th Sept: **Benefice Holy Communion, St. Andrew's Pencoys, 10.30am with Revd. Graham Adamson** Teatime Celebration Pencoys Hall 4pm

The Wednesday Social Afternoons, which took a break in August, will resume on Wednesday, **13th September** at the Methodist Church, when anyone of any age will be welcome; also to the Wednesday Club, which meets in the Methodist Church on alternate Wednesdays between the Social Afternoons from 2pm—4pm.

The members of Flapjack thank Caspar for all he has done to support us during his time with us, and wish him and his family great happiness, joy and fulfilment in their new home.

Jill Tolputt

ST ANDREW REDRUTH

Looking Back - one hundred and forty years:

On Thursday 26th July 1883 the ceremony for the laying of the Foundation Stone of St Andrew's church was held. A large gathering attended but there was some reduction in the scale of the building compared to the original plan. The building sits on land donated by Lord Clinton, who gave the church three years to make a decision to go ahead. The Rev. J.W.Lane, Rector of Redruth, was the driving force in the church, feeling that with the expansion of the town to the south and the Parish Church sitting about a mile from the main residential area, a mission church was justified.

The accommodation was described as providing a school room suitable for 400 children and a congregation of 380. The school room is the 'crypt' – imagine 400 children fitting in there! The church building covered the four western arches of the nave as we know it today, before the extension of the last arcade arch to the east. £3,400 had been subscribed toward an estimated £4,000 contract price, along with furnishings etc estimated to cost around £500. The ceremony began at the Chapel of Ease in Chapel Street, with a service of Holy Communion at 8.30am and assembly of the clergy at eleven o'clock at Druids Hall. Bishop Wilkinson, Rev. J.W.Lane, Rector of Redruth, and 21 other clergy were present, representing many of the nearby parishes. The band of the Redruth Rifle Volunteers led the procession to the site of St Andrew's, flags flying and decorated streets celebrating the event with an evergreen arch spanning the road near the site. A platform by the church held the bishop and guests, Foundation Stones were laid by Mrs Basset of Tehidy and Lord Clinton, who delivered an address. Following this a luncheon was held at Tabbs Hotel (the site of Iceland shop) on Fore Street. Many toasts were proposed and particular gratitude was expressed for Mr Basset who had given £500 toward the costs and Lord Clinton who was visiting for the first time in 20 years, this being his first public act in Redruth, although he was landlord to much of the town and had interests in many of the mines in the parish. Dr Benson, by then archbishop of Canterbury, was praised for his warm support for the project when he was Bishop of Truro and who sent his warm greetings to any friends who might care for him in the parish. He also mentioned that bishops were 'now freely criticised' and he observed that "they did not shrink from it as far as he could judge" - a reminder, perhaps, that little has changed?

It is pleasing to know that we continue the active service envisaged at that time. Over the summer the Monday morning warm Space has had a two-week break and commences again on Monday 21st August. Thursday toddlers are on their summer holiday but 'Come Rain or Shine' has been organised by Fran on Thursday mornings during August, as an offering to young people.

A Creation Care service will be held in the Cathedral at 2.00pm on Saturday 16th September with music from Cornwall Youth Choir and presentations of the Kernow Green Church Awards. Joan and David Doble continue to do this excellent work in our parish and would love to see some of us there.

Linda Beskeen

PARISH NURSING

*HEALTH FAIR—ST ANDREW'S REDRUTH
ON SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER*

stalls ranging from mindfulness

to sports therapy

and the opportunity to have a blood pressure check



Further details from: Parish Nurse—Anya Dunning

07894490661

parishnurseredruth@gmail.com



More Change in Redruth Benefice

In 2024 not only will we be welcoming a new Rector but we have just had notification this month about two other changes.

Redruth PCC becomes a charity

Following the merger of the two St Andrew's and St Euny it became necessary for Redruth PCC to register as a charity because it's income already is or will soon be over £100,000.

Our registration has been confirmed and the charity number is 1204231. This number will appear on all official documents and the letterhead. We will continue to be subject to oversight and supervision by the Church of England but we will also need to observe charity law and our details will appear on the Charity Commission website.

Redruth Benefice becomes a single parish

Caspar has now received confirmation that the Church Commissioners have accepted the plan to merge Treleigh and Lanner parishes into Redruth PCC to form a single parish. This will make administration easier in future with fewer meetings and a single set of accounts. Congregations from the two St Andrew's and St Euny will already be aware of the practical implications of the merger but for Lanner and Treleigh I highlight below some of the actions required on or before 1 January 2024:

- Transfer bank balances to Redruth PCC
- Change direct debits and standing orders to Redruth PCC
- Donors who pay by monthly standing order will be asked to complete a new standing order form payable to Redruth PCC and send this to their bank.
- If the donor is a taxpayer they will be asked to sign a new gift aid declaration
- Donors using the Parish Giving Scheme will not need to do either of the above but they will be asked to sign a letter confirming that from 1 January 2024 their donations can be paid to Redruth PCC

Please contact me if you have any questions about the process. In order that the individuality of each church is not lost I will continue to record income and expenditure separately and show the results of the five churches individually and in total.

Richard Robinson
Redruth PCC Treasurer

STUDY GROUPS

Margaret's Upper Room

Our group of people meet together on a Wednesday morning at 11.00 after the service of Holy Communion at St Andrew's. Most of the people who come attend the service but several just come and join us at 11.00 in time for coffee or tea. We like to do a six week course at the same time as other groups and recently we have all done something different, so there is always a choice of group/course for those who haven't given it a try yet. The courses usually help us think about how our growing faith helps us in all our relationships and in using our time and gifts that God has given us as well as what the church is there for. In between the courses we offer our little group continue to meet to prepare for the coming Sunday worship by looking at the readings together and working out the link between them. Lots of different views and ideas come out of our discussion which help us to have a greater understanding of scripture and how important it is to our daily life and relationship with God through Jesus.

We usually spend an hour to an hour and a half together with a little time of prayer at the beginning for any concerns there are at the time.

Margaret Saville

Autumn Term Study Groups/Upper Rooms

We will be offering a selection of six week courses to all members of our congregations starting the week beginning the 11th September. Below you will read an introduction to the different groups that meet, their venue and time as well as their leader[s]. If you haven't dared to attend thus far please give it some thought as it is a chance to get to know one another better and to learn more on our faith journey together. Watch out for the details of the courses on offer and if you want to know more, have a chat with any one of us.

Margaret Saville

Wednesday Evening Meeting

Our 'Upper Room' Meeting at Dumblederry Orchard has taken many forms over the several years of its existence, thanks to the range of wonderful people who have led us at various times: Bible study; Lectio 365; discovering aspects of Christ in art; Lent and Advent devotional booklets; TV's 'Sacred Spaces' with Ben Fogle and, currently, following the televised series 'Pilgrimage' that explores the spirituality of media individuals.

Recent gatherings have been accompanied by singing, revisiting choruses of our youth and learning new songs of praise – Stuart Townend's 'Vagabonds' being a definite favourite of us all!

Over the years we have lost some of our dear friends and yet others continue to join us with a normal weekly gathering of nine or ten from churches across the Benefice. Recent comments include:

'Eager anticipation each week of what thoughts, conversation and songs we will share.'

'Starting and ending in prayer, with fellowship at the centre, it keeps me coming back, week after week.'

continued

STUDY GROUPS continued

'This has been such an uplifting experience. I've learned a lot about my attitude to prayer and made closer friendships'.

We have been taking a break over August and aim to start again in September – date to be arranged – so if you are free and would like to join us for fellowship (and refreshments!), please just turn up. We'd love to see you.

Trish Knights

Continuing on from this year's Alpha Course and Confirmation Classes, the Thursday night group is a gathering of different people, ages, backgrounds, and stages in faith walks, all looking to explore what it means to be a Christian, an Anglican, and how that fits into our lives today. It is not an exclusive group, quite the opposite, it is a real mix of people who bring interest and excitement to our conversations. It is quite an informal set-up, we meet first over food and fellowship then dig into whatever course material we are exploring together. It is a fun and inclusive, open and diverse group, as is the material and way we explore faith. The group has a down-to-earth, interactive approach helping people explore Christian discipleship in a relaxed, small-group setting. It's ideal for people who are taking new or next steps of faith. The group is for anyone who wants to explore what it means to be a Christian disciple today. The group and its course will consider the following;

- consider the benefits and challenges of being a follower of Jesus
- be active and committed members of the church
- explore Christian worship
- grow in their relationship with God
- explore the Trinity and the Holy Spirit
- think about Christian stewardship
- be wholehearted disciples

The group will meet on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm at St Euny Church over desserts, coffee and tea. You just need to bring yourself and maybe a friend. ***We'd love to see you.***

Revd Chris Harrigan

Friday Evening Group

We usually meet around the first Friday of every month (at my house in Illogan) but the date is confirmed at each evening at 19.15 and we're reading our way through the new testament over drinks and nibbles. Anyone is welcome if they just give Jason (**0786 6391952**) or me a message **anya.sandry@gmail.com**

Anya Dolling

Benefice Book Club News

Just a reminder that we are meeting on Friday 15th September this month at 10.00am in my conservatory, if you need directions ring me on 219059.

The book this month is *The Island of Missing Trees* set between Cyprus in 1974, at the start of the country's conflict with Turkey, and London, decades later. Two teenagers, Kostas and Defne, from different sides of the warring parties, meet in secret at a tavern. In the middle of the tavern is an impressive fig tree. Kostas, a keen botanist takes a cutting from his beloved *Ficus carica* when forced to flee to England leaving Defne behind.

They meet up some years later on Cyprus and return to London together to begin a new life. It is from the perspective of the fig tree that much of the story is told – a tale of love, loss and generational trauma involving their daughter Ada, a teenager..

Definitely food for thought. I look forward to a good discussion with all who join us.

Margaret Saville



NEWS FROM THE BELL TOWER

St. Euny Tower members have rung the bells for two more weddings, and we have now established fortnightly practices from 7.30pm on Wednesdays which are being well-supported. Our two beginners are making good progress under the instruction of Ian, our Tower Captain.

One evening we were joined by a family from Sapcote, and during the school holidays, a local dad and his two sons have been attending.

We rang before the Confirmation Service in July, which was taken by Bishop Hugh Nelson.

A group of ringers from West Cornwall have visited the tower on two occasions, to ring their special 'methods' which take about 45 minutes non-stop, on the eight bells.

Recently I was privileged to toll the Tenor Bell before and after the funeral of Margaret Rowe, who with her husband Fred, often dropped in on our practice evenings.

Clive Reynolds



A poem by Juliet Jenkin

What a beautiful world we live in surrounded by the sea
With just below the surface are rocks for us to see

It doesn't matter where we go the water gives us pleasure
Whether swimming below the surface or on top at our leisure

There are also extremes of temperature from cold to very hot
While down on the rocky bed below we just wish to see the lot.

Paddling in our canoe up the Essequibo watching mosquitos skim the surface
But could not put our hands in water as the piranhas would hurt us.

Going across the Atlantic with pelican flying in the sky
When suddenly from down below flying fish we did espy

Swimming in the sea was a relief from all the heat
But could not put a foot down as the coral would hurt our feet.

Up north it is a serene view to watch broken ice sheets glide along
Hiding the danger below of the depth that keeps them strong.

In the harbours where the fishing boats are tied up by the pier
A whale from down below lets out a water spout to warn that he is near

After all this travelling where would I rather be
But back home, here in Cornwall surrounded by the sea

Our rivers feed the oceans and we have nothing to ever fear
Until the salmon swarm and go to jump the weir

The pool at Porthowan is such a lovely place to swim
Until there is a flood tide and covers it all in

The rocks that were covered in bladderack suddenly are gone
But the limpets are delighted as their food has come along

Childhood memories of jumping over the rolling waves
And of fishing in the rocky pools for crabs along the way.

The inspiration for this poem came from looking out to sea
Whoa - a dolphin surfaced from the rocks below to give me so much glee

A Redruth man in Australia in the 1850's

by Michael Tangye

Renowned for their skills of hard rock mining, Cornish miners took them to the world. With the discovery of gold in South Australia in the 1850's, at a time when some mines in Cornwall were closing, many emigrated to that distant land, until by 1865 it was estimated that 42.5% of the population in that region were Cornish.

In 1853 the Penzance newspaper, the Cornish Telegraph, published regular accounts sent to them by both emigrant miners and families in Cornwall, recounting their experiences. One such was Josias Sincock, a young man from Redruth who wrote to his parents from New South Wales in early November 1852. He had sailed from Liverpool on board the 'Eldorado' on August 9th a journey of three months:-

"We arrived here last Tuesday after a smart passage. The accounts are, so the old diggers say, 'unfavourable', which means you can only clear 20 shillings a day—if I can do that I shall be pretty well pleased. If the diggings fail, I can make from 3 to 4 pounds per week from other sources. Tell anyone who is coming to bring only a carpet—bag (note:- the traditional source for carrying clothing and essential items overseas at that time). Clothes are cheap; flour is very dear. Bread is 2 shillings for 4 lbs, meat pretty cheap, vegetables pretty dear. We have pitched a tent on the Yarra river, and start for the diggings tomorrow".

Josias wrote another letter to his parents in 1853:- "Made another trial at the gold field, a little success, but not enough to remunerate me for my labour. Most are in the same position. Upwards of 1000 men are working in the Canalsian Gully where the large nugget was found—but not twenty were paid for their exertions Like Cornish mines, to one productive there are twenty unproductive. Most earn about ten shillings a day arriving with great expectations of getting a fortune, others returning crest-fallen, and trudge back to Melbourne. Gentlemen of high degree and low degree were seen at work with the lowest of the low, like the navvies on the railroads of England.

One house here of three to four bedrooms costs £150 a year to rent. £17,000 was paid for a public house on the road to the diggings— publicans thrive! Any man of careful and industrial habits stands a better chance here than at home.

In going into a shipping agents office who should I see but a townsman in the good diggers dress; and great was my surprise when he told me that my brother, Thomas, was in the police reporting office with a salary of four guineas a week which will be increased in a month by two. Carpenters earn twenty-twenty five shillings a day, and other trades likewise"

In Redruth at the time Mr Edwin Tyrell gave a slide show in the Town Hall in Penryn Street of a voyage to Australia and travels to the gold fields. It created great interest 'particularly to those who have husbands, sons and relations in that land of promise'. 'For many it would prove to be not as promising as was advertised!'

PS: *congratulations to Jason for his monthly colourful cover illustration and to Richard and Rosemary for producing 5Alive which involves so much work.*

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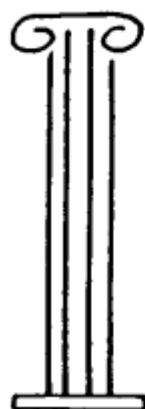


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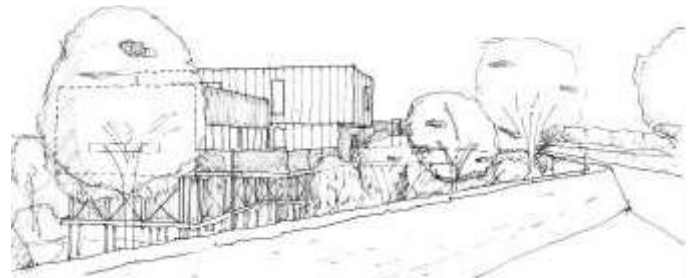
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