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Grapevine is published monthly by:



Cylch y Frenni Circle of Churches

A Local Ministry Area comprising the parishes of
Clydau, Llanglydwen, Llanfyrnach, Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu

www.frennichurches.org.uk

Ministry Team Leader: The Reverend Jonathan Copus MA 01994 438414 rev@frennichurches.org.uk

Focal Ministers

Clydau: Mrs Elizabeth Law 01239 698607 clydaufm@frennichurches.org.uk

Llanfyrnach: Mrs Eunice Batchelor JP 01239 831556 llanfyrnachfm@frennichurches.org.uk

Llanglydwen: Reader Mrs Maureen Henneveld 01994 419841 reader@frennichurches.org.uk

Llanwinio: Mr Philip Higginson 01994 484498 llanwiniosec@frennichurches.org.uk

Mrs Judy Webb 01239 698405 llanwiniofm@frennichurches.org.uk

Mynachlog-ddu: The Reverend Jonathan Copus MA

Pastoral Eucharistic Assistants

The Focal Ministers

Mr David Carter 01239 831103 llanfyrnachwardens@frennichurches.org.uk

PCC Secretaries

Clydau: Mrs Elizabeth Law

Llanfyrnach: Mrs Hazel Jones 01239 831595 llanfyrnachsec@frennichurches.org.uk

Llanglydwen: Mrs Susan Copus 01994 438414 llanglydwensec@frennichurches.org.uk

Llanwinio: Mr Philip Higginson 01994 484498

Mynachlog-ddu: Mr Alex Velky 01994 419849 mynachlogddusec@frennichurches.org.uk

Publicity Officer

Mrs Sharon Edge 01437 532 681 publicity@frennichurches.org.uk

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Editor: Ms Kathie Dubben, Myrtle Hill, Gellywen, SA33 6DS editorgrapevine@frennichurches.org.uk

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Treasurer: Mr Keith Taylor, Brynderi Farm, Whitland, SA34 0JD lmatreas@frennichurches.org.uk

01994 448653

Front Cover:

***Ben Moore and Charlotte Edwards at their wedding
in Clydau Church on the 25th of August***

Before God

One of those awkward questions people ask is “What was there before God?”, meaning a time so remote we can’t comprehend it anyway. But I find that lurking in the back of some people’s minds - though they wouldn’t admit it - is the notion that before Christianity also means before God. In this country until Christianity came with the Romans, they really think God had no influence here at all and pagan is synonymous with evil, darkness and Satanism. Yet there were people here, probably very like us, who got on with their lives, grew and developed through the ages of what we call prehistory, trying to make sense of the world around them, asking questions about life and death, gathering to worship as best as they understood.

Having discovered that St Mary’s in Whitland is built in a henge I like to think of the people gathering together for worship, celebrating festivals, getting married, welcoming new lives in to the world and saying farewell to loved ones who left this life, pretty much as we do in the Church today. And when Christianity came to our shores suddenly it all made sense and they took to this faith naturally.

It has been speculated that many of the early Celtic Saints had been trained as Druids and they saw Christianity as the ultimate truth they had been waiting for. Surely if God is God of the universe, if everything is created by him and flows from him, there would be signs of him throughout the world not just in Abraham’s descendants. After all Christianity never came to us as a neat package, although it was all there in the first five books of the Old Testament it actually took a mixture of Jewish, Greek and Celtic belief systems to make the sense of it as we have it today. It took Celtic theologians to make sense of the Trinity.

What we are stuck with today is a Roman hierarchical model of the Church which Jesus never intended. Is it any wonder the church is so out of touch with people? The Celtic model of Church is much more community based, with even bishops tilling the ground, where clergy were free to wander over the far flung parishes just dropping in on people, where people really did share all things in common and miracles were a part of everyday life.

Rev. Kingsley Taylor



Cylch y FRENNI Circle of Churches

Clydau, Llanglydwen, Llanfyrnach, Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu



SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2018

3rd Wednesday

Bro Preseli 10.30 am Holy Eucharist

7th The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Llanglydwen 9.30 am Holy Eucharist
 Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Communion by Extension
 Mynachlog-ddu 7.00 pm Harvest Festival
 Llanwinio 9.30 am Bore Weddi

14th The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Llanglydwen 9.30 am Morning Prayer
 Llanwinio 9.30 am Communion by Extension
 Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Holy Eucharist
 Clydau 7.00 pm Harvest Festival

21st The Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Mynachlog-ddu 11.15 am Communion by Extension
 Llanglydwen 3.00 pm Harvest Festival
 Llanfyrnach 7.00 pm Harvest Festival

28th The Last Sunday after Trinity – Bible Sunday (Green)

Llanglydwen 9.30 am Morning Prayer
 Llanwinio 9.30 am Communion By Extension
 Clydau 11.15 am Holy Eucharist
 Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Morning Prayer
 Llanwinio 7.00 pm Harvest Festival

Some Holy Days not on a Sunday

17th Ignatius (c 117), Bishop and Martyr
 18th Luke, Evangelist
 23rd James of Jerusalem, Bishop and Martyr
 28th Simon and Jude, Apostles

Sunday 30th September
Communal 5th Sunday Service
at Llanwinio.
Tea and coffee in the hall
afterwards.
Come and join us!!

At Morning Prayer only the first and last readings are used ; 'a' means the first half of the verse; 'b' means the second half of the verse
 Would readers please announce page numbers where given (and give people time to find the page!)
 Page numbers refer to the bilingual copies of the New Testament

FOR GOD'S SAKE STAND UP FOR YOURSELF

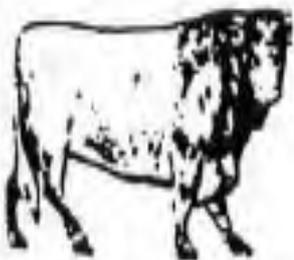
Harvest. One of the two occasions in the year when non-regular-churchgoers take the plunge and cross the alien threshold of a church – the other being Christmas, of course. And we welcome them with open hearts.

For many years I was a bit of a maverick, a card-carrying member of the liberal radical movement which has been unfairly caricatured as 'theology without God'. Away with old-fashioned, obscure, esoteric language and liturgy. If you can't make sense of the doctrine of the Holy and Undivided Trinity without resorting to Aristotle, scrap it. Churches are for mother-and-toddler groups and art exhibitions. Re-interpret the Gospel in secular, materialistic terms which no sane person could possibly question. God? The personification of the corporate aspirations of all people of goodwill. Richard Dawkins would be proud of me.

So when it comes to harvest and Christmas, let's not frighten the horses with a church service: let's have a concert instead, with non-religious readings and inoffensive folk songs.

And I was in distinguished company. The theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, martyred by the Nazis in 1945, spoke approvingly of 'religionless Christianity'. 'We are moving towards a completely religionless time,' he wrote; 'people as they are now simply cannot be religious any more.'

But then I had second thoughts. Was the Church simply a well-intentioned community association, our theme tune Jackie Trent and Tony Hatch's 'Mr and Mrs, be nice to each other'?



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'We have a Gospel to proclaim', Edward Burns's hymn shouts by contrast. Christianity is not a wishy-washy exhortation to be good. You are not a Christian if you're a good person; you are only a Christian if you are a bad person and you know it, and you trust the forgiveness shown in the redeeming sacrifice of Jesus the Christ to make you a better person.

As we welcome unaccustomed faces into our churches this harvest, yes, let's do our best to make them feel at home. But not at the expense of our core principles. We are holding services of thanksgiving to the God who sustains this universe and He knows how many more besides. 'All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above' may be a slightly dated way of putting it, but we stand by the sentiment behind it.

So let's throw open our doors as wide as possible, and welcome both friend and stranger. But let them be under no illusion about our beliefs. That doesn't mean demanding to know whether they're saved over a sausage roll; but it does mean not trying to please all of the people all of the time. *Jonathan Copus*

IT JUST GETS BETTER AND BETTER

This year's ball race at the Bont in aid of Llanglydwen and Llanfyrnach Churches was an outstanding success by any measure. Despite the atrocious weather the day before and not a lot of UV on the day itself, a huge amount of fun was generated – and our highest-ever total of £1,738.05.

The winning balls were no. 125 (John Dobson, £25), no. 23 (Ina Phillips, £10) and no. 691 (Brian Cardiff, £10) congratulations to them all.



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The breakdown stall by stall was:

Ball sponsorship	£949.00
Raffle	£79.00
Eleanor's lucky dip	£5.43
Produce (Gwen)	£66.10
Cream teas	£126.07
BBQ	£259.80
Treasure hunt	£9.30
Popcorn	£9.80
Lucky Dip (Jane)	£27.20
Carol's Stall	£106.00
Janet's Jewels	£50.90
Maureen	£11.21
Adam's Rat	£12.00
Donation	£10.00
TOTAL	<u>£1721.81</u>
*Ted and Eunice's Coffee Morning	£271.00

* This money was used to buy the gas for the BBQ; buns; hot dog rolls; burgers/ sausages; prize money (£90); napkins and incidentals so that the total sum raised on the day (above, £1721.81) could be counted as profit.

Very many thanks to all who helped in so many ways towards this wonderful result.

ALL TOGETHER NOW

Although each of our churches is holding a separate Harvest Festival, there will be a joint Harvest Supper on Friday 12th October in the Restaurant Lounge in Bro Preseli (behind the chippy in Crymych).

At 7.00 pm we'll be taking orders for haddock, plaice, and the piece of cod which passeth all understanding. Then, while the fish is cooking, we'll hold a very brief and informal harvest service – mainly for the residents – and then fit our faces round our fish suppers. If you care to bring a bottle, you'll be all the more welcome.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN OMENS?

If so, you'll be very happy for Ben Moore and Charlotte Edwards, on whose wedding in Clydau Church on 25th August the sun shone with all its might. Ben

denies any relationship with Old Moore (of Almanac fame); but even so we predict a long and happy married life for the newly-weds.

The service was hugely enhanced by the sensitive musicality of Haverfordwest Ladies' Choir, with whom Charlotte would have been singing as usual had she not been otherwise engaged. They ended with John Rutter's setting of *The Lord bless you and keep you* - a prayer in which we all heartily join.

LLANWINIO W.I.



On the 11th of September members of Llanwinio Women's Institute were entertained by a very interesting talk by Emily Skeet, who told us about her life as female chimney sweep.

Last week was chimney safety week which is about trying to raise awareness of chimney safety. Emily gave us a very informative talk about her work and the safety elements we should all be aware of with our fires, burners and boilers.

The next meeting takes place on Tuesday the 9th of October.

New members are always welcome. Meetings are usually held at Llanwinio Community Hall at 2.00 pm on the second Tuesday of the month. For more information, contact the president, Anne Summerbell on 01994 484278



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Mercy Abner, the Prince and the Invictus Games.

The Invictus Games 2018 take place in Sydney Australia from the 20th to 27th October. These Games are an international adaptive multi-sport event, created by Prince Harry, in which wounded, injured or sick armed services personnel and their associated veterans take part in sports including wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, and indoor rowing.



Many British soldiers were wounded by improvised explosive devices whilst serving in Afghanistan which resulted in them losing parts of their legs and feet.

On learning about Mercy, the little eight year old girl with no feet supported by the Cylch y Frenni Bible Study Group, Prince Harry asked Team UK to write a letter of encouragement to her and to her school in Fort Portal, Uganda. This they have kindly done. Like Mercy, these injured Heroes have prosthetic legs and feet and have had to re-learn to walk in the same way. To compete in the games these ex-soldiers often use especially adapted wheelchairs. We look forward to seeing the games on Television and wish Team UK every success in October.



Judy Webb, Focal Minister of Llanwinio Church is crocheting Christmas bells to raise money for Mercy. They are £1 each and are 3" high with a tiny bell inside. They come in red, white, and gold(ish!). She is aiming to raise £200 by Christmas so please see Judy and put in your orders. Mercy has to have lots of operations because her leg bones keep growing and she has to travel 250 miles to the hospital. It all costs a lot of money which the family do not have. Please help if you can.



Above: The Christening of Ilan John Owens, son of Gareth and Catrin at St Tysilio church, Llandissilio on the 25th of August 2018.

Below: The deciding moment at the Llanglydwen Ball Race



Meidrim, Merthyr and Abernant, Trelech a'r betws

Canon Jeffrey Gainer 01994 231378

Services in October

7th Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

Meidrim: Thanksgiving for the Harvest

9.45 am Bilingual Holy Eucharist

4.00 pm Evensong. Guest preacher: The Ven. Alun Evans

Trelech 11.15 am Y Cymun Bendigaid

Note: no service in Abernant today

14th Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Meidrim 9.45 am Holy Eucharist

Merthyr 11.15 am Holy Eucharist (sermon in English)

Note: no service in Trelech today

18th St Luke the Evangelist

Meidrim 10.00 am Holy Eucharist

21st Twenty first Sunday after Trinity

Merthyr: Thanksgiving for the Harvest

9.45 am Bilingual Holy Eucharist

7.00 pm Concert by the Corran Singers

Trelech 11.15 am Holy Eucharist

28th St Simon and St Jude the Apostles

Abernant 9.45 am Holy Eucharist

Meidrim 11.15 am Holy Eucharist (2004 rite)

Merthyr 2.15 pm Evening Prayer

The guest preacher at the Meidrim Harvest Thanksgiving will be the former archdeacon of Carmarthen, the Ven. Alun Evans. A native of the Aman valley and a native Welsh speaker, he studied at Cambridge University before ordination in the diocese of Llandaff where he served

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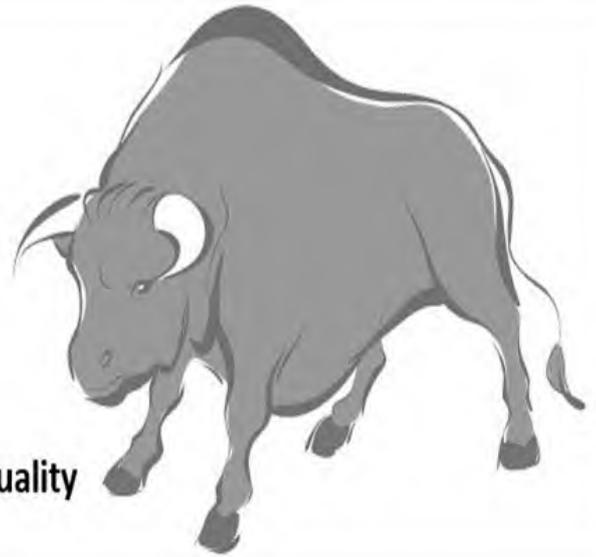
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as an assistant curate at Bargoed before becoming the incumbent of Cwmavon near Port Talbot. He returned to this diocese on his appointment as an archdeacon and now lives in retirement in Glangwili. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find preachers who are fluent in Welsh, alas! We are grateful for our guest preacher's willingness to come to our aid and trust that a numerous and responsive congregation will be present to join in our acts of thanksgiving to God on October 7th.

Abernant

The schoolchildren, their teachers and parents, and no doubt some grandparents are all very welcome to join us for the school Harvest Thanksgiving service at St Lucia's on Monday 8th October at 2.00 pm when the Vicar of Newcastle Emlyn, Canon Dewi Roberts, will address the congregation. As usual the children will make their contribution in music and recitation under the guidance of Mrs Jenkins the headmistress. Come along!

We extend the assurance of our thoughts to Mr Eddy Rice and his wife Ann, our church treasurer, on the death of Eddy's son Terry at a relatively young age. Terry's funeral was held on Wednesday, September 5th. May he rest in peace.

A date for the diary: On Friday 19th October at 8.00 pm it will be "eyes down" for an evening of bingo at Tafarn y Cwm in aid of church funds. Please support this if you can.

The Parochial Church Council has elected the churchwardens, Mrs Ann Young and Mr Hugh Davies, as well as Mr Graeme Young to represent this parish on the proposed Council of the Local Ministry area. The service of licensing is scheduled for Tuesday October 23rd at St Martin's, Laugharne at 7.00 pm.

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Meidrim

We hope very much that the installation of the electricity system in the church hall will have taken place by the time that you read this. With colder weather approaching we shall need an efficient heating system.

Sincere congratulations go to Mr and Mrs Raymond and Delia Thomas who celebrated recently their sixtieth wedding anniversary with an "Open house" to family members, neighbours and friends.

It is gratifying to note that the final sum raised by the tractor and vintage car race and musical evening on August 11th exceeded £2,150. An excellent effort by all concerned!

We assure Mr Daff Phillips and his family of our thoughts and prayers at this time. Having recently buried his wife of many years Daff has also had to face the loss of his sister Peggy who died recently after protracted illness. The funeral took place at Bethel chapel where the Revd Dr Felix Aibel was present when Mr Dafydd Evans officiated at the burial.

Merthyr

A belated but sincere welcome to Adrienne Morgan and Mary Chadwick who have joined the congregation at St Martin's. It is always good to see new faces. The former lady joins the ranks of the lawyers in our congregations whilst the former joins the Rector in her interest in history which she likewise studied at college. Mary in fact has a doctorate from London University in that subject. We trust they will be happy at Garthmartin which has something of a tradition of learned occupants after it ceased to be the Rectory back in 1951. Hopefully it had one with the previous clerical occupants of the Victorian parsonage too! First we had Tecwyn Lloyd, a distinguished man of letters in the Welsh language and a native of the Bala area. He spent much of his career in the South. Then latterly Dr Edwards, a retired mental health expert, who also has published several books in Welsh, lived at Garthmatin before removing to Cardiff with his wife Brenda a year or so ago.

Talking about yr hen iaith... a recommendation for you. The late Gwynn ap Gwilym, who was once the Rector of Mallwyd, has written an excellent historical novel in Welsh about his early seventeenth century predecessor as Rector of the same parish, the great humanist scholar Dr John Davies. It is very readable, well researched and enjoyable. The dialogue between the various characters is particularly good and flows naturally. The title of the book is Sgythia, a reference to the ancient Greek Scythia, regarded as a wild and remote place.



Above: Jonathan Copus directing operations at the Ball Race, Llanglydwen

Below: Rhydian Jenkins with his parents Owen and Caroline Jenkins at his baptism recently at The Trinity, Llanboidy



That, it seems, was how John Davies's contemporaries regarded the parish to which he was sent in 1604 and where he stayed some forty years! During his time there he revised the Welsh Bible (1620) and wrote a famous grammar of Welsh based on extensive study of the bardic poetry and also producing a Welsh-Latin dictionary. He had other talents too. He restored the ruined Rectory and even had built a bridge for his parishioners to cross the nearby river

Gwynn ap Gwilym's achievement is all the more impressive as he was told by the doctors that he had but two months to live. He at once set about completing the novel which he did in two days of ceaseless writing and died shortly afterwards.

Harvest Thanksgiving arrangements: 21st October.

This year the bilingual eucharist will be at 9.45 am. There will not be a parish lunch but we shall welcome the Corran Singers to St Martin's in the evening for a concert of sacred and secular music which will start at 7.00 pm.

Trelech

Please note that the Church Council will need to elect three representatives to serve on the proposed Local Ministry Council. Since the archdeacon will be our guest preacher on the last Sunday of September, it may be that some of you may like to enquire of him what is involved in this new venture.

Advance notice: There will be a concert in church on Sunday evening, November 18th. Further details in the November issue of the Grapevine.

Food for thought from a former Archbishop of Canterbury,

Dr Michael Ramsey:

“History shows that attempts to be rid of the scandal of the Church, by puritanically turning out people who don't conform to certain moral standards, cause more evils than they cure... the Christian Church was never meant to be a Society of the Moral, but rather a Society of the Forgiven, and of those who put themselves in the way of divine forgiveness; a society ready to carry within its embrace many who have fatally compromised, and all who are unworthy – for all of us are unworthy: the mixed company of those called to be saints”.

Whitland, Cyffig, Llanboidy Llandysulio, Clunderwen

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Lay Worship Leader Mr. Nathan Jenkins

Services in October

7th Trinity XIX

St Mary 10.00 am Holy Communion Harvest

St David 11.30 am Holy Communion Harvest

14th Trinity XX

St Mary 8.00 am Holy Communion

St Tysilio 9.00 am Holy Communion

St Mary 11.00 am Matins

St David 11.00 am Matins

Cyffig 2.30 pm Holy Communion

St Brynach 4.00 pm Holy Communion

21st Trinity XXI

St Mary 8.00 am Holy Communion

St Mary 11.00 am Matins

St David 2.30 pm Holy Communion

28th Trinity XXII

St Mary 8.00 am Holy Communion

St Tysilio 9.00 am Holy Communion

St Mary 11.00 am Holy Communion

St David 11.00 am Matins

St Brynach 11.15 am Holy Communion

Cyffig 2.30 pm Evensong

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Focal Ministers are individuals who are a key point of access to the Church, where a vicar may not be present. Focal Ministers do not need to be ordained. They may be involved in worship, in mission and outreach, or in pastoral care in their local congregation and community.

Any volunteers?

Harvest

Harvest is a time when we remember to give thanks to God for the fruitfulness of the Earth. But the Bible reminds us that there is a harvest of souls too, in this we should all be involved. With all the restructuring of the church that is going on the laity are being encouraged to get involved in all aspects of ministry. Unfortunately this is seen as a money saving exercise or a panic reaction to the lack of clergy. The church should have been doing this throughout history, instead of which we are stuck with a Roman hierarchical structure which has encouraged congregations to sit there and receive ministry and the ordained have encouraged this to make themselves feel important.

Whatever, the present reality is that there are fewer clergy, the old idea of Church has gone. If we want a church into the future then must all go out into the harvest field.

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Welcome

Welcome to the Church Family to Ilan John Owens, Christened at St Tysilio's on Saturday 25th September. Congratulations to Gareth and Catrin.

Events (so far)

Tuesday 2 nd Oct	7.00 pm	Harvest at Llanboidy
Thursday 4 th Oct	7.00 pm	Harvest at Llandysilio
Sunday 7 th Oct	10.00 am	Harvest at Whitland
Sunday 7 th Oct	11.30 am	Harvest at Clunderwen

EGLWYS GYMYN

August ended with the nearest thing to a big bang event, Eglwys Gymyn's Lego festival which was simply wonderful. Within the church, Mr John Lewis-Tunster a member of our congregation, had assembled many hundreds of Lego constructions, ranging from Dinosaurs to Space shuttles to buildings like Buckingham Palace/Tower Bridge/Eifel Tower and The Taj Mahal. This summary does not do it justice and I hope the photographs will more clearly illustrate the full range of the models as well as the obvious effort needed by Mr Lewis-Tunster in first collecting such a large example of the Lego range and then assembling them in the church hall (which took several days).

The official opening by The Venerable Archdeacon Paul Mackness took place at 2.30 pm on August 24th.

Over the Bank Holiday weekend we were lucky that the weather was generally good with just enough showers to further encourage visits from those drivers on the way to Pendine beach. As you can expect the children were all wide eyed, and to be honest so were just as many adults, who were taken back to their childhood when they might have owned two or three Lego models.

Our thanks go to John and the members of the congregation who helped over the four day extravaganza.

All the funds generated by this display are to be used to further extend the church heating started in 2017.

Although the occasion above was fun based, the funds generated are more serious as is the Quinquennial report which was received in July. It now requires detailed examination to rate the issues identified into several priority categories in order to produce a feasible action plan, eg. efforts versus costs. To

Right:

Llanfyrnach parishioner Caronwen Dakin – currently self-exiled to Cardiff - has announced the birth of her son Osian Gareth Barry on 3rd September when he weighed in at nine pounds four ounces. Elizabeth Law's picture shows the sleepy Osian, with Caronwen and proud father Lee Barry.

Below: Two beautiful photos of Mercy Abner, the little girl in Uganda who lost her feet in a terrible cooking accident and who is receiving support from Cylch Y Frenni



facilitate this a PCC meeting has been arranged for September 19th at the Church vicarage.

Also in September (29th) the Church has organised the Tractor Run and we expect it to replicate (or perhaps duplicate as I was taught), the successes of previous years. The event is organised by Mr J Stone and Mr Alex Robinson, Grandson of Mrs Ann Robinson, a long term member of our congregation.

The Harvest service will be at 7.00 pm on Friday October 5th, and will be followed with a buffet in the church hall.

Services in October will follow the standard practice, ie

1st & 3rd Sundays: Rev Huw at 2.30 PM

2nd and 4th Sundays: Rev David at 10.30 AM

Cyffig Notes for October 2018.

We are all mightily thankful that Mr Philip James (2 Rose End) is making good progress after his heart operation. Thanks to Margaret's swift action in conveying him to A & E, the outcome is a happy one. We all wish him a speedy recovery

Thanks to everyone who has supported our events over the lovely Summer.

The Cream Teas in July and the Bingo Night in August were both held in Red Roses Hall. We are continually grateful for your company and generosity.

Congratulations to Jonathan (grandson of Joan Seely) and Esther (daughter of Ann James, Gt. Pale) on the birth of their little son.

Thanks to everyone for Church cleaning and grass mowing during the Summer. Our best wishes to members and friends.

Church Cleaning in October: Mrs. M. James

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Trinity, Llanboidy, Tabernacle, Whitland and Bethel, Llanddewi Velfrey

Minister Revd. Guto Llywelyn, Tel. 01269 851655
gutollywelyn@hotmail.com

Trinity: Delyth Dent Tel. 01994 448606 delythdent@btinternet.com
Tabernacle: Meryl James Tel. 01994 240350 meryljames534@btinternet.com
Bethel: Eric Howells Tel. 01994 240205 erichowells@rocketmail.com

Services for October 2018

Bethel:

October 7th: 14.00 Communion Service
October 14th: 14.00 Harvest Thanksgiving Service (through the medium of English)
October 21st: 10.30 Joint Service at Bethel led by Mrs Sian Elin Thomas
October 28th: 10.30 Joint Service at Tabernacle led by "Coda Ni", Pencader

Tabernacle:

October 7th: 11.00 Communion Service
October 14th: 9.30 Children's Harvest Thanksgiving Festival (followed by a cup of tea /coffee)
October 21st: 10.30 Joint Service at Bethel led by Mrs Sian Elin Thomas
October 28th: 10.30 Joint Service at Tabernacle led by "Coda Ni", Pencader

Trinity:

October 7th: 9.30 Communion Service
October 14th: 11.00 Service
October 21st: 10.30 Joint Service at Bethel led by Mrs Sian Elin Thomas
October 28th: 10.30 Joint Service at Tabernacle led by "Coda Ni", Pencader

Bethel Congregational Chapel

With many members and our Minister on holiday in August most of our services were joint ones. Our service on the 12th at Bethel was taken by the members, arranged at the last minute when the expected preacher was unable to be present. The following Sunday Miss Delyth Jones took the service in Trinity, and the service on the last Sunday was at Tabernacle with Mrs Margaret Griffiths.

On the first Sunday in September members travelled to Bethel, Loveston for their Harvest Festival. One of Bethel's members has connections with the area and we have held many joint services. After the service we enjoyed an excellent tea in their vestry.

The following Sunday we had an English service when we were joined by several English friends to hear an interesting sermon on the Parables.

We were away again on the third Sunday, this time to Pisga Llandysilio with our minister taking the service. He also officiated at a christening during the service. As it happened the young child was the great nephew of Bethel members who were, of course, present at the service. Again we were treated to a good tea afterwards.

The following Sunday was our usual Welsh service and the last Sunday of the month is an English communion service.

We look forward now to our Harvest Thanksgiving on Oct 14th when we hope to welcome many friends from other chapels to join us.

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TABERNACLE CHAPEL

The first Sunday in July being the 1st was a Communion Service with our Minister, the Rev Guto Llywelyn, officiating. The theme of the service was 'Missionaries' with children, young people and adults taking part. The 2nd Sunday a service for all denominations of Carmarthenshire was held in Llandeilo. Sunday the 15th of July the annual trip for Bethel, Tabernacle and Trinity was held and members from Bethlehem Chapel, Pwll Trap and Gibeon Bancyfelin joined with us. In the morning we visited Blaenycoed Chapel north of Cynwyl Elfed where a service was held with our Minister officiating and Mrs Elspeth Page gave a very interesting talk on the history of the chapel and also of the hymnist Elfed.

In the afternoon we visited Neuaddlwyd near Aberaeron. We had food in Ffostrasol Arms on the way home and everyone enjoyed a very interesting trip. The last Sunday of the month was a Communion Service with our Minister officiating. Members contributed food towards the Food Bank. On Monday evening, the 31st of July, a Quiz evening was held at the vestry as part of Whitland Week activities with 5 teams taking part and the Senior team from Tabernacle were the winners.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of one our faithful members, Mrs Diane Davies. Our thoughts are with the children and all the family.

Although August is the month when the majority of people are on holidays, we did have services throughout the month.



***Above: Prize winners at Afon Taf Gardening Club Show on the 9th of September.
Below: John Lewis-Tunster with some of the many Lego models he assembled
for Eglwys Gymyn on the 24th of August.***



The 5th of August was the Annual United Service for Whitland Week. The service this year was held at St Mary's Church with the Rev Kingsley Taylor officiating and was well attended by all denominations in Whitland. The 12th of August was a United service at Bethel Chapel, Llanddewi Velfrey with members taking part. The 19th was another United service held at Trinity Llanboidy with Miss Delyth Jones officiating. The last Sunday of the month the service was held at Tabernacle Chapel, Whitland with Mrs Margaret Griffiths officiating.

Afon Taf Gardening Club

The annual show took place at Whitland Town Hall on Sunday the 9th of September. As usual there was a wonderful display of flowers, fruit, vegetables and produce. The judges were Mrs. Winnie James, Crymych; Mr. Don Lloyd, Brecon and Mrs. Eluned Walters, Carmarthen. A former member, Mrs. Elfrida Jones, presented the prizes. The Afon Taf Gardening Club plate was awarded to the exhibitor with the highest number of points—Beryl Gibbin with 91 points. Below are the three judges, Winnie James, Eluned Walters and Don Lloyd



The October meeting takes place on the 18th of October and will be the AGM. Meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm at Whitland Town Hall and new members will be warmly welcomed.

Collection!

Please note that each church is responsible for collecting their own copies of the Grapevine from Reception at Dentron, Llys Myrddin, Efailwen.

They will be ready for you after 3.30 p.m. on the Saturday immediately preceding the last Sunday of the month.



Does this look a tad familiar? This is a monument to the composer, Arthur Sullivan, and stands in the Embankment Gardens, Westminster. If it does look familiar it is because the Cardiff born sculptor, Sir William Goscombe John is also responsible for the statue, Grief, which is now inside St. Brynach's Church Llanboidy and is dedicated to Walter Rice Howell Powell. Powell was a Haverfordwest born 1819 philanthropist who brought money and jobs to Llanboidy and his legacy can be seen at the Market Hall and other fine buildings in the village. The seat of the Powells was the mansion of Maesgwynne,, just north of the village.

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- Fresh fruit and vegetables including organic produce
- Home-made bread and cakes
- Home-baking products
- Deliveries by arrangement
- Ordering service for non-stock or bulk items



Newport and Carningli WI organised an evening with the wildlife presenter Iolo Williams on the 6th of September and your editor was cheeky enough to cosy

up with him for a photo! Thanks to Judy Webb for her photographic skills!

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Proverbs 24:27



Purity's story

Tea and church are two important factors in the lives of Purity Muthoni and her husband, William Mathenge. Tea from their 6,000 bushes goes to the Ndima Tea Factory, on the slopes of Mount Kenya, and is used in several of Traidcraft's tea blends. But when she is not working on the farm or in her home, Purity is a leading figure in the Mothers' Union in Mathia Anglican Church, and in the parish.

"I am chair of the Mothers' Union in the church. Every Friday evening we meet, with prayers and worshipping," she says, "Because of Fairtrade now our lives have improved. We are hoping for more and more improvements because of Fairtrade."

The couple also grow coffee, and a variety of vegetables. It puts food on their own table and the surplus can be sold in the local market. Purity and William are keen to show the improvements they are making to their home, which they say are as a direct result of being able to sell their tea on Fairtrade terms.

"I am hoping to build a new house," William says. "We are building the toilets and bathroom. I want to build a stone house. Because of Fairtrade we are going to build. It is good because Fairtrade is good to us. Without it, we cannot build anything."

Pointing to their present home, he explains: "Before, we could not afford to build and the children were in school at that time, so the money was very little. But we are hoping now to build. We have got hope."

And Purity adds: "We are well-fed because of our tea. We are having a good diet. We get money from the tea to educate our children."

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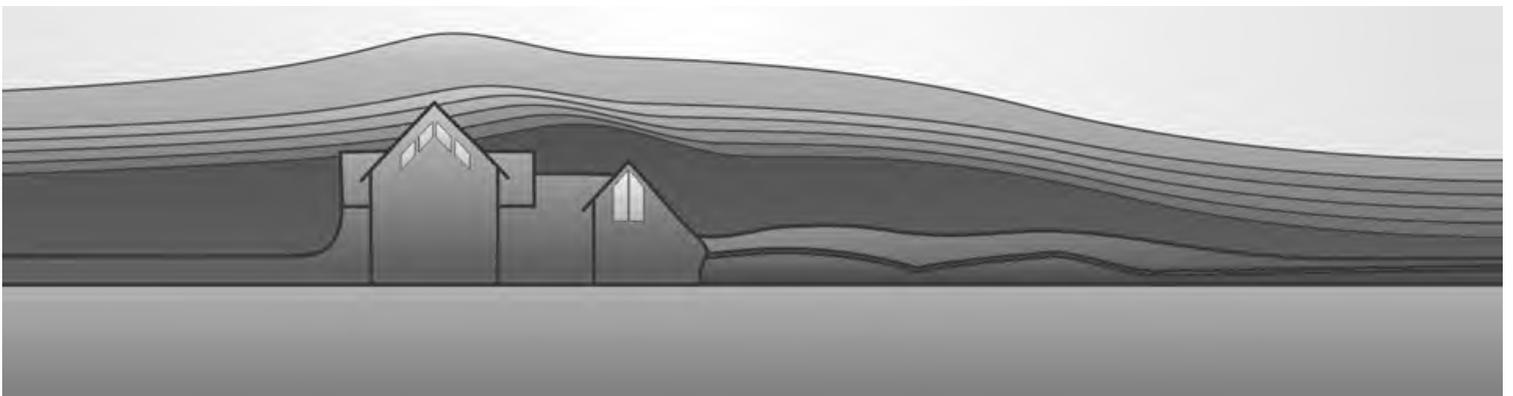
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Everyone is welcome, but please phone beforehand so that we know how many people to cook for.

Just call Diana on 01239 698360 or Marie on 01239 698003

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- Mai 26 May 2018
- Mehefin 23 June - Outing to somewhere nice

- Gorffennaf 28 July 2018
- Awst 25 August 2018
- Medi 22 September - Outing
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- Tachwedd 24 November 2018



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- Gorffennaf 14 July 2018- Canolfan Clydau Centre
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- Medi 8 September - Canolfan Clydau Centre
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