

The New Times

November 2019

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



Find out why the WI has planted a tree in Llantilio Churchyard



and it wasn't just Wales who were beaten by 3 points!

From the Vicarage

As I write the leaves are tumbling from the trees, which always reminds me of the clouds of red poppy petals falling silently at the Royal Albert Hall Festival of Remembrance.

For the last few years Remembrance has concentrated on the centenary of The Great War, and, especially last year, the 1918 Armistice. But the first national Remembrance took place a hundred years ago, most notably through the first two minute silence, and the construction of the Cenotaph in Whitehall (initially made of wood) a few months earlier.

Families had only just begun to understand the damage to the home nations and the devastation to societal structure beyond the tragic loss of so many soldiers and sailors. Many thousands of servicemen were permanently physically and mentally injured.

The jubilation at the end of hostilities the year before had given way to a dark, sombre realisation (it's worth reading Juliet Nicolson's 'The Great Silence' for an engrossing account of how people's lives changed). Tens of thousands of families, women, children, were forced to accept somehow that the men would not be returning and face the poverty consequent on the collapse of the economy. Fearfully injured men scraped a living by selling matches and in other menial ways.

Of the nearly one million dead service men and women of the Great War alone, each year we rightly promise, in the words of Binyon, 'we will remember them'. Perhaps this is a good time to remember, too, those whose lives were devastatingly and permanently changed by the events of the Great War, the war to end all wars, and the dreadful hardship that followed for so many years afterwards for the people left behind.

All blessings
Andrew



Wreaths placed on Llantilio war memorial 2018

Llantilio Crossenny News

Llantilio Church held its **Harvest Thanksgiving** service on Sunday 4th October. The service was very well attended. Thanks go to Revd. Peter Cobb who led the service and everyone who brought along food to share after the service. The harvest lunch was a very happy community occasion and was much appreciated by everyone.

On November 10th at 10.45am at Llantilio Crossenny the **Remembrance service** will be held.

Christmas is fast approaching and the annual **Christingle service** will be held at 4pm in St Teilos on Christmas Eve. As usual there will be a chance for children to showcase their various talents, singing, reading, playing musical instruments and of course the children's choir. Once again Lauren Cooke and Ruth Hoggins have volunteered to prepare the children for this and the first rehearsal took place in the church on Sunday 27th October . Please contact Lauren or Ruth if you would like to be involved in the next practice.

Llantilio Bell Ringers enjoyed a splendid day out on 10th August when they visited four churches in Herefordshire. It was a pleasure and privilege to be able to ring the bells in Much Dewchurch and Allensmore in the morning followed by lunch at the Kilpeck Inn. The afternoon session involved trips to Kingstone and Madley and a final well deserved drink in the Red Lion. The Llantilio ringers were joined by ringers from other towers in the area.



The Kilpeck Inn



Llanvapley News

On Wednesday 4th December, a **mini bus trip** has been organised to **Bath**. Apart from being an opportunity to see the city itself it will be an opportunity to visit Bath's famous Christmas Market. With over 150 twinkling chalets spread across Bath's picturesque Georgian streets, it's the perfect place to do a spot of Christmas shopping. The bus will be leaving Llanvapley at 8:30am, returning approx 6:30pm. Cost £20. All profits to LSSA. Please see the village notice board for further details, or email me at nicj1971@gmail.com

Nicola - Brookside cottage

The LSSA held its annual '**End of Summer BBQ**' on Friday 30th August in the pavilion. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to get together and to chat while enjoying the excellent food.

Llanvapley Walking Group had a lovely walk in September around the Tal-y-Coed area, which really showed the Monmouthshire countryside at its best. We had a couple of real experts with a great deal of local knowledge to add to the enjoyment of what was a great social occasion too. This month we will be walking on Saturday 16th November at 10.30am. We will start at Llanvapley Pavilion where parking is available. Come along on the day or get in touch through the email above. I'll send any updates by email. All welcome (including well behaved dogs).

llanvapleywalkinggroup@gmail.com



Congratulations to **Doris Evans** of Llanvapley who turned 95 on 22nd September. Doris is in good health and is a regular at village events.

The next **LSSA coffee morning** will be on Wednesday 13th November. Apart from the usual 100 Club draw and prize raffle there will also be the chance to buy a raffle ticket for the Christmas hamper. The October 100 Club winner was Nicola Evans who were delighted to receive the £50 cheque. Thanks to everyone who bakes the simply scrumptious cakes for the coffee morning. They are much appreciated!



Llanvapley Church held its **Harvest Service** on Sunday 13th October. We were delighted to welcome everyone to lunch after the service. This year Llanvapley followed the example of Llantilio and held the buffet lunch in the chancel after the service which seemed to work very well. Thanks to Revd. Andrew Dawson for taking the service and everyone who helped to make it a success. Once again the Harvest loaf was made by Janet Andrews which featured the annual appearance of the church mouse! Can you spot it? Thank you Janet!



Llanvapley Church will be holding an **Advent Taize service** on Monday 2nd December. The Taize singing group is meeting to prepare for the service. The next practice will be on 18th November at 7.30pm at Blaen y Coed. If you have never been to a Taize service you may be unsure what to expect. The service is an ecumenical service and everyone is welcome. The singing of chants, prayers and periods of silence are important elements of Taize services. Why not make a date and come along in December and find out more.

As part of its annual maintenance program, **Llanvapley Church PCC** has recently undertaken some tree work in Llanvapley churchyard. A number of branches were removed from the horse chestnut trees which border the main road. Thanks to Dennis Walker and Son who carried out the work.

Two iconic buildings in Llanvapley have recently changed hands. Firstly, the bus shelter and adjacent land (which formed part of the old village hall site) has been sold by the trustees of the village hall site to Mr Hanbury-Tenison. The proceeds from the sale have been given to the Llanvapley Sports and Social Association. Secondly, the Red Hart Inn was sold by auction in October and has been bought by Julian Tod from Llanddewi Rhydderch. It is hoped that the new owner will be able to reopen the pub which has been closed for business since October 2002.

Rural crime isn't just about thieves stealing quad bikes. Thieves have recently paid a visit to Llanvapley solar farm and managed to steal forty solar panels. This was despite eight foot high wire fences and CCTV cameras.



Llanvetherine News

Congratulations to Christopher Phelps and his partner Aimee Jones who had a beautiful baby boy on Sunday 11th August in the afternoon. **Oliver Roy Phelps** weighed in at a very healthy 7lb 13oz. In the photo is dad, Christopher, Auntie Katie with Janet and David.



A Really Happy Day and by way of Thank You!

Alice Dawson and her new husband Richard had a really joyous day when they were married at St James's Church, Llanvetherine on 28th September.

The weather was kind enough to stop raining for Alice and her dad to walk to the church, and for the couple and the bridesmaids to leave the church in two family vintage Land Rovers. The sun even came out long enough for photos in the grounds of Treadam Barn, and by the time the heavens opened again the wedding breakfast and evening reception were all nicely under cover. One of the factors that made for such a happy day was the practical support and good wishes from local friends and neighbours, and another was that everything needed for the wedding came from entirely local resources – and they really were the best.

The exhilarating Hen Do took the form of a team-building day designed and hosted by Kate and Jim Beavan at Great Tre-Rhew. On the day, the venue at Treadam Barn provided a wonderful atmosphere thanks to Eleanor Farncombe and Leon, and Annie Morgan and her team carefully designed and arranged the breathtaking flowers at the church and in Treadam Barn. Vicky and Neil Crabtree and their team supplied the most fabulous catering with their wonderful food and friendly smiling service.

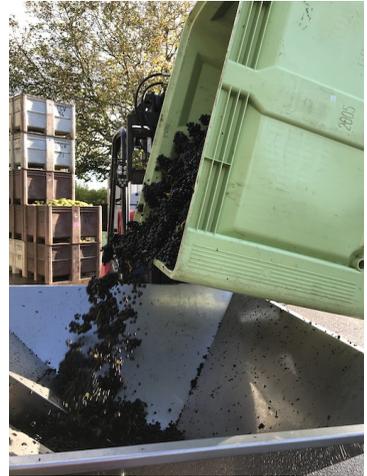
During the ceremony Jeanette Massochi played the accompanying music, and Alice's cousin Hayley and friend Helena played a flute and piano duet of Gabriel's Oboe for the bridal entrance (not a dry eye!), while Rob Westall from Mardy and his daughter Bella sang at both the service and venue,



including a song written specially for the occasion. Everything was photographed by Helena's husband Gareth (of Stables Photography). David Hughes Jones made an excellent MC and traffic continued to flow through the village and cars parked thanks to the efforts of Chris Lewis.

Alice wore a bridal gown of ivory satin with French lace (designed and made by Sally, her mum) and Alice's dad Andrew officiated. We were delighted that Heidi, who was originally to have co-officiated, was able to attend the service and keep an encouraging eye on proceedings from the congregation. Richard had already decided to take Alice's surname as his married name, and so we have a new Mr and Mrs Dawson! Very many grateful thanks to everyone who made it such a wonderfully memorable day.

White Castle Vineyard Harvest 2019 With the challenging weather this year, harvest began two weeks later than in 2018 on 10th October and then as and when the weather allowed us. However a good yield across the 5000 vines left us in no doubt that the 2019 harvest will produce clean, quality grapes and that is down to all the hands on leaf stripping and canopy management that we maintain. Siegerrebe was the first variety to harvest and within days we moved on to our Pinot Noir and Rondo, the remaining varieties, Regent, Phoenix and Seyval Blanc which enjoyed the last of the autumn sunshine when the rain eventually stopped.



The yields so far were not as vast as last year but are above average and the quality of fruit is excellent. We were delighted with the overwhelming response to assist us with our harvest again this year, for some a first time and already talking of coming along again next year. Great news and thank you! There is no doubt that we shall be hoping to have completed our harvest for 2019 before the frosty weather descends upon us, fingers crossed, the latest we have harvested to date has been October 31st in 2013. Early in September Robb and I tasted our 2015 vintage "1581" and plans are to release this at our festive weekend 7th & 8th December 2019, again a limited release already sought after. *Robb and Nicola Merchant*

Jess & Gary Yeomans were nominated as a contender for Best Dairy Farmer in the Country. This included all goat and cow farms and they got into the top three farms with another dairy goat farmer from Dorset and a dairy cow farmer from Wiltshire. The results were announced at the Farmers' Weekly Awards ceremony held at The Grosvenor House Hotel in London. This is the farming equivalent of the Oscars, it was so glitzy and dramatic! Jeremy Vine was presenting the awards and there wasn't a boiler suit in sight! There were 19 different awards including Beef Farmer of the year, Farm Manager of the year and of course Dairy Farmer of the year. Jess and Gary came second by only 3 points but what an incredible achievement to come second. *Pip Rumsey*

Three Pools Farm at Llanvetherine Court are hosting a guest chef evening with Julian Tailleir & Timothy Laight on Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm. The cheffing duo are best known for their fire cooking and wild foods and specialise in bringing people wild meat and fish with a modern twist. To find out more contact Tom at info@threepools.co.uk Ticket are £40pp

Penrhos News

Fundraising Event For Tom - This event will be great fun and in aid of a great cause. For your £40 you get music presented in an amusing way, street food served in our indoor street and your first glass of fizz on the house. There is also a fully licensed bar. In addition, by buying a ticket you are helping to raise funds for a specific cancer research position to investigate the causes of - and find a cure for acute myeloid leukaemia. Which was the cancer which struck Monmouth School boy, Tom Walker and from which he died last year. Do come and join this event and help this great cause. Check out Simeon's Britain's Got Talent performance on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8IBFS8SA-g Or check out his promo on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=-61-SPGDCQs

Woodlands Farm agreed to host this event because we felt it was such a worthwhile cause and we hear Simeon is brilliant. If you can come, do contact Liz Walsh direct (Liz is in charge of everything, including the tickets) on 01600 719019 or email her at concert@fundraisingeventfortom.co.uk

FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR TOM

Saturday 9 November

at Woodlands Farm Wales

With exceptionally multi-talented musician

SIMEON WOOD

IMPORTANT!
6.45 pm
BAR OPEN



"Very funny and hugely entertaining - a great night out"

"A show filled with music and laughter"



Street Food

indoors... it's November!



TICKETS £40 (€30 FOR TEENS) concert@fundraisingeventfortom.co.uk

www.fundraisingeventfortom.co.uk

01600 719019

Woodlands Farm Wales, Penrhos, Raglan, Monmouthshire NP15 2LE

or email her at

Penrhos Church had a very well attended **Harvest Festival service**. Margaret and helpers had done an incredible job of decorating the church. It looked stunning with lots of beautiful autumnal colours and produce from nearby gardens. After the service Richard and Fiona Cleeve very kindly hosted a Harvest Supper. The party barn is always so welcoming with the roaring open fire and a delicious home made supper. Thank you to everyone who made the evening a great success and it was lovely to catch up with so many friends.

WI News

At the September meeting members met Jenny Knight, who is doing a Doctoral Research Project at Birmingham University. She is exploring land management, in particular the the impact of tree planting for natural flood management. She was a very inspiring speaker and was particularly interested in our local streams and rivers. She had already met some local people who had walked the land with her. She promised to keep in touch and inform us of her progress. As there are some spots locally where flooding is an issue, members were interested in the outcome of her research.

The October meeting showed the generosity of Llantilio WI members. Matt Smith, the chairman of Operation Christmas Child came to tell us all about this wonderful charity. Shoe boxes of items for children are distributed to many countries across the world. He showed videos of children receiving their boxes in Africa and Moldova. Members were very moved to see the children's reactions on opening their gifts. A wonderful array of useful items and play things were boxed up for Matt to take for distribution. He was very grateful on behalf of the children as members had been so kind and generous.



The WI is very grateful to Revd. Andrew Dawson for providing such an appropriate and lovely service for the planting of the WI centenary Rowan tree in the grounds of the church on 23rd October. A special thanks to Des and Elsie Latham and Rodney and Kath Powell, who made it all possible. The tree was duly blessed as was the work of the WI by Andrew. This was followed by an excellent meal, to celebrate, at Llananfraed Court Hotel.

This year has seen many events to commemorate this very special year. It will end with a surprise Christmas Evening in December. The November meeting will allow members to learn more about Wiltshire Foods and taste some of their ready made meals. The WI meets at 7pm every second Wednesday of the month at Llanvapley Pavilion. For more information contact Lin Morris 01873 850939.

Community Green Energy Grants 2019

Bettws Newydd Village Hall(1)

Replacement of the kitchen facilities £14,347.73

Bettws Newydd Village Hall(2)

To restore worn wooden floor £619.74

Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (Mon. Branch)

Purchase of 10 gates to replace stiles in the Llanvapley area £2,500.00

Hilston Park Outdoor Education Centre(MCC)

Shelter to enclose archery range £9,500.00

Llanarth Village Hall

Playground repairs, external building repairs, boiler & fire alarm £14,940.00

Llantilio Crossenny Women's Institute

Centenary tree (Rowan), glass cabinet & projector £1,000.00

Llanvapley Sports & Social Association

Outside wooden storage shed £3,580.00

St Mabli's Church, Llanvapley

Replacement of old staircase (*photographed on the right*) and 20 aluminium chairs £3,441.60

St Nicholas Church, Grosmont

Installation of hearing loop and sound system £10,000.00



The **Tenovus coffee morning** which was held in September was really well attended. It was wonderful to see so many local people supporting our event. We raised the amazing amount of £385. All this money goes to Tenovus Cancer Care who provide support and care for people affected by cancer. It is wonderful to know that it was Tenovus funded scientists who pioneered Tamoxifen which is a drug used for breast cancer patients worldwide. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came along and helped us to raise such a great amount!

The Garden in November

By now those of you who are organised will have cut back your perennials, mulched your borders, trimmed your hedges, turned over your vegetable garden and put a thick layer of manure on it ready for the worms to take it into the soil and are now sitting back enjoying yourself looking at seed catalogues, thinking about planting the tulips you have ordered and generally feeling a bit smug. However, if like me you are behind with everything, life will not look so rosy. Our mower has been giving us a lot of trouble this year and the grass is so long I am thinking of bringing some sheep in to eat it down, but there is still a lot of colour around. Nerines have

been flowering really well, *Salvia involucrata* has puce pink blooms that seem to go on for weeks, as has *Salvia* 'Armistad' and *Rosa bonica* is now covered in blooms. What I lack is dahlias and perhaps next year I will get organised and put some in.



Japanese Anemones are just about over. I have just been painting them and was thinking what good doers they are. *Anemone v japonica* was found by Robert Fortune in 1843 growing on graves round Shanghai so they have been growing in our gardens for the last 150 years or so. They don't get eaten by rabbits and slugs, they can put up with light shade, come up every year without fail and increase with little encouragement. They do not need staking either which is a plus. They are one of those fool proof plants that survive in neglected gardens and come the autumn up they come with their pretty faces and cheer you up on a September day.

Anemone x hybrid Honorine Jobert has white petals, which show up on these dark days. Queen Charlotte is a pink double. *Anemone v japonica* 'splendens' has five bright purple pink petals two of which are slightly smaller and darker than the others. A 'Hadspen Abundance' is similar with deep pink, semi double flowers and also flowers freely.

Propagation is easy, just dig up a few roots and cut pieces 2—3 inches long, put them in sandy compost and they should take easily. It is not worth collecting seed as cross pollination produces variable seedlings.

Llanddewi Rhydderch are hosting a Christmas market event. It is on Sunday 10th Nov, from 11.30am to 2pm in Llanddewi Village hall. We have brought together crafts people in order to buy in time for Christmas. Decorations, candles cards, textiles and more. Coffee, tea and bacon baps and veg baps are on offer. May even be cake! Entrance Free everyone welcome. There will also be a film night in the village hall on Thursday 14th November. The film is 'Dirty Rotten Scoundrels' starring Steve Martin and Michael Caine. Doors and bar open at 7.15pm. Tickets £4

Services in November

Friday 1st November

Grosmont All Souls 7pm

Sunday 3rd November

Llanvetherine 9.30am

Llantilio 11.00am

Sunday 10th November

Remembrance Sunday

Penrhos 9.30am

Llantilio 11.00am

Sunday 17th November

Llanvetherine 9.30am

Llantilio 11.00am

Sunday 24th November

Penrhos 9.30am

Llanvapley 11.00am

Sunday 1st December

Advent Sunday

Llanvetherine 9.30am

Llantilio 11.00am

Monday 2nd December

Llanvapley Taize Service 7.30pm

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 6th November Llanddewi Rydderch Coffee Morning 10.30am

Sunday 10th November Llanddewi Craft Fair 11.30am – 2.00pm

Wednesday 13th November Llanvapley Coffee Morning 10.30am

Grosmont And District Gardening Club

In October, Rachel Salisbury gave a fascinating talk about how our gardens can be really useful in ways that we never realised. Many parts of certain plants are edible and medicines, fibres and perfumes can be produced from others. **Forthcoming Events** - Tuesday 5th November 7.30pm, AGM followed by "Gardeners' Question Time" at Grosmont Town Hall. Tuesday 3rd December 7pm, Christmas Social Evening at The Bridge Inn, Kentchurch. Contact Marion 01981 241161 or Jan 01600 750295 for further information or email grosmontgarden@yahoo.com

Thank you to everyone who sent their good wishes following my "extended holiday" in Yorkshire! Every single card and message was really appreciated. It seems it came as a big shock to my family and to many other people. The good news is that I am making a good recovery and enjoying being back editing the parish magazine.



*Contributions for the December/January issue of TNT by 20th November 2019
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