

One of my earliest memories

Good Friday when we all gathered to have tea in the Mission, tasty sandwiches, Guernsey Gache and Hot Cross Buns.

Afterwards while the ladies did the washing up my friends Monica, Myrtle, Win and I went for a walk, ending up at Bordeaux Beach.

In the evening the choir members presented an Easter Play. I can remember all the front of the stage looked lovely with clumps of primroses and green foliage, and my step mother, "Enid" sang "Jerusalem the Golden".

We continued this for many years to come.

Marion

First memories of Bordeaux by Brigette Ingrouille

My very first memory of Bordeaux is waiting on the green (Bordeaux headland) for the buses to pick us up for the Sunday School Picnic. I remember being so excited, straining to spot the bus first. When it did arrive, we would all rush to get on so that we could hang our streamers out of the bus window. I remember Joanne used to bring along her accordion, and we used to sing songs.

My Pop (Bill Bougourd) ran the games in those days, and Uncle Bill (Robert) used to hand out the prize money from a little booth. Pop always hung up bunting and it looked wonderful when we arrived. After the games, there was always a lovely tea.

Another memory is going on a car treasure hunt with my friends. Glenn was the driver and had a small open backed truck. I remember we headed for Saumarez Manor, and when we arrived, he told us we had to count the number of railings on the fence. The actual question, we discovered later, was what kind of animal was sitting on top of the railing! I've never forgotten that.

I remember going to club with my friends, most of which didn't even go to Church. It was run by "Firthy" (Marion Firth) and son Trevor. We had great fun and played darts and snooker etc. It was nice to get together and just 'hang out'.

The Eisteddfod is something I'll always remember. I used to get so nervous beforehand, but it was so exciting, especially if we won!

The Pantomimes we used to do were amazing fun. Lots of hard work for weeks, but we all loved it. Seeing my Dad dressed up as a woman was hilarious. I have fond memories of Brian Hockey who not only took part in the pantomimes, but helped Jo to sort us all out!

To sum up, my best memories are any time that we have all got together and worked as a congregation, something which we still do today. It's amazing what can grow out of something small.



Bordeaux Methodist Church - My Memories - Margaret Penney

My first experience of Bordeaux Methodist Church came as a fairly small child one day at St Sampson's Methodist Church when loads of folk all dressed up in strange costumes rushed up the stairs to the big hall there. I learnt shortly afterwards that all these folk came from Bordeaux and were putting on a play at St Sampson's because their church was small and didn't have a big hall like St Sampson's had!

Little did I realize that thirty years, or so, down the line I would be attending Bordeaux Church myself. This came as a result of St Sampson's Methodist Church closing down and after visiting various other Churches I became curious to see the little church that didn't have a big hall!

I remember that first service I attended at Bordeaux, the welcome, the music and although a stranger I felt a sense of belonging and 14 years later I still find myself attending.

I feel as though I have travelled a long way since first arriving at Bordeaux in many

respects. Consequently, I have gained many memories like being a part of a strong fellowship whose support and encouragement has meant so much on many an occasion. Memories of being able to hear many Ministers delivering interesting sermons, participating in the small prayer group and seeing prayers answered. Listening to the Senior Choir under Glenn's guidance and the After Supper Singers who all have so much talent.

Then there's many memories of the children from Sunday Club singing and doing drama sketches during various services with so much enthusiasm. There must be such a lot of hard work done by all the Sunday Club teachers to so inspire the children.

I also have many memories of all the Spring and Autumn Fayres, the lunches, treasure hunts and barbecues, the Wives Fellowship and the many many interesting and varied programmes that have ensued over the years. From country dancing, (at which I excelled, not) to learning about the eye hospital in Jerusalem through the St John's Ambulance. From doing keep-fit with Dorothy Langlois, to learning about the history of Castle Cornet and visiting many places of interest in the island.

Also connected with the Wives Fellowship are memories of the summer craft group - who have put up with me over the years as I'm not the best when it comes to knitting or sewing but have had much fun in trying! Involvement with Network has also had its moments, particularly at their island rallies when the Bordeaux ladies have been well represented in drama, singing, etc. etc. etc.!!

Memories of very special events like the serenity of a small prayer group in the Church on the last day of the year 1999.

The 50th Liberation Day Celebrations Flower and Music Festival held at Bordeaux and the astounding scene of floral displays as we entered the Church.

And as Brigitte from the senior choir has very movingly sung on occasions Marian Baker's 'The Lord has a plan for you'.

Yes, The Lord has a plan for Bordeaux Church, and I give my grateful thanks and praise to the Lord, for all he has done and ask for His guidance for the future.

"Be still, for the presence of the Lord is moving in this place... .."

Bordeaux Sisterhood

Records tell us that Sisterhood started October 18th 1939 led by Rev Romeril.

I joined in the early sixties, and we were a very happy family group, with ages ranging from about thirty to eighty plus.

We met every Thursday afternoon in the schoolroom. Very few families had cars in those days, so those of us from the Bordeaux area walked to the meeting and folk from L'Ancrese or St Sampson's caught the bus.

We had a President, Secretary and Treasurer. Our meetings consisted of an informal service. The Secretary was responsible for arranging a speaker for each week from other denominations as well as our own, who would give us a talk on some topic connected with living our lives as Christians should.

A volunteer would be asked for, to chair the meeting on the following week. The Chair-lady would choose the hymns and choruses, ask someone to read a lesson of their choosing, someone else to read a poem or anecdote, and someone to sing a solo. Two ladies each week would be responsible for preparing and serving tea and biscuits at the end of the meeting, which we consumed along with plenty of chatting.

About once a year we would hire a bus and pay a visit to a women's group at one of the other Churches on the Island.

Our annual outing always took place on a summer evening when we would all meet for a meal in the restaurant above Trannies chip shop on the South Side of St Sampson's. We would have pre ordered our choice of meal and Mr and Mrs Tranfield always made us very welcome.

Each December we held our Christmas party in the Schoolroom, to which husbands were invited! We would have a sit down tea followed by traditional party games and a sing song.

All happy and never to be forgotten times.

Rona

Peter Rouxel's memories of Bordeaux

I was born in the vale and attended the Vale Methodist Church Sunday school before I was evacuated to England during the occupation. My last two years before I returned home to Guernsey, I was a member of the Boys Brigade attached to a Methodist Mission. I very much enjoyed the Methodist way of life and when I returned to Guernsey at the age of sixteen and started work at Leale's I met Bill Bougourd, who encouraged me to join Bordeaux Mission.

I was very much made welcome and indeed soon found myself joining the choir as a tenor. Some of the members that I remember were, Bert Ingrouille, Wilf Ingrouille, Mr Roberts, Bill Webber, Mrs Ingrouille, Molly Webber, Mrs Roberts, Sheila Marquand, and Mrs Webber who was the organist and choir mistress.

The first year in the choir I had to take my turn to pump the organ as it was not fitted with a blower till later. Choir practice was on Friday evening 7 pm till 8 pm. Most members came on bicycles as there were very few cars around at that time. In 1947 I had bought a motor cycle so I had no problems with transport. I remember Mrs Webber asking me to sing a solo when I was eighteen or nineteen. I was very nervous and sang the old Sankie hymn "The sinner and the song". I have only ever sung it once

since as a solo.

Bordeaux had a thriving youth club but poor facilities so we made frequent visits to other youth clubs mainly at St Sampson's and Salem. Part of the youth club's activities included a drama group which performed mainly humorous plays .

I was also a Sunday school teacher during 1948 to 1950.

Whilst I had been in England I had met a girl and had kept in touch when I returned to Guernsey. I visited her a couple of times and she came to Guernsey to see me in 1950 when we got engaged. We were married at her Church in England in 1951. Bordeaux presented us with a clock to celebrate our wedding, and we still have the clock, which is still going, 57 years on.

As I had sold my motor cycle to get married and we were living with my parents at the Guille Allez Library, my father was caretaker at the time, I transferred my membership to Ebenezer Brock Road. I have kept in touch with Bordeaux over the years, and was involved in doing the drawings for the renovations in 1964 and Quinquennial surveys for the last fifteen years.

A Song for the centenary of the Church

Written by Joanne Martel

Congratulations and celebrations

Our Church has reached its century this very year.

Congratulations and jublations.

Who would have thought that our dear Church
would still be here.

A hundred years ago our Bordeaux Church was founded.

Upon this site, by folks of long ago.

And still today we come to worship here each Sunday,

Our dear old Chapel, that we love so.

Congratulations and celebrations

Our Church has reached its century this very year.

Congratulations and jublations.

Who would have thought that our dear Church
would still be here.

And though some folks have come and gone we still remember them

For all the love that they shared here so long ago.

And now their children's children play their part in Bordeaux,

With friends who share their love of this Church so.

Congratulations and celebrations
Our Church has reached its century this very year.
Congratulations and jubilations.
Who would have thought that our dear Church
would still be here.



Members of the Church enjoying the celebrations during the
60th anniversary of the Liberation

