

CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2007

1	8.00pm	St Tudy Old Time & Mod Seq Dance Club – every Thurs
2	7.30pm	Evening of Champagne St Tudy Chapel
		Curry Night at Cornish Arms, St Tudy
3		Day Course on the Ministry of Healing Truro Cathedral
4		THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Gen 15: 1-12, 17-18, Phil 3: 17- 4:1
		Sponsored Bike Ride St Tudy AFC
5	7.30pm	Lent Course Session 1 at the Rectory – every Monday
6	9.00am	Yoga – St Tudy Village Hall – every Tuesday
	7.00pm	Short Mat Bowling – St Tudy Hall – every Tuesday
	7.30pm	St Tudy GPA Inter Village Quiz
	7/8.00pm	Salsa Club St Mabyn – every Monday
7	9.30am	Morning Prayer BCP St Mabyn
	6.30pm	St Tudy Football Club – every Wednesday
8	2.30pm	St Tudy Thursday Afternoon Club
11		THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Isaiah 55: 1-9, 1 Cor 10: 1-13
12	7.30pm	St Tudy GPA
13	10.30am	Treveighan Coffee Morning
	12noon	Soup & Sweet Lunch St Tudy Methodist Church
14	9.30am	Morning Prayer BCP St Mabyn
	7.30pm	St Mabyn Garden Club
15	7.30pm	Coffee Evening St Tudy Methodist Church
16	7.00pm	St Tudy W I
17	10.00am	Magazine Deadline
	11.00am	Clear Out Cavalier Cottage St Tudy
	7.30pm	Pasty Supper & Race Night St Tudy Village Hall
18		THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (MOTHERING SUNDAY) Josh 5: 9-12, 2 Cor 5: 1-3, 1 lb-end
19	7.00pm	Whist Drive St Tudy Village Hall
20	6.30pm	St Tudy Governors
21	9.30am	Morning Prayer BCP St Mabyn
23		Coffee Morning Gleneagles St Mabyn
24	3.00pm	Wedding at St Mabyn
25		THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT Isaiah 43: 16-21, Phil 3: 4b-14
29	7.00pm	St Mabyn Annual Parish Church Meeting in church
30	6.30pm	Antiques Valuation Evening St Mabyn
31		St Tudy GPA Spring Show
		Disco St Breward – St Tudy AFC

ST TUDY METHODIST CHURCH

There is a warm welcome to everyone to join us on all or any of the following dates:

Sunday 4th March	11.00am	Church Fellowship, led by Brian and Dawn Bunce
Sunday 11th March	11.00am	Mrs Lorraine Mead
Sunday 18th March	11.00am	Mr Len Mabson
Sunday 25th March	11.00am	Mr Matt Parsons
Tuesday 13th March	12noon	Soup & Sweet in the Schoolroom £2.50. Please give names to Trish (850321) asap.
Thursday 15th March	7.30pm	Coffee Evening with Clayton Irons. Bring and Buy stall and refreshments

On Friday 2nd March at 7.30pm in the Schoolroom, we welcome the Cornwall Ladies' Barbershop Chorus and friends for an evening of entertainment. Tickets will cost £4 each to include refreshments and are available at the village stores. The money raised from the evening will be shared equally between the Special Care Baby Unit at Treliske Hospital and St Tudy Chapel.

ST TUDY W I

President, Judith Jasper, welcomed us to the first meeting of 2007. She reported that the evening at Trethorne, when we had joined with the Bowling Club, had been very successful; a lovely meal followed by bowling. Members enjoyed their Christmas meeting and had voted to ask Dr Gibbons to play the piano again next year. Judith was pleased to say that we had made £70 on the WI stall at the Hall Christmas Fair. We decided to enter the Royal Cornwall Show.

Peter Davies, then gave us a fascinating talk on Bodmin Moor with excellent slides. He was thanked by Ann Reed, who is a very keen walker on the moor.

Competitions: Bodmin. Moor any medium proved to be very interesting. 1st Jennie Harris (with a very old newspaper cutting of the moor), 2nd Jenny Muir (an interesting photograph), 3rd Yvonne Nobbs (a lovely painting). Flower of the Month: 1st May Halls, 2nd Sue Dibble, 3rd Yvonne Nobbs.

ACCESSION SERVICE AT MICHAELSTOW

The special service held on 4th February to mark the 55th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne was judged, I think, by those who attended as being a success and a worthwhile thing to do. We were blessed with beautiful weather and the churchyard looked a picture with its drifts of snowdrops and Bishop Hunkin's camelia just coming into flower. My grateful thanks go to the congregation for turning up (and especially to John Lobb for sporting one of his magnificent buttonholes!) and to the Treveighan ladies for dispensing the refreshments; but especially to Geoffrey Gibbons and the choir for the hard work they put in practising beforehand and for sounding so good on the day. Thank you all very much. Michaelstow can now sink back into its usual somnolent state before the run up to Easter!

DAVID FORD

ST TUDY PLAYGROUP

The Playgroup has got off to a cracking start this year with a very welcome grant from the South West Foundation of £900 to help support staff training, and a grant of £127 from the Co-op for the purchase of new play equipment. We have also had a hugely successful winter fair at the village hall, raising well over £1,000 for the playgroup. Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who helped in the organisation of the fair, and to everyone in the neighbourhood who donated goods for sale, and even donated money. The Committee especially wish to thank Linda Greenhalgh who masterminded the whole event - we shall be doing it again next year!

We also welcomed new Trustees onto the Board - Rebecca Rose and Jackie Sharland - who both had a baptism of fire in the form of the winter sale! Dairen Bate resigned from the post of Co-Treasurer, and we would all like to say a big thank you to him for his tireless form-filling, invoicing and Post Office visits. Jackie Sharland now takes on the position of Co-Treasurer.

And finally, welcome to our youngest newcomers at the playgroup - we hope they enjoy their time with us and make full use of our new play equipment!

if you would like to register your child at St Tudy Playgroup, please call Sue Levers, Playgroup Supervisor on 01208 851232 for more information. We also run a Baby/Toddler session on Wednesday afternoons 1,00 - 3,00pm at St Tudy Village Hall for parents to get together with a cuppa. Just pop along or give Sue a call.

SUSIE BALLERSTEDT CHAIR

ST MABYN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council are seeking tenders for the cutting of grass and ground maintenance in the King Georges Playing Field and the Burial Ground, initially for the 2007 season with the option that the Parish Council may extend this work for a further two years. For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk, Jenny Hoskin on 01208 72789. Closing date for applications is Monday, 5th March. The successful contractor will be expected to commence work on 1st April.

The Parish Council met on Tuesday, 6th February and the meeting was attended by 8 Councillors and 9 members of the public. In the public session at the beginning of the meeting, local residents raised their concerns in relation to the proposed development of the disused garage at Longstone and the site adjacent to the busy road and dangerous junction. Residents also requested that a "dog bin" be situated in this area of the parish.

The Parish Council considered 4 planning applications and agreed to request a site meeting for the Longstone Garage application. Monthly accounts were approved and the Parish Council agreed to support the applications for grant funding being submitted by the Playing Field Committee to develop the old tennis courts into an all weather court area for the under 5s and 12-16 year olds. The two parish bus shelters will be re-painted over the next few weeks.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by a Parish Council Meeting and will be held in the St Mabyn Memorial Hall on Tuesday, 6th March 2007 at 7.30pm. The Annual Parish Meeting is open to parishioners and everyone is cordially invited to attend. Anyone wishing to contact the Parish Council please address all matters through myself, on 01208 72789 or the Chairman, Cllr Alf Finnarnore on 01208 841467.

JENNY HOSKIN – CLERK TO ST MABYN PARISH COUNCIL

ST TUDY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

A fine crab apple tree, malus red glow, has been obtained from the Duchy Nurseries and planted in the Hall grounds in memory of Miss Mary Winn, Hall Caretaker for fifty-three years. A plaque will also be mounted inside the Hall in her memory. Any villager who would like to make a donation towards the costs please give the monies into the collection box in the Post Office. Any extra raised will be given to Mary's particular charities, Air Ambulance and Poppy Day.

MARGARET SHELLEY HON SECRETARY

EASTER LILIES

Once again, we shall be ordering white lilies for Easter in memory of loved ones. If you would like to buy a lily for this purpose, please place £3 and the name, in an envelope and put through the letterbox of either Judith Jasper at Woodcote, Wadebridge Road, or myself at Long Barn, Treneer Lane, St Tudy.

P TANNER

ST TUDY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

We are very please to report that the club is now in its tenth season of providing football for the youngsters of the village and surrounding areas. We currently have 4 teams playing competitive league football with approximately 70 youngsters attending training sessions every week. To mark this occasion we are taking the players and their families on a weekend trip to Arnhem in Holland (A Bridge Too Far!) at the end of May. We will be entering a local football tournament on Saturday and Sunday with time to relax and sight seeing on the Monday. From the interest we have had from the parents, we are looking to take approximately 100 people on an excellent weekend of family fun. We will be holding various fundraising events throughout the spring, so that we can keep the cost down to a minimum for each family, so your

support would be sincerely appreciated to help the young players enjoy a once in a lifetime experience of playing international football. The players will be doing a sponsored bike ride on the Camel Trail on Sunday 4th March. The Cornish Arms will be having a Curry Night in support of this trip on 2nd March and a Safari Supper is being organised around the village on 28th April. We had such a fantastic response to our Bingo Night at St Breward Football Club in February that we will be holding another one on Wednesday 4th April. There will also be a disco at St Breward FC on Saturday 31st March.

During February, we managed to raise £220 at the Coffee Morning in the Clink, so our sincere thanks to everyone who supported us and everyone who helped on the stalls etc. More fun events will be organised throughout April and May to raise funds, so watch this space!

May we take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us over the last 10 years, especially the Playing Field Committee, St Tudy VA School, The Cornish Arms and St Tudy Post Office and look forward to your continued support in the future.

CHRIS CORNFORD — SECRETARY

WANTED

Has anyone got a small strip of land or plot which we could rent or lease close to St Tudy? Tel. 01208 850488 or 07721 35559

ST MABYN RESTORATION APPEAL

The year has started with the wonderful news that English Heritage has approved our application for grant assistance with the restoration and repairs to the roof and also the interior of the church. They will be making an immediate grant towards the professional fees we will incur in seeking the expert opinions necessary for tendering and as this was part of our original budget, we will be adding this sum to the thermometer once the money is received.

We can now go ahead and make applications to other grant-making bodies, many of which will assist only once EH has agreed to do so and this forms the first part of our fund-raising strategy. The second part, which is individual gifts and benevolence, is also going well with an excellent take-up so far of Buy A Slate and many generous donations (including one of £500 and another of £1000).

The third part, which is fund-raising events, has also started well with the successful Launch Party hosted by Ruth Ellery at the Potter's Barn, in November and the great fun Christmas Party hosted by the Lobbs in December. Monthly coffee mornings are planned, the first was held at Eastleigh Cottage, Churchtown, kindly hosted by Pauline Parkhouse. Plans for other events, organised by village clubs and organisations, as well as individuals are almost finalised but we do have some dates for your diary:

6th May Concert in Church by the Allen Valley Singers

6/7th May Garden Safari (organised by the Garden Club)

16th May Safari Supper (organised by the Friends of St Mabyn Church) 23'd June Midsummer Concert in Church with the Cadon Chorus

16th July Jazz on the Green (organised by the Friends of St Mabyn. Church)

Many more are being planned and full details will be published as soon as possible.

A very warm thank you to all those who have so generously supported us so far; the Committee is feeling much encouraged.

ABIGAIL KIRBY-HARRIS

HAPPY FEET IN OUR VILLAGES

Dance, keep lit and have fun.

The best thing about dancing is the fun you can have while you're doing something that's great for your body. When you dance, you raise your heart rate, your muscle tone increases and you burn calories.

Dancing also improves your flexibility, strength and balance.

And there is so much toe-tapping, good music around that just makes you want to get up and dance. With the right music, you can do the Rock "n" Roll, jive, salsa, rumba, samba, tango, tap, twist, Ballroom, Country Dancing or just jig about.

Dancing is a great way to make new friends, gain confidence, be creative and enjoy life. Dancing will lift your spirits and beat depression. And people dance all over the world. It is a universal language. So what's going on locally? Salsa is an exciting Latin dance with South American and Cuban rhythms Our Salsa

classes in St Mabyn now attract over 20 regular dancers of all ages. These are fun sessions, not serious. Come along and learn to Salsa, even if you have two left feet, no rhythm and you are shy.

St Mabyn Salsa Club every Monday. Absolute beginners 7pm. Improvers 8pm. Contact Mike and Yvonne 841762.

The times of other popular local dance sessions are:

St Tudy Old Time and Modern Sequence Dance Club every Thursday 8pm. Contact Ron Heath 841228.

St Tudy Country Dance Club alternate Mondays 2.15-4.15pm. Contact Jenny 850293.

Modern Jive in St Mabyn, to be started in the near future. Contact Mike and Yvonne 841762.

ST GEORGE

It has been suggested, nationwide, that our patron saint, St George, should be celebrated, as the other patron saints of the UK are. Any ideas, please, how you would like to celebrate this day, Monday 23rd April. Please contact Mike Narraway, 850592.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

The Annual Parish Church Meetings will be taking place in the next few weeks. St Mabyn's is on 29th March. Before the meetings, this year, the Church Electoral Rolls have to be re-made. This means that anyone who would like to be on the Parish Church Electoral Roll, which entitles him or her to vote at the Annual Meeting and have a say in the running of the Parish Church, needs to complete a form of application. So watch out for the notices on your church notice boards and be sure that you obtain a form from the Electoral Roll Officer and complete it.

MOLLY DYKE (841704) ST MABYN ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

PASTY SUPPER AND RACE NIGHT

The Carnival Committee will be holding a Pasty Supper and Race Night together with the Youth Club in the Village Hall on Saturday 17th March, starting at 7.30pm. Please come along and join in the fun to raise funds for these causes.

Entry is £2.50, which includes nibbles throughout the evening and your pasty supper. There will be a bar and a bottle draw during the evening.

WE ARE HAVING A CLEAR OUT!

Saturday March 17th, from 11 am, come along to Cavalier Cottage, St Tudy and have a rummage. Everything from furniture (if not sold beforehand), ornaments, jewellery, linen, wool, crockery, etc. etc. We shall also have a small raffle with proceeds to Cornwall Air Ambulance. SUE & JOHN DIBBLE

PRIZE BINGO

Saturday 10th March at St Teath Church Hall. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 8.00pm. Good prizes, Good raffle. Wheelchair access.

Proceeds in aid of Cornwall Care Hospices.

ST TUDY CHURCH ORGAN (again)

Those who attend the Parish Church for services or on other occasions will have noticed three additions. First, on the organ case there is now displayed in a glass-fronted frame, an alphabetical list of all those who gave personal donations to the organ fund. Secondly, a curtain hiding the organist from view, (a sensible precaution it has been suggested!) designed to reduce the impact of draughts and lastly plate glass doors have been fitted to the console to complete (finally) and after only twelve months, the transformation of the instrument both musically and visually. They also serve a security purpose.

The new organ is beginning to attract some attention from outside the immediate area and the Cornwall Organists Association have arranged to visit the church in July as one of their monthly meetings, to hear and to see what has been achieved.

To date I have not been overwhelmed with offers of help to play for church services at St Mabyn.

GEOFFREY GIBBONS

IDENTIFYING HELP, SUPPORT AND ADVICE

Win £300 towards training, Thursday 1st March at the Shire House, Bodmin 2-5pm or 6-9pm. Do you know that demonstrating that you have the skills to effectively deliver your project can help when writing a funding application!

Why not find out more at this event that has been designed to give you an overview of the skills community groups need to demonstrate when seeking grants. Master Classes during each event will include: writing good applications, the value of networks, committee skills and governance, project planning, monitoring and evaluation, other support for projects, recruiting and maintaining volunteers.

Free buffet and grant funding information.

So whether you are from a community newsletter, village hall, parish plan group, history or art club, any forum, club or group who want to seek grant funding. Here is your first step to ensuring your skills won't let you down.

What's more we need you to tell us if you need help with brushing up on some of your skills.

Please call Keziah at North Cornwall District Council on 0 208 265709 for more information.

APOLOGIES

My apologies to Ruth and Brian of St Tudy Post Office and Stores for inserting their predecessor's advert last month instead of their own. A senior moment!!

We mistakenly put the date of the Champagne Cornwall Ladies' Barbershop Chorus evening as 2nd February. It is in fact 2nd March at 7.30pm in St Tudy Chapel. Another senior moment!!!

ANNA

FROM REVEREND MARGARET

It is once again the time of year when Annual Church Meetings take place. 2007 is the year in which the Electoral Roll has to be revised. Please check that your name is on if you wish it to be so. Lists will be placed in churches. Your name must be on if you wish to vote at the AGM and the PCC. I do hope that the AGMs will be well supported.

We are now in the season of Lent. It is a time of preparation for Easter and a time to reflect on our faith. It can also be used as a time for self denial or a time for taking on something extra, perhaps some spiritual reading or even taking part in the lent discussion groups. However, we wish to celebrate Lent, let us use the time wisely to the glory of God.

It is a great joy to me that the Sunday School or Sunday Sunshine Club has reopened in St Tudy under the leadership of Juliet Newton. I am sure that Juliet would value some help from adults, perhaps on a rota basis. It is open to all the children and is held at 11 am in the Clink. Please support it as best you can.

The Choral Matins held on 4th February at Michaelstow was a very pleasant and memorable occasion.

Thank you to the Benefice Choir for all their hard work.

We are still desperately seeking organists for Michaelstow and St Mabyn. If you know of anyone who might help, please let me know.

I have been asked about Confirmation. I am hoping to start Confirmation classes after Easter. If you are considering Confirmation, or indeed would like to attend a refresher course, please let me know. I do like young people to be about twelve years old before being confirmed,

THANKS

The family of Gordon Burden wish to thank everyone who came to his funeral and gave so generously. A sum of £141.35 was sent to Mount Edgcumbe Hospice and £141.35 to the Village Hall. Thank you.

To the very kind lady who rescued me from the hedge outside my home at Glebe Parc on Monday 5th March and sorted me and my shopping out. I am sorry I don't know your name, but I really am most grateful to you! A slightly bruised

NANCY WILLIAMS

On 9th February, we held a Bingo night at St Breward FC to raise funds for our Holland trip. Grateful thanks to all who helped in any way and everyone who donated prizes. We enjoyed a fantastic night and raised in excess of £800.

ALI COUCH — ST TUDY AFC

ANTIQUES/COLLECTABLES VALUATION EVENING

Have you ever wondered how much your family treasures are worth? Well now's your chance to get them valued by an expert!

Roger Tappin from Bonham's Auctioneers is coming to St Mabyn again on Friday 30th March to value our items, and give us a chance to see the treasures and heirlooms that exist within our area. An enjoyable and informative valuation evening was held a couple of years ago where some fascinating gems were discovered! All items will be allocated a lot number so the owner's identity will remain anonymous.

A Ploughman's buffet will be served at 6.30pm followed by an array of delicious desserts. Valuations and show after the meal. Cost of tickets will include the buffet, a glass of wine and the valuation of one item.

Tickets £10.00 each. Numbers are restricted so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Please contact Susie Fanner on 01208 841760 for more details and tickets. All proceeds to St Mabyn Home School Association, raising funds to provide additional facilities at St Mabyn School.

TALKING NEWSPAPERS

North Cornwall & District Talking Newspaper Association produces a weekly 90 minute audio tape comprising local news items from the Cornish Guardian and Western Morning News. These tapes are sent (and returnable) completely FREE to those who are visually or otherwise impaired and so are unable to read a newspaper. For further information please contact George Brown on 01208 76971.

PLEA TO MOTORISTS

My parents' cat, Henry, was killed on Wadebridge Road, St Tudy about 7.30pm on 14th February this year. Many who walked up and down Wadebridge Road, knew him well – he would sit in one of the windows and study the world as it raced by and many commented on how "street-wise" he was, always keeping well in when on the road and staying in the gutter when he was caught out travelling on the road as a car would pass.

However, when my father opened the door to the ring, he knew that the cat in question was his little Henry, but not realising that when he got to him he would find him dead in the gutter, that his neck has been broken.

I implore people travelling through the village, at whatever time of day or night, PLEASE, pay attention and drive at a speed that means you can react to whatever you see in the road, another car, a person walking their dog, a child on a bicycle or just walking with their parent or friends, a horse, a cat, a wild rabbit or even a badger.

Villages are where we live in a community, our cats, our dogs and horses and ponies are just as much part of our community. For some older people, their cat or their dog may be their only friend, their only confidant. This is particularly so when their partner of many years has passed on and the unexpected loss of their close friend and companion can be an inconsolable event.

A pet, when it is taken suddenly is an immensely traumatic event. Particularly when the owners are elderly and suffering from poor health. The loss of their pet is something that words can never explain – and how can you explain this to a young child?

Please, please, please – motorist please drive with much less speed, much less haste, with more attention and consideration to others on the road.

ST TUDY PRE-SCHOOL WINTER FAIR

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who contributed, donated and came to our village fair on 27th January. We really had the most spectacular support and raised a very impressive amount of money. We will definitely be doing the same next year!

I would personally like to give a cheer for everyone who helped me before the event and on the day – the effort was definitely worthwhile.

LINDA GREENHALGH

ALLEN VALLEY SINGERS

I think that we are all glad that January has gone as it was gloomy and wet and no amount of positive thinking seemed to raise it to any degree of enjoyment. Except for choir rehearsals of course!! The hall is filled with warmth, light and music and the damp of the outside world is lost for an hour or two. Choir

members are very hardy folk anyway, as the very nature of rural living often means long journeys to meetings in all sorts of weather conditions and their commitment is to be admired.

We have much new material this year and are spending some quality time in 'note bashing', perfecting dynamics and of course, memorising the words! Our Director of Music Janette Man is temporarily absent – not sitting in her yacht in the South of France but undergoing a hip operation. She will be back shortly – crutches akimbo and meanwhile we send her all our love and best wishes. Jennifer May is deputising for Jan and is doing a splendid job. We thank her very much indeed. As a singer and a pianist and a Committee member, she has given stalwart support for the many years she has been with the choir. Well done Jennifer. Steve Tyrrell, our accompanist and an exceptional pianist in his own right, is always a huge support, so Jan, everybody is thinking of you and looking after the choir until you bounce back.

Concerts are already being arranged for the year and we particularly enjoy the weddings to which we are invited to sing. We are gaining new members on a weekly basis and if you would like to be a member of this excellent choir, then please contact our Director, Janette Man on 01208 841784. All bookings to Jennifer May on 01208 880131.

JOYCE L. HARGRAVE-WRIGHT (DR) PUBLICITY OFFICER TEL. 264004

ST TUDY GPA

A large audience gathered on Monday 12th February for David Chapman's slide show on Birds of Cornwall – and we were all delighted as he entertained us fluently. He's a very gifted photographer – his slides are superb – and his knowledge of birds is second to none. A former maths teacher, he and his wife now have a small holding near Hayle as they both wanted to live where they could encourage wildlife. He had some wonderful cards with his photos of wildlife for sale and many of us are eagerly awaiting the publication of his book "Wild about Cornwall" which is due to be on sale at the end of March. One of the best speakers we have had, we hope he will return next year to give one of his other talks.

Please note amendment of the date for the Inter-Village Quiz. It is to be held on Tuesday 6th March at St Teath Community Centre starting at 7.30pm (not Wednesday 21st March). All support for our team is very much appreciated!

The final meeting of the winter will be on Monday 12th March with Tracy Wilson from the Duchy Nursery telling us all about Hampton Court. Always a favourite (and not only with our chairman!), Tracy is a wonderfully entertaining mine of information.

Our final event for March will be the Spring Show on Saturday 31st. If you don't receive a schedule and would like to enter, please telephone Peggy Metters on 851367. For those who have cups to return please ensure they are back at least two weeks before the show.

JANE KING

ST. TUDY THURSDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

On 8th February, the advertised presentation had to be postponed due to ill health of Mark Prout from Westcountry River Trust.

We were very fortunate that Nora Sheer, who had to cancel her presentation in January, was available and saved the day for our Club; she gave us an entertaining presentation of her Westcountry Travels Slides. Thank you Nora.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 8th, March, at 2-30pm in the Village Hall, when Kelvin Yates will present 'Pensions and Credits'. This could be very useful for many of us for information and guidance.

Mark Prout will give his presentation at a later date. All are welcome to our Thursday afternoon meetings.

RON HEATH, CHAIRMAN

ST MABYN RESTORATION APPEAL

Fundraising events continue in earnest and this month Audrey and Vic Cooke have kindly agreed to host a Coffee Morning on Friday 23 March at their home - Gleneagles, Station Road, St Mabyn. Please see posters around the village nearer the time for more detail.

ST TUDY PARISH COUNCIL

The St Tudy Parish Council met on Wednesday 28th January in the Village Hall. County Councillor, Colin Brewer attended. No other members of the public were present.

Cllr Nick Fletcher did not attend. He has resigned as he is moving away from St Tudy after years of service to the Parish on the Parish Council.

No objections were raised and support was given to a planning application for the construction of a garage extension with a room over at Polshea Farm

The application for a certificate of alternative development on lands bordering Bodinnick Road and Wadebridge Road has been partially approved by the District Council. The main approval was that the land could be used for the eventual building of a school.

By 3rd May, an application must have previously been made by anyone in the Parish who wants to stand as a Parish Councillor. If there are more than ten applicants, a Parish Council election will be held on that date. Anyone wishing to serve the village on the Parish Council should apply for the nomination form from NCDC Electoral Services at Wadebridge or from the Parish Clerk, Mrs Jenny Hoskin or from the Chairman, Mr Brian Lamerton. There will be official announcements on this subject shortly.

Cllr Colin Brewer talked about the concept of a new unitary council reorganisation for Cornwall, which the County wanted to be centred on the County Council. The Parish Council discussed this matter and voted that a letter be written to the Minister, Ruth Kelly, querying the necessity for change as the present structure of Parish, District and County Councils worked effectively in Cornwall.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th February at 7pm in the Village Hall. All villagers are welcome to attend

MARGARET SHELLEY

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO:

Liz Callaway who will be 50 on 29th March.

THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

Replying to Dr Gibbon's article in the February edition, it is true that we are in danger of losing our wonderful historical churches dotted around the landscape of Cornwall. The fact is that the finances are not there from the parishes due to the high cost of living. However, the Church of England is the biggest landowner in the UK and I fail to see why it cannot release some of its land to assist parishes such as St Mabyn.

With regard to empty churches, the people are the Church, but the Church itself fails to move with the times. Gone are the old hymn books and long sermons from the pulpit. Hymns should include the old favourites — we all know which they are, and those learnt and sung by the children in school. Put aside your old and bleak hymn books used in the Church and bring some joy into the sermon and service on Sundays etc.

HELEN BARRETT

WHERE WILL BE THE NEXT REDUNDANT CHURCH?

It was most apposite that in the same week that I read Geoffrey Gibbon's piece in the Magazine on this subject, the Cornish Guardian carried news of the closure of Blisland Chapel.

Over the six years that I have lived in the parish of Michaelstow, I have written in the Magazine several times along similar lines asking for support for the Church. This has not been forthcoming to any great extent and the only conclusion that I can come to is that the inhabitants of this parish do not care about the future of their Church. With fewer and fewer people available to take on the running, it is inevitable that in due course, we will have to go to the Bishop and say that we can no longer keep Michaelstow Church open. What a shame that our beautiful little church, after a history dating back to the 14th century at least, should be abandoned by the people it is there to serve. How long before this happens? Seven or eight years, I should think; but depending on events, it could be sooner. I would like to ask the same question that Geoffrey does, "Why should this be so?" DAVID FORD