



In Touch

Methodist Church Circuit August/September 2018

Chairman of the District:

Revd. Stephen Wild M.A.

Superintendent Minister:

Revd. Jane Willcock B.Ed.	422406
Revd. Michael Pullan B.Ed., BD. (From Sept.)	422406

Local Preachers:

Mr. Len Michell	422409
Mr. Gordon Bird	422550
Mr. C. Savill	423563

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs. Christine Savill423563Mr.Mervyn Bird423117Mrs. Beryl Read422977Mr. Len Michell422409

- Circuit Treasurer: Mr. Christopher Savill423563Gift Aid Secretary: Mrs. Stephanie Bird423117
- **Circuit Meeting Secretary:** Mrs. Heather Terry 422329

Church Stewards:

St. Mary:	Mrs. Claire Jenkins	Mrs. June Lethbridge
	Mr. Philip Lethbridge	Mrs. Leigh Kendrick
	Mrs. Sue Williams	
St. Martin's:	Mrs. Barbara Jones	

St. Mary's:

Treasurer:	Mrs. Sue Williams	422605
Church Council Secretary: Hall Booking Secretary:	Mrs. Beryl Read Mrs. Anne Gurr	422977 422224
Organist: Deputy Organist:	Mr. Len Michell Mr. Philip Lethbridge	422409
		722707
St. Martin's: Church Council Secretary:		422814
Church Treasurer:	Mr. Alan Terry	422329

Connexional Link Person: Mrs. Beryl Read 422977

Dear Friends,

The closer we get to our moving date the more unreal it all seems. We want to say a huge "thank you" for the ways in which you've accepted us into your island, community and Church and for the kindness you've shown in many ways.

Jane has grown up and lived a large part of her adult life moving from place to place and, while John has moved with his work he expected, once he'd returned, to stay in his home town of Redruth (he should have chosen a different wife!) However, in two short years you've made us feel that this is our home and you are our friends. Thank you.

We want you to know that we will be praying for you. It would be foolish not to acknowledge that, as a Church, you are experiencing testing times. So many of your younger members have left the islands and so the work increasingly falls on those who've already given so much and feel less able to do so again. We are heartened by the way you've been willing to work across denominational boundaries, while still retaining a free Church position. It is vital that people see us first as Christians held together through love of one another because we have one Saviour who loves us all and, second, as members of "Chapel" or "Church". And it is this love we urge you to maintain – not only within Church circles, but also for your community. Be known, first and foremost, as people of love and care, welcoming all without criticism or favouritism because this is the hallmark of Jesus who says "As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

We are sure you will welcome Michael and Ann Pullan as you welcomed us and we pray that, under their ministry, you will flourish and move forward. And

"May God bless you and keep you, May He make His face to shine upon you And be gracious unto you, And may He give you peace."

With our Love and Prayers.

News from St. Martin's

With most of us back from Spring holidays, we are now busy with the summer tourist season in full swing. Summer has certainly arrived with a vengeance and, whilst the holiday makers are enjoying beautiful weather, the flora is crying out for rain, with the landscape looking brown and shriveled. Well levels are also causing some concern

Many of us went to St. Agnes for the annual circuit joint service, which was well attended and enjoyed by all. A beach picnic was followed by a paddle at Periglis and the first sighting of a new season of 'shrimps'! It is always good to be able to worship with friends from other islands.

We finally held our Chapel annual meeting in June when Revd. Jane was able to attend. Huge thanks to Christopher who keeps the buildings safe and well maintained; to Alan who manages the accounts and to Secretary Jackie. All seems to be in order and some planning was put forward regarding Harvest Festival – the usual first Sunday in September – when we will have a coffee morning and sale of harvest goods.

A long way off, but Christmas services and children's party were also discussed. The photographic exhibition was again praised; it will need some restoration in the near future due to the continuing problems of damp.

Some of the seats now need attention and extra supports. Val will write to our 'new' child we support in Tanzania. We also discussed the use of the recorded hymn music; we are coping but will explore other options.

The faithful few are proud to continue to share our precious island and we look forward to visitors joining us in worship.

Inspiration at a Keswick Conference

Take time to be holy, Speak oft with thy Lord; Abide with Him always, And feed on his Word; Make friends of God's children, Help those who are weak, Forgetting in nothing His blessings to seek.

First Peter 1:16, "Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy" (the words of God recorded in Leviticus 11:44) provides the basis for the hymn. The writer, William D. Longstaff, was a wealthy ship owner who gave generously to charitable and philanthropic concerns. One of the first to welcome the evangelists Moody and Sankey when they arrived in England in 1872, Longstaff formed close friendships with them and frequently had them as guests in his home in Sunderland, England.

The immediate inspiration for the hymn came from a story about Griffith John, famed missionary to China, that was told at the Keswick Conference. The missionary had exhorted Christians to "take time to be holy." Longstaff completed the four stanzas that evening. The poem was published in several religious journals.

George C. Stebbins, a composer and music evangelist, was associated with Moody and Sankey from about 1876 until the end of the century. He frequently travelled with them and assisted other evangelists between Moody meetings. While working in meetings in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and other cities in India, Stebbins discovered Longstaff's poem among the papers he had with him. Someone had clipped the poem from a newspaper and had given it to him without his notice. Impressed by the poem, he quickly composed the tune now called "Holiness." The finished song was mailed to Ira D. Sankey in New York and was published in 1890.

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Unscrambling Scripture with Revd. Mark Dunn-Wilson

(Minister at Truro Methodist Church)

Key Verse: Philippians 3:13-14

Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Four elements in our growth toward maturity in Christ:

Letting go – 'forgetting what is behind'

That is not to say that the past is unimportant – but it IS to say that if your past burdens you on your journey, then 'let it go.'

How many lives would be enriched if we could only grasp the truth that we are called to 'forget' what is behind? Old sins, persistent guilt, the sense of failing, the destructive memories – all gone because of Christ.

Moving forward – 'I press on.... straining for what is ahead'

The Christian race is often run against the wind – the easy choice is to turn around and set off with the world; wind at our backs. But there is no point in running with the wind, if it is taking you in the wrong direction. Paul doesn't pretend that the Christian journey is easy; he speaks of 'pressing on' and of 'straining towards what is ahead.' If I would be more like Jesus I need to go on with him day by day.

Taking hold - 'of that for which Christ took hold of me'

Paul's image here is of the way in which his own life was grabbed hold of by Jesus on the Damascus Road and he was set off in a different direction. So, why did Jesus take hold of Paul's life? So that Paul could know him! What was Paul's great ambition in life? 'I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection' (vs.10). That is what it means to be a maturing Christian: to know Christ better today than yesterday; to be more like Christ today than yesterday.

Coming home – '*calling me heavenwards'*

Letting go; moving on; taking hold, so that in the end we can 'come home.' 'for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus' isn't that splendid?

The teaching is clear: ... the more like Christ we become on earth, the closer to heaven we live <u>even</u> on earth, even now, and that can sustain us in even the most difficult times and situations.

Traditionally the goal of the Christian is to come home to heaven, to cross the finish line – and I believe that is true. But we understand that, in striving for that finish line, we must not miss the blessings of the journey with Christ along the way.

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We pray for Christians who allow themselves to be divided from each other by Church teaching or their own narrow ideas.

Lord, we pray, break down the barriers we build between us, destroy the walls that keep us apart, that our oneness in the body of Christ might bring glory to His name and light to those in darkness. Amen.

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A welcome service for Revd. Michael Pullan

will be held in the Methodist Church on

Thursday 31st August 2018

at 2 p.m.

The service will be led by Revd. Steven Wild, MA

Chair of the Cornwall District and

Ex President of the Methodist Conference.

Please come and support our new Minister and his wife, Ann. **HONEST RESPONSES:** Editor of *The Connexion*, the Revd. David Perry, travelled to Cliff College to interview a group of students: their following testimonies give wonderfully honest and inspiring answers to some simple questions:-

What difference does being loved by God make to your life?

- God's love means that I can go anywhere and meet anyone without worrying or fearing rejection – because if I can receive the greatest love of all without doing anything then what am I scared of?
- Absolutely everything. Knowing that I am loved by Father God allows me to live life in abundance. and even face deep suffering.

What excites you about following Jesus?

- That I am part of God's big picture of changing people's lives. I get to partner with Christ's ministry to the world.
- You see a development over your lifetime where you change in your personality to live out the gospel in spirit and truth. It's exciting, too, seeing the change in other people also journeying with Jesus.

Where do you see the Holy Spirit at work transforming the life of the Church?

• Drawing us into fellowship as one people, because we are connected by the Spirit and drawn into God's enfolding fellowship as Trinity. For the first time I have found a safe space in which to be open and transformed.

How is the Holy Spirit using your time at Cliff College?

• The Holy Spirit has taught me to speak with respect to people whose views differ from mine, the importance of patience and the need for Christian discipline. Not to waste my life but to make every moment count for God's glory.

What must I do to ensure peace of mind? Is the answer I'm seeking too hard to find? How can I know what God wants me to be? How can I tell what's expected of me? Where can I go for guidance and aid To help me correct the errors I've made?

The answer is found in doing three things, And great is the gladness that doing them brings. "Do justice" – "Love kindness" – "Walk humbly with God" For with these three things as your rule and your rod, All things worth having are yours to achieve If you follow God's words and have faith to believe.

Helen Steiner Rice

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The island community recently gathered at St. Mary's Parish Church for a Thanksgiving Service to remember Baroness Wilson of Rievaulx, who died in June at the age of 102.

The following poem, written by Mary Wilson herself, was read during the service:-

St. Mary's Church

The fog is lifting, and the warning gun At last is silent from the Bishop Rock; Round Island lighthouse stops its weary moan, And on this afternoon of early spring Here in the church, the shaken candles weep. Time passes, and the struggling daylight falls From the great Schiller window; and the scent Of hymn books, daffodils and holiness Blends in a tranquillizing harmony. Deep joy and searing grief are one, as if A calming hand were laid upon the heart.

A Version of The Lord's Prayer put together by the children of Green Oak C of E Primary School, Godalming.

Our Father in heaven, you are awesome! Show us who you are and how you want us to be. Make earth more like heaven. Please give us what we need to keep going each day. Help us to know when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside. Help us to let other people off and move on. Keep us safe from bad stuff. You're in charge! You're strong and powerful and always there. Forever.

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Good News

Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788) and his brother, John, laid down the foundations of Methodism. We will do well if we do not move far away from their beliefs.

Charles wrote at least 6,000 hymns – and to my mind many of them are sermons in themselves!

Charles said, "I want to know one thing – the way to Heaven. God himself has condescended to teach me the way. He has written it down in a Book, O, give me that Book! At any price give me the Book of God! I have it: here is knowledge enough for me. I sit down alone: only God is here. In His presence I read this Book to this end, to find the way to Heaven. Is there a doubt concerning the meaning of what I read? I lift up my heart to the Father of Light and ask Him to let me know His will."

May we do the same – the Holy Spirit within to lead and guide us into all truths – and the way to Heaven.

Pauline Jackson Cocking

The **JIGSAW LIBRARY** in the Manse has proved to be very popular and is appreciated by locals and visitors alike. Please feel free to borrow a puzzle or donate any that may be surplus to your requirements.

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Come and Meet Each Other

The **CAMEO** Coffee Mornings are held every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. If fine, tables are set up outside the Chapel and if wet, in the Hall.

It is good to have so many volunteers willing to help with this venture and time to meet friends, old and new.

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In May, for the second year running, the ladies of the Chapel cooked and served a hot meal to 50 plus children and staff of St. Mewan School in Cornwall who were camping on St. Mary's. This gave the staff a break from cooking on their last evening at the Camp and it was good to hear from the children how much they had enjoyed their holiday on the Islands.

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HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES:

- St. Martin's Sunday 2nd September 6 p.m.
- St. Mary's Sunday 9th September 10.30 a.m.

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News from the Smith Family in Penzance

Well it's been a few months since we last checked in from the big rock across the water and much has happened

The thing I love about being here are the moments when I just bump into someone I know very easy to do on the islands, but not so much in West Cornwall. At the Airport; in Penzance; I even bumped into Peter Walker (the Anglican Vicar from a few years back) on a cold and windy day in Crantock. Sometimes it is locals and regular visitors, sometimes friends from Chapel Street 25 years ago, but it is always a pleasure.

Vicki has been plugging away at Cape Cornwall School, long hours and difficult days, balanced out with the rewards of teaching, making breakthroughs and sharing in a school at the heart of the community.

Emily is making strong headway towards university in September and a three year nursing degree. Josh is enjoying life in the Co-op in Queens Square and Becky has worked hard at school and shared in a Scholars programme which includes half a dozen Scillonians who she knows all too well. On top of all that, we have seen more of Katy so far this year than we have any other year since she went to college.

My work with the Street Food Project in Penzance continues and it amazes me how much heart the community here has for its vulnerable members. Since I wrote last we have experienced two significant dumps of snow, presenting a life threatening situation for some of our guests. The leaders worked hard pressuring the Council and pushing for emergency accommodation. Shekinah Church opened their doors to provide shelter for the food service and various team members doubled up when others were snowed out of Penzance.

With the weather improving, we have seen no decline in the numbers of guests we serve. Twenty five, maybe thirty five a night, some talkative and lively, others deeply personal and quiet.

Mostly cheerful, friendly and open, some, though, have lived and continue to live, difficult and troubled lives for a multitude of reasons.

The Street Food Project isn't just about an amazing home cooked meal for those who need it. It's about taking time to talk, share, form relationships and, maybe most importantly, listen.

We offer practical help, whether it is sourcing clothing or household goods, helping with completing forms for the Council, a lift home off the beaten track or even critique on their latest art project You may have noticed, it is an organization I am passionate about and which is very close to my heart.

The Pastor of Hope Church, Jason Ward, is also behind a project called Hope Ships based in Newlyn. He is looking to make connections with the islands over the coming months but more on that next time.

From the Smiths across the water, we wish you, our family on the islands, every blessing and hope to see you soon.

Merryn, Vicki, Katy, Joshua, Emily, Rebecca and Pickles.

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It has been good to welcome visitors to our services from far and wide this summer, many of whom, prompted by Revd. Jane and assisted by John, have pinpointed their home towns on the map at the front of the Chapel and recorded their names in the book provided.

These details enable us, as a Church, to pray for all visitors by name throughout the year. Please feel free to add your details.

Out of the Mouths of Babes

A little boy's prayer: "Dear God, please take care of my daddy and my mummy and my sister and my brother and my doggy and me. Oh, and please take care of yourself, God. If anything happens to You, we're gonna be in a big mess."

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Know Your Spouse

While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace were told by the instructor that it was essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other. He addressed Tom. 'For instance, can you name your wife's favourite flower?'

Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, 'It's self-raising, isn't it?'

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Birthdays in August

Jenny Burrows, Neil Didlick, Rev. Charlie Gibbs, Anne Gurr, Daphne Perkins, Jeremiah Roberts, Paula Rose, Katie Smith, Rebecca Smith, Alan Terry, Julia Walder, John Willcock.

Birthdays in September

Patti Brooks, Angela Jenkins, Lois Morris, Mary Ratcliffe, Vicki Smith, Sue Williams.

Happy Birthday and every blessing on your special day!

Hotel Breakfast by Barbara Hasler

A full English breakfast the brochure said. But how should they know? They were French. The hotel was busy, yes, I give you that, And the tables were served by one wench.

There was one cup of coffee, which she did pour out. Then she rushed off to serve a new table. But ask for another and you could wait on. To fetch one yourself you weren't able.

A full English breakfast was bacon and egg. Or cereal, you weren't allowed both Unless you paid an extra £2.50 it said. It certainly left room for growth.

But down in Penzance it was different by far, For the Cornish know how to give pleasure. For a quarter of the price there was everything right, And such kindness there was, beyond measure.

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Go into the world with your eyes open to the needs of others and your ears alert to hear their cry; with your lips ready to speak the name of Jesus and your heart longing to share His love.

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Editorial Team

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Thanks to **<u>www.parishpump.co.uk</u>** for the use of their material.

This is the Circuit magazine and it needs your contributions to make it informative and interesting. Please send news, notice of events with dates etc. and personal reflections to the editor by 15th of the month. Articles from our mainland readers are always welcome.

In Touch can be read on line.

Just go to our Circuit website **www.scillymethodists.co.uk** and click on the link to the newsletter. Back numbers of In Touch can also be accessed. If you are able to read In Touch in this way, please, let us know and we can save the high cost of producing and posting a paper copy.

If you still wish to receive a paper copy by post, please consider an annual donation of ± 5.00 .

Come, my Lord, My light, my way; Come my lantern Night and day; Come, my healer, Make me whole; Come, my Saviour, Protect my soul; Come, my King, Enter my heart; Come, Prince of Peace, And never depart. Imagine being a racist in heaven-on-earth, sitting down at the great feast and realizing that you're sitting next to *them. Those* people. the ones you've despised for years. Your racist attitude would simply not survive. Those flames in heaven would be hot.

Jesus makes no promise that in the blink of an eye we will suddenly become totally different people who have vastly different tastes, attitudes and perspectives. Paul makes it very clear that we will have our true selves revealed and that once the sins and habits and bigotry and pride and petty jealousies are prohibited and removed, for some there simply won't be much left. "As one escaping through the flames" is how he put it.

It's very common to hear talk about heaven framed in terms of who "gets in" or how to "get in." What we find Jesus teaching, over and over and over again, is that He's interested in our hearts being transformed, so that we can actually handle heaven. To portray heaven as bliss, peace and endless joy is a beautiful picture, but it raises the question; How many of us could handle it, as we are today? How would we each do in a reality that had no capacity for cynicism or slander or worry or pride?

It's important, then, to keep in mind that heaven has the potential to be a kind of starting over. Learning how to be human all over again. Imagine living with no fear. Ever. That would take some getting used to. So would a world where loving your neighbour was the only option. So would a world where every choice was good for the earth. That would be a strange world at first. That could take some getting used to.

Jesus called disciples – students of life – to learn from him how to live in God's world God's way. Constantly learning and growing and evolving and absorbing. Tomorrow is never simply a repeat of today.

Much of the speculation about heaven – and, more important, the confusion – comes from the idea that in the blink of an eye we

will automatically become totally different people who "know" everything. But our hearts, our character, our desires, our longings – those things take time.

Jesus calls disciples in order to teach us how to be and what to be; His intention is for us to be growing progressively in generosity, forgiveness, honesty, courage, truth telling and responsibility, so that as these take over our lives we are taking part more and more and more in the age to come, now.

Rob Bell.

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Some wise words from HM Queen Elizabeth II Commenting on the celebration of Christ's birth.

"His simple message of love has been turning the world upside down ever since. He showed that what people are and what they do, does matter and does make a difference.

He commanded us to love our neighbours as we love ourselves, but what exactly is meant by 'loving ourselves'? I believe it means trying to make the most of the abilities we have been given, it means caring for our talents. It is a matter of making the best of ourselves, not just doing the best for ourselves.

We are all different, but each of us has his own best to offer. The responsibility for the way we live life with all its challenges, sadness and joy is ours alone. If we do this well, it will also be good for our neighbours. If you throw a stone in a pool, the ripples go on spreading outwards."

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By Bernadette Farrell (Psalm 139)

O God, you search me and you know me, All my thoughts lie open to your gaze. When I walk or lie down you are before me; Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising. You discern my purpose from afar, And with love everlasting you besiege me; In every moment of life or death you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord, You have known its meaning through and through. You are with me beyond my understanding; God of my present, my past and future, too.

Although your spirit is upon me, Still I search for shelter from your light. There is nowhere on earth I can escape you; Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me, Gave me life within my mother's womb. For the wonder of who I am, I praise you; Safe in your hands all creation is made new.

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Make peace with your past so it doesn't disturb your future.

Isles of Scilly this October

Leading sight loss charity the Macular Society will bring the importance of good eye health sharply into focus on the Isles of Scilly this Autumn.

On Tuesday 2nd October, the charity will be holding a drop-in event offering information, advice and support to anyone affected by macular degeneration and other sight loss conditions. The event takes place from:-

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Healthwatch Isles of Scilly,

Unit 1, Gleaner House, Buzza Street, Porthcressa,

St Mary's TR21 OHW.

Macular Society Regional Manager Judy Pride will also be joined by a representative from the Blind Veterans' Association, who will be available to speak to any former service personnel affected by sight loss.

For more information about the event, please contact Judy Pride, Macular Society Regional Manager, on 01837 52365.

Judy Pride Macular Society Regional Manager South West Direct line 01837 52365 Mobile 07947 373 244 www.macularsociety.org

PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Revd. Jane Willcock/Revd. Michael Pullan (422406) who will pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

Mervyn & Stephanie Bird 4231:	17
Sue Williams	422605
Claire Jenkins	423546
Margaret Snowball	422896
Gordon Bird	422550
Sonia Crompton	422854
Barbara Hasler	422208
Len & Sylvia Michell	422409
Pamela Thomas	423115
June Lethbridge	422404
Beryl Read	422977
Gwen Clarkson	423106

For the Prayer Chain to be effective it is essential that requests are forwarded to the person in the column beneath your name. If that person is not available, please, ring the next person on the list.

If anyone else would like to join in this special ministry, please, contact Revd. Jane Willcock/ Revd. Michael Pullan on 422406.

We thank God that we can be channels of his grace.

September Services

St. Mary's

2 nd	1030	Revd. Michael Pullan – Holy Communion
9 th	1030	Revd. Michael Pullan – United Service Harvest Festival
	2015	Epilogue Service at Old Town
16 th	1100	United Service at Parish Church Harvest Festival
23rd		Mr. G. Bird Revd. Michael Pullan
30 th	0915 1100	Mrs. S. Crompton – Prayer Stations Stewards

St. Martin's

2 nd	1800	Revd. Michael Pullan – Harvest Festival
9 th	1100	Mr C. Savill
16^{th}	1800	Revd. Michael Pullan - Holy Communion
23 rd	1800	Revd. Michael Pullan
30 th	1100	Mr. C. Savill

Park House

9th 1600 Revd. Michael Pullan

August Services

St. Mary's

5 th	1030	Revd. Jane Willcock – Holy Communion
12 th	0915 1100	Mrs. B. Read Stewards – Songs of Praise
19 th	0915 1100	Mrs. B. Mackie United Service – Parish Church
26 th	0915 1100	Mr. D. Ward Mr. G. Bird

St. Martin's

- 5th1800Revd. Jane Willcock Holy Communion12th1100Revd. Tony Pudner19th1100Revd. Tony Pudner
- 26th 1100 Mr L. Michelll
- Park House No Service in August