

# The New Times

*June 2018*

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



**Llantilio Crossenny Church wheelbarrow has new tube and tyre!**



**The Warwicks Country Pub with its magnificent wisteria. The best display for many years**

## From The Vicarage

“There's power in love. There's power in love to help and heal when nothing else can.

There's power in love to lift up and liberate when nothing else will.  
There's power in love to show us the way to live.”

What an inspiring, up-lifting and challenging address the Rt. Rev Michael Curry gave at the recent wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. It was positive, hopeful, and full of joy. I was tempted to copy out the whole sermon as our thought for the month, but realised that there wouldn't be room for anything else! It is certainly worth re-reading though.

Of course, we now have the new GDPR rules, which is a great opportunity to rid ourselves of some of the un-wanted e-mails in our in-box. Companies and organisations can no longer hold information about us unless we actively consent to them doing so. It made me reflect on the information which God holds on us; He knows us better than we know ourselves, and still loves us with an infinite love.

As we clear out the un-wanted junk, let's consciously choose to opt-in to opening our eyes and ears and hearts, that we may be open to hearing the voice of the One who loves us beyond measure.

With every blessing,  
*Revd. Heidi Llantilio Vicarage*  
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01600 780240



Rogation Sunday Service  
Blessing of the Plough

## Llantilio Crossenny News

**Llantilio Plant Sale** What a glorious afternoon we had. The hot summer sun brought crowds flocking to the annual plant sale, with the beautiful trees in the church car park providing much needed shade as visitors enjoyed tea and cakes. Elsie Phillips and helpers on the plant stalls were very busy and soon sold out; Daphne's cake stall was empty in no time; Jane, as always, sold an amazing number of draw tickets whilst Elsie Latham and her team dispensed much needed refreshments. A big thank you to those who helped move tables and chairs, a great effort by everyone and a very pleasant way to raise some funds and also a good opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours whilst enjoying some much needed sunshine.

On 29<sup>th</sup> April a group of four local runners set off very early in the morning for the City of Newport. Three of them (pictured - Les, Geoff and Phil) returned with medals for completing the 10K. However, the prize for doing the best goes to **Rhys Pritchard from Llantilio** for completing the 26 and a bit miles of the Newport



Wales Marathon! Here is a report from Rhys. *“May I start by saying a big thank you to everyone who supported me during my training for the Newport marathon and for the sponsorship received. The day went well with the weather being optimum for running. After a delayed start and with nerves racing, the gun finally went off and all the nerves dissipated into an overall enjoyable experience. The route took us through the scenic wetlands and into the villages of Magor and Redwick, where I had the morale boosting pleasure of seeing my family out in force cheering me on. The last two miles were a struggle looping the access road to the famous transporter bridge and finishing near the castle ruins but I managed to continue a steady pacing and finally finished in a time of 03:48:51. I will be glad to present a cheque to the Clych Meithrin Y Fenni for £629.40 enabling them to purchase the laptop they need as well as craft supplies and a new camera to document their activities.”* Well done Rhys!

**Bell Ringer Royal Wedding Tour** On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> of May many of you would have been glued to your TV sets enjoying the Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. Llantilio Bellringers decided to join with ringers from other local towers to celebrate the occasion by ringing bells in five towers in one day! The day started very early in Llantilio followed by a trip over to Skenfrith and then on to Grosmont. The bells were rung for 45

minutes in each of these towers. Lunch was taken at 1pm in The Angel in Grosmont where the ringers joined several locals who were enjoying the wedding by following the events on the big screen in the pub. In the afternoon the ringers moved on to Llantilio Pertholey and finally to St Mary's in Abergavenny. Pictured below are the ringers outside Llantilio Crossenny Church after completing their first ringing session.



On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> of June the **Abergavenny Deanery Conference** was held in Llantilio Church. Representatives from churches from throughout the Deanery were present for this annual meeting. After the business of the meeting was concluded there was a presentation by John Truscott (pictured) on 'God's future for us – Looking ahead for our churches'. John was able to give everyone lots of ideas and there was certainly a lot of 'food for thought' in what he said. John used an ordnance survey map of the area to illustrate the idea that sometimes we need to concentrated on the larger perspective rather than the detail when we are thinking about developing the mission of the Church. Thanks go to the Llantilio PCC for providing refreshments at the end of the meeting.



## Llanvapley News

Congratulations to **Brenda Speake** who is celebrating the safe arrival of her great granddaughter Bella Rose on Tuesday 22 May weighing 7lb 15oz to Abbie and James her grand-daughter and partner. A little sister for Amelia Grace.

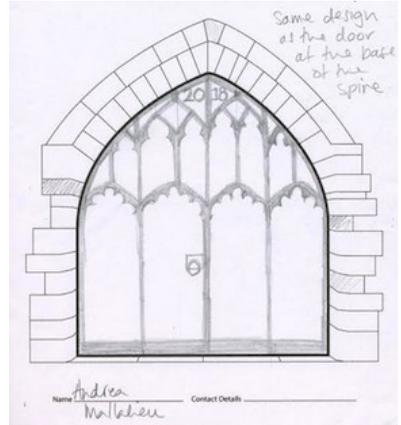
The **LSSA 100 Club** winner for May is Llanvapley Cricket Club. The Cricket Club are also celebrating the new shower system which has been installed following a grant from the Community Green Energy Group. The new shower system is available for all users of the pavilion.

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May a group of people got together to give **Llanvapley churchyard** and church a good old fashioned Spring clean. Work started around 10am and by midday the churchyard had been transformed. It is amazing how much work can be done when people get together to help each other. Thanks go to everyone who turned up to help, especially those from outside the parish. As a reward for all the hard work, everyone was treated to Flossie's lemon drizzle cake at coffee time!



## Penrhos News

**St Cadoc's competition winners** Using the suspense formula adopted by reality television, the results of the Penrhos church screen competition have been kept under wraps. The results can finally be revealed... And the winner is... dramatic pause ... **Andrea Mallalieu** for her design inspired by the door to the church tower. A worthy winner and her design will now go forward to be incorporated in the final drawings. There may need to be changes to the design once all approvals have been obtained. The end result may look rather different to Andrea's excellent design...



The other winners (for the children's category) are the sibling team, **Albie and Iggy Howe**. A book token has been provided to enable the boys to buy some entertaining reading matter. It does not have to be church related...

Well done winners and thank you to all those who submitted entries. It is great that so many took an interest and wanted to be involved in the restoration and evolution of our church in Penrhos. There are hurdles to overcome before the screen can be constructed, but with the support of the community it will happen.

**Teresa Cash and her friend Helene** last month walked the 177 miles along Offa's Dyke. They started in Prestatyn and 13 days later they finished in Chepstow. They had all weather conditions thrown at them but they also watched Spring unfold throughout their journey.



**Penrhos Village Association - creating a greater sense of community** Inspired in part by the need to use our church as a multifunctional space (a condition of our HLF lottery grant to restore our church) a meeting is to be held to agree the constitution and goals of a new

association for Penrhos village. A note will shortly be delivered to all homes in Penrhos inviting residents of Penrhos to attend a meeting in the village on the evening of Saturday, 22 June 2018, followed by a few drinks and some food. Do add the date to your diary and look out for the note coming through your door soon.

**Penrhos gardens** raise money for the church and for charity. The gardens in Penrhos are better than most. Five gardens, at least, are of National Garden Scheme standard. Three opened together in May (High House, the Old Vicarage and Woodlands Farm) and with other openings visitor numbers are approaching 500 so far this year - with 340 visitors on 6 May alone! Thousands have been raised for charity, including well over £1,000 for Penrhos Church from the teas. If you missed all of this, come to see the Woodlands Farm and Longhouse Farm gardens in July. Check them out on [www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/19422/](http://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/19422/) and [www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/22334/](http://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/22334/)



## Llanvetherine News

Congratulations to Andrew and Sally Dawson of Llanvetherine who were invited to a rather special garden party in May! Here is a report from Andrew. ***“The Buckingham Palace Garden Party was a wonderful event - difficult to describe the experience but definitely a once in a lifetime experience. The weather was glorious, the crowd obviously happy. The Queen was accompanied by HRH Prince Andrew, and HRH Earl and Countess of Wessex. We walked all round the gardens and listened to several bands.”***

**Cymerra Baptist Chapel plant sale,** coffee morning, cake stall and raffle. Saturday 2nd June 10.00 - 12.30. All welcome



## WI News

The **AGM** formed the first part of the May meeting. Carolyn Hendy and Carole Tranter from Bryn Gwyn W.I. were welcomed and acted as tellers. With all the voting completed Lin Morris was returned as President and the rest of the committee were voted in to do another year. Carolyn and Carole were thanked and each presented with a flowering potted plant. The rest of the evening erupted into lots of fun and action with a **Talent Show**. The choir, with much amusement, made their first attempt at singing and dancing the scene from Mamma Mia "Dancing Queen" – a good attempt but some way to go before the performance in October. Poems were read by Elsie Latham, Julia Menzies and Elaine



Leader read one written by Pat Bolwell as she could not attend. Shirley Hughes-Jones finished with her poem (*reproduced on the next page*) about what she thought about W.I. as a new member. All were received with rapturous applause. The singers were Jan Currie and Ruth Hoggins. Ruth accompanied herself with the guitar and gave a great performance of an Ed Sheeran number, which was so well received that she played another song that we could all join in. The evening finished with **Dancing by Keiko Nakano** where we were given instructions to perform a Japanese dance called Tokyo Ondo. This dance is one of those performed in summer time in Japan at the Bon Odori dance festival held to honour, appreciate, and remember one's ancestors with a dance of joy. It is also a form of welcoming, as it is believed that the spirits of the ancestors visit their family's house shrines during the three days that Obon traditionally lasts.

There was a lot of joy and laughter as we followed Keiko round in a circle and tried to get all the actions and steps synchronised. The next meeting on 13th June is our Guest Night and the topic is The Tree of Life, the Way to Healthy Living and Well Being.



I've joined the W.I., now what's it all about?

Jam and Jerusalem, cooking and sewing, of that there is no doubt.

But I've been a couple of times now and hardly sang a note,

Which is just as well really, as I sing like a strangled goat.

We sit and do the business, it really must be done.

Then comes the tea and cakes and an hour of raucous fun.

We've made Christmas trees and Easter cards and had a talk on Japan.

For each month is different and Lin always has a plan

She tells us all the news of W.I.'s far and near

and somehow gets you to enter something, of that there is no fear.

It might be to enter a quiz, join the choir or even make the teas!

But what ever it is, it's after Lin's request – volunteers please?

The months ahead are action packed with lots of things to do.

But there really is no pressure it's entirely up to you

There's something for everyone, and great if they have a flare,

Sadly I do not, but I AM a washer upper extraordinaire!

So how do I finish this to make it quite complete,

by saying that my W.I. Meeting is my monthly joyous treat.

*Shirley Hughes Jones*

**Llantilio Crossenny W.I. are organising a summer trip** and there are spaces available on the coach. If you would like to join us please contact: Marion Ashton 01600 780440, Jan Currie 01600780302 or Lin Morris 01873850939.

### **Wednesday 11th July - Visit to Swansea**

9.15. Leave Abergavenny Bus Station

11.00. Coffee/Tea and Welsh cakes -Grape and Olive Restaurant - Swansea Marina

11.30. Visit to National Waterfront Museum or Dylan Thomas Museum or If you prefer you could just soak up the atmosphere at the marina.

1.45. Leave for Langland Bay

2.30. Two course lunch at The Brasserie

Your menu choice to be chosen at the restaurant. You will need to pay for your own drinks. Time to enjoy the seaside!

4.30. Coach leaves for return trip to Abergavenny

6.30. Arrive Abergavenny Bus Station

Total cost £30.00

### **June in the garden from our Gardening Correspondent**

**Scents in the garden** - As I write it is about 24 degrees outside and I can see in the window the first buds of our wisteria opening. Soon the air will be filled with a heady scent. **Wisteria sinensis**, the Chinese Wisteria is easy to grow. Find a south facing wall and it will

be very happy and give you years of spectacular lilac blue racemes of fragrant flowers. You do have to prune it hard in February and don't let those long whippy shoots get out of control. *W sinensis* 'Alba' is even better and I have just seen one climbing up a large conifer. It was quite a sight.



The summer garden is full of scented flowers and shrubs. **Philadelphus** 'Belle Etoile' is quite large and very fragrant, 'Sybille' is smaller and more manageable and I would not be without *P. coronaries* 'Aureus' the golden philadelphus. It is happiest in semi shade as the leaves can get scorched in the sun, but now it is looking wonderfully fresh and welcoming, and later we get fragrant creamy white flowers. I used to have *P. delavayi melanocalyx* which has very dark purple sepals. It is quite unusual and very striking.

Years ago a friend gave me some seedlings of a '**white scented stock**'. I think it is *Matthiola incana alba*. It has lovely grey leaves and deeply scented white flowers which almost knock you out with their perfume. It is slightly tender and plants usually only last a year or two, but it comes easily from seed. It is almost my 'desert island' plant.

**Lily of the valley**, *convallaria majalis* are almost indestructible and I have seen them growing up through tarmac. They, like violets, are small and you need to get your nose right down to their level to get the full benefit of their perfume. Pick a bunch for a friend, it is much nicer than chocolates!

**Pinks and dianthus** are other plants that the scented garden could not do without. Once I was given a beautiful red and white striped 'carnation' which had been found growing in a back garden in Hawick by a botanist friend. It had an almost overpowering scent of cloves and is very similar to a painting of a 'clove Pink Dianthus caryophyllus' painted by Jaques Le Moyne de Morgues between 1533 and 1588. Le Moyne was a Huguenot who had a fairly adventurous life and narrowly escaped being butchered by the Spaniards in Florida. He ended his life in Blackfriars and was under the patronage of Lady Mary Sidney and concentrated on painting plants. Many of his paintings are in the V and A Museum. I gave my plant to the head gardener of Hanbury Hall, a National Trust property in the midlands. They had quite a large collection of dianthus and I hope they still have it. However you can easily get hold of Dad's Favourite, Gran's Favourite and Mrs Sinkins, all of which grow happily in well drained preferably chalky, limey soil and have wonderful perfume.

No garden should be without **Lavender**. If you want to rejuvenate your plants, early summer is the time to do it, but only if you can see new shoots coming through at the base of the plant. Cut just above these new shoots and if you are lucky it will respond happily. Incidentally, our hedge was originally three different kinds, 'Miss Katherine', 'Oxford Blue' and 'Hidcote'. It looked very pretty as it had a wavy profile and the colours blended into one another, however if I do it again, I shall double up the 'Hidcote' as it got swamped by 'Miss Katherine' who spread herself around with gusto.

One cannot write about perfume in May and June without thinking of **Lilac**. *Syringa vulgaris*, the common lilac has been in cultivation since the 16th century. They come in numerous shades from dark mauve, through pink and blue. It is the sort of shrub that should be planted at the back of the border because after it has flowered, there is not much else to recommend it. This sounds a bit harsh, but there are no berries or beautiful autumn colour. There are other varieties but they are not a patch on the scent of *Syringa vulgaris* and the double white *Syringa persica*. *Syringa microphylla* 'Superba' is a small neat shrub and is scented.

Last of all there are **roses** and as I am writing this in May, they have yet to come out in force. There are so many it is difficult to choose just a few and in any case roses need an article all of their own.

# Services in June

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June Trinity 1

9.30am Llanvetherine  
11am Llantilio Crossenny

## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June Trinity 2

9.30am Penrhos  
11am Llanvapley

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June Trinity 3

9.30am Llanvetherine  
11am Llantilio Crossenny

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June Trinity 4

9.30am Penrhos  
11am Llanvapley

## Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June

12.30pm Wedding in Llantilio  
Crossenny of Jenny Phillips  
and Windsor Howells

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July

9.30am Llanvetherine  
11am Llantilio Crossenny

## Dates for your Diary

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June** The Members of Abergavenny Deanery Mothers' Union invite you and your friends to join them for a Strawberry Tea in Llanddewi Rhydderch Village Hall at 3pm. Come and hear about the Mothers's Union - "The Best Kept Secret!" No charge.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June** Llanvapley Coffee Morning 10.30am

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June** CPRW Garden Party at Trostry Lodge, Bettws Newydd NP15 1JT 2pm to 6pm Music – Art – Plants – Teas

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July** Llanvapley Church Strawberry Tea 2pm - 5pm

## Grosmont And District Gardening Club Notes

On a May evening we toured the wonderful house and gardens of High Glanau, Monmouth and saw magnificent rhododendrons, azaleas and many unusual tulips, all with a magnificent backdrop of mature trees and hedges - followed by delicious tea and cakes!

## Forthcoming Events

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** Annual Plant Sale, Grosmont Town Hall – earlier time of 7pm An opportunity to buy some interesting plants and sit and chat over tea/coffee and cakes and maybe win a prize in the raffle! All welcome.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** Social Cheese and Wine Evening at Rockfield Park, Monmouth New members are always welcome. For further information please contact Jan Parker on 01600 772891 or visit the Grosmont village web site.

*Contributions for the July issue of TNT by 20 June 2018 please*

*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*