



METHODIST CIRCUIT

IN TOUCH

August/September 2023

From The Manse.....

Crossing the road to the Manse from St Mary's chapel recently, I was approached by a holidaymaker. I suspected at first that I might be asked for directions or perhaps for information regarding the services or other events held at the chapel or hall. Instead, the person pointed back to one of the stones in the chapel wall. "Please could you tell me what those letters mean?"

Looking in the direction that was being indicated, I read inscribed, the initials "Y.P.S.C.E". My heart sank. I realised at once that I had no idea of the answer to this question. I knew too that my understanding of Scillonian and Methodist history was insufficient to enable me even to hazard a guess ...

Intrigued, I set out to research what these letters meant. After visits to the Library and Museum, a few conversations and some online enquiries, I'm confident that I'm now adequately equipped to give a more helpful response should I ever be asked the same question again!

The experience has continued to give me food for thought ...
A couple of things in particular have struck me.

Firstly, I've wondered at how often in the course of my two years on Scilly I must have walked past that stone without noticing or ever really "seeing" it. There's certainly a complacency that can accompany familiarity; truly too, our attention is drawn to some things more than to others. Might there be challenge in the words of the 19th century American naturalist and philosopher Henry David Thoreau, "It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see"?

I've written previously in this magazine about one of my favourite Bible stories being that of Moses in Exodus 3. Moses is going about his daily life and work when he notices and gives attention to something that leads to a new and life-changing experience and encounter.

In the Gospels, Jesus is a model for us, depicted as one who notices detail, giving his attention to those individuals who are overlooked by the majority. The Gospels, as well as the Psalms and other passages in the Bible contain words that can convey the comfort and reassurance that our needs, concerns, hopes, fears never go noticed – rather, all are heard and held in the ever-loving purposes of God.

Reflecting further on my inability to attach meaning to the letters etched into the chapel stonework has also reminded me about the importance of finding and using methods of communication that are relevant and meaningful in the present age. Presumably at the time the stone was laid, around the turn of the 20th century, no explanation would have been needed; the initial letters alone would have been sufficient. Folk in the wider community as well as chapel attenders would have known what the acronym meant.

Retelling the tale of the Y.P.S.C.E stone to a St Mary's resident, we considered together other local names where stories and associations, once well-known, might now perhaps be at risk of being lost. "The Rechabite Slip" for example may become the next topic for my research!

Relating to today's church, and our call to worship, serve and witness, I'm wondering about some of the vocabulary we use, and how readily we accept the Wesleys' directive and challenge "to serve the present age" (a line from one of Charles' hymns). How well do we know our own backstory and how effective and relevant are we in communicating the message of God's love for today's world and culture? This challenge was focussed for me recently when I was invited to speak to some local students about the sacraments in Methodist tradition...

Thinking about young people, I referred in the last edition of this magazine to May-June being exam season. My thoughts continue this month with those who, during August, will receive results - for students and their families, friends and teachers.

For those from the islands, college education post-16 necessitates residency on the mainland and while for some, this may be a great and exciting adventure, for others, moving away is perhaps more of a daunting prospect. I'm mindful that September is a time of change for others in education too, and that the summer holiday period might represent not only a well-deserved rest break but also a time of transition or preparation for a new phase of life or learning.

The Methodist Church year mirrors that of education, with a new Connexional cycle beginning on September 1st. September is also Harvest time and our congregations on St Martin's and St Mary's will be marking those festivals on September 3rd and 10th respectively. If you're on the islands in September, watch out for something a bit different in St Mary's chapel, the possibility of a display in partnership with the WI.

I want to end this article by paying tribute to the life and legacy of friends with connections to the chapels. As a Circuit, we were saddened to learn of the death of a former minister, Revd Brian Mavers. Brian and Mary served the Islands for eight years from September 1994. On a personal basis, I worked closely with Brian and Mary during my appointment in Redruth, valuing deeply their wise counsel, support, kindness and collegiality in ministry.

We were sad also to hear of the death of Barbara Anderson. Barbara was most recently a resident in the Methodist Home in Falmouth from where she maintained her interest in, and generous support of the work of God in the Circuit.

Our condolences and prayers continue with family members and friends of Revd Brian and of Barbara. Our support and care continues too with members of the Lethbridge family. The funeral of the late Pat Lethbridge was held on July 14th at the St Mary's chapel. Pat's love for her family, friends and island community was recalled with gratitude and affection as we commended her to God's eternal keeping.

I conclude as always by extending to all readers of this magazine the greetings and prayerful good wishes of the Circuit here. May you know the blessing of God's peace.

Revd Carole x

P.S. Re: the "Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour" ...
I'd love to hear from you if you know more about this group, and specifically about the existence of the Y.P.S.C.E on Scilly.

Visit of the Chair of District, Sunday 9th July, 2023

The Circuit was pleased to welcome again our District Chair, Revd Loraine Mellor. Loraine led worship in both chapels and shared reflections from the recent Methodist Conference. On St Mary's, there was invitation to consider some of the current challenges facing the church. On St Martin's, we held a belated celebration of 200 years of Methodist premises. The weather was fabulous, enabling a picnic to be held outside after the service. It was wonderful to welcome Ben, a visiting organist, to play the keyboard for hymns that were sung with gusto!

Revd Loraine will be returning in early October, accompanied by Patrick Reynolds, the District's Property Secretary. Loraine and Patrick have already helped the Circuit considerably, including proposing District grants to finance property reports and some of the essential maintenance work required, arising out of these. When Patrick and Loraine return in October it is to work with us in the serious task of planning a viable strategy for the Circuit's future. What is God calling us to be, to do, to maintain and to change as we seek to worship, serve and deepen Christian discipleship? How do our buildings help or hinder us? What are the priorities? The coming months will involve decisions about how we act, not according to what matters, but in response to what matters *most*. Please pray about this and talk together and to our Circuit officers.

May we know wisdom and courage as we seek God's guidance.

Revd Carole

News from St Martin's

We continue to enjoy and celebrate the beauty of our God's creation as Summer progresses and we can spend more time out of doors with visiting friends and family.

On a personal note, we have enjoyed a visit by our son and granddaughters from Australia - using our small Orkney to visit the uninhabited Islands, such as St Helens to see the Oratory - and the 'Pest House'! We also swam with the seals behind Great Ganilly - and so much more.

We are truly blessed to be living in such a beautiful place. May we continue to look after and protect these Islands.

On 2nd July Chris Savill took our 'Sea Sunday' service when we remembered and gave thanks for the brilliant work of the Seafarers Mission. We are constantly reminded of the close connections with our surrounding waters - so many members of our families work at sea. Not surprising when 71% of our planet is covered by Oceans. It is always exhilarating to sing old favourites such as 'Eternal Father Strong to Save'

Thinking of our forthcoming service to Celebrate the 200th birthday of our St Martin's Chapel, Chris reminded us of its origins....

The Bible Christian missionaries first came to the Islands in 1821 and the first chapel was built on St Martin's in 1822 - so we are a little late with our celebrations! (the Covid pandemic to blame)

Interestingly an ancestor of ours - William Gibson is said to be the founder and builder of our Chapel. The story goes that he was a farmer - and smuggler, who was converted by visiting missionary Ann Wherry and put his ill-gotten gains to good use!!

A further link to our present congregation - William married a Sarah Woodcock - ancestor of Christine and Heather!

So - to our Celebrations on Sunday 9th July;

Our Chapel was full with Islanders from St Martin's and St. Mary's, including several young people, which was great. We were also joined by visitors - some rather special, including former teacher and local preacher Dudley Pixton, and a niece of Rodney and Ceilia Ashford, and their partners.

Good wishes were also sent by former minister and long time friends Tony and Wendy Pudner and Ian Hale former Chair of District.

We were delighted to welcome back our current Chair of District the Revd Loraine Mellor to lead our worship on this special occasion. Appropriate hymns were sung with gusto ably accompanied by Ben on our electric piano/organ. Such as one particular favourite;

*One more step along the world I go
One more step along the world I go
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you
And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me travelling along with you.*

Relevant readings included one from Matthew 7 v 24-29 which reminded us of how important it is to build on rock, and not sand! Long may our building survive.

Our service was followed by a picnic on the grass outside, and luckily the sun shone for us.

Celebrations have to include cake and Revd Carole organised and brought over a beautiful cake and made sure there was enough to go around! It was cut by Derek Perkins - at 96 one of the longest serving members of our chapel.

Thanks as always to the little band of ladies who make the cakes and provide the refreshments.

A memorable day was had by all.

Val Thomas

Revd. Brian Mavers 1938 – 2023

Revd. Brian Mavers came to Scilly, with his wife, Mary, son, Mark, and daughter, Sarah, in September 1994 on his appointment as Superintendent Minister of the Isles of Scilly Methodist Circuit.

During his ministry, Revd. Brian had a great influence on many young people both on the mainland and here in Scilly; encouraging and supporting a thriving Youth Fellowship. At least three of those young people went on to become ordained Ministers, one of whom, Revd. Amanda Stevens, he mentored and who officiated at his recent funeral service.

In 1995 Brian had the privilege of officiating at the funeral service in the Parish Church of former Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Sir Harold Wilson who had regularly worshipped at the Methodist Chapel during his many holidays on the island and, with his wife, Mary, had become firm friends with the Mavers.

After his retirement Brian and Mary moved to Lanner in Cornwall and during that time he became the officiating Chaplain at RAF St. Mawgan.

The Mavers continued to visit Scilly on a regular basis, including in 2018 returning to cover six weeks sabbatical of the Minister of the day.

Brian will be sadly and greatly missed by his family, many friends and colleagues and everyone who knew him. May he rest in peace.

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Thank you God for everything
Heavenly Father, I love you
And your love never lets me down
No matter what I do you are always with me
Knowing that I'm not perfect
You always protect me
On you I put my trust as you are the one and only God who
Understands me inside out

Amelia, age 8
The Tots Church Family at Wheatley Lane Methodist Church

Thankful Hearts

Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner? (Luke 17v18)

Hansle Parchment was in a predicament. He caught the bus to the wrong place for his semi-final in the Tokyo Olympics and was left stranded with little hope of getting to the stadium on time. But thankfully he met Trijana Stojkovic, a volunteer helping out at the games. She gave him some money to take a taxi. Parchment made it to the semi-final on time and eventually clinched the gold medal in the 110-metre hurdle. Later, he went back to find Stojkovic and thanked her for her kindness.

In Luke 17, we read of the Samaritan leper who came back to thank Jesus for healing (vv15-16). Jesus had entered a village where He met ten lepers. All of them asked Jesus for healing and all of them experienced His grace and power.

Ten were happy that they had been healed, but only one returned to express his gratitude. He "came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him" (vv15-16).

Every day, we experience God's blessings in multiple ways. It could be as dramatic as an answered prayer to an extended time of suffering or receiving timely help from a stranger. Sometimes, His blessings can come in ordinary ways too, such as good weather to accomplish an outdoor task.

Like the Samaritan leper, let us remember to thank God for His kindness towards us.

POH FANG CHIA

What can you thank God for today?

How can you cultivate a heart of gratitude?

*Taken from the 2023 April May June Our Daily Bread.
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WHEN I FEAR MY FAITH WILL FAIL, CHRIST CAN HOLD ME FAST!

In these days we can all become more fearful. I don't know if you are like me - you don't know what you are going to hear next!

But God will draw alongside us if we ask him. Turn to Isaiah 41 v10 'So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand'.

Like the woman who said, "If I can only touch the fringe of His coat, I shall be healed". JESUS heard her and felt her touch, and met her need.

Jesus wants to meet our need too. Call out to Him - Christ can hold me fast, He will hold me fast. For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Jesus says in Matthew 28 v20 "I am with you always, to the end of the age"

What more can we ask?

Pauline Jackson Cocking

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Finding Strength

May I find the strength within me to break free of all limitations

May I find the heart within me to be truly honest

May I find the courage within me to step into the light

May I find the nobility within me to treat myself and all others with compassion

May I find the wisdom within me to be still and listen

May I find the love within me to forgive myself and others

May I find the peace within me to give up my judgements

May I find the joy within me to celebrate all that is true and surrender to the Divine all that is not



God in the Arts

Editor: Michael Burgess continues his look at great works of Christian art. You can see the image described by googling Herdsman with Cows by a River 'by Albert Cuyp or going to <http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/aelbert-cuyp-a-herdsman-with-five-cows-by-a-river>. This low-res image is offered by the National Gallery under a Creative Commons Agreement, for use in non-profit publications.

'He gave us eyes to see them': 'Herdsman with Cows by a River 'by Albert Cuyp

'What is this life, if full of care,
we have no time to stand and stare?'

Those words of W H Davies provide the theme for this year. The paintings chosen celebrate creation in all its wonder and diversity, and we are encouraged to take time to look anew and so become aware of the author of that creation. But this month it is the other

way around as we sense the animals looking at us in 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' painted in 1650 by the Dutch artist, Albert Cuyp.

It is a very ordinary scene of nature. Yet there is a radiance and a tranquillity that strike us as we see the herd of cows standing in the still waters. Around them there is a lot of movement: birds fly in the sky, boats are sailing off into the sunset and two fishermen are busy at their work to the left of the canvas. But the cows and their herdsman are quiet and contented, relishing this moment of the day closing, and contemplating the world going by. And two of those cows seem to be looking out into our own world. In many of Albert Cuyp's paintings the sun bathes each scene in a golden light. Here the clouds are gathering in the sky as the sun sinks down in the west, but there is still a glowing calmness brought by the light of the sky above.

In this month of July we are probably planning holidays. Some holidays can be a frenetic rush, others are those occasions when we simply sit back and relax, letting what we see around us bring refreshment and renewal. It is the way we are encouraged to savour the joy and delight of Scripture in what is called *lectio divina*. Monastic teachers compared it to cows grazing in the field. They pointed to four stages: *Lectio* – we take a bite of scripture; *Meditatio* – we chew on that word; *Oratio* – we savour its flavour and nourishment; and *Contemplatio* – we digest its goodness to feed body and soul.

The herd of cows in Albert Cuyp's painting have spent the day doing just that – grazing and ruminating in the fields nearby. The herdsman has brought them to the river to relax in the water. Soon they will take the journey home to the farm and the safety of the cowshed. Tomorrow will bring them the opportunity to graze anew in the gift of another day. Walt Whitman wrote in one of his poems, 'I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self-contain'd, I stand and look at them long and long.' As we stand and look at the cows in this painting, perhaps we may realise that whether at work or on holiday, in Sunday worship or Bible reading at home, God can feed us through His world around and in His word in Scripture. As long as we take the time and the care to savour the delights that He offers us.

Mrs. Barbara Anderson
1927 – 2023

Barbara Anderson came to live in Scilly in the 1970's. A committed Christian, she joined the congregation at the Methodist Church and worshipped regularly for many years, joining in various activities/events whenever possible.

In 2013 ill health got the better of Barbara. She decided to leave Scilly and took up residence in 'Langholme,' a Methodist Home for the Aged in Falmouth where she lived until her death on 7th June.

Barbara was always faithful, committed and very generous.

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There's a halo that's waiting in heaven
For the many good deeds that you do
For the kind things you say in your own special way
And the times you don't focus on you
When you've bypassed your own needs for others
To help them and make sure they're fine
Given up your seat, helped a man in the street
Let your neighbour go first in a line
So find comfort in opting for kindness
Coming second will cause you no pain
Count your blessings each day, for all God's brought your way
As it's by giving back we all gain
When you've friends by your side, this life's journey is bright
Sharing's caring, they say - and they're totally right
Judy Jarvie

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Let our souls rejoice in your power, O God,
and our hearts in your love.
As our mouths are filled with your praise,
may our lives testify to your grace
Sarah Crosby, Methodist Preacher (1729-1804)

Try to Slow Down

You will not leave in a hurry, running for your lives. For the Lord will go ahead of you....and protect you from behind. Isaiah 52 v 12

Have you heard of 'hurry sickness'? Those who have it zoom in and out of lanes in congested traffic'; try to be the first off the plane, even though they must wait forever at baggage claim; honk at you if you don't take off like a racehorse when the traffic light turns green; tap their finger against anything they can find when they have to wait; punch the lift button repeatedly to attempt it to move faster.

They remind us of hummingbirds. These tiny birds can fly forward, then hoverer in mid-air going nowhere. Their tiny wings can move up to seventy-five times each second! The trouble is, their average life span is only three years compared to an eagle that lives thirty years. What's the difference? The eagle has learned to conserve its energy by riding the God-given wind currents.

The message here is simple: when you draw on the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, you last longer and go higher than you ever dreamed. One pastor said he was a 'stress-disturbing machine' when he was younger, and everybody around him felt it. One day one of his kids said to him, "Daddy, I'll try to hurry up and tell you this." He replied, "It's okay, honey you can speak slowly." After a long pause, he had an 'aha' moment when his child said, 'Then - listen - slowly!'.

Deciding to move at a slower pace will definitely improve the quality of your life and your relationships.

This devotional was taken from UCB Word for Today as the source. (02/07/2022) Permission granted by UCB to use this excerpt.

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Free issues of the daily devotional are available for the UK and Republic of Ireland

TIME

(Ecclesiastes chapter 3)

*To everything the bible states
A reason may be shown
A time for every purpose dates
From God who makes it known*

There is a time it says we're born

And sad, a time to die
To plant, and then a time, forlorn
To pluck up with a sigh

A time to kill, a time to heal

To break and then build up
A time to weep, then laughter feel
To mourn, then joyful sup

A time the stones to cast away

To gather them again
A time to hug from day to day
And also to refrain

A time to get, a time to waste

To keep or cast away
A time to rend, then mend in haste
Be silent, have a say

A time to love, a time to hate

A time of war appears
And then a time of peace, though late
Dispels the people's fears

*But more important still we're told
'Tis time to seek the Lord;
For blessings great He'll then unfold
To us from His own Word*

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Give me a sense of humour Lord
Give me the grace to see a joke
To get some humour out of life
And pass it on to other folk

ISLAND HAVEN FUND RAISER

Memoir of St. Martins School head and only teacher 1981 to 2004

My lockdown project was to write an account for our local museum of my twenty three plus years as the only Primary teacher on St. Martins. However, with encouragement, I have now published it with the title "Down Elbow Lane".

All proceeds are for the Island Haven, an initiative to provide affordable accommodation near Treliske Hospital in Truro, for those patients and their loved ones requiring mainland medical treatment.

If you would like to buy the book, at a cost of £10 per copy, please contact me on 01720 422329, so that we can exchange the necessary details.

Thank you

Heather (Terry)

A.S.A.P.

Have you ever considered the abbreviation A.S.A.P. (As Soon As Possible)? Generally, it brings even more hurry and stress into our lives. Yet there is another way to think of A.S.A.P, a way which might help us deal with those difficult times in our daily lives.

When there's work to do, and deadlines to meet, and your colleagues are rushing around, here's what you can do to help: A.S.A.P. – *Always Say a Prayer*. When your worries mount up and you don't know how you are ever going to cope with what is coming at you: A.S.A.P. – *Always Say a Prayer*.

God knows how stressful our lives can be, and He wants to ease our cares. In the Bible He promises to respond to our calls for help. So – call Him! **A.S.A.P.!**

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Duty makes us do things well, but love makes us do them beautifully.
Phillips Brooks (writer of O little Town of Bethlehem)

Father, always go with me

*Take my ears that they would hear
Your instruction loud and clear
Take my eyes that they would see
All your children equally
Take my mouth that it would speak
Truth and wisdom, bold yet meek
Take my heart that it would mourn
With the broken and forlorn
Take my hands that they would bear
Gracious solace everywhere
Take my feet that they would bring
Assurance to the faltering
Father, this I ask of Thee
*Wherever you may gently lead
Ever, always go with me**

Church bulletin notices that didn't turn out quite right....

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30 pm. Please use the back door.

The third verse of 'Blessed Assurance' will be sung without musical accomplishment.

Next Sunday Mrs Vinson will be soloist for the morning service. The minister will then speak on 'Terrible Experiences'.

Stewardship Offertory: 'Jesus Paid It All'

The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who laboured the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.

Which staff?

Several years ago the then Bishop of London reported to the General Synod that before attending a church function he had said he would bring his pastoral staff. "And how many seats will you want?" came the reply.

The nervous nun

"People get nervous when they think that they have to call me 'my Lord', said an Irish bishop. "Especially the poor nuns. One was giving me a cup of coffee. As she pushed the sugar bowl towards me, she said, 'How many lords, my lump?'"

Mary Sumner – founder of the Mothers 'Union

The Mothers 'Union is now more than 140 years old. It has accomplished a staggering amount in that time, and nowadays numbers more than four million members, doing good work in 83 countries. That is a far cry from the modest circle of prayer for mothers who cared about family life, which is how it all began with a rector's wife, Mary Sumner.

Mary was born in late 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester. When she was four, her family moved to Herefordshire. Mary's father, Thomas Heywood, was a banker and historian. Her mother has been described as a woman of "faith, charm and sympathy" – qualities which Mary certainly inherited. Mrs Heywood also held informal 'mothers 'meetings 'at her home, to encourage local women. Those meetings may well have inspired Mary's later work.

Mary was educated at home, spoke three foreign languages, and sang well. While in her late teens, on a visit to Rome she met George Sumner, a son of the Bishop of Winchester. It was a well-connected family: George's uncle became Archbishop of Canterbury, and his second cousin was William Wilberforce. Mary and George married in July 1848, soon after his ordination. They moved to Old Alresford in 1851 and had three children: Margaret, Louise and George. Mary dedicated herself to raising her children and supporting her husband's ministry by providing music and Bible classes. When in 1876 Mary's eldest daughter Margaret, gave birth, Mary was reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. Soon she decided to hold a meeting to which she invited the local women not only of her own class, but also all the village mothers. Her aim was to find out if women could be brought together to offer each other prayer and mutual support in their roles as wives and mothers.

That meeting at Old Alresford Rectory was the inaugural meeting of the Mothers 'Union.

For 11 years, the Mothers 'Union was limited to Old Alresford.

Then in 1885 the Bishop of Newcastle invited Mary to address the women churchgoers of the Portsmouth Church Congress, some 20 miles away. Mary gave a passionate speech about the poor state of national morality, and the vital need for women to use their vocation as mothers to change the nation for the better. A number of the women present went back to their parishes to found mothers' meetings on Sumner's pattern.

Soon, the Mothers 'Union spread to the dioceses of Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield and Newcastle. By 1892, there were already 60,000 members in 28 dioceses, and by 1900 there were 169,000 members. By the time Mary died in 1921, she had seen MU cross the seas and become an international organisation of prayer and good purpose.

PP Holy Days 9th August

The Love of Money

Money can buy you comfort and ease,
and plenty of food to eat.
Money can buy you a car and clothes,
and all things pretty and sweet.
Money can buy you a holiday
and you'll have lots to spend.
Lovely! But think what money can't buy -
a home, good health or a friend.
Words that are kind, sincere and true,
the smile of someone you love.
Money can't buy forgiveness of sin,
nor a home in Heaven above.
Comfort and peace, and eternal life,
these things God will supply.
Rather have Him and His wondrous love,
none of which money can buy.

Mollie H Speirs

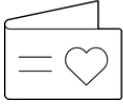
Send forth the Spirit of your Son O God
into our longing heart
that governed by your love alone
from you we never more may part

Amen

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)



Birthdays



Happy Birthday and God's blessings
to all who are celebrating their birthday in
August and September



Children's Sunday School Responses

The following were written by children. They have not been retouched nor corrected (ie incorrect spelling has been left in)

The people who followed the lord were called the 12 decibels.

The epistles were wives of the apostles

Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotony.

St Paul cavorted to Christianity, he preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.

The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

Solomon, one of Davids sons had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

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An Irish Prayer

May God give you

For every storm a rainbow

For every tear a smile

For every care a promise

And a blessing in each trial

For every problem life sends

A faithful friend to share

For every sigh a sweet song

And an answer for each prayer

Editorial Team

Jean Duncan, Anne Gurr and Barbara James are the Editorial Team of In Touch. Articles for inclusion in this circuit magazine can be given or sent to them personally or emailed to iosmethodist.mag@gmail.com

Please support the Editors by contributing reflections, stories, news etc. We welcome articles from our mainland readers as well as from Scilly.

In Touch can also be read online at www.scillymethodists.co.uk

Thanks to www.parishpump.co.uk for the use of their material.

The material in this magazine is from a variety of sources. The opinions and beliefs expressed in individual articles do not necessarily represent or reflect the views of The Methodist Church, the local editorial team or the Minister.

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As Charity Trustees, the Circuit Meeting and Church Councils seek prayerfully to act responsibly and with all due care in utilising the resources over which we have stewardship.

In common with other charities, groups and individuals, we are increasingly aware that rising costs are having a major impact in all areas of life and work. Old buildings especially bring particular challenges of costly maintenance.

If you feel able to contribute financially to support the work of The Isles of Scilly Methodist Church, St Mary's Methodist Church or St Martin's Methodist Church, please contact The Minister for details of the various ways to do this.

The Manse, Church Street, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, TR21 0JT or telephone 01720 422406.

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The Managing Trustees' Privacy Notice is published on the notice boards in the chapel buildings on St Mary's and St Martin's and is available to view online at:-

<https://www.tmcp.org.uk/about/data-protection/managing-trustees-privacy-notice>

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Prayer Requests

As always please do feel able to ask Revd Carole if you would appreciate pastoral contact or the prayers of the Church

Provisional Plan of Services

(Please see local notice boards for confirmation of arrangements)

St. Mary's Methodist Church Services

August

Sun 6	9.30am	Revd Carole Holmes (including Holy Communion)
Sun 13	9.30am	Revd Carole Holmes
Sun 20	9.30am	Revd Tony Pudner
Sun 27	9.30am	Revd Carole Holmes

September

Sun 3	9.30am	<i>to be confirmed</i>
Sun 10	<u>10.30am</u>	Harvest Festival
Sun 17	<u>10.30am</u>	Revd Carole Holmes
Sun 23		<i>to be confirmed</i>
Sun 30		<i>to be confirmed</i>

St Martin's Methodist Church Services

August

Sun 6	11am	Revd Tony Pudner
Sun 13	11am	Revd Tony Pudner
Sun 20	11am	Revd Carole Holmes (including Holy Communion)
Sun 27	11am	Chris Rowles

September

Sun 3	11am	Harvest Festival
Sun 10	11am	Revd Jo Mulliner
Sun 17	11am	Christopher Savill
Sun 23		<i>to be confirmed</i>
Sun 30		<i>to be confirmed</i>