

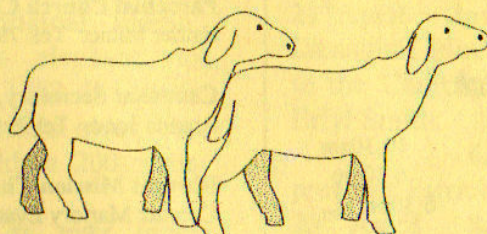
Number 29
Issued Quarterly
March 2000



Llansilin Newsletter

covering

*Bethania Chapel, Bethesda Chapel, Cefncanol Chapel,
Rhiwlas Chapel, Rhiwlas Mission Church, Salem Chapel, Soar Chapel,
Llangadwaladr Church, Llansilin Church.*



...for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...

*- a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant and a time to pluck up;
a time to kill and a time to heal;
a time to break down and a time to build;
a time to weep and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing
a time to seek and a time to loose,
a time to keep and a time to throw away
a time to tear and a time to sew,
a time to keep silent and a time to speak
a time to love and a time to hate
a time for war and a time for peace*

Church Service Times

Llansilin

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	10am
	Sunday School	10am
2nd Sunday	Matins	10am
3rd Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30am
4th Sunday	Cymun Bendigaidd	9am
	Evensong	6.30pm
5th Sunday	Family Service	10am

Llangedwyn

1st Sunday	Evensong	6.30pm
2nd Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30am
3rd Sunday	Family Service	10.30am
4th Sunday	Holy Communion	10.30am
5th Sunday	Matins	8.30am

Llangadwaladr

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	2.30pm
4th Sunday	Matins	2.30pm

Rhiwlas Mission Church

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	2.30pm
3rd Sunday	Matins	2.30pm

Please contact the vicar to arrange home communion, visiting or special services.

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin a'r Cylch

Maw.

5	Gweinidog	(C) Soar	10.30am
12	Mr T M Ellis	Rhiwlas	6.30pm
19	Gweinidog	Bethania	6.30pm
	Gwasanaeth dan ofal y Chwiorydd		
26	Parch Gwilym O Jones	Salem	6.30pm

Ebr.

2	Gweinidog	(C) Cefncanol	10.30am
9	Parch Elfed ap Nefydd Roberts	Bethesda	2pm
16	Gweinidog	Soar	10.30am
23	Mrs Sulwen Davies	Rhiwlas	2pm
	Sul y Pasg		
30	Parch Iwan Lewis	Bethania	2pm

Mai.

7	Gweinidog	Salem	10am
	Cymanfa Ganu, Seion		
14 *	Parch Arthur Roberts	Cefncanol	2pm
	Cymanfa Ganu yr Annibynwyr		
21	Gweinidog	Bethesda	6.30pm
	Sul Ieuentid		
28	Miss Rhoswen Charles	Soar	2pm

* Pregethwr o Seion, Croesoswallt (C) Cymun



Who's Who?

Gweinidog

Parc Stanton T. Evans
20 Croeswylan Lane, Croesoswallt
Ffon (0169) 654 682

Vicar

The Rev C F Carter
Y Ficerdy, Llansilin, Oswestry SY10 9PX
Tel. (01691)791 209

Church wardens at St Silin's

Deborah Hill-Trevor Tel 791 402
Beryl Jones Tel. 653 941

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin A'r Cylch

Ysg Wyn Davies Tel. 791 395
Trys Carys Evans Tel. 791 240

Organist, St Silin's

Morfydd Williams Tel. 659 369

Parochial Church Council Secretary

Valerie Burton Tel. 791 274

Parochial Church Council Treasurer

Esther Milner Tel. 791 323

Covenant Secretary, St Silin's

Brenda Jones Tel 791 261

Rhiwlas Mission Church

Contact **Marjory Evans** Tel 600 228

Llangadwaladr Church

Contact **Vera Evans** Tel. 791 471

Tower Captain, St Silin's

Eric Avery Tel. 791 298

Steeple Keeper, St Silins

Chris Burton Tel. 791 274

Llansilin Newsletter is produced by

Anneli Thomas Tel. 791 239 and

Emyr Evans Tel.791 240.

Please send items for inclusion in the June 2000 issue by the end of April to

The Newsletter, Graigwen Fach, Wern Ddu, Oswestry SY10 9BN

Distribution

Margaret Lloyd Tel. 791 427

Anyone wanting copies by post, please send £1 in stamps for one years postage to:

Mrs M Lloyd

8 Maes Y Llan Llansilin Oswestry SY10 7QE

Dear People of Llansilin

Well, here we all are in the year 2000. Never mind if it is the 21st century or the 3rd millennium yet, the figure 'one' which has started every year for the past thousand years has changed to a 'two'. But otherwise this year seems much like any other year. As I write this, the snowdrops are out- which means that it's just 20 years since the February day when I came to look around these parishes and first saw the white carpet in Llangedwyn churchyard. It's strange to think that nobody under the age of 18 can remember when I wasn't the vicar here. For them everything before 1980 is 'history' just as everything before 1940 is for me. And Raie, my friends' 3 month old grand-daughter, whom I met for the first time recently, will find the century into which she was born hard to imagine as we find the age of Queen Victoria. But is that really so long ago? When I was small my grandmother taught me a music-hall song from her girlhood, lamenting the sale of the original Jumbo, London Zoo's most famous elephant, to Barnum and Bailey's circus in 1882. If I teach this song to baby Raie when she's older, she could sing it to her grandchildren 200 years after it was written.

The world is changing at an ever more bewildering speed, but we are only the topmost twigs of an ancient and deep-rooted tree, destined to support and nourish new growth in our turn. I always enjoy telling our confirmation candidates to try imagining, when the bishop lays his hands on their heads, there is a 2000 year long chain of hands linking them at that moment to the first apostles. The church has changed time and again since then, and will go on changing in the millennium to come. But the heart of our belief, and of our message to the world, remains unchanging - that - "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself". On the cross he calls us to be reconciled to each other for his sake - a message which is sadly just as urgent now, as we turn our backs on one of the most violent century in the history of human kind.

Your vicar, Christopher Carter

PS I'll be away from 22nd March - 8th of April.

Milestones

We welcome in HOLY BAPTISM

Boxingday, Luke Llewellyn Springett, Llansilin

As God has lent them to us, we give back in HOLY DYING

December, Dilys Lloyd Davies, Rhiwlas

February, Herbert Kenneth Hilton, Oswestry
Peter John Carter, Llansilin

Easter Services

8th March 7pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Llangedwyn Church

20th April 7pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Llansilin Church

21st April 2pm Good Friday Service Llansilin Church. Dedication of bench donated to the Churchyard in memory of the late Mr Erfyl Smith.

6.30pm Soar Chapel with guest preacher Patrick Slattery from Dolgellau

23rd April 8am and 10am Easter Day Holy Communion Llansilin Church

10.30am in Llangedwyn Church

Lent Study Course

This course will run for six weeks during lent and is open to everyone. It will start on Tuesday 14th of March at 8 pm in the Vicarage for about one hour. Just turn up on the night or contact the Vicar for details.

Kneeler up-date. The project is nearing completion and the finished work will be exhibited in St Silin's Church on 1st and 2nd of April as part of the varied programme of planned village activities for the 'Be A Tourist For A Day' event. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

Lilies for Easter

Anyone wishing to contribute towards lilies for the altar at St Silin's for Easter, please contact Beryl Jones tel 653 941 This custom seem to have lapsed in recent years, when people used to sponsor a lily in memory of a loved one passed away.

The Church Sale last november raised £400 which was shared between the Macmillan Nurses and St Silins Church. A big thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Our thanks also to Pam Johnson who made a donation towards the cost of producing this Newsletter

The Tower Tale

by Eric Avery
Joint winner of the second prize in the 'Bells' poetry competition

For many years we four have hung
Up here, seen but by few;
We'll tell our tale for your delight,
The rest is up to you.

On stout oak frame, secured by
stone,
In eighteen forty eight,
With iron bolts and rods and plates,
And jointed like a gate.

We rang so loud, our song was
heard
And echoed round the hills,
We told the folk who lived around
Of happenings, with no frills.

As time passed our heavy frame
of oak as we have said,
Became unsaf, with rot and worm
And things came to a head.

"Don't ring the bells" the experts
said,
There's movement in the frame,
no matter what you do to it,
the danger is the same"

So silent we had been for years
Till someone thought "Oh, well
Let's look into the many costs
of making safe a bell".

A survey made, a quote obtained
Not cheap but worth the price.
For years to come we shall be heard
We think that will be nice.

Now, with four bells our song is
small,
which puts us in a fix,
More bells means much better
sound
Can we upgrade to six?

Yes, there is room within the tower
To install two more bells
One second-hand, one newly cast
See how the music swells.

Arrangements made, the time is
ripe
To get us to the ground,
A skilful job that need much care
So volunteers are found.

Cut two trapdoors, one in each floor
to get us down from high,
so much to do with so few hands,
Oh! how the time does fly.

Away we go to Derbyshire,
For fittings, tuning too,
A new frame made of rustproof steel
We'll be as good as new.

Chain blocks firm fixed, the work
begins
To hoist the frame aloft
With grunts and groans and bangs
and thumps,
And hands no longer soft.

A brand new frame securely fixed,
And bearings, modern too,
Brand new ropes and guides and
things,
Most hidden away from view.

Our turn now, as, one by one
We six are hauled in place,
Inch by inch and foot by foot
the belltower we shall grace.

We four are back in headstocks
new,
And clappers shiny bright,
with two more bells not heard
before
It's such a thrilling sight.

For services below we'll ring
if they be night or day,
To welcome all within our walls
Who come to sing and pray.

For weddings loudly we shall ring
To make a joyful day,
With muffled sound we'll do our
best
When someone's passed away

The work is done, you'll welcome be
If you will come
And watch us ring
The New Millennium



St Asaph Diocesan
Youth Council

* Bala Weekend 17-19th March

* Youth Council Day Meeting,
with Eucharist 8th April

*24-26th April Camp at Rydal
Hall

*12-14th May Camp at Coleg y
Bala

* Rock The Boat, Craig Y
Don, Llandudno 21st May

*Advance notice, Iona Youth
Festival 23-29th July.

Details from Arthur Tyerman
Tel 01691 780 094 and
Rex Matthias Tel 01745 720 273

Hurry, hurry hurry.....
to get your copy of the much
awaited book 'Changing Times
in Llansilin'. Don't miss this
chance to buy on Saturday the
4th of March in The Memorial
Hall, Llansilin between 2- 4pm.
One thousand copies have been
printed of this book which
contains hundreds of photos
taken by local people depicting
life in the village during the last
one hundred years. What a
welcome gift to someone with
roots and memories of the area
who has moved away!

Gweindogaeth Bro, Cylch Llansilin

Tristwch mawr i'r ardal oedd colli un o ffyddloniaid y Weinidogaeth Bro, sef Mrs Dilys Davies, gynt o Fron Ucha, Rhiwlas. Bu Mrs Davies un ffyddlon iawn ym mhob gwasanaeth ac fe gedy fwllch mawr ar ei hol. Cudymdeimlwn yn fawr ar teulu o golli un mor annwyl.

Y Sul cyn y Nadolig cafwyd Gwasanaeth y Nadolig yng Nghanolfan, Rhiwlas. Ar ddiwedd y gwasanaeth cafodd y plant anrheg gan y gweinigog, sef y Parch Stanton Evans, ac oren enfawr gan yr ysgol Sul, yna mwynhawyd te wedi ei baratoi gan ferched Rhiwlas.

Cynhaliwyd gwasanaethau dechrau'r flwyddyn. I ddechrau cafwyd gwasanaeth y bobl ifanc yng Nghapel y Bedyddwyr, bu cyfarfod gweddi yn Rhiwlas ac i gloi yr wythnos cafwyd pregeth gan y Parch Dyfan Thomas, Cefn Mawr.

Yn ddiweddar cyfarfu'r Gymdeithas Ddiwylliadol yn y Neuadd. Ym Mis Tachwedd daeth Mrs Beryl Vaughan, Llanerfyl i siarad am ei thaith i Gynhadledd y Genhadaeth yn Samoa. Yna ym Mis Ionawr cafwyd sgwrs gan Me Lew Davies, Llangedwyn. Sgwrs ddiddorol iawn am ei hanes yn byw yn Sgwan, Llangedwyn ac am ei waith ar y stad fel adeiladwr, ac mewn ambell i fan arall.

Cofiwch am Gyfarfod Pregethu Blynyddol a gynhelir, Nos Wener y Groglith, yng nghapel Soar, pryd y pregethir gan y Parch Paterick Slattery, Dolgellau am 6.30o'r gloch.

Emyr Evans

Sunday School

Spring is on it's way so lets leave colds, coughs and flu behind. It's time to get Sunday School into top gear. We meet for one hour - 60 minutes a month - and have some fun. And it helps children to develop in a spiritual dimension too. Meetings take place in the Institute, 10 am, first Sunday each month. All Children welcome.

Spring programme:

March 5th St David & Co

April 2nd Mothering Sunday and we meet in Church. Bring Mum too and she'll get some flowers

April 23rd Easter Sunday, the main communion service of the year. All Children are invited to the altar for a blessing, and gets a diddy easter egg too!

May 7th About sowing seeds. Cheerio for now from Sheila, Olive, Rosie

Confirmation Class of 2000 AD

The next Deanery Confirmation will be on Wednesday September 8th at 7pm. Please contact the Vicar before Easter to arrange for preparations for confirmation.

The Floodlights lighting up St Silin's Church at night have given the centre of the village a real lift at this dark time of the year. The project has been funded by a 45% grant from the Church Floodlighting Trust. The white light shining on the war memorial, church path and at the top of the tower will come on every night during week days from dusk to 11pm by a pre-set sensor. At week-ends, there will be the addition of the yellow light shining at the same time. The timing and running cost is being monitored for this season.

Security Measures

It is sad but true, to realise that churches are increasingly being targeted for criminal activity. The policy of our parish Church has for a long time been to keep it open every day during daylight hours and this will remain unchanged. There has been incidents of theft and vandalism but it was felt that the advantages of leaving the Church open outweighed those. However, two systems of protection have recently been introduced. Churchwatch has been developed in the deanery, on lines similar to the familiar neighbourhood watch and farmwatch which also operate locally. The Alpha Dot System has been used to mark all movable items as property of St Silin's Church. This is over and above the detailed itinerary descriptions of items which already exist and are upgraded regularly.

Telephone numbers for Churchwatch:

860 408 and 860 455

Mothers Union

The March meeting will enjoy a talk by Mr Gibbs on Homedecorating. In April the usual meeting will be replaced by the Maunday Service at St Silin's Church at 7pm together with Llangedwyn MU. In May, Diana Hall of Welsh Walls will talk about gardening. All Welcome.

YSGOL BRO CYNLLAITH donated a sum of money last year for the Bells Project. This was used to commission two pottery ewers and a set of mugs for use in the belfry by the ringers when they practice, which is thirsty work! On the subject of the bells, the Tower Captain would like to know how far the sound of the bells carry and the weather conditions at the time. Please contact him if you live some distance and have heard the bells.

New Era, New Church

Practical measures which can be taken to bring devotional life into the 21st Century. Suggestions from the *New Millennium Challenge to the Churches . Part 1 of 3*

We will make you more welcome

First impressions count, the exterior and surrounds of a building matters. Is it welcoming? Are there notice boards with times of services and a contact person readable from the road by a passing car and are there up to date, informative notice boards about the parish activities? Is it easy to follow the services? Are the facilities relevant to life today, i.e. toilets, adequate light, seating comfort, heating and accessibility? Are there plans to improve and up-date? Does the congregation have a welcoming attitude towards strangers, is there after service mixing (with a cup of coffee perhaps)?

We will be family friendly. We all need to know we are valued and belong and the Church as the family of God is supremely placed to offer that sense of belonging. Members of the congregation participating in services is a good way of making people feel they belong. Having services and activities for certain age groups is another. It is valuable also to have special activities when all ages get together and have fun. Are there support systems in operation for families with young children? babysitting? car service for those without transport? visiting for people who are ill? Lunch club? Are young peoples ideas taken into account?

We will make sure you can hear and see clearly. One in three over the age of 60 have some loss of hearing as well as 20% of the general population. To ensure that everyone can participate in activities, technology in the form of audio equipment has part of the answer. Some deaf people rely on sign language. Do you have someone who can sign for a deaf member of the congregation? Are there some large print text books available? More 'stocktaking' ideas in the next Newsletter.

Village News

After winning the Powys Village Of The Year competition, Llansilin was entered in the national finals. The title was ultimately won jointly by Edington (Wiltshire) and Weobley (Herefordshire). The winner of the welsh section was Gorslas (Camarthenshire). Having reach national level, Llansilin qualified for an award of £400 for a charity of their choice.

Playscheme, who put together the presentation, donated this to the Playingfields for some additional play equipment. On behalf of the village, The Newsletter would like to thank all those who worked so hard to enter our village in this event, well done!

A Key on a job was found on 17th January in the Churchyard and has been handed into the garage shop for collection by the owner.

A NVQIII TRAINING OPPORTUNITY has become a reality in Llansilin. The year- long course for ten trainees lead to the recognised qualification of **Playleader** for the 5 - 15 year olds. Details from Renee Springett Tel 791 366.

Afterschool Clubs running at present are:
Tuesdays - football
Fridays - artclass

Getting Britain Giving in the 21st Century

Chancellor Gordon Brown announced new measures last November to help charities . (The Church / Chapel are classed as charities) The aim is to encourage people to give and to simplify the tax system for charities. All donations given, large or small, regular or one-offs, and whatever the method for giving is, the gift will qualify for a tax refund in favour of the charity, providing the giver is a taxpayer. This can make a real difference to a gift and is indeed welcome news.

Be A Tourist For A Day in Llansilin on the weekend of **1st and 2nd of April** in association with **Oswestry and Border Tourism Association**. Lots of activities, lots of fun, look out for posters - not a date to be missed!

Readers Rota .

12th March	Matins	Glenice Jones	Genesis 17 1-8
26th March	Evensong	Lynette Moss	Deuteronomy 5 22-33
9th April	Matins	Beryl Jones	Isaiah 52 13-53,6
23rd April	EASTER		
14th May	Matins	Deborah Hill-Trevor	Isaiah 25 1-9
28th May	Evensong	Esther Milner	Hosea 5 13-6,3

Cleaning Rota (No flowers during Lent)

March 5th	Sheila Ashley and Christine Williams
12th and 19th	Megan Evans and Nancy Williams
26th and April 2nd	Glenice Jones and Alma Jones
9th and 16th	Pam Johnson and Dorothy Jervis
30th and May 7th	Esther Milner and Eileen Bignell
14th and 21st	Olive Jones and Gwyneth Jones
28th	Valerie Burton and Anneli Thomas

Spring cleaning and decorating for Easter on April 21st and 22nd. Everyones help is appreciated on either of these dates.

Sidesmens Rota

March 5th	Communion 10am	Beryl Jones
12th	Matins 10am	Anneli Thomas
19th	Communion 8.30am	Deborah Hill-Trevor
26th	Welsh Service 9am	Olive Jones
	Evensong 6.30pm	Esther Milner
April 2nd	Communion 10am	Beryl Jones
9th	Matins 10am	Clive Inman
16th	Communion 8.30am	Vera Evans
23rd	Communion 8am	Margaret Lloyd
	Communion 10am	Wardens
30th	Family Service 10am	Sunday School
May 7th	Communion 10am	Beryl Jones
14th	Matins 10am	Gill Avery
21st	Communion 8.30am	Mary Morris
28th	Welsh Service 9am	Dan Jones
	Evensong 6.30pm	Valerie Burton

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES



Aelwyd - Welsh League of Youth. From September Fridays 7.30-10pm. Memorial Hall.
Contact Emyr Evans tel. 791 240

Bowls Club. Mondays 7.30pm, Memorial Hall. Contact Sharon Lee tel. 831 431

Community Council meet every second Tuesday on alternate months, from September in Memorial Hall 7.30pm. Contact Harry Hughes tel. 657 972

Cor Llansilin practice in the village on Sunday nights. Conductor Iona Jones tel. 791 251

Cymdeithas Ddwylliadol Llansilin(Welsh Cultural and Literary Society) Memorial Hall September to April,
Mondays 7-9pm. Contact Sarah James tel. 791 346

First Llansilin Guides, The Institute, Tuesdays 7-8.30pm. Contact Alison Beeston tel. 791 262

Local History Society, Contact Chris Burton tel. 791 274

Mothers Union meet in The Institute every third Thursday monthly, 2.15pm. Contact Glenice Jones tel. 791 287

Meals on Wheels (needs assessed by Social Services) Local contacts Margaret Lloyd tel. 791 472 and Olive Jones tel. 791 363

Over 60's Club Alternate Tuesdays from September 2-4.30pm, The Institute. Contact Kay Hughes tel. 791 216

Playgroup, Mondays and Thursdays term time, 9.30am-12.30pm. Memorial Hall. Contact Eirian Glennie tel. 791 378

Rhiwlas Community Centre, Contact Will Thomas tel. 680 451

Rhiwlas Gardening Club, every third Wednesday 7.30pm in Community Centre. Contact Dorothy Bullard tel. 791 373

Rural Car Service- for visiting the doctor, dentist, chiropodist etc. Contact Norma Garment tel. 791 335 between 8-9am and 6-7pm unless an emergency

Sunday School, every first Sunday term time, 10am in The Institute. Sheila Ashley tel. 791 283

Memorial Hall and The Institute, Chairman and booking clerk, Arthur James tel. 791 346.

Whist Drive Every second Wednesday 7.30pm September to May in The Memorial Hall.

Womens Institute every second Friday 7pm in The Institute. Contact Dorothy Bullard tel. 791 373

YFC, contact Richard Evans tel. 600 228

Youth Club, Thursdays 7-9.30pm in The Memorial Hall. Youth leader Elena Jones tel. 780 315