

# LLANSILIN NEWSLETTER

No. 40

*Winter 2002 – 2003*



The cost of printing this issue of Llansilin Newsletter has been met by St Silin's Church.  
The Newsletter is free and it is produced and delivered to everyone living in the parish by volunteers, four times a year.

## Times of Worship

| <b>Llansilin Parish Church</b> |                 |       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| 1st Sunday                     | Holy Communion  | 10.00 |
| 2nd                            | Matins          | 10.00 |
| 3rd                            | Holy Communion  | 8.30  |
| 4th                            | Welsh Communion | 9.00  |
|                                | Evensong        | 6.30  |
| 5th                            | Family Service  | 10.00 |

| <b>Llangadwaladr Church</b> |                |      |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------|
| 2nd Sunday                  | Holy Communion | 2.30 |
| 4th                         | Matins         | 2.30 |

| <b>Rhiwlas Mission Church</b> |                |      |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------|
| 1st Sunday                    | Holy Communion | 2.30 |
| 3rd                           | Matins         | 2.30 |

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

### Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin a'r Cylch

#### Rhag.

|  |          |      |
|--|----------|------|
| 1. Gweinidog   | Bethesda | 6.30 |
| Pregeth a trafodaeth ( <i>sermon and open discussion</i> ) |          |      |
| 8. * Parch T Leonard Wilson                                | Soar     | 2.00 |
| Gwasanaeth Nadolig Seion ( <i>Christmas Service</i> )      |          |      |
| 15 Gweinidog   | Rhiwlas  | 2.00 |
| 22   | Bethania | 2.00 |
| 29   | Salem    | 2.00 |

Gwasanaethau arbennig y Nadolig i'w Trefnu yn agosach at yr amser (*Details to be announced*)

#### Ion.

|  |            |       |
|--|------------|-------|
| 5. Gweinidog (C)                             | Cefnicanol | 6.00  |
| Gwasanaeth yr Ifanc ( <i>Youth Service</i> ) |            |       |
| 12. Parch Gwilym O Jones                     | Bethesda   | 2.00  |
| 19. Gweinidog                                | Soar       | 10.30 |
| 26. Mr. Gwilym Jones                         | Rhiwlas    | 2.00  |

#### Chew.

|   |            |      |
|---|------------|------|
| 2. Gweinidog  | Bethania   | 6.30 |
| 9. Parch R Dyfan Thomas                                   | Salem      | 2.00 |
| 16. Gweinidog   | Cefnicanol | 6.00 |
| Gwasanaeth dan ofal y Chwirydd ( <i>Ladie's Service</i> ) |            |      |
| 23. Parch E Elfyn Richards                                | Bethesda   | 2.00 |

Pregethwr o Seion, Croesoswallt \* Cymun (C)

## 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 Mobile 0777 313 4858

### Churchwardens at St Silin's

Deborah Hill- Trevor tel. 791 402  
Mary E Morris tel. 791 223

### 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

Graham Moss tel. 791 528

### Bellringing, St Silin's

Tower Captain - Eric Avery tel. 791 298  
Steeple Keeper - Chris Burton tel. 791 274  
Ringling practice every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

### Rhiwlas Mission Church

Contact Marjorie Evans tel. 600 228

### Llangadwaladr Church

Contact Vera Evans tel. 791 471

### The Newsletter is produced by

Anneli Thomas tel. 791 239  
Emyr Evans tel. 791 240 (Welsh News)  
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Get your Newsletter by post for a year by sending four stamps to Mrs M. Lloyd 8 Maes y llan Llansilin Oswestry SY10 7QE

Items for inclusion in the Spring 2003 issue by the end of January please to: Graigwen Fach, Wernddu, Oswestry SY10 9BN Tel & Fax 791 239

*Dear Friends,*

It's a frightening thought that we are again in the last quarter of this year and that we will soon be celebrating Christmas and The New Year. On the other hand, time may be long going and dreary to some people.

I often wonder how very monotonous can life for to many in our land. When we consider how many elderly and disabled people there are who are feeling life to be monotonous? - a life-style that is the same from day to day, year in and year out. To be able to attend a Day Centre must surely be a welcome relief from the daily monotony to some.

Some employment is more monotonous than others, - farming possibly is amongst the more varied and least monotonous of all employment.

I suppose life can be monotonous to all of us at times. The road that lies before us can seem to stretch for miles across a flat and barren land with no sight of an oasis. How then are we to handle wearisome responsibilities when there is no foreseeable relief from our burdens?

Oliver Wilson was severely disabled from birth and spent his entire 32 years completely helpless in bed, unable to attend to a single need for himself. Day after day, year in and year out, his parents attended to his every need, - every spoonful of food, every change of clothing - they did it and still maintained a happy home. Oliver's brother Christopher asked his father one day how they managed to keep doing this work.. His father answered by explaining that they lived from day to day and asked themselves "Can I feed Oliver today?" And the answer always was "Yes, today I can do it".

Jesus taught us how we can handle the monotony or routine of life. 'Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will have it's own worries. Sufficient for the day is its own troubles.' (Mathew Ch 6 v 34).

In faith and with prayer we can handle life and its often wearisome tasks by breaking it into bite-size pieces and entrusting the unpredictable future to the grace of Him who promises that 'as your days, so shall your strength be'

As we approach Christmas and The New Year, may the following little verse be our prayer,

**The road I'm on is twisted, Lord  
It's end defies my view  
Teach me to take each step in Faith  
And leave the rest to You.**

The blessing of God, our Creator and our Redeemer be with you,  
*Stanton Evans*

### **Christmas Diary Dates**

**6th Dec. Plygain** St Silin's Church 7.30 pm followed by light refreshments in The Hall

**15th Dec. Gymanfu Nadolig** - Christmas Singing Festival - Cefncaanol Chapel 6.30pm

**20th Dec. Carol Service** St Silin's Church 7pm

**24th Dec. Communion Service by Candlelight**, St Silin's Church 11.15 pm

### **Milestones**

**Baptism** - In May - Isobel Beatrice Jones, Tynant, Moelfre  
In August - Angharad Jones, Lloran Ganol, Llansilin

**Burial** - in September- John Lea, Oswestry  
In November - Margaretta Jones, Llansilin



*Llansilin Newsletter would like to wish  
everyone  
A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year*

### St Silin's Parish Electoral Roll 2003

At the September meeting of The Parochial Church Council, it was resolved that there be a renewal of the Parish Electoral Role, completed prior to the Easter Vestry 2003, and revised annually.

The Electoral Roll qualifies parishioners to vote and hold office within the Church in Wales so is of fundamental importance to the administration of every parish. The Constitution of the Church set out the requirements for maintaining the Roll.

In order to complete the updating of the Roll, the PCC will contact everyone whose name currently appear on the role as well as attempting to contact people who have moved into the parish since the last revision, to ensure that everyone who wish to have their name included on the Roll will do so.

Anyone wanting to obtain further information regarding this issue, or who would like to register an interest in having their name on the Roll should contact one of the Churchwardens or a PCC Officer (see p.2)

### VANDALISM STRIKES THE VILLAGE

Sadly, it has to be reported that vandals have struck our Church and Churchyard during the autumn half term. The Church was entered and various items disturbed and then, overnight, the Millennium floodlights were badly damaged and three panes of glass over the main door were broken. However, it is also good to report that there was an immediate response from local business which donated glass and putty for the repair. This, together with a very rapid replacement of the glass by a member of the PCC has somewhat lessened the pain.

It is believed that the culprits were children and the Police have been informed. A request has been made again for a regular Police presence in the Village to deter crime. Just the sight of a Policeman might deter a young person from starting a life of petty crime in the area. **If you see anything suspicious phone 648 222** - the call will be transferred to the appropriate station and a Police car in radio communication could soon be on the scene. Don't delay but Act!

**The Promise Auction**, as part of the Llansilin Appeal towards £3,000 for The National Eisteddfod 2003, which was held in The Memorial Hall in November, turned out to be a great success for the organisers with the amount raised in excess of £2,000. The Committee wishes to thank the people of Llansilin who supported it so generously, both with donations and bids and they extend a special thanks to the auctioneer, Stephen Powell for his help with preparations and his skill in producing such a tidy sum from 121 lots!

**Dioch Yn Fawr i Bawb**

### GWEINIDOGAETH BRO

Ar Fedi 1af cafwyd gwasanaeth i ddathlu trigain mlynedd o weinidogaeth y Parch Iiuw Rowlands. Dechreuodd ei yrfa yn y weinidogaeth yn y clych yma a'i ddymuniadd oed cael pregethu yma I ddathlu'r achlysur. Hefyd cafwyd adunaid o gyn aelodau'r Aelwyd ar y Nos Sadwrn. Penwythnos i'w chofio.

Dydd sul, y 15fed o Fedi cawsom ein Pererindod blynyddol. Eleni i Sir Fon ac ymweld ag Oriel Mon, Melin Llanddeusant a Chapel Richard Owen, Rhostrehwfa ble cawsom wasanaeth byr yn cynwys hanes y diwygiwr gan un o'r aelodau. Diwrnod bendigedig. Diolch i'r Parch Stanton Evans am ei drefnu mor drylwyr.

Cawsom gyfres o Gyfarfodydd Diolchgarwch. Yn y Llan cawsom bregeth gan y Parch Elfyn Richards a gwasanaeth ieuentid. Yn y Rhiwlas cafwyd pregeth gan Mr Gwilym Jones, cyfarfod gweddi a gwasanaeth y plant gydag anerchiad gan Mrs Iola Evans. Yng Nghapel Cefn Canol cafwyd gwasanaeth dwyieithog gyda'r Parch Stanton Evans a'r Canon Ridgway yn cymeryd rhan. Gwasanaethau bendithiol iawn.

Dydd Sadwrn, Hydref 5ed priodwyd Tecwyn Thomas, Nant Ganol a Haley Smith, Morda yn Eglwys Croesoswally gan Y Parch N. Fern a'r Parch Stanton Evans. Pob bendith ar y ddau.

*Carys Evans*

### Neuadd Goffa Llansilin Memorial Hall Annual Concert

The 2002 Noson Lawen (Variety Concert) in September given by The Rhos Ladies Choir with their conductor Mr John Daniel, gave a wide variety of performances by both classical and contemporary composers, demonstrating their considerable choral abilities and repertoire. The choir contributed to the success of the evening by performing solos, trios, sketches and recitations. Approximately £250 was raised towards Hall funds.

The committee has now produced this annual concert for the last three years and intends to continue doing so every autumn. Arrangements are already made for September 27<sup>th</sup> 2003, when the winner of the coveted Blue Riband award at the 2002 Welsh National Eisteddfod, baritone Mr Tom Evans, (Gwanas) will be coming to perform.

*Arthur James*

## Cyngor Bro Llansilin Community Council

At the September meeting it was reported that the landowner had given permission for a dangerous tree near the Baptist Chapel to be felled.

Cllr Dennis Sockett and Cllr Harry Hughes were nominated to attend a seminar in Welshpool regarding future consultation by PCC with Town and Community Councils.

Planning applications fully supported included new dwelling opposite Derwen Deg, conversion of redundant barn to a dwelling at Pentre Farm, Llansilin, first floor extension at Bronhyddan, Moelfre and two storey extension at Ty Canol, Bwllgwyn Moelfre.

August and September planning registers were received.

Correspondence received included notices of a meeting of Montgomery Association of Town and Community Councils to discuss new proposals for auditing accounts, an appeal for volunteers to work with offenders, defendants and their families under the Powys Challenge, Airwave Cymru – increasing the effectiveness of police forces, a review the fire brigade organisation by Mid and West Wales Fire Authority and a guide on ethnic monitoring for public authorities.

Complaints were noted of the overgrown footpath by 14 Maesyllan and the need for white lines on the road between Llansilin and the Green Inn.

*Community Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday every other month to which the public is welcome to attend.*

### *Llansilin Tree of Light*

Llansilin Parish Church will again be promoting its Tree of Light this Christmas. Following the success of this project last year when £340 was raised for Shropshire and The Midwest Hospice, the Parish has decided that children's charities will benefit in 2002. The net profit from the fundraising will be divided equally between Hope House, our local children's hospice and The Ladybird Project that supports orphans and street children in Russia and the former Soviet Republics.

Parishioners have offered to donate a tree which will be displayed prominently in front of the Church throughout advent and Christmas. People wishing to help these very good causes can do so by giving a minimum of £3 for each light they would like to sponsor on the tree to remember a loved one, celebrate a special event or to provide a symbol for world peace.

If you would like to help these charities and commemorate someone or something special in your life, please contact either Joan Williams on tel. 791 313 or Margaret Lloyd tel. 791 472



### When is the right time to put up and take down Christmas decorations?

Traditionally, Christmas festivities lasted for 12 days, as the carol The Twelve Days of Christmas tells us, with Christmas Day being the first day and Epiphany, January the 6<sup>th</sup> being the last day. So, to be correct, we should be putting up Christmas decorations on Christmas Eve and remove them on the evening of January 5<sup>th</sup>. This tradition goes right back to bringing the Yule Log into the home on Christmas Eve and keeping it alight until Twelfth Night. Today however, its is unlikely that people spend Christmas Eve decorating for Christmas, they are more likely to do so on the week-end before, and this is also the peak time for buying a Christmas tree.

The most famous Christmas tree in the UK, donated annually by the Norwegian nation and erected in Trafalgar Square, is normally lit on the first Thursday in December.

Superstitious people may find it worth remembering that holly, one of our earliest Christmas decorations, is associated with the super-natural and should not be allowed into the house outside the 'true' 12 day Christmas period as this is regarded as being very unlucky indeed.

THE RHYDYCROESAU PANTOMINE GROUP have kindly agreed to give half the ticket sales from their 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2003 performance towards Cor Llansilin Choir fundraising for the National Eisteddfod 2003. Tickets are £3 adults, £1.50 children and can be obtained from Sarah James, tel. 791346



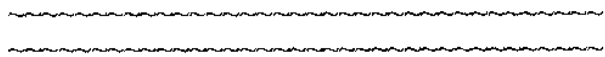
**Life at Ysgol Bro Cynllaith**

In November the children went on a school trip to a museum in Liverpool to visit an exhibition about the History of the Teddy Bear. Over 300 Teddy Bears were exhibited and the children brought their own teddies with them. Goldilocks was there to guide them through the exhibition and the history of Teddy was covered from the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century to present day, as well as bears who appear in storybooks, cartoons and advertising. The visit also included a visit to the museum's Ancient Egyptian's displays. Following the visit, an Art Day was held about the Egyptians, and the results are displayed in the school entrance hall and library.

A recent Clay Pigeon Shoot, organised by Sue Fensome, raised £216.80 for the school, despite wet weather. The winner, Claire Morris bagged five clays whilst head teacher got two and a big bruise on the shoulder!

A Design and Technology session taken by Mr John Gittins, LEA Advisor, gave different age groups an insight into balloon controlled vehicles, mechanisms and pneumatics.

The youngest children thoroughly enjoyed a visit from the Powys Dance Team which was funded by The PTA.



**Arts and Crafts at the Old Vicarage, Llansilin**

A great variety of one, two and three day courses will be held at The Old Vicarage, during the next few months, when professional craftsmen and women will teach their speciality. If you fancy learning about letter carving in stone, hedge laying, making blinds or curtains, spinning and weaving, painting and drawing or hurdle making - to mention but a few - please contact Pam Johnson Tel. 791 345 for details.

**Gymanfu Nadolig yn Capel Cefn Canol  
Nos Sul Rhagfyr 15 am 6.30 o'r gloch**

***Carol Singing Festival Cefn Canol Chapel  
December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 p. m.***

**Mrs Iona Jones - yn arwain / conductor  
Wrth yr organ - Carys Evans  
Itemau gan tri Parti Plygain Leol  
With items by carol singing parties**

*A bilingual Christmas singing festival*



**GO AHEAD for The New Community  
Transport Service for the Tanat and Cain  
Valleys**

From the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, fully accessible mini busses started to run from the valleys to Oswestry thanks to the Community Fund Wales. The service is operated by Community Transport and uses volunteer drivers and escorts, Mon - Fri 9am to 5 pm. If you have difficulties getting about or are unable to use normal busses ( if there was one! ) you can become a member of the scheme and book them whenever you need to go somewhere. Volunteer drivers and escorts are always wanted. More information from the Enquiry Line tel. 671 571

## THANK YOU

As the year 2002 draws to a close I realise what a busy year it has been for the people who have been involved in St Silin's Church with arranging altar flowers, as well as keeping the Church sparkling clean with dusters and polish and decorating for the Church festivals. In June this year we decorated the Church for a wedding which was quite an experience but very rewarding and much appreciated. At the August Bank Holiday weekend we, with the Churches from Llangadwalladr, Rhiwlas, The Chapels and Ysgol Bro Cynllaith joined together to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. This was great fun and thoroughly enjoyed by one and all. So, for your support, enthusiasm and generosity, given in so many ways, I want to say a sincere BIG THANK YOU. New ideas and suggestions as well as new volunteers are always welcome.



*Mary E Morris*

**"MAKING ACCESS TO GOODS AND SERVICES EASIER FOR DISABLED CUSTOMERS"** is the title of a free practical guide for small businesses and other small service providers, published by the Disability Rights Commission. By 2004, everyone who provides a public service will have a duty to ensure that their service will be accessible to everyone, under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. This includes all retail outlets, public services, Churches, Chapels, Theatres, Hotels, Bed and Breakfast outlets, Cafés, etc. For a free copy, contact DRC tel. 08457 622 633 Email: [enquiry@drc-gb.org](mailto:enquiry@drc-gb.org)



**Your Used stamps** -it is a pity to throw away used stamps when they can be raise money for **Guide Dogs for Blind People**. From December, a box will be placed in the Church Porch for the collection of your used stamps. Please leave about ½ inch of envelope all around the stamp. Maybe someone would like to take on the organisation of this on a regular basis? If so, please tel. 791 239

## Village Church Yard

The team of "grass masters" ended the season on a high note, feeling real pride in a job well done! Throughout the growing season, grass has been cut, ivy trimmed off walls, fallen trees cut up and lots of cups of tea drunk! The machines have worked hard with several breakdowns and repairs. The winter rest is now well earned - doilch yn fawr.

And, hasn't the flower tubs by the fountain looked spectacular this summer, thanks to another set of volunteers.

These things don't go unnoticed but are appreciated wide and far as this recently received letter proves.

It is now over 65 years since I left my old birthplace at the (old) Fron to join the Royal Navy at the commencement of World War II but I have continually kept in touch with Llansilin through numerous relatives and friends.

Whenever I visit the village my regular stop is the Churchyard because therein lie most of my past acquaintances and for this reason I am prompted to express my admiration and appreciation for the loving care and attention which parishioners have given to maintaining the graveyard in such a neat and tidy manner. A good Welsh word to describe this is 'LLEWYRCHYS'

During a visit this year I noticed that my family curbstone had become very dilapidated, cracked and the inscriptions illegible. To maintain parity with the general tidiness of the Churchyard I had a new headstone erected.

Congratulations all you local volunteers for doing such a noble and worthy task.

Mr Roland Thomas, Saratoga, 1, Coryton Close, Dawlish

## **Llansilin Sheep Dog Trials and Show**

### **- Early Show schedules wanted**

The exhibition about Llansilin Show and Trials in the Church on the August Bank Holiday weekend aroused a lot of interest. The splendid display of photographs and show schedules had been assembled by Mary Morris. There was one pre-war schedule with classes for dairy cattle and small holders and even horse shoeing competitions! How times have changed.

Have YOU got any of those early schedules, and also a 1987 one, which could be photocopied for Llansilin History archive? If so, please contact Nesta tel. 791 219 or Valerie tel. 791 274.

# Village Activities



**& other useful bits of information**

**Aelwyd - Welsh League of Youth**, from September on Fridays 7.30 - 10 pm in Memorial Hall. Contact Emyr Evans tel. 791 240

**Bowls Club** 7.30 pm in Memorial Hall on Mondays. Contact Ray Doney tel. 791 434

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

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

**Shopping Bus to Oswestry** every Friday (from Llangedwyn over the Racecourse) leave Llansilin 10.30 am returning 12.30 pm Suitable for wheelchair user. Border Community Transport tel. 01938 556 281

**Exercise for Life** Tuesdays 7 - 8 pm Memorial Hall £2 per session. Contact Marion Hood tel. 791 277

**Llanfyllin Group Practice Patient Participation Group** Comments and Questions regarding any aspect of medical care and practice to Rob Ellis tel. 791 214

**Llansilin Mixed Choir** practice weekly in the Memorial Hall. Contact Henry Evans tel. 791 410

**Llansilin Playscheme**, for after-school activities in sport, drama, arts and crafts. Contact Sian on tel. 791 371

**Local History Society**, Contact Chris Burton tel 791 274

**Meals on Wheels** Contact Olive Jones tel. 791 363

**Memorial Hall and The Institute**. Chairman and Booking Clerk Arthur James tel. 791 346

**Mothers Union** in The Institute every third Thursday at 2.15 pm. Contact Glenice Jones tel. 791 287

**Over 60's Club** meet alternate Tuesdays from September at 2 - 4.30pm in The Institute. Contact Nesta Morgan tel. 791 219

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Police</b> | <b>Powys 648 222</b>                        |
|               | <b>West Mercia 0345 444888 (local rate)</b> |

**Playgroup** on Mondays and Thursdays during term-time, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Carol Foulkes tel. 791 326

**Rhiwlas Community Centre**, Contact Will Thomas tel. 680 451

**Rhiwlas Gardening Club** every third Wednesday at 7.30 pm in The 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 - 9 am and 6 - 7 pm unless in an emergency.

**Shopping Bus** every Friday £1 return (from Llangedwyn over the Racecourse) leave Llansilin 10.30 am returning 12.30 pm Suitable for wheelchair user. Border Community Transport tel. 01938 556 281

**Sunday School** every first Sunday during term-time 10 - 11 am in The Institute. Contact Sheila Ashley tel. 791 283

**Whist drive** every second Wednesday September to May, 7.30 pm in The Memorial Hall. Contact Emyr Evans tel. 791 240

**Women's Institute**, every fourth Wednesday at 7 pm in The Institute. Contact Pam Johnson tel. 791 345

**YFC**, contact Richard Evans tel. 600 228

**Youth Club** meet Thursdays 7 - 9.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Youth Leader Elena Jones tel. 780 315

|                         |                  |                    |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Garage Shop</b>      | Monday to Friday | 9.30 am - 6 pm     |
|                         | Saturday         | 8.30 am - 1pm      |
| Closed for lunch 1-2 pm |                  |                    |
| <b>Post Office</b>      | Monday           | 8.30 am - 2.30 pm  |
|                         | Thursday         | 8.30 am - 12.30 pm |

Please help to keep this list up to date