

Times of Worship

St Silin's, Llansilin

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	10.30 am
2nd "	Matins	9.00 am
3rd "	Family Service	10.30am
4th "	Holy Communion (said)	9.00 am
	Evensong	6.30 pm
5th "	Holy Communion	10.30 am
Every Friday	Morning Prayers	9.00 am

St Cedwyn's, Llangedwyn

1st Sunday	Evensong	6.30 pm
2nd "	Holy Communion	10.30am
3rd "	Holy Communion (said)	9.00 am
4th "	Family Service	10.30 am
5th "	Holy Communion (said)	9.00 am
Every Tuesday	Morning Prayers	9.00 am

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

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin a'r Cylch

Rhag

2	Parch Stanton Evans (C)	Rhiwlas	10.00 am
9	Miss Rhoswen Charles	Llansilin	2.00 pm Carolau. Seion, Croesowallt 6.30
16	Parch Gwilym O Jones	Cefncanol	2.00 pm
23	(Gwasanaethau arbennig	Rhiwlas	2.00 pm
30	y Nadolig i'w trefnu	Llansilin	2.00 pm

Ion

6	Parch Stanton Evans (C)	Cefncanol	2.00 pm	Gwasanaeth yr Ifanc
13	Parch Glyn Morgan	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm	
20	Buddug Medi	Llansilin	2.00 pm	
27	Parch E Elfyn Richards	Cefncanol	2.00 pm	

Chwe

3	Parch Stanton Evans (C)	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm
10	Mr T M Ellis	Llansilin	10.00 am
17	Parch Robert W Jones *	Cefncanol	2.00 pm
24	Parch J Gwyndaf Richards	Rhiwlas	2.00 pm

Llansilin Newsletter

Church, Chapel and Village News



Dear Reader

I feel happy and privileged at being asked to write for the Llansilin newsletter once again. On considering what to tell you in this letter, I decided that I would quote an article that I came across in the quarterly magazine, "Grace", under the heading of "Obituary". The author of the article is unknown.

"Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend by the name of Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valued lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair. Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but over-bearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fined for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened his condition!

He declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant. Over time, Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot and when it spilled in her lap she was awarded a huge settlement from McDonalds.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. He is survived by his two stepbrothers, My Rights and Ima Whiner"

May we pray continually for the ever important, sadly missed virtue, Common Sense.

God bless you all,

Stanton Evans

Mothers Union meets in the Parish Room every third Thursday at 2.15 pm. Contact Glenice Jones ☎ 791 296

Over 60's Club meets alternate Tuesdays at 2.30 pm in the Institute. Contact Sarah James ☎ 791 346

PALS (Llansilin Drama Group). Alison Beeston ☎ 791 262

Parochial Church Council Meeting: meets regularly on second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the Parish Room

Playgroup in the Institute: Wednesday and Friday free education for over 3's 8.45 am to 11.45 am (over 2½ welcome for £3 a session). Ti a fi Wednesday 9.30 am to 11.30 am (£2.50). Contact Dan Evans ☎ 791 417

Police Welsh 0845 607 1001
English 0845 607 1002

Post Office Tuesday 8.30 am to 2.30 pm
Thursdays 8.30 am to 12.30 pm

Rhiwlas Community Centre: contact Will Thomas ☎ 680 451

Rural Car Service for visiting the doctor, dentist, chiropodist, etc. Contact Christine Williams ☎ 791 563 between 8 and 9 am and 6 and 7 pm unless an emergency

Shopping/Mobility Bus every Friday £3 return, free to bus pass or token holders. Leaves Llansilin 11 am and returns from Oswestry at 1.15 pm. Suitable for wheelchair user. Contact Border Community Transport ☎ 01938 556 281

Table Tennis every Tuesday from September to April 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Pat Lovell ☎ 791 235

Whist drive every second Wednesday from September to May, 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Emrys Evans ☎ 791 240

Women's Institute: every second Friday in the month at 7 pm in the Institute. Contact Tanya Jones ☎ 791 580 or Rosemary Edwards ☎ 791 413

YFC: contact Richard Evans ☎ 600 228

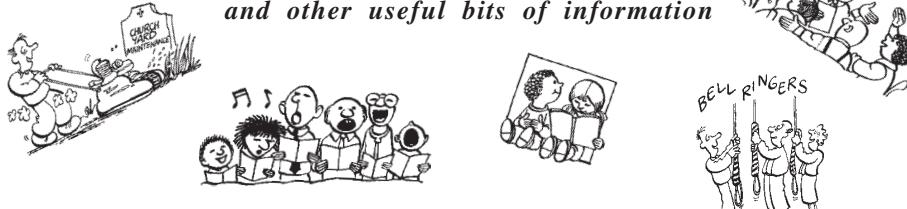
Youth Club meets Thursdays 7 - 9.00 pm in the Hall. Contact Elena Jones ☎ 772 477

Thank you to everyone who helps to keep this list up-to-date. Please carry on checking.



Village Activities

and other useful bits of information



Bell Ringing practice on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm (6 bells, 5-3-0):

Bowls Club 8.00 pm in the Memorial Hall on Mondays. Contact Ray Denye ☎ 791 434

Bus service no.78 Wednesdays and Fridays Oswestry Bus Station (stand 3) 10 am; Llansilin (Maes y Llan) 10.20 am; Oswestry Bus Station 10.42 am. Oswestry 1 pm; Llansilin 1.22; Oswestry 1.43 pm. Tanat Valley ☎ 780 212

Churchyard grass cutting: April to October every Thursday at 6 pm

Community Council meets every second Tuesday on alternate months 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Harry Hughes ☎ 657 972

C.R.A.F.T. Group meets on Monday mornings 10 am - 12 noon. Contact Alison Beeston ☎ 791 262

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

Drawing and Painting for all at Rhiwlas Community Centre Tuesdays 10 am - 12 noon.

Llanfyllin Group Practice Patient Participation Group Comments and questions regarding any aspect of medical care and practice to Rob Ellis ☎ 791 214

Llansilin Mixed Choir practice weekly in the Memorial Hall. Henry Evans ☎ 791 410

Local History Society: contact Chris Burton ☎ 791 274

Meals on Wheels: contact Carol Foulkes ☎ 791 326

Memorial Hall and The Institute: Arthur James ☎ 791 346

Mobile Library: every other Monday at Llansilin Church at 1.30 pm, then Moelfre layby 2.40 pm, Llangadwaladr 3.15 pm, Rhiwlas 3.45 pm. ☎ 01938 553001

ST CADWALADR'S ALTAR FRONTAL UNVEILED

At a coffee morning in St Silin's Parish Room recently, Llansilin's C.R.A.F.T. group unveiled the altar frontal they have been working on for over a year now and which is destined for St Cadwaladr's Church. Group members have contributed individual creations in embroidery and appliquéd and the icon of the Saint in the centre of the cloth is based on the medieval window in St Cadwaladr's Church on Ynys Mon. A magnificent red dragon lies at his feet and all around are examples of our local flora and fauna. The frontal was much admired by everyone and it was clear that people were glad to have the opportunity to show their appreciation of everything the group has produced for the church and the village over the past few years.



Gill Avery, Norma Garment, Alison Beeston, Dot Renshaw and Joan Fox-Linton standing behind the altar cloth. Missing regulars are Sue Jackson and Sheila Wilks.

The C.R.A.F.T. group was set up in November 2003 following the completion of the rag rug picture of the Llansilin landscape which now hangs in the entrance of the Memorial Hall. Since then they have produced an amazing number of artefacts, which is not bad going for 2 hours on a Monday morning in Norma Garment's front room. They have created four fountain dressings with a difference for the village show in the summer and for the various Christmases they have produced two larger than life hessian angels, a triptych of windows depicting the Christmas story, paper sculptures of the Three Kings and their special contribution to the Christmas Tree Festival last year. In between they have managed to fit in other aspects of craft work, many of which they have tackled for the first time, including wild weaving. They also made the banner which led the procession at the opening of the village pageant, The Chronicle of Cynllaith, in the summer of 2005. As if this is not enough, Alison Beeston, the group co-ordinator, somehow makes time to record everything in a splendid Scrap Book, definitely worth a look and a work of art in itself.

A lot of hard work, dedication and creativity goes into all their activities – but so does a lot of laughter and companionship. We'd love to know how wild their weaving became in the end, though!

LLANSILIN PARISH NEWS

FAMILY SERVICES

These popular family services are now being held on every third Sunday of the month at 10.30 am. We are very pleased to have so many children, mums, dads, grannies and grandads attending – the more we have the more enjoyable the services will be. A special feature of these new services is the participation by children of all ages and refreshments are served afterwards. The September service was organised by Marjorie and Alison on the theme of “Haves and Have Nots”. In October we looked at the “Parable of the Talents”, with Deborah and Brenda. The theme for the services in November and December will be Advent and Christmas. Please look out for posters for services in the new year.



HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES

All three services at Llansilin, Llangadwaladr and Rhiwlas were very well attended with the churches beautifully decorated. The Revd Margaret Robarts officiated at all services. The visiting guest clergy were the Revd J B Davies, Rural Life Advisor to the Diocese of St Asaph, and the Revd Mike Powell of Llansanffraidaid. After the service at Llansilin the congregation adjourned to the Parish Room where an excellent “Bring and Share” lunch was served by lady members of the church.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Remembrance Sunday was commemorated in Llansilin on Sunday, 11 November after a joint service in Llangedwyn Church. The congregations gathered at Llansilin Cenotaph at noon for a short act of remembrance which was preceded by the ringing of the muffled bells. Major N Ward read the names of those local servicemen who lost their lives in the two World Wars, the last Post was sounded by Anna Hayward and the service ended with the bells rung unmuffled.

PUTTING THE CHURCHYARD TO BED

On a glorious October Saturday a small group of volunteers spent an enjoyable morning working in the churchyard. A final strim dealt with the grass for the season and more work was done clearing ivy from the walls – the rapid growth was loosening the stones. A major project, needing extra help, was the change to the position of the Memorial Bed. It is now sited on the other side of the Cenotaph and will be much easier to look after. A lot of soil had to be removed and the old site levelled and gravelled. Now it will be a lot safer to walk to the Parish Room and much more convenient for cars. The group then retired to the Parish Room for a well earned

Gweinidog

Parch Stanton T Evans
20 Croeswylan Lane, Croesoswallt Ffon: 654 682

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin A'r Cylch

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

Vicar

The Revd M Robarts Tel: 791 209
Y Ficerdy, Llansilin

Churchwardens, St Silin's

Vicar's Warden: Esther Milner Tel: 791 323
People's Warden: Deborah Hill-Trevor 791 402

Organist, St Silin's

Morfudd Williams Tel: 659 369

Communion Assistant

Margaret Lloyd Tel: 791 472

Parochial Church Council Secretary

Valerie Burton Tel: 791 274
email: vmb@envex.demon.co.uk

PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary

Graham Moss Tel: 791 528



Bellringing, St Silin's

Tower Captain: Eric Avery
Tel: 791 298

Steeple Keeper: Chris Burton
Tel: 791 274

Ringing Practice

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm

Rhiwlas Mission Church

Contact Marjorie Evans
Tel: 600 228

Llangadwaladr Church

Contact Vera Evans
Tel: 791 471

Press Secretary

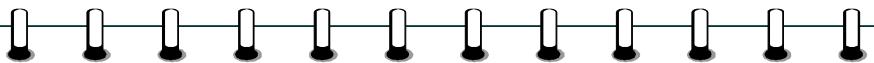
Jeffrey Olstead
Tel: 791 250
jeffrey.olstead@basc.org.uk

The newsletter is produced by Val and Dave Talbot (see below) and the Chapel news by Carys and Emyr Evans (Tel: 791 240)

Distributor: Christine Williams, tel: 791 563. You can get your newsletter by post for a year by sending 4 stamps to Christine at 4 Maesyllan, Llansilin, SY10 7QE

Items for the Spring 2008 issue please by the end of January to: Val Talbot, Graigwen Cottage, Wernddu, SY10 9BL. Tel: 791 310 Email: val@daval.demon.co.uk

Past copies of the newsletter are now available on line by logging on to www.daval.demon.co.uk and following the link.



Diary Dates for December, January and February

Reminder for November

17 Christmas coffee morning in the Parish Room

December

7 Annual Welsh Plygain in St Silin's at 7.30 pm

16 Christmas Family service in St Silin's 10.30 am

January

24 & 25 PALS production in the Memorial Hall "Laughter in the Dark"

Details of Christmas services will be displayed in due course.

Details of regular church and chapel services are on page 16

Flower and Cleaning Rota at St Silin's

December

1 & 8 Margaret Jones and Rosemary Powell
(Advent - no flowers)

15 & 22 Joint clean and decorate for Christmas

29 Christine Williams



January

6 & 13 Deborah Hill-Trevor and Mary Cunnah

20 & 27 Margaret Lloyd and Mary Morris

February

3 Christine Williams
(Lent begins - clean only; no flowers)

10 & 17 Dot Renshaw and Val Talbot

24 Deborah Hill-Trevor

Our thanks to Clifford Milner for letting us use one of his drawings for the front cover.

lunch and a glass of wine. It is hoped that in the winter months there will be an opportunity to attend to the trees and shrubs in the plantation, which are much in need of trimming.

BELL RINGING TASTER SESSION

The Tower Captain was pleased to welcome those who took the recent opportunity to look at the bells and to get an insight into the mysteries of a centuries old tradition. Demonstrations were given and some people were able to get a feel of the ropes. One new ringer has joined the band and is making great progress. New ringers are always welcome - it is an excellent hobby and can be addictive!

MONTHLY CHURCH GATE STALLS

As in previous years, the stalls have been most successful and our warm thanks go to everyone who has contributed in so many different ways. Between us we raised the excellent sum of £497.65 for the day-to-day running costs of the church. Refreshments served in the Parish Room proved very popular – it's good for everyone to socialise and join together for a "chat".

SURVEY OF THE CHURCH CONTENTS

The church is very pleased to welcome the North Powys branch of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts (NADFAS) to spend the next year or so surveying the church contents. Their brief will include, amongst other things, a study of the stained glass windows, the memorials, the church plate, all items of woodwork, the books and the linen. Seventeen members of the Association expect to spend several hours a week making their study and completing a report.

CROWN OF LIGHT

For the period of Advent the Crown of Light from the church will once again shine over the village. Our intrepid volunteers will shortly be braving the heights to install the cables on the top of the tower and everyone is invited to contribute £3 to pay for one of the many bulbs. All the proceeds will be donated to the Severn Hospice and Hope House Children's Hospice. Details from Margaret Lloyd (791 472) or anyone from the church.

PLYGAIN

The annual Welsh Plygain will take place in St Silin's on Friday, 7 December at 7.30 pm, when many singing parties are expected at this increasingly popular festival. Everyone is welcome to come and listen to the traditional carols, some of which have been handed down through the generations and all are sung unaccompanied.

GWEINIDOGAETH BRO

Eto eleni, fe gawsom bererindod wedi ei threfnu yn ofalus iawn gan y Parch Stanton Evans. Fe aeth tua 40 ohonom mewn bws i Lanystumdw i ymweld ag Amgueddfa Lloyd George, ac yna mwynhau pryd o fwyd blasus yn y Bryncir Arms.

Un nos Sul ym Mis Medi, hyfryd oedd cael croesawu Y Parch Graham Floyd i wasanaethu mewn oedfa. Bu Graham ac Elizabeth, ei wraig, yn weithgar iawn gyda'r Aelwyd a phob dim Cymreig yn yr ardal yma rai blynnyddoedd yn ôl.

Yr Hydref yma fe gawsom gyfarfodydd diolchgarwch bendithiol iawn. Un bore Sul ddechrau Mis Hydref yn Llansilin, cynhaliwyd gwasanaeth cymun dan ofal yr ieuenctid, ac yna cyfarfod gweddi yn yr hwyr. Y noson ganlynol cafwyd pregeth raggerol gan Y Parch R.W.Jones o Wrecsam. Dydd Lun y 29ain o Hydref cynhaliwyd dau wasanaeth yn y Rhiwlas, cyfarfod gweddi yn y prynhawn a phregeth gan Y Parch Gwyndaf Richards yn yr hwyr. Ac i gloi y gyfres o gyfarfodydd roedd gwasanaeth dwyieithog yng Nghapel Cefn Canol dan ofal Y Parch Stanton Evans. Mae'r Gymdeithas Ddiwyllianol wedi ail-gychwyn eto. I agror gweithgareddau'r gaeaf death plant Ysgol Pennant ynghyd a phedair o rai hyn, i gadw noson i ni. Roedd y plant wedi mwynhau y perfformio a'r gynulleidfa wedi dotio at eu talentau. Noson wych i gychwyn y Gymdeithas.

Sioc fawr i'r ardal oedd clywed am farwolaeth sydyn John Jones, neu John Pantglas Ucha fel yr adnabu pawb ef. Gweithiwr tawel a chudwybodol oedd John. Bu'n drysorydd Cymorth Cristnogol am flynyddoedd lawer, ac yn drysorydd cyfafodydd dechrau'r flwyddyn a diolchgarwch. Ef hefyd oedd trysorydd Capel Bethania. Bydd colled am ei bresenoldeb yn ein gwasanaethau ond y golled fwyaf fydd ar yr aelwyd, cydymdeimlwn yn ddiffuant a'i briod, Mary.

Bu ambell un o'n haelodau yn yr ysbtyt yn ddiweddar, dymunwn adferiad buan a llwyr iddynt.

Braf yw cael croesawu Erin, merch Jane, (Y Bwlch) i'r byd. Fe'i ganwyd yn ystod oriau mân Hydref 15ed. Dymuniadau gorau i'r teulu bach.



With the extra funding from the garden recycling containers, we have managed to raise between us almost £900 in the past year. £600 of this will pay the insurance costs of the playing fields, though this only covers the public liability insurance. It does not cover wear and tear, nor the damage done by vandalism. Any funds left over after this expenditure will go towards buying more play equipment for the play area. We still need extra funds for this so will be holding a fund-raising event in the future. Watch out for details, please support the efforts to keep the playing fields going and, most important, carry on the good work of recycling.

Llansilin Local History Society: Report on the 2007 Season of Meetings

The Society continues to enjoy wonderful support from members and guests, for which the officers and committee are most grateful. There have been 8 talks and 2 visits in the programme. Every talk has been interesting and authoritative. Average attendance has been in the thirties, which is most creditable for such a "local" society.

The talk given last year by Paul Hughes about the Hughes family of Llansilin was updated and repeated in the Memorial Hall to a big gathering of his family and friends but open to all. This was outside our programme but essentially under our auspices. We had planned 3 visits this year, but unfortunately the visit to Offa's Dyke and Summer Picnic was decisively rained-off! The other trips to Port Sunlight and to Llanyblodwell church were very well attended and most interesting.

We had a short-notice request from Shropshire Museums and Archives Service to put on a display in Oswestry Library for Oswestry History Week. Thanks to some available material belonging to Charles Stiles we were able to show some of the research which he had done towards his book. Due to delay in getting the site ready in the Church/Parish Room, the steel storage cupboards for our archives have not been finally placed. We are reluctant to start using them because they will be so difficult to move once filled with documents. The Glyndwr Sign sub-group has made a little progress during the year. Once again we are grateful to our Programme Secretary, Mrs Hanson, for coordinating the speakers and visits, and to the other officers for their respective roles.

RHYDYCROESAU AREA DESIGN PLAN

Over the past year or so, a group of residents from the area around Rhydycroesau (including Llanforda and Sychtn) has been working together to find out the views of local people about the way in which they would wish to see the area develop in the future. The group has received a National Lottery Grant of £5300 from Awards for All to support the project and pay for the publishing of the final report.

The written draft document should be available to members of the public at the Rhydycroesau Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 8 December and a public feedback meeting will be held early in the New Year. The final document will then be submitted to Oswestry Borough and Rural Councils for adoption and copies will be sent to Powys County Council and Llansilin Community Council.

LLANSILIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At the September meeting the clerk, H Hughes, reported that the planning application to develop land opposite the Wynnstay had been refused, due mainly to access problems. A revised application would be considered in due course. Only one unlicensed car had been removed from Bryn Celyn and the other moved onto the grass. The following planning applications were supported: erection of building at Pentre Barn, Llansilin; erection of agricultural building at Maensilio, Rhiwlas; extension and alterations at Darwin Cottage, Llansilin. A retrospective application for alterations to roof and porch at Penyfedwen, Bwlchgwyn was not supported as this work had been carried out contrary to conditions contained in granting consent to a previous application.

Members agreed to renew the contract with C & G Management for water control equipment in the public conveniences. Notification was received from Powys Highways about a road diversion at Rhosddu, Cefn Canol. Following a suggestion from the clerk, Tai Clwyd had agreed to hold an open day for community councillors to inspect the new properties in Llansilin before they were occupied.

Goodbye to the village shop

The Glyndwr Garage shop and petrol station closed in November. Neither has been viable for some considerable time but Mike and Judith Evans have kept them going as a service to the village. The shop in particular will be greatly missed, not just as a place to buy our daily newspaper and groceries, but as a focus for the whole village. We could catch up on local news, find out what was on and it will be a particular blow to all those who can't easily get into town. Phyllis Hughes is seen here coming out of the shop. "It's very sad", she said. "I come in two or three times a week for my groceries and a little chat." We all join Phyllis in thanking Mike and Judith for running the shop all these years and send them our best wishes for the future.



Did you know? ... that within living memory the village was served by a variety of shops and services. A Midland Bank Branch used to open two days a week. There was a cobbler and shoe maker, a tailor, 3 grocers, a clothes shop, café and hairdresser and a butcher. One shop ran a Savings Club, the Post Office was open every day and 3 doctors held surgeries at several houses along the main street.

NEWS FROM YSGOL BRO CYNLLAITH

The whole school had an enjoyable "Story Walk" around the village and down School Lane in September, organised by Rick Wilson and Helen East. The children really enjoyed getting out in the fresh air on a warm autumn day.

Thanks to everyone who helped us collect Sainsbury Vouchers for school equipment. This year we have concentrated on cookery items and have received a vast array of equipment including bowls, spoons, graters, a liquidiser, oven gloves, aprons, baking trays, rolling pins and much more.

Year 6 children attended a "Crucial Crew" event in Park Hall organised by Oswestry Rotary Club. The children are shown a number of different safety scenarios and have to work out points of danger in each. They were also invited to take part in a tag rugby event organised by COBRA rugby team and were delighted to have won all 3 of their games having never played the game before.

We were delighted that the Over-60's Club were able to join us for our harvest service on 16 October. The older children took the service and we are pleased to announce that £143.86 was raised and will be forwarded to "Farm Africa".

Parents, governors and friends of the school have been giving the outside a bit of a face lift. We have had two busy Saturdays painting, gardening and generally tidying up and it looks absolutely fantastic - what a difference a lick of paint makes!! Many thanks to everyone who contributed and a big thank you to Focus in Oswestry for their donation of paint, brushes etc.

We regret to have to end on a negative note. We had to call the police into school when the safety lid on our gas tank was wrenched from the ground leaving all the internal workings on display. The police have talked to the children about the dangers of such things, and vandalism in general, and have promised to keep an eye on things, especially during out of school hours.

NOT TO BE MISSED - PALS SECOND PRODUCTION

Rehearsals are in full swing for PALS second production. This year members have decided to put on a three act comedy. 'Laughter in the Dark', by Victor Lucas, concerns a mature married couple arriving at an old house in the middle of winter - but all is not as it seems. To find out more make a note of the production dates of 25 and 26 January 2008.

LLANSILIN MEMORIAL HALL 1924 to 2007

The following is an extract from the minutes of a meeting which took place in October 1923. The meeting was that of a General Committee (including a Young Men's Committee) that was formed circa 1919 for the purpose of providing a memorial to those who gave their lives in the First World War.

"The Committee have been engaged since 1919 in promoting a fund for the purpose of providing a suitable memorial to the gallant Soldiers from the Parish of Llansilin who gave their lives in the Great War, and to place upon record the names of all others who responded to the call of their country in the dark days of its need.

In proportion to the number of its inhabitants, Llansilin occupies a proud position in respect of the number who served in the War. Of the number of its young men who joined the forces, 30 unfortunately did not return. It is to the memory of these that we desire to erect a Memorial worthy of their great sacrifice. It is proposed that the Memorial shall take the form of a Village Institute, and attached thereto a Concert Hall, both of which are urgently needed in the parish.

Capt. Ridge A.R.I.B.A. of Oswestry, has been engaged as Architect; the plans have been approved by the Committee, the Contract has been placed and building operations are well advanced. The plans provide an Institute with a large room for recreation purposes; also accommodation for a Caretaker to live on the premises. Adjoining the Institute is a large Hall to accommodate about 600 people.

The site has been given by the President, who will also give a free conveyance of the land. By this Conveyance, it is proposed to create a Trust to secure the future maintenance and administration of the Memorial Hall for all time."

The President of the committee who gave the land upon which the Hall was built was one Alderman Edward Hughes, J.P., M.B.E., Glyndwr, Wrexham and Ffrydlyn, Llansilin. The hall was completed soon after the above meeting at an estimated cost of £1500 and officially opened on 15 April 1924 by Dame Margaret Lloyd George.

Between 1924 and 1985 the hall was managed under the original conveyance and trust deed by a committee of trustees. However, in 1985 the Charity Commission was approached to produce a revised governing document (Constitution) which provided for trustees to be appointed from across all the community organisations.

Due to the rural isolation of Llansilin and its surrounding communities of Moelfre, Llangadwaladr, Rhiwlas, Cefn Canol and Cymdu, with no regular public transport,

the hall has played and continues to play a significant part in the life of the community, providing premises and equipment for the following community group activities, many of which would be unable to function without the availability of the hall premises:

Llansilin Primary School (Ysgol Bro Cynllaith), Youth Club, Cymdeithas Ddywylliadol (Literary Society), Llansilin Playschool (Cylch Meithrin), Over 60s Club, Women's Institute, Indoor Bowls Club, Community Council, History Society, Karate Club, Annual Village Show, Whist Drives, Parochial Church Council activities, Playing Fields Association, Côr Cymysg Llansilin (Llansilin Mixed Choir), Dyffryn Tanat Young Farmers Club, Drama Group, Table Tennis Club, Childrens' parties, Funeral teas, Coffee mornings/evenings, Concerts, Dramas, Elections etc.

The Hall Management Committee is currently made up of community elected members (10), community organisation representatives (20) and co-optative (1) members as required by the Constitution. The representative members are appointed by their respective community organisation to serve on the Hall Management Committee as trustees. The elected members are appointed at the public Annual General Meeting which usually takes place in early June.

The usage of the premises by the community is high and this is reflected in the number of times the premises have been used on an annual basis (i.e. an activity/ event taking place in the main hall or institute separately or together 1 April to 31 March) over the past few years. The annual usage figures may be of some interest: 1998/9 = 326; 1999/2000 = 469; 2000/1 = no figures available; 2002/3 = 405; 2003/4 = 388; 2004/5 = 391; 2005/6 = 406; 2006/7 = 452. These figures exclude daily school use but include after school clubs.

The hall committee has a rolling programme of improvements to the premises to try and cater for as many activities as possible and appropriate as well as keep up with ongoing statutory regulations. Amongst many other projects, was the major storage and entrance extension in 1999. The current projects in hand are for the installation of a fire alarm system and fire doors to conform with new fire safety regulations which have recently been applied for small and medium places of assembly (i.e. village halls).

These projects demonstrate the committee's commitment to serve the community of Llansilin and surrounding areas with a village hall fit for purpose and honouring the original purpose for which Llansilin Memorial Hall was brought into being.