

Services in January 2011

Sunday 6 February	9.30am	Llanvetherine
<i>Epiphany 5</i>	11.00am	Llantilio Crossenny
Sunday 13 February	9.30am	Penrhos
<i>Epiphany 5</i>	11.00am	Llanfapley
Sunday 20 February	9.30am	Llanvetherine
<i>3 before Lent</i>	11.00am	Llantilio Crossenny
Sunday 28 February	9.30am	Penrhos
<i>2 before Lent</i>	11.00am	Llanfapley

Who 's Who

Vicar The Revd David Osborn Tel 01600780240
mobile 07803618464 email : d.osborn42@btinternet.com

Llantilio Crossenny

Elsie Latham 01600 780225 Richard Barnfield 01600 780365

Penrhos

Jean Flynn 01600 780405 Richard Price 01600 780246

Llanfapley

Les Taylor 01600 780376 Fiona Lowes 01600 780337

Llanvetherine

David Hughes Jones 01873821497 Andrew Dawson

Sunday 30 January Group Service in Llantilio Crossenny. The service will be Morning Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer (1662) and the readings from the King James Bible (1611).

The 'Hip-ops', Gerald Parry and Helen Osborn are both home and doing well. Both of them would like to thank all those who have sent good wishes for their speedy recoveries.

Reliable mature lady, available for cleaning, house-minding, pet-sitting and light gardening. Telephone number 01600780053.

The deadline for the February edition of TNT is **20 February**
The parish website is www.llantiliogroup.info

If you would like to receive TNT on email send David Osborn
an email with your email address.

THE NEW TIMES February 2011



Arthur Gordon at his baptism in Penrhos, with parents, George and Georgina (née Cleeve)

**PENRHOS
LLANTILIO CROSSENNY
LLANVETHERINE
LLANVAPLEY**

From the Vicarage

Groundhog Day is a holiday celebrated on February 2 in the United States and Canada. According to folklore, if it is cloudy when a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day, it will leave the burrow, signifying that winter will soon end. If on the other hand, it is sunny, the groundhog will supposedly "see its shadow" and retreat back into its burrow, and winter will continue for six more weeks. In Scotland, there is another tradition, taken from an English poem about Candlemas, which is on the same day as groundhog day.



*If Candlemas be fair and bright
Winter will have another flight
If Candlemas be cloud and rain
Winter will be gone and not come again*



In the Christian Church, February 2 is the feast of the purification of Mary in the Temple forty days after Jesus' birth. Later on, the church had a special service at which candles were distributed to all the congregation celebrating Christ as the 'light of the world'.

The day is clearly of some importance and perhaps its origins are now lost in time: however, there is clearly a need to mark times and seasons and relate them to our experience. Plough Sunday also occurs at this time - ploughing the fields was to begin on the Monday after the ploughs were blessed on Plough Sunday.

All this relates to our own experience of darkness and light in February. We still have colds and 'flu and the lengthening of the days is misleading. We are pointed to Christ as the light of the world, and our prayers directed to those who live in various darknesses that have to do with poverty and disease, depression and illness. It is not just that there is always 'somebody worse off than ourselves' it is that true happiness and well being is founded on enabling others to be happy. As I write this there is a 'National Happiness Week' being promoted, and surprise surprise, one of the ingredients is doing three things each day to make someone else happy. Perhaps after all it is understandable that the King James' Bible mistranslated the word 'love' in 1 Corinthians 13. It used the word 'charity' instead and maybe it got it right!

Your friend and Vicar

David

News from Llanvetherine

A recent gathering of Mensa otherwise known as the participants of the Annual Llanvetherine Quiz met at the Hog's Head. The atmosphere was tense and the room soon hotted up as each team pitted their wits and racked their brains as they came more and more determined to be the ones to lift the boxes of Heroes that were grandly displayed on the pool table. After four hard fought rounds and a very exciting tie breaker two teams were in separable so Freya's fans and the TCL Twitters shared the chocolates (amongst themselves it has to be noted).

The Annual Draw also took place during the quiz interval. The 20 prize winners were drawn with many local recipients with some prizes winging their way to Hereford and Pontypool. It is worth noting that no fewer than three local cats won prizes prompting David H J to think that more fish-based prizes should be available next year.

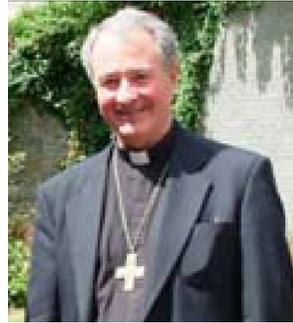
In total over £1100 was raised so as well as the enjoyable evening the church fund also benefited. We are all grateful and wish to record our appreciation of all those who bought and sold tickets as well as the generosity of those who donated the prizes. As usual we are also grateful for all the hospitality and help received from Dale and everyone at The Hog's Head.

This may be a little boring to re-state this point but as the treasurers are putting together the Financial Report for each church- is everyone making sure that they gift aid their donations to the church? Any donation made can be up-valued by the church/charity claiming the income tax you have already paid the Inland Revenue. As an example any donation of, say, £100 over the year will mean that the church gets £20 back from "the government". This is worth remembering at any time but especially during current times. If you feel that you need more information please ask a treasurer or the vicar.

We would like to pay tribute to Dr Andrew Dawson, Church warden of Llanvetherine, who retired last month as the Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at Nevill Hall Hospital. In a most distinguished career, Andrew has contributed much not only to the practice of obstetrics, but also to the research, development and ethical contexts of his work. We wish him and Sally well in the next stage of life together.

St Luke's Message for Today

A Lent study led by Bishop Dominic



Mondays (14, 21, 28 March; 4, 11 April) at 7.30pm St Cadoc's Church, Raglan

Tuesdays (15, 22, 29 March; 5, 12 April) at 7.30pm St Peter's Church, Blaina

Wednesdays (16, 23, 30 March; 6, 13 April) at 8pm Newport Cathedral (Evensong 7.00pm)

Thursdays (17, 24, 31 March; 7, 14 April) at 7.30pm Pontprennau Community Church Centre, Heol Pontprennau, CF23 8LL

Fridays (18, 25 March; 1, 8, 15, April) at 7.30pm St Mary's Church, Magor

All last one hour

Week 1: An Introduction to Luke

Week 2: The Parables of Luke

Week 3: Luke the Physician and the Holy Spirit

Week 4: Luke and Prayer

Week 5: The Passion and the Resurrection in Luke

Bring a Bible with you

Please join Bishop Dominic for one evening a week

Congratulations to George and Georgina Gordon who son Arthur was baptised in Penrhos Church on Sunday 23 January. The proud grandparents, Richard and Fiona Cleeve were part of joyous family gathering to celebrate Arthur's birth and his becoming a member of the family of the Church. A picture is on the front cover of TNT.

The new hassocks at Penrhos have arrived and were in use last month. They really make a tremendous difference and we are all extremely grateful to the anonymous donor.

Ash Wednesday this year is 9 March and there will be a service at 7.30pm in Llantilio Crossenny with the imposition of ashes.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Watkins and James Robertson who announced their engagement over the new year. Adrian and Daphne Watkins are highly delighted!

Get fit for the new year and join Mandy's new aerobics class in Llanarth Village Hall Monday evenings 7-8pm. Classes start Monday 17th January. The Class costs £4 a session or you can grab a bargain and block book 10 classes for £35. Class to suit all abilities- please bring your own exercise mat. If you would like any more information please phone Mandy 01600 780069. Look forward to seeing you!

George Ingledew married Lottie Sveaas at St. Endellion Church, Cornwall on 4th December. The freezing weather thawed in time for the service and there was no snow. The traditional Cornish howling Southwester did not materialise and so the marquee held its ground and did not fly off towards Llantilio Crossenny. A welcome Norwegian touch was a glass of snaps on leaving the church, 'which perhaps ought to be adopted by the Church in Wales', says John Ingledew. The congregation filled this lovely light church (no stained glass) and began the service with a hearty rendering of "Eternal Father, strong to save".

Cymdeithas Gymraeg Trefynwy Monmouth Welsh Society Coffee Morning

We shall be holding a coffee morning in The Priory, Monmouth on Saturday 26th February from 10.00am onwards to celebrate St David's day on March 1st the following week. There will be tea, coffee and cakes for sale, second hand books in Welsh and English and a local harpist to entertain us.

As an added attraction, gardeners will be able to visit the Swap shop run by Transition Monmouth, to swap/buy seeds, seedlings, plants, produce and old tools. Don't be fooled by the weather, Spring is just around the corner!

Croeso cynnes i bawb, a warm welcome to everyone

Contact: Anne Hoyal 01600 78001

What is the Welsh name for Llanvapley?

The correct Welsh name for Llanvapley is a bit of a problem. Many people regard Llanfapley as being correct and this has entered common usage. But this is incorrect, even though it is correct to substitute F for a V as there is no V in the Welsh alphabet. The correct Welsh name is Llanfable which appears on old maps and can be found on a road sign at the top of Firs Road.

The new notice board used by Llanvapley Church has a rather smart sign on it. The design was done by Alice Taylor of Llanvapley who is currently studying Graphic Design at Leeds University. One of the problems encountered in designing the sign was to make the sign bilingual. St Mabli is a Celtic Saint and was female. Therefore the correct translation for St Mabli's Church, Llanvapley is Yr Eglwys y Fabli Santes, Llanfable. The new sign has been created by Sally Wickens of Chillipper Signs who lives at the Hostry in Llantilio Crossenny.

LLANTILIO CROSSENNY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The thick snow in December prevented the planned Christmas meal and social going ahead. It was decided instead to have this for the January meeting. After the business meeting members sat down to a delicious four course meal, which had been cooked and prepared by members of the committee and others. Members all enjoyed the time to socialise in a pleasant atmosphere. After the meal Kath Kippax, Pam Martin and Di Poulton, the talented group of singers and musicians that had entertained us for the June Guest Night, again charmed us with their lovely harmonised singing accompanied with their guitars, tambourine and drum. Rosemary Roberts gave the vote of thanks. The next meeting will be Wednesday 9th February when the Rev. David Osborn will be talking and showing slides of the 'Inland waterways : Britain's best kept secret'. Llantilio Crossenny W.I. meet at Llanvapley Pavilion at 7pm on the second Wednesday of the month and new members are always welcomed.

Although Christmas seems a long way back now, we need to record our grateful thanks to all those who made it possible. Christmas is a community occasion so thank you to all those who decorated, made mulled wine, sang, played, read, created Christingles, and cleared the snow away. Special thanks to Eddie Phillips and Stan Evans who brought along the snow plough to Llantilio – it made such a difference.

In October 2009 I had a routine smear test which came back with abnormalities; this came as a great shock as all my other results had come back as normal. I was sent for a colposcopy which confirmed that I had Cervical Cancer. I was then sent for an MRI scan to check that it hadn't spread to any other parts which luckily also came back clear the cancer hadn't spread. I had to under go 2 operations to remove the cancerous cells which left me exhausted and sore. Thankfully because they had caught it early I didn't have to have any chemotherapy.

I have now had my first check up which has come back clear but I shall have regular tests. Before I was diagnosed with Cervical Cancer I didn't know anyone else that had been through it so I went onto the internet to see if there were any charities, thankfully there is one called Jo's Trust. They were brilliant, they answered all my questions that I had and they put you in contact with other ladies that are going through the same so you can chat to them about what they are going through and how they are coping with it.

Jo's Trust have very kindly given me a charity place to run in the London Marathon on 17th April so if you see me running through the parishes with my Spaniel Tick please give me a toot for encouragement. If you would like to make a donation my website address is <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PipRumsey>

Finally if have had a letter telling you that you are due for your smear test or if you have never had one please go because if I hadn't I might not of been so lucky. It only takes a couple of minutes and yet it can save your life. Pip Rumsey

Congratulations to Chris Ball of Brynderi, for winning the Michael Wilson Perpetual Challenge Trophy of five lambs in the market for the ninth time.

The Llantilio Social Club will hold its AGM on 27 January after TNT goes to press. The chairman Chris Lewis and secretary, Val Cooke, have decided to stand down from office: they both have many other commitments and it is their hope that others can be encouraged to take on these roles. The community owes grateful thanks to Chris and Val for all their hard work and dedication to the Social Club. The annual report suggests that the Llantilio Social Club may need new directions and an opportunity to re-evaluate what it is about.