Tywardreath News & Views November 2025 35p



Remembrance Sunday 9th November

Please buy a poppy and give generously for the benefit of our ex-servicemen and women

This photograph, taken by Dalby Smith of St. Blazey and loaned by Janet Hewer, shows the original dedication of the War Memorial

Remembering our Loved Ones

St Andrew's Church, Tywardreath Sunday 2nd November 3.00pm, followed by tea and cake

A reflective service with an opportunity to remember with thanks those we have loved but who have died. Names will be read out during the service so even if you cannot attend but would like them remembered please let Shona know.

The ISOT "Tywardreath through Time" exhibition was a great success, with lots of lovely comments from visitors as well as villagers and old faces who came back to see our grand display of photos, artefacts, diaries & research material.





Tots' Group at St Andrew's

Mondays in term time 10 to 11.30am Play, story time, singing and a snack



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Revd Shona Hoad writes ...

There is a phrase people like to use on occasion, "an elephant never forgets". Quite what the purpose of the saying is I am not sure as I don't come across many elephants in the course of my day! However, I was interested to read that there is likely some truth to the expression, as elephants have very large brains with their temporal lobes – which is where memory is largely stored – being proportionately larger and more complex than those of humans. It is well documented that they can remember members of their herd many years after last meeting up with one another and similarly human contacts too.

They can remember long distance routes that are traversed as they roam the wild landscape during migration, and they are likely to avoid areas that have previously given them bad experiences. In elephant herds it will be the elderly matriarchs that play a vital role in decision-making when things are tough because of drought or danger. The herds that survive in the toughest seasons are likely the ones led by the older matriarchs who have more years of memory to draw on to lead them to safe places.

Long-term memories are important survival tools that help us navigate difficult moments in life. Knowing the people and places that have offered welcome and refuge in time of trouble can be significant in time of uncertainty. The Bible can be one such place that we remember to turn to when things are causing us to search and question what is happening for us or the world in general.

Remembering that God is the giver and restorer of peace is a good thing to hold in our minds when there is much that can feel overwhelming. Psalm 46 begins with the words, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" and it draws towards its ending with the words "Be still, and know that I am God".

When there are so many wars and uprisings taking place around the world it is sometimes hard to believe that stillness and peace is possible. Inner peace can be found when we remember that God is with us. When we have inner peace, then we find ourselves able to speak peace to others and the world becomes a better place.

With every blessing .

Shona



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Next on 16th November: Family Service @ St Andrew's 10 am ... on the third Sunday of each month.

Contemporary songs, craft activities, prayer and praise.

Enjoy a tea or coffee as you reflect and chat with others.

All welcome. (There is no 11 am service on this day.)

News from St Andrew's

<u>Sunday 21st September</u>. Shona and Martin led the monthly Family Service, which is informal and contemporary in style. We concluded as usual with children's craft; and coffee and chat for the adults. It was the beginning of Fairtrade fortnight and we thought about how we can make things fairer for people around the world as they supply many of the foods we enjoy such as tea, coffee and cocoa.

<u>Sunday 28th September</u>. Continuing to think about God's creation, Shona spoke about zebras. Their surprisingly effective camouflage of black and white stripes is different on every animal, like a fingerprint. We had heard in the Gospel reading about Jesus' interaction with the rich man and Lazarus. Shona said that we each have to work out what God is asking of us and say, "What can I do to make a difference today?"

<u>Sunday 5th October</u>. Harvest. We welcomed our friends from Well Street Chapel as we celebrated and gave thanks for the harvest this year with traditional harvest hymns, poems and readings. Reflecting on the words of Jesus "I am the bread of life" Shona suggested that when we believe and live with that knowledge, then we want others to know it too. When everyone lives with that understanding then we will willingly share what God has provided and there will indeed be enough harvest to meet the needs of everyone.

<u>Sunday 12th October</u>. Martin Hoad gave the address at today's service of Holy Communion. In the Old Testament reading which we had heard, Jeremiah told the exiled Jews that they should embrace the good things of their new life. Martin said that we too should be grateful for the world we live in and for the wonder of God's creation in all its forms. Never lose sight of the blessings you have!

Tregaminion

Well, what a wonderful Harvest Festival! A full house in lovely autumn sunshine gave everyone an opportunity to enjoy the very best of Tregaminion. We were blessed to have a "practice" wheat sheaf loaf from The Village Bakery, making a second appearance of the day, so it was placed on the altar along with all the many offerings that were brought. We had readings and prayers from the

From the Registers

Marriage "That theirs may be the love which knows no ending,"

20th Sept Vikki Holmes and Ross Matthews St Andrew's

Polkerris Scouts, who did really well speaking in front of so may people. Once again AJ and his team provided the refreshment, which is always well received.

We have a "Book of Common Prayer" Holy Communion on Sunday 16th November, with the Rev Andrew Wade, please note that this is a week later than our usual second Sunday, so as not to clash with Remembrance Sunday.

With Christmas just around the corner, there is excitement building for the Candlelight Carol Service on Tuesday 2nd December at 6pm. Polkerris Scouts are joining us with, I'm led to believe, hand made lanterns, which should bring a truly festive experience.

Nigel Canning

Tywardreath & Par Over 60s Group

Our meeting in October welcomed the Tywardreath Morris dancers who entertained the meeting. David the leader of the Dancers explained the history of Morris Dancing, which has been around for hundreds of years. David explained much of the dances which they performed.

November 14th we are going to Looe for a fish and chip lunch and on to Kernow Mills. For further information, please contact either Linda 814459 or Liz 812256.

Fowey Memory Café

Memory Café is held on alternate Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm at Squires Field Community Centre, Park Road, Fowey, PL23 1EF, with tea or coffee, cake and chatter. We spend time reminiscing and talk about current affairs.

Our trip to Lanjeth Water Gardens was unfortunately cancelled due to concerns over the safety of their marquee in the high winds. Instead, we entertained ourselves with quizzes, stories and some amusing poems. On 2nd October we met at Tywardreath Methodist Chapel for an afternoon of singing: some old favourite songs to an accordion accompaniment. Future sessions will include music, games, jokes, exercise and the opportunity to share our own stories.

New guests and carers are always welcomed. Just give us a ring for more information on 07525 488329. Next dates: 13th & 27th Nov; 11th & 18th Dec.

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You may hand your envelope over the counter at Tywardreath Village Shop. Alternatively, you may send a cheque by post. Cheques should be payable to **PCC Tywardreath**. If you prefer to pay by bank transfer, please email tydnewsviews@hotmail.com with your name and address and request our account details. Thank you for supporting the magazine.

Friendship Club

The Friendship Club meets on Wednesdays from 2-4pm in Well Street Methodist Chapel. All are invited to come and join the club. Contact Jo Langford 815921.

Fowey and District Fuchsia and Garden Society

The November meeting will be held in the annexe at Fowey River Secondary Academy on Monday 10th November from 7 until 9pm. The speaker will be Emma Wigley, who will be talking on growing and using willows.

There is plenty of free parking: please register your car at the Sports hub, refreshments and raffle. Everyone welcome. £3 per head for non members.

Salsa - St Austell Library Support Association

Historic buildings talk by Samantha Barnes-Knight at St Austell Library on Thursday 13th November, 6.30pm. £3 to be pre booked. This talk will give a rapid, illustrated tour of some of Cornwall's public buildings from free board schools & libraries in the Victorian period to the work of Cornwall CC architects department in the post war years etc. Refreshments available.

Pre book by either cash or card at the library or phone 03001234111, email staustell.library@liscornwall.org.uk or Facebook.

Wreath Making 1st December, 6pm. £40 to include all fresh foliage and materials, just bring protective gloves and festive spirit. Get creative with Debbie Parsons and her step by step guide to making beautiful, creative wreaths. Refreshments included in price, must be pre booked as limited spaces.

The above events can be booked by phoning 03001234111, email staustell.library@liscornwall.org.uk, or pop in, either cash or card.

Christmas meet & greet at St Austell Library, 9th December, 10 to 12.30pm for festive fun with various activities. Just drop in.

Look out for details of the decorated Christmas tree competition at the library.

Coffee Morning and Table Sale On behalf of St Petroc's

Tywardreath Village Hall, 10.30am to 1.00pm, Saturday 29th November.

This is the main fundraising event organised by the Friends of St Petroc's in the Par/Tywardreath area. There will be refreshments available, along with cakes for purchase, Christmas gifts, handmade crafts, a raffle, and more. Entry free.

There are still tables available at £5 each. To reserve a table, please phone Pat Kotwinski on 07968 290343. Do come along and support St Petroc's in their work for homeless people in Cornwall.

Par Old Cornwall Society

The talk at the September meeting was both amusing and informative. Mr Mark Camp gave an illustrated history of "Stags, Hens and Honeymoons" and from his vast research, was able to show us newspaper cuttings of reports of all three—some really amusing, some a little bit risqué—and some of the unfortunate things that have occurred on these happy occasions!

It was interesting to hear that Stag Nights are not new and were held in Roman times. The name "Stag" is thought to have come from the Celtic god Cernunnus, who featured in marriage rituals and was depicted with antlers, resembling a Stag. Stag nights are associated with weddings, but were often just men only events. There is one report of Yorkshire County Cricketers and Footballers in 1939 who held a Stag night; and, locally, a report of HTP motors holding one in the Headland Hotel at Newquay. Stag Nights have also been advertised as fundraising events.

Hen nights came to England in 1899 from America, where elegant ladies' lunches were held. A report in an English newspaper from 1928 told of well bred ladies meeting together in a public restaurant and then going to the theatre without male escorts, which at that time was considered quite daring—ladies did not go out without a chaperone! They also held Thimble parties, where the ladies would bring their needlework: "Knit and Natter" on a grander scale!

Honeymoons originated in England during the reign of King George III, when it was considered the first month of marriage was the sweetest, hence the name "Honeymoon". It was interesting to see, among the old newspaper reports, the prices of cars and other commodities in the adverts of the mid 19th century. There were new cars for a song compared to today. In 1965, when weddings were reported with all the details, one couple received a Frying Pan from the groom's employers and a Carpet Shampooer from the bride's, a far cry from some of the wedding gifts today. It was a very interesting and amusing evening, with many illustrations of what has been reported in newspapers about these events over the years.

The next meeting will be on Saturday November 29th at 2.30pm in the Bishop Gott Memorial Hall in Par Green, when Mr Phil Hadley will give an illustrated talk on "The Americans in Cornwall in WW2". All are welcome, visitors £2. Refreshments will be served from 2pm.



This way and that

(same answers each way)

- 1. Frantic.
- 2. By oneself.
- 3. Wandering person.
- 4. Senseless.
- 5. Transferred or surrendered territory.

1	2	3	4	5
2				
3				
4				
5				

C. See Street Street	THE REAL PROPERTY.					
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1		2		3		4
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7						
1	ı	1	ı	ı	1	1

Last month's answers, This way and That 1 Slump, 2 Lunar, 3 Untie, 4 Maize, 5 Preen.

Last month's crossword Across: 1 Backbit, 5 Iterate, 6 Impound, 7 Fantasy. Down: 1 Bailiff, 2 Cheapen, 3 Bravura, 4 Tuesday.

Crossword

Across:

- 1. Confidential.
- 5. To the greatest extent..
- 6. Pressing clothes.
- 7. Impetuous person.

Down:

- 1. Fretful or irritable.
- 2. Hymn or psalm at the beginning of a service.
- 3. Simian.
- 4. Came into view.

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Hours of Business

Monday Tuesday	9 am - 1.00 pm & 2.15 pm - 5.30 pm	
Wednesday	Closed	
Thursday	9 am - 1.00 pm &	
Friday	2.15 pm - 5.30 pm	
Saturday	9 am - 1.00 pm	

Church & Chapel services in November					
	ST ANDREW'S	TREGAMINION	WELL STREET		
Sunday 2nd November	11.00am Holy Communion Rev Shona Hoad 3.00pm Remembering our Loved Ones		10.30am Service Stuart Hunkin		
	(see front page)				
Sunday 9th November	10.50am, commencing at the War Memorial Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance continuing in St Andrew's Church				
	6.00pm Informal Prayer with Shona and Martin				
Sunday 16th November	10.00am Family Service Rev Shona Hoad	10.00am BCP Holy Communion Rev Andrew Wade	10.30am Service - Maria Truscott-Robins		
Sunday 23rd November	11.00am Holy Communion Rev Shona Hoad		10.30am Service John Diaper		
Sunday 30th November	11.00am St Andrew's Day Holy Communion Rev Shona Hoad		11.00am United Service Par St Mary's		

Tots' Group at St Andrew's

Mondays in term time, 10 to 11.30am for 0-4s with parents/grandparents/carers. Play, story time, singing and a snack. £1 per family.

St Andrew's Church is open most days from 10am (11.30 on Mondays) to 3.00pm approx. Please feel welcome to come in for quiet reflection, prayer and the air of peacefulness; or just to look around your historic Parish Church.

Contributors Please note deadline: the 15th of the month

E-mail tydnewsviews@hotmail.com

<u>Post</u> News & Views, 41 Tehidy Road, Tywardreath, PAR PL24 2QD By hand at the above address.

News & Views is published by St Andrew's, Tywardreath, Parochial Church Council.

Village Hall & Scout Hall - November Diary Dates					
Every Wednesday 11.00am	Tai Chi Class				
Every Friday 7.30pm	Line Dancing (Beginners 6.30 pm)				
Saturday 1st 10am-5pm	Christmas Craft Fair organised by the Art Group, with refreshments & raffle, in the Scout Hall.				
Friday 14th	Tywardreath & Par over 60's Group - Outing to Looe for lunch, then KernowMill. See page 6.				
Saturday 15th doors: 7.00pm	Village Hall Quiz . Teams of 4. £6 each to include a pasty. 7.30pm start.				
Saturday 29th 10.30am-1pm	Coffee Morning and Table Sale in aid of St Petroc's Society. Refreshments. See page 8.				
Monday from 1.30pm	Tywardreath Quilters at Well Street Chapel. Sewers and knitters are most welcome.				
Tuesday & Friday 10am-noon	Coffee mornings at Well Street Chapel				
Wednesday 2-4pm	Friendship Club at Well Street Chapel. All invited to join the club. Contact Jo Langford 815921.				
Monday - Friday 10am - noon Par Community Library at Par Track Cafe.					
Monday, Wednesday and Frida					
	The Hub @ Cornubia (Moorland Road entrance) e-made lunch in a warm and friendly environment,				
	ctivities and support. Contact Sonia 07980 838578.				
Saturday 1st 2.00pm	Fowey Harbour Heritage Society "Discovering the Ashleigh Mineral Collection". Fowey Town Hall.				
Monday 3rd noon-1.30pm	Soup & Sweet Lunch at Gott Hall, Par. All home made at £7; no need to book.				
Wednesday 5th 7.30pm	Tywardreath Royal British Legion meeting at the New Inn. All members are welcome to attend.				
Monday 10th 7.00pm	Fowey & District Fuchsia and Garden Society . Talk by Emma Wigley on willows. See page 7.				
Thursday 13th 6.30pm	Historic Buildings: St Austell Library See page 7				
Thursday 20th 7.00pm	ISOT meeting at Well Street Chapel. Open to all.				
Thursday 27th 7.00pm	ISOT Talk by Mike Thompson "The Mapping of a Nation - a history of the Ordnance Survey" at Well Street Chapel. £5 entry at door.				
Saturday 29th 10am-1pm	Christmas Craft Fayre: drop in at St Austell Library				
2.30pm	Par Old Cornwall Society in the Bishop Gott Memorial Hall, Par Green, Par. See page 8.				
Monday 1st Dec. 6.00pm	Wreath Making at St Austell Library. See page 7.				
Saturday 6th Dec. 10am-12.30	Holly Fayre at the Old Vicarage for St Andrew's Church, thanks to Mr & Mrs Sowerby.				

The du Maurier Fowey Literary Festival

Are you looking for that thoughtful, hard to find Christmas present for your literary and arts loving family member or friend? Then we can help! Becoming a Friend of the Festival is easy, simply head to: www.foweyfestival.com/friends where you can sign up online.

By buying a Friends membership not only will you delight your friends or family, but you will be supporting the Festival.

Dates for the diary: 21-30 November – The Festival online auction is back with lots of fantastic bids just in time for Christmas.

5 December – Afghanistan & Ther Towers: Emmy and BAFTA award-winning wildlife cameraman Ian McCarthy gives a personal account of two extraordinary journeys unfolding on the edge of history. More details on the Festival website.

Fowey River Lions

It seems much too early to be talking about Christmas but we need to tell you about our free Senior Citizens Christmas lunch to be held on 3rd December in Fowey. It is open to any elderly resident living alone in the area, but numbers are strictly limited. Please book your place with us before 15th November by calling us on 0345 833 748, emailing us at foweyriverlions@gmail.com or sending us a Direct Message on Facebook. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We look forward to welcoming you!

We were very excited to be chosen as one of the Fowey Co-op Charities for 2026. The money we raise will fund next year's Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch. Simply select Fowey River Lions as your chosen charity on the Co-op app. Thanks to Caitlyn and the team at Fowey Co-op for supporting us!

Steve Jones, Fowey River Lions' President had the pleasure of presenting the first of our local grants during October. He went along to meet the Du Maurier Festival Society with a cheque for £250 towards the provision of two days of interactive workshops for local school children.

Thanks to your generous donations, we sent another car full of supplies to Callington Lions for those in need in Ukraine. We are always looking for more donations and the full list of items we can accept can be found on our Facebook page. If you'd like us to pick up your donation, please contact us.

Finally, thanks to our friends at Safe Harbour Inn for hosting an excellent quiz night. Thanks also to everyone who donated raffle prizes. All funds raised from the event go towards local projects and helping those in need.

Would you like to join the Lions? Why not email us on foweyriverlions@gmail.com to find out more about us. We meet on the first Monday of the month at the Ship Inn, Par – why not come along and see if it's something that would suit you?

President: Lion Steve Jones Treasurer: Lion Ruth Rouse Secretary: Lion Chris Marsh email: foweyriverlions@gmail.com facebook: foweyriverlions Tel: 0345 833 7484



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Reminiscences of Tywardreath School and its Orchestra

From "Tywardreath Past and Present," published 1993 by Tywardreath Women's Institute

The orchestra grew year by year until in 1948 we had almost a full range of instruments – the old high- pitched type – we could not afford the new low-pitched. Every year we took part in the County Festival and Tywardreath became known as "the village in the Southwest with the first school orchestra". We also played as the boys filed in, and for the hymn every morning in assembly.

During the second world war, in 1941 we founded a youth orchestra, so that the boys who had left school could continue playing. Blackout was a problem, but two large wooden screens were made to fit my windows and had to be brought down from a shed in the playground after school on Mondays by the boys from the top class. Heavy double desks had to be lifted back one on top of each other to make room for chairs and music stands. The piano was moved in, and all the music we needed collected, for we dared not show a light after dark.

In spite of all these difficulties, plus large classes in school, including evacuees from London, to cope with, we managed to survive. We gave concerts for charities, took part in the County Festival and in the St Austell Festival from 1945 onwards. Music inspectors and the Founder of the Rural Music Schools Association and her staff paid visits at various times and they were delighted with our work. We were only too pleased to see them and we benefitted from the coaching they gave us. Meanwhile Miss Marks had retired in 1932 and Miss Rita Rogers succeeded her. Gradually more co-operation developed between the two schools. Miss Rogers took an interest in the orchestra, attending the concerts we gave; and consulted with Mr Paynter on various aspects of school life. Sadly, Mr Paynter died in 1950. Unfortunately, Mr Luke who was appointed headmaster had no interest in the orchestra, but I was determined to keep it going. It added to the boys cultural life and gave them a further interest. I was greatly helped by H.M.I. for music Mr Bernard Shore and Miss Gertrude Collins, who visited the school as often as they could to back me in my efforts.

Girls were invited to join the youth orchestra and I managed to enlist various musicians as conductors. Mr William Pearson, the first County Music Advisor, was a tower of strength. He prepared the youth orchestra for a musical exchange with the Wolfsburg Youth Orchestra in 1953. This was the first of its kind in Cornwall. Travelling arrangements were organised by the County Youth Organiser, Mr Jon West, and we had to prepare a programme of orchestral music and instrumental solos for concerts in which we also combined with Wolfsburg Orchestra. The first week we were kept busy with rehearsals and concerts, the second week trips to places of interest were organised by the Germans who could not do enough for us. Though some of our players were only eleven years old, the orchestra was praised for its playing and orchestral discipline and were invited to return again.

Within a few weeks of our return, the Wolfsburg Orchestra visited Tywardreath and Par, staying at the homes of our players and friends. Concerts were given in

the Public Rooms at St Austell, trips were organised and the exchange voted a great success. The German orchestra visited us again in 1955 and we returned to Wolfsburg in 1956. It was marvellous to see how the town had grown, thanks mainly to the huge Volkswagen Works.

In 1958, the German Orchestra travelled to Tywardreath for the third exchange. For our return visit in 1960, we were conducted by Jean Salder, the first director of the new Cornwall Rural Music School based at St Austell. We were highly commended for our standard of playing and our excellent orchestral discipline.

This proved to be the last exchange. Re-organisation into a junior mixed school meant that the older pupils had gone to secondary modern schools. The youth orchestra survived, though the numbers dwindled somewhat. Some older players returned and the orchestra celebrated its 25th birthday with a concert and a party, with a huge birthday cake, cut by Mr Alan Hutt, our conductor and me. Miss Rogers retired in the late fifties and Miss Simpson succeeded her. Alterations to the buildings meant that we could rehearse in the new hall. Concerts were given in the hall or in Tywardreath Church, where the vicar, Rev Hall said he wished the church to be an "umbrella" for such activities as ours.

It was becoming more difficult to maintain a balanced group. I had retired in 1965 due to illness and only managed to attend a few rehearsals. In 1970, our parents' committee agreed to try holding rehearsals at St Austell, hoping to attract more players; but it did not succeed. Sadly, the orchestra was disbanded and the music given to the St Austell Area Youth orchestra. Mr Bernard Shaw and Miss Gertrude Collins both wrote to express their sorrow but congratulated us on our success with the school and youth orchestras for so many years.

Contributed in 1993 by Miss Sybil Harris.



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In Quires and Places - Just a few more anecdotes

The last instalment of my army adventures. I have run out of tales!

Warren

In the mess in Bermuda I did not have to wait at table, as no one drank at lunch times; and very little at weekends. An American general visited and had lunch. He brought an Aide with him, a boy who looked about 12 but had more medal ribbons than all the officers together. He sat at the head of the table with our Colonel on one side and the Brigadier the other, then the other officers.

After he had eaten a bit, he looked across to where I was standing and said "Got any smokes?" I brought the silver cigarette box and an ash tray. He looked at it and shouted down the table, "Hey Larry, throw up a Camel!" He came up with one, and a light. The Colonel pulled a face. I put the ash tray down and whispered, "Officers do not smoke at table." He sort of threw his Camel back at Larry, saying, "When will these Limeys grow up?" There was a silence.

The phone went early one morning, just after the officers had gone to their duties. It was someone from Kenley Field, the airfield. A plane going to Jamaica had broken down and it would take a while to repair. There was an officer from the Jamaica regiment on it who couldn't go into the hotel (he was black) and was waiting in the lounge. Could we accommodate him until the plane was fixed?

There was on one there to ask, so I said yes. He arrived and had some early lunch. There were spare rooms, so he rested. I rang the CO, which I wouldn't normally do. He was very sympathetic and said, "Let him sleep as long as he wishes, then he can come down for dinner with the others." He was very grateful. Only one officer commented, a Lieutenant who was always difficult anyway.

By the way, the local whites never went on a bus, but we did.

After the three-monthly mess meeting, there was a change of duties. The officer now in charge of the bar was totally different. He did a check only occasionally, and was very good at ordering wine for special occasions. We received a visiting general, who was deaf in one ear. General Bond was a pleasant man who didn't speak much. The major had a house party, and for pudding had masses of fresh raspberries. For the entertainment he got a local Calypso singer. It was an unusual and very interesting evening. About 18 years later, when we were in Hong Kong, and I belonged to an army drama group, he and his wife were guests of the Brigadier and I asked to speak to them. He remembered the visit.

There were regular route marches. The length of the island was about 21 miles, and on one occasion all those of us who had jobs had to go. Cooks, Quartermasters and the mess staff had to train up for the march. It was winter, so quite cool; we carried lots of water, stopped regularly, and lunch was brought out to us, which amused the locals.

The annual shoot was held at ranges where you could shoot out to sea. Tents were put up, and of course a bar, where the officers entertained some of the local Regiment. Three of us had to sleep in the mess tent, to guard the drink, and we were to be fed with the others. The first time we went for tea, the cook





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refused us and said we were on mess rations. The same happened in the morning. When the officers arrived and the CO asked if all was well, he was furious, and dashed up to the kitchen. He went spare—The cook sergeant did not know what had happened! For lunch, while shooting, the packed lunch provided was very dry sandwiches, at which the officers complained.

A sergeant who had up to date weapons training was going to demonstrate firing a shell through a lightweight plastic tube, set off by a battery. You may have seen something like it in war films, shooting at tanks. The brigadier came, and officers of the Bermuda Regiment. They were instructed in its workings, then every one waited for the bang. Well, it did not work! He tried twice more, and nothing. So the Brigadier invited the visitors into the mess tent for a drink.

My posting came then, to Bahrain, and I went first to the RAMC Apprentices College in the Regimental Depot at Aldershot. It was a shock. Polished boots, marching everywhere and mess meals. I soon found that it was a rat race—who could tell the most tales—so it was wise be careful.

I had a class two or three times a day, with education to GCSE standard. Many did this and eventually were commissioned and obtained good ranks.

Each term I took a party of 11 to London, as did some other staff. My trip was always the same. 8am train to Waterloo, walk to a medical exhibition, then to Horseguards to watch the guard change. We would then cross the road, which was fun, and into the War Museum, just for a short while, and sit outside to eat packed lunch. Toilets. Then cross to Westminster Abbey, to arrive just before 3pm, so that we were standing by the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior, when there was a 3 minutes silence for prayers. A Canon on duty showed us the RAMC window, followed by the Book of Remembrance in the Chapterhouse.

Then across to Parliament. There was a queue, of course. A kind policeman said we could go up one of the smaller towers and get the view. One apprentice had to wear uniform as his civilian clothes were not good enough and this had caught the policeman's attention. We all went up, and the view was wonderful. Unfortunately someone knocked a small picture off the wall. With the aid of a boot, we put the nail and picture back. We went inside and, after a few short speeches, there was a Division, so almost all the MPs were to be seen.

I enjoyed my three year stay there. It was close to Guildford for good music, and handy for trips to London to see shows, which, for anyone with an ID card, were free on a Saturday afternoon. And it was not too many miles to go home.

After this there was a posting to Chester, then across the sea for six months, followed by Hong Kong and a drive the whole length of Malaya. Back to Germany, then York, and home.

I would like to thank John who has found room for these notes of mine: 23 in all. Writing has brought back memories, some sad but in the main enjoyable, with lots of travelling, interesting people and seeing places you only read about.

Thank you for reading.

Warren

Ewart Hancock's Diary

Ewart Thomas Hancock, born in February 1914. He lived with his wife Win and son Nigel at No. 4 Woodland Avenue. He recorded various village happenings in notebooks.

November 1990

Monday 5th. A firework display was held in the primary school grounds.

The whist drive held in St Andrew's Hall had 3 tables of four plus 2 "flirts".

8th. A coffee morning was held at the Vicarage 10am - 12 noon, by kind permission of Canon M & Mrs Oatey.

10th. Well Street Methodist Church held a "Rainbow Fair" at the Well Street School Room. It was opened by Mrs Barnes, the minister's wife and it made between £400 & £500.

Sunday 11th. The Service of Remembrance was held at the War Memorial and then in the church. The weather was misty and wet but it was well attended. The service was conducted by Canon Michael Oatey; Organist Miss B James; Bugle Silver Band. The Methodist minister Rev Leslie Barnes preached the sermon.

Monday 12th. The second annual Chrysanthemum Show was held in St Andrew's Hall. It was opened by Mr Alan Corwood, head teacher of the primary school, Dr Max Pemberton presented the prizes.

13th. Tywardreath WI held their monthly meeting in St Andrew's Hall at 7.15pm. Mrs Martin demonstrated Christmas floral art.

30th. The Scouts and Guides held a Bazaar in the Scout room at 7pm.

The parish church held a communion service at 7.00pm for St Andrew's Day. This was followed by coffee in St Andrew's Hall.

St Andrew's, Tywardreath, with Tregaminion Chapel of Ease							
Parish Priest	Revd Shona Hoad shona@tandgchurches.uk 074	76 900623					
(Please note that Shona is not normally available on Thursdays or Fridays)							
Churchwarden	Mr David Hughes, Fiddler's Green, Castledore Rd,						
	Tywardreath, Par. PL24 2TR	812982					
Reader Mr Martin Hoad martin@tandgchurches.uk							
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