### **Chairman of the District**

Revd Steven Wild M A

#### Minister

Revd. Dr. David Easton Ph.D., M.A., B.Ed.

#### **Local Preachers**

Barbara Hasler Len Michell Neil Didlick Gordon Bird Christopher Savill

#### **Circuit Stewards**

Mrs Christine Savill 422888 Mr Mervyn Bird 423117 Mr Neil Didlick 422838

Circuit Treasurer Mr Christopher Savill 422888

Circuit Meeting Secretary Mrs Rose Didlick

## Church Stewards St. Mary's

Mr Philip Lethbridge Mrs Claire Jenkins
Mrs June Lethbridge Mrs Sue Williams
Mrs Mary Ratcliffe Mr William Thomas

St. Martin's Mr Derek Perkins

St. Mary's
Treasurer Mr Len Michell
Church Council Secretary Mrs Beryl Read
Property Secretary Mrs Mary Ratcliffe
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 (01720 422977)
Gift Aid Secretary Mrs Stephanie Bird (423117)

#### From the Manse

## Dear Friends,

This year, during the World Championships, I have been asked to bless a gig which has been built on the Islands, by Peter Martin, and commissioned by a crew from the Netherlands. Glad as I am to bless her, my greatest privilege has been to see her under



construction. I haven't followed her from scratch, when the wood was chosen, but I have been along to Peter's workshop and have seen him and Andrew at work. I found the whole experience just amazing. There was this craft, which at sometime in the past had been a living tree, now not just a lifeless pile of wood but a thing of incredible beauty and grace, which had a whole life of its own.

I said to Peter that if I had the money and the room I would ask him to build me a gig which I would put somewhere in my home, just for the sheer joy of looking at the beauty of it. In some churches in Scandinavia it is the custom to hang a boat in a church – perhaps a reminder of the Viking longboats, but also of the image of the church as a boat in which God's people sail. I would love to hang a gig in one of our churches, not just to remind us of our piloting past, but also as a symbol of the church as a boat – the words 'nave' and 'navy' come from the same root.

As we celebrate Gig Weekend at the beginning of summer, the image of the Church as a rowing crew who must pull together and under the direction of the cox is a good one. Jesus is the one urging us one and directing us in the way, but without each of us putting the effort in we'll limp along somewhere at the back.

I don't know if the gig I bless will go on to be a champion boat; but, whether it does or not, I hope that successive crews find immense satisfaction in pulling together. We can' all be 'champion churches' but we can do our part to be Christ's crew, pulling together.

Every blessing,

## A Visit by Cornish Methodists, June 1st 2009

Most of you will remember the Ascension Day visit by

several

Hundred Methodists from across Cornwall a few years ago.

Steven Wild, chair of the Cornwall Methodist District, is keen that another group should come over on the Scillonian again this year. Ascension Day is not possible, because the new Bishop Truro is coming over then to bless the bells in the Parish Church.

So, the visit will be on Monday June 1st. The programme will be similar to last time, when there was a service on Holgate's Green and we provided a sandwich lunch. Please keep this date free and, of course, all offers of help nearer the time will be gratefully received.

### **News From St.Martins.**



With the approach of Easter members thoughts turned to preparing our place of worship for this most special of festivals. After a spring clean the usual beautiful flower arrangements decorated the Chapel. It was good to welcome both islanders and visitors to the Easter Day service, especially the family of the late Kay Horner. Kay, John and their children used to be regular worshippers, but their visits to St.Martins ceased a few years ago and sadly Kay died a couple of years back. Some readers

might remember Kay, the sister of Anne Pickston, a former local preacher in our circuit. As the photographic exhibition was so appreciated 'last year, it has 'been decided to leave the "Life on an Island Now and Then" pictures on show for another season. Further improvements to the Sunday School are planned using the proceeds from this initiative. Once again thank you to everyone who has supported us so far.

Heather

#### Latest news from UCDF

Kate Rees, the founder of UCDF, has been very ill over the winter so has had to cut back on her correspondence and on her trips to Uganda. Happily, she is now on the mend and is planning a trip to Africa in May. At the end of last year UCDF had problems from threats to the reputation and safety of Peter Ssegawa, the Ugandan Field Director and to The Fold where the children stay during school holidays. The perpetrators of the threats were known and were people who were jealous of Peter's position. Because of the potential danger to the children, those who were able to went to stay with safe relatives for Christmas. This has meant that it has been difficult to collect and send the children's letters to their sponsors and this is still being sorted out.

In January Ruth Rees volunteered to go to Uganda in Kate's place and had a very successful trip. She and the charity's Ugandan lawyer confronted the people behind the threats, with the result that the problem is now over. Among other things Ruth also visited a borehole and pump that UCDF has provided in a remote area of Uganda – the people there are claiming that it serves as many as 30,000 people!!!

The credit crunch and reduction in the value of the pound have affected UCDF's income and some sponsors have had to postpone their payments until times get better. The children in the orphan village of Bulabakulu are still having food provided for them but it is hoped that they will become self-sufficient when their land becomes productive. Already crops of beans and cassava have been planted and a crop of maize has been harvested. They also have a borehole provided by UCDF and this requires ongoing maintenance.

Kate has now decided the time has come to relinquish some of her role in UCDF and the job of secretary has been taken on by Ruth Rees. Kate will continue as co-ordinator and correspondent.

This is a summary of a long newsletter that I have received. I will put a copy of the newsletter on the sideboard in the church so you can read it in full if you are interested. Please continue to pray for the vital work that UCDF is doing in Uganda and for Kate and Ruth in their work for the charity.

Anne



## News from Nathan Thomas- now in South Africa

Hello everyone,

Happy Easter! It's a treasure in my heart to know that back home my loved ones thousands of miles away are also rejoicing in the Resurrection of our Saviour.

Hallelujah!! Went to an Africaans church today and wore head sets with English translation. I'm so busy all the time, but I've got all my homework done and handed in my first assignment. We have a speaker tomorrow on the book of Acts, We read Luke and Acts out loud yesterday (Saturday). The study is hard work but so

rewarding. I think I'm doing OK just need to maintain energy and focus, sometimes we are studying into the early hours, already!!

I've injured my ankle again and am limping,, I've really got to seek the Lord about an operation, but for now I just ask that you pray that it will heal please. I send my love to everyone – be bold, be strong, for the Lord our God is with us!.

Your brother in Christ,

Nathan

## Listening to God's voice

What is your experience of hearing God's voice? Think about times in the past when you were aware of God prompting or leading you:

What was the context in which this took place?

How did you respond? What was the outcome?

What can you learn about the way God speaks to you?

In the light of these questions, ask God to show you how he might speak to you today in any particular situation where you need his guidance.

## Christian Aid Week 10-16<sup>th</sup> May

Nadia was profoundly affected by the death of her father, whom she adored and his death had immediate practical implications. There was no money to pay for her schooling, so she had to drop out and care for her younger siblings while their mother worked.

Families like Nadia's often hear about Humanité Nouvelle's tailoring course through their local church. The course helps poor girls to develop skills to support themselves and their families.

Nadia explains why girls in similar situations turn to sex work: 'They need to pursue their education and, with a lack of means, get desperate.'

It would have been easy for Nadia to despair. But instead Humanité Nouvelle 'have given me education for life', she says. She completed the course and now helps to teach the new intake of girls.

Nadia still takes care of her siblings, as well as being a mentor at Humanité Nouvelle. Her mother describes her as 'a blessing... [without her] things would be very hard'. And it's not just her family who speak so positively of her – her pastor also talks about the inspiring influence of her gospel singing. Nadia is confident that she can earn a good living from sewing and she is clear about her priorities: 'If God helps me... I will do all I can to take care of my siblings and my mother." As collectors we can be inspired by Nadia. Even in difficult circumstances she is planting seeds of hope around her.

And Nadia's mother has a message for us: You volunteers should not be discouraged when you're turned away from houses. You should carry on because without that money it would be very difficult for... children from destitute backgrounds to get training, get a job and secure their future.' Your time and money are more valuable than you know. You could give a chance of a brighter future to another young person like Nadia, and support them to bring hope to the people around them.

The ripple effect of collecting at Christian Aid Week is immense – by taking part you are working alongside people like Nadia to help change the world. In the DRC:• £5/€6.50 could buy six yards of material, from which a three-piece woman's outfit can be made.

• £10/€13 could provide a girl with enough material to complete a 12-month tailoring course• £40/€51 could pay the monthly salary of a tailoring instructor.

Please collect and give generously.



A report by children's charity Action for Children is warning that young people in the middle years of childhood are struggling with a unique set of problems that are being overlooked or unsupported.

**children** The report, 'Stuck in the Middle', is backed up by the findings of a new UK-wide survey.....

It reveals that 60 per cent of adults and over 40 per cent of parents, with children aged 6 to 13, are unaware that these 'middle years' are a crucial turning point in a child's life which, if neglected, can lead to damaging and permanent effects in later life.

'Stuck in the Middle' also highlights the even greater impact these problems can have on the most vulnerable children in our communities. Action for Children spoke to 165 of society's most

vulnerable children in this age range to get an insight into the issues they face today.

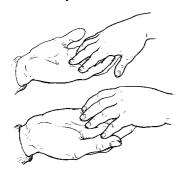
Shockingly, the charity found that more than half of these children found it difficult to control their temper. Over a third said they had been bullied and one in four said they felt lonely.

Launching the report, Clare Tickell, Chief Executive of Action for Children, said: "It's a major concern that children themselves are identifying these serious problems......

"As a society we understand what pre-schoolers and teenagers need but 6 to 13-year -olds are being overlooked...........

"At this age children need to be children, they need to be listened to and their self-esteem and confidence built. If not, it [can] lead to darker days for them as adults."

## **Fellowship Week**



This year the studies were led by Revd Martin Broadbent, who was formerly Chair of one of the London Methodist Districts and who now lives in Bath. He helped us understand the Healing Ministry of the Church. An element of our worship which is often overlooked, even though it was considered essential to the first believers. It was providential that Martin came this year, a year later than we thought possible. This year we all needed healing after

there has been so much hurt and pain in the past few months.

Martin explored the place of 'Healing in the Church Today', 'Healing of Communities', and the 'Healing of Memories'.

On the Friday night Martin emphasised the need for forgiveness – reminding us that in the Lord's Prayer the request "Give us this day our daily bread" is linked without hesitation with the request "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us"

It is important to remember that healing is important and vital if the people of Christ are to be able to offer healing - in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ - to our friends in need and to the community as a whole.

Afternoon tea on Sunday was followed by a Service of Holy Communion which included the Ministry of Healing. A large number came forward for the laying on of hands, whilst everyone prayed as each received this ministry.

It was a beautifully simple service conducted with great dignity by David. We later heard that Martin himself needs our prayers and today we send him our love and prayers whilst thanking him for all that he has done for us.

Mary

O Christ the Healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to be restored ,when reached with love that never ends?

'I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.'



Hymns play an important part in helping us to discover that we can live out our Christian lives in service and by showing that we are unashamed to work in the name of Christ. I long ago discovered that one of the most effective ways I could share my faith was by giving the answer "It is God who has helped you" when I had been used by God to bring healing and

hope to those in trouble or distress.

In recent years a hymn has been written which expresses my faith and our hope. A hymn of great beauty and which gives us lots of food for thought when we contemplate the words.

Brother, Sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.



We are pilgrims on a journey, and companions on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, Sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

Richard Gillard b.1953 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Will you come and follow me John Bell from the Iona Community is committed to encouraging congregations to sing. The following hymn is very challenging but the last verse re-assures us that if we follow Christ he will accompany us on our journey.

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, And do such as this unseen
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true When you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same?

In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me?

John L. Bell (b.1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958

#### Pentecost

Pentecost was the old Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which took place at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles - but he knew they could not do the work themselves - they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent. Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

God does not bestow his Spirit on his people in order to set aside the use of his Word, but rather to render it fruitful.

Day by day, we are becoming what we shall be eternally.



...I know he's a great fan of 'Strictly Come Dancing' - but I wish he wouldn't refer to it in every sermon he preaches.

## In this recession ridden times...

What's the capital of Iceland? About 10 krona.

How do you define optimism? A banker who irons five shirts on a Sunday.

Why have estate agents stopped looking out of the window in the morning?

Because otherwise they'd have nothing to do in the afternoon. (Parish Pump)

#### Reflections

Nobody's fault really, but there were no children in the Chapel at 9.15 on Sunday 29 March. It was the morning that the clocks went forward, so some may have overslept. Another factor was a ballet exam which started at the school at 9am that same Sunday morning. No doubt others might have been away on the mainland, or not well. The worship leader that morning, Beryl Read, had to drop the children's talk she had prepared. There are pretty much no children ever at the 11 o'clock tradtional service. As I sat there pondering this unusually child-less service, I began thinking about the barren woman in Isaiah 54. I felt as though we in the Church are like a barren woman, with no sign (yet) of a younger generation being born to uphold the name of Jesus in this place. Take heart from the prophesy! 'Sing, O barren one, who did not bear, break forth into singing and cry aloud, you who have not been in labour! For the children of the desolate one will be more than the children of her who is married, says the Lord.' Is 54 v1 Through God's eternal covenant, she (Sarah) inherits a blessing far greater than the woman (Hagar) who has been made pregnant by the will of a husband. God wants us to be ready for the blessings! They come sooner or later, and by faith, not by taking matters into our own hands. Our divine orders are to break forth into song, believing the promise, even on days when the children are not there. 'Enlarge the place of your tent' savs the Lord. 'Let the curtains of your habitation be stretched out' Is 54 v2.lsn't this a message to us to break down the walls and to loosen up our idea of church? The Spirit is building a kingdom that is so much bigger than the little tent we have put up here on St Mary's. Can we even now discover new expressions of the Kingdom of God in these islands? Having just finished the 10 weeks of the Alpha Course, this is especially poignant. Alpha shows how we can have fellowship with unexpected people, in new ways. By sharing meals and discussing openly the purpose of life, we glimpse this 'stretched out' habitation. May I encourage you to loosen the cords of your tent in expectancy of many more children being born of the Spirit. Paul expounds the prophecy in Galations 4:26 and the verses following. We see it in the context of religious tradition versus the freedom for which Jesus has set us free. And it cuts to the heart of all our issues over leadership, church services. preaching, singing, musical styles and dogmas; Paul writes, 'in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision (9.15 or 11 o'clock??) only faith, working anything, but through count for Peter Laverock

# Filled up and sent out! Dy: William Malan O

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost...and to the world!











It was the start of a most amazing chapter in history. The followers of Jesus were waiting, questioning,, but knowing he had said "Wait for the 'promise'. And then it began. The Holy Spirit came in power. Some thought the disciples were drunk but Peter started preaching in this new power.

Thousands came to faith. It was and is the good news of Jesus. Read more from Acts 1 and 2 onwards.

#### THERE'S PROBABLY NO GOD

## - NOW STOP WORRYING AND ENJOY YOUR LIFE!



This slogan is on many buses in London and other major towns and cities across Europe. It is sponsored by the Humanist Society.

How do you react to it? Some have expressed outrage, while others have seen it as a discussion starter. It also carries a challenge to all Christian people. Some people have contributed to a fund to seek a banning order from the courts.

Yet here is a classic example of something that is a 'stumbling block' to some or a 'stepping stone' for others.

Personally I find myself in the second group- whenever people are challenged to think about God, we have an opportunity to speak about what he means to us.

There is an assumption made by this slogan. If you believe in God you worry too much and don't enjoy life. If that is the picture others have, whose fault is that? Where do they get that idea?

Someone wrote that you are probably the only Bible some people read. Jesus says - you are light to the world. What people know of God is what they see reflected in us. That's challenging- isn't it?

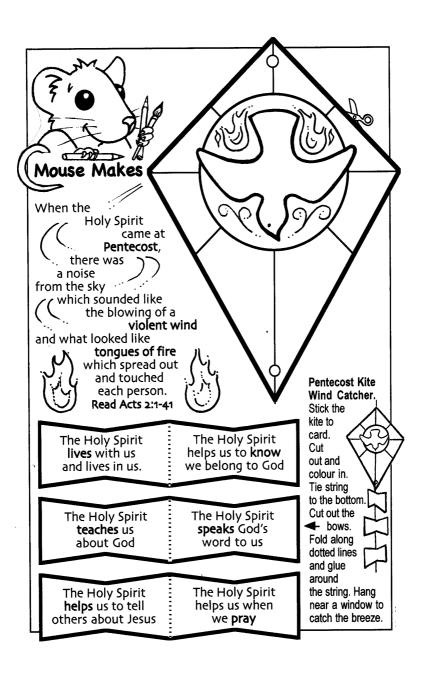
## THERE'S A GOD - NOW STOP WORRYING AND ENJOY YOUR LIFE!



## Are You Listening At The Back!

We are truly blessed in our church that we have an excellent sound system. Those of us whose hearing is not what it used to be have cause to be very grateful for it. However, it can only be of benefit if the microphone is being used. So, please, readers and speakers, think of those whose hearing is not as

acute as your own and use the microphone, otherwise your words may fall on deaf ears





**Birthdays this month** We send our greetings to Harriet Pender; Michael Jenkins; Chris Hensleigh; Emma Roberts; Dorothy Beedell; Mervyn Bird; Nick Jenkins and Andy Brooks all celebrating a birthday this month. May God's blessing surround them not just on their birthday but every day.

## **Diary Dates**

## May

Holy Space- Gig Weekend Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 7-9pm in the Chapel.

Holy Space is a Café style gathering, designed to give people space to meet with God through worship, meditation and prayer.

Request for helpers to set up the Chapel at 4.30pm and stay through in the evening.

7<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> David Easton on holiday.

June

1st Day Visit by Cornish Methodists (see details elsewhere

in magazine)

16<sup>th</sup> St. Mary's Annual Church Meeting (<u>note new date</u>)

#### **HOLIDAY CLUB**

Holiday Club this year will be from August 3<sup>rd</sup>-August 9<sup>th</sup>. Anybody interested in helping, however little, or much, and in any capacity please speak to Sonia Crompton Thank you.

### **EDITORIAL TEAM**

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It is helpful to the editors if copy can be sent in Ariel Font -11point Contributors are also reminded that copy is required by the 15<sup>th</sup>

### PRAYER CHAIN



In the first instance please contact me, Mary Ratcliffe 423030 or Revd. Dr. David Easton 422406. I will then pass on the prayer request to the first name in each of the groups.

Mervyn & Stephanie Bird 423117		
Su	e Williams	422605
Keith & Sam Grosset	t 422503	
Merryn & Vicki Smith	423360	
Claire Jenkins	423546	
Neil & Rose Didlick	422838	
Jenny Nightingale	422125	
Margaret Snowball	422896	
Gordon & Fiona Bird	422550	
Sonia Crompton	422854	
Barbara Hasler	422208	
Margaret Crane	422596	
Len & Sylvia Michell	422409	
Pamela Thomas	423115	
June Lethbridge	422404	
William & Tricia The	omas 423144	
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.

## **MAY NOTICES**

ST. MARY'S	9.15 am	Leader Neil Didlick Preacher Revd David Easton Revd.David Easton Sacrament Park House.Len Michell Len Michell	
	11.00 am 4. 00 pm 8.00 pm		
10 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Leader <b>Beryl Read</b> Preacher <b>Neil Didlick</b>	
	11.00 am 8.00 pm	Len Michell Barbara Hasler	
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Leader <b>Mervyn Bird</b> Preacher <b>Gordon Bird</b>	
	11.00 am 8.00 pm	Barbara Hasler Neil Didlick	
24th	9.15 am	Leader <b>Jenny Nightingale</b> Preacher <b>Barbara Hasler</b>	
31st Penteco	11.00 am 8.00 pm	Len Michell Gordon Bird	
31° Penteco	11.00 am	Revd.David Easton Sacrament	
	8.00 pm	Revd.David Easton Sacrament	
ST. MARTIN'S			
3 <sup>rd</sup>	6.00 pm	Revd.David Easton	
10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Gordon Bird	
17 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm	Len Michell	
24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Neil Didlick	
31 <sup>st</sup>	6.00 pm	Revd.David Easton Sacrament	