

THE NEW TIMES

APRIL

2009

PENRHOS  
LLANTILIO CROSSENNY  
LLANVETHERINE  
LLANVAPLEY

# From the Vicarage

## THE RETURN OF GOD

A N Wilson's new book about Britain during the reign of Elizabeth II is a scurrilous romp through the events and personalities of the last 60 years. Full of gossip and inside information on lots of famous names, it concludes with an assessment of the current prime minister and a chapter called 'The return of God'.

It has not been smart to admit publicly that you believe in God, and Alistair Campbell, one of Tony Blair's apologists said 'We don't do God'. However, Tony Blair did, (as does David Cameron) along with about 80% of everybody else. Wilson presents a list of growing churches in all five continents including China, Russia and South America.

But what kind of God? The mythical figure that sits on the clouds dispensing arbitrary judgement or the one wrapped up in damp prayer books in forgotten churches? Well, neither of those! The Easter Message portrays a God of hope and joy, who in Jesus Christ came to be one of us, sharing our life here. In a real world, goodness and purity get sacrificed on the altar of greed and self interest – so it was with Jesus. In God's real world though, anything can be overcome even death itself – we are promised that the Creator who set everything in motion has a loving mind and plan that may well be beyond us here and is a bit more than 'pie in the sky'.

The Easter Message of resurrection begins in this life.

It begins when we recognise that the power of God in the Holy Spirit enables us to cope and get through things that daunt us, to see joy through pain and beauty in the most adverse circumstances. This Easter Message is in two bits – there is Good Friday and then Easter Sunday: the Good Friday experiences of our lives and are often painful and depressing, but the miracle of Easter is such that we can move beyond them to extraordinary and surprising places.

C S Lewis, who wrote 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe' and 'The Narnia Stories', also, wrote a small book called 'Surprised by Joy'. For many years, Lewis set his face against the idea of God, but through his experiences he gradually recognised God at work in his life even though he suffered tragic bereavements. He never expected to find God, he was dismissive of the idea, but when he experienced God at work, he was taken aback by the power of love that he never thought possible.

I wish you a very happy Easter

Your friend and Vicar

***David***

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## **Confirmation**

Confirmation groups will begin after Easter probably on a Monday at the Vicarage. A small group is emerging so we invite any others to join in! Please the Vicarage on 01600 780240.

# Llantilio Crossenny WI

At the February meeting Susie Vaughan demonstrated how to make Hedgerow Baskets. She used all the natural plants, flowers and foliage, which is free for everyone in their gardens and hedgerow. Susie runs courses in the Arts Centre at Cardiff Bay and has written books on the subject. Members were very impressed with her skills and the end results were particularly beautiful because of the blends of the natural colours.

Earlier in the business part of the meeting, members held a minute silence for Hazel MacAdam, who sadly recently passed away and who was one of their most cherished members. She will be much missed by everyone who knew her.

The next meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> March was the Competition Day followed by a buffet supper prepared by all members.

Llantilio Crossenny W.I. meet at Llanvapley Pavilion at 7pm on the second Wednesday each month and new members are always welcomed.

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## Articles for The New Times

The Editor welcomes articles and pictures about our communities but would prefer them to be sent by email so that we can process them properly.

## Services in April

<b>Sunday 5 April</b> <i>Palm Sunday Procession</i>	11:00am	Llantilio
<b>Friday 10 April</b> <i>Good Friday Meditation</i>	2:00pm	Llantilio
<b>Sunday 12 April</b> <i>Easter Day</i>	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	Penrhos Llanvetherine Llantilio
<b>Sunday 19 April</b> <i>Easter 1</i>		
<b>Sunday 29 April</b> <i>Easter 2</i>	09:30am	Penrhos

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## The Llantilio Crossenny Plant Sale

The Annual Plant Sale is on  
Monday 4 May Bank Holiday Monday

The sale starts at 2.00pm and is in the church car park

**COME AND GET ALL YOUR PLANTS  
AND VEGETABLES**

# Young Farmers Photographs

The first photograph is a picture from a Junior Reading competition on the 8th March. Lucy Phillips from Penrhos is on the far left, Josh Williams from Llunygær, Tregare is on the right and Bronwen Davies from Bedwas young farmers is in the middle.

With a few weeks of preparation they went to Llantrisant and represented Gwent as a county in a Junior Reading competition, after a day of nerves and excitement they came out with 1st place. Beating 2nd place by 6 points.

The team will now go on to represent Wales in Warwickshire, Stoneleigh in October. Our competition involved reading an extract each from the book Dylan Thomas, "A Childs Christmas" It's a beautiful book and we enjoyed it very much.

The second picture is Raglan Young Farmers, performing Jack And The Beanstalk, in February, they came joint 2nd, a lot of time and effort went in to the Pantomime and they were over the moon with the outcome. We would like to thank those that came to support our Pantomime in either the Dolman Theatre in Newport, or in Dingestow where we performed it again.

Easter Bingo, for Raglan Farmers and Raglan Young Farmers. We would like to invite everybody in the Parish or outside the Parish. It is starting at 7:30 on the dot! With lots and lots of Easter Eggs to win!

Raglan Young Farmers, from ages 10 to 26. We usually meet on a Wednesday night, with lots of fun activities as for example; bowling, cinema trips social events with other clubs.

Everyone welcomes new people to join our club! It's not all about wellies and mud you know!

If you are interested please ring either;

Trevor Bowen (Chairman) on 01600780259

Rhys Whittingham/Ellen Whittingham (Secretary 01291690470



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## Llanvetherine News

For those concerned about the welfare and whereabouts of Jill and Chris Lewis after last month's edition, TNT is pleased to say that they have been found thriving in Travellers' accommodation on land near Llantilio. Contrary to rumours they are not offering a blade-sharpening or fortune-telling service, however.

## An Exceptional Day

Following on from the photo of David and Helen Osborn and parishioners at Westminster Abbey in the March TNT, we wanted to send an appreciation of what an exceptional day out this visit was for all of us.

Neither of us from Llanvetherine had been to Westminster Abbey before, but we knew it would be a special day. We were not really prepared for the profound experience we had, from being greeted by Helen and David at the west door, to Communion in the Nave, and seats as guests of honour for sung Evensong in the Quire.

Our tour of the Abbey over several hours at the end of February was full of interest, guided by David's knowledge and enthusiasm. It was a remarkable experience to be so close to the remains of Edward the Confessor and other early mediaeval monarchs, and all the many other great people who have lived in our land, all this interspersed by David saying hourly prayers from the 'Earl Spencer' pulpit.

If David is able to offer his hospitality at the Abbey to parishioners in the future, may we strongly recommend taking him up on the invitation, and thank you to David and Helen.



Llantilio Crossenny Church

# THE MUSIC QUIZ

Sunday 3 May 7.30pm

At Warwick's

Hosted by Clive and Tracey

A fun quiz from Bach to the  
Beatles and Beyond!

£10 to include supper

Tickets are limited and can be bought from  
The Vicarage or Warwick's

# Llantilio Crossenny Festival

## List of Events

**Wednesday 14th May at 7:15 for 7:30** **Jazz in the Garden. Great Treadam**  
(Bring picnic)

Tickets £12

**Thursday 15th May at 7:30** **Lecture. Great Treadam**  
Tickets £10  
Followed by **Festival Reception**  
Tickets £8

**Friday 16th May at 8:00** **Opera "Imeneo" Handel**

Tickets £18(Central), £16 or £12.50 for Adults £9,  
£8 or £6.25 for Children Reservable

**Saturday 17th May at 7:00** **Opera "Imeneo" Handel**

Ticket Prices are £19 (Central), £16 or £12.50 for  
Adults and £9.5, £8 or £6.25 for  
Children. Reservable.

**Sunday 18th May at 3:30** **Orchestral Concert**

Ticket Prices are £16 or £12.50 for Adults £8 or  
£6.25 for Children. Reservable  
(Tea served after concert)

**Sunday 18th May  
at 6:00**

**Festival Choral Evensong - The Restoration  
Singers**

**The Preacher: The Very Revd Dr Richard  
Fenwick, The Dean of Monmouth**

**Saturday 17th at 11:30  
and 2:30**

**Schools Opera "Hansel and Gretel"  
Humperdinck**

**Directions: St Teilo's Church is at Llantilio  
Crossenny, which is on the B4233 about half  
way between Abergavenny  
and Monmouth. There are Disabled  
Facilities.  
Parking is by the Church (Free)**

Please send the form and your payment, **with a stamped  
and addressed envelope**, to The Booking Office,  
Llanddewi House, Llanddewi Skirrid, Abergavenny, NP7 8AG,  
UK (Box Office Phone 44 (0) 1873 856928 or e-mail  
[llantilio@btinternet.com](mailto:llantilio@btinternet.com))

## LLANTILIO CROSSENNY FESTIVAL - POSTAL BOOKING FORM

**Name (Mr, Mrs, etc)**.....

**Address** .....

.....

Post Code..... Telephone.....

		Price/Number	Price/Number	Price/Number	Price/Number	TOTAL £
Wednesday 14th May	Jazz on the Lawn	Ticket @ £12				
Thursday 15th May	Lecture	Ticket @ £10				
Thursday 15th May	Reception	Ticket @ £8				
Friday 16th May	Opera	Adult @ £18/16	Adult@ £12.50	Child @ £9/8	Child @ £6.25	
Saturday 17th May	Opera	Adult @ £19/16	Adult @ £12.50	Child @ £9.50/8	Child @ £6.25	
Sunday 18th May	Orchestral Concert	Adult @ £16	Adult @ £12.50	Child @ £8	Child @ £6.25	
Sunday 18th May	Evensong	Adult @ £0		Child @ £0		
Sat 17th am and pm**	Childrens Opera (State which)	Adult @ £5		Child @ £2.50		
Note: Children 14 yrs or under performance					** Please state which Childrens Opera	TOTAL £
I/we would like to Make a Donation/become a Friend and enclose a donation of £12.50 per person or £20 for a couple						
<b>TOTAL £ ENCLOSED</b>						

# Llanvapley

Next month sees the rededication of St Mabli's Church Llanvapley. The tiles are being put on and the scaffolding is starting to come down. On Sunday 31 May at 11.00am, the Bishop of Monmouth will preside over a rededication service, and our MP David Davies will read a lesson.

In reality the hard work for Llanvapley starts now! In April and May, David Osborn, the Vicar, will call on every house in the village and hopefully listen to people's views about the future of their building. We are looking for really original ideas! Each resident will be given a personal invitation to a preview of the church on Friday evening 22 May between 7pm and 9pm and on Saturday morning 23 May between 10am and 12 noon.

In June, the PCC will spend a day working on a strategic plan so that St Mabli's really does become a community building.

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## **Easter Vestry Meetings**

Monday	27 April	Llantilio Crossenny
Tuesday	28 April	Penrhos
Wednesday	29 April	Llanvetherine
Thursday	30 April	Llanvapley

Any parishioner is welcome to attend these annual meetings - they all start at 7.30pm in the church except Llanvapley, which is in the Old Rectory

# WHO'S WHO?

## The Vicar

Rev. David Osborn 01600 780240  
07803 618464  
Email: d.osborn42@btinternet.com

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## The Churchwardens

<b>Penrhos</b>	Richard Price	01600 780246
	Jean Flynn	01600 780405
<b>Llanvetherine</b>	David Hughes Jones	01873 821497
	Andrew Dawson	
<b>Llanvapley</b>	Les Taylor	01600 780376
	Fiona Lowes	01600 780425
<b>Llantilio Crossenny</b>	Dennis Ball	01873 821236
	Richard Barnfield	01600 780365