

THE NEW TIMES



OCTOBER 2007

**PENRHOS
LLANTILIO CROSSENNY
LLANVETHERINE
LLANVAPLEY**

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Sunday 7 th October <i>Trinity 18</i>	09.30am Llanvetherine 11.00am Llantilio Crossenny
Sunday 14 th October <i>Trinity 19</i>	09.30am Penrhos 11.00am Llanvapley
Sunday 21 st October	11.00am Llanvetherine CONFIRMATION SERVICE
Sunday 28 th October <i>Trinity 21</i>	09.30am Penrhos



From the Vicarage

A number of people have said that they love the autumn. I know what they mean: the vibrant red and brown colours, the scents of fruit and morning mists are very attractive. The season has encouraged many poets, painters and musicians to capture the mood of this magical season. It is a season that again makes us wonder about the business of life and who we are. Of course, we can't answer the question but the never-ending quest of seeking answers drives us on.

The BBC are currently running another series of 'Who do you think you are?' Celebrities are invited to look at their ancestors with some surprising results. At the same time, not a week goes by without someone contacting me about parish records, sometimes going back to the 16th century. We are curious people, because life is so important. The mystery of how we got here is matched only by our forecasts for the future and some the latter is not very inviting. Yet the wonder of the present moment is mysterious and real, the sheer complexity of human existence simply cannot be by chance - the mind, call it God for shorthand, who is the creator is beyond us. We are not puppets or slaves and we have not yet begun to use more than 10% of our brain in organising our world. If only we could be around when we really get our act together as human beings.

The bible sees us as 'made in the image of God'. I think that means we have a measure of control and responsibility for our lives - we are not dependent children but cooperating with God in the advancement of our civilisations.

Our technology and science are gifts given to us to use in order that the lives of everyone may have a better quality and our prayer has to be that we can respond to that challenge.

Enjoy the autumn, wonder at the miracle of nature, look into the night sky and 'see beyond', listen to the sounds of the world around us and thank God for being here!

Yours in Christ

David

News from the Parishes

The death of Adrian Luxmoore-Ball has come as a tremendous shock to our communities. Adrian died suddenly in London last month and we extend to Tricia and to Sarah our love and prayers at this time. Adrian had just begun his work as the co-coordinator of the refurbishment project at Llantilio Crossenny and was preparing to submit his first report to the PCC following meetings with architects, heating engineers and diocesan officials. In his life outside the village he had also just started on his involvement with life coaching skills and he would have clearly brought to both these projects his blend of skill and enthusiasm in making things happen.

We shall miss his presence in our villages and thank God for his engaging and dynamic personality, his affection for our communities and above his larger than life approach to everything both with his family and his wide circle of friends.

The Harvest Celebrations will be completed by the time you read this and our thanks to everyone who decorated our churches and prepared harvest suppers. Thank you to those who read and sang and helped us to celebrate 'Harvest Home'. Below is a poem read at the Llanvapley Harvest Festival.

Lament for a Season's End

*Autumn is here and summer will not stay
The season cuts a bloodline on the land
And all earth's singing green is stripped away.*

*Our parting drains the colour from the day.
The oak leaves' red is clotting in your hand.
Autumn is here and summer will not stay.*

*The grey mist settles. Even noon is grey.
The light recedes as though this dusk were planned.
The green of field and tree is stripped away.*

*We shiver in the morn and watch the way
All Monmouth green is a red brown band
The life of our fields is stripped away.*

*See how the wind has scattered the salt hay
Across the dunes! Too well we understand:
Autumn is here, bright summer will not stay
And all earth's love and green are stripped away.*

News from the Parishes

Llantilio Crossenny had its Hog Roast at the end of August and hugely enjoyed celebrating in Dale's refurbished Barn at the Hog's Head. £550 was raised towards the refurbishment fund for the St Teilo's church. Thank you to Eddie Phillips and all the ladies for their organisation.

The Bishop of Monmouth will be holding a Confirmation Service at Llanvetherine on Sunday 21 October at 11am. There will be six people confirmed and we hope that representatives from all four churches will be there. This will be the only service in the group of churches on that day.

On Monday 15 October the Young Farmers will be coming to Llantilio Crossenny at 7.00pm to celebrate their Harvest Festival. They will welcome any one to come and join them for the service that evening.

Both Llanvapley and Llanvetherine are using a new order of service for their regular Holy Communion Service. The service is in a booklet form and much easier to follow. The language is modern English but is of a quality that gives a greater breadth and meaning to our familiar words. The lectionary is spread over three years as well instead of the rather restricting one year.

David Osborn goes into hospital on October 4 for his second operation and will probably be out of action for the first half of October.

Penrhos News

Congratulations to Julian and Vicki Howe, on the birth of a beautiful baby boy – Albert Samuel – weighing in at 7lb 10oz on September 21st.

Looking Back to October 2006



Bishop Dominic Walker visited Llanvapley on 8th October 2006

Has anyone got 4 DVDs lent to them by David Osborn called 'Jesus of Nazareth' starring Robert Powell - desperately needed back!

October was the 8th month of the Roman Calendar ('Octo' - Eight)
Saxons called the month *Wyn Monath* – season of wine making

1st World Architecture Day	1st World Habitat Day
4th World Animal Day	4th St Francis Day
5th World Teachers Day	11th World Sight Day
11th Full Moon	14th Battle of Hastings
18th St Lukes Day	21st Trafalgar Day
24th United Nations Day	25th St Crispins Day
28th Feast of St Jude	31st Halloween



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August Weather Statistics (Wales)

August was unsettled for the first three weeks, but became more settled from the 21st. Temperatures and sunshine close to average, but rainfall below average.

Wales Mean Temperature Series (series began in 1914)	The provisional mean value for the month is 14.4 °C	Equal to the 1961-1990 average. The coldest August since 1994.
Wales Rainfall Series (series began in 1914)	The provisional total for the month is 85.7 mm	78% of the 1961-1990 average.
Wales Sunshine Series (series began in 1929)	The provisional total for the month is 178.7 hours	109% of the 1961-1990 average.

During a typical late September or early October we can expect daytime highs of 12-14C across the northern half of

the UK and 15-17C in the south. The risk of night frost increases also,

The shortening days of autumn mean we become rationed to just over three hours of sunshine a day.

Llanvetherine News

Congratulations to Jess & Gary Yeomans of Llanvetherine, who have a beautiful addition to the family. Megan Margaret was born on 10th August at 39 minutes past midnight weighing 8 lbs. Thomas (18mths) is delighted with his new sister.

Suzannah and Jono Beatson-Hird had to take a gamble on the weather in August. An hour before 4 o'clock the sun came out and the 'Strawberry Tea and Open Garden' was on after all...! An unexpectedly high turn out of 30 came for tea, fresh scones and jam and strawberries, making £130 for St James The Elder. Thank you to all who came and we can hopefully expect even more next year.

Suzannah Beatson-Hird has decided to channel her love of Flower arranging into a business - FLORA BELLA - so if anyone needs decorations for parties, events etc, please do feel free to contact Suzannah at home on 01873 821225.

Congratulations go out to Suzannah on recently winning a trophy in the Floral Art section at Monmouth Show.

Llanarth Cricket Club

Many of our children enjoy the excellent coaching and ground facilities at Llanarth Cricket Club. A group of parents are organising a Race Night on Saturday evening, 3rd November at Llanarth Village Hall (right by the cricket ground), to help raise money towards much needed cricket nets for the club.

Llanvapley News

Welcome to Llanvapley, to Tom and Fiona Lowes who are moving into The Old Rectory on 28th September. Flossie is local to the area and they have lived in Llanarth for the past 7 years. Their family, Edward, James and Lissy are looking forward very much to the move and we wish them well in their new home.

Grace Noblet celebrated her 18th Birthday with a party at the Hogs Head. Many thanks to Dale and Graham for hosting the event. Feedback received from the revellers advises us to be 'the best party ever'. A special thanks to all of the staff who worked so hard to ensure everyone enjoyed themselves.

I am sure everyone will join me in wishing David and Jenny Harris the best of luck for the future following their recent move from Llanvapley. David and Jenny have been great supporters of the community and will be sorely missed. Mulled wine, minced pies and a 'warm' around the Aga spring to mind, whilst on a chilly evening of Carol Singing.

A skittles challenge match is to take place at the Hogs Head between Llanvapley and Llanddewi Rhydderch on the evening of October 5th commencing at 7:30pm.

The Llanvapley Sports and Social Association (LSSA) sponsored a race at the Llanddewi Rhydderch race night, held on September 29th, in aid of breast cancer research.

A great turn out, on a wonderful autumn evening, celebrated Harvest Festival at St Mabli's on the 21st September. A splendid harvest supper followed at the Pavilion.

Changing the Clocks

Since 1972, Britain has decided to go with Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) in winter, and British Summer Time (BST) in Summer.

We all change our clocks and watches by one hour, twice a year. In the spring, we add an hour, and go onto what is called British Summer Time. In the autumn, we do the reverse, and adhere to Greenwich Mean Time.

At 1 am (01:00) GMT on the last Sunday in October, clocks move back by one hour for the end of British Summer Time. (We move our clocks back one hour from 1am to midnight)

We remember which way the clocks are set by the help of this phrase:

'Spring Forward; Fall Back' (Fall = Autumn)

It's all to do with saving the hours of daylight, and was started by a man called William Willett, a London builder, who lived in Petts Wood in Kent.

Basically, he reckoned that you could improve the population's health and happiness by putting forward the clocks by twenty minutes every Sunday in April and do the opposite in September.

William Willett did not live to see daylight saving become law, as he died of influenza in 1915 at the age of 58.

St Luke's Day 18th October



Luke wrote two books of the Bible: a Gospel and The Acts of the Apostles; together they make up just over one-quarter of the New Testament.

Almost all that we know about Luke comes from the New Testament. He was a physician and a companion of Paul on some of his missionary journeys.

Material found in his Gospel and not elsewhere includes much of the account of Our Lord's birth, infancy and boyhood, some of the most moving parables, such as that of the Good Samaritan and that of the Prodigal Son, and three of the sayings of Christ on the Cross: "Father, forgive them," "You will be with me in Paradise," and "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

In Luke's account of the Gospel, we find an emphasis on the human love of Christ, on his compassion for sinners and for suffering and unhappy persons, for outcasts such as the Samaritans, tax collectors, lepers, shepherds (not a respected profession), and for the poor. The role of women in Christ's ministry is more emphasized in Luke than in the other Gospel writings.

Traditionally, the four evangelists are symbolized by a man for Matthew, a lion for Mark, an ox for Luke, and an eagle for John.

Thus Luke's coat of arms is shown here as a gold winged ox (representing the sacrificial aspects of Christ's life so stressed in Luke's Gospel) on a red field (indicating that Luke was a martyr).

