

# The New Times

## November 2014

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



Find out what happened in a barn in Penrhos



Find out who was tucking into this harvest lunch

## Llantilio Crossenny News

The Llantilio Crossenny coffee morning at Warwick's has now been running for one year. Over the year we have donated £769.00 to the following good causes:- Philippines' disaster, St David's Hospice, Alzheimer's Society, Llantilio Crossenny Bell Tower Fund, Riding for the Disabled Association (South Wales), Wales Air Ambulance and Multiple Sclerosis Society. Thank you to everyone who has supported the coffee mornings. We hope you have enjoyed meeting your friends and establishing new ones. If you would like to nominate a charity for a future event please give us your suggestion. Our next coffee morning is on Wednesday 19th November at 10:30am when we will also have a Christmas bric a brac stall. Any donations will be gratefully received.

The glorious summer has been followed by a lovely September and a milder than usual October. As a result Brian Hatherall had to wait until Wednesday October 8 before once again lighting the first fire of the winter at Warwicks. Brian said he is happy to do it again next year but would welcome the opportunity to train a “young apprentice” in the skills of fire lighting.



## Llanvapley News

Llanvapley held its Harvest service on 28 September. The church was beautifully decorated for the service which was taken by Andrew Dawson. The service was very enjoyable and was followed by a convivial harvest lunch in the pavillion. The picture on the front of TNT shows some of the food which was provided. Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the church and to Andrew for taking the service.



Some of the harvest gifts presented at the service  
- grain, soil, seed and an empty bowl

Llanvapley Sports and Social Association held a quiz night in the pavillion on 18 October. The quiz was greatly enjoyed by the enthusiastic teams from Llanvapley and beyond. In the end a team representing a local dog called “Bob” won by the wet nose. The winning team captained by a local plumber was presented with their prize of a bottle of whisky which they proceeded to empty! As part of the quiz there was a music round which looked back to the sixties, seventies and eighties. So if you are not sure how many Beach Boys there were, where Cliff Richard was going on his summer holiday, where the Flowerpot Men were going or in which country is Montego Bay then you should have been at the quiz.

*Just in case you wanted to know - there were 5 Beach Boys - Cliff wanted to go to the South of France but ended up in Greece - The Flowerpot Men went to San Francisco and Montego Bay is in Jamaica*

## Llanvetherine News

It is now about six months since our vicar retired. The inter-regnum itself has posed many new situations, things to deal with and needing to cope or put it simply - make it up as we go along. In Llanvetherine we are, no doubt, finding our way, as the other three parishes are. In our recent very lovely Harvest Service lead by Andrew Dawson we enjoyed readings from Chris Lewis, Jono Beatson-Hird and Sally Dawson. A solo from Trevor Beavan, a poetry reading from Anne Beavan and a sermon - church speak for an address that was both enjoyable and informative from Sarah Dickens. We were also helped by some of the children - the future of the village. Joe and Elinor North, Tom & Megan Yeomans, Ivor Herbert and Thomas & Oliver Parry. It was wonderful to have their help during the service and the collection!

I attended the Penrhos Harvest service and supper which was very different but equally uplifting in what is a difficult time for the residents of Penrhos. Following on from last month's editorial - we are finding new ways thinking outside the box and accomplishing some very spiritual ways of doing things by working together. Of course we are all looking forward to a vicar to come to lead and guide us but my impression is that we are doing some pioneering and positive things in the four parishes. Thank you to everyone for your efforts, keep up the good work. We are achieving a lot.

I attended the Diocesan Conference in Griffithstown on Saturday October 18th and after the annual business of the conference was dealt with there was a presentation by Rev Bob Jackson (from Derbyshire) regarding Ministry Areas. He addressed the conference on the same issue ten years ago. I think that we all have the message and understand what needs to happen but I came away with the feeling that I really do wish that the people making decisions in the Diocese would do just that and make progress on the issue. I firmly believe that the "ordinary" churchgoers like you and I are ready but are the clergy?

On a very different note, Llanvetherine church has raised funds by collecting and selling newspapers for recycling, we are no longer able to sell the newspapers due to circumstances totally beyond our control. So may I thank everyone for the help over the years and sadly this is a good thing that has come to an end. If you have papers to get rid of they can be recycled using the MCC red bag scheme.

## **Penrhos News**

As many of you will know we have a serious problem with the ceiling in our church. It is grade two \* listed because of its barrel shape and it is under major strain. We are in the process of looking into grants and getting quotes to fix the ceiling but as you can imagine it will be a long process. Therefore we couldn't hold our Harvest Festival service in St Cadocs but thankfully Fiona and Richard Cleeve had a spare barn. What a surprise it was to find the most beautifully decorated barn filled with lots of delicious produce and hardy people. Peter Cobb gave us lovely service and we all sang our hearts out with pheasants as our back ground singers. We then moved into another Barn where we all thoroughly enjoyed supper and a catch up with friends. Thank you to everyone who provided food, raffle prizes, decorated the barn and to everyone who came and supported us. We are all very grateful.

## **Bell Ringing News**

The bells in Llanarth Church are due to be removed on 24 November following the closure of the church earlier this year. The removal of the bells is being organised by the Monmouth and Llandaff Bell Ringers Association. It is hoped to use the bells in another church.

If you visit Christ Church in Govilon you may hear the sound of bells but don't be fooled. A number of churches have replaced real bells with sound systems. This does have its advantages as the vicar can flick a switch and the sound of bells will be carried across the parish. It also allows for different sounds to be played. When there is a funeral in Govilon the sound of a single bell is tolled as the coffin is taken to the graveside. Fans of the heavy metal band AC/DC in Govilon will instantly recognise the sound of the bell as it is taken from the beginning of their hit "Hells Bells". Well I never!

## WI News

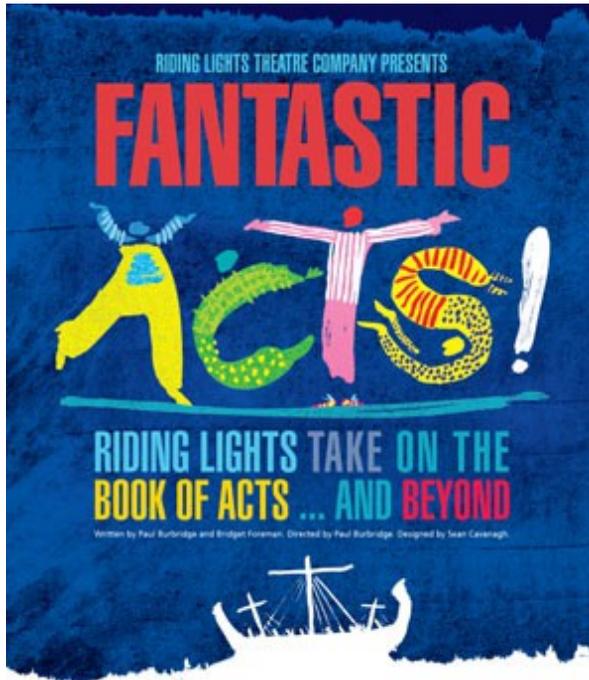
Llantilio Crossenny WI recently celebrated 95 years. The group is the oldest in Gwent Federation and was formed in January 1919 with the first meeting held in the Hostry Hall.

Lin Morris, the president, gave an interesting talk and insight into the archives, reading out reports and letters from 1920's. A buffet of food with recipes from the last 95 years was enjoyed by everyone, tasting dishes like potato scones and jelly and custard! Angela Lloyd, Federation Secretary gave a toast and a celebration cake made by Jan O'Connor was enjoyed.

In August the group entered an exhibit in the Monmouth Show in the Rosemary Roberts Memorial Plate handicraft class. The exhibit depicting a commonwealth country, Barbados, gained second place. The WI centenary baton arrived in Monmouth on 28th August and after a walk around Monmouth with the baton, celebrations with food and singing were held at the Bridges centre.

Everyone enjoyed the 95th celebration in September and all agreed it had been a great success. A photograph of members attending the event appeared in the Abergavenny Chronicle and it was suggested that a copy be put up in Llanvapley Pavilion where our meetings are held.

The Christmas dinner has been booked at The Beaufort in Raglan for 14th January, extending celebrations into the New Year. A programme of events for next year is being compiled and any suggestions were welcomed. Christine Brammer was presented with a badge in recognition of all her hard work and help organising the centenary baton event and also the Monmouth Show exhibit. Christine Scott, who works as a volunteer at The Tythe Barn in Abergavenny, came in Tudor costume and gave an interesting insight into the life of the Tudors and in particular what they wore. The evening concluded with tea and celebration cake. The next meeting is on Wednesday 12th November with a talk from Blaenavon Cheese Company. All new members welcome. Meetings are held at Llanvapley Pavilion at 7pm.



**Tuesday 4 November**  
**7.30 pm**  
**St Nicholas Church**  
**Grosmont**

**Admission: £10 (groups buy 10 and get the 11th free). Box office: 01904 613000. Address: St Nicholas Church, Grosmont. Venue phone: 01981 241172**

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## SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

### Sunday 2 November

*Twenty first Sunday after Pentecost*

9.30 Llanvetherine Holy Communion

### Sunday 9 November

*Twenty second Sunday after Pentecost*

10.45 Llantilio Crossenny Remembrance Service

### Sunday 16 November

*Twenty third Sunday after Pentecost*

9.30 Llanvetherine Holy Communion

11.00 Llantilio Crossenny Morning Prayer

### Sunday 23 November

Last Sunday after Pentecost

9.30 Penrhos Holy Communion

11.00 Llanvapley Holy Communion

### Sunday 30 November

*First Sunday of Advent*

11.00 Llanvetherine Joint Service for all parishes

Holy Communion Bishop Dominic

### Coffee Mornings

Wednesday 12 November Llanvapley Village Hall 10.30

Wednesday 19 November Llantilio Crossenny at Warwick's 10.30

*Do you know anyone who would like to write an article for The New Times? All contributions are welcome.*

### *Strange fact*

*The longest genuine Welsh place name listed in the Ordnance Survey Gazetteer is Llanvihangel-ystern-llewern*

*Contributions for the December issue of TNT will be needed by 20 November.  
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