

 **THE NEW TIMES**

**MARCH 2008**

**PENRHOS  
LLANTILIO CROSSENNY  
LLANVETHERINE  
LLANVAPLEY**



## From the Vicarage

I came across a series of church organ recitals recently that was called 'From ashes to Easter'. It is a series of recitals during Lent illustrating the Lenten themes of darkness and despair, leading to the joy and love of Easter Sunday and the celebration of resurrection. It is often in poetry, music or art that people can express the deepest thoughts and ideas about life and death and the meaning of it all. Our words are often quite inadequate to say all that we feel about anything, never mind the deepest and private thoughts we have.

The celebration of Easter touches so many parts of our lives. The spring time in our seasons, with its new birth of growth and colour, the new lambs in our fields, the new warmth of the sun are about the ever present continuity of our created world, the mind of our Creator has given us so many symbols of new birth and hope. The resurrection is the most important symbol of creation, a reminder that not only is there eternal life, but also the promise that there can be 'mini-resurrections' in our own lives. My mother had a saying 'it's not always dark at 6'. I think that by that she meant that there is always the promise of light after darkness and even the most persistent dark bits of our lives can give way to unexpected bits of light.

This Easter, is another chance to celebrate Life in all its fullness, not only the promise of hope and joy but the realisation that we are loved for ourselves as we are, and not what we might be one day. Christ died not for good people, but for people who often get things wrong and for whom life can be darkness.

A happy Easter to you, your friend and Vicar

*David*

## Dates for your 2008 Diary

2 March	11.00am Mothering Sunday Service at Llantilio
16 March	11.00am Palm Sunday Service at Llantilio
21 March	2.00pm Good Friday Service at Llantilio
23 March	9.30am Easter Day service at Penrhos 11.00am Easter Sunday Family Communion Service at Llantilio Crossenny
30 March	11.00am Group Service at Llanvapley and dedication of new lectern bible
31 March	7.30pm Llantilio Crossenny Easter Vestry Meeting
15 April	7.30pm Penrhos Easter Vestry Meeting
17 April	6.00pm Llanvapley Easter Vestry Meeting
19 April	1.30pm Wedding of Ted Adams and Becca Thomson-Glover
27 April	9.30am Blessing of the plough service at Penrhos
1 May	Ascension Day
11 May	Pentecost or Whit Sunday
14 May	Llantilio Crossenny Music Festival begins
18 May	6.00pm Choral Evensong at Llantilio Crossenny: Preacher – The Dean of St Woolos
26 May	2.00pm Plant Sale at Llantilio Crossenny
15 June	Penrhos Hog Roast
12 July	Llantilio Crossenny Garden Feté
26 Sept	Llantilio Crossenny Harvest Festival and supper
3 Oct	Llanvapley Harvest Festival and supper

## Dates for your 2008 Diary (cont)

- 10 Oct Penrhos Harvest Festival and supper
- 9 Nov Remembrance Sunday
- 30 Nov Advent Sunday - Group Service in Penrhos
- 24 Dec Christmas Midnight Service at Llanvapley

PS The Christmas 2009 Midnight service is at Penrhos!

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### Services in March

- Sunday 2 March 9.30am Holy Communion at Llanvetherine  
11.00am Mothering Sunday service in Llantilio Crossenny
- Sunday 9 March 9.30am Holy Communion in Penrhos  
Passion Sunday 11.00am Holy Communion in Llanvapley
- Sunday 16 March 11.00am Palm Sunday service and procession in Llantilio Crossenny
- Friday 21 March 2.00pm Good Friday service in Llantilio Crossenny
- Sunday 23 March 9.30am Holy Communion in Penrhos  
**EASTER DAY** 11.00am Easter Family Communion in Llantilio Crossenny followed by Easter egg hunt
- Sunday 30 March 11.00am Group Service at Llanvapley with dedication of new bible.

## News from the Villages

Thank you to those who supported the Llanvetherine Quiz night and to Shirley and David Hughes-Jones for running the evening.

Llanvapley had a successful Wine Quiz evening and not only enjoyed themselves but also raised over £300 for the ongoing works in St Mabli's Church. The estimates for the work have now been received and hopefully work will begin as soon as the weather warms up.

Llanvapley have subscribed to a new lectern bible for the church and it will be a splendid addition to the worship of St Mabli's. It will be dedicated on Sunday 30 March when there will be a Group Service at Llanvapley. Invitations are being sent to a number of people and it is hoped that people from the other three villages will go along and support Llanvapley.

Thank you to Tim and Karen Noblet for their production of THE NEW TIMES. The hard copies will be delivered to the Vicarage at the beginning of the month and will be distributed from there. If you want to receive an email copy, please email [llan.news@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:llan.news@yahoo.co.uk)

Llantilio Crossenny had a visit from their architect and the Diocesan Advisory Committee to look at the ideas for the refurbishment of St Teilo's. The lime washing of the church and the installation of a kitchenette appear not to present problems. Further discussions are needed on the form of heating best suited to the church and a radical new site for a toilet is needed! It cannot be in the church building but there are other possibilities.

Of course it is going to cost a lot of money but Trish Luxmoore reported to the PCC on the possible timetable – she is heading up a small group overseeing the hope-for building improvements.

The new guidebook at Llantilio Crossenny is selling well and is a good advert for the church with some stunning photographs. They are on sale at the back of church for £1.

A number of people visit the Churchyard in Llantilio Crossenny to visit the graves of loved ones. The churchyard, sometimes God's Acre, is an important place and the church makes every effort to keep it looking good. We are concerned however that one corner of the churchyard can sometimes turn into a rubbish dump. A bin is provided for any non-degradable rubbish like plastic bags and wrappers etc – we would like to encourage people to use the bin and not simply throw them over the wall into the enclosed area.

Penrhos had a really positive and creative PCC meeting at which the problems of the crack in the southeast corner of the church building loomed large. Fundraising events are being planned and a further look into grant making bodies will be investigated. Hopefully the Diocese will respond to these initiatives and progress can be made. The PCC also decided to have another look at the form of their worship service and a good discussion took place about this.

On Palm Sunday, 16 March there will be just one service in the group at 11am in Llantilio Crossenny. The service will begin in Church and we shall have a Palm Sunday procession with *Milky* the donkey, for a short distance in the village. There will be readers from all four churches, coffee will be available after the service in Church.

Good Friday is on 21 March and there will be a service called 'An Hour at the Cross' in Llantilio Crossenny, when we shall observe the last hour of Jesus' life with a series of meditations and silence. This is probably not a service suitable for small children, but Easter will be! There will be Easter morning services at Penrhos, 9.30am and Llantilio Crossenny, 11am. After the Llantilio Crossenny service there will be the now traditional Easter Egg hunt in the Vicarage garden, for the children and coffee for the adults.

'Sally, Andrew and Alice Dawson have recently returned from a trip to Nepal, mainly in Kathmandu. For those who have never been they would suggest this is not a holiday destination, which they knew beforehand, but for those who want to find a challenge to the way we live they would very much recommend it. It certainly leaves you (for a while at least) very much more appreciative of what we have at home.

One of the main lessons was that despite the dreadful poverty - Nepal is one of the poorest nations in the world - they rarely saw anybody who looked unhappy with their lot. They met some very gentle welcoming people and visited some wonderful places. They were able to visit the school where Alice lived two years ago, and they were privileged to be guests of honour for their assembly. Education is valued it seems almost above anything else'.

They are pleased to attach a photo of 'TNT on Tour' - on this occasion from the Great Stupa at Boudnath, Kathmandu. They were just catching up on the local news.

LSSA will be holding the AGM on April 8th at 7pm. All welcome to come along, glass of wine and tasty nibbles to be provided.

# QUIZ NIGHT

LLANDDEWI RHYDDERCH VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY 14 MARCH 2008, 7.30 PM

TICKETS £6per adult, £4 per child (up to 15 years)

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Complimentary glass of wine

Please bring any extra wine or beer for your own requirements.

Please let Paul Nicholls (840424) or Terry Jones (840635) Know if you are interested, before 7<sup>th</sup> March.

WINNING TEAM WILL BE AWARDED THE  
PERPETUAL CUP

RAFFLE

# Llanvapley Wine Quiz

Do you know the difference between a Spanish red, an Australian red and an Italian red wine? If the answer is no then you probably weren't in Llanvapley Village Hall on Friday 1st February enjoying a marvellous evening's entertainment and fun.

The idea of the evening was to try to guess the identity of six wines with the help of clues from three experts who were trying to convince everyone that their description was correct.

The three experts were Helen Osborn, Chris Cousens and Peter Marchant who all did a splendid job of trying to keep a straight face while at the same time describing in great detail the flavour of the wine, which was being sampled.

At the start of the evening, Revd. David Osborn described how to taste and enjoy wine and explained the 5 S's of wine drinking. The aim of this was to ensure that everyone was methodical in arriving at a judgment but by the end of the evening most people were more concerned about asking for another sample - "just to make sure"!

At the end of the evening joint winners were declared when two of the teams managed to correctly identify five out the six wines which goes to show that there are people in these parts (a high proportion from Llantilio Crossenny!) who know the good stuff from the plonk.

The success of the evening was down to the hard work of a whole team of people who pulled together and did their bit. Thanks also to everyone who came along and supported this event and contributed to the great atmosphere.

The evening was designed to raise money for Llanvapley Church and more than £300 was added to the restoration fund by the end of the evening.

## **Llantilio Crossenny Women's Institute**

The WI members of Llantilio Crossenny welcomed Sue Brosnan to their February meeting, who gave a talk and demonstration on Armchair Aerobics. Sue explained that she had been a nurse for many years, but then decided she wanted to take up a new challenge. At the time Blaina Gwent had funding for improving the quality of life for older people in the community by providing sessions of gentle exercise.

Sue was successful in her application for one of the posts and then she trained to be a teacher of Extend, a system of exercise to music, which could be carried out sitting in a chair.

WI members enjoyed an evening of these exercises to familiar songs and music. There were props of hoops, glitter sticks, georgette scarves and a parachute, which contributed to an hour of great amusement and laughter. By the end of the session everybody had warmed up and was in a jolly mood. It also challenged our coordination and directional skills. We all thought what a wonderful resource this would be in nursing homes and where groups with disabilities meet.

The next WI meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> March and be the Annual Competition day followed by a buffet supper. Llantilio Crossenny WI meet at Llanvapley Village Hall on the second Wednesday each month and new members would be most welcomed.



# 'TNT' ON TOUR

## Skirrid Good Friday Walk 9am at the Car Park

*N.B this is a gentle stroll not a race...all welcome!!!!*

