



ISSUE 8

**LLANSILIN PARISH
CHURCH**

with

**LLANGADWALADR CHURCH *and*
RHIWLAS MISSION CHURCH**

N E W S

ISSUED QUARTERLY

December 1994

**Come and worship
Christ the New-Born King**

C H U R C H S E R V I C E S

LLANSILIN

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	10.00 a.m.
	Sunday School	10.00 a.m.
2nd Sunday	Matins	10.00 a.m.
3rd Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30 a.m.
	Cymun Bendigaid	10.00 a.m.
4th Sunday	Matins	10.00 a.m.
5th Sunday	Family Service	10.00 a.m.

LLANGEDWYN

1st Sunday	Family Service	11.15 a.m.
2nd Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30 a.m.
3rd Sunday	Sunday School	11.15 a.m.
	Evensong	6.30 p.m.
4th Sunday	Holy Communion	11.15 a.m.
5th Sunday	Matins	11.15 a.m.



"I WONDER WHO'S PLAYING
FATHER CHRISTMAS?"

LLANGADWALADR/RHIWLAS CHURCHES

1st Sunday	Rhiwlas	Holy Communion	2.30 p.m.
2nd Sunday	Llangadwaladr	Holy Communion	2.30 p.m.
4th Sunday	Rhiwlas	Matins	2.30 p.m.
5th Sunday	Llangadwaladr	Matins	2.30 p.m.

VICAR: Rev C F Carter, The Vicarage, Llansilin - Tel:- 791209

C H A P E L S E R V I C E S

Rhagfyr	4ydd	Y Gweinidog	Bethania	6.30 p.m.
Rhagfyr	11eg	Parch E H Griffiths	Salem	2.00 p.m.
Rhagfyr	18fed	Y Gweinidog	Cefn Canol	10.30 a.m.
Rhagfyr	25ain	Gwasanaeth Arbenig	Bethesda	
<u>1995</u>				
Ionawr	1af	Y Gweinidog (Cymun)	Soar	6.30 p.m.
Ionawr	8fed	Buddug Medi	Rhiwlas	2.00 p.m.
Ionawr	15fed	Y Gweinidog	Bethania	10.30 a.m.
Ionawr	22ain			
Ionawr	29ain	Mr Gwilym Jones	Cefn Canol	2.00 p.m.
Chwefor	5ed	Y Gweinidog	Bethesda	10.30 a.m.
Chwefor	12fed	Parch Eifion Roberts	Soar	2.00 p.m.
Chwefor	19fed	Y Gweinidog	Rhiwlas	10.00 a.m.
Chwefor	26ain	Mr Arthur Hughes	Bethania	2.00 p.m.

Gweinidog/Minister: Y Parch Stanton Evans, 20 Croeswylan Lane, Oswestry. Tel: 0691 654682.

Annual Prayer Meetings are held in Llansilin, Rhiwlas and Cefn Canol during the first week of January. Details from the Minister.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE VICAR

Looking back to see what I was writing to you about this time last year, I find that I began with the "trick-or-treat" massacre in Northern Ireland, then fresh in everyone's minds in the aftermath of that horrific Hallowe'en. Of course the memory quickly faded, crowded out by other events, but on my Irish holiday I was vividly reminded of it when, driving towards Londonderry on my way to find and photograph the cottage and country-side my parents stayed in before I was born, I glanced casually at a roadside sign to identify the hamlet I was approaching, and the name struck me like a cold knife thrust into my stomach -- for of course it was Greysteel, where those two gunmen had shot up a roomful of revellers in the village pub the year before. Some how, the fact that the place was so ordinary, indistinguishable from hundreds of other wayside communities all over the British Isles, made what happened there all the more un-thinkable, and more frightening. One could'nt help thinking "if it could happen here it could happen anywhere".

Looking at the brighter side of the same coin, as it were, I sometimes regret that in our perfectly proper desire to make Christmas really special, as indeed it is, we gloss over the sheer ordinariness of what actually happened. Bethlehem, for all its associations with King David, was a scruffy townlet like hundreds of others in the Middle East, its inn could have been just anybody's local like the one at Greysteel, rating few if any stars in a contemporary travel guide, and the innkeeper obviously saw nothing special about the wayworn pair he allowed to doss down in his outhouse. Perhaps what most excited the shepherds when they found the place was the thought that "if it could happen here it could happen anywhere", and they went home blessing and praising God because he had shown them that a new beginning was being offered to all mankind, including ordinary people like themselves - or like us.

Mind you, nearly two thousand years later we are still heartbreakingly reluctant to take the angels' message of peace and goodwill to heart. But since I drove through Greysteel in August the guns and bombs have fallen silent in Northern Ireland, and for the first time in a generation there seems a real possibility that the two sides will "bury the hatchet" at long last. So for Ireland, as for all of us, the light that shines from the stable door in that ordinary inn-yard this Christmastide is still, as it always has been a flickering light of hope in this world's darkness.

May that same light brighten our homes this Christmastide, and shine on the path that leads onwards into the coming year.

Kit Carter

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

"I like that ancient Saxon phrase, which calls the burial ground God's acre." Longfellow

Two acres is an awful lot of grass, the growth is very luxuriant and the loyal band of helpers has been to cut and carry, but it still grows.

A garden contractor has been instructed to do an end of season cut and clear-up to leave the churchyard tidy for the winter. As this will take 3 men 2-3 days it is clearly a big expenditure, but, hopefully, it will give a neat start to the new year and the encouragement to find a new solution. 1995 is going to be a special year for the village, the chapels and the church, with the televised "Dechrau canu dechrau canmol" in May and the Flower festival in June. We are hoping that as many people in the area who could help or have ideas, can attend a meeting we plan to call probably late in February or early March. After all, the Churchyard is for the benefit of all of us.

Some of the possibilities we could discuss could be:-

1. Make a detailed map of the graveyard.
2. Identify areas to be close mown regularly.
3. Purchase appropriate range of machines.
4. Decide what chemicals to use for the paths.
5. Appoint leaders to co-ordinate and enlist volunteers.
6. Set up a community maintenance fund for paid help as and when required.

During the summer months a few volunteers, including some children, have been cutting back the ivy which has smothered the stone boundary wall and is in danger of breaking up the mortar. Like the churchyard grass its growth is fantastic. Hopefully work will proceed during the winter months and in addition, the brambles in the "nursery" between the wall and the roadside hedge are in need of cutting - willing hands are needed so if you can spare an hour please ring 791274 to fix a session with several others.

NEWS FROM RECENT P.C.C. MEETINGS

Members have met in September and October to discuss Church affairs.

Thanks were expressed to Mrs Brenda Jones for the donation of a deep blue chenille curtain for the south door (incidentally, the records of 1890 show the purchase of a curtain for the South door cost £3.2s.2d!).

At the October meeting it was recorded with regret that P.C.C. member Mrs M Ogden and her husband had left the district - they will be missed as they had contributed greatly to the church. Also at that meeting it was also recorded the passing of the Revd: Paul Davies who was Vicar at St. Silin's Church from 1971 to 1980. Members stood in silence and gave thanks for his ministry.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

LLANFYLLIN RURIDECANAL CONFERENCE - September

Representatives of the various churches in the Deanery met at the Church Vestry in Llanfyllin. The Rural Dean the Rev C F Carter opened the meeting. Opening prayers were taken by the Rev Vera Lewis. Various matters were discussed. Details were given by Mrs Lorraine Williams of the Deanery Children's Day to be held at Llanwddyn on Saturday 22nd October from 10.00a.m. to 3.00p.m. The guest speaker for the evening was the assistant Bishop of St. Asaph - Bishop Huw - who spoke about the 'pro's and con's' of divorced persons re-marrying in the Church of Wales. The meeting closed with the grace.

MOTHER'S UNION

Both September and October meetings opened with a short service taken by the Vicar the Revd C Carter. The enrolling member Mrs Glenice Jones took both these meetings. At the September meeting members much enjoyed the talk given by the past vicar of St Martins Church Mr Arthur Moseley. Mrs Tomlin of Trefonen gave a cookery demonstration at the October meeting. This consisted of recipies using yeast and relating to quotations from the Bible. Thanks were recorded to both speakers and both meetings ended with refreshments.

ANNUAL AUTUMN FAYRE - Saturday 17th September

The Autumn Fayre was once again very successful. The Revd C Carter introduced the opener Mrs A Roberts, Tynllan who gave a speech of encouragement to support our church and the values it represents. Master Stephen Sockett presented Mrs Roberts with a pot plant. Again there was a good array of goods on the stalls and together with games, raffles and refreshments the amount of over £550 was raised. Many thanks to all who supported so generously by giving and buying.

AFTERNOON TEA WITH THE VICAR - Saturday 24th September

On a bright afternoon a special event was held at the new home of the Vicar in the hills near Llanrhadr. Members of some of the Churches in the Deanery had joined together to raise money for the restoration of the historical organ in St Asaph's Cathedral, a project costing £250,000. The amount raised was £140.00, this was forwarded to the cathedral as our contribution

continued - W H A T ' S B E I N G H A P P E N I N G

HARVEST FESTIVALS

The Harvest Festival Services held at Llansilin, Llangadwaladr and Rhiwlas Churches were well attended. Each church was decorated by the various lady members. The Revd C Carter took each of the services and welcomed the guest preachers. A collection was taken at each service.

HARVEST SUPPER - Wednesday 12th October

This year it was the turn of Llangedwyn parish to host the combined get-together of the two parishes of Llangedwyn and Llansilin. A very good supper was enjoyed by over 76 parishioners and friends. Entertainment was provided by an excellent Ladies Choir from Glyn Ceiriog. Mr Idris Davies was the compere and the Vicar sang a solo. Generous raffle prizes were given and once again the evening was a great success.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS - 1995

DECHRAU CANU DECHRAU CANMOL

Preparations are now well advanced for the Welsh hymn-singing programme which will be recorded on either Tuesday 2nd May or Wednesday 3rd May 1995 in Llansilin Parish Church and televised on S4C on Sunday 21st May 1995. Twelve hymns have been chosen by the subcommittee, which consisted of two representatives from each of the Chapels as well as Ms Mary Morris and Mrs Margaret Lloyd representing the Church, and Llansilin Choir have been asked to take part in the programme. Dates for the rehearsals have also been finalised, the first being on Tuesday 28th March at 7.30p.m. More details in the next Newsletter.

FLOWER FESTIVAL - Friday 23rd June - Sunday 25th June 1995

For those that are interested a meeting will be held at the Institute on Monday 9th January 1995 - 7pm

CHURCH BELLS

Enthusiasm for the restoration of the bells is continuing and a working party has been appointed to prepare a report. More details in the March 1995 Newsletter.

LLANSILIN CHURCH SIDEMEN'S ROTA

DECEMBER

4th	Mr Bill Jones	11th	Mr David Bickerton
18th	Mr Bell Hughes - 8.30 a.m.	Mr Wyn Hughes - 10.00 a.m.	
24th	Mrs Sheila Ashley	25th	- 8.00 a.m.

JANUARY 1995

1st	Mr Bill Jones	8th	Mr Richard Jones
15th	Miss Mary Morris - 8.30 a.m.	Mr R.H. Morris - 10.00 a.m.	
22nd	Mr Edgar Jones	29th	Mr Russell Thomas Family Service

FEBRUARY

5th	Mr Bill Jones	12th	Mr Andrew Ashley
19th	Mr Bell Hughes - 8.30 a.m.	Mr Dan Jones - 10.00 a.m.	
26th	Miss Vera Evans		

MARCH

5th	Mr Bill Jones	12th	Mr Withers-Green
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If you are unable to collect on any of these dates would you please arrange for someone else to do it - THANK YOU.

FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA

Nov/Dec	27th/4th	Mrs Ann Roberts/Mrs Christine Williams
December	11th/18th	Mrs Bronwen Taylor/Mrs Megan Evans
Dec/Jan	24th/1st	Mrs Sheila Ashley/Miss Liz Ashley
January	8th/15th	Mrs Val Burton/Mrs Anneli Thomas
January	22nd/29th	Mrs Christine Williams/Mrs Phyllis Hughes
February	5th/12th	Mrs Kay Hughes/Mrs Brenda Jones
February	19th/26th	Mrs Alma Jones/Mrs Sheila Withersgreen

Clean only during Lent.

If again any of these dates are unsuitable would you please arrange for someone else to do it - THANK YOU.

We shall be decorating the Church for Christmas Wednesday and Thursday 14th & 15th December in readiness for the School Carol Service on the Thursday evening.

The beauty of the house is order,
The blessing of the house is contentment,
The glory of the house is hospitality.

Anon. Taken from an old cookery book.

C A L E N D A R O F E V E N T S

DECEMBER

Friday	2nd	7.30p.m.	Plygain	Llangadwaladr
Thursday	15th	7.00p.m.	Carol Service	Llansilin
			Ysgol Bro Cynllaith taking part	
Friday	16th	7.00p.m.	MU Christmas Party	Memorial Hall
Sunday	18th	11.15a.m.	Carol Service	Llangedwyn
Sunday	18th	6.30p.m.	Plygain	Briw Chapel

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve	7.00p.m.	United Service of Readings and Carols	
		Rhiwlas Methodist Chapel	
Christmas Eve	11.30p.m.	Midnight Communion	Llansilin
Christmas Day	8.00a.m.	Holy Communion	Llansilin
Christmas Day	9.30a.m.	Holy Communion	Llangedwyn

JANUARY 1995

Sunday	8th	3.00 - 5.00p.m.	Sunday School Party	Institute
Thursday	19th	2.15p.m.	MU Meeting	Institute
<u>FEBRUARY</u>	16th	2.15p.m.	MU Meeting	Institute

P A R I S H R E G I S T E R S

September 3rd 1994	Marriage	Paul Jones and Wendy Clough 11 Maes-y-llan
October 23rd 1994	Baptism	Georgina Louise Howard-Baker Glascoed
October 23rd 1994	Baptism	Llangadwaladr Church Georgia Mary Elizabeth Rogers Montford Bridge, grand daughter of Mr and Mrs Tudor Jones Berthlwyd Moelfre
November 18th 1994	Burial	Martha Alice Williams 8 Bryn Celyn

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone for your help, support and generosity at the Christmas Bazaar held in aid of the Hope House Children's Hospice. The magical total is £1,601.81 - wonderful!

PLEASE NOTIFY THE VICAR if you would like home communion, special prayers or if you know of anyone who is in hospital or ill at home.

THANK YOU to all who have contributed to this Newsletter.

Distribution: Margaret LLOYD - Tel: 791472

The next Newsletter will be produced on 1st March 1995. If anyone would like to contribute, or has any useful suggestions or information, DO PLEASE contact Mary Morris - Tel: 791223 before 1st February.