

The New Times

The Parish Magazine for the Llantilio Crossenny Group of Parishes



Find out what is happening in our churches and communities

The New Times June 2026

The parish magazine for the Llantilio Crossenny Group of Parishes

Services and Events

Monday 1 June

7.00pm. **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley.** Taize service.

Sunday 7 June Trinity 1

9.30am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine.** (Morning Prayer)

11.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.** (Holy Communion)

This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. Refreshments served from Noon-12.30pm.

Sunday 14 June Trinity 2

9.30am **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos.**

Refreshments are provided after the service from approximately 10.20am onwards and everyone from the community is very welcome

11.00am **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley.** (Holy Communion)

This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. The bell will be rung when the service finishes.

2.30pm. **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny** Musical Quartet Concert with Jeanette Massochi on the piano. A tribute to Mansel Thomas. All welcome.

Sunday 21 June Trinity 3

9.30am **St. James the Elder, Llanvetherine.** (Holy Communion)

11.00am **St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.** (Morning Prayer)

This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. Refreshments served from 11.55am-12.30pm.

Sunday 28 June Trinity 4

9.30am **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos.**

Refreshments are provided after the service from approximately 10.20am onwards and everyone from the community is very welcome

11.00am **St. Mabli's, Llanvapley.** (Morning Prayer)

This service is followed by tea/coffee and a chat; everyone is very welcome even if you do not join the service. The bell will be rung when the service finishes.

1.00pm. **St. Cadoc's, Penrhos**

Hog Roast, all very welcome including vegetarians and vegans

News from the Four Churches.

St. Cadoc's, Penrhos

The Frontal for Pentecost.

The altar frontal, sometimes referred to by the Latin term antependium, is the decorative silk or cloth covering that hangs before the altar and serves as a primary focal point within the sanctuary. Red is the colour of Pentecost and the frontal at St Cadoc's looked especially beautiful, setting the atmosphere for prayer and reflection.



Penrhos Village website

Have you seen the Penrhos Village website at <https://www.penrhosvillage.co.uk>?

PENRHOS VILLAGE

HOME ABOUT ST. CADOC'S CHURCH

ABOUT PENRHOS

Penrhos is a village in the community of Llantilio Crossenny in Monmouthshire, South East Wales, United Kingdom.

The parish church is dedicated to Saint Cadoc and is a grade II* listed building. Penrhos is surrounded by beautiful countryside, has several wonderful gardens that take part in the National Garden Scheme and is home to the Lam Rim Buddhist Centre, which is open to both practising Buddhists and visitors.

Read about St. Cadoc's church

- CHURCH HISTORY
- RECENT RESTORATION
- WALL PLATES
- ROOF STRUCTURE
- CEILING
- CHANCEL WALL
- INTERACTIVE 3D SCAN
- ACCESS TO THE CHURCH

It has some interesting aspects to it but some of it is difficult to access. Does anyone know who put it together? If you can solve this mystery please let Sue know at sue.raynor@icloud.co.uk. Thank you.

The Drop Inn, a jolly prelude to the late May Bank Holiday weekend.

Thinking back to the saga's of the Vikings and to quote Google:

“Community gatherings refer to organized events where members of a community come together for social, cultural, or recreational purposes. These events are essential in fostering relationships, sharing traditions, and reinforcing community identity.

For centuries people have sat around fires, doing exactly this”.

It is no different in today's society. We seek company.

At a time when machines can do so much for us, making us more self-sufficient, it is essential we still keep the act of coming together regularly, sharing friendship and chatting over issues, while putting joy into an evening.

Yvonne's quiz is becoming legendary and everyone knows more than they think they do, and we all go home more enlightened.

Food and drink and merriment abound.

Please come along and join our growing numbers, at the next Drop-in on June 19th at 7pm. Just bring yourself and something you like to drink and a few nibbles.

Lea Fellows.

Hog Roast on Sunday 28th June at 1.00pm.

On Sunday 28th June we are having a Hog Roast in the church or outside depending on the weather. Carving will be at 1pm, the tickets are £20 per person and £10 for 12 & Under.

We will need a reasonable idea of numbers so that enough salads and puddings are made. Please let either Pip (07919623775) or Yvonne (07538426211) know if you can make the date, along with any dietary requirements that you might have.

There will definitely be vegetarian alternatives (hogless nut roast? yummy).

We will be having a raffle and maybe even a game of heads or tails. Please bring your own drink and we will provide the rest.

Contact Pip at piprumsey2001@yahoo.co.uk if you would like notification of all community events at St Cadoc's.

HOG ROAST

Join us for a delicious

SUNDAY 28TH JUNE

★ CARVING AT 1:00PM ★

TICKETS
£20
PER PERSON
£10
FOR 12 & UNDER

Please Book in Advance
We need a reasonable idea of numbers so that enough salads and puddings are made. Please let us know if you can make the date, along with any dietary requirements that you might have.

CONTACT:
Pip 07919 623775
Yvonne 07538 426211

Vegetarian Alternatives AVAILABLE!
Don't fancy pork? No problem! We'll have vegetarian alternatives available too – perhaps a tasty "hogless" nut roast!

RAFFLE
We will be having a RAFFLE

Maybe even a game of **HEADS OR TAILS!**

Salads & puddings PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINK
and we will provide the rest.

Stay Connected
Contact Pip at piprumsey2001@yahoo.co.uk if you would like notification of all community events at St Cadoc's.

St. James', Llanvetherine

Stop Press. We have been delighted to learn Treasurer and Vicar's Warden at St James, our very own David Hughes Jones, who is also County Councillor for the Crucorney Ward, has just been elected Deputy Chair of Monmouthshire County Council. Very many congratulations to David, pictured here with his wife Shirley.



We are pleased to have a new, tidy, (and usable) noticeboard in the South porch, pictured here with the church passport kit, the old noticeboard having become impenetrable to drawing pins.

Having just had all the expensive tower repairs signed off with a sigh of relief, the church suffered a significant roof fall from the barrelled Tudor ceiling of the Sanctuary some time in early May. It looked as if this could be a very worrying and expensive job. Fortunately David Hughes Jones has a long enough memory to know this was remediable, and knew just the right person. A check inside the void was made and permission for the emergency repair work was granted by the Archdeacon on the grounds of health and safety and to then apply for a retrospective faculty.



God moves in mysterious ways, however, and this mishap which required use of a long ladder, has led to a new Ascension Day tradition (pictured) which we hope will also be adopted by other churches in the parochial group in future years

St. Mabli's, Llanvapley

On Saturday 16 May, a wonderful group of volunteers gathered at St Mabli's Church for the annual spring clean of both the church and churchyard. Armed with mops, buckets, brushes, wheelbarrows, spades, strimmers and a wide variety of gardening tools, everyone worked hard to help keep our church looking its best.

By the end of the morning, the churchyard was looking neat and tidy, while inside the church sparkled from top to bottom. After all their efforts, volunteers enjoyed some well-earned refreshments, including delicious lemon drizzle cake, coffee and the chance to relax with a chat while admiring the results of their hard work.

A huge thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy to help. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and have certainly not gone unnoticed. Many visitors have commented on how beautiful, welcoming and well cared for the church looks, which is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers.

Our volunteers included : Rhys, Neal, Sully, Gen, Penny, Revd Heidi, Marilyn, Jason, Elaine, Lesley, Tony, Jane, Angela, Flossie, Tom and Clare (not forgetting Les who took the picture!)



Bach o Hanes – A Little Bit of History

During the churchyard clean up, Jane Melia shared a number of old pictures relating to the village. The one below is particularly interesting.



Back Row - Left To Right

Charlie Green - Postman. Noah Morgan. Bill Williams - The Mill. Uncle John Probert Carpenters Shop. John Owen - Y Fenni. Ernie Morgan. Mrs Florence Biggs New House. Percy's Brother. Alan Morris The Ton. Rev. J S Williams - The Manse. George Biggs? Arthur Davies Killough. Auntie Maud? - Cross Ash. Unknown. Lizzie Davies - Killough? Margaret Jeffries. Annie Williams - THE Manse? George Pritchard The Cross.

Middle Row - Left To Right

Carpenters Shop. Percy Evan's Mother. Lizzie? Probert, Percy Evans. Winnie Evans. Liz Morgan. Cyril Morgan, Noah Pritchard The Cross. Frances Pritchard - The Cross.

Front Row

May Watkins And May Morgan, Bridge Farm, Crucorney

St. Teilo's, Llantilio Crossenny.

Meditation update for June

Meditation continues in the Chancel at Llantilio Crossenny Church on Tuesday mornings from 8.30 - 9am on the following dates:

June 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd. Any queries contact Jenny 07891 016768

Llantilio Crossenny Church Plant Sale - THANK YOU, DIOLCH!

Another super afternoon, tables overflowing with plants, an amazing array of delicious cakes and refreshments thoroughly enjoyed whilst everyone socialised for a couple of hours. What an afternoon, that was rounded off by a mega draw and auction.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way, we are so grateful for the support for this event and we raised a record-breaking amount as well as having a great time.

A musical treat, not to be missed.

**Sunday 14th June
at 2.30pm**

A TRIBUTE TO
MANSEL THOMAS
LIGHT MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
OF WORKS BY
MANSEL THOMAS
AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES.

SOLOIST:
IFAN THOMAS

St. Teilo's Church, Llantilio Crossenny

Free entry Tea & Cakes
Donations gratefully received towards the church fund

An invitation to join our Church Maintenance Group

Can you spare an hour or two once a month to help with any garden or maintenance jobs at St Teilo's? We are meeting every 1st Saturday of the month during the summer (June/July/August/September) and then possibly every 2 to 3 months over the winter.

The first meet up of the summer is on Saturday 6th June at 9.00am.

The aim this month is to (carefully) remove the ivy off the church walls, spray the weeds with eco safe spray, dig out a couple of errant saplings and strim the areas closest to the church. Please bring any equipment that you might have such as secateurs, choppers, spades and palette knives to get under the pesky ivy which is damaging the ancient walls. If you have a strimmer, that would be great also.

We already have eighteen willing helpers signed up to the WhatsApp group so please join us. The more the merrier and many hands will make much lighter work.

Contact Lauren via Facebook or on 07971607157 if you can join the happy throng.

Bell Ringers News

Llantilio Crossenny Church Bell Ringers have had another busy month. The team meet every Tuesday night at 7.15 to practice for an hour before having a debrief at The Hogs. Saturday 30 May was a particularly busy day as the church welcomed two visiting teams of ringers, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Apart from this there was a wedding in the middle for which the bell ringers were delighted to ring the bride in and to ring the bride and groom out. Megan and Ciaran's wedding was followed by a reception at Llansantfraed Court.



Front row: Richard (Tower captain), Margaret and Lynda
Standing: Sally, Sarah, Caleb and Les

Community News.

Llanvapley and District Gardening Club

On June 3rd at 3pm we will be visiting the Growing Space Garden which is behind the Mardy Park Centre. Jim Quinn, the head gardener, will give a brief talk about the plans and ambitions for the garden which will be followed by a tour and, of course, tea and cake which will be supplied by the club. An entrance fee of £5 is payable on the day and anyone is welcome to come along. There will also be plants for sale. The money raised will go to The Growing Space, mental health charity.

There will be no meeting at the Pavilion in June. Don't forget the Flower and Produce Show is in August!



LLANVAPLEY & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Meeting 7pm first Wednesday every month

At Llanvapley Pavilion, NP7 8SN

Flower and
Produce
Show
Saturday
22nd
August



Qi Gong & Mindfulness classes for health and well being

Learn how to:

- * improve your balance and posture,
- * calm the mind and manage stress,
- * add vitality to your life.

Last September I embarked on a year long training to teach a mindfulness and movement / stress reduction course.

'Mindfulness' classes as a way of reducing stress were started at the University of Massachusetts by Jon Kabat-Zinn, scientist and meditation teacher in 1979. Since then 'mindfulness' * has become widely known and used. I discovered my teacher Sue Weston through Qi Gong classes. I found qi gong, the parent of the maybe more familiar tai chi, to be wonderful for balance, strength and as way of dealing with mental and emotional challenges. After a class and after my own daily personal practice I always feel so much better.

Sue herself is 81 and a wonderful role model for living long and well.

I am offering some taster classes in the Pavilion at Llanvapley on Monday afternoons in June - the 8th, 15th and 22nd at 2pm for 1 1/4 hrs. The time will be spent exploring what mindfulness is through practices such as Qi Gong, Alexander Technique, meditation and a lying down relaxation.

If you might be interested, and would like to come, do get in touch: Jenny Goodwin - jenny.goodwin@btinternet.com or 07891 016768 Your first class will be free, and thereafter just a small donation (£2 - £5) to cover the hall hire would be welcome.

* There are studies on the impact of mindfulness training on well-being: reduction in stress, and recurrent negative thoughts and anxiety; improvement in sleep, emotional self-awareness, and compassion.

Llantilio Crossenny WI

The highlight of the Merrie Month of May for our WI was our regular monthly meeting. The joys of warmer weather and blossoming nature were reflected in our light hearts on that Wednesday evening.

Margaret, our President, rattled efficiently through the business part of the evening including announcing a new Secretary, Jackie Sneddon, and imparting all the news from the Gwent Federation of WIs (GFWI) and the National Federation (NFWI).

As always, there's a lot going on in the WI.

Following the business of the evening we relaxed into an oasis of calm and creativity making bracelets under the expert direction of Chris Champness (aka Fluffy Stuff). The concentration in the room was palpable as we threaded, plaited and pinched three delicate chains together to produce a beautiful bracelet. Even the most cack-handed amongst us got there in the end!



After our creative endeavours, everyone enjoyed a most convivial time over tea and delicious cake.

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 10th June at 7.00pm when we will be finding out about 'The History of the Toilet Roll' with Sarah Darling.

If any of our readers would like to join the Llantilio Crossenny WI, please don't hesitate to contact Sue (Secretary) at sue.raynor@icloud.com. We welcomed three guests to our meeting in May who wanted to try our WI on for size and they have officially joined us, which is great.

You are always cordially invited to come along at 7.00pm, Llanvapley Pavilion on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. No charge but a contribution to refreshments and a raffle ticket purchase would be welcome.

Finally, and very sadly, we have lost two long standing past members of our WI in the past few weeks, Gwyneth Cooke and Gaynor Evans. Both women represented the best of the WI - kind, modest, talented and generous of spirit and will be sorely missed by their many friends.

Llantilio Crossenny Planter

A number of Llantilio Crossenny residents have been busy clearing the grassy area at the entrance to the village and installing a planter which has been kindly donated by Whitecastle Community Council. Last weekend saw the plants going in and we now have a watering rota to keep them thriving and hopefully blooming into a beautiful display.



Selby Sound Bell Ringers

Our happy band of bell ringers practice most Fridays but always with time for a tea break and someone's delicious cake to hand.

With holidays and other commitments we need some extra members, would you like to have a go?

No musical knowledge is needed, just a good sense of humour!!

Why not come along and join us, 4.00 in Llantilio Crossenny Church from June 5th, contact Margaret 01873 855207



In the Spotlight, Martin Barnfield.

As part of our occasional series of placing willing local people In the Spotlight, TNT is delighted to welcome Martin Barnfield who has chosen to tell a bit of history of the family in the Llantilio Crossenny community.

“Brian & Maureen Barnfield, moved to Hostry Cottage in the mid-sixties and extended the cottage and built the adjacent joinery workshop and builders yard, which Brian grew as a business over the following years, carrying out all aspects of Building and Architectural Joinery works.

Part of the then extension, formed the new village post office, which Maureen ran for many years before her retirement.

Over the years the family have had close links with St Teilo's, Brian made a lot items for the church, in locally grown oak, milled and seasoned at the yard and these items included the main entrance gates at the top of the steps (sadly now removed), the main church entrance doors, the font lid and the small belfry door and not forgetting the double gates into the car park and the adjacent pedestrian gate into the church yard.



Maureen together with the late Shirley Jones from Wernrheolydd started the now annual plant sale back in 1997, held then on the church steps, which makes next year, the 30th anniversary.

Richard Barnfield was also a church warden for many years and as a family, Martin was christened in 1976 by the Rev John Selby, then married to Elizabeth in 1991 and Luke was married to Olivia in 2024. Both Luke and his sister Rebecca were christened in the church,

making the most recent christening, Freddie Finn the third generation of the family to be christened at the church.

Over the years the village has altered considerably, from days when there was the garage, shop and petrol station, the Hostry Inn and the Post Office. One main social event used to be the Church Fete, which was always well attended, there were all the usual stalls, children's fancy dress, skittles and in later years a barbecue. There were also events in the Hostry Hall, again Children's fancy dress and parties, more so in the 1970's. when Harrold & Connie Lewis ran the pub.

There also seemed to be a lot more children of different ages during the 70's and early 80's, regularly playing on the field opposite Trothy Way, this time of year the older ones would also be bale hauling and helping with the harvest later in the summer, right through to the potato harvest in the October half term.

There are so many memories of a great village, with some time we could pull some more bits together for people to enjoy in the future."

And finally, an appeal for help with this publication.

As regular readers will know, Sue and Les are the team of two who put together The New Times each month. We enjoy doing this not only because we think that's it's important to share news and events amongst our community but also because it provides a narrative of our parishes over time (an archive if you will).

Sue is the Compiler and her job is to collate any reports submitted by the four churches/local community groups and to liaise with Revd Heidi about services and articles. We are grateful that Ros has stepped in to Sue's role from time to time to keep the news flowing.

Les is the Technological Wizard and Editor and his job is to xxx

There are currently over 200 subscribers to the email drop (plus those who access the newsletter via <https://lantilio.group.info>) and we know from informal feedback that our readers enjoy and value the TNT. Long may it continue but, in order to do so, we need some help!

It's never a good idea to run anything that relies on one or two people so we would love some help with the compiling role (minimal IT skills required, ability to gently pester is helpful sometimes!) or with the technological wizard role. There must be some young person out there who would love the opportunity to contribute to updating of the website – imagine that on your CV!

Neither role is onerous but does require a few hours a month to get the job done.

Please contact or speak to Sue (07768280251) or to Les (tntparishmag@gmail.com) for more information.

