

# The New Times

October 2022

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



Find out who was given one of these when he entered the abbey



Amy and Dan reach the top. Find out what happened next!

## From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

I write this on something of a “high” as last night I saw something amazing. I think it may have been a meteor streaking across the night sky. It certainly took my breath away and made my heart leap to see something so spectacular.

I never take it for granted that we are able to see the deep night sky so clearly out here in the countryside. We can see the stars - even some of the planets - and wonder at the beauty and immensity of the world, and our place within it.

I am reminded of Psalm 8:

“O Lord...When I look at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast established; what is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him?”

This world, planet earth, is so beautiful.

This month, on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> at 11 am in Llantilio Crossenny, we will be holding an “Animal Blessing Service”, in which we can celebrate the wonder of the world, and bring along our animals great and small.

Everyone is most welcome – All animals are invited, though no aggressive people please!

At the end of the month on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm, in Llantilio Crossenny, there will be a special service to remember those we love who have died. This is a very quiet, beautiful, service in which we can light candles in memory of our loved ones. This world, beautiful as it is, is not our only home.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for everything you do to support one another. Acts of kindness, generosity and understanding are far more powerful and meaningful than any sermon. So, as St. Francis is reputed to have said, “Preach the Gospel at all times, only use words if you have to.”

With every blessing,

*Heidi*



## **Ministry Area Update**

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September Fr. Julian Gray provided further information about the development of the North Monmouthshire Ministry Area. Our four parishes are part of this ministry area which means we will be part of a wider group of churches. The North Monmouthshire Ministry Area will be inaugurated at a special service led by Bishop Cherry on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

For the past year, the Ministry Area Transition Team (MATT) has been working to prepare for the changes involved.

Fr. Julian provided a Ministry Area Update document which can be viewed on our website ([www.llantiliogroup.info](http://www.llantiliogroup.info)). This update was produced by the Ministry Area Ministry Area Transition Team. It explains where we are in its plans and preparations for the new ministry area to come into being and what that will mean for our seventeen churches, their congregations and the communities they seek to serve.

Fr. Julian acknowledged that there have been many legitimate questions and concerns as to the impact the introduction of the Ministry Area will have on our churches. It is hoped that the Update document will answer many of those questions and allay much of the concern and uncertainty being felt. He hoped that after reading the update document everyone will want to join him in seeing the Ministry Area as an exciting development that will strengthen and encourage our churches.

The new ministry area hopes to employ, on a part-time basis, a Ministry Area Support Officer funded, initially, by the Diocese. The post is advertised on the next page and a job description is available from Father Julian Gray on request and the closing date for applications will be Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Ministry Area – a local update**

Members of all our four churches have been involved in the Ministry Area Transition Team. Thanks to their input, several changes have been made to the original plan in order to ensure it meets the needs of the largely rural nature of the area. The latest meeting of MATT took place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September and following this there will be a meeting of churchwardens from our group on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm in Llantilio Church. There are still concerns about how the new ministry area will work as the changes are quite significant. For example, existing parochial church councils will be replaced by church committees, but hopefully the meeting and documents will clarify the way ahead.

**DIOCESE of MONMOUTH**  
**North Monmouthshire Ministry Area**  
**Job Advertisement**

**For the part time post of Ministry Area Support Officer**

The Monmouth Diocese is going through a transition towards implementing Ministry Areas across its entire area. This has necessitated a great deal of work to organise churches into a new Ministry Area alignment. The North Monmouthshire Ministry Area covers the north western quadrant of Monmouthshire, bounded on the north by the county of Powys and on the east by the border with Herefordshire. To the southwest by the northern outskirts of Abergavenny and to the southeast the Ministry Area extends to just north of the A40 towards the town of Monmouth. Apart from Abergavenny (which is outside the Ministry Area) and its satellite settlements, the area is entirely rural with a number of villages and smaller settlements.

An opportunity has arisen for a part-time post of Ministry Area Support Officer, to assist the Rector Designate and his Ministry Team in implementing the changes and supporting the ongoing work of the Ministry Area into the future.

Initially, the post will be offered on a part-time basis (10 hours per week) for 2 years. Remuneration will be paid at the Living Wage. We aim to be a flexible employer and will discuss with the successful candidate working arrangements that suit both parties. Travel expenses will be paid for attendance at pre-agreed meetings, some of which will be during the evening.

The successful candidate will be expected to have excellent organisational, word-processing and book-keeping skills and relevant experience to demonstrate their ability to carry out the role. The ability to work both as part of a team and independently is also essential. We would expect the post holder to be prepared to work largely from home.

Applicants can be of any faith or none but should be sympathetic of the values of the Church in Wales and to the establishment of our Ministry Area.

For further information and to obtain a copy of the Job Description and Person Specification, please contact **Father Julian Gray, Rector Designate** at [mardyvicarage@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mardyvicarage@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone 07968 937371.

**If interested, applicants will need to submit a current CV plus a letter outlining what makes them a suitable candidate for the post, by the deadline of **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October.****

# Llantilio Crossenny News

## Llantilio Crossenny Church Book of Condolences

Following the death of Queen Elizabeth a book of condolences was opened in Llantilio Church. Here are some of the messages left in the book.

“We always looked forward to three o'clock on Christmas Day to your glorious Christmas speech! You dedicated your life to us and we will be forever thankful to have witnessed your reign. May you rest in peace with your soul mate and companion Philip. Hope your many beloved corgis have kept your seat warm! Best wishes, long live the king!”

“I remember as a ten year old being very sad at the death of HM the late King George VI and how excited we little boys were at the prospect of the young, beautiful 26 year old, Her Late Majesty, coming to the throne. She never failed to serve the nation and put others first always. She held ever steady throughout turbulent years. She was always exemplary. It was a privilege to serve her. There is no doubt that HM King Charles III will follow her example - as evinced in his royal duties in Wales today. God save the king! You will be sorely missed by many here and around the world. Your dedication and stoicism are legendary.”

“Heartfelt gratitude for the years of smiling, steadfast service you have shown the nation.”

“A fantastic role model to many people. Thanks Ma'am.”

“Our Queen was a wonderful example to us all. She was so graceful and had so much integrity. She was a person known by the whole world. As the patron for our National WI, we held her in high esteem. She will be sadly missed but we are all so fortunate to have lived during her time as our Queen. God bless her and keep her memory in our hearts.”

“You have been there through the whole of our lifetime - thank you for your calming and steady influence on our nation.”



## **The funeral of Queen Elizabeth – a local story**

Having been elected as President of Wales Young Farmers' Clubs I was invited to the Beating Retreat at Brecon to celebrate the retention of the barracks in the town. The army are the largest employer in Breconshire and due to Covid had been waiting two years to celebrate its continued association with Brecon town. The evening was getting into full swing with a large crowd when the Colonel and High Sheriff approached the podium to announce that the Queen had passed away so the flag would be lowered to half mast, the event would be cancelled and we were all respectfully asked to leave.

There was a sombre realisation that the inevitable had happened - the crowd reminiscing about the reign of our Queen over the past 70 years and pondering what would happen next.

The following Sunday morning I received a phone call from the Welsh Office inviting me as President of the Young Farmers' Clubs of Wales at the State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II at Westminster Abbey on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and that no further information would be supplied until the following Saturday by Special Delivery. Her Majesty had been Patron of the YFC movement for the past 70 years. What an honour and privilege.

As I had not been to London for many years, my son Phillip insisted he travelled with me to ensure I got there on time. We left Newport train station at 5.15 am and after various delays and train changes arrived at Waterloo. We then walked over Waterloo Bridge as per instructions where a secure route to the Abbey started.

After various security checks I approached the north door of the Abbey and could immediately feel the atmosphere of the occasion. We were required to be seated by 9.30, but many guests had been there since 7am.

I was directed along the back of the Nave and ended up with a very good view of all invited guests. I watched the choir, heads of state, commonwealth leaders, past prime ministers, devolved government leaders all entering the Abbey. Then when you could hear the sound of the procession outside the congregation fell silent. Slowly the band became louder as the procession approached. We were unaware of the



proceedings outside. The Duchesses of Cambridge and Sussex were waiting inside the door.

The coffin entered and remained stationary for almost five minutes before proceeding down the nave followed by King Charles and the royal mourners. The coffin had a beautiful wreath with flowers from the Queen's gardens, the Crown sparkled beautifully under the lights in the Abbey and the service began.

The choir, hymns and sermon reflected the nation's love for our late Queen with the Queen's Piper playing just above me.

Before leaving I spoke to President Biden as he was ushered out of the Abbey at the end of the service.

It took some time to file out into glorious sunshine - the streets around parliament square were empty, just police standing guard as I walked to Westminster Bridge. For the first time I saw crowds behind barriers and the press competing for interviews with guests from the Abbey.

I met up with my son Phillip who had watched the ceremony on a big screen in a pub near Waterloo station. The pub was full of locals dressed in funeral suits and dresses, many with tears in their eyes expressing their love and admiration for our late Queen.

To experience such an historic occasion was both emotional and deeply humbling. Queen Elizabeth had dedicated her life for the benefit of us all.

*Chris Lewis, Treadam*

## **Llantilio Bell ringers mark the passing of the Queen**

The bell-ringers were honoured to play their part in marking the passing of Her Majesty the Queen. The ringers rang at midday on the day following the announcement and then on the morning of the funeral service on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September. The team of ringers, like many others teams up and down the country, was well prepared for their duties. Preparations for this event can be traced back over ten years and started with a conversation with the then vicar, David Osborn. This conversation led to a resumption of ringing after many years during which time the bells had been silent. The early members of the ringing team were not experienced and it has taken many years of practice for the group to be ready to take on royal duties and to be able to ring for events such as weddings. In more recent times the group have made sure that a new set of muffles was in place to enable the bells to be rung in a solemn manner. However, the most important achievement has been to ensure that there is a strong team of ringers in Llantilio who can be called upon for these special occasions. Thankfully, all the effort over the years paid off and the Church and the community were able to play its part on this historic occasion.



## **Cymreigyddion y Fenni**

Cymreigyddion y Fenni was founded on 2 November 1833, in the Sun Inn, Abergavenny, with the purpose of providing its members with the opportunity to socialise in Welsh in Abergavenny and district. The society meet regularly and have a new website. (<https://cymreigyddion.cymru/>) In the programme for autumn 2022 there is someone who is very well known in our area.

27 Medi 2022 Dr Elin Jones: Hanes Ysgrifennu Hanes

25 Hydref 2022 Jeanette Massocchi: "Fy Mywyd ym Myd Cerddoriaeth"

22 Tachwedd 2022 Duncan Brown: Llên y Llyisiau

Meetings take place in the Melville Theatre and new members are always welcome. Good luck Jeanette and we look forward to hearing about your life in music!

## **Llanvapley News**

### **Llanvapley Church Harvest Service**

The Harvest Thanksgiving service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September was a great success. Llanvapley Church followed the example of Llantilio and decided to host a buffet lunch after the service in the chancel. Thanks to everyone who provided the delicious food and the splendid floral displays which were enjoyed by everyone. Thanks also to Janet Andrews who once again produced her wonderful harvest loaf. The



Church also followed the example of Llanvetherine and asked a guest speaker to give the address. This year Phil Allsopp spoke about his role as a voluntary countryside warden and the ways in which his work helps us all to enjoy our beautiful countryside. Phil is passionate about the benefits of walking and runs the local walking group. The congregation were very interested to hear about plans to develop a promoted route which will enable walkers to visit three local churches. Phil illustrated his talk using a screen and projector which had been kindly donated to the church by Andrew and Sally Dawson. The service also included a special blessing for the new carpet which is now in place in the nave. Revd Heidi wrote a special prayer which you might like to use the next time you get a new carpet!

## Dedication of Llanvapley Church's Carpet

Lord God, our Heavenly Father,

As we meet in your name this day, we give thanks for the gift of this new carpet.

When we look at the beauty of the colours, may we be reminded of the radiancy of your glory.

As we walk upon it, may we be reminded of the footsteps of Jesus, in which we try to follow.

We dedicate this carpet to your service in your house;

And we pray for all who will walk upon it both now and in the years to come, in times of joy and sorrow.

May we walk gently upon this earth, and reverently within your house. In your Name we pray. Amen.



Llanvapley's Harvest Lunch

## Flowers in the church in September

Llanvapley Church would like to thank members of the village who decorated the church for services in September, especially those who decorated the church for the Harvest Service. The display on the right was made for the service on 11<sup>th</sup> September by Penny Harding using flowers from her garden.

This service was the first service following the announcement of the death of Queen Elizabeth and special



prayers were said for the Royal Family. The service concluded with the singing of all three verses of the national anthem 'God Save the King' and the Welsh national anthem.

### **Is there anything I can do to help?**

Churches and churchyards require constant maintenance and attention. The burden of this often falls on the parochial church council but sometimes members of the community who are not regular churchgoers, come forward and offer their help. Llanvapley Church was delighted when a member of the village spotted a problem and offered to fix it. One of the posts on the church gate had rotted away and needed



replacing. Without any fuss or bother a post was found and installed and to the delight of everyone the gate now opens and closes correctly. Our thanks go to Dai and Gary Lewis – top team!

### **The bell tolls in Llanvapley**

Three hours after the announcement of the death of Queen Victoria on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1901 the news reached Llanvapley and the bell was rung 81 times.

Three hours after the announcement of the death of Queen Elizabeth on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 four members of the church assembled and the bell was rung 96 times.



The group were honoured to be part of this historic moment and left this comment in the service book.

*'After seventy years of devoted service as our sovereign, our beloved Queen Elizabeth II passed away peacefully at Balmoral on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022. As a mark of our profound respect, the churchwardens of St Mabli's tolled the church bell that evening ninety-six times, one for each year of the queen's remarkable life. God save the King.'*

## **Llanvapley Walking Group**

Firstly, thanks to the parochial church council and Revd Heidi for the kind invitation to address Llanvapley Church's harvest festival service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the walking group and the issue of local footpaths. There was a positive discussion afterwards about the benefits of walking, the very important social aspect of our walks, the beautiful and ever changing views we encounter and how important it is that we have the rights of way to enjoy. Our September walk was a circular through the fields to Coed Morgan and back. Now most of the crops have been harvested and many of the hedges cut back such walks are easier, of course. Sorry, I forgot to take any photos this time, but I have included a picture of the type of view we saw taken a few days earlier. The October walk will take place on the second Saturday – October 8<sup>th</sup> – from Llanvapley Pavilion at 10.30. It would be great to see you there – everyone is very welcome!



## **LSSA News**

The monthly afternoon tea was held on 12<sup>th</sup> August. Thanks to everyone who supported the event by either coming along, providing food, prizes for the raffle or by buying tickets for the raffle. The event was well attended and raised £94 for LSSA funds. The LSSA was delighted to welcome County Councillor Alistair Neil to the pavilion. Alistair was paying his first visit to the village and very much enjoyed talking to village members and discussing their concerns. Alistair is pictured with LSSA trustee, Rhys Davies. The 100 Club draw was won by Carole Brown who scooped the £50 prize. The next afternoon tea is on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October.



## **The 'End of Summer BBQ' was a great success**

The LSSA held a village BBQ on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The BBQ was once again very popular and everyone enjoyed the warm weather, good food and chatting to neighbours and friends. The marquee and its twinkling lights was a great addition to the event and enabled people to be comfortable until late in the evening. Thanks go to everyone who supported the event which raised £500. Particular thanks go to the team who set up and took down the marquee and to everyone who brought and prepared the delicious food. This year the BBQ was held the week after the Bank Holiday weekend which seemed to suit many people, so why not put the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 in your diaries for next year!

## **Christmas is on the way!**

The LSSA committee held a meeting on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September. The committee discussed holding a Christmas event and agreed to switch on the Christmas lights on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. A new tree will be needed as the one which was planted last year failed to thrive. The committee agreed to approach the community council to ask for funds for a tree which hopefully will last for years. There will be an open planning meeting on the evening of Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November to discuss arrangements for the event.

## **Changes to village signs**

The new speed limits in Abergavenny are something we all are gradually getting used to. Well there is a little good news for Llanvapley in that Highways MCC have agreed to my request to move the village name and 30 mph signs further out from Llanvapley. This should, hopefully, slow vehicles down. Don't know when, but at least it's a good move following their site visit last year. *Pat Bolwell, Community Councillor for Llanvapley on Gobion Fawr Community Council*



## **Congratulations to Doris**

Doris Evans of Llanvapley celebrated her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Doris was born in Fulham in London way back in 1924 and has lived in Llanvapley since 1971. During World War II she was in London and vividly remembers using the air raid shelters and the throbbing and the whistling of the bombs as they were dropped. Asked how she felt on her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday she said 'tired, because I haven't slept well as I was woken up at 3am by planes going over!' Doris keeps busy in many different ways and particularly enjoys cooking, gardening, reading and a glass of wine with her evening meal. She admits she doesn't do as much as she used to do when she painted and went to health and well-being classes. She remembers winning the Graceful Walking competition, not once but twice! She still enjoys the peace and quiet of living in Llanvapley and is grateful for the support of family, friends and neighbours. Asked what is the secret of a long life she said 'I always try to relax and not to worry and I always make sure I have a good sleep and I really think a nap in the afternoon is very important'. Congratulations to Doris and well done!



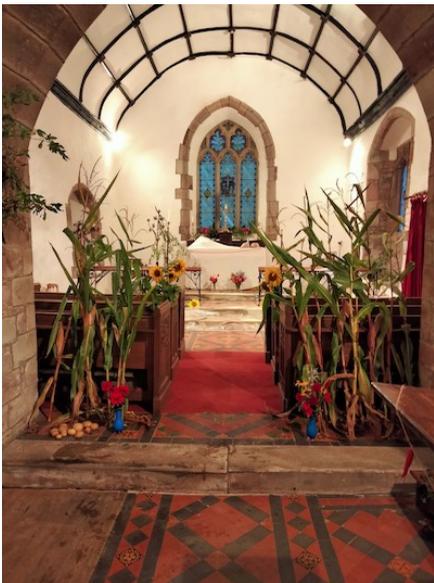
## Penrhos News

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September we had our Harvest Festival service which was taken by Reverend Julian Gray with Peter Cobb playing the organ. This was our first harvest festival service since 2019 and it is definitely my favourite service of the year. The church was decorated with all local produce and as soon as you walk in to the church you get that wonderful smell of Autumn.



Richard and Fiona Cleeve very kindly hosted drinks and nibbles afterwards. It is such a welcoming barn with a roaring log fire and a glass of wine put in your hand as soon as you walk through the door. Really is my idea of heaven.

How lucky Penrhos is to have the ladies and Ron to decorate our church, Peter to play the organ so we can sing the famous harvest hymns which are so meaningful to a rural community and Richard and Fiona for our much needed get togethers. *Pip Rumsey*



## Charity climb to Kilimanjaro

As you know I reported in the July edition of TNT that my daughter Amy and her partner Dan were going to climb Kilimanjaro for their chosen charities. Amy has reported back, and although it was an extremely gruelling climb at times, they really had the time of their lives. The evenings were particularly hard as it was so cold in their tents - in Amy's words it was 'Baltic'. When the climb was over they then enjoyed a few days on safari which was absolutely amazing as they saw plenty of zebras, lions, rhinos, elephants and so much more. And the biggest surprise of all was when Dan proposed on top of the mountain - and of course she said yes! They would both like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has donated to their charities, so far an amazing £2,570.

We are so very proud of them both, and looking forward to their wedding next year.

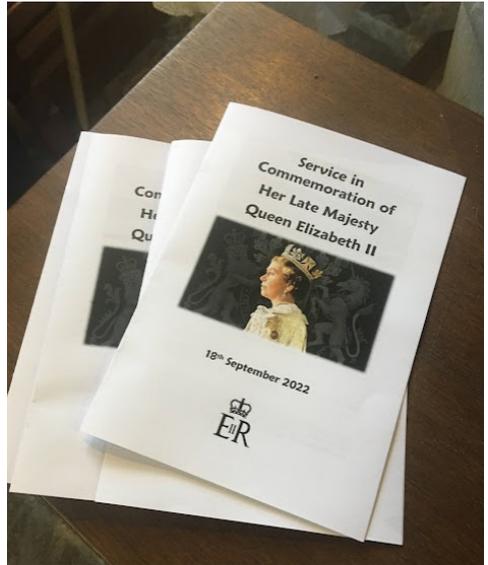
*Colin & Yvonne Phillips*



# Llanvetherine News

## Church Services

Following the death of Queen Elizabeth on 8<sup>th</sup> September a special service of commemoration was held in Llanvetherine Church on the day before her funeral.



## Organ Problems

Llanvetherine Church has been having problems with strange noises coming from its church organ. At a meeting of the parochial church council it was decided to contact a specialist to see if it could be repaired. Coincidentally, Llanvapley Church had also had problems with its organ so it was arranged for Tony Packer from Aspire Classical Organs to visit both churches on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Tony spent two hours at Llanvetherine church taking it to pieces and going through a range of challenging complex settings and checks with an electronic meter. He could not replicate the strange noise which had concerned us. But he discovered several intermittent functioning faults - possibly hidden loose / dry wires or cracked circuit boards. The 'silent' B flat pedal had a worn gold contact switch. He did not feel that damp was likely to be a factor, simply age, and he recommended against enclosing organs when not in use. All this means we can never be confident it is going to work as it should. New as it looks, the organ was actually made in 1984 and it is analogue, meaning no replaceable components.

Tony (pictured) didn't leave without some success as he managed to sort out the problems with the organ in Llanvapley and now all the organ stop lights work which will delight everyone who comes to use it.



## Llantilio Crossenny WI News

The September meeting of the WI began with the singing of Jerusalem in respect of the death of the Queen who was Patron of the WI. At the NFWI centenary at the Royal Albert Hall Princess Ann was with the Queen. Maybe she will become our next patron.

Our September meeting was billed as a "not to be missed" auction, with everyone invited. This was on a Wednesday when we would normally meet and we reached out to the community who were very good to us! We were provided with the wonderful marquee - thanks to Neal, Les, Terry and Rhys for erecting it for us. There were super cakes for refreshments made by our excellent members. With nearly 100 items for auction it certainly was a fun evening and somehow we made £500! One person attending declared 'There was never a dull moment'. Perhaps some people were a little surprised, when they found, what they had bid for! But it really was a fun evening and you can't buy smiles!



But smiling we will be at the October meeting. The American choir leader, Alicia, of Choirs for Good will be bringing a smile to all our faces. She may even get us singing "We'll Meet Again"! Choirs for Good is a charity based choir and they are collecting for Blood Bikes this year. It is a charity that funds volunteers who race on their motorbikes, delivering blood, plasma donated breast milk etc. A little known but very worthwhile charity.

As some of the WI choir are members, Alicia may get them to sing a song or two. This is a 'bring-a-friend' evening, no charge of course! But all are welcome even if you don't have a WI friend.

Also the WI choir are performing in 'Down the Decades' at Usk on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October. They would appreciate members' support. Just contact Lin for tickets.

Plus it is time for the committee to put together the programme for 2023 so do come along with suggestions of what you would like included next year.

## The Garden in October

As I write September draws to a close and tiny cyclamen and Autumn crocus are appearing. There are many bulbs and corms which appear later in the year and as the garden gives it last gasp after a long hot summer some of these have been better than ever. Some very kind and generous person planted some amaryllis belladonna (pictured) in our garden before we arrived nearly 20 years ago. If we have a wet summer they do not flower at all, but this year I have had at least 20 blooms. They have obviously enjoyed a hot baking. The flowers are a pale pink and have about four or five heads on each stalk. The buds emerge from the ground, the leaves having died long ago. They are more delicate than the ones you buy in supermarkets at Christmas and have a light scent. They are natives of South Africa and in the wild grow on rocky hillsides. They can withstand temperatures to -15 degrees C. but will not appreciate wet.



Also from South Africa are the Kaffir lilies or *Schizostylis coccinea*. We have 'Grandiflora' which is red but there are pink and white forms as well. They grow on the banks of streams so like a moist soil. A third treasure from South Africa is the Nerine which is commonly cultivated in this country and rightly so as it is a welcome sight at the end of the year. It too likes a baking and does well in poor soil. You have to split them up after a few years as the clump gets so ingested the bulbs are almost pushed out of the ground.

Autumn Crocus or Naked Ladies are only just appearing. *Colchicum autumnalis* is a native of Southern Europe and grows in meadows. The flowers are a light magenta on top of creamy white stalks. I have planted them among other plants in the hope that a little support would help keep the blooms from falling on the ground as they can be a bit floppy. The other autumn flowering crocus, *Crocus sativus*, which has not appeared yet is the saffron crocus and yes it is real saffron. You realise why the spice is so expensive when you find out how long it takes to pick a teaspoon full of stamens!. They are a lovely blue and again appear without their leaves. It must be quite a sight to see this growing in the wild in Morocco. Most of these plants come from around the mediterranean and enjoy hot summers and liking well drained soil.

Our clumps of *Crinum x powellii* is still flowering in the border. They have large rather untidy leaves but are worth every bit of space they take. Ours are pink but a friend has a clump of white ones which I covet!

# Llanvapley and District Gardening Club

The first meeting of the Llanvapley and District Gardening Club is being held on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm at Llanvapley Pavilion**. Subsequently meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of every month, with the exception of January.

Everyone is welcome to come along.



After an initial welcome and chat about our thoughts and ideas for the club, we are delighted to have Roger Lloyd from Highfield Gardens coming to give us a talk. For this first meeting there will be no charge. The fees for joining the gardening club will be £20 per person and £35 for a joint annual membership.

If you have any queries please contact Marion Ashton on [marion.ashton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:marion.ashton@yahoo.co.uk)

We look forward to seeing you.



## **Heating oil – a group buying initiative**

With the cost of living becoming an ever increasing burden on household finances everyone is aware of the need to save the pennies where you can. One of the biggest bills many people in rural locations face is the buying of domestic fuel to heat our homes. Many communities are clubbing together to bulk buy oil from local suppliers which can sometimes be beneficial in receiving a discount on the oil price currently being offered.

Residents of Llanvapley are keen to explore the possibilities of this approach and would like to find out who might be interested in this potentially money saving group.

We are aware of people currently buying oil at various times of the year so initially there would need to be some flexibility by some purchasers about when they would get their first fill / top up as I'm sure we can all understand it isn't a perfect fit for everyone on the agreed dates.

In the first instance what would be helpful is to gauge feeling on who would be interested in taking part - from a geographical perspective for the supplier it has to be fairly localised but anyone living in Llanvapley and the surrounding area can express an interest.

Please respond to Rhys on [rhysd295@gmail.com](mailto:rhysd295@gmail.com) or catch him either in the village or the Red Hart with the following :-



1. Yes I am interested
2. The frequency and the months you currently fill / top up
3. What quantity would you like to purchase - this can vary with no commitment to purchase on every occasion the group buys oil.

*Rhys Davies*

## **Llanddewi Rhydderch**

There is a Craft Fair on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 4pm.

Tables are available for ten pounds.

Caroline Grant - [carolineatgrant@gmail.com](mailto:carolineatgrant@gmail.com)



## Calling all bakers!

Anyone who attends events in our churches and village halls will be well aware of the superb quality of cakes which are produced for these events. Well it seems our fame has spread and the makers of The Great British Bake Off are particularly keen to have more Welsh applicants this year and have asked to have this notice in our parish newsletter. All the details about how to apply are on the notice. Good luck if you do apply!



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## Church Services in October

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Trinity 16**

9.30 am Llanvetherine  
11am Harvest Festival Llantilio  
Crossenny

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Trinity 17**

9.30am Penrhos  
11am Llanvapley

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> 12 noon Llantilio**

**Crossenny**  
Funeral Service of Mrs. Hazel Long

### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm Llantilio**

**Crossenny**  
Churchwarden and MA reps meeting  
6pm

### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Trinity 18**

9.30 am Llanvetherine  
11am **Animal Blessing** Llantilio  
Crossenny

### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

7pm Llanvapley Church PCC

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Trinity 19**

9.30am Penrhos  
11 am Llanvapley.

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

6.30pm Llantilio Crossenny.  
**All Souls Service**  
Remembering those we love who have died

## Our Churches in Art



This picture of St Mabli's Church in Llanvapley was produced in 2022 as a present to Alice and Joe Cook on the occasion of their marriage. Does anyone have any pictures of Penrhos or Llanvetherine Church?

You can find out more about our churches on our website [www.llantiliogroup.info](http://www.llantiliogroup.info)  
We are also on Twitter @LlantilioG

*Contributions for the November issue of The New Times by 20<sup>th</sup> October  
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