

The New Times

September 2018

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



A day to remember in Llanvapley..



and a century remembered in Llantilio

From The Vicarage

“Friends are quiet angels who lift us to our feet when our wings have trouble remembering how to fly.”

The gift of friendship is one of the loveliest things in life.

With friends, you can be truly yourself, warts and all, and know that you are still accepted and loved.

Some friendships were made in the school play-ground, and never left us; others may have developed as we left home and started our working lives. Others still, may have been forged when we have unexpectedly found ourselves walking along some of life's rougher roads.

It's lovely to see friends rallying around, and helping each other bear the load, because that's what friends do.

Friends travel through life with us, in good times and in bad.

In the immortal words of Winnie the Pooh, “A friend is someone who helps you up when you are down, and if they can't, they lie down beside you and listen.”

And never forget that there is One who longs to be our friend, who walks with us every step of the way. We may not have been in contact for a long time, but that doesn't matter; for with a friend you can always pick up where you left off.

“No longer do I call you servants...but I call you friends.”

And there is that wonderful verse,

“The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend.”

So why not get in touch? He's longing to hear your voice.

With every blessing,

Heidi

Llantilio Vicarage, llantiliovicar@aol.com, 01600 780240

Following the publication of her book 'Waiting on the Word', Lorraine Cavanagh has discovered a new dimension to her ministry. She contributed to this year's St. Padarn's summer residential training session where she taught the Preaching and Teaching strand (pictured on the right). St. Padarn's supplies all the training for those ministering in the Church in Wales, both ordained and lay. Lorraine also taught at their winter residential in February which took place in Llandudno, North Wales. She hopes very much to broaden her involvement with St. Padarn's in the coming year.



Llantilio Crossenny News

Christmas is fast approaching and we are preparing for our **Children's Christmas Choir** for Christingle on Christmas Eve. We are looking for children for singing within the choir, solos and children for readings. If you and your children would like to be involved please get in contact with either Lauren Cooke (07971607157) or Revd. Heidi.

The annual **Llantilio Crossenny Church Village Walk and Strawberry Tea** was held on 12th August. This was a wonderful leisurely walk of about 3 miles around the area of Llantilio Crossenny, cheerfully led by Elsie and Des from Tal y Coed Farm. First stop was the car park for the annual picture (a few new faces and also with 3 lovely active and curious dogs).



We all set off from the church, launched onto Offa's Dyke path then climbed up the road to Bulmer's Cider farm turn which turned out to be unexpectedly busy with cars, not really sure who was more surprised, the walkers or the car drivers. The cider apple trees were really heavily laden and a strong contrast to the very old oak on the plantation which may not have survived these last weeks of hot dry summer. There was a great discussion about the age of the oak and varied views of how to tell how old it might be. On we walked with lots of lovely conversation about the weather, the local history, the views, the houses we saw, the state of the land we crossed, the age of the bridges, when the River Trothy flooded.....Half way around with the church steeple back in view looking from Tal y Coed we gently detoured to look at the old caravan park and beautifully quiet lake adorned with bull rushes, blackberry bushes, mature and elegant trees, little blue butterflies and a 'beautiful Demoiselle'. Ok we did have the tiniest bit of rain, but it was all just fine and none of us got anywhere near wet. The tea waiting for us was really nothing short of magnificent, just wonderfully presented. It was a joy to sit and have our tea in the peace of the church. Heidi thanked everybody who had contributed to organising the walk and tea, such a great and enjoyable afternoon. It has been a real pleasure to have been a part of this event with everybody and to walk peacefully through such beautiful landscape. *Zara Elrington*



On a beautiful sunny day on Saturday 4th August, 2018, around two dozen of the **Watkins family gathered at Park Farm** for a party to commemorate the Centenary of the purchase of the property. Park Farm was bought by Thomas and Anna Watkins, the grandparents of the present owner, Adrian Watkins, one hundred years earlier on January 25th 1918 for the sum of £4,600. The property was part of the Llantilio Estate until its sale, during which a total of 2,570 acres were sold in 53 lots. Thomas and Anna Watkins had been tenants of the Mather-Jackson family for twenty years having previously moved by horse and cart from Breconshire to Monmouthshire. *Ali Wilkins*



Adrian and Daphne Watkins with their grandsons, Charlie aged 8yrs and Ruben aged 6yrs cutting the Centenary cake at the party



Adrian and Daphne Watkins with their grandsons, Charlie aged 8yrs and Ruben aged 6yrs cutting the Centenary cake at the party

Although more associated with Spring, our lovely **Muscovy ducks** have hatched 15 ducklings (out of 17 eggs) and are proving to be wonderful mothers. The ducklings are all really cute and it is possible to waste a lot of time watching them run after their mothers as they forage in the garden. They know their mothers' voices and their mothers know them. Whenever one gets left behind, the mother runs back to get it, leaving the others, reminding me very much of how Jesus spoke of shepherds leaving their sheep to find the one that is lost. *Gillian Clark*



Although more associated with Spring, our lovely **Muscovy ducks** have hatched 15 ducklings (out of 17 eggs) and are proving to be wonderful mothers. The ducklings are all really cute and it is possible to waste a lot of time watching them run after their mothers as they forage in the garden. They know their mothers' voices and their mothers know them. Whenever one gets left behind, the mother runs back to get it, leaving the others, reminding me very much of how Jesus spoke of shepherds leaving their sheep to find the one that is lost. *Gillian Clark*

Llanvapley News

On 4th August, **Martyn and Jolene Lewis** were married at St Mabli's Church Llanvapley. The church was packed with family and friends and the happy couple were blessed with a really beautiful day. Revd. Heidi officiated at the service which was a very happy and relaxed occasion. At the beginning of the service Revd. Heidi put everyone at ease by saying "Throw as much confetti as you want" and "Don't worry about your children during the service, just let the children be children". The Best Man was Will Rutter. Will performed his duties perfectly until the moment when he was asked to hand over the rings. The sound of rings falling on the stone floor failed to spoil the magic of the moment! David and Zena Lewis would like to thank everyone who prepared and decorated the church with so many beautiful flowers and to Janet Andrews who made such a wonderful wedding cake. The reception was held at the Hogs Head and thanks also go to Dale and his team for providing such an excellent venue.



On 8th July, **Jonathan and Sarah Bannon** were married at the Sugar Loaf Barn. Jonathan grew up in Llanvapley and it is only recently that his parents, John and Judith Bannon moved from Trothy View to Abergavenny. Jonathan and Sarah both work and live in London.



From 4th to 8th October, **Martyn Leader** (who grew up in Llanvapley) will be taking part in the 100k walk to commemorate the end of First World War along with a number of former servicemen. The walk starts at the Somme and finishes at the Menin Gate. The object is to raise money for the Army Benevolent Fund which provides financial support to veterans and their families. Anyone wishing to support the cause can do so through the going to www.justgiving.com/fundraising/martyn-leader or text 70070 quoting ARWF87.

The **LSSA is hosting a Coffee Morning** on 12th September at 10.30am. In August the 100 Club winners were Jim Brook and Jane Melia. Llanvapley Coffee morning is always very popular and is know far and wide for the quality of its cakes! Anyone wanting to know what living in Llanvapley is like should pop along to the coffee morning where they will be given a very warm welcome.



Church buildings are renowned for their 'bats in the belfry'. (Fortunately not our churches of course!). Churchyards are home to various forms of wildlife such as owls, crows and squirrels. Llanvapley churchyard is also now home to **a family of rabbits** who like to nibble the flowers and have decided to use the base of the preaching cross as a warren. Rabbits have been spotted disappearing into the hole on a number of occasions but so far they have not been photographed doing so. If any one fancies a quiet morning they could do worse than setting themselves up with a flask of coffee and a good camera in Llanvapley churchyard in the hope of photographing this interesting phenomenon.



Llanvapley Church has been notified that its bid to the **Community Green Energy Advisory Group** had been successful. The Church had applied for £15,000 to enable it to restore the sandstone coping stones at the top of the tower. The Church was pleased to be awarded a sum of £3,500.

September has come around so quickly, the lovely summer has been so uplifting and resourcing, but it is now time to plan for the Autumn and a return to **Yoga at Llanvapley Pavilion**. The first sessions will be 4th September 2018 at 10.30am and then at 12.30pm. At the moment the capacity is for 8 to 10 people per session so the classes are small and there is the opportunity for individual support if needed. If you are a returning student, please let Zara know which session suits you best. If you are thinking of starting out with yoga please email Zara at zgst1celrington@gmail.com. I can then forward all the details to you or phone you to chat over what is involved. It is great that Yoga has been embraced here and I am looking forward to the next years teaching in this lovely area.

On the 25th August, Annika Nilsson, daughter of Susanne and Bengt-Ake Nilsson from Ty-Mynach Barn (Mynachdy Pitch), married Rhys Whiteman, son of Theresa Manners and Keith Ewers. The wedding was held at The Chapel in Market Street Abergavenny followed by a reception at The Angel Hotel. As the weather turned out to be beautiful on the day, there was the opportunity to have drinks and canapés as Jake Morley of Penarth was photographing at the castle prior to the reception. Helena Nilsson, sister of the bride, was maid of honour, Matthew Bailey was best man, music at the ceremony was played by harpist Megan Morris. The wedding was celebrated with family and friends from the Abergavenny area together with about twenty family and friends from Sweden.



Pictured on the right is a view of the valley which is south of Talybont on Usk taken by a **cyclist** who had ridden out from **Llantilio**. TNT would love to know what you have been up to this summer.



Penrhos News

Penrhos had a very successful **re-opening of the Church** on Thursday 2nd August. Over 50 people came to see the work that has been done at St. Cadocs. Geoff Adams gave a very informative update on the next stage of the Church development which is to get water to the church and have a toilet. Thank you to Geoff for all the hours he is putting in to getting our Church to be a safer and a multi purpose place.

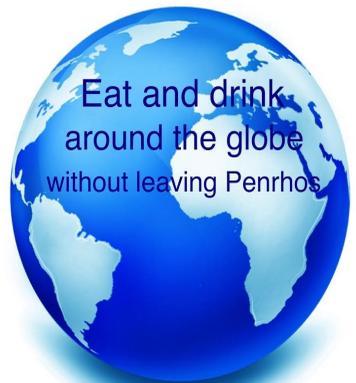


Macmillan Coffee Morning -

Friday September 28th at Woodlands Farm, Penrhos from 10am - 12pm.

Harvest Festival Service - Friday 5th October at 7pm followed by Wine & Nibbles at High House.

On Sunday, 21st October Penrhos Church and Penrhos Village Association will be holding a joint event known as '**Eat & Drink around the Globe**'. The event will start at midday at the Church and then everyone will be moving around the village on foot to several other locations. At each of the locations you will be able to enjoy food and drink from places around the globe. Tickets will cost £15 for adults, under 10s free and under 16s £5. To reserve your place please contact Pip at piprumsey2001@yahoo.co.uk or Charles at woodlandsfarmwales@gmail.com. (This replaces previously advertised wine walk)



Sunday, 21 October from midday
Starting at the church, tickets £15

Kids welcome: under 10s free and under 16s £5

Llanvetherine News



The Baptism took place on Saturday 18th August of **Isabella Violet Lucy**, daughter of Flo and Ed Lucy from Church Cottage Camping and Caravans in Llanvetherine. We had a very joyful service in a packed church and we were blessed with lovely fine weather.



Trevor and Anne Beavan celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on Sunday 26 August with Holy Communion in St James Church followed by afternoon tea. They were originally married at St David's, Llanddewi Skirrid, on 28 August 60 years ago.



Several people who had been at their wedding were able to attend the celebration service and tea. During the service their daughter Sue read a poem written by Anne about her years as a farmer's wife. The up to date picture shows Trevor and Anne holding their congratulatory card from the Queen which arrived that morning. Many congratulations to them both.

Early predictions are that we shall begin harvesting at **White Castle Vineyard** on Sunday 9th September, two weeks earlier than last year as a result of the long sunshine hours during the months of May through to mid August. Let's hope Harvest 2018 shall be a vintage to remember. *Robb Merchant*



Events Around and About the Four Parishes

There is a **coffee morning in Llanddewi Rhydderch** on September 4th at 10.30. The village committee will be raising money for the Tŷ Hafan children's hospice. There will be a raffle during the coffee morning. If you would like to donate a prize for the raffle then please bring it along on the day or pass it on to a member of the village committee. If you have not visited the hall recently then you really should come along now that the new outside area (pictured) has been completed.



WI News

There was great fun, good food and bargains to be had at the August meeting. Llanvapley Pavilion was the location for a **Fun Auction** followed by a BBQ. The WI members opened up the evening to the local community with a promise that if they made a purchase



then food afterwards would be free. There were 135 items, kindly donated by WI members and people were able to view before the auction started. The weather was good, so the auction was able to take place outside.

Lin Morris, the President, made an excellent job as auctioneer as she had the gift of making the audience laugh. For example she had prearranged that some members had their mobile phones out as links to the internet and Sotheby.



Some of those present might not have been aware that there is no mobile signal at Llanvapley Pavilion! There was a great selection of items from a canteen of cutlery worth over £400 to a peg doll toilet holder that was too small for a toilet roll! The final amount made was £660.60 and the WI members were over the moon as they are saving hard for celebrations in 2019 for their centenary year. The men present very kindly agreed to do the BBQ and together with salads and sweets that the WI members provided everyone had a great evening. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th September when Harts of Monmouth will be doing a Bra demonstration and Fashion Show. Members are asked not to forget their contributions for the wall hanging, so that it can be assembled over the next months, ready for January.



The Garden in September

It's September and now the big clean-up has begun, cutting back herbaceous plants that are over and generally giving the garden a good tidy, but there are still things to come. Our **Crinums** are spectacular this year, great clumps of large pink lily like flowers. The scarlet lily beetle thankfully does not attack them. Come mid September **Nerines** will be making an appearance, and those of you who have lots of **Dahlias** will be picking them for the house. **Japanese Anemones** are coming into flower, and **Michaelmas Daisies** are yet to come.

From July until September you can take **cuttings**. For **hardwood cuttings** take a good sharp pair of secateurs and cut firm, non flowering shoots at least 6 - 12 inches long from deciduous and evergreen shrubs and roses. Using a clean sharp knife cut off the lower leaves leaving about 2 or 4 at the top and cut the base of the stalk at an angle just below a node (where the leaf meets the stalk) then dip it into some hormone rooting powder. (Incidentally this does not last long so make sure it is not more than 2 years old) Fill a pot with compost (1 part loam, 2 parts peat and 3 coarse sand or grit) make a hole with a dibber and drop your cuttings in around the edge firming them as you go. You can also leave them happily in the ground as long as it is not in bright sunlight and does not dry out too quickly. The aim is to keep the cuttings alive and moist until they have made roots. Repot them the following spring by which time they will have hopefully made good strong root growth. The ideal place would be a cold frame.

Roses from cuttings are particularly good as they do not produce suckers. Remove the soft tips of semi hardwood cuttings just above a node, and using your sharp knife cut the base just below. Dip in rooting powder and pop into a pot. Insert about a third to a half of their length into the soil. Cut the top off an old plastic bottle if you don't have a propagator, and use it to cover the cuttings to keep them moist. **Perennials** are easy to propagate and September is a good time to start. Dig up a clump and split it up using two forks, throw away the spent middle and trim the roots of the rest. You can replant them in the soil with a bit of bone meal or put them in pots to grow on.

Services in August

September 2nd Trinity 14

9.30am Llanvetherine
11am Llantilio Crossenny Holy
Communion

September 9th Trinity 15

9.30am Penrhos
11am Llanvapley Holy
Communion

Friday 14th

6.30pm Llanvetherine Harvest
Festival

Sunday 16th Trinity 16

9.30am Llanvetherine
11am Llantilio Crossenny

Sunday 23rd Trinity 17

9.30am Penrhos
11am Llanvapley Harvest Festival
followed by Harvest Lunch in the
Pavilion

Sunday 30th Trinity 18

9.30am Penrhos Joint 5th Sunday
service for all four parishes

Dates for your Diary

Monday 17th September Taize group meeting 7.40pm at Great Blaencoed

Friday 28th September Macmillan Coffee Morning at Woodlands Farm,
Penrhos 10am – 12 noon

Friday 19th October Llanvapley Church Quiz Night in the pavilion 7.30pm

Grosmont And District Gardening Club

At the beginning of July we had our annual social Cheese and Wine Evening in the setting of Rockfield Park, Monmouth. The formal gardens were flourishing despite the dry weather and many found the vegetable garden and orchard particularly inspiring. Later in the month we visited Spetchley Park near Worcester where we enjoyed visiting the lovely gardens and lake with beautiful dragonflies and water fowl.

Forthcoming Meetings At Grosmont Village Hall

Tuesday 4th September 7.30pm Desdemona Freeman and Denise Jones from Petals of the Valley – Rosewater Making

Tuesday 2nd October 7.30pm Bill Laws – The Curious World of Vegetables
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 October issue of TNT by 20 September 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