

# The New Times

September 2015

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



Find out what was happening in the marquee



Find out more about up and coming harvest services

# From The Vicarage

September is the month for letting go and new beginnings. Childrens' first day at school, with brand new shiny shoes, and new exercise books. A time to make and meet new friends.

For some parents it's a time for letting go; whether your child is starting school for the first time, or, leaving home for places new. And as we get older we have to let go of our youth and adjust to the changes age brings.

The greatest, most exciting journey also requires us to let go, and to take that first step. We might only be heading for the shops, but, in reality, who knows what the future will hold? I am reminded of the hobbit Bilbo Baggins' advice at the beginning of 'Lord of the Rings:' "It's a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don't keep your feet, there's no knowing where you might be swept off to."

None of us feel really comfortable with change. We yearn for certainty. Yet the only constant in life is that things are changing all the time, and that we are changing with them.

Yet whatever life brings, God remains at our side.

Some wise words from St. Teresa of Avila:

"Let nothing disturb thee,  
Let nothing dismay thee;  
All things pass;  
God never changes.  
Patience attains all that it strives for,  
He who has God, finds he lacks nothing;  
God alone suffices."

With every blessing,  
Heidi, Llantilio Vicarage  
[llantiliovicar@aol.com](mailto:llantiliovicar@aol.com)

## Llantilio Crossenny News

St Teilos Church Llantilio Crossenny  
**Friday 18 September at 7 pm**

The Forest of Dean Male Voice Choir  
With Harpist Emily Harris

Tickets £10.00 to include a glass of wine.

Tickets available from Church members or Daphne Watkins 01600 780218 Elsie Latham 01600 780225.

## Bellringing News

For 30 years the bells of Llantilio Crossenny church were silent until just over 2 years ago when a team of ringers was re-established. During those 30 years, dust and cobwebs collected in the bell chamber out of sight from the congregations below. However, if you visit the bell chamber today you will find it looks as clean as your front room thanks to the efforts of the ringers over the last few weeks. The reason behind the big clean up was a visit on Saturday 15 August by about 20 ringers from throughout the Diocese for a general ringing practice. Make a note in your diary for August 2045 to remind the ringers it is time to clean the bell chamber again!

On Saturday 1st August members of Llantilio bellringers were particularly busy. The day started at 11.30 when the bells were rung in Skenfrith Church for a midday wedding. After ringing the bells at the end of the service they had to dash up to Grosmont to ring the bells for a 2.30 wedding. At the end of the afternoon they retired to The Bell (an appropriate name) for a rest. Right is a view of the bride through a tiny slit in the bell tower at Grosmont. That is all they saw of the wedding!



## Llanvapley News

**Emily James** from Llanvapley is raising funds for her world challenge expedition to Mongolia in 2016. Emily is having a stall at the Usk show on 12 September at which she will be selling home crafts and sweets. If you are going to the show why not call in at the stall and give her your support. Emily has also delivered leaflets in Llanvapley for her fund raising "Helping Hand" service of car washing, gardening, cleaning and babysitting. Details of this service can be found on the village notice board.

**Joyce Foord** (born Feb 1918) of Manor Farm, Llanvapley passed away peacefully in her sleep on 14th August, of no particular ailments other than a dignified old age. It was a lovely way for her life to reach its end. In recent weeks she had enjoyed sitting in the garden and playing with her great grandson James. This was the first season that she had not done any work in the garden herself. Joyce thoroughly enjoyed her flower arranging in Llanvapley Church and also her long spell as Church Warden. The Church was very important to Joyce along with family, friends and horticulture and she will be much missed.

The winner of the **LSSA 100 club** August draw was Sue Hockey.

## Penrhos News

**Penrhos harvest festival service** will be at High House at 7pm followed by Harvest Supper in High House Barn. Please could people let Richard & Margaret Price know if you are coming for catering purposes ([01600 780 246](tel:01600780246)) or e-mail [whitehousefarm@gmail.com](mailto:whitehousefarm@gmail.com)

Congratulations to Bonny & Mike Janes on the recent birth of their twin Grandsons.

On Friday 25th September Pip Rumsey is hosting a **Macmillan Coffee Morning** at Pant Farm, Llanvetherine, NP7 8RH from 10am - 12pm. Everyone is very welcome to support this great cause. Come and see Jess & Gary's 800 herd goat farm whilst eating delicious home made cakes or just enjoy chatting to friends new and old.

**Other news** - At the Riding for the Disabled Championships on July 17th the Princess Royal kindly presented a saddle to Tricia Luxmoore (South Wales Regional Chairman) on behalf of the Worshipful Company of Saddlers. Also pictured is Amy Peters of the Clytha RDA Group competing in a dressage class where she won 3rd prize.



## Llanvetherine News

**Cwmerra Baptist Chapel** in Llanvetherine held their Summer Concert on the night of 22 August in support of the Chapel Fund, the Aber Male Voice Choir was accompanied by Aurelia Jones and conducted by Geraint Evans, followed by a magnificent sit down supper in the marquee. More song after supper included an impromptu solo. Despite thunder and torrential rain beforehand the event was very well supported and the whole evening extremely enjoyable.

**Sam Beavan** (front row second from right) of Great TreRhew Farm pulls tug of war for Cupid's Hill, near Grosmont. The junior team won the Welsh junior Championships in June, went on to win the British junior Championships in August and are now flying to Belfast during the first week of September to represent Wales in the World Championships. Jim Beavan is one of their coaches.



## WI News



The **WI Centenary Garden Party** was hosted by Llantilio Crossenny WI at Llanvapley Pavilion on Wednesday 12th August and was opened by the Mayor of Abergavenny. Local people had an open invitation and there were over one hundred who attended. The wonderful team of women produced an amazing buffet tea, and a celebration cake, decorated by Marion Ashton. The cake was cut by Ceinwen Davies who had been a long standing member of Llantilio Crossenny WI. She was aided by Kath Powell who is the present longest standing member. A marquee provided a venue for the displays and music and also some shade on a very sunny day. There were displays of the WI past and present and history of the local area. The music was provided by local talent

too. Selby Sound hand-bell ringers astounded guests with their beautiful bells and melodious music. Dr Huw Morgan played and sang to enable a sing-a-long with the WI providing the backing group. The end of the evening heard the wonderful songs, poems and monologues, of the Pub Session Ensemble who managed to cater for all tastes. Everyone really enjoyed the chance to get together and mingle!

**A comment from a person who attended the event.** So much in our community is ancient and old. The WI centenary event on the glorious 12<sup>th</sup> of August was such an example. One of the oldest institutes in Wales and the oldest in Gwent, everyone came together in the sunshine at what is undoubtedly a beautiful spot for an historic, delicious and memorable afternoon. The hall was packed with people (the car park overflowing) and warmth and laughter was everywhere, together with some exceedingly good cake (served on the most beautiful fine bone china). I just wanted to thank the organisers who I do not know for a very special and thought provoking afternoon. I for one hope to join the WI. I was quite inspired by its story, born from women's suffrage.

### **Exam results - Llongyfarchiadau!**

Congratulations to David and Helen Osborn's grandson Cameron who gained 9 A stars and 2 As in his GCSEs

Congratulations to Emily James from Trothy View, Llanvapley who gained 3 A's, one distinction star in sport science and 4 B's in her GCSEs. Very proud parents!

Congratulations to Emily Taylor of Llanvapley who failed her Maths GCSE in 2011, 2012, and 2013 but passed in 2015!

Congratulations to Sam Beavan who achieved 9 GCSEs

**Canon David and Helen Osborn** would like to thank so many people in the parishes who have been so kind these last few weeks. It has been most humbling that people have gone out of their way to visit, at home and in hospital, shop and ferry them and their crutches around. David is well on the way to recovery after his hip replacement and will be swinging a 7 iron soon. Helen is making a slower recovery but doing well. She hopes to join David in Westminster Abbey in November but probably in bubble wrap!

### **Monmouth Welsh Society/ Cymdeithas Gymraeg Trefynwy**

Steve Clarke will be giving a talk on 'Monmouth's Extraordinary Medieval Potters' ( in English) at Monmouth Priory on Thursday 17th September at 7.30. £5 at the door. If you ever thought Archaeology was boring you've never heard Steve talking! He has been digging in and around Monmouth for years and

has produced several books. In fact, he's still digging and freely admits that if you can't find him he's probably down a hole somewhere. His enthusiasm is infectious. There will be tea, coffee and home made cakes afterwards. All proceeds will go towards the National Eisteddfod in Abergavenny next year. Further information about the Monmouth Welsh Society can be found on [cymdeithasgymraegtreffynwy.org.uk](http://cymdeithasgymraegtreffynwy.org.uk)

**Revd. Dr Lorraine Cavanagh** has for some time now been writing a weekly blog post which can be found at <http://jobbingtheologian.blogspot.com/>

## Tithe Maps

If you have an interest in local history you may have heard about tithe maps. Tithe maps were produced between 1838 and 1850 as a part of the process to ensure that all tithes to the Church were paid with money rather than produce. There are generally three copies of all tithe maps. One of these copies was made for the diocesan registry and this copy is now stored at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth. These maps have now been digitised and are available online at <http://cynefin.archiveswales.org.uk/>.



The maps and their associated apportionment documents indicate how much tithe was due by the affected residents. The tithe was based on the size of the fields/properties in each parish. The tithe for Llanvapley provided an income of £130 for the church. One shilling and three pence of this came from William Thomas who lived in Lantern Cottage close to Llanvapley Church. It is also interesting to note that at the time the map was published, 59 acres of land in the parish belonged to the church itself. The maps also show the boundaries of the each parish and this shows some surprising results. For example, Vinery Cottage in Llanvapley, which is less than half a mile from the church, is actually in the parish of Llanddewi Rhydderech.

# Services in September

## Sunday August 30th

11am Joint service Penrhos

## Friday 25th

7pm Harvest Penrhos at High House

## Tuesday 2nd September

2pm Llanvapley church

Service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Joyce Foord

## Saturday 26th

St Hilda's Griffithstown 9.30. CMD

## Sunday 6th

9.30am Llanvetherine Holy Communion

11am Llantilio Holy Communion

1pm Visiting Bell ringing band in Llantilio

## Sunday 27th

No service in Penrhos

No service in Llanvapley

11am Llantilio Harvest Festival

## Friday 2nd October

6.30pm Llanvetherine Harvest

## Sunday 13th

9.30am Penrhos Holy Communion

11am Llanvapley Holy Communion

## Sunday 4th October

9.30am Llanvetherine

11am Llantilio Crossenny

3pm St Woolos Cathedral

Celebration of lay ministry

## Sunday 20th

9.30am Llanvetherine Holy Communion

11am Llantilio Crossenny Animal service. All animals welcome, for a celebration and thanksgiving of the animal kingdom.

*We would like to finish the service with the same number of creatures that we start with, so preferably no aggressive or uncontrollable people or animals!*



## Coffee Mornings

Llanvapley Wednesday 9th September 10.30 in the pavilion

Llanvetherine Friday 25th September 10.00 Pant Farm

Llanddewi Rhydderch Wednesday 30th September 10.30 in the village hall

This is a charity event with all monies raised going to St David's. There will be a raffle, so any donations of prizes would be greatly appreciated.

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

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