

Planning how we can
serve the present age
- page 2

Good news from our
young people
- page 3

Surf mission on Fresh
Expressions DVD
- page 3

Chronicle

Cornwall Methodist District

No. 78

Summer 2007

Don't mention the E word! Why not?

Some people still think of evangelism as a dirty word.

They hear it, conjure up pictures of blokes in sandwich boards bearing the slogan 'repent the end is nigh' and shudder. It isn't like that. It never was really.

Evangelism - to make more disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ - is one of the four basic tenets of our Methodist calling.

More importantly it is the response to the

By Doreen Sparey-Deacassa
District Evangelism Enabler



last command of Jesus to go and make disciples and of course, making disciples is a long term project.

It isn't only telling the Christian story through word and action (talking the talk and walking the walk, as some people put it) it is bringing unbelievers to a point of

commitment and continuing to nurture them as they grow in faith.

As your DEE I struggle sometimes with quite how this pattern 'fits' with my appointment. Superficially it seems to encroach on the responsibility of the local churches and both their ordained and lay leadership. But of course, it doesn't really. My remit is to be an 'Enabler', to help local churches engage with the task of making new disciples.

To page 2

Westminster
preacher at
Gwennap

The annual Bank Holiday Rally at Gwennap Pit will this year feature guest preacher the Rev Martin Turner.

Mr Turner is the minister at Central Hall, Westminster, right across the road from the Houses of Parliament.

The service is on Monday, May 28, and begins with community hymn singing from 2.30pm.

There will also be musical items by *Souls in Song*.

Together again

District Chair, the Rev Dr Chris Blake, and Bishop Bill will lead the annual Church Leaders' Walk on Saturday, June 2, in the Fowey - Par area.

It will start at 11am at Polkerris (parking available) and should end around 3.30pm.

The walk will take in the lower

part of the Saints Way and the coastal path around Gribbin Head - about 7.5 miles.

Other Church Leaders from outside Cornwall are hoped to join them but Chris and Bishop Bill hope that as many Christians as possible will put their walking boots on too.



More news on Gwennap Pit's World Heritage status - page 4

Christian response to South West migration

If you are concerned about how Christians can respond to the increased migration into the south west then the South West Churches Regional Forum's next conference could help.

Many people are on the move across Europe. Terms such as migrant workers, refugees, asylum seekers can be stigmatising and lead to confusion and sometimes conflict.

Members of these groups often find themselves exploited and a special conference on Wednesday, June 27, at The Albemarle Centre, Taunton, will examine how churches might respond.

Further details will be available nearer the time on various websites, in news bulletins etc. or you can email vena@ccisr.org.uk.

Honour the past, but serve the present age

Dear friends

I write this for the District Chronicle in the absence of the Rev Chris Blake, our Chair of District, who is on sabbatical. I am sure we all hope that Chris and Joy's time will be blessed.

This edition of the District Chronicle is full of good things that are going around Cornwall, in Methodism and in co-operation with others.

We are in a year of anniversaries and already there have been services and events to mark the end of the transatlantic slave trade.

We shall also be celebrating the centenary of the birth of Charles Wesley who wrote so many memorable hymns.

There is to be a performance of *Charles*

**By the Rev Celia Phillips,
Acting District Chair**

Wesley 1707 by the Jasperian Theatre Company at the Drum Theatre, Plymouth, on June 16 – 18. There will also be a Hymn Sing-In at Gwennap Pit on July 15 (3pm).

However, the Cornwall District is not only looking back and remembering but looking forward and hoping.

This May sees the start of the planning process for *Love Cornwall*.

In the words of our District Evangelism Enabler, Revd Doreen Sparey-Delacassa: "It is hoped to launch a new ecumenical initiative in evangelism and outreach to take place across the Duchy in the last week of

May 2008. The aim of the venture will be to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord in a way that engages with contemporary culture in every community in the county."

There will be a launch event on May 7 at Kingsley Village at 2pm. The planning and the praying will focus our minds on the future, even while we are remembering and celebrating the past.

Of course, we remember that Charles Wesley reminded us we should 'serve the present age'.

I pray that wherever you are and whatever you are doing to show God's love you will be blessed, encouraged and sustained in all that you do to live the gospel in your communities.

Celia Phillips Acting Chair

Quiet day with the Companions

A Quiet Day at Gunwalloe Parish Church is being led on Saturday, June 16 by the Rev Canon Dr Stephen Dawes.

The day, which runs from 10.30am to 3.30, is being organised by the Companions of St Guenolé.

This ecumenical group of Christians is committed to praying and working for the unity of the Church in Cornwall in fellowship with the Abbey of St Guenolé at Landevennec in Brittany. For more information contact Stephen Dawes on 01872 223181

The LWPT fellowship and study day at Treloyhan, will be on November 17. The speaker will be District Chair, the Rev Dr Chris Blake.

Don't mention the E-word!

There are various ways in which I - and the team - can do this.

Holding 'one off' training events at District, area or circuit level on specific subjects

» Running a series of study evenings (for example leading the *Blowing your Cover* relational evangelism course) for circuits or individual churches. Most team members are trained to lead the *Blowing Your Cover* course. It works like an Alpha course but takes only five weeks and is designed to enable congregations to

From page 1

become more outward looking and able to share their faith in gentle, culturally relevant ways.

» Helping Circuits and Churches to hold specific outreach events - anything from sending a prayer station team to your own event to providing extra personnel or people with specific skills to helping you to organise and stage such an event from scratch.

» Helping long or short term with any outreach project

you may wish to initiate but feel you can't cope with alone.

» Assisting with the establishment of 'Fresh Expressions' of Church - different ways of worship and discipling to connect with contemporary culture.

» Anything else you feel that we can help you with.

We are also particularly keen to link up with one or two churches to work closely with them on long term projects - to see what can be done, even by small congregations, when we work together.

Wesley's words and music

The Cornish Methodist Historical Association's annual lecture will be *The Hymns of Charles Wesley* and will be given by Gary Best, Head of Kingwood School.

It is on Thursday, October 4 (7.30pm) at Truro Methodist Church. Contact: Dr. John Lander (01872 2297)

I would be very grateful if all the churches would let me know what is already happening around the district so that we can support each other in prayer and share experiences, ideas and developing expertise.

I am also looking for representatives from every circuit to receive information of events, posters etc. for distribution around the churches - preferably someone with sufficient enthusiasm to encourage people to become involved in 'telling the story' of Jesus Christ.

God bless you, Doreen

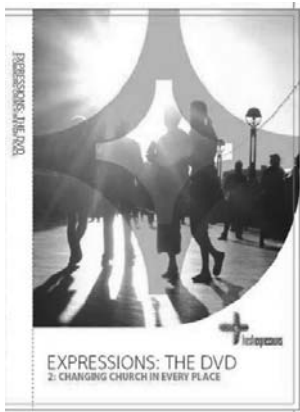
A large print version of this Chronicle is easy to get. Simply enlarge this copy 141% onto A3 paper. It can also be downloaded as a .pdf document from the District website - go to www.cornish-methodists.org and follow the link to the Chronicle. Once you have the document you can enlarge and print on A4 paper.

Polzeath surf mission features on new DVD

The Tubestation ministry at Polzeath features in the latest DVD from the national Fresh Expressions team.

Fresh Expressions - an Anglican and Methodist initiative - show some of the development of the project.

They talk to directors Henry Cavender and Kris Lannen as well as minister Gareth Hill. The DVD also talks about some of



• The DVD cover

the structural changes happening with the chapel building.

The latest is the development of a skateboard half pipe inside the chapel - a move which is already drawing youngsters to the project.

"It was great to have the Fresh Expressions film crew with us," said Gareth Hill. "They seemed really excited by what we are trying to do which must say something because they are visiting new Christian initiatives all the time.

"Just in the last two weeks someone has described Tubestation as the best good news story in Methodism. We wouldn't argue!"

Henry and Kris are going all out to be full operational by the time the holiday season comes into full swing.

While the preparations have been going on the membership at the church has also grown: from a low of two members five years ago the church now has 10 with new people visiting the church almost every week.

Another opportunity to Love Cornwall

Love Cornwall is back on the cards for the May half term holiday week in 2008.

This time it is a local initiative led by local church leaders from all the major churches, with the aim of holding an event in every community in Cornwall so that every person will hear the name of Jesus spoken with love and respect and honour.

It is planned to have big events in the towns too of course and special events for youth and children.

It is hoped to hold a Christian arts festival - exhibitions and concerts - alongside the other

events. Get the dates in your diary and start thinking about what your congregation might do, who you might work with.

There is no person too old or too young, no congregation too small to get involved in some way.

Later on there will be ideas to help those who feel overwhelmed.

If anyone feels led to get involved in a major way - either helping with the big events or being a local co-ordinator - then please get in touch with Doreen Sparey-Delacassa on 01726 821812.

Cornish praise CD to be recorded

A Cornish Praise CD is to be recorded in Truro Methodist Church on Saturday, September 15 - and singers from around the district are being invited to take part.

The proceeds of the CD will be in aid of the District Training and Development Fund and will feature well-loved favourites.

The conductors will be David Bennett (Camborne), Ronald Brown (Redruth), Philip Davey (Truro) and Ken Pethick (Callington).

On the day singers will be expected to gather at 10.15. The recording should be finished by tea time.

In addition there will be rehearsals at Callington Methodist Church on September 4, Truro Methodist Church on September 5 and Redruth Methodist Church on September 12 (all at 7.30pm).

The CD should be out some time in November in time for Christmas.

Items for the September Chronicle must be with Gareth Hill at Runnymede, Fernleigh Road, Wadebridge PL27 7AZ, by July 16. You can also email photographs and stories to rev. garth@cybervicar.com.

Hearing God's call in a song!

God uses all sorts of exciting ways to call people to serve him - how about song lyrics!

A few months ago the local preachers' meeting of the St. Austell circuit gave a "note to preach" to Daniel Balsdon. He was only 14 at the time.

During 2006 Daniel began to sense a call to preach. It started during the Roger Jones musical *Jailbreak*, particularly with some song lyrics: "Jesus has called us, called us by name" and "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to preach".

His call was affirmed when the Rev Dr Rob Frost was preaching at St. Austell last September.

Daniel is making steady progress with his Faith and Worship studies, fitting it in between studying for his GCSEs. He has now led most parts of a Sunday service, apart from actually preaching the sermon. Daniel is looking

forward to evangelising to those who haven't yet heard the word of Jesus Christ.

Over in the Camborne Circuit, 17-year-old Youth Synod member Nick Voisey has been studying the worship leaders' course, and has received an excellent response from local congregations.

These are not the only Good News stories from our young people, but be encouraged by them.

**Andrew Nicholson,
District Youth Enabler**

Cornwall District Children's Team
Children's Praise Service
based on The Lion King
**"What's the
Motto with you?"**

Sunday, May 13, 2007

11am - 2pm
at Truro School



followed by
picnic lunch
& Jungle Hunt

District Diary



May		24	6.00	e:merge cafe church, Wills Hall, Wadebridge - Rev Stephen Dawes, <i>The Bible Says - Really?</i>
11-14	<i>Tell me the old, old story</i> , flower festival at Falmouth Methodist Church.			
12	Cornish Methodist Historical Society pilgrimage			
13	11.00	Children's Praise Service, Burrell Theatre, Truro School.		
13	4.00	Cornwall Worship @ The Minack		
15	10.00	Network Spring District Day, Camborne Wesley		
16	10.00	Network Spring District Day, Wadebridge Methodist Church		
20	3.00	Wesley Day, Trewint – Rev Prof P Stephens; also Launceston Central, 7pm		
21	7.30	Truro Theological Society – Prof Dan Cohn-Sherbok, Cathedral Chapter House (see advert below)		
25-28	Cliff College Festival weekend: <i>The Spirit-filled Church</i>			
27	6.00	e:merge cafe church, Wills Hall, Wadebridge - Rev Doreen Sparey-Delacassa		
28	3.00	Bank Holiday Rally, Gwennap Pit - Rev Martin Turner (Westminster Central Hall)		
June				
6	6.00	Pre-show service, Royal Cornwall Showground		
7-9	Royal Cornwall Show			
16	7.30	Pre Conference Briefing, Okehampton		
18	7.30	CDIM Committee		
19	Lay Workers' Quiet Day, Epiphany House			

July

2	7	Property Grants and Stationing committee	
7	10.00	Children's Activity Day, Truro School (to 3.30)	
15	3	Wesley Sing-in, Gwennap Pit	
16	7	District Policy Committee (Trispen)	
22	6.00	e:merge cafe church, Wills Hall, Wadebridge - Rev Doreen Sparey-Delacassa	

August

6-10	Wellspring Summer Bible Week, Royal Cornwall Showground		
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September

3	11.00	Network district committee, Truro Methodist Church	
8	Synod, Launceston		
18	Women's Network Autumn District Day and Induction of new Cornwall president, Truro MC.		

October

11	Cornwall Faith Forum open meeting		
14	6.00	Charles Wesley Songs of Praise, St Petroc's Church, Bodmin, hosted by Bodmin Methodist Church.	

Please send dates for the diary to Gareth Hill, Runnymede, Fernleigh Road, Wadebridge PL27 7AZ or rev.gareth@cybervicar.com.

Marketing Methodist site to the world



Following the news that Gwennap Pit is a part of a World Heritage Site there is another development.

The Pit, Chapel and Visitor Centre have been given full membership of the newly formed Cornwall Mining Attractions Marketing Association.

The objectives of CMAMA are to bring together mining attractions within the World Heritage site for joint promotion, locally and globally.

There are 17 member organisations including Trevanno, the Royal Cornwall Museum and Geevor Mine.

We reported in the Chronicle No 76 that Gwennap Pit was included in the successful bid to achieve World Heritage Site Status for the Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape.

• The Charles Wesley 300th birthday sing-in will be on Sunday, July 15 (3pm).

To join the specially-formed District Choir contact Phil Davey 01209 821778.

• Also in the Pit, the Sunday service on August 5 (3pm) will be led by the Rev Mark Dunn-Wilson (Truro).

• The Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday, August 26 (3pm) will be led by Margaret and Michael Horrell (Rilla Mill)

Preparing to celebrate

Women's Network will be marking their 20th anniversary at their autumn district day on September 18. On the same day Mrs Mary Adams will be inducted as District President.

The Spring district days are on May 15 and 16 at Camborne Wesley and Wadebridge Methodist Church (10am to 4pm). The speaker at both days will be Mrs Rosemary Wells.

Wesley evening

Bodmin Methodists are hosting an evening of Charles Wesley hymns in October.

The Songs of Praise will take place at St Petroc's anglican church on Sunday, October 14, 6pm.

The hymns will be interspersed by brief talks by the Rev Dr Stephen Dawes, a former minister in the town.

Methodist lunch club

All Methodists in Cornwall are able to sign up for membership of Truro Methodist Lunch Club.

Meetings are held at Truro Methodist Church on the third Monday of the month (midday), with the exception of August.

An address on various topics follows the meal. The cost for membership is £5 a year and each meal costs £3.50. To join please ring Margaret Hindle on 01872 264143

TRURO THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Monday May 21

Prof Dan Cohn-Sherbok University of Wales (Lampeter)
Christian Zionism and the End of the Jewish People

7.30 for 8pm

The Cathedral Chapter House
Admission £4 to each evening

For wheelchair access phone Stephen Dawes in advance on 01872 223181

The Rev Dr Chris Blake is on Sabbatical until May 31. During that time the Rev Celia Phillips is Acting District Chair. Any concerns normally raised with the District Chair should be directed to Celia or via Annie Guy in the District Office.

The District Office is open from 9.30am to 1pm on Mondays and Wednesdays at Diocesan House, Kenwyn, Truro, TR1 1JQ, 01872 320103, fax 01872 320102, email: annGuy@btconnect.com.