

Parish Newsletter

Benefice of Veryan with Ruan Lanihorne

December 2022

The parishes of VERYAN and RUAN LANIHORNE

Priest-in-Charge:
Vacancy

VERYAN (St Symphorian) Parish Church

Churchwarden
Mrs Sharron Cartwright
veryanchurchwarden@gmail.com

Hon. Secretary
Christine Edwards
c.edwards531@btinternet.com
[501727]

Treasurer
Mrs Carol Hughes
Castle Towers
Ruan Lanihorne
[501855]
[treasurervveryanchurch@outlook.com]

**PORTLOE
(All Saints) United Church**
Church Steward
Mr Trounce Guy
Pengelly Farm
West Portholland [501471]

Hon. Secretary
Mrs Jeanne Hitchings
End Cottage, Portloe [501114]

Hon. Treasurer
Mrs Joyce Gilbert
Porthulyan
Pendower Road
Veryan [501365]

RUAN LANIHORNE (St Rumon) Parish Church

Churchwardens
Mr David Hughes
Castle Towers
Ruan Lanihorne
[501855]

Mrs Caroline Martin
[501697]

Hon. Secretary
Mrs Pat Farr [501599]

Hon. Treasurer
Mrs Pat Farr [501599]

Christmas Services

Wednesday 14 December 6 pm
Nine Lessons & Carols
VERYAN

Thursday 15 December
Veryan School
Christmas service

Sunday 18 December 6 pm
Nine Lessons & Carols RUAN

Friday 23 December
5 pm Veryan church
Family Christmas celebration

Saturday 24 December 11.30 pm
Midnight Mass VERYAN

Sunday 25 December
Christmas Day
Holy Communion
9.30 am RUAN
10.30 am PORTLOE

Introducing our new editor...

Hi,

I'm Pippa Stephens and I am looking forward to receiving the baton from Christine and to delivering this monthly newsletter in 2023.

I live in Veryan with my husband and two sons. Both of my boys attend the village school.

As well as taking on responsibility for this newsletter, I manage the Veryan Church social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

I'm looking forward to adding all of the great content that goes into the newsletter, so please do reach out to me if you have any messages or stories that you'd like to share with our community.

Pippa

stephens.pippa@gmail.com

Sunday services in our benefice in December

Sunday 4 December Advent 2
9.30 am Holy Communion [BCP] Ruan
10.30 am Morning Worship Portloe
11 am Eucharist Veryan
[Revd Martyn Pinnock]

Sunday 11 December Advent 3
10.30 am Morning Worship Portloe
11 am Eucharist Veryan
[Revd Martyn Pinnock]

Sunday 18 December
10.30 am Morning Worship Portloe
11 am Eucharist Veryan
[Bishop Graham James]

Sunday 25 December
CHRISTMAS DAY
9.30 am Holy Communion [BCP] Ruan
10.30 am Holy Communion [CW] Portloe
NO SERVICE AT VERYAN

Sunday 1 January 2023
Christmas 2: Naming of Christ
9.30am Holy Communion [BCP] Ruan
10.30 am Morning Worship Portloe
11 am Eucharist Veryan

Readings for December (Veryan)

Sunday 4 December
Isaiah 11, 1-10 *John V*
Romans 15, 4-13 *Julia*

Sunday 11 December
Isaiah 35, 1-10 *Margaret C*
James 5, 7-10 *Sue J*

Sunday 18 December
Isaiah 7, 10-16 *Christine*
Romans 1, 1-7 *Sharron*

Saturday 24 December Midnight Mass
Isaiah 9, 2-7 *John V*
Titus 2, 11-14 *Julia*

Sunday 1 January 2023
Isaiah 63, 7-9 *Doreen*
Ephesians 1, 3-14 *Sharron*

Christmas greetings to all our readers and a happy and peaceful 2023

Veryan PCC report

Church clock

An engineer from the Cumbria Clock Company has visited to assess what needs to be done to install the new winding and striking mechanisms. We have no date yet but we are 'on their list'. We are hugely grateful to David Truscott who has offered to oversee the whole project.

'Minor works'

The PCC has agreed a list of repairs and maintenance to be carried out as weather and availability of volunteers permits: painting doors, repairing the path, restoring and refurbishing 'rainwater goods' and sorting out the redundant boiler house. The belfry is to be refurbished - probably the first time since it was created in 1896?

Thank you

Finally we are so grateful to all those volunteers who, often unseen and unsung, work hard behind the scenes to make sure that the church and churchyard are in reasonable order and 'fit for purpose'; we don't take you for granted. Our volunteer team is however getting smaller in number: we have lost too many in the past year. If you think you might like to be part of our 'support team' talk to our churchwarden Sharron or lay chairman Shelagh

From the Registers

***Funerals at Veryan followed by cremation
at Penmount***

**Tuesday 22 November
*Lesley Alfreda Moyses aged 73***

**Thursday 24 November
*William Henry Thomas Hunkin [Bill]
Aged 93***

R I P

'On the Way'

The proposed restructuring of our Roseland group of parishes seems to have been 'in hand' for years. The first scheme, which could have abolished our ancient parish boundaries, was rejected after an inordinate amount of time was spent on 'consultation', discussion within parishes and the writing of responses.

A new scheme, entitled 'On The Way' set out to establish what we can only call a new 'management scheme' with an 'Oversight Minister' [who might in time become 'Team Rector'] living in one parish, with 'Local Focal Ministers' [lay or ordained] in all the others.

Parishes were encouraged to make the case for their clergy house to be the residence of the 'Oversight Minister' and to describe not only the advantages and attractions of their own patch but to describe any real challenges and 'issues'.

Our November PCC meeting was asked to consider the draft statement, based on this information, which would be offered to any candidates for this new rôle.

We were not entirely happy with the draft. It painted Veryan as a parish which was 'struggling', compared with others who had described themselves as 'go-ahead', 'well-supported', even 'dynamic'.

We considered that we had been honest.

In spite of making what we thought was a good case for the new priest to live in the newly refurbished priest's house in Veryan, the document stated that the residence would be in Tregony: apparently there is C of E 'guidance' about the size and features of a home for a full-time stipendiary priest...

St Just will retain Revd Emma, and a 'Pioneer Minister' will be based based at Gerrans. Veryan and Ruan were not mentioned.

Oh, and we re-wrote the entry relating to Veryan and Portloe.

The post is already advertised, with the candidates being invited to a visit and interview in early January with 'a possible start date of 1 April 2023'.

So there we are: we have no idea what will happen to our two parishes, except that we will presumably no longer be a joint benefice with Ruan [but we will continue to work together we're used to each other!] And we retain our ecclesiastical parish boundaries - no risk [we assume] of being 'unparished'.

Bellringing Practice

**Veryan Church—Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m.
Further details from 01872 501825**

Veryan Church Flowers

**NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT
SEE CHRISTMAS LIST**

News from St Rumon's

Christmas is nearly here and it's time to put up the Christmas tree, untangle the fairy lights, get out the crib and dust off the Nativity ornaments.

This year our Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday 18th December at 6 pm. Please come and join us, all are welcome. After the service stay for a chat and a glass of mulled wine. This year our chosen charity for the collection is Truro Food Bank.

The PCC and churchwardens would like to say thank you to all those that have helped decorate or clean the church, mow the grass in the churchyard or trim around the headstones, throughout the year. Thank you also to all who support our church by attending services or church events.

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Worship Leader Training

Whilst the position of Worship Leader has existed for some time, it now appears to be becoming more common within the Church of England.

The current "On the way" reorganisation of our churches on the Roseland has brought lay ministers (Worship Leaders as well as Readers) to the fore.

Having been holding "Matins" services for over two and a half years at Ruan as a Churchwarden, I put myself forward for Worship Leader training, because a Churchwarden holding a service is viewed as an emergency measure.

The Worship Leader course is comprised of eight two-hour evening sessions on Zoom, at fortnightly intervals, with one or two Saturday morning, in person, sessions and is therefore not too onerous.

The course itself is generally geared to training people to put together and lead the "Service of the Word," starting with the purpose of worship and its different forms. Why you feel called to lead worship, what is service of the word, how it can be altered and what must be included. Also, advice is given on reading the bible in a public setting, the church seasons and how worship may change at different times of the year. There is a session on children's services, family services and all age services. Advice is given about using technology and choosing music. The final session covers Holy Communion and how a Worship Leader can assist the priest with this; other forms of worship are also covered.

As I am now approaching the end of this training, I feel that it is worth pointing out that the variety of backgrounds of those currently on this course is very wide and my own background as a Churchwarden leading services is very much in the minority. Most are members of the congregation with an interest in a variety of church activities. I feel that the course has been very well led and would encourage others to follow this path.

Dave Hughes

We are very grateful at Veryan for David's help in leading Matins services for us - a real kindness .

‘So what will you do with all that spare time?’

A question from a friend; ‘no more newsletter,. No more rotas and reading lists...?’

A reasonable question, of course. I have no desire to become an ‘old person’ watching afternoon television. There’s the garden, of course, neglected though the many months of eye surgery, but I aim to get back to the research I began when I retired from the record office in 2000, the story of the family who lived at Trewarthenick, the lovely, largely unseen and unknown house in the little parish of Cornelly.

The records of many Cornish families are stored safely in the county’s archives, and most contain mainly formal, legal documents relating to the acquisition and management of their landed estates, carefully retained as evidence of ownership. Very few have many personal records. The Gregor documents are different. There are letters, memoirs, diaries, personal account books, garden books, housekeeping records - especially for one generation of the family, Gordon and Sarah, whose lives covered the years from the Napoleonic war to the 1860s, from the age of the post chaise to the coming of the railway, from the Grand Tour to the Victorian holiday resort.



Their story includes a baby whose mother died in childbirth, an unkind stepmother, the secret romance of a rich heiress with the penniless soldier grandson of a duke, their eventual long and happy marriage and the birth and worries of their four children, the disputed inheritance of Trewarthenick, the restoration of house and grounds, sea bathing at Newquay and a European tour by railway.

I catalogued these documents soon after beginning work in Truro, and always intended to write about this intriguing family. Winston Graham was working in our office in the

1970s, when the first Poldark books were being adapted for television and when he was persuaded to write several further books in the saga. While his research into Cornish events and the management of mines and banks was meticulous, he always refused to put words into the mouths of ‘real’ people; his historical context is based on archival evidence, but he always said that his characters had to be fictitious as he had no idea what Cornish men and women of the period would have thought or said. I mentioned the Gregor documents. ‘That’ he said, ‘is different: you can write it, in their own words’.



On retirement I spent much of the first year transcribing the family’s personal records; then Bishop Bill suggested a year of exhibitions in the cathedral to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the diocese, I was asked to be chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, and somehow acquired a few other trusts and committees...as well as the parish hall, autumn show, church, and of course a too short but very happy marriage.

The saga has reached the 1830s, the restoration of the house and garden is almost complete, and the aim now is to write the rest of Gordon and Sarah’s story and that of their children. The son and heir led a disreputable youth, married an American widow and abandoned the family home; his eldest sister married Paul Molesworth, a Catholic, much to her father’s disgust, the youngest daughter was a lifelong invalid and died young, while the remaining daughter never married but seems to have led an independent and fulfilled life with a good deal of foreign travel.

How glad I am that they continually wrote letters - and sometimes even kept copies of those which they sent to others - and that later generations not only realised the value and interest of records which are private and personal, but in the 1960s gave them to Cornwall’s record office.

CRE

Note: images not to be reproduced elsewhere

School news

Veryan Primary School led the village act of Remembrance on Friday 11th November. This is always a very poignant event and the children once again demonstrated the school and community values in delivering a respectful and moving tribute to all those who have given their lives in conflict.



The school's wreath, made by the children and laid at the war memorial on 11 November

Veryan WI

In November, following a very short business meeting, which included a report on the County Annual Meeting attended by two of our members, we enjoyed a Christmas themed craft evening, led by two members.

We made a variety of tree decorations from either felt or cotton fabric or some very effective yarn mini bobble hats. Practically everybody managed to finish their project before the evening ended, which was extremely satisfactory.

During October and November, we have made our annual collection of toiletries for the Truro Refuges and this year we are also making and collecting small teddy bears for the children who have arrived at the Refuges, all of which will be delivered in early December.

Our December meeting will be at The Kings Arms in Tregony for our annual Christmas meal, which we are all looking forward to.

In January we will be back in the Parish Hall when Nicola Bush will be our speaker asking, "Is there anything we can do in our Garden in January?"

Visitors and potential members are always welcome at our meetings in the Parish Hall. Please contact Mary Earp on 01872 501636 or look at our Facebook page.



BAKED POTATO LUNCH

A heartfelt thanks from the Roseland Hospice Committee to everyone who supported the Lunch on the 17th of November.

Once again, people from Veryan and surrounding villages turned out (in the most diabolical weather) to help us raise money for our Cornish Hospices.

*We fed approximately 70 people, not counting the Committee, who feasted on the 'leftovers' and, after expenses, the magnificent sum of **£1,292.05** was raised on the day, all of which will be given to Mount Edgecumbe and St. Julia's Hospices for care in Cornwall.*

We may have been a little 'tight' on space, with two tables 'on stage' but it was a real village event and a credit to you all for your support in these difficult times.

We hope to do a repeat performance (if the Committee and our wonderful extra helpers are still on our feet!), in the Memorial Hall, St. Mawes, early in the New Year so watch out for notices

Again, our grateful thanks and did you see the magnificent Rainbows, what a bonus!

Margaret, Chairman C.H.C .

Old Cornwall Society



Wednesday 14 December
MUSIC TRADITIONS OF THE CLAY COUNTRY

Merv and Alison Davey

7.30 pm

Gerrans Memorial Hall
ALL WELCOME

****VERYAN MARKET****

First SATURDAY of the month
(Mar to Dec)

10.30 am to 12.30 pm

VERYAN PARISH HALL

LOCAL PRODUCE

home baking

bee products, preserves

vegetables in season

plants and flowers

crafts

books

skin care

AND MORE

Tea, cafetière coffee and cake available

For more information:

Facebook: veryan market

Email: veryanmarket@gmail.com

Tel: 01872 501313 07377 067013

TIDE TABLES: DAYTIME LOW TIDES AT CARNE FOR DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 17.54	2 6.22	3 7.37
4 8.42	5 9.35	6 10.22	7 11.04	8 11.44	9 12.20	10 12.53
11 13.24	12 13.53	13 14.22	14 14.58	15 15.45	16 16.46	17 17.57
18 6.24	19 7.35	20 8.38	21 9.36	22 10.31	23 11.23	24 12.14
25 13.03	26 13.51	27 14.39	28 15.27	29 16.19	30 17.14	31 18.14

Full moon 8th

VERYAN SCHOOL FAYRE & CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

*The School Christmas Fayre
will be held in the Parish Hall
on Saturday 10 December
3-5:30pm*

there will be:

- Variety of stalls; a toy tombola, a sweets tombola
- A raffle with tickets for sale on the day
 - Santa's grotto
 - Carol singing
- Refreshments by Beetham Food
- Festive games
- **Lights switch on at 5pm**
- **with the raffle draw straight after**

Kowethas Kernow Goth – Gerens ha Porthskathow St Gerrans and Porthscatho Old Cornwall Society

Kuntellewgh an brewyon eus gesys na vo kellys travyth
Gather up the fragments that are left that nothing be lost

Music Traditions of the Clay Country

"Harry and Carrie"

by Merv & Alison Davey



This performance will explore the traditional music of the clay country in Mid Cornwall, an area rich in folk traditions tunes and dances going back to the time of the Cornish piper depicted on the tower of St Austell church.

"Harry and Carrie" was a nickname given to two itinerant street entertainers in the St Austell area in the 1900s. Merv and Alison, both bards of the Gorsedh, will adopt the persona of Harry and Carrie for this exploration of the music traditions of the clay country.

7:30pm Wednesday 14th December 2022

**Wheelchair Friendly
Hearing Loop
Free Car Parking**

**Gerrans Parish Memorial Hall
Portscatho Truro TR2 5EE
Everyone Welcome
Members Free - Visitors £2.50**

St Gerrans & Porthscatho Old Cornwall Society is affiliated to The Federation of Old Cornwall Societies. Registered Charity No: 247283

A Tudor Christmas

Our ancestors would not have begun their Christmas celebrations until the day itself: Advent, like Lent, is [or was] a time for fasting, but they feasted and partied until Twelfth Night

Christmas Dinner

Thomas Tusser, writing in 1577, describes his Christmas feast:

“Good bread and good drinke,
A good fier in the hall.
Brawne, pudding and souse,
And good mustard withal.
Beefe, mutton and porke,
Shred pies of the best
Pig, veale, goose and capon,
And turkey well drest...”

Turkeys had been introduced from South America, along with potatoes. Whatever the Elizabethan explorers had hoped, potatoes were not at all popular for many years: the Puritans refused to eat them as they were not mentioned in the Bible. Some people tried them raw, developed a nasty skin rash similar to the appearance of leprosy [‘God’s judgement’] and it was only a century later that John Evelyn recommended roasting “the Roots under the Embers, open’d well with a Knife, the Pulp butter’d in the Skin...”[he suggested a lot of butter!] with salt and pepper.

Vegetables would have been those we know - cabbage, turnip, parsnip, onions, leeks.

Mince pies

Tudor mince pies contained minced cooked meat [usually mutton] as well as suet, dried fruit, a bit of sugar and a quantity of spices: the recipe hardly changed from the middle ages to the early nineteenth century. The ‘paste’ [pastry] was similar to our short crust and the mixture could be made into one large pie, decorated with gold leaf, or made into small patties.

Thomas Tusser opened his house at Christmas and clearly looked forward to carols, presents and good company as well as the feasting.

At Christmas we banquet,
The rich with the poor
Who then (but the miser)
But openeth his door?
At Christmas of Christ
Many carols we sing
And give many gifts
to the joy of that King.

At Christmas in Christ
We rejoice and be glad
As only of whom
Our comfort is had;
At Christmas we joy
Altogether with mirth
For his sake that joyed us all
With his birth.

Puddings

The Christmas puddings we eat today were only introduced, along with Christmas trees, crackers and Christmas cards, in the reign of Queen Victoria.

The Tudors preferred a lighter pudding - there are numerous recipes for jellies, flummeries, creams and of course syllabubs: one set of instructions suggests that the cook “directs the milk from the cow into the bowl, preferably from a height”
[Ed: don’t try this at home!]

‘Blamange’ however sounds possible: beaten egg whites, cream and ground almonds set in jelly, flavoured with fruit and set in a mould

There would be macaroons, sugared almonds, candied orange peel, quince paste set in little moulds, and the Tusser household ended their meal with “cheese, apples and nuts”.

