

The New Times

April 2018

The Parish Magazine of Llantilio Crossenny,
Llanvetherine, Llanvapley and Penrhos



Child minding in the sheep shed in Llantilio



Find out about the open gardens in Penrhos in April!

From The Vicarage

How appropriate that Easter Day falls on April 1st, All Fools' Day. The New Testament talks of the followers of Jesus as being "Fools for Christ", and in the secular age in which we live, I think it's clear that many people agree with this assessment.

To follow a man whose life and teachings about God resulted in him being sentenced to death by one of the most barbaric forms of execution, hardly seems a wise choice.

The followers of Jesus at the time, were left dejected, and scared for their own lives. He was not the revolutionary king they had hoped him to be.

Yet something momentous happened to change those first fearful, disillusioned disciples into the inspiring, courageous and faithful people they were to become.

They knew beyond all doubt that their crucified leader was somehow alive. Execution had not killed him. Death was not the end.

And still, over two thousand years later, fools like us, continue to disbelieve that Death has the final say. We continue to disbelieve that the Resurrection stories are some kind of wishful thinking from broken disciples; and we continue to disbelieve that there is no heart of profound love at the centre of all that is.

With every blessing for a very Happy Easter,
All Fools are welcome to join us in our services!

Golden Wedding Celebrations Our congratulations to Elsie and Des Latham who will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Friday 30th March. Elsie and Des bring so much joy, fun and kindness to those around them, and it is clear that they continue to love and cherish one another fifty years after making their wedding vows. Our love and congratulations to you both.

Bringing Bible Stories Alive for Children. "Open the Book" is a national scheme run by The Bible Society in which stories in the Bible are brought to life as they are re-enacted, and told anew to children in schools, in an engaging and non-boring way! Our new Ministry Area Leader, Rev Gaynor Burrett, would love to encourage us to be part of this endeavour. Although some might be apprehensive about this, Rev Gaynor assures me that it is great fun, and there will be training provided to equip us with all that is needed. Please let me know if you would be interested in being a part of this.

With every blessing,

Revd. Heidi

Llantilio Vicarage, llantiliovicar@aol.com, 01600 780240



The Poppies exhibition with related Home Front exhibition at Hereford Cathedral is worth a visit, and although nothing like the scale of the Tower of London display, from where these originated, is nevertheless very moving. It's on now, free, and finishes 29 April. The lighting might be best mid to late afternoon. *Andrew Dawson*

Llantilio Crossenny News

Come and stock up at our Annual Llantilio Croesenny Plant Sale on MONDAY 7th May at 2. 00 with CAKE STALL and REFRESHMENTS

I am sure many of you have someone you would like to thank for their help, not just when the snow comes but throughout the year. Llanvapley, Penrhos and Llanvetherine all have their 'Local Heros' who dashed out once the snow stopped and helped neighbours clear their paths and drives. This report tells of a local hero in Llantilio. Please send in your 'Local Hero' reports any time of year!

"During the snow my neighbour Chris Ball, Upper Cwm Farm almost single handedly cleared our lane, as far as he was able, nature always wins in the end of course. But he made such a positive impact. Often people like Chris get overlooked, not intentionally of course, in our busy lives. I for one would like to say a huge thank you to Chris." *Angie Ellis*



Snow scenes in Llantilio including Snowy the Butler

Llantilio Crossenny Festival Events 4th -13th May

Box Office: 07779225921

Friday 4th May 8pm Treadam Barn Goes Ronnie Scott's A Celebration of Billie Holiday and Lester Young.with highly acclaimed Canadian jazz vocalist Lauren Bush, sensational saxophonist Fliss Gorst joined by accomplished jazz pianist Pete Billington Tickets £15

Saturday 5th May 7.30pm Gospel meets Jazz - With Soul'd As Seen & Bluesy Susie. Tickets £5

Sunday 6th May 4.30pm Champagne Afternoon Tea-with musical accompaniment provided by Welsh Harpist Eve Price.Tickets £15

Monday 7th May 2pm – 5pm Scenery painting and theatre lighting workshops - FREE EVENT- booking necessary

Saturday 12th May 7.45pm “Handel Delights” – A musical evening stroll with Mr Handel. Treadam Barn and gardens will be transformed into a typical 18th Century Pleasure Garden with popular arias, duets, ensembles and choruses performed in costume with chamber ensemble. Tickets £25 including welcome drink, canapés, a brief talk by Katharine Hogg - Chief Librarian of the Gerald Coke Handel Music Library in London and an exhibit of the Handel Opera Society of London's archives.

Sunday 13th May 2pm & 4pm “The Ogre of Abergavenny II” Children's opera based on the horrific events at Abergavenny Castle in 1175 and 1182 - written, composed and performed by the local children from Cross Ash School and those from Pen Y Cwm Special School in Ebbw Vale alongside professionals, with the help of London Opera Productions.
Tickets £6/£4



Rhys Pritchard from Llantilio Crossenny will be running the new **Newport ABP marathon** on the 29th of April to raise money for Cylch Meithrin y Fenni (the local welsh preschool).

In this report he explains why he is doing it. “The money raised will be used to fund some new resources encouraging the children to learn through play. We hope that donations will help us to continue to promote early years education through the welsh language which we feel is very important. Jac is now 3 and has been enjoying Cylch for the past 18 months and Carys will be joining in November, much to her disgust



that she can't join in when we drop Jac off! We love that the children can learn Welsh and grow up to be bilingual, helping with so many aspects of development. Since moving to the village almost 5 years ago I've started running regularly and have loved exploring the local area. Training has been going well and with just a few weeks to go I'm upping my game and planning to do a couple of runs with the local running group on Sunday mornings. This will be my first marathon so I aim to make it count. If you would like to help, please visit the just giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/cylch-meithrin-y-fenni> or pop in to say hello to us in Brook House, Llantilio Crossenny (opposite the telephone exchange) to help us with our goal.”

For some years now the **Llanddewi Running Club** has been running a variety of routes around the lanes of Llantilio, Llanddewi Rhydderch and Coed Morgan at 6.30 on a Sunday Morning. The group is delighted to welcome Rhys to our group and it extends its welcome to anyone who would like to get out of bed early and get the day off to a fantastic start. We have routes to suit all abilities and distances to suit all staminas. Contact TNT if you would like to join in the fun!

Llanvapley News

Llanvapley had its fair share of snow in March. Not as much as 1982 when the village was cut off for a week but enough to make it memorable. Here is a snow report from a local resident. “The B4233 at Llanvapley was blocked by snow drifts several feet deep as you can see. It took a couple of days to move that much snow - well done to all involved.”





Shifting the snow - 3rd March 2018 at 10.15. B4233 just west of Llanvapley

If the first dump of snow ruined St David's day then it was only fair that the second dump fell around the time of St Patrick's Day. Services on Sunday 18th of March were cancelled in the four parishes but the Baptism Service in Llanvapley went ahead as planned despite the snow. Guests had been invited from far and wide to celebrate the Baptism of Archibald Theodore Gullestrup Lowes so it had to go ahead. The service was scheduled for 11 but by that time the majority of the congregation were still struggling to get to the church. Thankfully everyone arrived safely and the service went ahead. Thanks go to Revd. Heidi for making it through the snow (if the car can't get me there I will walk!) and to everyone who helped to make it such a success. Sadly the bouncy castle which was ordered for the children was not needed! Pictured are Tanja, Archie and Edward in the porch of Llanvapley Church.



Yoga At Llanvapley This has been a fun term with the weather tantrums! Our two groups have continued to support the sessions and now come well equipped with rugs, hats and woolly socks ready for relaxation. It has been a joy to have everyone attending and being so supportive of the yoga. On the strength of the classes, I have planned a Yoga Workshop on May 22nd (Tuesday) at the Pavilion. This will be a

long morning of Yoga, practising gentle Hatha Yoga, some Pranayama and a centering practice ending with relaxation. Please see the attached poster. If you are interested please don't hesitate to get in touch. Contact and register with Zara at the email address given. There are approximately 12 spaces. You will need to have registered by May 15th 2018. Nameste and wishing all a relaxing and sunny time over the Easter break.

A Taize service was held in Llanvapley Church on Thursday 22nd March. Twenty people attended the service which was held to mark the season of Lent. Thanks to everyone who helped to make it a success.

The Llanvapley Sports and Social Association Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday 25th April at 7.30pm in the pavilion. Everyone in the village is invited to attend this important meeting.

Matthew Haynes has written to TNT to try to find out some information. Contact Matthew on matthewhaynes9534@gmail.com if you can help.

“I am trying to research the history of my **classic tractor** which was first registered at The Great House, Llanvapley, in 1960. Would you know anyone who would have been linked to the farm and may have known the owners?”

Below is a series of pictures from Llanvapley taken on 2nd March

From the top left clockwise
Firs Road blocked with snow
Chapel Farm cut off

A Blackbird digging in the snow to find food by the side of the road and finally just in case you wondered, the solar panels didn't get covered in snow!



Penrhos News

Here are some pictures to show how residents of Penrhos coped with mountains of snow blocking the lanes. While sledging down the hills is a pretty normal snow day activity, having a BBQ in the snow certainly isn't. However, reports from Penrhos suggest that burgers and buns taste just as good despite the low temperatures!



After a long Winter that does not seem to want to end, it is time to embrace Spring with both hands...

What better way to enjoy the new season than by being in amongst Mother Nature, tamed to perfection in a garden showing all its springtime glory? The snow will not linger. **Woodlands Farm gardens** are open for an entire week this year from Monday 9th April to Sunday 15th April. Open daily from 2pm to 6pm, except Friday when there will be a special evening opening from 6pm with a free glass of wine. Check it out on the NGS website at www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/19422/ for costs and times. All proceeds to charity or local causes.

Budding florists take note



Come to Penrhos on Tuesday, 10th April from 10am for a **floristry demonstration and practical** given by master florist Craig Loane (former floristry teacher with Jane Packer in London). Learn how to create enormous displays from garden flowers and foliage. All proceeds to

local causes. RSVP if you would like to attend: woodlandsfarmwales@gmail.com or call 01600 780203.

Location: The Pavilion at Woodlands Farm Barns, Penrhos - follow the yellow signs. Time: 10am until midday

Cost: £5 RSVP: woodlandsfarmwales@gmail.com or 01600 780203

Albie and Iggy are holding an "African Adventures" talk on Friday 6th April at Woodlands, Penrhos at 19.00. This is part of a "Grow a Pound" initiative from school. They have lots planned for the evening and would love you to join them. Tickets £5.

Albie's and Iggy's African Adventures
Walking with wonders, hide and seek hippos, Killer cats and so much more!

19.00 - 21.00
Friday 6th April

At The Pavilion, Woodlands, Penrhos,
NP15 2LF

Please bring a bottle, nibbles provided.

Grow a Pound - Raising money for our school playground.

£5.00 and children free.

RSVP viks@sun-fish.co.uk 07779278841

Llanvetherine News

TNT has recently received an email from a gentleman who had been looking at the details of Llanvetherine Church on the Llantilio Group website. Mr Graham Withers noticed that under the heading 'War Memorials', it stated that despite enquires, it has not been possible to find a memorial to anyone who lost their life in the Second World War. Mr Withers' uncle, **Eli Withers** was lost at sea aboard HMS Glorious in 1940 aged just 21. He and his family were long time residents of Llanvetherine and he is remembered on his father's gravestone (also named Eli) just to the left of the footpath about ten yards in from the churchyard gate. Thanks to Mr Withers for this information.

WI News

The March meeting of WI was an opportunity for members to have a relaxing craft evening. Trying out new Easter crafts like origami or making cards or decorating eggs. It was a lovely chance to socialise as well. There were also discussions about members' brilliant ideas for their square on the wall hanging, with advice on hand too. There was also a brief report, from those who went to the WI Denman college to hear a talk on the Suffragettes. We have so much to thank them for. There was also a report about the meetings in Monmouth which highlighted today's generation of very inspiring women. Members are also considering their 'scene from a film', to perform at the Gwent WI show in October. There were actors and singers ready to have a go! Next month we just need to decide on which film scene and then start rehearsing! In April there will be a talk from a member of the Associated Country Women of the World for which members collect 'pennies for friendship' every month. There will be a competition of the most interesting picture/photo of a woman brought in by members. As we have recently had International Women's Day it would be good to have a variety of cultures or nationalities. We can now class ourselves as a multinational WI, with Keiko from Japan and Zhenia from the Ukraine.... and some English women too, from across the border!

From our Gardening Correspondent

After this long hard winter, like me you will be looking at one or two sad shrubs which have been battered by the wind and the snow. Don't panic! The best you can do is wait and see. Branches which have been snapped by the snow should be cut off just below the tear and they will hopefully recover. Other shrubs which may look dead now may take time to shoot again and are best left alone. I remember the winter of 1982 and even roses were looking very dead, but not long after they produced

shoots from below and in some cases were all the better for it. Hopefully we have seen the worst and in a week or so our snakeshead fritillaries (*fritillaria meleagris*) will be coming out. Their reddish stems are already showing, the buds hanging down as if touching their toes. They will grow taller as it gets warmer, and then the extraordinary checker-board flowers will come out and swing their heads in the breeze. The cold and the snow does not seem to have bothered them at all. We planted about 200 bulbs (bought from a wholesale catalogue) in a patch of grass under some apple and greengage trees, along with wild daffodils, (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus* and the Tenby Daffodil, *Narcissus obvallaris*). We let the grass grow long and do not cut it until the tall seedheads have turned brown and are about to burst. They are not strictly speaking native to Britain, the first record of them growing wild in the damp meadows near Oxford in 1785. Gerard mentions Fritillaries from France and did not know of any medicinal use for them. However do not attempt to taste the nectaries right inside the flowers, they contain a poisonous alkaloid named Imperialine. Don't tell the Russians!

Yoga Workshop

May 22nd (Tues) 2018 @ Llanvapley Pavilion 10.00am to 14.30pm

A gentle and resourcing time of Yoga that will provide you with a sense of peacefulness and calm

Agenda for the morning

9.45 Register

10.00 - 11.15 Warm up and Yoga Practice

Break – herb tea/tea/coffee & refreshments provided

11.45 – 12.45 Hatha (Pranayama) Practice

Break

13.15 - 14.15 Loma Viloma (Centering) Practice/Relaxation

Fee: £10.00 per person:

Register: please email - zgst1celrington@gmail.com

Register by May 15th 2018 - Spaces: the hall takes approx 12 for Yoga

You will need to have attended the classes Zara has held over the last 8 months or have previous experience of practicing Hatha Yoga, approx a year You will need your own Yoga mat, warm wrap for meditation, water and pillow. Please bring your own mug for hot drinks



Services in April

Easter Sunday 1st April

Easter Communion
9.30am Penrhos
9.30am Llanvetherine
11am Llanvapley
11am Llantilio Crossenny

Sunday 8th April

9.30am Penrhos

Sunday 15th April

9.30am Llanvetherine
11am Llantilio Crossenny
Morning Prayer

Tuesday 17th Llanvetherine
Easter Vestry Meeting 7pm at
Southleigh

Sunday April 22nd

9.30am Penrhos
11am Llanvapley Morning
Prayer

Monday 23rd 7pm Penrhos

Vestry Meeting in The Vicarage
Llantilio Crossenny

Thursday 26th 7pm Llanvapley

Easter Vestry in Church

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 4th April Coffee Morning Llanddewi Rhydderch 10.30

Monday 9th April until Sunday 15th Woodlands Farm Open
Gardens, Penrhos (see Penrhos section for details)

Tuesday 10th April Floristry Demonstration at the Pavilion at
Woodlands Farm Barns, Penrhos 10am

Wednesday 11th April Coffee Morning Llanvapley 10.30

Saturday 5th May Llanvapley Churchyard clean up morning

Sunday 6th May Penrhos, The Old Vicarage and High House have
their gardens open

Grosmont and district gardening club.

Tuesday 3rd April. 7:30 Grosmont town hall.

The speaker is Rachel Salisbury on "the really useful garden".

If you would like to receive the newsletter please contact Jan. 01600
750295.

Contributions for the May issue of TNT by 20 April 2018 please

Please send your emails to lestaylor.taylor@gmail.com

*Don't forget our website llantiliogroup.info for the latest information as well as
information about all our churches. We are also on Twitter @LlantilioG*