

Autumn 2000

Llansilin Newsletter

covering

*Bethania Chapel, Bethesda Chapel, Cefncanol Chapel,
Rhiwlas Chapel, Rhiwlas Mission Church, Salem Chapel, Soar Chapel,
Llangadwaladr Church, Llansilin Church
and
Village News*



Number 31 Issued quarterly
Distributed free to 267 households -
one for every home in the Parish of Llansilin
Financed in the millennium year by Llansilin Parish Church

Times of Worship

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin a'r Cylch Medi.

3	Gweinidog	Bethania	
		Pererindod(i'w drefnu)	
10	* Elwyn Jones	Salem	2.00
17	Gweinidog	Cefnfanol	10.30
24	E E Richards	Bethesda	2.00

Hyd.

1	Gweinidog	Soar	6.30
		Diolchgarwch yr Ifanc	
8	Iwan Lewis	Rhiwlas	2.00
15	Gweinidog (C)	Bethania	10.30
22	T M Ellis	Salem	10.00
29	John Rosser	Cefnfanol	2.00

Tach.

5	Gweinidog (C)	Bethesda	6.30
12	Gwilym O Jones	Soar	6.30
19	Gweinidog	Rhiwlas	10.00
		Pregeth a thrafodaeth	
26	Nesta Barker Jones	Bethania	2.00
		* Pregethwr o Seion, Croesoswallt (C) Cymun	

Llansilin Parish Church

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	10.00
2nd	Matins	10.00
3rd	Holy Communion	8.30
4th	Welsh Communion	10.00
	Evensong	6.30
5th	Family Service	10.00

Llangadwaladr Church

2nd Sunday	Holy Communion	2.30
4th	Matins	2.30

Rhiwlas Mission Church

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	2.30
3rd	Matins	2.30

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

Who's Who?

Gweinidog

Parch Stanton T Evans
20 Croeswylan Lane, Croesoswallt
Ffon (01691) 654 682

Vicar

The Rev C F Carter
Y Ficerdy, Llansilin, Oswestry SY10 9PX
Tel (01691) 791 209 Mob.0777 313 4858

Churchwardens 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. 791 274

Rhiwlas Mission Church

Contact Marjorie Evans tel. 600 288

Llangadwaladr Church

Contact Vera Evans tel. 791 471

Tower Captain, St Silin's

Eric Avery tel. 791 298

Steeple Keeper

Chris Burton tel. 791 274

The Newsletter is produced by

Anneli Thomas tel. 791 239
Emyr Evans tel. 791 240

Items for inclusion in the December 2000 Issue by end of October please to, Graigwen Fach, Wernddu, Oswestry SY10 9BN

Dear People of Llansilin

I am writing this whilst waiting for a plane at Manchester Airport. This is my third trip abroad this year, and I am uncomfortably aware of the quotation which I recently copied into my commonplace book: "The more of the world I see, the less I see of it". It is certainly true that as we modern travellers jet from one identical airport to another, staying in interchangeable hotels eating pre-packaged airline meals, we become increasingly insulated from any real contact with the lives and views of ordinary people we happen to brush against in airport corridors or catch a glimpse of through the window of the tourist coach. This is where long-term pen friends or twin communities can help to build real bridges across oceans and frontiers as well as bringing about tolerance and understanding between people of very different backgrounds. I recall with pleasure the June visit of a group of Llangedwyn people to their twinned village Omerville, France. The only real way of

getting to know people is to live among them and share in their hopes, fears, dreams and insecurities. This is after all what God himself did when he came to visit earth 2000 years ago. He did so, not to get to know us better, he already did that, but so that we may understand that he knows what it means to be human, and that our hopes, fears, dreams and insecurities are his too. His visit wasn't that of a casual tourist casting a curious eye over our lives, or even pulling a few influential strings like some international tycoon. No, in Jesus Christ he is equally at home in a skyscraper, a shanty town, a smart suburb, a draught stricken savannah and a Welsh village. At harvest-tide he looks at us out of each others eyes and tries to make us understand how much we all depend on each other and that we are truly just one family in him. Yet, there is plenty at one end of the table and only hungry faces at the other.... Yours in Christ **Christopher Carter**

Diary Dates

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 12th September | Parochial Church Council Meeting 7.30 pm |
| 13th September | Deanery Confirmation, 7pm
Llansaintffraid |
| 26th September | Cymanfa Gann Seon Chapel,
Llanrhaeadr YM 6.30 pm |
| 29th September | Llansilin Book Group
'An Evening of Entertainment'
fundraising for the Hospice. |
| 1st October | Concert in St Silin's Church, 8 pm. |
| 6th October | Harvest Thanksgiving, St Silin's
7 pm Rev. Philip Clarke |
| 8th October | Harvest Family Service, 10 am
St. Silin's |
| 10th October | Llangadwaladr Harvest Festival |
| 13 October | Llangedwyn Harvest Festival 7pm
followed by a Hot Pot Supper |
| 14th October | Llansilin Eisteddfod |
| 20th October | Rhiwlas Harvest Festival 7pm |
| 27th October | Musical Concert by pupils of Esther
Milner. Memorial Hall 7 pm. |
| 29th October | 'Hallelulia Happening' Llanfyllin
Church 2.30 pm (Youth Service) |

Sunday School will be in Church on Sunday 8th October for Harvest Thanksgiving. Please bring an offering of fruit or vegetables to Church to put on the altar. After the Service the gifts will be donated locally. See you then, Sheila and Olive

MILESTONES

We bless and congratulate in HOLY MARRIAGE

August Mark Ian Pierce, Oswestry
Kay Wendy Owen, Oswestry

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

June Thomas Iorwerth Evans, Llansilin

Worth knowing!

- ◆ The Playscheme has a laminator which is available to anyone in the village for the basic cost of the plastic sheet, tel 791 366
- ◆ Llangedwyn are having a **Promises Auction** in aid of Church Funds on September 22nd at 7.30 pm in Llangedwyn Memorial Hall. Contact Enid Breeze tel 791 376.

Newsletter Distribution: Margaret Lloyd, tel 791 427. For postal copies, please send £1 in stamps for a years supply to 8 Maes Y Llan, Llansilin, Oswestry SY10 7QE

A
CONCERT

given by

LLANSILIN CHOIR

1st of October 2000 at 8 pm

St. Silin's Church, Llansilin

Tickets £4

in aid of Church Funds as a 'Thank You' for using the Church for practices during Hall restorations.



Llansilin Choir, or Cor Llansilin,

has been in existence for about twenty years, starting as a singing party for the local annual Eisteddfod which takes place every October in Llansilin. After competing the group would disperse and re-form the following year for another Eisteddfod.

There is a predominantly welsh emphasis on the songs and music which they perform, but more recently, english material is also used. Some of the members used to sing with the Llansilin Male Voice Choir when that was going. It is now a mixed choir with around thirty voices, and has always been expertly and imaginatively lead by Iona Jones from Moelfre with the same dedication as its members - many are from the same family and have been with the choir from the start and most are or have become, life - long friends.

The choir is supported by donations given from concerts which covers some of the cost for music and copying and hire if premises for practises. All other expenses are shouldered by the members themselves.

Llansilin Choir has recently ventured further afield to compete, very successfully too when they won Powys Eisteddfod 2000, and did well in last years National Eisteddfod which was their

first ever entry in that competition. This has given them a taste for more so they hope to compete in this event in Denbigh 2001 and Meifod in 2003.

Their concerts provide plenty of variety and range as their individual talents are displayed with soprano performance by Nia Jones, and harmonising from the Llansilin Quartet and the three sisters known as The Bryn Trio.

Apart from practising and performing, the choir have a social week-end every year visiting London, Bath, Dublin, The Lakes and other places.

The village is very proud of it's choir and it is hoped that they will get all the support they so richly deserve.

St Silin's Fund Raising Day was held on July 1st and raised over £400 for the Church. The event which was staged for the Church Field had to be moved indoors due to wet weather. Many thanks to everyone who, as usual, pulled out all the stops to make the event a success The day was especially memorable as the date coincided with the centenary birthday celebrations of Mrs Grace Garment, who with her party proceeded to the Memorial Hall to the ringing of the Church bells. She was greeted with singing, a toast and a birthday cake by friends, relatives neighbours and many civic dignitaries were also present to mark this happy occasion.

More Notes from the Belfry

The weathercock and direction points are now back on the tower after an absence of 515 days during the belfry restorations.

The crow(n)ing glory of the new gilded cock, carved by Gill Avery is an exact replica of its predecessor and 150 year old oak from the old bellframe was used.

The weathercock rests on newly painted black direction points mounted on a white painted pole. The cock turns his face into the wind when it is blowing.

How did he get there? Everything, including a fourteen foot ladder, was hauled by ropes up the outside of the tower and over the parapet wall!

In the ninth century there was a decree by the Pope that every Church steeple or tower should carry a reminder of St Peter's denial of Christ 'ere the cock crowed thrice'.

The cock is also a symbol of vigilance.

C P Burton Steeplekeeper

Mothers Union Autumn Programme

September 'My life and Experiences'. A talk by Mr Renshaw, Brynaber.

October 'Share The Fire' A talk by Bill Bowen, Oswestry on the spiritual world.

November 'Christmas Cookery'.

Meetings in The Institute every third Thursday, 2.15 pm

New Millennium Souvenir

A Limited Edition of horsebrasses depicting a bell with the inscription 'Llansilin Millennium 2000' are now available for sale at £3.50 each. Due to popular demand, a new casting of the first Llansilin horsebrass has been made, and a few are available at £4.50 each. These and other items will be available in the Church on Llansilin Show Day, when visitors are welcome to visit the Church and talk to the Churchwardens.

Money matters

This is a commodity which we all possess to a greater or lesser degree. Since beginning of time we have been invited to contribute to the needs of others - dues, tithes, alms, collections, offertories and subscriptions. Sadly, the ancient tradition of 'collections in Church' still predominates. The practice of gathering coins on plates has not kept pace with modern needs. Collection plates suggest coins and by their very existence suggest that this will fund the work of the Church, thus precluding any idea of realistic giving. In all aspects of finance today, cheques, Direct Debit, Standing Orders, Credit Cards and electronic transfer are the order of the day.

The Church and Chapel need money to function. In this context it is worth remembering that the *People is the Church*, not the building, although the fabric of the building needs to be serviceable to be able to carry out its work. Funding the Church is simply providing the wherewithal for the Church to perform its work. Our parish, which consist of around 270 households, have the responsibility for maintaining three Church buildings and six Chapels! Anyone who has a house knows what this involves. Add to that the extra responsibilities of *public* buildings, with Health and Safety issues, insurance and security. Money for the *work* of the Church is over and above this.

There are a number of ways to give money, and some methods will also benefit the donor. If you

want to find out more, why not contact Carys Evans Tel. 791 240 or Brenda Jones Tel. 791 261 in complete confidence.

Gweinidogaeth Bro Cylch Llansilin

Tristwch mawr i'r ardal oedd clywed am farwolaeth sydyn Mr Iorweth Evans, neu Iorweth Pentre fel yr adnabu pawb ef. Bu'n aelod yn nghapel Bethesda ar hyd ei oes a chydymdeimlwn yn fawr a'r teulu i gyd.

Cafwyd cyfarfod arbennig i drafod " Y Fford Ymlaen ", sef dogfen drafod i uno'r holl enwadau. Roedd pawb oedd yno yn ei gefnogi mewn egwyddor ond bod angen mwy o fanylion. Mae pob capel erbyn hyn wedi archebu cyflenwad o'r llyfr emynae cyd-enwadol newydd a fydd yn dod allan ym Mis Tachwedd. Edrychwn ymlaen at ei weld a'i ddefnyddio.

Cynhaliwyd Gwasanaeth Neges Ewyllys Da yr Urdd ar y 3ydd Sul o Fai. Y tro yma hen aelodau'r Aelwyd a gymerodd ran ac fe gafwyd gwasanaeth bendithiol iawn.

Cynhaliwyd Cymanfaoedd gan yr holl enwadau ym Mis Mai, cafwyd canu llewyrchus ym mhob un ohonynt.

Eleni mae ein pererindod blynyddol yn mynd i Ynys Enlli ar y Sul cyntaf ym Medi. Edrycha pawb ymlaen at y diwrnod ac yn gweddio am dwirnod braf a mor tawel.

Emyr Evans

Welcome to our new Village Post mistress, Bethan Vaughan-Jones. She comes from Penybont Fawr, and is enjoying the challenge of a new venture. Bethan has two children in high school and is living on the premises until it is sold. She says that she has been made to feel very welcome by the people of Llansilin and hope to find a place of her own in the area. She is able to offer everything a lage post -office can with the exception of car-tax. **Open Mon, Tues, Thurs 8-40am - 12 noon**

Llansilin Playscheme

This group is as active as ever and staged a well run and much enjoyed Playday during the school holidays. Funding has been secured for activities for the next three years to cover Youth provision, training for voluntary organisations, after school clubs and salaries. The Playscheme has compiled data and submitted an application for The Powys Village Of The Year Competition 2000.

Notes from the Belfry

To appreciate the following poem, it must be explained that each bell is fitted with a 'stay,' a piece of seasoned ash of three inches square and nearly three feet long. The stay holds the bell up when it is resting, and also acts as a weak link to prevent damage to the rest of the fittings should the bell get out of control when ringing. A seasoned bellringer never allows a stay to break - every member of our learner band has broken *at least* one stay to date!!

Whoops

by The Tower Captain, Eric Avery

On practice night the bells ring out,
One, two, three, four, five, six,
They're going well the Captain thinks
But someone's in a fix.

At tail, too hard the rope was pulled,
So up she went, away,
'Oh, dash' (or something said like that)
The Vicar's burst a stay!

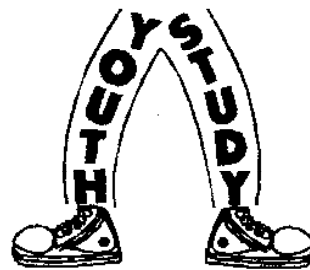
The rope goes up and flaps around,
the sally's just in sight,
The tailend's up, well out of reach,
It gave him quite a fright.

"Ring down four" and dash upstairs,
The spanners are to hand,
A new stay fixed and come back down,
(We are a handy band.)

Three and four rung up again,
And practice starts anew,
The rhythm's good,
The speed just right,
All sallies are in view!

Remember then, don't pull too hard,
Especially at backs,
'cause if you don't the Churchyard Ash,
Will feel the woodsman's axe.

(written after a practise ring when the vicar broke a stay!)



St Asaph Diocesan Youth Council

* Saturday 16 September
Youth Worship Workshop,
Buckley

Friday 22 September
Rock Wrexham
St Giles Church, Wrexham

Saturday 18 November
Youth Celebration + Eucharist
All Saints Gresford, Wrexham

Details on all youth activities from Arthur Tyerman Tel
01691 780 094 and Rex Matthias Tel 01745 720

Llanfyllin Rurideanal Conference
'Work with Young People'

Christ 200 Events

Sunday 24th September, 6.30pm, Sion Chapel,
Llanrhaeadr YM. **A Bilingual Celebration**

Saturday 28th October, High School, Llanfyllin
Gospel Musical Drama.

Sunday 29th October, St Mullin's Church, Llanfyllin
2.30pm - 5pm. Service followed by a Bring and
Share Tea. The theme is **Amazing Grace**, including
modern saints, i.e. Mother Teresa, Terry Waite, John
Hughes, Lord Shaftsbury etc. and negro spiritual
singing.

to be a teenager in Church?

- * Some people are great, like extra grandparents.
- * I don't always feel welcome, is it the clothes I wear?
- * It all seems so worthy, and I don't understand them. Do the adults, or do they just know when to use them?
- * It feels like I got inside a time-machine or some sort of museum where people pretend to live as things used to be.
- * There's talk of great joy, but it doesn't show much.

New Era, New Church

Practical measures which can be taken to bring devotional life into the 21st Century. From *The New Millennium Challenge to the Churches. Part 3 of 4*

We will help you make sense of the bible and who Jesus is

Looking at Jesus, we see the world's greatest communicator in action. Whoever he spoke to, he used *their* language. He told stories and used symbols to illustrate his message. Stories about women loosing coins through the floorboards, roguish fishing practices, crooked businessmen, nagging widows, teenage tearaways, and fancy slap-up meals. Teaching today needs to be more than simply rooted in the Bible - the message needs to be accessible and intelligible to those listening, using words and phrases and examples that we can associate with. In helping people to explore the Bible, informal study groups are beneficial, as are housegroups and prayer groups. Bibles available for use during services enables the congregation to follow the readings. Make use of available audio - visual material from time to time. Vary services and encourage all age groups to participate.

We will make sure your visit to a place of worship will be helpful and challenging

It is useless to assume that every service will appeal to every member of the congregation all of the time given the diversity of age, interests, experiences and expectations. We live in a pick-and-mix society where we can choose almost anything to our liking including the type of services we like to take part in. The downside of this constant choosing is a lowering of tolerance for when we are not getting things the way we like it. This leads to frustration as everyone's ideal is different and we end up with a choice between a compromise or nothing at all. The danger is that we become self-centred in our approach to worship by feeling that we are not getting enough out of the service, a typical consumerist attitude. A recent survey concluded that 75% of people went to worship because they enjoyed it. Other reasons were a sense of belonging, friendliness of the people, support in living out one's faith, a sense of being drawn closer to God, the personal ministry of the clergyman, to thank God and to pray and. All reasons are good and valid but space

nevertheless most are consumerist. Martin Luther King said that, *An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.* So, rather than expecting things *from* the Church, Chapel and community, seek ways of *giving - of our time, our talents, gifts and of ourselves* by getting involved in voluntary groups, neighbours, school, those who need extra help, church and chapel maintenance, the list is endless. Don't wait to be asked - offer!

Have a skills board on the Church / Chapel noticeboard. Become involved in the services. The message is that the people *is* the Church.

More ideas in the next issue.

Cleaning and Flower Rota, St Silin's Church

SEPT 3rd + 10th Pam Johnson and Dorothy Jarvis
17th + 24th Esther Milner and Eileen Bignell

OCT 1st + 8th Mary Morris and Margaret Lloyd

4th + 5th Clean and decorate for Harvest

15th + 22nd Olive Jones, Gwyneth Jones and Valerie Talbot

29th Valerie Burton and Anneli Thomas

NOV 5th Valerie Burton and Anneli Thomas

12th + 19th Beryl Jones and Morfudd Williams

26th Sheila Ashley and Christine Williams

Sidesmen's Rota, St Silin's Church

Sept. 3rd Communion 10.00 Beryl Jones

10th Matins 10.00 Anneli Thomas

17th Communion 8.30 D.Hill Trevor

24th Welsh Service 9.00 Vera Evans

Evensong 6.30 Mary Morris

Oct 1st Communion 10.00 Beryl Jones

6th Harvest Festival 7.00 Wardens

8th Harvest Service 10.00 Sunday School

15th Communion 8.30 Margaret Lloyd

22nd Welsh Service 9.00 Olive Jones

29th Family Service 10.00 Sunday School

Nov 5th Communion 10.00 Beryl Jones

12th Matins 10.00 Jeffrey Olstead

19th Communion 8.30 Brenda Jones

26th Welsh Service 9.00 Dan Jones

Evensong 6.30 Gill Avery



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

Playfield Association - Responsible for the care and maintainance of the playground in the school field as well as the re-cycling plant and car park. Contact Renee Springett tel. 791 366

Playgroup - Cylch Meithrin (Welsh Playgroup Association)

Mondays 9.30-11.30. Age 2 to school age, £2 per session

Thursdays 9.30 - 11.30 Mother and toddlers £1.50 per session. Refreshments included.

Contact Carol Foulkes tel. 791 326

Playscheme- a community programme from age 4 upwards of afterschool, saturday and holiday activities in sport, arts, crafts and drama. Runs a library of topic related books, and community enhancement programmes with the school PTA . Runs NVQ training programme for play leaders, community based college classes in playwork, as well as food hygiene and first aid classes. Prepares and presents entry for Powys Village of the Year Competition. Contact Renee Springett tel. 791 366

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 Christine Williams tel. 791 563 between 8-9am and 6-7pm unless in an emergency

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

Memorial Hall and The Institute, Booking Clerk and Chairman of The Committee, 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