

CALENDAR FOR APRIL

1	6.30pm	St Mabyn Tug of War - every Tuesday
	7.00pm	Allen Valley Singers - every Tuesday
2	6.30pm	St Tudy Football Club - every Wednesday
3		St Mabyn Parish Annual General Meeting (in the school)
	7.30pm	St Mabyn Tug-of War Joint Training - every Thursday
	8.00pm	St Tudy Old Time & Mod Seq Dance - every Thurs
5	10.00am	Coffee in the Clink St Tudy Over 60s
	10.00am	Coffee Treveighan Chapel Mt Edgcumbe Hospice
6		THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (PASSION SUNDAY) Jer. 31: 31-34, Heb. 5:5-10
7	2.30pm	St Tudy Country Dance Club fortnightly Mondays
	6.30pm	Patient Participation Group Bridge Medical Centre
	7.30pm	St Tudy Bellringers - every Monday
8	10.30am	Treveighan Coffee Morning
9	12 noon	Soup & Sweet Lunch St Tudy Methodist Church
	7.30pm	St Mabyn Garden Club AGM
10	2.30pm	St Tudy Afternoon Club
	7.30pm	Study of Parables of Jesus St Tudy Methodist Church St Tudy Parish Annual General Meeting (in the Clink). NB. Change of date.
11		Schools break up Allen Valley Singers Metropole Hotel Padstow
12		St Tudy GPA Spring Show
	10.00am	Coffee in the Clink - Allen Valley Singers
	10.00am	Magazine deadline
	11.00am	Open House Ruth & Dick Poynton
13		SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE EASTER (PALM SUNDAY) Isaiah 50: 4-9a, Phil 2: 5-11
14		Michaelstow Parish Annual General Meeting (in church)
	7.30pm	St Tudy Village Hall Management Committee AGM
17	7.30pm	Annual Open Meeting of Michaelstow Parish Council
18	7.00pm	St Tudy W I
19	10.00am	Coffee in the Clink St Tudy Village Theatre
20		EASTER DAY Isaiah 25: 6-9, 1 Cor. 15: 1-11
		National Vintage Tractor Road Run
26	10.00am	Coffee in the Clink & Plant Sale St Tudy Church Safari Supper St Tudy Village Hall Committee
27	11.00am	Clay Pigeon Shoot St Mabyn YFC
28		Back to School

SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS DURING LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Sunday 30th March MOTHERING SUNDAY

8.00am St Tudy Holy Communion BCP

9.30am Michaelstow Holy Communion BCP

9.45am St Mabyn Family Service and distribution of flowers. The children from St Mabyn Buzz Club will be contributing to the service. 11.05am St Tudy Family Service and distribution of flowers. The children from St Tudy Sunshine Club will be contributing to the service. 6.00pm St Tudy Combined Evensong with the Methodists.

Please support the services and make Mothering Sunday special.

Monday 7th April 7.30pm Lent Group at the Rectory

Sunday 13th April Palm Sunday. Donkeys will lead a procession around St Mabyn and St Tudy.

6.00pm Michaelstow. Traditional Evensong BCP

Monday 14th April 6.30pm St Tudy Compline

Tuesday 15th April 6.30pm St Tudy Compline

Wednesday 16th April 6.30pm St Tudy Compline

7.30pm St Mabyn. Faure's Requiem will be performed by a combined choir from St Endellion and St Teath. It will be a wonderful addition to our Holy Week programme. (Retiring collection).

Thursday 17th April MAUNDY THURSDAY

5.00pm Michaelstow Stripping of the altar

5.45pm St Tudy Stripping of the altar

7.00pm St Mabyn Agape. It will partly consist of a three course meal with wine, following a traditional Jewish Pesach or Passover meal. It will lead naturally into a re-enactment of the Last Supper and Passover Meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples. Hymns are sung and there are readings from the bible during the course of the evening. There will also be a footwashing ceremony. (Two volunteers have already been found.) It is usually a wonderful and social occasion and also a strong reminder of the importance of this special event. It is not a Communion service. If you would like to come either contact me on 851691 or put your name on a list in church. Anyone and everyone is welcome. Cost £3.

9.30pm-ish St Mabyn Stripping of the altar. This will be followed by a silent Vigil until about 10pm. This is of course voluntary.

Friday 18th April GOOD FRIDAY

12.00 - 1.00pm St Tudy Meditations at the foot of the cross 2.00 - 3.00pm St Mabyn Meditations at the foot of the cross

During Good Friday and Holy Saturday, Captain Gordon Banks, from the diocese will be running workshops for all the children and young people in preparation for Easter Day. His "caravan" will be seen in the villages. More information will be displayed nearer the time. It will provide an excellent preparation for Easter.

Saturday 19th April 7.30pm Michaelstow. A Service of Light.

This is a very old and beautiful service where the first light of Easter is lit and brought into church. The light is used to light the Pascal Candle and all the candles in the church are then lit from the Pascal candle. This represents the light of the Resurrection after the darkness of the cross and the tomb and of course, the fact that Christ is the Light of the World. Baptism vows are also renewed. Do come along and experience this occasion.

Sunday 20th April EASTER DAY (The most holy day of the Christian year.) I hope that the children will show us the results of their workshops at these services.
9.30am Michaelstow Holy Communion
9.45am St Mabyn Holy Communion
11.05am St Tudy Holy Communion
12.30pm St Tudy Holy Baptism

FROM REVEREND MARGARET

Holy Week is the week in the Christian year, which leads up to, and prepares us for the sorrow of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Day. I do hope that you will all make time for God during this week and attempt to come to some of the services or events that will be taking place throughout the week and especially on Easter Day when we can all shout together. CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA. A very Happy Easter to you all.

We hope to "Spring Clean" St Mabyn church on Tuesday and Wednesday 8-9th April and St Tudy church on Tuesday and Wednesday 15-16th April. If you would like to help please come along with dusters and strong elbows. All help will be very much appreciated.

St Tudy Patronal Festival will take place on 18th May and not 11th May.

There will be a Medieval Banquet in the Village Hall on Saturday 24th May. Please keep the evening free. More details next month. The early notice is to give you time, (if you will be "dressing up"); you might need to prepare your costumes.

Six people from the Benefice are to be confirmed in Truro Cathedral on Saturday 12th April at 11.00am. You are all very welcome to come along and support them. Bishop Bill has assured us that it will be a lovely occasion. Please remember them in your prayers as they prepare for this wonderful occasion. The candidates are Jo Knight, Joanna Harris, Amanda Harris, Deborah Philp, Alan Millson and Colin Hyde.

ST TUDY AFTERNOON CLUB

Many requests were made on the recent survey to restart this club, so under the chairmanship of Ron Heath, the first meeting was held in the Village Hall on 13th March, when 21 people came and listened to Miss Nora Sheer reading Jan Stewer stories.

The next meeting will be Thursday 10th April at 2.30pm. Unfortunately at the time of going to press, we do not have a definite speaker - watch for the posters. On that note if anyone feels they could give an hour or so to speak or show slides etc, please contact Lilian Lamerton 851056 or speak to Ivy.

MICHAELSTOW PARISH COUNCIL

The annual open meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 17th April at 7.30pm in the Treveighan Methodist Chapel. The speaker is Timothy Yeomans B.A., A.B.I.A.T., of NCDC, Building Control and Design Services, who will speak on the Restoration of the Shire Hall, Bodmin, which was reopened by HM Queen Elizabeth. The meeting is open to all parishioners.

ST MABYN GARDEN CLUB

As usual our Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming members to the club; he was particularly pleased to welcome some new members. We expected Mrs Carol Grigg to be our demonstrator for the evening showing us how to arrange flowers, but at the last minute she could not attend and so we were grateful to Mrs Jenny McGann who was our replacement. Jenny is a lecturer for the Duchy College and lives at St Kew near Wadebridge. Our subject for the evening was to be the history of hedging and stone walls in Cornwall.

Jenny explained to us the origin of hedging, how they started and how they developed over the centuries; she also explained how the fields arrived at their shape and size. We were also told a rough way of dating hedges and a way of telling if a large field was originally several small fields and the dividing hedges taken out. Our Chairman thanked Jenny for coming along at short notice and providing us with most interesting evening. There were a few plants for sale on the plant stall; a pink Azalea took pride of place amongst the flower heads, which were on display. During our tea and biscuit session the raffle was drawn.

Our outing this year is on Wednesday 21st May. The coach will be leaving St Mabyn bus shelter at 9.30am. We shall be going firstly to Ken Karo and leaving there at lunch time to spend the afternoon at Cotehele. There are some tickets available. Anyone welcome. Phone Mrs Sue Knibb on 841564.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 9th April, which is the day of our AGM, and afterwards Mrs Ann Caldwell will be presenting a slide show depicting The Four Seasons. Anybody welcome. We are in need of new members. St Mabyn Garden Club is a friendly, non-competitive club with many interesting speakers. Come and join us.

PETER BARNARD

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS.

These are open meetings when all members of the church are invited. (See dairy for dates.) Please note that the date of the St Tudy AGM has been changed from 2nd to 10th April.

Please check that your names are on the Electoral Roll for 2003. There will be nomination forms at the back of the churches for nominations for Church Wardens, Secretaries, Treasurers and PCC members. The meetings are legal requirements.

EASTER AT MICHAELSTOW

In addition to the regular pattern of services, we have a couple of "specials" arranged. There is currently no evensong held in the Benefice; surprising because it always tops the polls of people's favourite services. So on Palm Sunday (13th) there will be an Evensong at 6 o'clock. Do please give us your support; if there is a demand for it we will try to fit some more in through the year. At 5pm on Maundy Thursday stripping of the altar will take place.

Then on Easter Even (19th), there will be the Service of Light at 7.30pm. Those who attended last year found it inspirational and moving, so do come and join us. It is an old tradition and one, which should be kept alive. And if it's wet you will be entertained by my efforts to kindle a fire in the churchyard from which the light will be taken into the Church.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

16th March St Tudy Samuel Mark Oatridge

GOLDEN WEDDING

Ruth and Dick Poynton would be very pleased if you would help them celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Everyone is welcome to "Open House" 11am-3pm on Saturday 12th April at Southdown, St Tudy.
No presents please - just your presence.

ST TUDY CHURCH ROOF FUND

A fruit cake is going to be made and donated by Mrs Dianne Bartlett. It will be displayed in the Post Office window a week before Easter by kind permission of Mr & Mrs S Livesey. Raffle tickets will be on sale at 50p per strip from "Greyhayes", Wadebridge Road; Mrs Muir, Virginia House and the Post Office. The draw will take place in the Church Porch after the Easter Sunday service - thank you for your support.

D.B.

ST TUDY OVER SIXTIES

We will be having a Coffee Morning in the Clink from 10-11.30am on Saturday 5th April. Everyone welcome.
Please make a note - the outing this year will be on 14th May.

BARBARA LYNN - SECRETARY

ST TUDY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Annual General Meeting followed by the Business Meeting of the above committee will be held in the main Hall on Monday 14th April at 7.30pm.
Our Safari Supper will be held on Saturday 26th April. Do come and join us.
Further details will be on notice boards in the village.

MARGARET SHELLEY

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

The Wednesday Coffee Mornings in the Clink, St Tudy will start up again on 7th May. As usual, I am seeking some willing helpers and if you enjoy baking goodies all the better. I look forward to hearing from you. Please contact me on 851278.

JOAN WYLES

TAP CELEBRATES SUCCESS

Transport Access Patients (TAP) is celebrating 12 months in operation by announcing that up to the end of January, 3000 requests for transportation to health related appointments had been fulfilled. The project, a collaboration between many voluntary support organisations, transports people to receive health treatment anywhere in Cornwall. The scheme is a result of a partnership between County Primary Care Trusts, Cornwall County Council, Cornwall Health Action Zone, Pentreath Industries and the East Cornwall Rural Transport Partnership, who are also responsible for managing the scheme.

The call centre takes calls from patients, surgeries and people wishing to arrange transport for health treatment on a centralised booking number. Call centre staff log the request and then source a driver for the journey. The drivers are volunteers who get paid expenses by the mile. They can choose how much of their time they

are wishing to give to the scheme and, in future, have the opportunity to take part in the Community Transport Association Car Scheme Driver Training. For a small charge per mile, those without access to their own transport or public transport can be taken to and from their appointments in a safe and friendly manner. For patients who are recommended not to travel on their own or without an escort on public transport, this type of service is vital. However, more drivers are needed. If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer driver, they should call 01872 223388 for further information and ask for Clare.

The number to call for those interested in booking a journey with TAP to health related appointments is also: 01872 223388.

For more information on TAP, please contact: Ann Lewis, Transport Manager, Age Concern Cornwall & Isles of Scilly. Tel. 01872 223388.

Email. Acc@ageconcerncornwall.org.uk

NCDC NEWS

Local elections - postal voting and standing as a candidate. The Boundary Committee for England has recently carried out a review of the district ward boundaries in North Cornwall and as a result the number of wards has been reduced from 27 to 23 and the number of councillors to be elected from 38 to 36. The District and Parish Elections will be held on 1st May 2003. Prospective candidates for both District and Parish Elections can obtain nomination papers from the Elections Office, North Cornwall District Council, Higher Trenant Road, Wadebridge, PL27 6TW, after the publication of the Notice of Election on 17th March. The last date for receipt of nomination papers being NOON on Tuesday 1st April.

The last day for amendments to or cancellations of existing postal or proxy vote applications is 5pm on Friday 11th April. New applications to vote by post or proxy at these elections must be received by 5pm on Wednesday 23rd April. All correspondence regarding registering to vote or postal vote enquiries should be addressed to the Electoral Registration Officer, North Cornwall District Council. Telephone Helpline 01208 893354.

NCDC website. The new website is up and running and although we've still got a long way to go there are lots more things now on line... including the weather, surf and tide times. Have a look at www.ncdc.gov.uk and let us know what you think.

NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE - Would you like a speaker?

On 1st October 2002 the National Minimum Wage main rate (for workers aged 22 years and over) rose to £4.20 per hour. At the same time, the development rate (for workers aged 18-21 years) rose to £3.60 per hour. Further information on the rates and other matters connected with National Minimum Wage, can be obtained from NMW Helpline tel. 0845 6000 678.

A team of officers around the country are available to give presentations about the Minimum Wage generally or on a specific aspect. For the South West the National Minimum Wage is administered from Exeter and anyone interested in a presentation, or attendance at any event, is asked to contact Malcolm Vallance tel. 01392 663094.

ST MABYN YFC

We would like to thank everyone who supported the pantomime at Wadebridge Town Hall on 7th February. Also all in St. Mabyn, St. Tudy and St. Kew Highway, who helped raise a phenomenal £575, by buying dung in aid of this year's charities. The Clay Pigeon Shoot will be held at Haywood Farm on 27th April, from 11 am. Entries are £10 per round and £40 per team with prizes up to £100 for Top Gun and Top Team, also prizes for Top Lady and Junior. Phone Tom for more details on 07919 182196.

The club's visits this month include Go-Karting and visit to Netherton Farm, where Cornish Yarg is made. If you would like to join us or find out more details please call James Mutton 01208 841264.

PLANT SALE AND COFFEE MORNING

This will take place under the Chestnut Tree and in the Clink on Saturday 26th April, 10am to 11.30am. If you have any plants to spare, they will be gratefully received (on the day or to Virginia House). All proceeds to the Church Roof Repair Fund.

ANDY MUIR

NATIONAL VINTAGE TRACTOR ROAD RUN

The National Vintage Tractor Road Run is an annual event, taking place somewhere in the United Kingdom. The Cornish Tractor Club are organising the 2003 Run which is to be based at the Royal Cornwall Showground, from which it will start at approx. 9am on Easter Sunday, 20th April. Charities supported are Motor Neurone Disease "Thumbs Up" Appeal and Cancer Research.

The vehicles involved will be either vintage or classic tractors together with supporting vehicles and followers. The route will pass through the parish of St Mabyn at some point during Easter Sunday. So keep your eyes open.

BINDING STONE BOOK UPDATE

In February £50 was donated to St Tudy Village Theatre. This brings the total given to the various village organisations to £2814.60. Sales have naturally slowed, but several have now been purchased by people in America, thanks to the Internet. Our thanks also go to the Post Office and the Cornish Arms who advertise and sell the books on our behalf.

There is still £296 in the account. £100 has been "earmarked" for the proposed new notice board - if this goes ahead. If you have a project, which you think could benefit, please contact any member of the Binding Stone Committee - Mavis Kingdon, Maggie Lobb, Judith Jasper or Sue Dibble.

ST TUDY CARNIVAL ROYALTY

Queen Choosing coffee Morning Saturday 3rd May in the Clink

If anyone is interested in becoming Carnival Queen, Fairy Queen or Fairy King, please speak to Caroline (850385) or Bev (851027). Deadline for entries is 27 April. The Senior Queen should be going to senior school. Entrants will be welcomed from those living within the parish or attending the village school. There is a dress allowance as follows: Senior/Fairy Group with 1 attendant £100, 2 attendants £125 or Queen alone £75.

PORT ISAAC PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

The next meeting of our Patient Participation Group will be on Monday 7th April at 6.30pm at our surgery premises in Wadebridge, Bridge Medical Centre. The main topic for the evening is patient transport. To start the discussion Mrs Judy Powell-Jones, project co-ordinator funded by Help the Aged will be talking about a patient transport scheme that she helped to organise in the Dartmouth area.

If you have any topics that you wish to be raised at the meeting please contact me on 01208 880222. Please let the surgery know if you hope to attend the meeting. Thank you.

ANNE BONEY

SUNSHINE CLUB

It has been several months now since a new club started at St Tudy School. Reverend Margaret Millson and Pastor Brian Parkman are running the "Sunshine Club" for all pupils at the school. The club aims to give children the chance to learn a little more about Christianity, in a very child-friendly way. At each meeting we have a game, songs, prayers, stories and crafts. The Sunshine Club generally meets on the third Thursday in each month and runs from 3.15 until 4.15pm.

The meeting for April will be held earlier in the month, on Thursday 10th April. We will be thinking about Easter at this time and are going to have an Easter egg hunt - hopefully outside! We normally have between 10 and 15 children at the Sunshine Club, however it would be lovely to see some new faces. If you have never been to the Sunshine Club and would like to find out what it is all about, come along on April 10th and find out what you have been missing!

MOUNT EDGCUMBE HOSPICE

There will be a Coffee Morning at the new community room at Treveig an Chapel on Saturday 5th April 10-12 noon. Bring & Buy, cakes, toys, and raffle.

Proceeds in aid of Mount Edgcumbe Hospice. All welcome.

MAUREEN NARRAWAY

ST TUDY VILLAGE THEATRE

The play's been chosen! "Careful Rapture" is a short one act/two scene gentle comedy by Jack Popplewell, which should amuse everyone. The cast of five ladies and one gentleman will perform at the Village flail on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th May. Meantime, the cast are busy rehearsing twice weekly ... behind the scenes, sets are being painted ... props being inveigled ... and a fundraising coffee morning planned for Easter Saturday 19th April between 10 and 11.30 at the Clink. All the usual bring and buy etc - please come and support in any way you can to help get the "premiere" off the ground!

JANE KING

ST TUDY METHODIST CHURCH

Welcome to our services and events during April. We look forward to seeing you on the following dates:

Sunday 6th April	11.00am	Pastor Brian Parkman
Sunday 13th April	11.00am	Church Fellowship service
Sunday 20th April	11.00am	Pastor Brian Parkman. Holy Communion.
Sunday 27th	11.00am	Mr Andrew Martin

Wednesday 9th April from 12 noon, Soup & Sweet lunch in the Schoolroom. Cost £1.50. Please let Patricia Hodge or Mavis Kingdon know in advance if you plan to go. This will be the last lunch until we re-start in the autumn. Very many thanks to all who have supported us in this new venture. We hope you agree that it has been very successful and we look forward to seeing you again later in the year.

Thursday 10th April in the Schoolroom at 7.30pm - the last in our series of studies of the Parables of Jesus. Everyone is welcome.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - ST TUDY

St Tudy is a very law-abiding and caring community where everyone looks out for their neighbours. In fact, with the formation of Neighbourhood Watch, - caring for ones neighbours became more official. Fortunately, crimes are few and far between albeit we do see the wanton decapitation of our roadside daffodils at this time of the year and drink cans and bottles littering the lanes coming in to St Tudy.

What I would like to emphasise is that should the need arise; never hesitate to call the Police by the 999 system, especially in the case of persons acting in a suspicious manner. This is a quicker procedure than contacting your Neighbourhood Watch representative who could then be contacted after the 999 call. Also do not hesitate to contact the Police on 0870 5777444 for all other enquiries.

I am only too pleased to be contacted but I am not always immediately available. Please keep up the good work.

ROY WEST

THANKS

I always enjoy a superb meal at the St Tudy Lunch Club. Unfortunately, this was not possible in February, as I had a deglutition "problem" before tasting the tempting pork and vegetables. The concern and attention of Jane Miller, Mavis Kingdon, Patricia Hodge and Brian Cousins was appreciated. Many thanks to you all and to Bill Hodge, who took me in his car to Bodmin Hospital -returning me home later.

JOHN EDWARDS

ST TUDY GARDEN PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

The final meeting of our winter session found the Village Hall packed out when George Kestell gave a well-illustrated talk on bulbs of all descriptions. He kept the interest going by asking us to identify the examples on his slides - we were not always successful! He also gave us notice of Nanstallon Garden Club's "Gardening Gala Afternoon" on Saturday 10th May between 2 and 6pm at Withiel Village Hall. There will be information, sales, examples, help, teas - should be well worth a visit if you can find your way there!

Brian Lamerton, our Chairman, had a few announcements to make, the first of which was hoping our Quiz Team is again in top form on Wednesday 19th March when we take on St Kew and St Teath. The winter competitions Flower cup was won by Jack Sleeman and the Vegetable cup by Jean Smith.

Watch out for the Spring Show to be held on Saturday 12th April - open to everyone, members and non-members alike. Ask if you've not exhibited anything before and want a schedule. **ALL CUPS TO BE RETURNED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE SHOW, PLEASE!**

The annual outing will be on Sunday 4th May to Caerhayes Castle where the rhododendrons should be in full bloom. Coach will depart from the Chestnut tree at 12 noon - book your seat soon as it's first come first served. Cost £7 adult, £3.50 child, names and money to Ivy at the Post Office or Ken Metcalfe.

Although, there are several events during the summer months, make a note that our next winter's lectures start a month earlier than before - on Monday 22nd September - when Jenny McGann will come to talk on "Wildlife Gardening". Meantime, roll on summer!

JANE KING

BLUE PETER WORKS APPEAL

Hope Yeomans would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who came and supported her table sale/coffee morning. It was a great success. Also a big hug to the people who were so kind in giving me lots of wonderful items to sell. Lastly thanks to my sister and Grandma who helped out during the sale. We raised £136.50.

THE ALLEN VALLEY SINGERS

From the subdued atmosphere on the coach travelling back from the County Music Festival in Truro, you could have been forgiven for thinking that we had come away empty handed rather than having just won not one, not two, but THREE trophies. I put the reason for our gentle calm down to the fact that earlier in the evening we had arrived at Truro Methodist Church with less than five minutes to spare before our first class was announced and with no chance of a warm-up or even being able to get ourselves into line properly, we were on stage. This frenetic dash gave us no time to feel nervous, but it also left one of our members in the ladies loo still adjusting her garter! Having said that, our performances in all the three classes we entered earned us Distinction marks for excellence, technically and artistically. Our first appearance at The Camelot Hotel, Tintagel for this year was on Thursday 27th March and from May until October, we will be singing there on - alternate Thursdays. On 11th April, the choir has been invited to sing to VIP guests at the Metropole Hotel in Padstow and besides songs from our repertoire, we will also be singing a selection of Cornish songs.

Dates for your April diary:

12th April Coffee Morning in the Clink with the usual bring & buy, cakes and raffle. We look forward to seeing old and new friends.

23rd April Wadebridge Town Hall Concert

26th April St Tudy Safari Supper. The choir will be in the Methodist Chapel serving the starter course.

Choir Secretary: Jennifer May 88013 1. Bookings Secretary: Cheryl Nicholls 01840 250727. PR/Publicity: Jennifer Tarring 841329.

MRS MAVIS BUTTERS

When it was clear that, with Peter only 4 years old, her husband was slowly dying from a war wound, Mavis trained and then worked in Manchester as a primary school teacher promoted each year to a higher class. When her husband died she determined to dedicate her life to teaching, if possible in Cornwall, which she had come to know well as her "in laws" had owned a house for many decades on the cliffs at New Polzeath. When St Tudy offered she at once accepted. She and Peter arrived on 29th December 1964 and lived in a caravan near the Rectory until (in Peter's words) "the village showed its helpful warmth and Ivy Cottage was sold her at conditions which today would not be possible".

A wise but lonely making decision, derived from her professional attitude to work, was not to make close friends with any of the parents with children at school in order to avert accusations of favouritism. Equally she did her best to split her time between Church and Chapel activities and became an enthusiastic bidder at harvest auctions. Mavis never sought recognition for her long years of service. But Peter recalls with his grateful thanks the many gifts of fruit, flowers and vegetables, so often left anonymously at Ivy Cottage when his mother was out shopping. For nearly 30 years Mavis's personality dominated the St Tudy School. To those of us who only came to St Tudy in the late seventies, she was at first a somewhat awesome figure. The injection of the three Rs, a degree of literacy and numeracy were an essential part of her aim. But manners, courtesy, dress, common sense, no less so, and those were the qualities obvious among the very young that struck us as newcomers to the village in 1979.

My wife and I never really got to know her well until she retired to the Windmill Home with her life, if not hanging by a thread, at least drawing gracefully to a close. Some years ago with the help of parents and the Editor, I wrote a monthly summary of the athletic triumphs and the budding careers of many of her ex pupils. She was entranced and remembered them all. Her body may have been frail as she puffed away, as she always had, at her death dealing cigarettes. But her mind and memory were as clear as a bell. Others will know much better than I do if I am correct. But I suspect Mavis Butters set a whole generation on a road of a lifetime fulfilment in a world where those personal essentials she valued, manners, courtesy, care for others, is increasingly at risk. We got to know Mavis really well only as the evening of her days settled into darkness, as she sat in her chair both by day and night. We came to sense that much of the fun and laughter she so bravely displayed even after the doctor told her the end was near, came from a belief that her life as a teacher had not been wasted, and that she had been enabled to pass onto the young, including Peter, those unique qualities she had recognised as the legacy left by her predecessor Mr Garland. Following her wishes for a quiet cremation Peter scattered her ashes on the cliff tops in front of Egloskerry, overlooking Pentire and Stepper Point where, so often, he had driven her in the past so that she could sit "and count the waves".

L and P LeB