

# The New Times

## July 2015

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

*Find out how much the coffee morning raised*



**Find out why Bulmer's Barn was bulging**



*Find out who was having fun on the cricket field*



## From The Vicarage

Now that we are in the glorious summer season, it won't be long before we are inundated with magazine and newspaper articles asking us if we are 'beach-body' ready. How horrific! If you are like me, all they succeed in doing is leaving us with a huge feeling of inadequacy, and more determined than ever to cover up!

It started me thinking about how much effort we put into caring for our soul, or our spirit.

There is a lovely verse in the twenty-third psalm which often gets overlooked:

'He shall refresh my soul'.

As we approach the holiday (holy-day) season, take time to refresh your souls; do something to lift your spirits.

Be kind to yourself. Listen to music, go for a walk, visit somewhere beautiful; whatever it is that feeds your soul.

Take time to be still, to 'stand and stare', to smell the flowers, and to know that God is with you.

Go, and know that the Lord goes with you.

Let Him lead you each day into the quiet places of your heart, where He will speak with you.

Know that He loves you and watches over you - that He listens to you in gentle understanding, that He is with you always, wherever you are and however you may fee

With every blessing,  
Heidi, Llantilio Vicarage  
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### Off to the Palace!

Congratulations to Mr. Simon Prince who has been awarded the QPM, the Queen's Police Medal, in the Queen's Birthday Honours. We are really delighted for you. The medal is awarded for distinguished service within policing. As well as being the chief constable of Dyfed Powys Police, Simon is also the ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) lead on rural and wildlife crime, and also oversees police chaplaincy on behalf of the police service for England and Wales. Simon goes about his work very quietly and unassumingly, so we are really thrilled and proud that you have been recognized with this honour.

## Llantilio Crossenny News



On Wednesday 17th June an amazing **coffee morning** was held at Jan O'Connor's Broadlands! Chris Brammer and Jan organized an wonderful amount of support. Cakes, plants , bric-a-brac, tombola and raffle, all together raised a massive £738 for the **Belarusian Orphanage Project**. Lin Morris was thrilled to bring guests Galina and Igor from Belarus. They were really impressed, as was the trustee Ron Coleman and his wife Pat. They have both been to Belarus and know the need for the charity's work. With the money raised, there are items the charity will now be able to provide. These will be for a training centre, at the hospital in Minsk, where they will begin non-invasive treatment of club feet, in babies. A well established and successful method, used in this country. Also training in autism and Down's syndrome will continue. The sun shone, the flowers bloomed and the faces smiled ! What a blessing ! A great time was had by everyone. Many ,many thanks to all who made it possible; and a big thank you from the children in Belarus.

### Gardeners' Corner

One of our regular readers has contacted TNT this month and sent a picture of his asparagus, which this year has produced a bumper crop. He said “Our 20 crowns have produced over 200 spears already this season”. Asked if there is a secret to his success he denied “talking to the plants” but admitted to using an unusual animal manure. Please send pictures of the highlights from your garden and we will publish them along with any advice you may like to offer the less “green fingered” of the parishes.



## Llanvapley News



Llanvapley Church held its annual strawberry tea on Sunday 21 June and thankfully the sun shone and rain stayed away. Thanks to everyone who supported and helped at the event which raised £200 towards church funds.

The LSSA is hosting a **BBQ on Friday 24 July** at the pavilion at 7pm. Food is provided at a cost of £6 - vegetarian option available. Please bring your own drink. The **LSSA 100 club draw** for June was won by Isabel Marsh who is at present studying for a degree in Swansea. The £46 should help her purchase a few more text books. :)

Rutter's Rascals held a very successful **Family Funday in Llanvapley** on Sunday 24 May. The sun shone and the burgers and beer were very well received. The children enjoyed pony rides, and putting their Dads in the stocks to pelt them with wet sponges. The day was a great success and raised £600 to start to kick start the sponsorship for their attempt at the 3 peaks challenge. It is unique, as they attempt to climb the three highest peaks in Scotland, England and Wales one after each other, in a 24 hours period. The event will kick off on **Saturday 20th June at 4am** climbing Ben Nevis in Scotland, then Scafell Pike in the English Lake District and finishes on Sunday 21st at Snowdon in North Wales. All this involves an achievement of walking 26 miles, over a total height of 9,800 feet covering the 3 tallest mountains in the UK and also encompassing 1186 miles of driving. This Costa Event has entered its 9th year and so far has raised in excess of £170,000. All of the donations go to the Costa Foundation to build schools in coffee growing communities.

**They did it !!!** Luke Rutter and Chris Hartwright ran the last mile down Snowdon and managed to get inside the 24hrs., 23hrs 59mins! the rest of the team did it in 24hrs 06mins. We are very proud of them all! Thanks to everybody who donated and Laura Rutter and Dave Palmer for doing the driving. They raised well over £2,000 for the Costa Foundation who build schools in coffee growing regions. (Report by Jane Rutter)



### **Penrhos News**

We had our annual Hog Roast on Sunday 14th at Bulmers Barn. It was a huge success and thank you to all who came, provided food and helped. Unfortunately we have had to postpone our talk we were going to have in August about Robert Jones and Rourke's Drift. We will reschedule it again when our church is back in use.

### **The Penrhos Questionnaire**

The polling stations have returned to their former uses, the ballot boxes have been put away until next time and the country is getting used to having a majority government again. Penrhos does not sleep, for it has its own bit of democracy to attend to in the form of the Penrhos Questionnaire.

The electoral roll told us there are about 80 houses in the village, but when we stripped out those that are actually in Llantilio Crossenny, Llanvihangel Ystern Llewyn and Wernyrheolydd it left us with, we believe, 57 occupied houses. All occupied houses received a questionnaire form in hard copy or by email and all households were able to access the questionnaire through the Penrhos village website ([www.penrhosvillage.co.uk](http://www.penrhosvillage.co.uk)).

We received 30 responses, which is an excellent return rate, we are told, when compared with other village questionnaires. The consolidated (and anonymised) results are available to all those who would like to see them (please ask Pip Rumsey).

## What are the take home messages from the questionnaire?

1 No one who responded to the questionnaire wants to see the church close. This is a very positive outcome and indicative that we must do what we can to save it.

2 The vast majority (80%) consider the church to be a focus which helps maintain a sense of community.

3 There is a mixed view about the relevance of attending the church services, with an almost equal split between those thinking it relevant and those thinking it not. This is not particularly surprising considering the typical turn out at services is under 20, but the desire of the community to preserve the church is strong.

4 The big issue is what do we do to save the church? Do we go all out to restore the entire building and make it safe for future generations for a range of different uses, or do we do a smaller, but more affordable, project to restore the chancel, make the nave safe and postpone the rest of the works until funds allow? The community is split on this point with half (50%) supporting the limited project, as the more affordable option, a third (33%) supporting the braver but more costly full repair/alteration option and the balance (17%) either expressing no view or not knowing which is for the best.

5 25 respondents (83%) say they are prepared to get involved in restoring the church, although it is acknowledged that most have many other commitments and drains on their resources. We should not underestimate the enormity of the task of raising funds, pursuing grants and the physical effort required in delivering our ambition, but we will no doubt rise to the challenge...

6 Lots of good ideas were included for future uses of the church. See the results form for details and other comments.

The results of the survey are integral to our ability to raise grant funding as the Penrhos questionnaire is a valuable snapshot of the community's wishes. Not everyone will agree with the approach but we hope the community will pull together to assist with whatever solution is ultimately identified as the best available under the circumstances.

# Llanvetherine News and Events

"Trevor Beavan celebrated his 80th birthday at the end of May with an extended family party at Great Trerhew Barn. Trevor is pictured here with his daughter Sian during an evening sing-a-long.



Katie Phelps from Llanvetherine won at the British riding Clubs Area 15 OPEN ODE at Sapey equestrian centre on Sunday June 14th. Katie completed the BE 90 on her home bred KJ Celtic Opposition - Finishing on her dressage score of 28. Katie was also in the Y Fenni RC team which finished 3rd overall.

## **Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> 2pm - 6pm**

Papillon Art Group (which supports people with mental health problems) Tea and cakes and some really good art work to purchase. The class is run on an entirely non profit basis. The tea is free, but people attending are asked to make a donation

## **Friday 24th July**

Llanvetherine Dressage competition, At Forge House, Llanvetherine. see schedule for details.

## **Saturday 25th July**

Llanvetherine Horse Show - Schedules are out. It is at Llanvetherine Court Farm. All help would be appreciated the week before the show to set up - and on the show day itself.

## **Sunday July 5th 12 noon**

BBQ and walk at Llanvetherine Court Farm NP78NL

Names before hand for catering purposes would be appreciated  
Donations on day to cover costs - [janetanddavidphelps@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janetanddavidphelps@yahoo.co.uk)

## **Monday 29th June 7.30pm**

Llanvetherine village meeting at the Old Rectory Llanvetherine. Show meeting - volunteers would be appreciated.

## **Sunday 6th September 3pm**

Llanvetherine Wimbledon at Whitehouse Farm, Llanvetherine

We need at least 20 people to show interest , we will put names into a hat and draw pairs. it is not important to have any ability at tennis.

Julian is happy to arrange it and umpire the tennis. We would like to finish the tennis with a BBQ, picnic, swim .... Monetary donations towards the BBQ please.

## WI News

Our June meeting was guest night and it was lovely to see so many new faces visiting our WI. Lin, our president, represented our WI at the NFWI AGM at The Royal Albert Hall and gave an interesting report of her trip including seeing the centenary baton which travelled around the country and was in Monmouth last summer. The baton was presented to the Queen who then opened the centenary meeting. Ros Jeffries reported on her visit to Buckingham Palace to attend the WI Garden Party. She described the event as "out of this world" and marvelled at the sea of ladies hats coming down The Mall towards Buckingham Palace!

A theatre trip is being organised to see Swan Lake ballet at the Wales Millennium Centre on **Thursday 12th November** and names were taken of those interested.

Posters are being put up and invitations sent out for our **Centenary Celebration Afternoon Tea** on **Wednesday 12th August** from 4pm. Everyone is welcome to this community event. Tea, cakes, music and lots of fun and it's free!

After many years serving as a valued member on the committee **Elsie Phillips** has decided to step down and was presented with a gift as a token of thanks for all her hard work. She was also thanked for providing a beautiful flower arrangement at every meeting for the last 6 years. **Christine Brammer** has now taken on this task.

**Mim Heath** known for her beautiful embroidery talents was presented with the Maud Cale Cup in thanks and recognition of her work for various embroidery projects she has undertaken during the last year.

After the business meeting Richard Jordan entertained us with The Sinatra Story with slides and music of the life and Frank Sinatra. Everyone enjoyed a buffet of home made produce with a cup of tea to finish off the evening.

The summer trip to Swansea is on **Wednesday 8th July** and there will be no meeting that evening

# Service in July

## Sunday 5 July

*Pentecost 6 / Trinity 5*

Llanvetherine 9.30

Holy Communion

Llantilio Crossenny 11.00

Holy Communion

## Sunday 12 July

*Pentecost 7 / Trinity 6*

Penrhos 9.30

Holy Communion

Llanvapley 11.00

Holy Communion

## Sunday 19 July

*Pentecost 8 / Trinity 7*

No service in Llanvetherine

Llantilio Crossenny 11.00

Family Service

Llanvapley 2pm Baptism

## Sunday 26 July

*Pentecost 9 / Trinity 8*

Penrhos 9.30

Morning Prayer

Llanvapley 11.00

Morning Prayer

## Sunday 2nd August

*Pentecost 10 / Trinity 9*

9.30am Llanvetherine

Morning Prayer

11am Llantilio Crossenny



## Coffee Mornings

No coffee morning this month in Llanvapley :( BBQ instead :)

Wednesday 29 July Llanddewi Rhydderch 10.30

## Tony Tips

Feed up with having to get rid of all those spiders' webs? Then worry no more as I have the answer to your problem. Put a small pile of conkers in the corner of the room and the spiders will miraculously disappear.

## Things you never knew about Belarus

It is 10 times bigger than Wales

It has 3 times as many people as Wales

Its highest mountain is no bigger than the Skirrid

It has been know as "White Russia"

Most people at the coffee morning had no idea where it was!

*Contributions for the July issue of TNT will be needed by 20 July*

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