

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

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

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

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin a'r Cylch

Maw

6	Parch Stanton Evans	Cefncanol	6.30 pm	Gwasanaeth dan ofal y Chwiorydd
13	Parch Peter Wyn Williams	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm	
20	Mr John Ellis	Llansilin	2.00 pm	
27	Parch Robert W Jones	Cefncanol	2.00 pm	

Ebr

3	Parch Stanton Evans (C)	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm	
10	Mr John Rosser	Llansilin	2.00 pm	
17	Parch Megan Williams *	Cefncanol	2.00 pm	
24	Parch Rhys ab Ogwen Jones	Rhiwlas	2.00 pm	Sul y Pasg

Mai

1	Cyfarfod gweddi	Llansilin	10.00 am	Cynafna Ganu, Seion 6.00
8	Mr Gwilym Jones, Abergwili	Cefncanol	2.00 pm	
15	Parch Stanton Evans	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm	Sul leuenticid
22	Parch J Gwyndaf Richards	Llansilin	6.30 pm	
29	Parch Stanton Evans	Cefncanol	10.00 am	

* *Pregethwr o Seion, Croesowallt* (C) *Cymun*

Llansilin Newsletter

Church, Chapel and Village News



Number 73
Spring 2011

This issue has been funded by the Chapel Congregation

My dear friends,

It is a pleasure for me to once again be invited to write to you and, with Kathleen, to pass on our assurances of your place in our thoughts and prayers. I am really encouraged by the resilience and fortitude we have found in the folk here in Llansilin.

Big freeze, what big freeze? Most of our Christmas services went ahead regardless, but mention must be made of our joint carol service for Rhiwlas and Llangadwaladr which was cancelled because of the snow and ice. Resilient we may be, but not stupid! And it gave us a chance to celebrate Candlemas on the 23rd of January at Rhiwlas Mission Church. Candlemas is a very special feast day and is a little like a 'hinge' in the church's calendar between the two seasons of Epiphany and Lent. In tone and feel it is a bitter/sweet day and reminds us that, as Jesus showed us the grace and glory of God in the face of a child, so he was destined to die for our sins and share our human death. We walk in the light of Christ (hence Candlemas) but turn to remember with penitence why he died, as we patiently anticipate our celebration of his resurrection at Easter.

We may have had to cancel one carol service but we certainly enjoyed the party after the one at St. Silin's when we all tucked in with gusto. And in January something new, a traditional 'Plough Sunday' service when farmers and their families gathered to bless a plough and the fields to be turned over in preparation for planting the seed (there's a sermon there somewhere!) It was great to join together in worship and a big 'Thank you' must go to Steve Jones for the loan and supply of his plough and to Leigh Northcott-Hammond for his inspiration.

I was taking a stroll through the village the other day and was impressed by the completed renovation of the Hears House roof. John Fensome has made an excellent job of it and done himself proud. Llansilin has a deserved reputation for the standard of works produced by the Drama group and it is catching. The children at Ysgol Bro Cynllaith really entertained us with their production of 'Cinderella' - such talent.

Other good news with the anticipated return from hospital of Joan Morris to Tynewydd. Dennis will be pleased and no doubt the daffodils at Plas

Mobile Library: every other Monday at Llansilin Church at 1.30 to 2.30 pm, then Maes-y-Llan car park 2.30 to 3.30 pm. ☎ 01938 553001

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 (Players At Llansilin Drama Group). Contact Alison Beeston ☎ 791 262

Parochial Church Council Meeting: meets regularly each 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 Lynwen Morris ☎ 828 366

Police (Wales)	0845 330 2000 for non-emergency calls (messages left will be picked up and dealt with quickly)
Police (West Mercia)	08457 444 888
All areas in UK	999 for life-threatening emergencies

Post Office at Capel Wesle	Tuesday	8.30 am to 2.30 pm
	Thursdays	8.30 am to 12.30 pm

Rhiwlas Community Centre: contact Gwennan Thomas ☎ 07701335828

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

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

Village Drop-in Coffee Mornings in the Parish Room 10.30 am - 12 pm alternate Tuesdays. Contact Joan Fox-Linton ☎ 791 260

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

Women's Institute: every second Friday in the month at 7 pm in the Institute. Contact Tanya Jones ☎ 07527366538 or Rosemary Edwards ☎ 791 413

YFC: contact Richard Evans ☎ 600 228

Youth Club meets Thursdays 7 - 9 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. 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

Community Shop at Capel Wesle	Tuesday	9.30 am to 2.30 pm
	Wednesday	5 pm to 6.30 pm
	Thursday	9.30 am to 12 pm

C.R.A.F.T. Group Monday mornings 10 am - 12 noon. 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 Tuesdays 10 am - 12 noon Rhiwlas Community Centre

Farmers Crisis Network: www.fcn.org.uk ☎ 0845 367 9990

Karate for ages 6 and above in the Memorial Hall on Wednesdays from 5.45 pm. Contact Sue Rose-Martin ☎ 828 624

Llanfyllin Group Practice Patient Participation Group Comments and questions regarding any aspect of medical care and practice to Huw Edwards ☎ 791 264

Llansilin Mixed Choir weekly practice 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: contact Arthur James ☎ 791 346

Lledrod will be springing up shortly, nodding their heads and waving a big 'welcome back' to Deborah Hill-Trevor. Christine Williams and now Dan Jones are slowly getting back into the swing of things. I am truly blessed; I now have, not one but two 'bionic' wardens. We also give a warm welcome to Lay Reader, Leigh Northcott-Hammond, on his return to Llansilin to help us in our services. I'm sure we all value his strengths and gifts very much and we look forward to hearing and enjoying the melodic voices of the Pradoe Choir.

Kathleen and I are settling now and as my former bishop, Rowan Williams, said to me recently "You're in a lovely area!" He obviously knows it quite well and I know that, hailing from Swansea, he does like to come home to Wales every so often. Well, amen to all that.

Once again, it's good it be with you.
God bless you,

Tony Dilworth

Parish and Chapel Registers 2010

Baptisms
 May 30th *Ethan Christopher and Grace Lilly-May Cheetham, Oswestry*
 June 27 *Jack Albert Morris, Switzerland (Tynewydd)*

Funerals
 February 8th *Ellen Mair Roberts, Cerrigydrudion (formerly Orddiallyn, Moelfre), aged 87*
 March 11th *Evelyn Mary Ambrose, Four Crosses, aged 89*
 June 25th *Cyril Edwin Hughes (Wyn), The Laurels, aged 86*
 August 16th *Dennis Wilson Kidd, Hartlepool, aged 73 - interment of ashes*
 August 17th *David Robert Griffith, Ottery-St-Mary, aged 79*
 August 20th *Stephen Arthur Price-Jones, Gwynfa, aged 50*

Marriage
 October 8th *Mary Joan Cunnah, Penybryn, to Graham Miller Kyle, Ffrith*

AS EWE LIKE IT



John Neilson, Sheila Wilks, Dennis Sockett, Hywel Jones and Jeffrey Olstead are desperate to find a way to keep the Village Show accounts out of the hands of the Tax Inspector.



Tax Inspector Suzanne Kirkwood is fooled by John Neilson's disguise as a French onion seller

The audiences on both nights certainly did like this hugely enjoyable romp written by PALS member, Jeffrey Olstead, and directed by Alison Beeston. The jokes and local allusions kept everyone laughing, the characters were well drawn and acted and the comic plot verged on the surreal at times. On the trail of Shakespeare-quoting, over-the-top actor, Augustus Featherstone Thring (played by John Neilson), a tax inspector from hell (Suzanne Kirkwood) barges in to the farmhouse where all the action takes place. She soon turns her attention to the Village Show accounts, which treasurer Jeremy (Jeffrey Olstead) has an urgent and suspicious need to keep out of her clutches. Aided and abetted by Huw (Hywel Jones), Dafydd (Dennis Sockett) and Huw's wife (Sheila Wilks), they hatch a cunning plan to put her off the scent. Jeremy then has to pretend not to speak English and covers up by quoting all the road signs between here and Wrexham in Welsh! Augustus makes a dramatic appearance on a bicycle, wearing a very French outfit, complete with a string of onions which he proceeds to try and sell her! Undaunted, she flounces off, vowing to return with both Welsh and French interpreters in tow.

In the meantime, we are introduced to Augustus's "talking sheep", a very fetching animal called Baa-bra (played by Awel Jones), whose every utterance contains the first syllable of her name! This gives Huw and Dafydd an idea, to make money and "revolutionise agriculture" at the same time by mating her with their rampant ram, Rambo! At this, the sheep throws off her head-

Gweinidog
Parch Stanton T Evans
20 Croeswylan Lane, Croesoswallt 654 682

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin A'r Cylch
Ysg Wyn Davies 791 395
Trys Carys Evans 791 240

Vicar
Revd Anthony Dilworth 791 209
Y Ficerdy, Llansilin

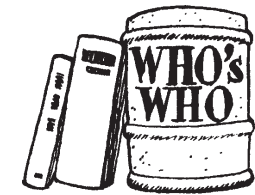
Churchwardens, St Silin's
Vicar's Warden: Christine Williams 791 563
People's Warden: Dan Jones 791 296

Organist, St Silin's
Morfudd Williams 659 369

Communion Assistant
Margaret Lloyd 791 472

Parochial Church Council Secretary
Valerie Burton 791 274
email: vmb@envex.demon.co.uk

PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary
Graham Moss 791 528



Bellringing, St Silin's
Steeple Keeper: Chris Burton
791 274

Tower Captain: Christine Williams 791 563

Ringling Practice
Wednesdays at 7.30 pm

Rhiwlas Mission Church
Contact Gwennan Thomas
07701335828

Llangadwaladr Church
Contact Vera Evans
791 471

Parish Room Bookings
Mike Coppock
791 590
mcmajc1@yahoo.co.uk

The newsletter is produced by Val and Dave Talbot (Tel: 791 310) 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 Summer 2011 issue please by the end of April 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.

	Readers	Sidesmen
April		
3	Glenice Jones	Dan Jones
10	Lynnette Moss	Christine Williams
17	Family Service	
24 9.00 am	Margaret Lloyd	Mary Cunnah
24 6.30 pm	Jeffrey Olstead	Esther Milner
May		
1	Glenice Jones	Dan Jones
8	Brenda Jones	Lynnette Moss
15	Family Service	
22 9.00 am	Margaret Lloyd	Esther Milner
22 6.30 pm	Mike Coppock	Jeffrey Olstead
29	Mary Cunnah	Brenda Jones

FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA AT ST SILIN'S

February
19 & 26 Lynnette Moss & Janet Davies

March
5 & 12 Val Talbot & Marjorie Evans
Note: no flowers from 12th because of Lent
19 & 26 Dot Renshaw & Christine Williams

April
2 & 9 Glenice Jones & Mary Morris
16 Joint clean for Easter 10 am to 12 noon
23 Joint decorating (watch for posters)
23 & 30 Brenda Jones & Christine
Sockett

May
7 & 14 Lynnette Moss & Alma Jones
21 & 28 Mary Cunnah & Janet Davies

Flowers for Easter

In previous years members of the congregation have kindly given donations for lilies for the altar. If this is your wish again, please contact Christine Williams on 791563



dress with a few choice words to the effect that she is not prepared to become a member of Rambo's harem. Shock, horror, Baa-bra is a girl in sheep's clothing!



John Neilson introduces his amazing talking sheep, Baa-bra, to Sheila Wilks.

Yet another plot now starts brewing that would get even with the dreaded tax inspector and get rid of her at the same time. Somehow or other Baa-bra persuades her to hide in the barn dressed in the sheep costume, ostensibly so that she could hear Huw, Dafydd and Jeremy discussing the shady Village Show accounts. You can guess what comes next and the tax inspector's screams were appropriately blood curdling – rampant Rambo had obviously lived up to his reputation! When the local constabulary (Dot Renshaw and Tony Jones) then threatened to show the CCTV pictures on Ewetube (!) that was the last straw and off she fled.

Sanity prevailed in the run up to the intervals. On Friday evening, the audience was entertained by the delightfully harmonious voices of PARTI PENLLAN and on Saturday, by the string quartet, KIWYDANTO, all highly talented young members of the Shropshire Youth Orchestra.



Dot Renshaw and Tony Jones join in the plot to get rid of the tax inspector.

WHAT A LOVELY, JOLLY COVER!

Thank you very much to Ffion Jones, who drew such a delightful picture of spring for our cover, with another big thank you to everyone who submitted their pictures. As always, it was very difficult to make a choice out of such good entries but, in the end, those jolly sheep won the day, prancing gaily round the field and telling us that spring is round the corner.

Rhiwlas Mission Church

The appeal to get new financial support for Rhiwlas Mission Church has met with some success. Llansilin PCC has agreed that the Church should remain open and that planning for the most urgent repairs should start right away. Rhiwlas Mission Church Sub-Warden, Mrs Marjory Evans, said: *"I am both relieved and extremely grateful that the local community has very generously rallied round with both immediate lump-sums and pledges of ongoing support enough to make the Mission Church viable. We have the funds for the priority repairs that are needed and can now see how we can balance the books, at least in the short term. Whilst we will have to look for more support through further donations and fundraising to consolidate the longer-term future at Rhiwlas, it is wonderful that the imminent threat of closure has been lifted and I would like to thank everybody who has helped achieve this outcome"*.

International Evening of Song

Friday, 17 June, 7.30pm - a special date for your diary

A mixed choir from Bavaria is holidaying in Britain, especially to sing in St Silin's Church. They are a group of teachers who meet several times a year to sing together, for pure pleasure. One of the members has a sister living in Llansilin and has long wanted to sing in the Church. Unaccompanied, they sing in many languages and styles. A fun evening is guaranteed.

CALENDAR

March

- 9 Ash Wednesday: Holy Communion at Llansilin 7 pm
17 Start of Lent Study course (see below)

April

- 3 Mothering Sunday: Joint Service with Llangedwyn at Llansilin 10.30 am
17 Palm Sunday: Family Service 10.30 am
21 Maundy Thursday: Holy Communion at Llangedwyn 7 pm
22 Good Friday: Devotional Service at Llansilin 2 pm
24 Easter Sunday: Holy Communion at Llansilin 10.30 am

May

15-21 Christian Aid Week

Looking Ahead to June:

- 17 International Evening of Song (see page 6)

Looking Ahead to August

Bank Holiday weekend: Green Exhibition (see page 7)

Lent Course: this year's Lent Study courses are being held at 7 pm in the Parish Room on Thursday, 17, 24 and 31 March and on 7 and 14 April. All welcome.

Details of regular church and chapel services are on page 20
Details of regular village activities are on pages 18 and 19

ROTA FOR READERS AND SIDESMEN AT ST SILIN'S

	Readers	Sidesmen
February		
20	Family Service	
27 9.00 am	Mike Coppock	Brenda Jones
27 6.30 pm	Mary Cunnah	Christine Williams
March		
6	Chris Burton	Val Burton
13	Christine Williams	Vera Evans
20	Family Service	
27 9.00 am	Graham Moss	David Bickerton
27 6.30 pm	Dennis Sockett	Margaret Lloyd

(continued on page 16)

LLANSILIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The November meeting was presided over by the chairman, Cllr D Sockett, assisted by the clerk, H Hughes. County Cllr A Davies gave a detailed report of the public meeting he had convened regarding the proposed traffic calming measures to be introduced in Llansilin. A planning application for the construction of hard standing and extension of cubicle building (retrospective) at Priddbwl Mawr was supported. The clerk presented the Annual Return 2009/10, which was approved by members and signed by the chairman. The external auditors, BDO, had indicated that there were no issues arising from the return. Members agreed that grants of £50 be made to the National Eisteddfod Wrexham 2011 and Powys Eisteddfod Llanrhaeadr YM, also in 2011. Other requests for financial assistance were left on the table. Following an inquiry from County Cllr Davies, members were agreed that the public lighting attachment on the gable end of Monfa, although disconnected, should remain in situ.

The January meeting was presided over by the chairman, Cllr D Sockett, assisted by the clerk, H Hughes. It was reported that the direction signs at Derwendeg had been reinstated. Cllr E O Evans, chairman of the local Youth Club, reported that there was uncertainty regarding future funding. No grant would be forthcoming to the Council during the current year. It was agreed to invite the two Youth Club leaders to the March meeting to discuss the future of the Youth Club. A planning application by Scottish Power to provide several overhead power lines in the parish was supported. Members approved the recommendation of the clerk that the precept for 2011/12 be £4,500. The chairman explained that he had been approached by a committee member of the local community shop requesting the community council to submit a planning application for change of use from chapel vestry to community shop. This would attract a 50% reduction in the planning fee. The clerk said he had contacted the planning officer, who regretted that he had been under the mistaken impression that the Community Council was actively involved in this project. This not being so, he advised that in no way could the Council submit a planning application. In accepting this advice, members confirmed their appreciation of the service by the community shop and would support any future application submitted by them. Cllrs E O Evans and P Lovell disclosed an interest and took no further part in the discussion. The clerk was asked to report the blocked drain near Berwynfa.

GWEINIDOGAETH BRO

Wel, fe gawsom y Mis Rhagfyr oeraf ers can mlynedd ac o'r herwydd fe ganslwyd llawer o gyfarfodydd ac un o'r rhain oedd ein Cymanfa Garolau blynyddol, ond fe gynhesodd y tywydd ddigon i gapel Seion, Croesoswallt, gynnal eu Gwasanaeth Nadolig. Gwasanaeth oedd hwn ble roedd capeli'r cylch yn cymeryd rhan ac roedd paned a "mince pies" blasus ar ôl i bawb yn y festri.

Cawsom ddau gyfarfod o'r Gymdeithas Ddiwylliadol, un ym Mis Tachwedd, pryd daeth Y Parch Gwyndaf Richards atom i ddweud ei hanes yn gweithio i Gyngor Lerpwl. Y cyfarfod arall Brian Evans, Cynynion Uchaf, yn dweud ei hanes yn tyfu i fyny ym Moelfre. Dau gyfarfod diddorol dros ben.

Edrychwn ymlaen yn awr at y Gwanwyn a gweld yr wyn bach yn prancio hyd y caeau.

Well, we had the coldest December for a hundred years and consequently many meetings were cancelled, one being our annual Gymanfa Garolau, but it warmed up in time for Seion Chapel, Oswestry, to hold their Christmas Service. This was a service where the local chapels' members took part followed by a cup of tea and delicious mince pies in the vestry. Two meetings of the Gymdeithas Ddiwylliadol were held. The first was in November when The Reverend Gwyndaf Richards, Llanfihangel, gave a talk about his work with the council in Liverpool. The second meeting was in January, when Brian Evans, Cynynion Uchaf, gave a talk about his younger days in Moelfre. Both talks were extremely interesting and enjoyable.

We now look forward to the Spring and to see the lambs prancing about the fields.

Bank Holiday Weekend 2011

St Silin's celebrates Green with exhibitions and church displays themed "How Green is OUR Valley". For more information, please contact co-ordinators Marjorie 600228 and Mary 662569. More details in the summer issue.

LLANSILIN PARISH NEWS



Bishop's Visitation

The Bishop's visitation to Llanfyllin Deanery was held on 21 November at St. Silin's Church. The church was crowded with clergy, parishioners and friends from the various Deanery churches. Bishop Gregory gave a very inspiring address. At the conclusion of the service a Bring and Share Lunch was held in the Memorial Hall arranged by the lady members of Llansilin and Llangedwyn churches.

Llansilin Plygain

The annual Plygain fell prey to the sudden early winter and had to be cancelled - a big disappointment! The Plygain has built up in popularity in recent years, being supported by some very special singing parties. It's a very local tradition and church and chapel are determined it should continue into the future.

Christmas Fair

The Fair heralded the start of Christmas late last November. Numerous craft and produce stalls filled the village hall. Children enjoyed games and competitions on the stage. Everyone went home with purchases and prizes. The church treasurer was happy to report that the income will help towards maintaining the church for another year. Our thanks to the many helpers and supporters.

Churchyard

In recent weeks the hearse house (the little building by the roadside next to the toilets) has been re-roofed – time and weather had taken its toll. In former years it housed the hearse used for funerals. Has anyone any photographs of the hearse? The horse harness was adorned with black plumes: the evidence of black feathers was discovered some years ago on a ledge inside. The building is now used for the church mowing machines.

Mention of the mowers brings to mind the grass mowing season. As sure as day follows night the grass is going to grow with a vengeance. Is anyone up to the challenge of helping? Every Thursday from 6.00 pm – do as much or as little as you like – tea and biscuits provided. Don't leave it to the few!

Wednesday, 30 March 1.45 pm to 2.45 pm: Ysgol Bro Cynllaith telling local stories and inviting family and friends to share theirs in a Community Show and Tell Story-swap (please bring objects and memorabilia if relevant).

Monday morning in June: date to be decided by the CRAFT group: Community Workshop on the art of Illustration.

There will also be several seasonal family story walks:

Winter Walk Sunday, 13 February 2 pm Chirk Bank by canal

Spring Walk Sunday, 10 April, Selattyn area

Llansilin Walk (date/route to be announced with Powys Taster Trail Officer and local walkers!),

and a big **Celebration Walk to Carreg-y-big (3 pronged walk) and then Picnic and Storytelling Presentation, Carreg-y-big (3 pm) on Saturday 2 July.**

Other Activities and events, all free to anyone in the project area, (Bronygarth, Chirk Bank, Weston Rhyn, Selattyn, Oswestry Old Racecourse, Candy Woods, Rhydycroesau, Cefn Canol and Llansilin) include informal intergenerational story swapping, map reading and remapping the area, exhibitions, and workshops on digital recording made easy (local session can be arranged).

Heritage Archiving and also Virtual Mapping for Websites (both at Shropshire Archives, limited numbers), and music making.

Besides offering interesting ways for people to participate, these will feed into project events and publications, including a 'Local Voices CD of stories and memories, a booklet with photographs and community tales and an Illustrated Story Map of the whole area.

For more information, and to set up local workshops, please ring Helen East at Wenffrwd, Llansilin, tel: 791333 (Mondays best. Don't be put off if you get answerphone) or email after.offa@gmx.co.uk

Anne Jenkins, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in the West Midlands, said:

"This project is an excellent example of the type of community project HLF is keen to fund – one that will bring the community together, young and old, and enable them to learn from and share their collective history while helping people developing invaluable skills."



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
15 to 21 May 2011**

Christian Aid Week is coming up again, with the opportunity to raise funds to help this worthwhile charity achieve its noble aim of an end to poverty. Christian Aid's vision is that the world can and must be changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free of poverty and injustice. They believe that poverty is an outrage against humanity, especially in a world where, just by the luck of the draw, over 1 billion people, a quarter of the population in the developing world, live on less than a dollar a day. That could hardly be described as living.

Please help Rhiannon Lewis and her band of volunteers in and around Llansilin during Christian Aid Week. Look out for posters with all the details nearer to the time.

**AFTER OFFA - LIVING LIFE
ALONG THE BORDER**



Llansilin and Rhydycroesau are included in Bronygarth Social Committee's Heritage Lottery Funded community project to record, pass on and celebrate the stories and oral history of the border community. Concentrating primarily on recording English and Welsh elderly residents, with longstanding connections to the area, the 'After Offa' project aims to bring together people of all ages to gather, share, and retell their stories through community and school events. Schools involved are Ysgol Bro Cynllaith, Selattyn, Weston Rhyn and Pontfadog.

Local activities include

Monday, 14 February 10.30 am to 12 pm: St Silins's Parish Room. Llansilin stories - a special Valentine 'open hearted' sharing of memories, stories, photos etc of the Llansilin area. All ages welcome. Tea/coffee provided. Please bring old photos, maps etc

STEVE'S RATTLE AND BANG VINTAGE RUN 2010

I would just like to say a very big THANK YOU to everyone who took part in and sponsored and supported the run. Although we are still waiting for a final total it is going to be in the region of £5030 in aid of the Severn Hospice. As many of you are aware, we have put together a DVD of the run and if anyone would like a copy, at £2.50, please let Jeanne or Dolly know, all proceeds will go into the fund. Again, from myself and on behalf of Margaret and Arthur Waterworks, we thank you for the great effort that was made in Steve's memory.

Jeanne Kulig

Did you Know? . . . There is a village organisation called "Friends of the Fountain"?

It was set up in 1992 with a small committee to restore, maintain and care for the water tap in the centre of the village. This had been installed in 1882 by grateful villagers in memory of a much loved Llansilin surgeon, Dr Walter Jones. He had organised the provision of drinking water to the village. The committee raise funds to pay the Severn Trent water bill – yes, we have to pay for usage twice a year. Kind volunteers keep the tap working and look after the flower tubs, which provide colour and interest throughout the year.



Mary Cunnah

LLANGADWALADR CHURCH

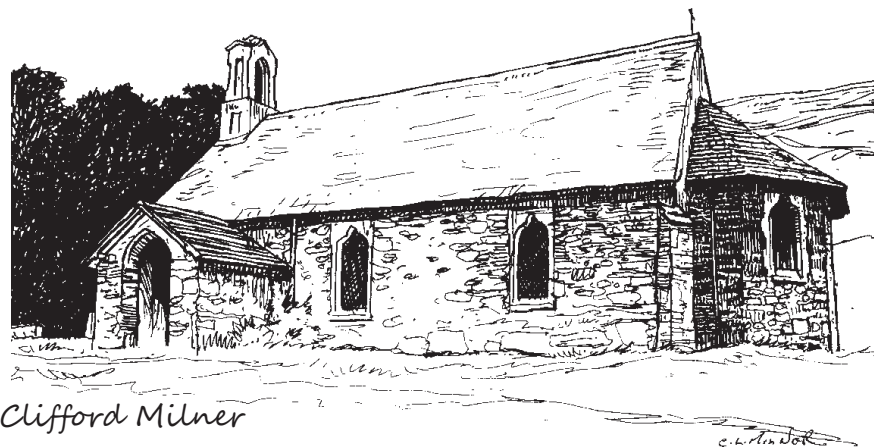
Good to see Llangadwaladr Church get a mention in the autumn 2010 newsletter, but it needs more than a mention. It needs help. Yes, the hole in the roof has been fixed by a friendly builder, Colin, who has over the years replaced fallen slates whenever he is in the area. FOR FREE. However, the state of the roof is now so precarious that to touch one slate causes others to slip. Colin can do no more. The slates are in good condition; it is the nails that are rotten. The north facing side is the worst and, in the not too distant future, the roof will just slide off. A large section under the bell tower is about to go. Without serious fundraising or donations the future for this church is bleak. To repair half the roof will cost around £6,000. Thousands of pounds had to be spent on rewiring, expensive heaters and a drainage system. The church kitty is empty.

To paraphrase the old rhyme:

*“For want of a nail the slate was lost.
For want of a slate the roof was lost.
For want of a roof the church was lost.
And all for want of a nail.”*

The church is at least 500 years old. The largest yew tree is approximately 1,500 years old. It would be a shame to lose it.

Pam Purves



NEWS FROM YSGOL BRO CYNLLAITH



- ▶ Sport - Yrs 4, 5, and 6 have been to Llanfyllin to play hockey and get some coaching. They will also be given the opportunity for some rugby coaching later on in the term.
- ▶ Jambori - Yrs 3, 4, 5 and 6 went to Theatr Hafren to a Jambori jointly run by Menter Maldwyn and the Urdd
- ▶ New pupil - we welcome Lillie Morris to Nursery this term.
- ▶ We are taking part in the After Offa Project which aims to bring together people of all ages to share and exchange local stories.
- ▶ We produced a very successful Pantomime at the end of last term.
- ▶ We held a Farmers' Market which was well attended both by stall holders and customers. Our next one will be on Friday April 8th.

PRESCRIPTIONS

There is an arrangement with the Llanrhaeadr Surgery for prescriptions to be collected and delivered to Llansilin. Every Thursday about 1.30 pm Mike Jones brings the pre-ordered medications to deliver to local people. Those not in or living away from the village can collect from Olive Jones' bungalow at 9 Bryn Celyn (791363). Each order has to be signed for.

Our thanks to these kind people for such a wonderful service.

CROWN OF LIGHT

Once again there has been an excellent response to our annual appeal and a total of £519.00 was collected through the hard work of the “sales team” led by Margaret Lloyd and of Chris Burton, who once again looked after all the mechanics. This sum was only just short of last year's, which is a good performance considering the economic climate and the weather. Even better, expenses were below last year's, so the amount we are able to distribute is marginally higher, at £240.69 to each of Hope House and the Severn Hospice. A cheque handover ceremony took place on 8 February in the Parish Room.