



# *Paul Parish Church Magazine*



*February 2010*

*50p*

## Activities

Choir Practice (church)	Wed. 7.30pm	Neil Shepherd 759944
Bell Ringing (church)	Thurs. 7.30pm	Margaret Byrne 731617
Women's Institute (church hall)	2nd Thurs. 7.30pm	Linda Burton 732618
Parent and Toddler (church hall)	Thurs. 10am - 12	Vicki Hills 01736 732624
Luncheon Club (church hall)	Mon. 12 for 12.30pm	Diane Bond 731057
Euchre (church hall)	Tues. 7.30pm (end Sept.-end April)	David Harvey 731249
Line Dancing (church hall)	Friday 8-9pm	Annaliese Male 731717
Laudate Choir (Church)	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays 8 pm	Neil Shepherd 759944

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The evenings are getting noticeably lighter, the sunrise is already moving back up from the Lizard towards the Mount - hosepipe bans here we come.....

If you've ever wondered whether to join the bell ringers, turn to page 12 and waver no longer - recruits will be queuing out of the door! An evocative memoir from Alf , and a look back over an extremely busy centenary year from Trevor . Take the opportunity to see Chocolat on 15th - an intriguing basis for discussion themes at the Lent groups.....

A 2010 Gardeners Question Time to look forward to, while deciding which extreme event you're going to sign up for!

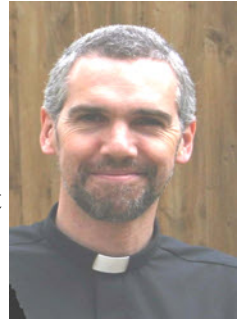
Enjoy!

## Contents

Tim's Letter	4/5
Outreach Group meeting	5
Earthquake in Haiti	6
Charity Challenge	6/7
Gardeners Question Time	8
The Good Samaritan	8
Evacuation 1939	9-11
New Year At Paul	12
Lost	13
Thank You	13
Film Night and Lent Groups	14
It Can Be Done	15
February Diary	16/17
100 Years and Counting	18-20
W.I. January Report	21/22
Advertisements	23-29
Rotas for February	29-31
Apache Blessing	32

Dear Friends,

This month Oscar Wilde's comment "I can resist everything except temptation" becomes particularly relevant. As we enter the season of Lent we think of Christ's temptation in the wilderness And our own attempts to give up things we find particularly tempting.



But is temptation entirely a bad thing? Temptation simply means to be tested or proved, and there is nothing necessarily wrong in that; nor is it in itself sinful or evidence of sinfulness, though it can expose our weakness of will and our capacity for choosing wrong.

You could say however that temptation honours us with the assumption that we are free to choose and that our choices are real and important. – That temptation is evidence of the free will that we have because we are created in Gods image. Of course temptation often involves painful inner conflict – but only because we live in a desirable world in which our choices matter.

Ultimately we are even able to choose whether to accept God or not - a choice captured in the promises we make at baptism 'I turn to Christ; I repent of my sins; I renounce evil'. And we can only do this because we are able to choose to – and we can only truly love God because we have the freedom to refuse him.

We are all sinners who fall short of the glory God, but it is the choices we make that define who we truly are. In Lent we may reflect on this by choosing to give things up or by choosing to take things on - but we need to make our choices for the right reasons and give thanks that we have a choice at all. It is easy to take choice for granted and to forget that so many people around the world do not have the freedom of choice that we do. The freedom to choose their leaders, the freedom to choose how they live their lives or simply to choose what to eat each day.

For those of us lucky enough to be able to choose to give something up for lent a common choice is of course chocolate.

This will be the subject of our Lent groups this year as we look at the film 'Chocolat' and use it as a starting point for exploring issues of temptation, indulgence, freedom and our ability to change. 'Chocolat' is

not only a thought provoking film but also a hugely entertaining one, so using it in this way will allow us to engage with some serious topics in a gentle way (and maybe to sample some different chocolate if we haven't given it up).

I encourage you this Lent to think about the choices you make. Perhaps by choosing to give something up, but better perhaps to choose to take something on, such as choosing to join one of our Lent Groups or some other Lenten discipline - but to choose to do so for the right reasons. And I also encourage you to give thanks for choice itself and to help, or pray for, those who do not have the choices we do.

Henri Nouwen once described Lent as “the season during which winter and spring struggle with each other for dominance”. That struggle between dark and light takes place within each one of us and so Lent is also a time for us to focus on that struggle. But in doing so we recognize that just as spring will follow winter: Easter will follow Lent. That with God's help the light will prevail. And that it is not the darkness within that defines us but it is choosing the light that shows who we truly are.

God Bless

**Tim**

## **Paul Community Outreach Group**

### **“Children in need - a community's response**

An illustrated talk on how a unique centre for disabled children was built in a month, with goodwill and no money

by

Pat Furley and Jenny Strickland

in the Church Hall

Wednesday 10th February 2010 at 2.30pm

All Welcome

## **Earthquake in Haiti**

Many thanks to all those who generously contributed to the retiring collection at the January meeting of the Paul Community Outreach Group which raised £78 for Shelterbox and a retiring collection in the Church which raised £665

### **Join A Cornish Charity In A New Year Challenge**

Charity challenges are a vital source of income for Cornwall Hospice Care. Funds raised enable the charity to provide specialist medical care for people living with life-limiting illnesses, in their two hospices - St Julia's in Hayle and Mt Edgcumbe in St Austell.

The care given to patients and their families is provided free of charge but costs over £5 million annually, or £11 a minute. With limited funding by the government the charity relies heavily on the generous support of the general public, through donations, fundraising events and challenges such as this.

Cornwall Hospice Care's 2010 Challenge options include treks in Italy, China and the UK, a chance to fly through the air either on a parachute jump or zip wire ride or a team challenge day in St Austell.

“The New Year can prompt us to think about our lives and doing something a bit different, but so often it's difficult to know where to start! By getting involved in one of our challenges, there is a real feeling of team support to keep you on track and really

fulfil your dreams!” said Karen Holman, Charity Challenge Events Officer for the charity.

“Unforgettable, moving, challenging and exhausting are all words that I would use to describe our challenges! The enjoyment of a challenge is as much about the interaction of the group as anything else”. For anyone wanting a Cornish challenge, there are three events this year. In March a team challenge with physical and mental tasks being held in St Austell and later in June participants will be dared to step off the edge at the longest zip wire in the UK at Adrenalin Quarry nr. Liskeard or for the endurance junkies among us there is the Classic Quarter 44 mile challenge from The Lizard to Land’s End.

The charity is also looking for walking enthusiasts to take up one of its three trekking challenges.

**The Three Peaks Challenge** in July 2010, will involve scaling Ben Nevis, Snowdon and Scafell Pike - over 11,000ft of mountain in two days.

**The Trek Three Volcanoes Italy Challenge** in May 2011, will see participants walking up Mt Vesuvius, Stromboli and Mt Etna in a real Italian adventure.

**Trek The Great Wall of China** taking place in October 2011, is a rerun of the very successful 2008 challenge, in which participants trek along remote sections of the wall and camping at seldom visited villages.

Anyone interested in taking part in any of these challenges is asked to contact Karen Holman for an information pack.

Phone 01726 66869

or email [kholman@cornwallhospice.co.uk](mailto:kholman@cornwallhospice.co.uk).

## Gardeners - Watch This Space!!

Following the success of last year's 'Gardeners Question Time', the recent spate of snowy weather and by popular demand, we are hoping to hold a similar evening event in early March. Last year we were able to raise enough money to cover the expenses of the Open Gardens Day; this meant that all the proceeds from that day went directly to the chosen charities.

This year 'Gardeners Question Time' will focus on the aftermath of the cold snap - our very own 'home grown' gardening experts Bill Johnson and Rob Pickford will deal with your problems and suggest ways in which gardens can be restored to their former glory.

See next month's magazine for further details, but in the meantime don't despair - help is at hand!

Marta van Emden

## The Good Samaritan

One of the best stories in the Bible is about The Good Samaritan. Well I would like to re-write that story and transfer it from Jerusalem to Paul.

Like many others of advancing years I was unable to step out of my front door during the extreme bad weather. I was snowed in, and Lo and Behold, there appeared on my doorstep on the first day a Good Samaritan to ascertain that I was alright and to ask whether I needed anything. He brought my newspaper and appeared not once or twice but sometimes three times a day during that bitterly cold spell. He went out of his way to help people and even drove into town to pick up supplies for some people one day. On that day another Good Samaritan appeared on my doorstep with my paper and offered to help if I needed anything.

What a wonderful place we live in. Thank you to all the kind folk who went out of their way to help people during that difficult time, and thanks be to God for such wonderful people.

Lil Carter

## Evacuation 1939

By Alf Steggles

My brother and I were amongst the first children to be evacuated from London, in fact three days before we declared war on Germany. I was six and my brother was nine. As most people were not sure whether there would be a war or not only a few parents had decided to have their children evacuated.

Children from several of the local schools were assembled at my brother's school 'Hoxton House School', or to be more correct, 'Oxton Ouse School'.

We had to be there very early in the morning. It was a Wednesday, my mother and Aunt Lil took us to the school gate. Two policemen were stationed there in order to stop any parents from entering the playground. Once inside we kids were ticked off a register of sorts and gathered in groups according to whichever school we were from. I think we must have made a very sorry sight. Some were crying, others were very excited as they were going on a 'holiday'. We all had a luggage label attached to the collar of our coats stating our age and home address. Most of us had a haversack (back-pack nowadays), a small carry case or carrier bag containing our spare clothes, our gas masks and in our case a bag carried by my brother containing sandwiches and a bottle of 'R-Whites' cream soda.

We were eventually lined up in a long crocodile and were led out of the school gates. Some teacher told us not to look for our parents and to sing 'one man and his dog went to mow a meadow' as we passed through the gates. I remember catching sight of Aunt Lil with the handkerchief pressed against her face, my brother Ted spotted mum but we were hustled along very quickly and I never spotted her. During this time Ted had a tight hold of my hand for he had been told time and again that under no circumstances were we to be separated, and I had also had it drummed into me that I was to stay by him at all times.

We were then led on a very circuitous route to Liverpool Street station. The reason for this strange trek around the City of London was that we had to pick up other children from various other assembly points and of course at each of these assembly

points the pavements were lined with more weeping parents and relatives, whilst the teachers tried to console us into another burst of 'One man and his dog went to mow', but those of us who were first to leave were by this time more interested in having a pee rather than a sing song.

At Liverpool Street station after many hands up and please sir', we were allowed to go to the toilet. After this welcome release we were all lined up again and given a bun of some sorts and a drink of water which Ted and I declined and we had a swig of our cream soda.

Our crocodile had by this time become quite long and difficult to control, and a few of the kids took this opportunity to desert and go back home. Finally we were lead to a platform and boarded a train. The train had no corridor and consisted of coaches that had several individual compartments. When after a lot of shuffling about in order to keep siblings together, we were placed 10 to 12 to each compartment. By this time of course the need of nature was again becoming a matter of some urgency. Ted suggested that we open the door of the compartment facing away from the platform and relieve ourselves. This was an enterprise spotted by other boys looking out of their carriage windows who promptly joined us. I've often wondered since, as there were no girls in our compartments, how they managed.

Eventually the train moved off and after what seemed to be a very long time we came to a stop at a station. Children started to disembark and as no teachers approached our carriage and having received no instruction our group also disembarked and joined the others on the platform

We were again formed into a crocodile and filed past some tables where a group of ladies gave each of us a tin of condensed milk, a tin of corned beef, and a small bar of chocolate. I was a bit distressed as my tin of corned beef had lost its key and I didn't know how I was going to open it. Later I found out we were supposed to give these items to the lady of the house we

were being allocated to. I fear that many of them did not get their chocolate.

The station we alighted at was Newmarket, and after receiving our goodies we were once again lined up and marched to the Newmarket football club ground. We were told to stand in the middle of the football pitch and to come forward when our names were called. Several men and women waited at the side of the football pitch with several local worthies seated at a table.

These worthies then called out the name of a person or persons standing at the side of the pitch followed by the name of the child or children who had been allotted to them. This took some time and the evening was drawing in. There was a most gorgeous sunset of the type that you only seem to get in East Anglia. There was also a light evening mist that was turning to a golden colour. I can close my eyes and see it now; I think it was the first time I had ever realized how beautiful nature could be.

As the evening progressed the people at the side of the pitch got fewer as did the children in the middle of it till in the end there were no more people at the side of the pitch and ten of us kids left in the middle. This was a situation that was causing the local worthies great consternation. After quite some time it must have occurred to the worthies to check our labels. It eventually transpired that our little group should not have alighted at Newmarket with the other children from 'Oxton Ouse'. We should have remained on the train where we would then have been distributed amongst the good souls of Ely.

After a while we were herded by some St Johns Ambulance people into two ambulances and driven around Newmarket whilst one of the ambulance men knocked on the doors and tried to persuade the occupants of the said houses to take us in. Ted and I were very fortunate and were taken in by a Mr. and Mrs. George.

to be continued.....

## New Year at Paul

New Year's Eve came at Paul and the ringing chamber was filled with the old memories of 2009 and the new chimes of 2010. Delightful sounds of rounds, call changes and Steadman could be heard all around the village. A few midnight revellers gathered in the church below the chamber to welcome the New Year in.

New Year's Day we all gathered at the church for midday ringing. Ringers old and new were in attendance with the sounds of "look 2, treble's going, she's gone" echoing the chamber. After this with great anticipation we walked the short distance to what we were really there for. Pam and Margaret's New Year's lunch. We were not disappointed. We were met at the door with Margaret serving drinks of our choice whilst the smell of food wafted from the kitchen. Once the 25 strong crowd had gathered it was great to feel the warmth, regard and friendship for everyone present. We all caught up with each other as some hadn't seen one another for some time. Then the word came "Food is ready" and to my amazement myself and John Swann were not the first up.

We were offered a sumptuous choice of Pam's homemade pork pie with alternatives including tuna, turkey and mushroom. All served with salad, tomatoes, potato wedges with rosemary, coleslaw, boiled eggs halves and a homemade mint and honey salad dressing. Also, fresh bread and butter. Most of the guests including myself returned to Pam for 2nds and in my case 3rds (haha).

Pudding came in the form of meringues with fresh strawberries and cream, fresh fruit salad and a tasty, scrummy cheesecake all served with the choice of clotted or double cream.

A selection of cheeses with biscuits and grapes followed with coffee or tea and petit fours all individually trayed up to finish. Harry Sales gave a short speech to thank Margaret and Pam for all their efforts and we all agreed with rapturous applause. A lovely afternoon was had by all.

On behalf of the ringers I would like to thank Margaret and Pam for their hospitality which is as always second to none.

Until New Year's Day 2011.....

Antony Howlett

## LOST

WHAT'S THAT YOU HEAR?

IT'S THE CALL OF THE GULLS AND THE CRASH OF THE WAVES ON THE SEA-STRICKEN SHORE

WHAT'S THAT IN THE MIST?

IT'S AN ENGINE-HOUSE CHIMNEY, AN IVY CLAD RUIN NOW, NOTHING MORE.

WHAT'S THAT YOU SEE?

IT'S A ROW OF GREY GRAVESTONES, LOOK, THE NAMES OF THE MEN OF PENLEE.

WHAT'S THAT YOU TASTE?

IT'S THE BITTERNESS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND WASTE.

WHAT'S THAT YOU FEEL?

IT'S A SLOW-BEATING HEART, THE HEART OF KERNOW, THE ECHO OF WAVE-SLAP ON KEEL.

WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY?

YOU LONG FOR THE DAY -

WHEN THE CATCH IS BROUGHT HOME IN BOATS LOW IN THE WATER, THE BRIGHT TIN STREAMS FREE.

PRAY IT MAY BE.

Michael

## **A Thank you from Anna**

Thanks to everyone who attended Winter Tales in the village hall, and to all who bought and ate the cakes!

As a result we were able to send  
£230 to Shelter Box.



# Film night

Monday 15th February  
7.00 for 7.15 pm  
Paul Church Hall

## Lent Groups - 'Christ and the Chocolaterie'

Lent groups are a wonderful opportunity to learn about aspect of our faith in ways not possible on a Sunday morning. The ability to go into more detail, ask individual questions and discuss different viewpoints is an invaluable way of growing as Christians - with the added bonus of getting to know each other better and having fun.

Our groups this year will use an original, innovative and lively course inspired by the film 'Chocolat'. We will be showing the film in the hall on February 15 and groups will begin the following week.

We will have at least three groups (in Paul, Mousehole and Mounts Bay Park) and I do hope you will consider joining a group this year - especially perhaps if you have never been in a home group before. Please let me know if you would like to take part (it would be good to have an idea of numbers) or have a chat with me if you are thinking about it but are unsure. Also speak to me if you think you might be able to lead or host a group - it would be great to have more than three this year.

I have always found groups like these to be incredibly valuable and Lent is the ideal time to begin them - I hope you will take advantage of them this year and if you do I'm sure you will be greatly blessed by them.

***Tim***

# IT CAN BE DONE - by E. A. Guest

Somebody said that it couldn't be done  
but he, with a chuckle replied  
that maybe it couldn't but he'd be the one  
who wouldn't say so 'til he tried.  
So he buckled right in, with the trace of a grin  
on his face - if he worried, he hid it.  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
that couldn't be done, and he did it.  
Somebody scoffed, 'Oh! You'll never do that,  
at least, no-one has ever done it'  
but he took off his coat and he took off his hat  
and the first thing he knew, he'd begun it.  
There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
there are thousands to prophecy failure.  
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one  
the dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle right in with a bit of a grin,  
throw off your coat and go to it.  
**JUST START TO SING AS YOU TACKLE THE THING  
that cannot be done, and you'll DO IT!!**

submitted by Jill Hogben

# Diary for February 2010

(Church Services are at Paul unless stated otherwise)

## Wednesday 3rd February

- 10.15am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Coffee Morning and Mini Market in Hall

## Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February

- 4pm Wedding of Chris Doyle and Lucie Ford

## Sunday 7th February - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

- 8.30am Holy Communion
- 10.30am All Age Service - Mousehole Male voice Choir.  
Baptisms of Max Osborne and Daniel Atkinson
- 11.00am Methodist Service at Mousehole  
Preacher: Rev. Alison Richardson
- 6.00pm Evensong

## Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February

- 2.30pm Lay Pastoral Ministers Meeting at Vicarage

## Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February

- 2.30pm Devonia House Home Group meets

## Wednesday 10th February

- 10.15am Holy Communion
- 2.30pm Paul Community Outreach Group  
"Children in need - a community's response"  
an illustrated talk by Pat Furley and Jenny Strickland
- 7.00pm Deanery Synod @ Ludgvan

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Sunday next before Lent

- 8.30am Holy Communion
- 10.30am Parish Communion
- 11.00am Methodist Service at Mousehole  
Preacher: Rev. John Grice
- 6.00pm Evensong

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February**

7 for 7.15pm Film show in the Hall - "Chocolat"

**Wednesday 17th February - Ash Wednesday**

10.15am Ash Wednesday Communion + Mothers' Union

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February - First Sunday of Lent**

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Matins

11.00am Methodist Service at Mousehole

Preacher: Mr. P Gibson

6.00pm Taize Service

**Lent Groups Begin**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

7.30pm PCC Meeting

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

10.15am Holy Communion

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Communion

11.00am Methodist Service at Mousehole

Preacher: Rev. Marion Lumbers

6.00pm Evensong

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**The Mousehole Methodist Chapel Choir  
will be singing Stainer's 'Crucifixion' at Easter.  
As usual, augmenters to the choir are warmly welcomed.  
Please note that the first practice will be held on  
Tuesday February 9th at 7.30pm in the Chapel.**

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## ***100 Years and counting***

On Sunday February 7th 2010, members of Mousehole Male Voice Choir will join the morning congregation of Paul Church in thanksgiving to mark the end of a year of celebration of the choir's 100 year history from 1909 to 2009. And what a year 2009 was!

When the choir was formed in 1909 by a small group of Mousehole men, its roots were firmly attached to Mousehole village and Mousehole Methodist Church and contact "up the hill" was limited. So many things have changed in the world in the past 100 years and not all for the better. But undeniably good is the bond which has been forged between Mousehole Male Voice Choir and Paul Parish Church and there can have been no better demonstration of that bond than the choir's centenary celebrations of 2009 particularly the recent Christmas Concert which filled the building to capacity.

On January 25th, 2009, a Service of Thanksgiving was held in Mousehole Methodist Church to mark the beginning of the choir's centenary year. On Monday 9th February, a small contingent of members - to represent that original group of 1909 - visited Mousehole School to sing to the children and tell them the story of the choir's formation. The men were dressed in various styles to show how clothing had developed over 100 years to the choir's new uniform. It was a great joy to see the children's shining eyes and upturned faces as they listened to the story.

Granted that the choir suffered the bitter disappointment of having to cancel its concert tour of Ireland in May because Tourwest Holidaymakers Ltd went 'down the tubes' and took over £51,000 of the members' money with it. Even that bad moment has brought a few good things in its wake; not least the demonstration of the solidarity of the Cornish Federation of Male Voice Choirs and the loving support of many other organisations and individuals who have made generous contributions to the ring-fenced fund from which we hope to offer some compensation to the losers in due course.

The Penlee branch of the RNLI is close to the choir's heart for obvious reasons; Mousehole can never forget the total loss of the lifeboat crew of the *Solomon Browne* in 1981. Throughout 2009 various concerts have been for that local cause and the choir has had the most enjoyable joint ventures with Mousehole School and Humphry Davy School for the benefit of the RNLI. In March the choir engaged the composer Alan Simmons to direct a choral workshop and invitations went out to 78 Cornish choirs, to every Secondary School in Cornwall, to every Primary School in Penwith; nearly 200 people of all ages from all over Cornwall (and beyond) gathered in Chapel Street Methodist Church, Penzance, for

a day of fun and learning. In the evening, after a few hours rehearsal, a scratch concert was given and a retiring collection raised over £300 for the RNLI.

Chapel Street Methodist Church was the venue for an extremely enjoyable joint concert with children from Penwith schools on Friday 12th June. It was a learning experience for all ages; the 'greyheads' were exposed to the enormous energy of the young ones music; the young ones were amazed at the power of a large male voice choir; when young and old were combined in song it was a mighty sound.

From Friday 19th to Sunday 21st June, the Midsummer Flower Festival was an outstanding success and Paul Church was converted to a 3 day floral wonderland by the brilliant efforts of the many flower arranging organisations and individuals who interpreted song titles from the choir's vast repertoire. The mood was set for travellers from the east of Penzance by the floral display near the Tesco roundabout proclaiming the choir's centenary. Hundreds of visitors came from far and wide, many seeing inside our beautiful church for the very first time. During each day, incidental music was provided by various artists and then the event was crowned by the annual Midsummer Concert with the church full to capacity.

On Sunday, 2nd August, the Summer Festival Concert in St. Mary's Parish Church, Penzance, was another triumph. Above the centre aisle a series of suspended pennants charted the milestones of the centenary; to the delight of the large audience, the choir entered as a singing column and formed up on the altar steps to begin the concert with the multitalented Alistair Taylor - a show in himself - as guest artiste.

On Sunday, 6th September, the choir made a visit to Bude for a concert in the Central Methodist Church, an occasion to support the Robert Johns Leukaemia Fund. On Saturday, 12th September, the Bath Inn, Penzance, was packed as the Mousehole Male Voice Choir Reunion brought together many old members & friends from yesteryear and a great time was had by all. And on Sunday, 11th October, the Paul Feast Concert was another packed house event, followed closely on the 16th by the Harvest Home & Auction in the Astro Club, Penzance, which raised £1500 for the RNLI and £500 each was sent to the two Irish stations and to Penlee.

December was a busy month with the concert in Porthleven which has become an annual event bringing together singers and the Porthleven Town Band, and then the Carolaire to switch on the Mousehole Harbour Lights which included a special display marking the choir's centenary - a local massive power surge jointly started this year by the outstretched hands of the choir's longest serving members

- and Tom Bawcock's Eve when a plaque was unveiled in Duck Street to commemorate the founding of the choir in 1909. All this amid the preparation for the aforementioned Christmas Concert in Paul Church.

Nor were these all the activities in this very special year. Throughout the year the choir sang at the Rugby Club, St. Elwyn's, Hayle, Carbis Bay Methodist Chapel and a series of two-choir concerts with Redruth Amateur Operatic Society, Mevagissey MVC, Four Lanes MVC, Tredegar MVC, and took part in the International Male Voice Choir Festival which culminated in a massed choirs concert in the Hall for Cornwall where they had an honoured place. Many hours of centenary committee planning over many months went into the Five Choir Concert in St. Just Methodist Church which brought together Penwith's male choirs of Newlyn, St. Buryan, Praze-Hayle, Marazion and Mousehole on Sunday, 15th November. So great was the assembly of choristers and audience that seats were at a premium in the large building and parking spaces were at a premium in the car parks and streets outside.

Four scheduled attempts were made to hold an outdoor concert on Mousehole Harbour side for the Summer visitors, on each occasion inclement weather drove the concert into Mousehole Methodist Church but even so the concerts were well attended. At least the weather was dry for the annual Lifeboat Service on Sunday, 9th August, when the choir led the singing on the harbour side.

So much of the choir's activities are geared to supporting numerous charities which have benefited by hundreds of thousands of pounds during the choir's history. This centenary year has been particularly successful in this regard and the men are pleased that over £5000 has been raised for good causes in the last twelve months alone. The choir begins the next 100 years with the largest membership in its history.

Trevor Walker

# The Women's Institute

November 2009



The first meeting of the new year for Sheffield and District W.I. started on a sombre note as we held a minute's silence for one of our members Jane Williams, who had passed away in early January. Also included in our thoughts at that time was Mrs Renee Spence from Beacon W.I. who died when the coach she was travelling in, crashed on icy roads following a trip to see the Christmas lights at Mousehole, Newlyn and other villages.

President Chris Rowland had opened the meeting and passed on to Secretary Donna Rodda to go through the usual minutes and reports. Our birthday meal is being held at the Garrack Hotel on Wednesday 27 and members were reminded to pay all monies due and hand in their menus. They were also reminded of the coach leaving times.

News and Information included details of a 4 Corner Dance day, a visit to see the Bluebells at Lanhydrock, a Spring visit to Exeter and the that the "Penzance Operatic Society" were putting on "Brigadoon" at St.John's Hall in February.

We had also received notification from County that W.I.'s will no longer be able to admit girls under the age of 18 although they may be admitted as a guest/visitor if accompanied by their mother or someone nominated as a responsible adult by the girl's family. We have three members who joined the W.I. at 14 (although they were not able to vote until the age of 16).

As speedily as possible Chris and Donna took turns to read the 6 proposed resolutions which members had been asked to vote on and everyone was asked to make one selection on the forms provided (should they wish to do so).

Our speakers for the evening were Chris and Jane Osborne, who following their son Tom's wedding to Neena in India had plenty to talk about and show us in the form of film and photo.

Both Chris and Jane were dressed in the traditional wedding finery of India, Chris wore Tom's Sherwani coat and turban and Jane wore her own sari which was a deep petrol blue, without a pattern but with a wide border of pierced embroidery and beautiful jewels.

Chris had put together several short slide sequences including 'coverage' of the three evenings of wedding celebrations. The first

was an informal family evening of dancing and singing, including traditional songs the words of which were apparently most uncomplimentary - about mothers-in-law and husbands and wives.

The following evening was a more formal celebration - the "Mehandi" evening where the women's hands were painted with henna designs. The bride's hand designs are always the most elaborate and the darker it goes the more one's mother-in-law is supposed to love one.

The third evening was the ceremony itself, held in a central Delhi hotel. It was led by the "Pundit" or priest around a small fire of sandalwood and involved all the members of the families in various roles. Surprisingly the groom was the one wearing the veil and in this case it was made of fine lengths of white beads. The young couple were symbolically joined together in heart, hand and mind, making promises to each other and making offerings of gifts of ghee, rice and herbs to the fire.

Another slide show of photographs taken during their travels around Rajasthan with friends Mary and Eryl showed a vivid contrast of extreme poverty and immense wealth living almost side by side ranging from the beautiful palaces to shacks. The colours and vibrancy of the photos was outstanding and the series of places, transport and people which Chris had selected were a joy to see.

Following the slide show we were able to admire the bride costume of Lehenga (the skirt), choli blouse and scarf which were all heavily encrusted with jewels in the traditional colours of red, orange and green.

Sue Jones won the raffle and the winners of our competition (a wedding photo) was won by Bev. Robinson with Jeanne Torrie 2<sup>nd</sup> and Penny Harvey 3<sup>rd</sup>.

It was a long evening not helped by the fact that the heating went off earlier than expected on a very cold night. But we were all warmed by the enjoyable treats made and served by "stand-in ladies" Jenni Roberts and Di Ayres, who volunteered to help Judy Thomas.

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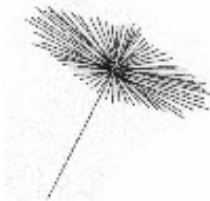
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24th Feb Jane and Esther

## Readings and Lessons for February

		<i>Morning</i>	<i>Evening</i>
7th Feb	1st	<i>Mousehole MVC</i> Genesis 2 v 4b - 9 & 15 - end	<i>Nigel Haward</i> Genesis ch 1v1 - ch 2 v 3
	2nd		<i>John Harry</i> Matthew 6 v 25 - end
14th Feb	1st	<i>Richard Chaplin</i> 2 Corinthians 3 v 12 - ch 4 v 2	<i>Roger Bond</i> Exodus 3 v 1 - 6
	2nd	<i>Sue Snell</i> Luke 9 v 28 - 36	<i>David Carpenter</i> John 12 v 27 - 36a
21st Feb	1st	<i>Lil Carter</i> Deuteronomy 26 v 1 - 11	<i>Marta van Ernden</i> Jonah ch 3
	2nd	Jane Haward Luke 4 v 1 - 13	
28th Feb	1st	<i>Hilary Madron</i> Phil. ch 3 v 17 - ch 4 v 1	<i>Elizabeth Stubbings</i> Jeremiah 22 v 1 - 9 & v 13 - 17
	2nd	<i>John Dancy</i> Luke 13 v 31 - end	<i>John Dancy</i> Luke 14 v 27 - 33

## Sidespersons Rota for February

		<i>Morning</i>	<i>Evening</i>
7th Feb	R Bourne welcomer A Steggles		R Bond
14th Feb	J Starling, R Starling welcomer R Varlow		M Walsh
21st Feb	G McClure, L Friggens welcomer E Williams		J Dancy
28th Feb	T Renfree, R Chaplin, S Chaplin welcomer J Ball		N Haward

intercessions rota	7th Feb	Mbousehole Male Voice Choir
	14th Feb	Eryl Williams and Mary Wooding
	21st Feb	Tish Andrewartha
	28th Feb	
admin of the chalice	14th Feb	Rod and Julie
	28th Feb	Roger and Hilary
church hall cleaning rota	7th Feb	Steve
	14th Feb	Roger and Diane
	21st Feb	Jane
	28th Feb	David
Sunday service coffee rota	7th Feb	Julie and helpers
	14th Feb	Betty and Nancy
	21st Feb	Pam and helpers
	28th Feb	Linda and helpers
church cleaning rota	7th Feb	Marlene, Goff and Betty
	14th Feb	Mary and Eryl
	21st Feb	Richard and Pauline
	28th Feb	Nancy
brass cleaning rota	7th Feb	Betty
	21st Feb	Lorna and Gordon

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may the moon  
softly restore you by night,  
may the rain  
wash away your worries,  
may the breeze  
blow new strength into your being,  
may you walk  
gently through the world and know  
its beauty all the days of your life.**

**Apache blessing**