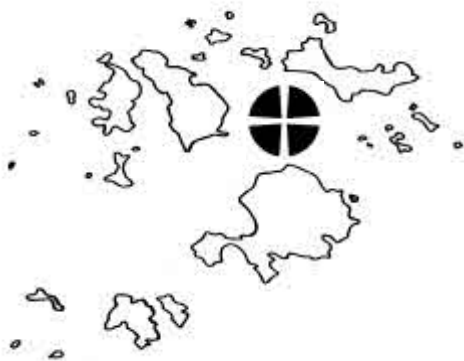


**Isles of Scilly**



**In Touch**

**JULY 2010**

**Methodist Church Circuit**

## **Chairman of the District**

Revd. Stephen Wild M.A.

## **Minister**

Revd. Charles R. Gibbs 422406

## **Local Preachers**

Barbara Hasler    Len Michell  
Neil Didlick        Gordon Bird  
Christopher Savill

## **Circuit Stewards**

Mrs Christine Savill 422563  
Mr Mervyn Bird 423117  
Mrs Beryl Read 422977  
Mr Len Michell 422409

**Circuit Treasurer** Mr Christopher Savill 422563

**Circuit Meeting Secretary** Mrs Rose Didlick

## **Church Stewards St. Mary's**

Mrs Claire Jenkins        Mrs June Lethbridge  
Mr Philip Lethbridge       Mrs Beryl Read  
Mr William Thomas       Mrs Sue Williams

**St. Martin's** Mr Derek Perkins

## **St. Mary's**

**Treasurer** Mrs Sue Williams 422605

**Church Council Secretary** Mrs Beryl Read 422977

**Property Secretary** Mrs Ann Gurr 422224

**Organist** Mr Len Michell 422409

## **St. Martin's**

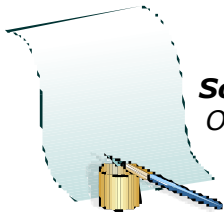
**Church Council Secretary** Mrs Jackie Perkins

**Church Treasurer** Mr Alan Terry

**Organist** Mr Rodney Ashford 423109

**Connexional Link Person** Beryl Read 422977

**Gift Aid Secretary** Mrs Stephanie Bird 423117



### **Some thoughts from the Manse.....**

*Over the past few weeks I have been spending a great deal of time seeking how God's Holy Spirit may be leading us, His Church to best serve this island community.*

*Most days I find that time after time I am led to the words of Paul, and in particular to the phrase that he uses in many places..... And that phrase is 'One Another!'*

*He says 'Love one another; Care for one another; Pray for one another; Share hospitality with one another ; Honour one another; Be at peace with one another; And teach one another..... and the list goes on. All of this, of course, is based upon Paul's vision of the Church being 'The Body of Christ' and being 'Truly One' in our faith in Jesus! This, according to Paul, is the 'only way' of being church.*

*About thirty years ago by chance I found myself living near a top Civil Servant who was some sort of 'personal assistant' to the then Prime Minister, and told a remarkable story.*

*One day this man was sent to buy a stopwatch for use in Number 10, so a visit was made to Bond Street to buy a good quality stop watch. The Prime Minister, before putting the watch to use had its accuracy checked by another member of staff, and it was found that over a period of five minutes this stop watch was one second out!*

*The watch was returned and exchanged for another watch. This second watch was again checked, and this watch again was shown to be out by just one second over a period of five minutes. Over a period of a number of weeks this went on, and not one watch was found to be completely accurate. The manager of the shop in the end said..."does it really matter...is it really important if this watch is just 'one three-hundredth out of time!'" And the then Prime Minister was accused of 'nit picking' and making a fuss over nothing.*

*As a church if we are not truly 'One in Jesus' are we 'Fit For Purpose?'*

*If we do not care for one another, or forgive one another, or pray for one another, or completely love one another.....Are we fit for purpose? Unity in the church depends on 'every one of us.....a stop watch that is just one second out in three hundred is not fit for purpose, and we too need to be in 'total unity' to be seen as 'The Body of Christ' in this world and in this community today.*

*In May the Rev. H. Barrie Morris visited these Islands with his wife Elizabeth. At the Friday evening fellowship a large gathering heard Barrie speak about being united by 'The Word of God'.*

*On the Saturday evening Barrie and Elizabeth spoke about the church in Central Africa, and despite the fact that there were fewer at this meeting nearly £100 was given to the Uganda charity which had been agreed at our annual church meeting. Our unity and our sense of caring for 'One Another' is for all who are our brothers and sisters 'In Jesus'. We continue to pray for those who are denied the many things we so often take for granted.*

*Finally I end this letter by saying thank you for the ministry of our Anglican priest Father Guy Scott, who leaves Scilly this summer to continue his ministry amongst the people of Biggleswade in Bedfordshire. In the days to come we will continue to pray for Father Guy and his wife Kate and their wonderful daughters. Over the past year Guy has been most kind to Mary and myself, we have enjoyed fellowship, and I will miss Guy here on the Islands as a fellow minister and as a friend.... Guy if you read this do please know the love of your Methodist friends, and every blessing to you and your family in the exciting time that is now before you!*



*I end by urging you to read from Paul's 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of his letter to the Romans..... it is short and to the point. When you have read it read it again!!!!!! There is no other way to be church than to 'Be One in Christ Jesus!'*

*Whatever you are doing in the month of July, trust in God, and be open to Him to bless you in the mighty name of Jesus!*

*I remain by the grace of God, the Methodist Minister on these fine islands..... May the love of God continue to be seen in our love of one another!.*

*Charlie Gibbs*

## The Rock

Starting in Caesarea at the house of Cornelius in Acts chapter 10, the story unfolds in flashback: we see Peter, called away from his fishing nets, his years on the road alongside Jesus and the disciples, his triumphs (you are Messiah, the Son of the living God!) and his failures('I tell you. I don't know him!) Jesus called Peter 'the Rock' – but as the musical unfolds, we see that **only in Jesus, and filled with His Spirit, is Peter – and are we- on solid ground.**

A gathered choir has been rehearsing the Rock. This will be performed during the summer on several occasions. Please look out for posters and come along. Our last production was Snakes and Ladders, also by Roger and was much appreciated by visitors and locals alike. Roger's music and Alison Fuggle's words guarantee a delightful but thoughtful evenings entertainment.

St. Mary's Methodist Church

**SUNDAY 4TH JULY**

8pm

An evening of the Great Hymns  
of Charles Wesley

Led by: Revd CHARLIE GIBBS

Come and enjoy singing these  
wonderful hymns

And hear a message of hope by our  
minister.

Refreshments served at the Manse at  
the close of the service at about  
9pm.



### **In loving memory of Flo**

Joe, Valerie and Martin would like to thank everyone who helped to make Mum's Thanksgiving service so memorable, especially all the ladies who worked so hard on the day and to Charlie for making it such a beautiful service. We would like to thank everyone for their support through prayers, visits and cards at this time. All are much appreciated.

Mum was a wonderful person who spent much of her time in service to others, giving generously of her time. A good listener, she was always there for those in need of help. On moving over here 33 years ago, she set about putting as much as she could into the life and community of these beautiful Islands. Her sense of humour, quiet support of others, and kindness will be missed by us all. Although in the last years she was not around as much, she had in her time been a communion steward, provided teas and coffees after the Monday evening slide show, arranged flowers, helped with the holiday club, and was always there to make cakes, help with washing up and provide hospitality whenever it was needed.

**Great opportunities come to all, but many do not know they have met them. The only preparation to take advantage of them is simple fidelity to what each day brings. A E Dunning.**

**The Lord does not shine upon us, except when we take his Word as our light. John Calvin**

## **St Martin's News**

Whilst there is little new or specific to write about this month, (such as the new wall hanging which has been admired by visitors attending our services) there are some "bits and bobs" to make up a short contribution to In Touch.

The exhibition of photographs in the Sunday School continues to attract people, bringing in a steady income for Chapel funds. Although most of the pictures are the same as when the display first went up, more have been added since 2007, so it's well worth a second visit if any readers go to St.Martins this summer.

Our treasurer has this month received a pleasing payment from the Inland Revenue, after completing returns to reclaim tax on donations. If people are eligible, Gift Aiding and being part of the pew envelope scheme really does make a difference.

Recently some of our members set to work to refresh the flowers tubs at the Chapel entrance; so they once again make the approach more attractive.

As on St.Mary's, May saw worship being led by visiting ministers from the mainland. It is always good to meet with and listen to fresh people, whilst still appreciating the commitment and thorough preparation of Charlie, our local preachers and worship leaders, who willingly ensure services week on week within a small community.

Unfortunately Uncle Rodney Ashford has been unwell during recent weeks, so our thoughts and prayers are with him and Auntie Celia, trusting that he will soon feel better.  
Heather



## Church Highlights

Charles and Mary have been able to invite some lovely friends to Scilly and on the last weekend of May the Rev. Barrie Morris and his wife Elizabeth were here. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May we had the privilege of listening to the Rev. Barrie. The meeting was held in the Wesley Room of the Manse. Psalm 139, and the first six verses were the subject of Barrie's exposition. This Psalm is a favourite of many and what a joy it was to meditate and also be challenged by

"The Omniscient God" who has infinite knowledge of us – boundless - endless-

"O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up, you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue. behold, O Lord, you know it all together".

These truths are both awesome and a comfort!

We then thought of "The Omnipresent God" who is everywhere at the same time.(verses 1-10)

"Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?"

There is nowhere outside His scope. We rejoiced in a God whose love for us and interest in us is beyond human comprehension, It is only by faith that we lay hold of it.

We concluded our time together with Ham sandwiches (with mustard) and a cup of cocoa. Our Spiritual and physical needs well and truly met!

Kenneth and Pauline Jackson Cocking.

**The worst poverty today is the poverty of not having spiritual values in life. Cardinal Basil Hume OSB**



**July** is the month in which we think and pray about the work of the charity Action For Children, started by Methodists nearly 150 years ago. Every year the second Sunday in July is celebrated nationally in the Methodist Church. Here in the Isles of Scilly we will as usual be so doing on July 11<sup>th</sup> with a special contribution during our 11.00am Communion service.

Since changing the name recently from National Children's Home the organisation has launched a big appeal, even advertising the campaign on TV, to help children and teenagers suffering with dire consequences for their young lives.

**The true measure of a nation's standing is how well it attends to its children** – Their health and safety, their material security, their education and socialization, and their sense of being loved, valued and included in the families and societies into which they are born. (Unicef 2007)

### ***What is meant by neglect?***

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic needs and it's likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. It can be harder to recognise than other forms of child abuse because it is often the symptom of other long-term and complex problems in a family rather than an easily recognisable one-off event. Neglect comes in many guises. Some of the following, observed over a period of time may be indicators:

- + a child who frequently goes hungry
- + a child who regularly goes to school in dirty clothes
- + a child who is not taken to the doctors when ill
- + a child who is frequently left unsupervised and lives in a dirty home
- + a child who does not feel loved

**What is Action for Children doing?** We're aiming to raise £17m over the next three years. We want to:

- + develop new, **mobile services** to reach out to children who don't use services we already have
- + develop a programme to involve **fathers** more in mainstream services
- + develop a programme to tackle **poor nutrition** in all our family support services
- + develop **UK wide programmes** to tackle other specific aspects of neglect and to enhance the skills of **our family support workers**

Encourage governments to invest in a policy of early intervention  
**We trust that our people here in the Circuit** and visitors in our congregations will wish to contribute to the Appeal, for which envelopes will be available in the pews.

**Later in the month, on Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be having our Coffee Morning in the Atlantic Hotel from 10.00am until 11.45am.**

There will be the usual cake stall to which we ask our grand team of cooks to contribute generously. We should like to have Bric –a-Brac Items to sell as well.....so please have a look for something you could donate.

We can surely help to make a difference to the lives of sadly deprived youngsters.

Gwen Clarkson. Action for Children Representative.

## **HOLIDAY CLUB AUGUST - Please Help**

Holiday Club this year starts on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August. We are going to be Pirates looking for treasure! By the end of the week we will discover that the greatest treasure anyone can find is knowing Jesus as Lord. **As of other years we are looking for workers who can give half an hour, a full hour, or half a day. If so please contact Sonia (423854)**

**WELCOME ABOARD**

## Forgiveness

What a feast we have had with visiting speakers recently. not only have they given us valuable teaching during the week but occasionally also in our Sunday worship. One occasion stays in my mind and that is the sermon given by the Revd. Professor Peter Stephens.

He spoke powerfully from the Word of God about 'Forgiveness' .

How true that teaching was and worthy of a wider audience than just those who heard it in the flesh!

Perhaps the most obvious point that he made was that when ever we say the Lord's Prayer we make the petition 'to forgive us our trespasses '**AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US'** but often forget that our forgiveness **is conditional on our forgiveness of others.**

He spoke that we must also **FORGET** the hurts (or Trespasses, against us) and not let them stay in our hearts How often do we need to be reminded **to take our troubles to the foot of the cross and leave them there** instead of still wanting to keep carrying the burden of them ourselves!

I never fail to remember that wonderful passage in Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan taken from the modern edition.

' Now in my dream I saw that the highway along which Christian was to travel was closed in on either side by a wall, and that wall was called Salvation. So up this road burdened Christian ran, but not without great difficulty because of the load on his back.

He ran till he came to a slight upward slope, on the top of which stood a cross. A little below it, at the bottom, was a tomb. I saw in my dream that just as Christian came up to

the cross his burden came loose from his shoulders, and fell off his back. It began to tumble downhill, and continued rolling till it came to the mouth of the tomb, where it fell in, and I saw it no more.

How glad and light hearted Christian was! With a happy heart he said" He has given me rest by his sorrow, and life by his death" Then he stood for a while to look and wonder. He found it very surprising that the sight of the cross should ease him of his burden like this. He gazed and gazed till the springs in his head sent tears down his cheeks.'

**What great joy and freedom it is to know that we can do the same and know the same relief enabling us to become the people He wants us to be.**

### **Prayers – Faith in Action**

I have long been convinced, but recently more so, that prayer is definitely a two way conversation with God. In that **we** cannot pray without listening to God and seeing if our prayer for situations isn't directed back for **our** action. The temptation of prayer is to think that once made it requires no action on our part, as if God will find somebody else to fulfil the need expressed by us.

As many of you know recently I was in Scotland , visiting my sister. Last year she spent a long time in hospital, eight weeks in total, away from her home and yet every day she had a visitor from her church. I thought that was very special and I can't help thinking how wonderful it was that people had not only prayed for Beryl but made a long journey, over 40 miles , to visit her. Faith in action despite the distance.

Heavenly Father, help us as we pray for others to see that often you want **us** to answer the needs expressed in our prayers.            Thanks be to God.            Mary Ratcliffe

## **Say a prayer**

Young James and his family sat down to Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. When James received his plate, he started eating right away. "James! Please wait until we say our prayer," said his mother.

"I don't need to," the boy replied.

"Of course, you do," his mother insisted. "We always pray before eating at home."

"That's at our house," James protested. "This is grandma's house, and she can cook!"

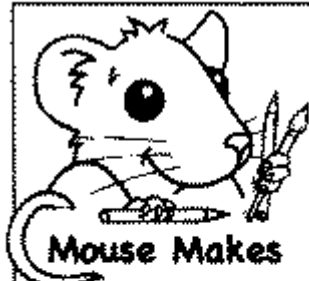
## **Out of the mouths of babes....**

A woman invited some people from church to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just say what you've heard Mummy say before," the hostess answered.

The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"



**Mouse Makes**  
 Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a whole living person, so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!



"Now you are the **body of Christ**, and each one of you is part of it"  
 1 Corinthians 12:27

"Though we are many, we are **one body** in union with Christ, and we are joined to each other as different parts of **one body**."  
 Romans 12:4-6



Cut out this jigsaw piece, fill in and colour. Draw around it to make lots of jigsaw pieces to give to your family and friends to fill in. Glue them together onto one large sheet of paper to remind you that you



may all be different but you are all **one** in Christ Jesus.

**THE 2010 ISLES OF SCILLY  
GRAND TREASURE HUNT.**

**HIDDEN DEEP  
BELOW THE  
GROUND IS  
*A RARE BUST  
OF JOHN WESLEY***

To enter this exciting event call at The Manse at Church Street St.Mary's. And Rev Charlie Gibbs will give you all that you need. ☎ Scillonia 422406

*An adventure for all the family to enjoy!*

*With a prize to be truly treasured!*

**ENTRY FEE £5**

***ALL PROFITS FROM THIS GRAND EVENT  
WILL BE DONATED TO THE  
ISLES OF SCILLY METHODIST CIRCUIT***

*Be prepared to visit many fine locations, think long and hard, and who knows you may be the one who discovers this fine bust of he who once visited the good folks on The Isles of Scilly!*

*This is not for the feint hearted, but for those with determination and Wit!*



# **EVERY MONDAY!**

*Every Monday at 2.15  
We meet for 45 minutes  
TO PRAY.*

*Every Monday we meet at  
The Manse together.*

*Every Monday we feel the  
Love Of God.*

*Every Monday new friendships  
are made, and hope is found.*

*Every Monday Support and  
Care is offered to all.*

*Every Monday at 3pm Tea is  
served and we sit and chat.*

*We look forward to meeting  
Every Monday at 2.15.*

**ST.MARY'S METHODIST CHURCH**

## July Birthdays

Barbara Anderson, Shannon Aston, Adele Bird,  
Jo Fairburn, Kenzie Ferguson, Benjamin  
Jenkins, Pam Manning, Christine Savill, Marga-  
ret Snowball, Pam Thomas, Val Thomas, Isobel  
Trenear



Happy Birthday to you, happy birthday to you,  
God Bless you and keep you, and watch over you.

## Peace be with you

(Jn 20:24-31, 14:5,11:16)

Through absence,  
Through doubt,  
Through questions  
And fears,  
Through locked doors  
And longing  
Jesus comes.

His risen presence  
Bringing blessing,  
Hope and healing,  
Restoration  
And his precious,  
Faith-affirming  
Gift of peace.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

In the first instance please contact Charlie Gibbs 422406 and then me, Mary Ratcliffe 423030 I will then pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

<b>Mervyn &amp; Stephanie Bird</b>	<b>423117</b>
Sue Williams	422605
Merryn & Vicki Smith	423360

<b>Claire Jenkins</b>	<b>423546</b>
Neil & Rose Didlick	422838
Margaret Snowball	422896
Gordon & Fiona Bird	422550
Sonia Crompton	422854

<b>Barbara Hasler</b>	<b>422208</b>
Margaret Crane	422596
Len & Sylvia Michell	422409
Pam Thomas	423115
June Lethbridge	422404

<b>William &amp; Tricia Thomas</b>	<b>423144</b>
Peter Laverock	423692
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.*

Material also used from the Parish Pump a resource for magazine editors.

## JULY NOTICES

### St. Mary's

4th	9.15	Neil Didlick & Charlie Gibbs (Holy Communion)
	11.00	Trevor Adams
Park Hse	4pm	Rev Charlie Gibbs
	8pm	Rev Charles Gibbs
11 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	Neil Didlick & Mervyn Bird
	11.00	Rev Charles Gibbs (Holy Communion)
	8pm	Gordon Bird
18 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	Len Michell & Mervyn Bird
	11.00	Len Michell
	8pm	Sankey Songs of Praise Len Michell & William Thomas
25 <sup>th</sup>	9.15	Neil Didlick & Gordon Bird
	11.00	Len Michell
	8pm	Lifeboat Service Revd. Charlie Gibbs

### St. Martin's

4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Mrs Barbara Haslar
11 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Revd. Charles Gibbs (Holy Communion)
18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00	Christopher Savill
25 <sup>th</sup> .	11.00	Revd. Charles Gibbs

#### Editorial Team

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