

# The New Times

*June and July 2017*

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



*Find out why Alice and Jonny, Shirley and David and Jeanette and  
Rev. Heidi are all smiling*

## From The Vicarage

Last month I wrote a little something about the gift of marriage, and the privilege of officiating at weddings. How wonderful it is then to share with you the news that we will very soon be witnessing the marriage of our churchwarden Mrs Tricia Luxmoore and her fiancé Mr. Chris Wilding. Tricia has been instrumental in overseeing the renovations of St. Teilo's in recent years, working tirelessly behind the scenes, applying for various grants and faculties; and ensuring the fabric of the church is in good repair. Tricia is also trained as a lay minister, and I know how grateful we all are, not only for Tricia's ministry among us now, but also for her readiness to lead and assist during our services. Many congratulations on your engagement to Chris, and very best wishes to you both for your future together.

Llongyfarchiadau! or 'Congratulations' to Jeanette Massochi who will be honoured at the Anglesey National Eisteddfod this summer by The Gorsedd of the Bards. Jeanette will receive the accolade for her tireless work preparing for the Monmouthshire and District National Eisteddfod, held in Abergavenny last year. Earlier this year, Jeanette was also honoured with a place on the Abergavenny town honours board in recognition of her contribution to the arts on a national level. On behalf of all of us in the church community, as well as saying "Llongyfarchiadau!", we also say "Diolch yn fawr iawn" for all that you do to week by week to lift our hearts and souls through music as we come together to worship God. How blessed we are.



On Saturday 24th June Revd. Andrew Dawson will be ordained to the priesthood by the Bishop of Monmouth. The service will be held at St. Woolos Cathedra, Newport, and begins at 10.30am. All are welcome to come along to support Andrew on this wonderful occasion. Some will no doubt be thinking that Andrew is already ordained, and wondering what is this about? At the moment, Andrew is ordained as a Deacon. When he is ordained a priest, Andrew will be given the Bishop's authority to preside at Holy Communion, and to pronounce God's Blessing and absolution over His people. It is such a wonderful privilege. We wish Andrew well as he prepares for his ordination, and thank him for his continued ministry among us.

With every blessing,  
Revd. Heidi, Llantilio Vicarage  
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## Llantilio Crossenny News

On Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>, **Llantilio Bellringers** went on a tour of local church towers to ring the bells. The tour started locally at **Dingestow** where the group was met by Shirley Cole, Churchwarden of St. Dingats. The church has recently installed a new outside toilet in a purpose built shed at the rear of the church. The toilet is a composting toilet and is an excellent cost effective solution to the problem many of our churches now face. Having a toilet means that the church can be used for a wider range of events. There are a number of events at the



10.30am  
St. Dingat  
Dingestow

11.45am  
St Mary's  
Monmouth



2.15pm  
St. Nicholas  
Trellech

Church in June which we are all welcome to attend. They are included in our Diary of Events on the back of TNT. After Dingestow, the bell ringers went to **Monmouth** to ring the bells in St Mary's Church. The ringers very much enjoyed this opportunity to ring its fine set of bells although there was one little mishap which put one of the ropes out of action. The person ringing the bell at the time suffered very slight friction burns on his hands as well a bruised ego but he soon got over it! After a very pleasant lunch in the local pub, **Trellech** was the last tower to be visited. Trellech Church was built on a grand scale which reflects the former size and importance of the village. The ringers really enjoyed ringing the bells and thought they were perhaps even better than the ones in Llantilio. It is hoped to organise another tour in the Autumn.

The bellringers are going to be busy ringing at **two weddings in June** at Llantilio Church. On 10<sup>th</sup> June the bells will ring out for Flora Dawson and Harry Stein and on 17<sup>th</sup> June they will be rung for Keziah Blake and Steven Jones. Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July will be a particularly special day for the bellringers as they will be ringing the bells to celebrate the wedding of Patricia Luxmoore to Mr. Christopher Wilding. The team are really looking forward to ringing the bells for Tricia and Chris as Tricia is one of our top ringers!

Bank Holiday Monday morning threatened rain but thankfully a large shed was available at Great Killough and everything needed for the **Plant Sale** was moved there. This was an inspired move as a heavy storm later in the day arrived almost to the minute that Nigel Phillips had predicted it would! Quite scary! Everyone managed to find the new destination and a queue built at 2pm before Rev Heidi declared the event open. Plants and cakes were snapped up, cups of tea dispensed and with lots of lively chat and good humour and a substantial amount was raised for Llantilio church



funds. A big thank you to everyone who supported us, but a special thank you to Elsie Phillips for nurturing a large quantity of the plants for sale. Also grateful thanks to Eddie and Nigel Phillips and Des Latham for transporting tables and chairs. We couldn't have done it without you.

**Llantilio Crossenny Festival** is proud to be the only Music Festival in Europe to offer able-bodied and disabled children the opportunity to work alongside professionals in the process of putting on an opera from start to finish. This year we felt ambitious enough to take it one step further and compose an opera by teaming up with Treadam Barn Trust which organises the annual Charles Farncombe award for Young Composers in Wales. Each year awards of up to £500 are made available to young composers in Wales, to help with tuition fees or the purchasing of musical instruments or music. Children from across Wales were asked to submit their compositions to the libretto of this year's opera "The Ogre of Abergavenny" depicting the dramatic events at Abergavenny Castle on Christmas 1175. Children from Pen Y Cwm Special School in Ebbw Vale and children from our local Cross Ash Primary School then worked alongside professionals from London

Opera Productions in performances at Treadam Barn. Abergavenny Castle also allowed us to rehearse in the Great Hall at the Castle, where the historic events actually took place! We had a record audience at both performances and the "Ogre of Abergavenny 2" (the sequel) will take place next year!



## Llanvapley News

Llanvapley Church is having a **Churchyard Spring Clean** on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June from 10am to around about midday. Please join us if you would like to enjoy a morning tidying up the churchyard. Please bring your own tools. Refreshments will be provided.

Graves in the churchyard are often tended by the relatives and this happens regularly, especially on special anniversaries. June 13<sup>th</sup> is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of **Dick Townshend**, who many people will remember from the time he lived in the Old Rectory. His grave has recently been tidied up by his granddaughter, Rachel and her partner, Peter. The grave is now in excellent condition and work continues to tidy up the other Townshend graves.



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June is going to be busy in Llanvapley because on this day Richard and Penny from Monmouth House will be hosting a party to celebrate the wedding of their daughter Alice. **Alice and Jonny** were married last month in Deal, Kent. The party / weekend promises to be a lot of fun and Penny and Richard apologise in advance if the noise keeps people awake!

The **LSSA 100 club** winner for May was Elaine Leader. The next draw will be at the coffee morning in June. Please note there will be no LSSA coffee morning in July.

**Llanvapley Church** has registered with Cadw to be part of its Open Doors scheme. The church will be hosting a special event on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September which will be an opportunity to find out more about its history and the history of the parish.

There will be a **Tai Chi** session on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm. The session is very popular and will be lead by Annie. Everyone welcome

## Penrhos News

Penrhos is beautiful, nestling in a magical bucolic setting. A village blessed with a plethora of exceptional gardens, some of which are opened periodically under the National Garden Scheme. Can any other Welsh village boast more? You have probably noticed all those bright yellow signs scattered around the lanes during the Spring and Summer, tempting you down previously unnoticed rabbit holes. Do you feel drawn to follow them when trudging off for your weekend trip to Lidl or Waitrose? It has got to be better than wrestling with that trolley with petulant wheels. Rush hour in Penrhos came with a vengeance on two glorious weekends in April and May. The sun shone and the usual five cars, a tractor and the school bus were replaced with 700 hungry garden lovers (or the partners of garden lovers persuaded to spend an afternoon in the great outdoors lured by the promise of cake). Woodlands Farm gardens, created from scratch by Craig and supported brilliantly by Helen (the Amazon) and Sue (from Church View), The Old Vicarage gardens, superbly maintained by the quietly effective Hartley and Tandderwen woodland gardens, our star new entry, transformed by Mat and Andrea, all opened this year to an eager public. A stunning £7,000 was raised for great causes including the NGS sponsored charities, such as Macmillan and Marie Curie; the Monmouth and District Foodbank; our very own St. Cadoc's church in Penrhos; and to start a fund to buy a defibrillator for the village. A huge thank you from the garden owners to all those who supported these two very successful weekends.



## Llanvetherine News

The **Cwmerra Chapel** held its annual plant sale in Llanvetherine on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May. There was a steady flow of people who braved the threatened thundery showers to be rewarded with a magnificent selection of perennials,



annuals, border plants, hanging baskets, and a large variety of vegetable plants. There was an irresistible offering of teas and refreshments in the vestry. Some hard work had obviously gone into preparing the sale so many thanks to

all concerned. For those who have wondered, some extensive work has been going on into re-roofing the Chapel, further enhancing and protecting this beautiful local building.

Following the **ordination of Andrew Dawson** on the morning of Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Andrew and Sally would like to welcome anyone from the four parishes to drop in for tea at Southleigh between 3 and 5 pm that day (whether they can attend the service at St Woolos or not).

### **Our day at Buckingham Palace Garden Party** *By David and Shirley Hughes-Jones*

It all began back in January when we had a phone call telling us that we had been nominated for an invitation to a garden party at Buckingham Palace. We immediately dismissed the very idea and put it out of our minds until one day in April a lovely cream coloured envelope with the Royal Crest embossed on it was sitting on our door mat. An invitation inside said that The Lord ç had been instructed by Her Majesty the Queen to invite Mr & Mrs Hughes Jones to a garden party at Buckingham Palace on May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017. My mind went into over-drive! Outfit, hat, shoes, new suit for David plus diet (to get into outfit). At last the day dawned and Dave & I were in our hotel and about to get ready. It was a bittersweet moment for us as we realised that although today was going to be one of the very best days in our lives, in Manchester it was the worst day for so many.

Arriving at the Palace and joining the queue was incredibly exciting. We chatted to people who had travelled from all over the country and shared our excitement and anticipation.

At 2.15 p.m. the gates opened and we filed in. Immediately, as we stepped through the gates and looked up at that famous balcony, the hairs on the back of our necks stood up. We walked on through to where, in the past, we had seen Prime Ministers arriving for their audience with the Queen and the next moment David and I were walking up the very same steps and into a very large reception room. It was breath taking. The ceiling was covered in gold. Crockery like you have never seen before was displayed on beautiful dressers. Huge vases stood resplendent on antique tables with arrangements of flowers in them. No one was keen to be rushed, we all wanted to take in as much as we could. Then, as we walked out through the enormous floor to ceiling doors, we found ourselves at the top of some steps looking out onto the Queen's back garden! Dave and I just stopped. It was an awesome moment for both of us. We looked out at the vast lawns that were before us with the lake in the distance, and it was hard to believe that we were in the centre of London. We made our way down the steps and joined the other guests that were strolling across the grass towards the marquees. We walked across the manicured lawns taking in the sights and sounds, and as we walked round the lake we could hear the numerous bird

songs alongside the drone of the traffic, a bizarre mix and a reminder that although we were walking round 40 acres of garden we were still in central London. The rose beds were stunning as were the rhododendrons and the very many other shrubs that created a magnificent show of colour. There was not a leaf or blade of grass that dared to be out of place.

Having walked round the garden we made our way back to the marquee to queue for our tea and cakes. They were as delicious and as scrumptious as they looked, in fact a chocolate mousse cake with a Royal crown on the top looked too good to eat – but we did.

The Yeoman of the Guard marched onto the top of the steps, the band stopped playing and Her Majesty, Prince Phillip, Prince Charles, the Duchess of Cornwall and Princess Eugenie had arrived. The National Anthem was played and everyone clapped at the end of it. A one minute silence then followed to remember and think about the people of Manchester. It was all very emotional.

The Royal Party then began to make their way down 'the lines' chatting to those who were lucky enough to be at the front. David and I had made our way to the end of the 'line' and positioned ourselves near the Royal Tea Tent. We weren't at the front, but were near enough to get some photographs whenever a large hat didn't block our view! It took 45 minutes for the Queen and the Royal Party to get from one end to the other before they went inside to have their tea with the very many dignitaries and diplomats who were also present. At this point, Dave and I went and sat down and were pleasantly surprised when a member of the royal staff came round with ice creams and cold drinks. We sat chatting to people and enjoying the sunshine and the whole spectacle and listened to the band who played throughout the afternoon. The National Anthem struck up again at 5.45p.m. and Her Royal Highness, Prince Phillip and the remainder of the Royal Party left the garden.

It was almost all over. We sat for as long as we could enjoying the sunshine and being in Her Majesty's back garden before being politely ushered towards the doors and out through the Palace gates to where taxis were waiting, and in an orderly fashion we queued for the last time that day before gratefully sinking into the taxi seat and returning to our hotel.

It truly was a day to remember and one that David and I felt very proud and humbled to be part of.

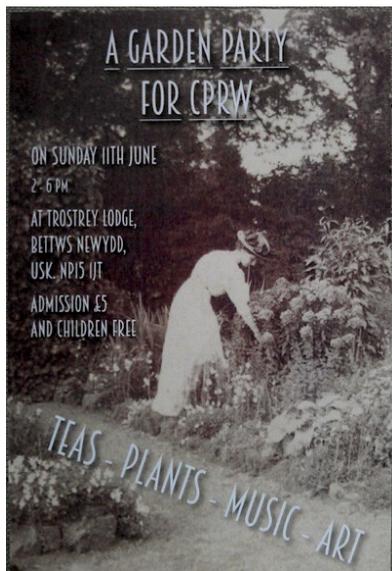
## **WI News**

The May WI meeting was the AGM. Reports were read and voting took place for the officers. Lin Morris remains president. Jan Currie is treasurer, Ann Couldwell minutes secretary, Marion Ashton outings secretary, Daphne, Mim, Christine and Jan O'Connor remain as the committee. Jan has also volunteered to be vice president, after resigning as treasurer after 17 years hard labour! She was presented with a beautiful framed photo of St. Teilo's Church and thanked for all

the years of working on the finances. The business meeting was followed by a fun auction. Lin managed to auction unwanted items to those who did not want them! But there were also lovely items and promises. So in fact the auction raised £173. Thanks to all the members who gave so generously and had such a good sense of humour throughout! **The June meeting** will be Guest night when each member will fill small picnic boxes with goodies for members, guests and the wonderful Pub Session Players, who will be entertaining. On 30th June many members will be going to the literary lunch with Owen Sheers, who is a local lad! The annual outing this year is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July. It will include a visit to Monkton Cheese museum followed by Berrington Hall, where lunch will be included. As usual this trip will be open to non-members after the June meeting. The cost to members will be collected at the June meeting i.e. £20 for National Trust members and £28 for others. Monies will also be collected for the Denman trip in October which is £45. The August meeting this year will be on the theme of Summer. So hats should be worn....anything from Ascot to farming! Photos, poems, cookery and flower competitions, all with a Summer theme, will be judged. Entertainment, poetry reading and choir singing for fun. This will be a do-it-yourself Summer party, with members bringing finger foods and wine will be provided. So in the coming months there should be something for everyone!

There is to be a **Welsh Awareness Day** held at the Shire Hall in Monmouth on Saturday 22nd July. There will be a full day of events for children and parents and anyone interested in things Welsh in the area. The Monmouth Welsh Society will also have a stall at the Monmouth Show on July 1<sup>st</sup> with cakes and information about activities in the area. It's usually in the Societies tent and it's always nice to see familiar faces. *Anne Hoyal*

The **Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales** will be hosting a Garden Party on 11<sup>th</sup> June at Trostrey Lodge, Bettws Newydd by kind invitation of Frances Pemberton. Trostrey Lodge is situated by the River Usk and is reached by a private drive from the road to Bettws Newydd from the junction with the Clytha Arms road. Everyone welcome.



# Services in June / July

## **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June Pentecost**

9.30am Llanvetherine

11am Llantilio Crossenny

## **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June**

3pm Wedding Llantilio Crossenny.

## **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

9.30am Penrhos

11am Llanvapley

## **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

1pm Wedding Llantilio Crossenny

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

11am Joint service at Llantilio

## **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

7.30pm Deanery Conference

Llanvihangel Crucorney

## **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

10.30am St Woolos' Cathedral  
Newport Ordination to the priesthood  
of Revd. Dr. Andrew Dawson. All  
welcome.

## **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June**

9.30am Penrhos

11am Llanvapley

with Baptism of Carys James

2pm Penrhos Naming Service for  
Monty and Hattie Marchand

## **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

11am Llanvetherine Joint Service at  
which Revd Andrew Dawson will  
preside at the communion service for  
the first time.

## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July**

9.30 am Penrhos

11am Llanvapley

## **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

9.30am Llanvetherine

6pm Llantilio Crossenny Evening  
Prayer

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

11.30am Llantilio Crossenny  
The wedding of Mrs. Patricia  
Luxmoore-Ball to Mr. Christopher  
Wilding

## **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

9.30am Penrhos

11am Llanvapley

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

11am Penrhos Joint Service

## **Dates for your Diary**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June** Hog Roast at Bulmer's Barn, carving at 1pm

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June** CPRW Garden Party, Trostrey Lodge, Bettws Newydd 2pm

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June** Taize practice at Blaenocoed

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June** Coffee Morning Llanvapley 10 - 12

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June** Fathe's' Day BBQ, Dingestow Church

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July** Summer Cream Tea 3pm, Dingestow Church

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July** Llanvetherine Horse Show

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July** Llanvapley Church strawberry tea, 3pm to 5pm

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August** Church Village Fete, Dingestow 12 – 4

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August** LSSA BBQ 6.30 onwards at Llanvapley pavilion

*Contributions for the **August** issue of TNT by 20<sup>th</sup> July  
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*