

A photograph of a forest path. In the foreground, a low stone wall is covered in bright green moss. To the left of the wall, a path leads into a wooded area with some white flowers. To the right, a wooden fence is visible in the background. The overall scene is lush and green.

# *The Methodist Link*

MARCH 2019

Linking the Methodist Churches at  
Elburton, Oreston, Pomphlett and  
Cattedown to the Community

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## *A church near you...*

### **ORESTON METHODIST CHURCH**

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**WORSHIP AT 10.30am**

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Secretary: Mrs Ann James Tel: 404971

Treasurer: Mrs Val Hopkin Tel:403425

Senior Steward: Mrs Dorothy Turpitt Tel: 484038

### **POMPHLETT METHODIST CHURCH**

**Pomphlett Gardens, Plymouth PL9 7BL**

**[www.pomphlettchurch.org.uk](http://www.pomphlettchurch.org.uk)**

**WORSHIP AT 9.30am**

Minister: Rev'd Andrew Day, Tel: 342519

Secretary: Mr Bert Symons, Tel: 210820

Treasurer: Mrs M Williams Tel: 493251

Senior Steward: Mrs Mary Symons Tel: 210802

Link rep: Mr Bert Symons Tel: 210820 or

email: [www.pomphlettchurch.org](http://www.pomphlettchurch.org)

### **ELBURTON METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Springfield Rd, Elburton PL9 8PR**

**WORSHIP AT 10.30am AND 6.30pm**

Minister: Rev'd Simon Leigh Tel: 335773

Secretary: Mrs Tricia Stringer Tel: 482532

Treasurer: Mr Robert Faulkner Tel: 491779

Senior Steward: Mrs Pauline Raine Tel:405483

Lettings Secretary: Mrs Helen Carhart Tel: 480319

Link rep: Mr Tony Raine Tel: 405483

### **GATEWAY PROJECT, CATTEDOWN**

**3 Tresillian St, Cattedown**

**WORSHIP AT 11.00am every 2nd Sunday of each month**

Minister: Rev'd David Youngs Tel (880286)

Worship Leader : Mr Roger Dodd Tel 406850

In keeping with the new regulations concerning data protection, we have the emailed permission from all of the above to publish contact details.



## ABOUT YOUR LINK

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NB The Editor may need to amend or omit articles submitted though he will do neither without discussing it with you.

THE APRIL 2019 ISSUE DEADLINE IS  
SUNDAY MARCH 17th 2019

The Link is available in printed format or online in colour, at  
[www.elburtonmethodist.org.uk/thelink](http://www.elburtonmethodist.org.uk/thelink)  
or your church web site.

Contact Tony Raine on 405483 for details. mobile: 07505 286682

### THE LECTIONARY

#### **3rd March**

Exodus 34: 29-35

Psalms 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9: 28-36 (37-43)

#### **10th March Lent 1**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91: 1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

#### **17th March Lent 2**

Genesis

15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

#### **24th March Lent 3**

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

#### **31st March Lent 4**

Joshua 5:16-21

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The above are usually the readings used in church and are offered here for your personal use and meditation.

FRONT COVER - The Garden House is a stunningly beautiful garden with 87 different types of snowdrop when this was photographed near the beginning of March.

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*Printed by Bretonside Copy, Mayflower House, 50-54 Bretonside,  
Plymouth, Devon PL4 0AU 01752 665254*



# Letter for Elburton and Oreston



Dear One and All,

It's not as though I am a Christmas grinch, though my family say I am, so I must be; it's simply I prefer the Easter season and the whole run up to it through Lent. Why so? It probably stems from the thoughtfulness of Lent, its demands and a fresh look every year at the inward journey to what has been described by Teresa of Avila as our 'interior castle'. An interior castle in which we hide, defending ourselves from the outside world, building ramparts to defend us from scrutiny. Setting our defences lest anyone should really know what we are like.

The interior castle sets all kinds of images going inside of me. My imagination runs riot. A castle is a powerful thing. If you've ever looked at Harlech castle or Windsor castle you'll know what I mean. The Tower of London was built to be impregnable. A castle admits only those who are deemed friendly, others are kept out. Sometimes I find I do exactly that, keep people out so that I might not risk being hurt or damaged, perhaps you do the same. Up goes the draw bridge, defences on alert!

The Jesuit priest Gerry Hughes, sadly now dead but gone to glory, was one who struggled with the interior castle, but was content to share his struggles with others. His writings such as *Lent: A Journey for Battered Pilgrims* and *God of Surprises* speak of his spiritual experiences and journeys. His books such as *Walk to Jerusalem* speak not only of a physical journey and all the effort it takes, but also of the depths of pilgrimage and life seen as a pilgrimage. Hard going, but the end is good. In our pilgrimage of life, we have to accept the friendship of others



and reveal ourselves, it's a risk, but so is the journey.

For me too it is wrapped-up in my liking for liturgy. I find the ashing ceremony at our Ash Wednesday service profoundly moving, as indeed I find the words of the Maundy Thursday service so solemn and yet vital. Our Sunday by Sunday dressing of the cross and accompanying words are powerful statements of faith. Holy Week is emotional, sapping, up-lifting, terrifying, ultimately sublime.

And then Easter. Oh joy! A service at Jennycliffe overlooking Plymouth Sound and then the church family gathered at EMC; we celebrate. Finally at the end of the day, prayer, thankfulness and a peaceful celebration of the Lord's supper. These are precious, sacred, holy things and that's really why the Lent and Easter season speaks to me more clearly and at greater depth.

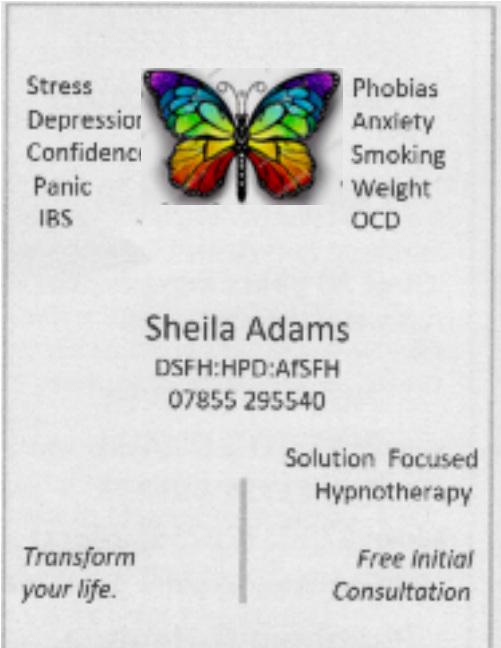
'When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain  
then your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been  
*Love is come again like wheat that springs up green.*' (Singing the Faith 306)

Every blessing,

## Simon.

*The popular idea is that this world is real, exciting, and fulfilling, but the next world to come is not real or fulfilling. But the Bible teaches just the opposite, that it is this world that is vague, unfulfilling, and ultimately not real, and the next world of eternity is what is exciting, fulfilling, and real.*

Douglas Taylor



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# Elburton Methodist Community Church



## SUNDAY

### SERVICES

#### Morning

10.30 am

#### Evening

6.30 pm

3rd March

Miss Teresa White

Rev'd Simon Leigh  
HEALING SERVICE

10th March  
LENT 1

Rev'd Simon Leigh  
PARADE

Rev'd Donna Leigh

17th March  
LENT 2

Rev'd Paul Appleby

Rev'd Mark Lawrence

150 years celebration

24th March  
LENT 3

Rev'd Simon Leigh

Mr John Pointon

### 31st CLOCKS MOVED ON. EVERYTHING ONE HOUR EARLIER

31st MARCH

Rev'd Simon Leigh

Rev'd Simon Leigh

MOTHERING SUNDAY AND LENT 4

*"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us"- **Augustine***

*"God never said that the journey would be easy, but He did say that the arrival would be worthwhile" – **Max Lucado***

*"Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter." –**Francis Chan***



# Elburton Methodist Community Church

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## **JaM (JESUS AND ME)**

- 10.30 a.m.

JaM is the name for our children's and youth ministry. We meet in the Moore Hall for 10.30 am.

## **SOUNDS ALIVE SINGERS**

When we have a presentation to work towards we meet for rehearsals at 11.45 am after church on Sundays to share our love of music.

---

## **MONDAY**

**DANCE FITNESS** - 10.30 a.m.

Contact Sarah Danning, 01752 881447 or email:  
info@physicallyfabulous.co.uk  
www.physicallyfabulous.co.uk

**LUNCHEON CLUB** - 11 a.m.

On Mondays delicious lunches are provided for those less able to cook for themselves. Contact June Dinner (407418) for 3rd Mondays, Barbara Jeffery (311100) for the other Mondays.

**BEAVERS** - 5 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

**CUB SCOUTS** - 6.00 - 7.30 p.m.

**SCOUTS** - 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

There are a few vacancies for boys and girls and also helpers. Contact Roger Galloway 268803 for more information.

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## **TUESDAY**

### **METHODIST WOMEN**

**IN BRITAIN** - 2.30 p.m

March 5th Gillian Higgins

March 12th Roger & Julie Dodd

'Have you got time to listen.'

March 19th Brenda Grundy

March 26th Brian Hart

The Women's Network Fellowship, now called MWiB, meets in the Moore Hall of Elburton Methodist Church. For more information contact Carol Batchelor 491962

### **RAINBOWS**

**BROWNIES** - 6.00 p.m.

Contact Julie Hoskin on 481605.



# Elburton Methodist Community Church

## **PLYMSTOCK & RIDGEWAY**

### **MEN'S GROUP 7.30 pm**

March 12th Ridgeway, Mike Sowden  
Open the book.

March 26th Elburton - Rev Andy Day  
A church weekend away

Contact Andrew Gow (341037) for more details. Half the meetings are held at Ridgeway, the others are in the Rank Hall, Elburton Methodist Community Church.

### **WIVES CLUB - 7.45 pm**

March 5th - SHROVE TUESDAY

March 12th - Robin Blythe-Lord  
"Wembury Thorn"

March 19th James Lynes  
"Life of Vera Lynn"

March 26th A.G.M.

Ladies are invited to join us on Tuesday evenings at 7.45 pm in the Elburton Moore Hall. For more information contact Sylvia Harris or Carol Pike. (311150)



### **HOME GROUP 1 - 7.30 p.m.**

The Tuesday home-group is co-ordinated by Di Smart and is held at homes of the group. For more information contact Di (405435) or Pam Kingsland (519452).

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## **WEDNESDAY**

### **EXERCISE CLASS 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.**

Contact Denise Avent (402818)

### **HOME GROUP 2 7.30 pm**

Held at the home of Trisha Stringer and led by Maureen Richardson (407137)

### **HOME GROUP 4 8 p.m.**

A group meets at a different home each week (helpful for the young families who attend). Contact Jon Carhart (480319).

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## **THURSDAY**

**WORKING PARTY** from 9.30 am  
1st Thursday of month

Come and help us keep our church in a good state of repair. Contact Tony Sleep (403247) for details.



# Elburton Methodist Community Church

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## **MEET AND EAT**

THIRD Thursdays from 10 a.m.

A good meal, tea/coffee, and good company for everyone, led by Rosemary, Barbara Jeffery (311100) and Jennifer Tomlinson (403896).

**TABLE TENNIS** 3.15 - 5.15 p.m.

Contact David Finemore (406372)

**HOME GROUP 3** 7.30 p.m.

David and Brenda Youngs (880286) lead this group on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm at Ruth Sweetland's home.

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## **FRIDAY**

### **LUNCHEON CLUB**

11 a.m. (in term time only)

A lovely lunch provided for those less able to provide for themselves. Good food, good company. Contact Trisha Stringer (482532).

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## **SATURDAY**

### **COFFEE MORNING**

Last Saturday of the month  
10 a.m. - noon.

Held in the Moore Hall, Arranged by Margaret Passmore (404929), run by various groups. Funds go to church projects, term time only.

### **MESSY CHURCH**

First Saturday of month 10.30 a.m.

An informal kind of worship tailored to the needs of the whole family with lots of fun, food, activities and a Christian message.

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# 2019 World Day of Prayer

Please note, it is now called World Day of Prayer, (no longer Women's) led by women, for everyone.

This year the service will be on **March 1st at St Matthews Church at 10.30.**

It has been written by the women of Slovenia and all are invited to join in the wave of prayer which will encircle the globe on this day.



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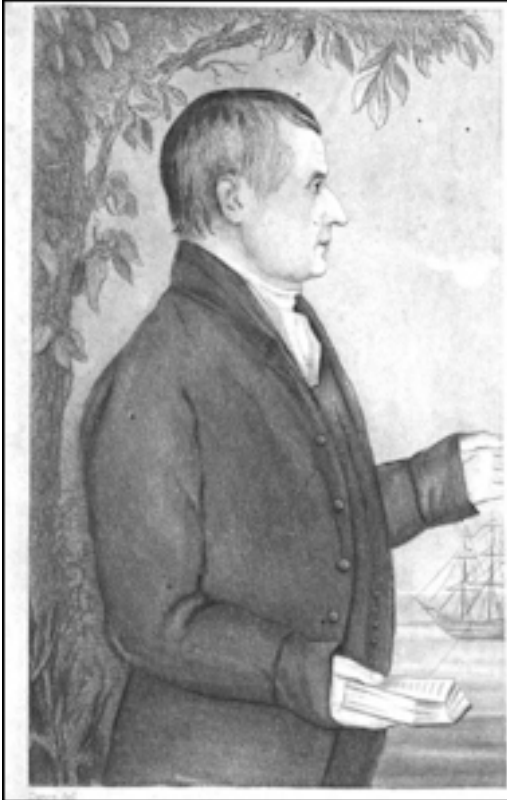
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# 150 Years part 2



The Bible Christian Churches (of which Elburton was one) were not established directly by John Wesley. William O'Bryan was the founder. William was born in Gunwen 23 miles west of Plymouth and intellectually was quite brilliant. He was initially licensed as a Wesleyan local preacher and content to work on the Bodmin circuit. He was courteous, had significant charisma and possessed a fervent godliness that made him popular. It was his plunging into remote areas of Cornwall that Wesley considered a dangerous irregularity, that and his being

married with 8 children which meant extra expenses. He split from the Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1815. He left the Bible Christians in 1832 after a dispute. In 1835 he emigrated to New York.

The church enjoyed prosperity in his absence with successful missions in the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand and establishing three publishing houses and a college at Shebbear. The high point was 1882 when there were 300 ministers in Britain and 34,000 members. At that point discussions began with The Wesleyan Methodists and the Primitive Methodists. In 1907 a number of fragments were brought together to form the United Methodist Church but the final merger with the Primitives and remaining Wesleyans was not until 1932.



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# What happened to the Apostles?

***There is much oral tradition and legend around the deaths of the Apostles. Only John died of natural causes in old age. Many reports emphasised the gruesomeness to inspire courage in Christians. Let the sensitive be warned!***

1. Simon Peter was crucified upside down (his choice) in Rome.
2. Andrew reached Asia Minor, What is now the Soviet Union, Greece and Turkey before being crucified on an X shaped cross for converting the wife of a Greek official.
3. James the son of Zebedee was put to the sword by Herod Agrippa. Acts 12:2
4. John (brother of James) travelled to Ephesus and Patmos, and was the only Apostle to die naturally at the age of 100.
5. Philip visited North Africa and Asia Minor before being crucified in Turkey for converting the wife of the Roman proconsul.
6. Bartholomew saw India, Ethiopia and Arabia before apparently being skinned alive in Armenia.
7. Thomas visited Syria. He was tortured with red hot plates in India before dying from 4 spears thrown by soldiers.
8. Matthew the Tax Collector worked in Persia and Ethiopia before being stabbed by cannibals as he took Communion.
9. James son of Alphaeus taught in Syria where he was eventually thrown from the temple, then stoned and clubbed to death.
10. Thaddaeus died in Beirut, killed with a battle axe.
11. Simon the Zealot worked in Persia before being cut to pieces for not sacrificing to the sun god.
12. Judas Iscariot either committed suicide by hanging or his bowels burst open depending if you read Matthew 27:5 or Acts 1:18
13. Matthias (Judas' replacement) was eventually burnt at the stake after working in Ethiopia and Syria.
14. Paul was not truly an Apostle. The Bible does not tell us but it is understood that he was beheaded by Nero.



# *CELEBRATE IN SONG*

Plymouth Area Police Choir will help to celebrate our **150th** Anniversary.

**On March 15th at 7.30pm,**  
the choir will be in concert at Elburton  
Methodist Church.



**150 years**

Proceeds to Mission in Britain, a charity dedicated to helping the poor and needy.

**Tickets, priced £7,**  
may be obtained from Jenny Weymouth.



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### Meet and Eat

**THURSDAY  
21st March**

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## ELBURTON SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TUESDAY 12th FEB

‘19

B Good morning everyone. My name is Brenda. Put your hand up if you like reading. What kind of stories do you like to read?

(Answers from 2 or 3)

I love books that take you back in history and you can find out how people lived long ago. I wonder if we could try to go back in history today. Shall we try? Let's wish hard, close eyes and say "Please take us back in time." (Children repeat) Has anything happened? O dear, we're still all the same. But wait . . . who's this? (Tracey enters in costume looking puzzled)

T Where am I. How did I get here?

B You've arrived at Elburton School. Welcome!

T I was just reading my book! (Looks around) What a lot of children! They are wearing very strange clothes and they are all mixed up! Why are the girls not sitting on their own, what would their mothers' think? And they have no aprons or caps! What year is this?

B It is 2019. Can you please tell us your name and where you come from?

T My name is Mrs Mary Thorne and I live in Plymouth but I spend a lot of time in Elburton. Did you say it was 2019? It can't be, it is now 1869 and Queen Victoria is



on the throne.

B We now have Queen Elizabeth as our monarch. How did you get to Elburton?

T O, several ways. I sometimes walk all the way, or I can come on a horse and cart or a donkey cart. That's a bit bumpy and uncomfortable.

B And why do you come all the way here, that's a long journey?

T I'm a preacher for the Bible Christians. We follow the way of Mr John Wesley and want to tell everyone to trust in the Lord Jesus. Brother John Hendy runs the Sunday School for the children.

B (To the children) How do you get to Plymouth? (Bus, car, etc.)

T What are cars and buses?

B They are like your carriages but instead of having a horse to pull it, they have an engine. A bus can carry up to 50 passengers.

T That's amazing!

B What was Elburton like in Victorian times?

T Very muddy! The horses and carts make the road very rough.

B Were there many houses?

T A few cottages, some with earth floors. There is now a new chapel which was built on the ground where some old cottages stood.

B What do the children do in Elburton?

T The good children help their parents in the home or on the farm. They feed the animals and lead the horses.



The girls learn to cook and clean and sew, they help to make butter and cheese and how to bake bread.

B They sound very busy! Do they have time to play?

T If they have done all their jobs they may be able to play some games

B I think we have some pictures of what it was like in your time. These are some children playing with hoops and sticks.(Show slides and make comments on one of them.)

T That was very interesting.

B It was nice to see the field. Most of Elburton is now covered with houses.

T That is a shame. There are ten farms around here and lots of people work on a farm. Sadly there is still not enough work for everyone and some of our young men are leaving our country to travel thousands of miles to go to America or Australia! They hope to make their fortunes there. Before the new chapel was built we used to meet for services in one of the old barns – it was rather draughty.

B I believe there was a blacksmith here for many years run by the Coleman family.

T Yes, I love to watch the horses having new shoes fitted, and watch the strong blacksmith.

B Do you have time to take a holiday? The children have long holidays in the summer, and some of them even fly to foreign countries in planes.

T I have so much work to do, I don't have time for



holidays – but did you say the children “**flew**”? How on earth do they do that? What is a plane?

B Children can you tell Mary what a plane looks like?

T We do have railway engines that pull carriages and they go very fast! They have not come to Elburton yet but I expect they will one day.

B Yes, I think they came here in 1888, we still have a road called Station Road, but there are no trains there now.

T I must get back now as it will soon be dark and I want to get the candles lit and the oil lamp going so that I can continue reading.

B We are sorry to have called you away, but thank you for coming, we have learnt so much. Good-bye.  
(Mrs Thorne leaves)

B That was make-believe but it was fun.

T We wanted to tell you about the old time Elburton because the Methodist Church up the road is still here and has its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday this year

B It would be lovely if some of you could make a drawing about some of the things you have heard. We could put them in our exhibition later in the year. Some of the boys and girls here go to Brownies and Cubs and you could ask them to bring the pictures to church

T&B A big thank-you to all!



# Prayer Page

This month we remember Ash Wednesday on the 6<sup>th</sup>:  
Almighty God, we pray that through this season of Lent, by prayer and study and self-discipline, we may penetrate more deeply into the mystery of Christ's sufferings; that following in the way of his cross and passion we may come to share in the glory and triumph of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Adapted*

St Patrick on the 17<sup>th</sup>: I pray my God to give me perseverance and to vouchsafe that I bear to him faithful witness until my passing thence, for his name's sake.

*St Patrick 389-461*

I pray with the power of God to guide me, the might of God to uphold me, the wisdom of God to teach me, the eye of God to watch over me, the ear of God to hear me, the word of God to give me speech, the hand of God to protect me, the path of God to lie before me, the shield of God to shelter me, the host of God to defend me against the snares of the devil and the temptations of the world, against every man who meditates injury against me whether far or near.

*The breastplate of St Patrick (373 – 462)*

The Annunciation of the Lord on 25<sup>th</sup> :

We praise you, our Father, for the marvellous news announced to Mary; for the grace of life that prepared her for her call; for her obedience to your will and her humility in accepting it; for her loving care and patience in fulfilling it. Give us such grace and obedience that we may be accounted worthy to bear



the good news to our world; though Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Bail Naylor*

Mothering Sunday on the 31<sup>st</sup> : Lord Jesus, who came to share our life here on earth and made your home among us at Nazareth: we thank you for our homes and families, and especially today for our mothers and for all that they mean to us. Bless them, O Lord, and bless our homes; and help us to find our true happiness in loving and serving one another for your sake, our Master and our Friend.

*Frank Colquhoun*

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## Calling all knitters.

Once more we have been invited by the Lions Club of Plymouth to join in it's sponsored Knitting Event. Ladies from this church have attended for two years and we are anxious to help again. The event is on 13th April from 10.00am until 4.00pm (don't worry if you cannot stay there for the full 6 hours....we shall not be tied to the chair) There will be one sponsorship form for us to use as a team. Although you do not have to be a championship level knitter, we were delighted that last year, our own Elaine Cook came third in the most squares completed. There are more details on the noticeboard, as well as the sponsorship form.

Come and have fun, good company, a natter, free food and drink and help the designated charities. For more information and to register to be part of the "Elburton Knitwits" team, please see Jean Davies.





## ELBURTON'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

**Friday March 15<sup>th</sup> 7-30pm**

Concert by Plymouth Area Police Choir

**Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup> 4.00 pm**

Special Anniversary service followed by strawberry tea & celebration cake. Booking required for tea, see Sylvia, Doreen or Jean.

**Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> (tba)**

Art workshops in hall, flower celebration in worship area.

**Sunday September 1<sup>st</sup> 3.00pm**

Afternoon tea in the hall,

“Old hymns” Songs of Praise in the church.

**Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> 5.00pm**

All age Harvest Tea Party.

**Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.00pm**

Power Point presentation of history of the church & village and other events

**November 24<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am**

Re-dedication of church and congregation.

NOTE SOME NEW  
DATES AND DETAILS

Other exciting projects are under way, involving Elburton School, Messy Church & JaM, The Scouts and Brownies are mounting an exhibition of the history of their organisations and the involvement of our groups within it, this will be on display, hopefully for a couple of weeks (dates yet to be set). *Jean (on behalf of the Steering Committee)*

### MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING

Every month on the last Saturday there is a coffee morning held in the Moore Hall in aid of church funds. It is a happy social event with many regular attendees. Please come and join us.





**150 years**

## SHARE A PRAYER

To ALL readers of the Link: This is just a reminder that we still would like to have your prayers for a book of prayers we intend to publish in the near future. We are looking for personal home-spun prayers rather than clever liturgical pieces copied from other books. You may wish to love and praise God, to confess your faults and omissions, to express your thanks, to address your concerns and needs, (supplication), or to pray for others (intercession). Whatever most concerns you will probably concern others. Obviously don't make it too specifically personal because it will be read by many others, and don't mention names without making sure from the person concerned that it would cause no offence. Only sign your own name at the end if you are happy for it to appear in the book. 50 - 200 words is the target but more or less is OK. Please think about writing your own prayer and give it to Tony Raine or Brenda Youngs. The book will be on sale and will be a lovely reminder of our 150 years celebration long after it is over. *TR*



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# AFRICAN PALM CROSSES

The African Palms project was started in 1965 by Fr Alan Talbot an Anglican priest who served for 6 years as a missionary in the diocese of Masasi Tanzania.

His aim was to give really poor villagers the means to earn some extra money to supplement their meagre income.

The Palm Crosses are made from dried branches of the dwarf palm *Hyphaena coriacea*. These grow wild in the Masasi area, so are not cultivated, furthermore no trees are cut down in the work of collecting the Palm Leaves for plaiting the Palm Crosses.

The work of making the Palm Crosses does not interfere with the villagers' normal work of producing the food they need to live, it provides some additional income. The crosses are sent once a year to the UK where they are sorted and packed. Any profit is used for health and education projects in the Masasi area.

Fr Alan Talbot died last August at the age of 95, leaving behind a very successful project that now makes 3 million crosses that are sold worldwide each year.

Now, every Palm Sunday, a week before Easter, our church gives everyone a palm cross to remind them of Jesus being celebrated by the crowds just before he was crucified.



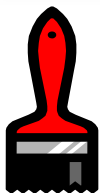




## **Messy Church MARCH 2nd**

March being the month for Mothers' Day, the theme for this month's Messy Church is famous Mothers from the Bible.

From Julia & the Messy Team



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# Oreston Methodist Church



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## SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.30 am

3rd March Rev'd Simon Leigh

SACRAMENT

17th March Local Arrangement

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### QUOTES FROM FAMOUS PEOPLE

“He who lays up treasures on earth spends his life backing away from his treasures. To him, death is loss. He who lays up treasures in heaven looks forward to eternity; he’s moving daily toward his treasures. To him, death is gain.” –**Randy Alcorn**

“God does not give us everything we want, but He does fulfill His promises, leading us along the best and straightest paths to Himself.” –**Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

“The Christian life is not a constant high. I have my moments of deep discouragement. I have to go to God in prayer with tears in my eyes, and say, 'O God, forgive me,' or 'Help me.'” –**Billy Graham**

“This is our time on the history line of God. This is it. What will we do with the one deep exhale of God on this earth? For we are but a vapor and we have to make it count. We’re on. Direct us, Lord, and get us on our feet.” –**Beth Moore**



WE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER  
CONGRATULATIONS TO  
DOT & ERIC LOBB  
WHO CELEBRATED THEIR  
70th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY  
(PLATINUM)  
on 22nd JANUARY, 2019.

They received several cards and greetings, one of which being from their son, Michael, and his family, who live in America. Their gifts received included a garden planter of Spring flowers. On the Day they were taken out to lunch by a group of Friends. SR



## **Some extra thoughts for "Those who Bake"**

Looking for a recipe for Easter Biscuits or a Simnel (Apostle) Cake or maybe a Sunshine Drizzle Cake for these days of unpredictable weather? My favourite cook book was a lucky "find" at one of Elburton's half-yearly Fayres when the scouts filled the church with books for sale, and it is entitled Cakes, Bakes, Puddings and Prayers, by Susan Over. Each recipe includes a short prayer and a reading with a reflection to read whilst the cake is cooking! What a great idea for those who are too busy for spending time in prayer or feel harassed and need to lighten up a bit.....and the recipes are really good and quick too. If you can't still buy them from the Leprosy Mission, I have found several for family members on the internet under "used books". Happy baking! DJT

### **COOKING FOR EASTER?**

**God gives us the ingredients  
for our daily bread,  
but he expects us to do the baking.**

**The secret to a happy life is giving  
God the first part of your day, the  
first priority to every decision and  
the first place in your heart.**





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## **ORESTON EVENTS...**

### **Oreston Parents and Toddlers 1.30pm -**

**3-15pm**

The Group meets every Friday in term time, in the Church Hall



### ***Oreston Sew Knit & Natter***

The group meets every Monday from 2.00 – 4.00 pm in the Church Hall. Craft activities of many types take place and all are welcome to attend.



### **All Age Table Tennis**



2 pm to 4 pm each Tuesday (excluding School Holidays)

Used to Play? Want to Learn? or just want to have some fun & exercise at the same time? Drop in any Tuesday and expect A WARM WELCOME!

### **THE INTERCHURCH BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

The interchurch Bible Study Group now meets only once a month at Pomphlett on the 4th Friday of each month at 10am and it is led by the Rev'd Andy Day - all are welcome.

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### **Extra news for Oreston Sew, Knit and Natter Group.....**

The Group are now well into their Easter project, making knitted containers for Creme Eggs to be donated to local good causes. There are now a great number of Easter chicks, bunnies and baskets in all colours ready to be filled in time for Easter.

Plans to find them good homes are in progress. The Group welcome anyone to join them on Monday afternoons from 2 pm, whether or not they are experienced crafters - you can always enjoy a chat and a cup of tea or coffee!.....



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# POMPHELETT METHODIST CHURCH



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## PREACHERS AT POMPHLETT ON SUNDAYS AT 9.30 AM

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March 3rd	Rev'd Simon Leigh	
March 10th	Rev'd Andrew Day	SACRAMENT
March 17th	Mr Peter Sweeting	
March 24th	Mr Keith Angilley	
March 31st	Mrs Rebecca Marshall	

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*"When we are securely rooted in personal intimacy with the source of life, it will be possible to remain convinced without being rigid, willing to confront without being offensive, gentle and forgiving without being soft, and true witnesses without being manipulative."*

— **Henri J.M. Nouwen**

"

*As I stumble through this life. help me to create more laughter than tears, dispense more cheer than gloom, spread more joy than despair. Never let me become so indifferent that I will fail to see the wonder in the eyes of a child, or the twinkle in the eyes of the aged. Never let me forget that my total effort is to cheer people, make them happy, and forget momentarily all the unpleasantness in their lives. And in my final moment, may I hear You whisper, "When you made My people smile, you made Me smile."*

— **Nancy Mehl,**





**Welcome to Family Worship**

**Sundays @ 9.30 am**

**Experience the Pomphlett Welcome**

**Please pop in for a cuppa  
After the service at about 10.30 am**



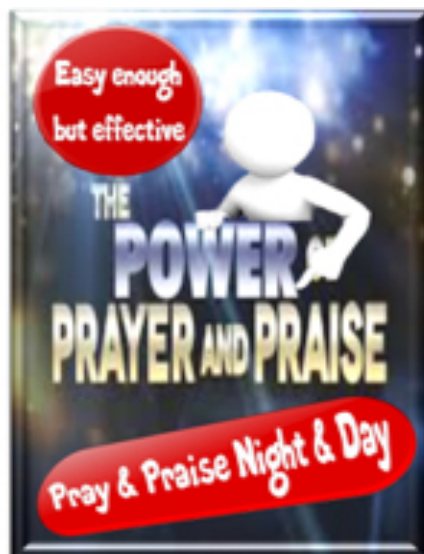
Dates In April

8th & 22nd

Starting

at 2pm

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Pomphlett Methodist Church  
Enriching The Good Church

# Coffee Cakes Chat

**Saturday  
April 20th**

**Best Easter Bonnet Competition**

**Teas Coffees from 9 am**

**Bacon Butties  
from 9.30 am**

**Easter Raffle**

# Pomphlett Methodist Church Friendship Group

**April 10th & 24th**

A time for Ladies and  
Gentlemen with  
interesting speakers  
and various other  
activities. Alternate  
Wednesdays at 2pm

Our new telephone line is now up and working. Please use this number to enquire about Christenings, Wedding and Funerals. This number is not monitored every day so there may be a delay in us getting back to you, but we promise we will.

If your enquiry is  
urgent please use  
the contact  
details that can  
be found  
elsewhere in this  
magazine.





## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<b>Sunday Worship</b> Mostly traditional services Followed by tea and coffee	9.30 am
<b>Café Style Church</b> About every Two Months Tea, Coffee, buns served during relaxed worship time	9.30 am

### Mondays Various Activities

<b>Diddy Dance Toddlers</b>	9.45am
<b>Tea Dances (Fortnightly)</b>	2 pm
<b>Slimming World</b>	5 pm

### Tuesdays Various Activities

<b>Line Dancing Diana</b>	10 am
<b>Wadoki Karate Gary Swift</b>	6.30

### Wednesdays Various Activities

<b>Community Hub Cafe</b>	9.30-12
<b>Computing for Seniors</b>	10 am
<b>Friendship Group (Fortnightly)</b>	2 pm
<b>USA Art Group (Fortnightly)</b>	2pm

### Thursdays Various Activities

<b>50+ Keep Fit</b>	11 am
<b>USA Art &amp; Craft Groups</b>	2 pm
<b>Sing Plymouth Community Choir</b>	7 pm
<b>Triumph Owners Bike Club</b>	8 pm

### Fridays Limited Activities

<b>Prayer Meetings (4th Friday)</b>	10 am
<b>Dae School of Dance</b>	4 pm

### Saturdays Limited Activities

<b>Coffee Mornings &amp; Bacon Butties 3rd</b>	9.30 am
<b>Dae School of Dance</b>	9 am


**Welcome to Family Worship**  
 Sundays @ 9.30 am  
 Experience the Pamphlett Welcome  
 Please pop in for a cuppa  
 After the service at about 10.30 am


**time to pray**  
 10 am in  
 The Lounge  
 4th Friday of each month

Bible Study  
and Prayers in  
The Lounge on  
the 4th Friday  
of each month.


**Tea Dance**  
 Alternate Mondays  
 From 2 pm  
 More Details?  
 Call 01752 519168

Fortnightly  
on a  
Monday at  
2pm.  
Dancing to  
live music


**Monthly Coffee Morning**  
 3rd Saturday From 9am  
 till about 12 noon  
  
 Bacon Butties, Coffee,  
 Cake, Chat, Raffles

Coffee Cakes  
and Chat  
Bacon  
Butties from  
9.30 am. All  
are welcome

Church Hall Hire: Our Church Hall is for  
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# Pomphlett's Community Hub Cafe

Here Wednesdays from 9.30 am

Lonely? Need to Chat? We're here for you



Refreshments, Internet Access, Friendly Chat

[www.pomphlettchurch.org/activities](http://www.pomphlettchurch.org/activities) [communitycafe@pomphlettchurch.org](mailto:communitycafe@pomphlettchurch.org)



## Computing for Seniors



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Wednesdays 10 am till  
12 pm Tea Coffee Buns  
and Biscuits Free WiFi.  
No Laptop? No Problem.

Do you struggle with filling in forms on the internet? Or do you struggle with using a smart mobile phone, or digital camera or laptop or tablet computers?

We are at Church from 9.30 am with our Community Café too, so whilst you are learning your computer skills you can have a chat or sup on a cuppa and chomp into a biscuit.

You don't have to be an Oldie to come along. Whatever age you are we should be able to help you with simple plain advice. We look forward to meeting you.



Prayer

Meeting  
& Bible

Study

10 am  
4th Friday  
of each month  
in The Lounge

Friday

March 22nd @ 10 am

We start with a  
cuppa, chat. Bible  
Study and prayers led  
by our Minister  
Rev'd Andrew Day



# Gateway

The Church in a House

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Dear Friends

I write this after our Sunday dinner of salmon cutlet, Brussel sprouts and potatoes followed by fruit salad and ice cream. So there's every chance that I might doze off whilst I write!! This morning I was preaching at Millbrook Methodist Church and used the chain car ferry. I'm back to Torpoint tomorrow to visit a family preceding a funeral service. Last month I was the last car off the ferry at Plymouth, today I was the fourth car, you never can tell!

I forgot to mention St Valentine in last month's newsletter. For the past fifty-six years I have sent Brenda a valentine card, just reminding her how precious she is to me. St Valentine, officially St Valentine of Rome, was a widely recognised third century saint commemorated on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February and since the Middle Ages is associated with a tradition of courtly love! He died on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 269 in Rome.

This month we enter into the season of Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday preceded by Shrove Tuesday. That day at my school was a special event day. (Forgive me if I have told some of you about it). My secondary school was a boys' school in Tredegar Square, Bow, London. For a Methodist it might have the wrong connotation seeing that we don't drink alcohol! On Shrove Tuesday the sixth form and any fifth form school leavers would put on their old rugby shorts and vests and gather in the school hall. The building had an upper floor and the rest of the school would gather round the surrounding balcony.

At eleven o'clock. The headmaster would come on stage with a frying pan in his hand which contained a pancake. He would



then toss the pancake into the hall before him and over the next ten minutes those on the floor would endeavour to get as much pancake into their hands as possible. The head would blow his whistle and each participant would flatten out their pancake gains and the head would decide who had the largest amount. That person would then be awarded an apprenticeship to the honourable company of Coopers (barrel makers). It was a prize worth having, I can assure you.

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the custom for Christians to be "shriven" before the start of Lent. Traditionally, Anglo-Saxon Christians would go to church to confession and be absolved from their sins on this day. The word shrove is a form of the English word shrive, which means to obtain absolution for one's sins by way of confession and penance. The verb to shrive describes the act of hearing a confession, often by a priest. Traditionally, pancakes were eaten on this day to use up rich, indulgent foods like eggs and milk before the fasting season (47 days) of Lent began.

With Christian love,

Your brother in Christ.

*David*

We send our best wishes to our members who have a birthday in March.

Vivienne Yebsley.  
Pauline Raine  
Julie Dodd.

Our Sunday Celebration Service at 11 am on 10 th March is led by Roger and Julie Dodd. We often follow these services with a meal at a restaurant.





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## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

### THE CURATE AND THE FRIEND Part 2

"Do numbers in the Bible always have significance like that?" the friend asked of the curate who had been explaining the meaning of the miracle of Jesus turning water into wine.

"Usually yes," the curate answered. "You have to remember that using numbers like that was a standard part of the Jewish story-telling culture and that everyone knew what they meant. It wouldn't have been the mystery that it is to us today."

"How about the feeding of the five thousand?"

"That one is very typical of John. Five, incidentally, represents God's grace. The five loaves and two fish came from a boy, John is the only one to tell us that. From the most inferior, a mere boy, comes the gift of everything that the boy could give and Jesus turned it into more than sufficient to feed everyone. Can you see a moral or two there?"

Rather than look for a moral, the friend instead queried, "I thought girls were the most inferior in Bible times, not boys?"

"A girl would have been effectively invisible. Yes women and girls were there following their men but they weren't even counted among the 5,000. Sorry, I'm not the misogynist here. It was the wrong-thinking prevalent at the time, Women were just possessions." explained the curate apologetically.

"It says even the number of waste baskets was actually counted. Why on earth did they do that?"

"There is no superfluous detail in John. Everything means something. It's significant that the word used for those baskets refers to the wicker baskets that Jews used,"

"Why does it say there were 12 baskets?" the friend persisted.

"What does twelve mean?" countered the curate.

"You're on about numbers again, aren't you? There were 12 disciples, weren't there?"

"And there was a reason for that, too. There were 12 tribes of Israel. That's possibly why 12 leaders of those tribes, twelve



---

apostles, were chosen - all men because they wouldn't follow a woman then."

"And you think twelve baskets of leftovers means there was enough left for all twelve tribes."

"Exactly - the whole of Israel. That was everybody in the world who believed in the God of Abraham."

"Hang on. Matthew tells us that it happened twice, doesn't he, and the other time there were 4000 men eating and seven baskets collected."

"Why do you think that was?" asked the curate with a smile.

"Don't have the vaguest idea."

"There's a clue in the word used for the basket. In that case it's a different Greek word that refers to a different kind of basket used by the non-Jewish Greeks. It happened near Decapolis, which means ten Greek cities. They possibly wouldn't have understood the significance of twelve because they were not of the Jewish culture. The Greek Pythagoreans believed that the number seven pointed symbolically to the union of the Deity with the universe. Seven was regarded as having sacred power. Seven would mean perfect to them and suggests enough for all."

"That's beginning to sound a bit far-fetched." said the friend.

"You think so? Read Matthew 16:9-11, where Jesus underlines the issue."

"You know, I'm not sure I believe the story at all," the friend admitted.

"No? It's in all four of our gospels. People in those days, knowing they would be travelling and unsure of how far or how long, would almost certainly take food with them. How else did all those baskets get there? Nobody would want to reveal their food first in case they had to share. Jesus showed no such inhibition with his food and led the others to do the same. If that were true, which is the greater miracle: getting 5000 people to share, or multiplying bread and fish?"





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