

# Llansilin Newsletter

**Church, Chapel and Village News**



**Number 42**  
**Summer 2003**

## Times of Worship

<b>Llansilin Parish Church</b>		
1st Sunday	Holy Communion in English	10.00
2nd	Matins	10.00
3rd	Holy Communion in English	8.30
4th	Holy Communion in Welsh	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

#### Meh.

1.	Gweinidog	Rhiwlas	6.30
8.	Parch Elwyn Richards *	Bethania	2.00
15.	Gweinidog	Salem	6.30
	(Gwasanaeth dan ofal y Brodyr)		
22.	Mr John Rosser	Cefnfanol	2.00
29.	Mr Thomas Morris	Bethesda	10.30

#### Gor.

6.	Gweinidog	Soar	10.30
13.	Mrs Marguerite Jones *	Rhiwlas	2.00
20.	Gweinidog ( C )	Bethania	6.30
27.	Parch R Dyfan Thomas	Salem	2.00

#### Awst.

3.	Mr R A Platt	Cefnfanol	2.00
	Oedfa'r Eisteddfod (bore) Nat Eisteddfod Service		
10.	Mr Hywel C Evans	Bethesda	2.00
	Cymanfa'r Eisteddfod (hwyr) singing festival		
17.	Parch Gwilym O Jones *	Soar	2.00
24.	Buddug Medi	Rhiwlas	2.00
31.	Parch Glyn Morgan	Bethania	6.30

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 and Emyr Evans who does the Welsh News ( tel. 791 240 )

Distributor: Margaret Lloyd tel. 791 472

Get your Newsletter by post for a year by sending four stamps to Mrs M. Lloyd 8 Maesyllan Llansilin Oswestry SY10 7QE

Items for inclusion in the Autumn 2003 issue by the end of July please to: Graigwen Cottage Wernddu, Oswestry SY10 9BN tel 791 310

Dear Friends,

What a lovely thought that it is my turn to write to you once again. As I write this we are in the middle of war with Iraq. I hope and pray that by the time you will be reading this letter, the war will be all over. I do not intend to write about the war, as I think that the least we talk about wars, the better. My late father was a prisoner of war in the first world war, but as children we were told very little about his experience as a prisoner. I think that if there is a verse in the Bible that should not have been included therein, it is the one that says "There is a time for war" (3 Eccl. v 8) Do you agree?

Do you ever feel that you have accomplished little, that your work has all been in vain? That is a feeling you often find among the elderly.

A friend was telling me, not long ago, of a Sunday School teacher he had known. He was a bachelor and loved passing on the message of Christ to his pupils. But through time, new methods of teaching were introduced and he felt that his way of teaching was out of date. When he retired from his employment he went for a sea voyage, and onboard he met a missionary returning to his mission field. They chatted and the teacher told the missionary of his years as a Sunday School teacher, ending a little sadly, "I often wonder if I ever did any good". The missionary smiled and said, "I recognised you as soon as you stepped aboard. I was one of the boys in your Sunday School and it is because of you that I am now a missionary."

If we are faithful in sowing, who knows where the seed may fall? And let us not forget that God will bless every attempt at helping others, however small and whenever that is possible.

***If nobody smiled and nobody cheered***

***And nobody helped us along***

***If each, every minute, looked after himself,***

***And the good things all went to the strong;***

***If nobody cared just a little for you,***

***And nobody thought about me.***

***And we all stood alone in the battle of life,***

***What a dreary, old place this would be!***

May this letter be a source of blessing to you

God Bless you,

*Stanton Evans*

### Summer Diary Dates

#### JUNE

1<sup>st</sup> Deanery Conference 'Working with the Unchurched' (Young people) 7 pm

10<sup>th</sup> Memorial Hall AGM, 7:30 pm

11<sup>th</sup> Ladies Punch and Savouries Evening, Memorial Hall from 7 pm

12<sup>th</sup> Archdeacon's Visitation, Llanfyllin 7 pm

#### JULY

5<sup>th</sup> Abergele History Society visit the village, the Church and Sycharth

13<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Conference St Asaph 2 pm

#### AUGUST

2<sup>nd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Welsh National Eisteddfod, Meifod

25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Llansilin Show and Sheepdog Trials

Flower and Cleaning Rota, St Silin's Church

#### June

1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Margaret Lloyd and Rosemary Powell

15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Williams and Megan Evans

29<sup>th</sup> Anneli Thomas and Val Talbot

#### July

6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Tony and Gwyneth Jones

20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Janet Davies and Avril Jones

#### August

3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Jarvis and Dot Renshaw

17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Glenice Jones and Olive Jones

31<sup>st</sup> Sheila Ashley and Menna Ashley

### MILE STONES

#### Deaths

Last February, of Robert John Pritchard, whose funeral Service was held at the Methodist Church Oswestry, followed by interment at Llangawalladr Churchyard.

*This Newsletter comes to you with the compliments of the Chapel Congregation, Llansilin*



Our Mothering Sunday Service, which we shared with our friends from Llangedwyn, must be one of the most poignant services we have had in St Silin's for some time.

Many of us were already in a sombre mood – Jane Bwlch's Will had lost his own battle for life the previous Friday and our thoughts were with Jane and Will's family. It soon became apparent which way the service was going when the New Testament lesson told the story of Herod ordering the execution of all baby boys and "The voice of Rachel, weeping for her children, who would not be comforted, because they are not" (Matt 2:18). The Vicar was obviously haunted by the image of a modern day Rachel – an Iraqi mother in the news that week was beside herself because her son, who was unable to stand the terror of war, had run away and she new not where to.

Later in the service, each child present was given a customary posy of flowers to give to their own mother (and grandmother), already prepared by Christine Williams and friends. As there was enough flowers for all the members of the congregation, these were distributed, taken outside and placed right round the war memorial in the Churchyard – for all the mothers who had lost or would lose a child in the present conflict, on either side. Views are varied about the purpose of the recent conflict, but everyone present was able to share with the vicar's sentiments for the families of the victims of war. A special adaptation by the vicar of "They shall not grow old..." and The Lords Prayer were said before returning inside the Church for more prayers for local families whose members are involved in the conflict. During the final hymn of this impromptu service, a 'mature mother' took the collection for the first time ever, if somewhat apprehensively. Well done Betty Evans, it won't feel so bad next time!

*Sheila Ashley*

**At a Charity Concert** on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of April, the Rhos Orpheus Choir performed a 'Celebration of Easter Music' in Llansilin Parish Church. The organisers were very pleased at the turn-out and both the local Welsh Assembly Members, Karen Sinclair and Martyn Jones MP were able to attend. Mr Jones, as Patron of the Choir, said that he was delighted to support this charity concert in aid of two very worthwhile causes: the Church's Development Fund and The Parkinson's Disease Society. The programme was very varied and featured soloists Beverly Parry – Jones (soprano) and Alf Gladman (tenor) as well as choral items of several well known hymns where the audience choir joined together to sing with great enthusiasm.

There was a pleasant surprise in the interval - as well as a chance to chat and by tapes and CD's of the choir, when the audience were served a fruit drink and hot-cross buns, by courtesy of the Village Bakery, Wrexham.

The organisers were most grateful to the choir and soloists for performing without a fee and that as a result both the good causes will receive £300. Llansilin resident Mr Michael Bignall will present the cheque to the Shrewsbury Branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society. *Val Burton*

### **A Plea for Llangadwalladr Church**

This lovely sanctuary in the hills behind Llansilin in need of care and attention!

**CAN YOU HELP?** The congregation is too small to support the essential immediate repairs revealed in a recent fabric report. At least £15,000 is likely to be needed to save the building from further deterioration. Someone willing is needed to help 'surf the net' to find sources of funding – grants are available for this type of work – it needs time and persistence to present the case and follow up leads. ( incidental expenses can be claimed)

**THE REWARD?** The satisfaction of preserving this enchanting place for another generation!

**HOW TO START?** Contact Vera Evans, tel. 791 471 who can put you in the picture and help start the process.

If you have never seen Llangadwalladr Church, why not take a trip into the hills and experience its charm and contemplate on the many generations for whom this place has been so important.

**NEUADD GOFFA  
LLANSILIN  
MEMORIAL HALL  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
In the Memorial Hall**

All residents age 18 and over are entitled to attend and vote at the AGM in the appointment of elected members (except representative members) to serve on the Memorial Hall Management Committee. Existing elected committee members can be re-elected. Please note that nominations for new elected members must be forwarded in writing to the Chairman Mr E O Evans, Cefn Braich, Llansilin, together with the written consent of the nominee no later than Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2003.



**GWEINIDOGAETH BRO**

Dros y tymor wyna maer'r cynulleidfaoedd i lawr bob blwyddyn ond yn codi'n sydyn unwaith mae mis Mai yn dod i mewn. Yn ôl ar Chwefor 16eg cawsom wasanaeth dan ofal y brodyr. Gwasanaeth buddiol wedi ei drefnu gan ein gweinidog, y Parch Stanton Evans.

Roedd y gwasanaeth Gwyl Ddewi undebol yn yr Eglwys, ac fe ddaeth cynulleidfa deilwng yno i gyd addoli a chyd gymuno. Ar y Nos Llun dilynol cawsom wledd yn y neuadd ac anerchiad gan y Parch Elfyn Richards o'r Ponciau ger Wrecsam, ac yna adloniant gan Lowri ac Elen, hefyd o'r Ponciau. Noson dda iawn i ddathlu gwyl ein Nawdd Sant.

Nos Wener y Groglith cynhaliwyd y Cyfarfod Pregethu Blynyddol yng Nghapel Soar. Y pregethwr gwadd eleni oedd y Parch Gwyn Hughes o'r Wrecsam, ac fe gawsom bregeth i'w chofio.

Cydymdeimlwn yn gywir iawn gyda Jane Edwards, merch Wyn a Linda Jones, y Bwlch, o golli ei gŵr, prin dwy flynedd ers diwrnod eu priodas. Un a gwên ar ei wyneb bob amser oedd William ac fe gofiwn am y teulu yn ein gweddiau.

Braf yw gweld Glyn Roberts yn ôl yn ein hoedfaon ar ol plwc yn yr ysbyty. Peidier a rhuthro i wneud gormod yn rhu fuan. Bu Robert Lloyd Jones hefyd yn yr ysbyty a deallwn ei fod yntau ar y ffordd i wella ac y bydd yn cerdded i nôl y papurau a'i getyn yn ei geg toc iawn.

*Carys Evans*

*St Silin's Church Re-ordering  
Project update.*

**Archaeology.** The survey has now been completed; the contractor's report received and the initial comments from the Clwyd and Powis Archaeological Trust (CPAT) are to hand. No evidence of an earlier cruciform Church emerged and no large-scale mediaeval burials were found. However, in addition to miscellaneous finds, two Victorian-era burials were discovered which could indicate that there might possibly be more within the area to be developed. We are now in discussion with CPAT and our architect to explore the implications of the project.

**Next steps.** Once the implications of the archaeological survey have been sorted out, we will work with the architect to flesh out the agreed general design of the extension to add the detail that will enable us to make the application for a Grant of Faculty – the ecclesiastical equivalent of planning permission.

**What's in a name?** "Re-ordering" has been the working name for our project since its inception. It's a bit technical and colourless and nobody really wants to continue with it when we start fund-raising in earnest (after Grant of Faculty). People have commented that "St Silin's Church Development Appeal" as printed on the "Celebration of Easter Music" programme would be much better. What do you think? Any better ideas? If so, just let us know. *Graham Moss*

## Llansilin Ragrug Wallhanging.

It's now a year since we started the work and I am pleased to say that we hope to complete it sometime this summer. Initially, there was much discussion as to what the hanging might be and once decided, a faithful group of five met regularly to undertake the task of depicting a well known local scene (they also made the bunting and cards for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations). It's surprising to think that everyone taking part were complete novices apart from having attended a one day course run for the village on the techniques of ragrug work.

The members of the group are surprised at what they have achieved. It is fair to say that the project have made us look at the landscape in a different way as well as build our confidence in the use of colour. The technique itself is very forgiving; there are some things that have been brought out and others were happy accidents! Each member of the group have their own style: Mo's hooking loose whereas Alison's is tight and the more vibrant use of colour is probably down to me.

We have been based at the Old Vicarage for the duration of the project and are indeed grateful to Pam Johnson's for her hospitality, support and encouragement. Gill Avery also popped in to see us regularly and helped us to get going in the early stages.

The end product is not just a picture of a landscape but also a piece of work that contain memories of the garments used for the rags, who wore them and their individual stories - all of which we shared together when we worked away. The meetings have had a real social aspect to them, we have worked as a team, shared the load and become friends! There has been some highs and some lows, but that is the nature of the landscape. We can't wait for a suitable occasion, hopefully soon, to display the project  
*Kate Beecroft*

## Llansilin Show 'Arts and Crafts' Class 2003



**Start preparing *your* entry for the show in one or more of the following classes:**

A knitted article                      A cross stitch item  
A greeting card                        A cushion cover  
A pressed flower

There are three classes for photographs:  
'Children'    'At work'    'A four legged friend'

**Thank you** to everyone who helped to give the Church that extra clean for Easter and display your well thought-out arrangements so professionally. Thank you also to the people who kindly contributed towards the cost of the Altar flowers.

M E Morris, Churchwarden

**'Girls Night Out'**  
in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June  
from 7 pm!

There will be a Flower Arranging Demonstration by Sionned Hughes, the launch of the 'Llansilin Print' by Barbara Looser, Raffle - super prizes, Punch and Savouries. £5 incl. a free raffle ticket. Proceeds to St Silin's Church and Cancer Research. Details tel. 791 223

## *Churchyard News*

Have you had a walk round the Churchyard lately? It's looking very good! With the aid of the new machines paid for out of Churchyard funds, the "grass masters," fortified by cups of teas, have worked every Thursday - hail, rain or shine. Come and have a look - the yew trees are magnificent, the violets have been lovely and the headstones in the "old" (front) area all have a story to tell. If you want to help keep it lovely, why not join us on Thursday evenings?

## LOCAL VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

**Shropshire Wildlife Trust** – help on SWT nature reserves

**Local Sports Clubs** – coaching and assisting

**Oswestry Citizen Advocacy** – people with patience and willingness to help others are needed

**Just Credit Union** – at the Silo in Gobowen, cashiers and helpers

**HOAP** – (Homeless in Oswestry Action Project) to help support young homeless people, night stop volunteers to provide simple B&B on a temporary basis

**Bernardos Charity Shop** – helping in the shop and café in Oswestry. Training given.

Please contact Julie at Qube, tel 656 882 for more information. e-mail [qube@wnsc.ac.uk](mailto:qube@wnsc.ac.uk)

### *Certificate in Interpersonal Skills for Volunteers*

This course is offered by the University of Lampeter Online through its 'Virtual University for Voluntary Sector Studies'. It is free to UK and EU citizens of 3 years residency.

It is a flexible, distance learning course aimed at volunteers with six months volunteering experience. The course covers a wide range of issues and skills from confidentiality to equal opportunities, communication, counselling skills and dealing with aggression. On successful completion, students are awarded 40 Credits at University Level 1. [www.volstudy.ac.uk](http://www.volstudy.ac.uk)  
Centre for Educational Development  
University of Wales, Lampeter SA48 7ED  
Tel. 01570 424 785

**North Shropshire Equipment Loan Service** is free, provided by the Voluntary Sector Support Unit for all community groups and voluntary organisations throughout Shropshire. Bookings for Oswestry through Nickie tel 01743 237 872 and the equipment are kept in The Memorial Hall, Oswestry, consisting of:

Overhead Projector and Projection Screen  
Display Boards  
Extension Cable  
Flipchart with notepad



WELSH NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD 2003  
MEIFOD 2<sup>ND</sup> – 9<sup>TH</sup> OF AUGUST

ACCOMMODATION FOR  
COMPETITORS AND VISITORS ARE IN  
SHORT SUPPLY  
IF YOU CAN HELP PROVIDE SOME,  
PLEASE CONTACT  
**0845 122 2003**  
FOR A REGISTRATION FORM.

THIS WILL THEN BE PASSED TO THE LOCAL  
TOURIST INFORMATION BUREAU FOR  
DISTRIBUTION. THEY WILL ALSO ADVISE YOU  
OF WHAT TO CHARGE, DEPENDING ON  
FACILITIES AVAILABLE. POTENTIAL GUESTS  
WILL THEN CONTACT YOU DIRECTLY.  
REMEMBER - NOT EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR  
A FIVE STAR HOTEL!



**By next September**, I have been involved in producing Llansilin Newsletter for five years and I decided that it is the time to let someone else have a go. It has been an enjoyable experience and I am grateful to everyone of you who have sent your contributions every season and I trust you will continue to do so, supporting Val and Dave Talbot when they take over from the next newsletter in the autumn.  
*Anneli Thomas.*

# Village Activities



**& other useful bits of information**

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

**Bowls Club** 7.30 p m in Memorial Hall on Mondays. Contact Ray Deney 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

**Drawing and Painting for all**, Rhiwlas Community Centre Tuesdays 10 am - 12 noon. Run by the North Shropshire College.

**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 p m Contact Glenice Jones tel. 791 296

Please help to keep this list up to date

**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 p m in the Memorial Hall. Contact Carol Foulkes tel. 791 326

**Parochial Church Council meeting** - every second Tuesday monthly at 7 p m in Church

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

**Rhiwlas Gardening Club** every third Wednesday at 7.30 pm in The Community Centre. Contact Debbie Taylor 600 329

**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 p m Suitable for wheelchair user. Border Community Transport tel. 01938 556 281

**Sunday School** on the last Sunday each month 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 p m in The 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>	Tuesday	8.30 am - 2.30 pm
	Thursday	8.30 am - 12.30 pm