

# The New Times

*April 2017*

The parish magazine of Llantilio Crossenny,  
Llanvetherine, Llanvapley and Penrhos



Spring  
in Llantilio

You want us to move where?



Time to think  
and reflect

## From The Vicarage

It sits in the back of church, week after week, forgotten and un-noticed. Someone was in great need of it when they arrived, indeed, they wouldn't have been without it, but when the service was over, they forgot all about it, walked right past it, and left it there, abandoned and un-wanted.

The forgotten umbrella!

It made me think of how we sometimes treat God.

When the storms of life come we suddenly rush to find Him, to ask him to shield us from the weather we face; but then, when the weather within us changes, and the sun begins to shine, how often do we forget all about Him, and leave Him all alone in the back of the church?

This month we relive the events of Holy Week, and we think of Jesus alone, in the Garden of Gethsemane. Let us not forget that God craves our company. He longs for us to take Him home, and not forget Him whatever the weather.

With every blessing,

Revd. Heidi

Llantilio Vicarage

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**The following letter was sent to TNT and like the poem which follows reflects on life in our parishes.** “We are coming up to our first year anniversary of moving to the area, and have been really touched by the warm welcome we have been given. We are also realising just how much we have to learn about living in the country. This is not helped by having very stubborn sheep. Last week we had to move our six ewes through two gates to a fresh field. Three attempts, over three days, taking about 5 hours and they were still in the bottom field. They even advanced towards the borrowed sheep dog. In the end, we gave up and just opened the gates. Nine minutes later and they were up where they needed to be, having wandered through of their own accord. If Jesus is our Good Shepherd, I have a lot more respect for Him – and hope we aren't quite as stubborn as our ladies.” *Gillian Anthony*

The following poem was inspired by the experience of being in Llantilio Crossenny, and particularly by the wildlife in the pool featured on the front of TNT. The poem was written by Antony Dunn and has featured as the "Poem of the week" in the Guardian.

## Animal Rescue

To say nothing of all the moths and wasps  
I've been opening windows for;

the sheep headlocked in the wire  
of a fence,

The newt in the slippery inch  
of a dog-bowl of rain,

the spider coming off and off  
its wall of death in the kitchen sink

and the bat flopping the living-room floor  
in a straight-jacket of dust, cobweb and hair.

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I have angled your skulls  
impossibly free,

poured you out into colour-matched weeds  
at the edge of the pond,

offered you into a wineglass and out  
to the forest of herbs

and taken you into my own  
unravelling hands and worked you loose

in this borrowed house; let you go  
on the slopes by the buzzard tree.

Now, who's coming for me?

On Friday March 3rd our four Churches came together for a celebration to mark **St David's Day**. The Monmouth Male Voice Choir and two very talented young soloists, Millie Francis and Emily James, entertained and delighted the audience with a varied programme of popular songs, and choir member Tony Jones recited



some of Max Boyce's well known poems. David Hughes Jones as compere added much to a most enjoyable evening - thank you David. The Smith family of Dingestow provided an excellent Hog Roast supper. It was a wonderful community event and was much enjoyed by all who came. Many thanks to David and Shirley Hughes Jones for organising the event, to Monmouth Male Voice Choir and Millie and Emily, to the Smith family for the catering, to Dale & co at the Hog's Head for providing the excellent venue and lastly to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening. The money raised was £2768 which has been divided equally between the four churches. *Elsie Latham*



## **Llantilio Crossenny News**

### **Llantilio Crossenny Community Council Elections 2017**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017 elections will be held for local community councils. If you would be interested in helping your community by standing as a local Community Councillor you need to register your nomination to Monmouthshire County Council by 4pm on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Llantilio Crossenny Community Council meets once every other month on the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday and considers matters relating to the local community e.g. planning consultations, highways, policing matters, rural housing, grants and many other interesting matters. If you would be interested in knowing more about the role of a Community Councillor, or would like nomination papers, please contact the Clerk of the Council, Mrs Melanie Mercer, on 01873 840104 or via e-mail [llantiliocrossennycc@gmail.com](mailto:llantiliocrossennycc@gmail.com). Nomination papers can also be obtained directly from Monmouthshire County Council.

### **Llantilio Plant sale**

Don't miss the annual Llantilio Plant Sale

Monday, May 1st at 2.00pm

with plants, cakes and refreshments

We would be grateful for any plants you can donate



# Llantilio Crossenny Festival 2017

Gwyl Llandeilo Gresynni  
at Treadam Barn

## Saturday 6th May 7.30pm

Gospel meets Jazz with Soul'd As Seen & Bluesy Susie - free event

## Sunday 7th May 2-5pm

Free Scenery painting and theatre lighting workshops will take place at Treadam Barn. Please phone the Box Office to reserve a place.

## Friday 12th May 7.30pm

Treadam Barn Goes 'Ronnie Scott's'

Cash bar with hot dog stand. Enjoy the club style atmosphere with the audience sitting at tables of 10 as we welcome jazz singer Josephine Arthur with her band performing jazz and modern standards, with swing, Latin and funk rhythms. Tickets £18

## Saturday 13th May 7.30pm

London Opera Productions Present "Romance In Vienna Gala" by Johann Strauss – Cash Bar & Wiener Würstelstand

"this amusing and excellently sung show goes right to the heart of the romantic capital with Johann Strauss's widow, Adele, recalling their fondly remembered soirees...the show flows delightfully..." *Bournemouth Echo*

With professional soloists, chorus and string ensemble, be transported to the "Café Sacher" enjoying a slice of "Sacher-Torte" accompanied by a glass of bubbly.

(Audience sitting at tables of 10) Tickets £25/£225 for a Table of 10



## Sunday 14th May 2pm/4pm

The Ogre of Abergavenny

*Sponsored By Treadam Barn Trust*

Children from local Cross Ash School and Pen Y Cwm Special School in Ebbw Vale will be teaming up with professionals from London Opera Productions for this spectacular 50 minute opera (which the children have written and composed with professional help) based on the historical massacre of 1175 at Abergavenny Castle, with professional soloists and orchestra.

Tickets £6/£4



Llantilio Crossenny Festival at Treadam Barn  
Box Office Tel: 07779225921  
[www.llantiliofestival.co.uk](http://www.llantiliofestival.co.uk) or visit us on facebook

## Llanvapley News

Llanvapley Church held a special joint service on **Mothering Sunday**. The service was very well attended and was greatly enjoyed by the mums. The highlight of the service was the distribution of flowers. Thanks to everyone who made the posies and bouquets which were all quite magnificent. What talent we have! Thanks also to Chris Everitt for her thoughtful sermon and to Alex who helped to hand out the flowers.

Llanvapley church held a service of **Lenten music and prayer in the style of the Taize community** on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March. The service was held in the church chancel which was full. The singing was lead by Chrys Blanchard with Julie Lunt playing the flute. At the end of the service a number of people signed up to form a Taize group which will look at how to develop singing in future Taize services. Thanks to Clarinda Collin for organising the everything so well.

Llanvapley Sports and Social Association will be holding the first draw for the **2017 100 Club** at the coffee morning in Llanvapley Pavilion on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April. Thanks to everyone who has supported the 100 Club and the lucky winners will be announced in TNT. It could be you!



Congratulations to **Isabelle Brook** of Llanvapley and Craig Driscoll who were married on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March at De Courceys Manor, Pentyrch, Cardiff. The bride looked absolutely beautiful and a very happy day was enjoyed by family and friends. Craig and Izzy are setting up home in Cardiff after their honeymoon in Mauritius.

## Llanvetherine News

On **10th June** we have the '**Village Quire**' from Glasbury coming to Whitehouse Farm, Llanvetherine to give a concert in aid of Music in Hospitals and Papillon Art. The Quire sing old British Folk and Wassail songs according to the season. At Christmas they gave a marvellous Christmas Concert based on Winter Songs and readings and they will be doing a Summer based one in our Barn. It starts at 7.30, tickets are £10 with a glass of wine to start and people are asked to bring picnics and picnic chairs so that they can eat in the garden during the half time interval. We can sell a maximum of 100 tickets of which about twenty have gone already, so if anyone is interested please contact me on 01873 821302 to reserve a place or email me. *Julian Fonseca* [jfonseca@btinternet.com](mailto:jfonseca@btinternet.com)

*The Village Quire*



## Llanvetherine has no village war memorial.

Despite enquiries over the last few years no one has identified anyone in Llanvetherine who lost their lives in either of the two world wars. However, following tree surgery adjacent to the road an interesting gravestone has come to light. The gravestone identifies **William Thomas Keylock, MM**, a gunner in the Tank Corps, who evidently was killed in action on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1918, a few weeks before the end of WW1, in Estrees. Online searches have revealed that William Keylock is buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Gouy, France. Very little is known about him but records identify his wife as B. Gillett (formerly Keylock), of 19A, Woodland Terrace, Cwmtillery, Abertillery, Mon. Is anyone amongst the TNT readership able to throw any light on this gallant man who might possibly deserve remembering each November? *Andrew Dawson*



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We all know the saying “it’s not what you know but who you know”. Well this was definitely the case when I ‘got the nod’ that weird and wonderful things were going to happen right here in Llanvetherine. **In fact, the BBC were filming Dr Who!** Curiosity got the better of my sister and me, so reapplying my makeup and brushing my hair – well I didn’t want to be mistaken for a zombie or any other sort of alien - we set off nonchalantly with our dogs to investigate and explore. We were soon met by a burly, stern looking security guard who as it turns out was very pleasant and allowed us to walk down to where the set was being built. Sadly, no photographs were allowed. As the week went on, mini buses, lorries and cars travelled up and down the lane all day long ferrying equipment, actors and ‘extras’ from the catering vans parked in the Skirrid car park to the location and back. On Wednesday we were told that **Peter Capaldi** himself drove down to the set to start filming. Great excitement for such a little village where nothing much happens. The only disappointment was that we didn’t get to see the Tardis. Now – has anyone seen David? I haven’t seen him for a while! *Shirley Hughes-Jones*

## Penrhos News

**Fancy making new friends over a cuppa?** Emma Manchand would like to run a pre school group in Penrhos giving carers and children from all four parishes the chance to get together during the week a few times a year. If this is something you would be interested in please drop Emma an email at [emgoodlife@gmail.com](mailto:emgoodlife@gmail.com) or call her on 01600 780174 so that she can gauge interest and make arrangements to best suit all.

## WI News

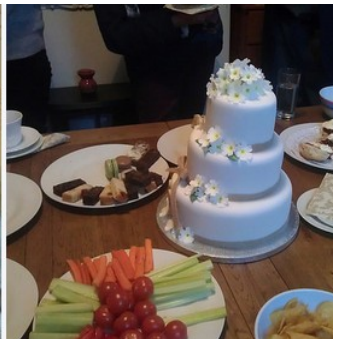
The March meeting of the WI saw the return of Peter Strong, a local historian. Last year he gave us an interesting talk about World War One and lent us the archive exhibition. This year he talked about memories of Monmouthshire, which many members could relate to or add to their existing knowledge. Peter is always a good speaker. We were also pleased to have the opportunity to ask him to tell us about the iNeed refugee charity, with which he is greatly involved. Members were asked if they had clothes, dry foods or toiletries that they could give.

April is our Easter meeting and Sophie will be showing us how to decorate a cake for Easter. Marion will make the cake and she and Sophie have offered to donate it to be raffled. No nibbling rabbits eating it before Easter day, please!

It will be the last chance for putting your name down for Denman in October. Also we hope to have some idea of our summer outing venue. Members have been coming up with suggestions and the committee will meet on 30<sup>th</sup> March to debate the options.

### **What a nice surprise!**

Llantilio Bell Ringers were delighted to ring the church bells on 5<sup>th</sup> March at 3 o'clock in the afternoon to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of **Dr. Tony Griffiths** (Revd. Heidi's father). Tony has been an enthusiastic bell ringer for all his life and is a regular ringer in Llantilio.



The ringing was arranged as a surprise for Tony but the real surprise was that he was unable to detect any mistakes in the team's hour long ringing session! Following the ringing the team were invited to the vicarage for Afternoon Tea. The bell ringers were able to give Tony a card and a bottle of vintage champagne to help him to celebrate the day. The centrepiece of the event was a wonderful birthday cake made by Rachel, Revd. Heidi's sister.



# Services in April

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

9.30am Llanvetherine  
11am Llantilio Crossenny

## Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>

Penrhos Easter Vestry 7pm Church

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday

11am Penrhos Joint Service

## Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday

7pm Llanvetherine

## Good Friday 14<sup>th</sup>

10am Walk up the Holy Mountain.  
Meet at Skirrid NT Car Park. We join with  
the neighbouring parish of Llantilio Pertholey  
2.30pm Good Friday Service at  
Llanvapley Church

## Easter Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Penrhos  
9.30am Llanvetherine  
11am Llantilio Crossenny

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> St. George's Day

9.30am Penrhos  
11am Llanvapley

## Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>

2pm Llantilio Crossenny  
Funeral Service of Mrs. Ann Ball

## Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>

7pm Llanvapley Easter Vestry 7pm in  
the Church

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>

11am Llanvetherine Joint Service

## Dates for your Diary

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April** Llanvapley Point to Point races **CANCELLED**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>** Grosmont Gardening Club at Town Hall Grosmont "Herbs for Healing" 7.30pm

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>** Coffee Morning Llanvapley 10.30 in the pavilion

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>** LSSA AGM 7.30pm in the pavilion (**nb. NEW DATE**)

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>** Llanvapley Easter Vestry 7pm in the church

**Bank Holiday Monday May 1<sup>st</sup>** Plant Sale Llantilio Crossenny Church 2pm

The **London Marathon** is on 23<sup>rd</sup> April this year. TNT is not aware of any local runners in this event but be sure to let us know if you would like your achievements celebrated. TNT readers may like to know that a group of local runners is taking part in the **Cardiff Bay 10K** on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The group can be seen training around the lanes every Sunday morning at 6.30am. Apparently this is the best time of the week to run! Please contact TNT if there are any local runners out there who fancy joining the group.

The **Grand National** is on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April and TNT once again has its suggestions. **Form Tip** – More of That / **Pin-Sticker's Choice** – Raz de Maree / **Heavenly Inspiration** – Rogue Angel. Good luck!

*Contributions for the **May / June** issue of TNT by 20 April*

*Please send your emails to [lestaylor.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:lestaylor.taylor@gmail.com)*

*Don't forget our website [llantiliogroup.info](http://llantiliogroup.info) for the latest information as well as information about all our churches. We are also on Twitter @LlantilioG*