

The back page

THE TOWER WEST WALL

The west window of the original nave was renovated by WW. It depicts 'Judgement Day' and 'The Archangel Michael'. Did WW include the faces of 'doomed' and 'triumphant' villagers in his work??? Contemporary residents said that they were recognisable! Did he include the faces of people he knew in other windows? This was quite common among C19 stained glass makers.

RE-OPENING OF ST. HUGH'S JUNE 1879

Contemporary newspaper reports describe the immense amount of work carried out in little more than a year, from repairing the leaking roof, to realigning not very vertical columns, to glass, floors and furnishings. Colonel Coryton gave £1,000 and a further £1,000 was raised locally. A service was held to re-open the church, attended by the Bishop of Truro, the Archdeacon of Bodmin (Ven. Reginald Hobhouse) and numerous other clergy and dignitaries. This was followed by luncheon for 200 invited guests (led by Col. Coryton) in a tent nearby and then a public tea.

THE VESTRY (not accessible)

The north aisle was added to increase capacity in the church and the vestry is formed from the east end of this. The two windows on the north wall contain fragments of medieval stained quarries (small lozenge shaped panes tinted yellow with silver, or brown). The top lights of one window contain a jumble of medieval glass. There would have been an altar under the east window. Above the C15 piscina are two granite corbels, each with five faces, purpose unknown. A highly decorated slate altar tomb chest lies against the north wall of the original church. It is dated 1607 and was erected by Hugh Vashmond the younger for his father, also Hugh. Hugh Vashmond (d1599) appeared at an Inquisition held at Pelynt to determine whether land in Quethiock had been given for the purpose of 'superstitious' rites and therefore could be confiscated by Elizabeth I.

OUTSIDE

Churchyard: This is likely to be a very old burial ground, from its shape and the way in which it has risen up around the church itself - a large ditch surrounding the east end of the church is aimed at holding back the ground and providing drainage. The churchyard is full and burials are now in the nearby cemetery. **A folder at the back of the church gives information about gravestones and other memorials.** A register of those 'buried in wool' (following the 1678 Act of Parliament in support of the wool industry)...and those who paid not to be....is kept at Kresen Kernow. This is a 'country' churchyard, being kept tidy but cut only a couple of times a year.

War grave: There is one registered war grave, S/No 8/4839 - William Harris of the 13th Bn Hampshire Regiment who died 4th May 1917. His father, Alfred Harris, was a grocer and farmer in Quethiock. Two other 'Fallen', Frank Hare and Harry Paul, are remembered on their grandmother's gravestone (Jane Marks).

Churchyard standing cross: This listed monument is currently described by Historic England as 'hiberno-saxon' in style and dating from the tenth or eleventh century. Standing crosses served a variety of functions, including stations for religious processions, places for 'preaching, public proclamation and penance', symbols of sanctuary or connection with a particular saint. This cross is one of the tallest in Cornwall. The head and base were dug up by WW's workmen when repairing the south wall of the churchyard and the shaft was located soon afterwards, in pieces, forming the posts of a now disused churchyard gateway. During and post Reformation, churchyard standing crosses were often deliberately broken and disposed of. In 1881, the complete cross was re-erected in its imposing position near to where the head was found.

Church exterior: This is local stone, a slate. The tower has an unusual external stair turret, opening inside. This was to allow access to the first floor when the west end of the nave was built up to form the tower. The parapet coping on the stair turret indicates the height of the original nave, also marked on the east side of the tower.

The sundial: Slate. Inscribed 'E.Morshead Vic. John Retallick Churchwarden, 1764, So soon passeth it away'. John Retallick lived at Coombe and his name is also on one of the bells. He married Elizabeth Hoskin of Quethiock in 1726 but died aged 42 leaving her with six children under the age of twelve years.

SOURCES

NADFAS Church Record; Ancestry.com; www.newadvent.org; cornishstainedglass.org.uk; Cornwall Historic Churches Trust; BBC.co.uk/local/cornwall/ - Rosalind vicar sketches history; wikipedia.org; www.opc-cornwall.org; Historic England; original documents held at Kresen Kernow, Devon Archives, Lambeth Palace Library, discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk; caringforgodsacre.org.uk; Cornish Times July 15 1949; contemporary newspaper cuttings (churchwarden's archive); cwcg.org; www.cjretallick.com **Considerable effort has been made to verify all information given in this leaflet, however, as with any research project, there will always be more to discover.**

NOTE

All memorials are equally valued and respected whether described here or not.

Please help to sustain this beautiful and interesting church by making a donation.

If you would like to make a regular contribution, please contact the churchwarden.



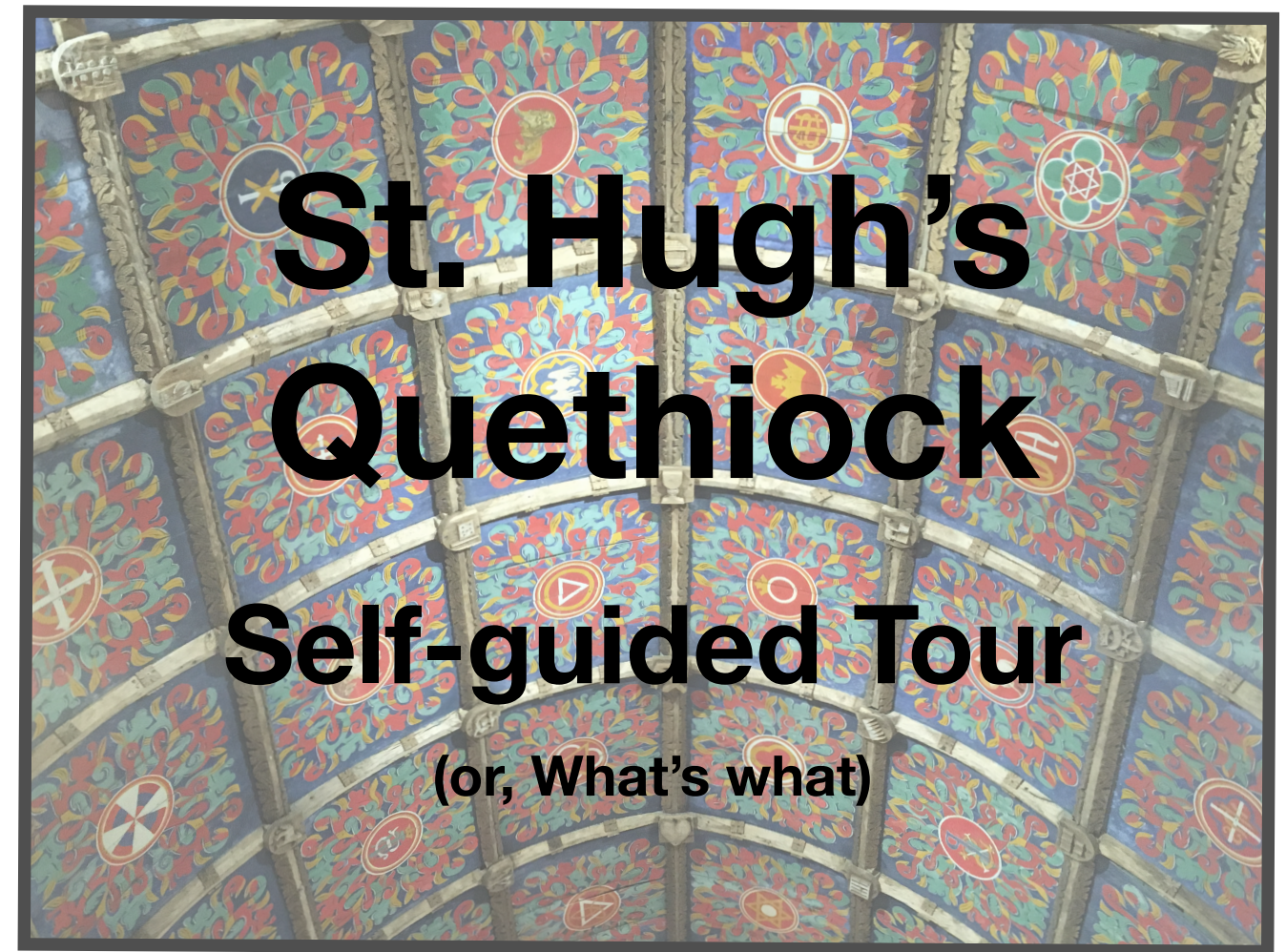
justgiving.com

CONTACT

Contact details for the Priest in Charge and the Churchwarden can be found in the porch, at www.sthughquethiock.org.uk, and <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

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St. Hugh's Quethiock Self-guided Tour (or, What's what)

Welcome to The Church of St. Hugh in Quethiock.
www.sthughquethiock.org.uk

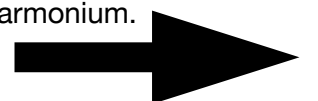
It is thought that there may have been Christian teaching in this area at least as early as the sixth century, contemporary with the arrival in Cornwall of monks from Ireland and Wales such as Sts. Piran and Cadoc. Legend has it that just outside the church wall is Cadoc's well, but this is impossible to verify as there are numerous stories about several Cadocs, not just in Wales and Cornwall but also in Ireland, Scotland and Brittany. The Quethiock legend is picked up in a Victorian window where St. Cadoc is depicted preaching by an ancient cross* with a background of trees. The churchyard is roughly circular in shape which can be a trait of very early Christian burial grounds. Various origins are given for the name 'Quethiock', but there is no mention of it in the Domesday survey. One possible derivation is 'wooded place', and forest clearings with the presence of water were often sacred spaces in ancient times.

The earliest monument associated with the church is the standing cross in the churchyard, which has been dated to 10th or 11th century. The font dates to the 11th century. It is thought that the early patron of the church could have been the Lord of Penpol manor or perhaps the Prior of St. Germans. In 1229, Warin de Penpol bought the advowson of the church of Quedike for 2 marks. The de Haccombe family in Devon are also important to its early history. In 1259, a church on this site was rebuilt and rededicated to Saint Peter and Saint Paul. In 1288, the dedication was changed to St. Hugh of Lincoln. The 14th century church was cruciform with north and south transepts, but a century later most of the north transept was incorporated into a north aisle during a large scale remodelling and building phase. The tower is no earlier than the beginning of 14th century, although it may have a base dating from the late 12th century. The earliest named incumbent is Henry Newton (Rector) in 1317, but he was not the first. In 1334, the benefice became a Vicarage. The 1870s and 1880s saw widespread renovation of churches throughout the country and Quethiock was no exception. The then incumbent, William Willimott M.A., used his varied talents to produce most of the woodwork and glass that can be seen today. A further renovation project was undertaken in 1988 by the P.C.C., members of the Kingdon family and others.

St. Hugh's is built of rubble stone with slate roofs mostly in the Perpendicular style. Internal dressed stone is polyphant (or a similar local stone) and granite. The woodwork is largely oak and, along with the stone, would have been available locally, even perhaps within the parish. A good proportion of the furniture is recycled, for example candlesticks made from bedposts and the legs of a disused harmonium.

This tour starts at the entrance and proceeds clockwise.

*Observant readers of this leaflet will be able to spot why this is an excellent example of Victorian romanticism!



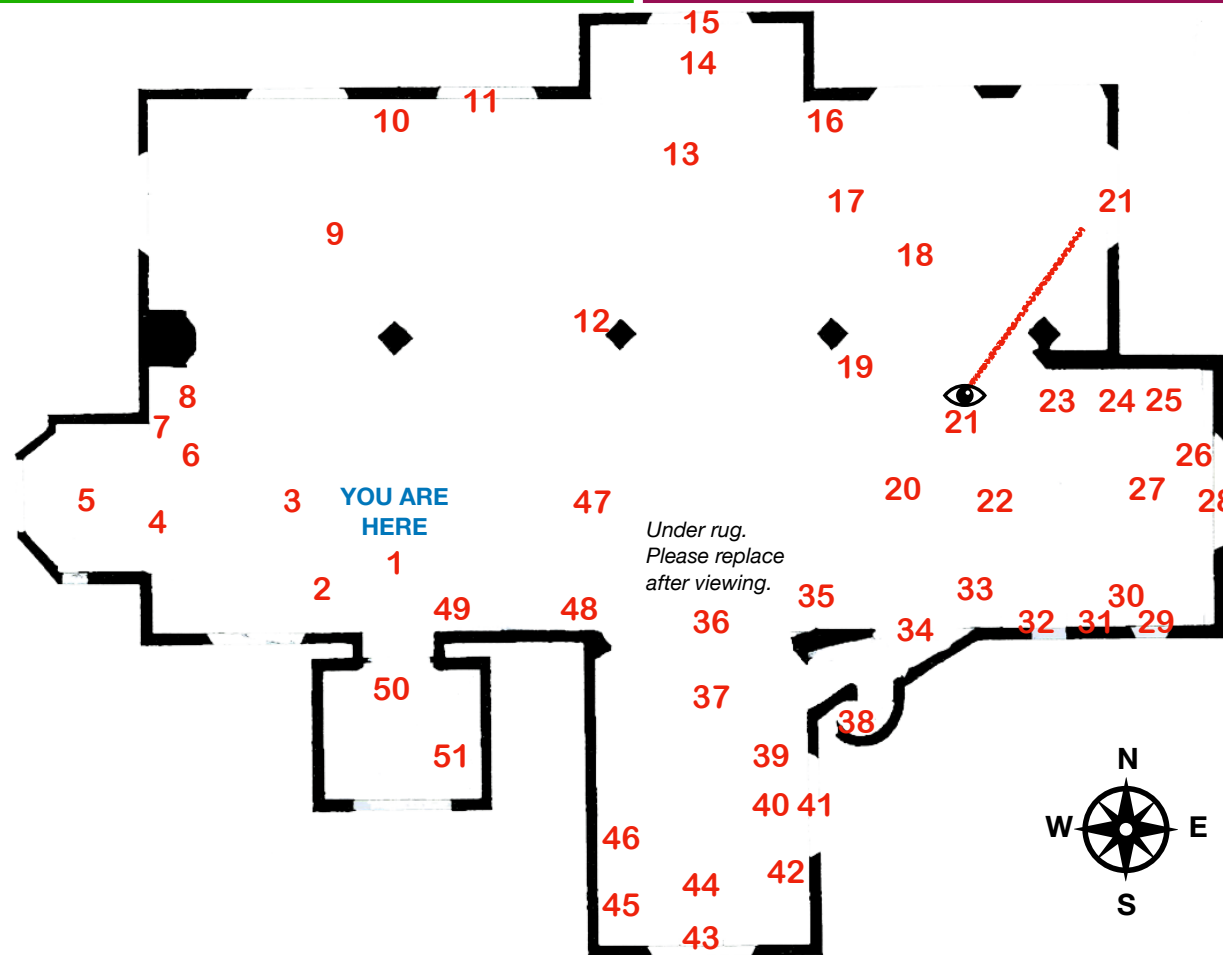
- Brass plaque on small table (under lace): Dr Erich Schneider from Aussig, Bohemia, died in Auschwitz in October 1944. His mother, Minna, died at Terezin Camp on 6.1.1943 but his wife, Marketa, also at Terezin, survived, dying in London in Aug. 1979. Son Johann (b. 25.10.1921) was at school/university(?) with Rev'd Lintell's children and spent holidays in Quethiock. Johann went on to be a senior economist at the Treasury and an Assistant Pastor at St. Anne's Lutheran Church in London from 1987-2005. He kept in contact with the Lintell family.
- Font: 11th century (C11) stone bowl is blue elvan (Pentewan) and the plinth granite. This is the oldest item inside the church.
- Nave roof: Wagon roof in original untreated state. Look for stylised foliage and 'green men' - six here and one in the north aisle.
- Arch: C14, from when the nave extended into what is now the tower. West door (original entrance) and window exist from that time.
- Bell tower: Unusually tall and thin tower with two floors above the nave. Base possibly late C12. Lower stage tracery C13. The belfry was added in the late C14. Three bells (Kettle, Crock and Pan) inscribed as follows: 'John Retallick and Richard Bond CW 1725 Vicar Daniel Baudris; Thomas Hancock and John Body Vicar E Morshead; John Rogers and Thomas Kelly Vicar E Morshead. John Retallick's son was Churchwarden - see 'The sundial' on back page. John Rogers lived at Holwood - see wall tablet. Father and son Edward Morsheads were incumbents from 1759-1811 - also responsible for the 1774 chalice and tazza (stemmed dish).
- Former pulpit base: Replaced because too tall. Now used for display.
- Photograph: Rev'd William Willimott (WW), incumbent from 1878-1888. Responsible for renovating the church following years of decay and five years of dereliction when services were held in the schoolroom.
- List of incumbents from 1317 until present. Not necessarily resident.
- North aisle: Perpendicular granite windows date it to the mid-C15. Original wagon roof. There would have been an altar at the east end. Floor memorial slate slabs seen in 1872, now no longer visible but some fragments recently found outside.
- Drawing of St. Hugh: This copy of a late medieval oil painting was given to WW by the Archbishop of Canterbury who, as (the first) Bishop of Truro, had installed him at Quethiock.
- Window: 'The Conversion of St. Paul', designed and made by WW.
- Columns: These are made of granite and were put in when the north aisle was added in C15. 'Brought to the upright position again' in 1878.
- North transept (remnants of): This is known as the Trecorme transept. Both manorial transepts appear to date from the mid C14 when Trehunsey and Trecorme were at their height. A plan put forward by WW to the Incorporated Church Building Society shows seating in this area for 40 children.
- Funerary recess: C14. Would have held a tomb or monument.
- Window: Designed and made by WW, depicting 'The Life of St. Cadoc'.
- Memorial: Incumbent's son, who died in Lagos fighting slave traders.
- Processional Millennium Banner: Made by Jan Springham, Churchwarden. Represents the desire for peace in the new millennium.
- Organ: Installed in 1905 by the incumbent, Augustus Wix, who was a keen musician. Raised necessary funds by making and selling hazel walking sticks and carriage whips. The organ was built by Heard & Son of Truro. Until 1968 it was hand blown, now it is electrically blown.
- Chairs and reading desk: Type of Glastonbury chair. Work of WW.
- Chancel roof: An oak and pine wagon roof. In 1291, St. Hugh's was valued at 100/- but this was assigned to the Abbey at Tavistock so there may be truth after all in the story that the monks there carved this roof. The various motifs were added later. There are demi-angels with symbols of the apostles and also shield-shaped bosses carved with emblems of Cornish saints. WW painted the panels.
- Vestry east window: Created by WW from stained, etched and painted glass and depicting Sts George, German, Nicholas, Leonard, Gwinear, Patrick, Piran, Petroc, David, John, Chrys, Basil, Athanasius, Gregory, Cyril and Cyprian.
- Floor tiles: The tiles throughout are all late C19, some or all being part of WW's restoration. Those in the chancel are Minton. Webb's Worcester tiles are found elsewhere.

SNIPPETS...

- William Willimott's youngest son, Hugh, claimed he was named after the church.
- 1851 Ecclesiastical Census return for Quethiock estimated attendance on Sunday 30th March as 141 in the morning, 51 in the afternoon and 'evening not stated'.
- Originally, it was 'standing room only' for the parishioners in the nave, with benches having to be rented or even bought in order to swell church funds. This practice was phased out from 1850s onwards.
- 188 Quethiock men over 18 signed the 1641/2 Protestation - an Oath confirming allegiance to the Protestant Reformation, King Charles 1 AND Parliament, aimed at averting civil war.

GLOSSARY

- Perpendicular:** English architectural style C14-C17, vertical/horizontal lines and long, narrow windows.
- Piscina:** Bowl for washing hands or objects.
- Reredos:** Ornamental screen covering the wall behind the altar.
- Rood:** Large crucifix on a stone or wooden, often lattice, screen at the chancel entrance. Alongside may also be statues and candles.
- Stoup:** Basin of holy water for dipping fingers into before crossing oneself.
- Tracery:** Decorative stone window bars.
- Transept:** The area crossing the principal space. Transepts were often built as burial places for prominent local families.



WHO'S WHO?

- St. Hugh of Lincoln:** Born c1135 in Avalon, France, died in London in 1200 and canonised 1220. Fearless in taking three kings to task for corruption. Initially a Carthusian monk, he was made Bishop of Lincoln in 1186. Renowned for building and for tackling dishonest practice. He is depicted with a swan after one (the swan of Stowe) would not let him out of its sight. He is patron saint of the sick (including children), shoemakers and swans.
- Kyngdon, Chiverton and Coryton families** held manors in Quethiock but never the advowson (right to collect tithes and choose the rector/vicar). In medieval times, this was traded as a valuable commodity, ending up in Devon as Cecilia de Penpol's dowry when she married Jordan de Hacombe. Roger Kyngdon is an ancestor of Isambard Kingdon Brunel. The modern Kingdon family contributed to The Dempsey Trust which helped renovate in 1990s. The Corytons owned most of Quethiock at the time of the infamous Parish Sale in 1919.
- Rev'd William Willimott:** Born 1824 in Stamford. Went to Cambridge then held curacy at Little Chesterford in Essex. Carried out a similar restoration project at St. Michael's, Caerhays, before arriving at Quethiock in 1878 when the 'living' was worth £326 p.a. plus house. 1888-1896 Rector of Laverton, Somerset, which was 'restored' in 1894. Married Mary Ann Shillito (d 1870) and then Constance Starkey in 1871, ten children. Died 1899.

- Memorial to Obadiah Ghossip dated 1659: Dispossessed as Rector of St. Tudy, possibly over his interpretation of the 1642 Protestation.
- Aumbry: Secure storage for sacred items.
- Memorial: John and Mary Rogers of Holwood, a Quethiock farm.
- Reredos: Polyphant or similar stone and painted, glazed ceramic tiles. Designed and painted by WW. Depicts 'The Last Supper' and 'The Ten Commandments'.
- Altar: Made of oak by WW in 1878. His sketches for the altar and the reredos (behind the altar) appear in a letter he wrote to the Plymouth architect Henry Elliott (who was involved in the more structural renovations).
- East window: Stained and painted glass, designed and made by WW. Unusually for an east window, illustrates 'The Ascension'. Also commemorates the restoration of St. Hugh's in 1878.
- Window: Again by WW, the stained and painted glass shows St. Hugh of Lincoln with a swan. Though restored, this is an older window.
- Priest's door: Usually found, as this one is, on the south side of a church, to enable the priest to directly enter the chancel. (Potentially, there was a priest's room in the tower with a small window overlooking the nave.)
- Memorial to John Rooke Fletcher: Vicar of Quethiock for 61 years (1816-78), although for the last few he was allowed to live somewhere else (because of his bronchitis) and pay a curate to take services instead. Concurrently, Rector of Lydford in Devon for 39 years. Church was derelict 1873-8 with services held in the schoolroom.
- Window: Stained, painted and etched glass by WW. 'The Baptism of Christ by John the Baptist' and 'The Nativity'.
- Front of choir stalls (both sides of the chancel): Originally base panels for a rood screen, made and carved by WW in 1878-9. Architect's drawing for the screen is in the vestry. A 1904 photograph taken by Augustus Wix shows an arched screen decorated for harvest.
- Squint: C15. To enable sight of the altar from Trehunsey Chapel. The Kyngdons were lords of Trehunsey from C14-C16 and Roger, in particular, was an important figure in local and more distant affairs.
- Pulpit: Given by Miss Coryton in 1879. Also commemorative plaque from the Mission Church at Blunts which was demolished in 1976.
- Memorial: Roger Kyngdon, (d1471-earliest known burial at St. Hugh's), wife Johanna, their five daughters and eleven sons. 10th son, Edward, has a coronet on his shoulder (Yeoman of the Guard) and 11th, Walter, is dressed as a priest (vicar of Talland).
- Trehunsey chapel: C14. The Chivertons inherited from the Kyngdons by marriage, and then the Corytons of Pentillie similarly.
- Rood loft stairs: C15, granite. See Glossary.
- Stocks: See information notice nearby.
- Altar: Pine, donated by parishioners in 1953 to commemorate the Queen's coronation. The chapel was then dedicated, as a memorial chapel, to The Communion of Saints.
- South transept east window: Depicting Isaiah and Jeremiah, and Sts. Peter, Paul, Stephen and James. Stained, painted and etched by WW.
- Piscina: C14, polyphant or similar stone.
- Window: Stained, painted and etched glass by WW. 'Abraham and Isaac', 'Palm Sunday', 'Jesus in the Temple', 'Transfiguration', 'The Last Supper' and 'The Resurrection'.
- Funerary recess: As 14. Restored. Webb's Worcester tiles.
- Memorial: Marble and slate. Rogers family of Holwood.
- Memorial: Brass, slate. Richard and Isabel Chiverton of Trehunsey, 5 daughters, 6 sons. Son, Sir Richard of the W. Co. of Skinners, the first Cornish Lord Mayor of London, proclaimed Richard Cromwell as Lord Protector in 1658 and was knighted by both Cromwell AND Charles III!
- Benches (Pews): Pine, installed during 1879 restoration.
- Memorial: George Riddle was the sexton. He also could ring all three bells by himself and, until 1914, rang the village curfew at 8pm.
- Stoup: See Glossary. Polyphant or similar stone.
- Porch: C15, polyphant. Benches topped with slate.
- Mosaic: Commemorating centenary of the 1919 sale of Quethiock by the Pentillie Estate to cover death duties. Made by Blunts WI.