

G r a p e v i n e

w
i
n
w
y
d
d
e
n



2020
£1.10
l o n a w r
J a n u a r y



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

Minister: 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: mynachlogddufm@frennichurches.org.uk

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: llanglydwensec@frennichurches.org.uk
Llanwinio: Mr Philip Higginson 01994 484498 llanwiniosec@frennichurches.org.uk
Mynachlog-ddu: Mr Alex Velky 01994 419849 mynachlogddusec@frennichurches.org.uk

Publicity Officer

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

Grapevine copy deadline is 23:59 hrs on the 10th of the preceding month

Editor: Ms Kathie Dubben, Myrtle Hill, Gellywen, SA33 6DS editorgrapevine@frennichurches.org.uk
01994 484404

£130 per full page ad £70 per half page ad £40 per quarter page ad

Treasurer: Mr Keith Taylor, Brynderi Farm, Whitland, SA34 0JD lmatreas@frennichurches.org.uk
01994 448653

Editorial

Although you will read these words in the New Year, they are being typed a few days before the General Election in order to meet the editor's deadline. As such they are also being typed two weeks before Christmas. Each year as that festival is observed many people will once again hear the story of government interference or, if you prefer, government regulation. The authorities of the Roman Empire held a census and required Mary and Joseph to register in their ancestral home in Bethlehem. It is a familiar enough tale and you may yourself have seen it being re-enacted by small children or smiled as you heard Little Donkey being sung once more. But now the New Year is upon us and we have other matters on our mind, including possibly the consequences of the recent election.

Yet another census awaits us in 2021 and, of late, a minor controversy has arisen concerning one of the draft questions proposed by the Office for National Statistics. It is a question about identity. A young woman called Kizzy Crawford has protested that although she was born and bred in Wales she may not indicate that she is Welsh. Not this time because she is bound to declare herself British but because she is a woman of colour - her own description - and the question about Welshness pre-supposes that all the Welsh are white in colour. To add to her indignation she is a Welsh speaker but that fact will also be ignored since the census form assumes that all speakers of the language are white in colour. Kizzy's ancestors came from the West Indies. She identifies strongly with Wales. She sees the question on the census as expressing a pre-judgement, a prejudice, which should not be there for it does not include those of an ethnic minority who identify themselves as Welsh. As she writes: "there needs to be an option for the approximately 14% of the population of Wales that falls into this category."

Is this just another storm in a tea cup? Is she being over sensitive? Well, let us not forget that questions about identity and belonging have played a significant part in the protracted debates we have been having these past few years about the relationship of the people of these islands with the rest of Europe. Are we British first? Or Welsh? Or something else? Or European? Although the New Year is upon us the implications of our answers to

questions about our common identity will continue to have an effect for a long time. Will Scotland decide that the Union no longer works? What about Northern Ireland? Where will that leave us here? Does the United Kingdom have a “precious union”? Such admittedly limited indications as we have suggest that the younger generation is not as convinced that the Union is as precious as their grandparents believe it to be.

And there is a concerning disparity in wealth throughout this State with recent figures showing a significant increase in the number of areas in Britain which are classified as being impoverished.

As I type these words the result of the General Election is but a short time away. By the time you read these lines you will know the result and may be content, confused, disappointed or simply resigned to the decision. Whatever your opinion about the result, let us not forget that part of the profound influence that Christianity has had upon our culture is summed up in the less well-observed festival which occurs towards the beginning of January. On January 6th, the feast of the Epiphany, we recall the Wise Men who brought their precious gifts to the infant Christ. They came from the East but where from exactly? Down the generations people have speculated about their country of origin. Yet more important is the fact that they represent in their person all the nations which bring their homage to Christ. They also remind us that whereas we may choose to define ourselves and others on a form or elsewhere by virtue of our culture, place of birth, language and personal characteristics, nonetheless what is really important is that we all belong to the same human race. We are all made in God’s image and are all of infinite worth to our Creator, even if a government or a fellow human being—or even we ourselves—may disregard this truth on occasion. The modern concern for equal treatment derives ultimately from the distinctively Christian evaluation of men and women, boys and girls, as being made in the image of God. We do well to reflect on this point as we face whatever 2020 AD may bring to us.

With every good wish for a peaceful and healthy New Year to you all,

Jeffrey Gainer

Cylch y Frenni Circle of Churches

Clydau, Llanglydwen, Llanfyrnach,

Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu

SERVICES IN JANUARY 2020

5th The Second Sunday of Christmas

Llanglydwen 9.30 am Communion by Extension

Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Communion by Extension

Mynachlog-ddu 11.15 am Morning Prayer

8th Wednesday

Bro Preseli 10.30 am Communion by Extension

12th The Baptism of Christ

Llanwinio 9.30 am Communion by Extension

Clydau 11.15 am Morning Prayer

Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Morning Prayer

19th The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Llanglydwen 9.30 am Morning Prayer

Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Communion by Extension

Mynachlog-ddu 11.15 am Christingle with Communion
by Extension

26th The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Llanwinio 9.30 am Communion by Extension

Clydau 11.15 am Communion by Extension

Llanfyrnach 11.15 am Morning Prayer

Some Holy Days not on a Sunday:

6th The Epiphany of Our Lord

18th The Confession of Peter, Apostle

25th Conversion of Paul, Apostle

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. 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

Er cof am y diwedd

Barchedig Roger Thomas

The late Roger Thomas, who died a few weeks before Christmas, served for several years as the priest in charge of the Llanfyrnach group in the old deanery of St Clears. He and his wife Moreen

settled in happily at Crymych. Roger had one outstanding pastoral gift: his humanity. He was able to get on with ordinary people. One mental picture occurs to me at this point. It is of Roger standing outside the church hall in Meidrim at a Ruridecanal meeting, cigarette in hand, and chatting away with a new friend who happened to be the church sexton. They were clearly getting on well, probably discussing the merits of certain Welsh rugby internationals. This humanity served him well in the pulpit too. His sermons were not necessarily marked by academic scholarship - although he kept up his reading and indeed loaned me a couple of theological books from time to time - but they were marked by a simple and effective application of Scripture to the real needs of those with whom he interacted so well. People in the congregation heard the great Shepherd's voice through this shepherd's testimony.

Roger was proud of his Welsh roots. The son of the Vicarage, he had grown up in Llangennech and in Llanwrda and it was in the latter parish that he spent the last years of his active ministry before his retirement. The parish also had the



further advantage of being near to his old school, Llandovery College, where he had developed his sporting interests. His father was a much-respected incumbent of Llangennech and an inspiration and a challenge to his son. Roger was ordained in middle age and brought to the Sacred Ministry the diverse experiences of secular employment. Roger had been a publican in Cwmann, near Lampeter, for example. These experiences meant that he was not narrowly religious in interest. It may be a telling point that at his induction at Clydau one of the guests in the church was a certain Huw Llewellyn Davies, the rugby commentator!

Like us all, Roger had his faults and failures and some of them at least were quite obvious ones. Yet in many ways they too only served to remind us of his humanity and we were able at the same time to sense the deep Faith and dedication which he and Moreen shared. Many of us will continue to remember and be thankful for the warmth of the welcome in their home and the privilege of their friendship. The parishioners recall with affection a diligent pastor.

May this faithful servant of Christ and His Church enter into the joy of his Lord, for in the communion of saints, as Roger knew, there is indeed that fellowship which death cannot destroy. To Moreen and all the family we extend the assurance of our thoughts and prayers whilst mindful of the Lord's words: Well done, good and faithful servant. Da was, da a ffyddlon.

Jeffrey Gainer

Llanwinio

At the beginning of December Sian (née Robinson) and Matthew Dyer became proud parents to Gwenllian Mair. Sian and Matthew married at Llanwinio in May 2018. Gwenllian is first grandchild to Colin and Eirwen Robinson, Rhydcaernarfon, and tenth great grandchild to Peter and Margaret Robinson, Waun Llan. Many congratulations to all the family!

Llanwinio Entertainments Committee held a very successful community carol service at a packed Llanwinio Church on the 15th of December, followed by refreshments in the hall. Pupils from Ysgol Bro Brynach, Llanboidy, sang several carols. The conductor was Mrs. Sioned Page and the organist was Mrs. Cerios Jenner.

The Star



You may have wondered where the picture on the front of the December Grapevine came from. It was a screen shot taken from an 86 minute Sony Pictures animation of the nativity story called The Star, as seen through the eyes of a donkey

He's not in the book, but has made it into Christmas carols. Starting in nine months BC when the angel tells Mary of her immaculate conception, this cartoon touches all the key moments mentioned in St Matthew's Gospel – with Hollywood's touch.

So we see Mary trying to tell Joseph (at the wedding) about the pregnancy and the three 'wise' men rocking up to King Herod the Great's palace to tell him they've brought gifts for his replacement. That never seemed to be a particular clever idea in the first place, for while Herod (chillingly voiced by Christopher Plummer) asks them to bring him word of where the child is that he might pay homage also, he immediately unleashes his clean-up squad to solve the problem violently.

Then it's a road trip: Mary and Joseph head for Bethlehem, as do the donkey, the three wise men and Herod's clean-up squad's dogs towing their handler.

Since we're seeing the story through the animals, we meet the donkey and his friends, the three wise men's camels and the spaced-out animals living in the stable where baby Jesus will be born. They haven't had any sleep because of the light shining on the crib for the last nine months and once there's a baby in the manger they figure they still won't get any sleep thereafter anyway.

This feature did well in cinemas when released in 2017, and has been available on DVD and other such formats (and any streaming service you subscribe to) since last year. What's nice about it is that it puts the story of the Christ into Christmas. Charles Dickens worked very hard in the 19th century to separate Christmas from the Bible: a line Walt Disney and other visual arts producers pursued in the 20th century. Christmas in the cinema

became a holiday; a family get-together with God played by Santa Claus, and Jesus just got left out altogether.

There are plenty of Biblical epics that retell stories from the Bible: the nativity scene appears briefly in Ben Hur, for example but this charming piece blends the nativity scene into the first Christmas like no other and reminds us all what Christmas is about.

Richard Law

LLANWINIO W.I.



Members of Llanwinio WI enjoyed a lovely Christmas dinner at Beca, Efailwen on Monday the 16th of December. The first meeting of the year takes place on Tuesday the 14th of January. The programme for 2020 is nearly ready and promises to be varied and interesting.

New members will be warmly welcomed!



Meetings usually take place at Llanwinio Community Hall at 2.00 pm on the second Tuesday of the month For more details contact the President, Anne Summerbell on 01994 484278.



Above: The Howells family of Blaengelli have won the "ForFarmers" regional finalist award for the young stock for two years running. Pictured above left are Catherine and Emma receiving the award this year, and right, Roger and Sarah receiving the award last year at The Farmers Club, Whitehall, London.



**Above: Santa Claus comes to the Tabernacle Christmas party
Below: Tabernacle Christmas Service on the 15th of December**



Meidrim and Merthyr

Canon Jeffrey Gainer 01994 231378

sieffremeidrim@googlemail.com

Services in January 2020

5th	Second Sunday after Christmas	
Meidrim	9.00am	Boreol Weddi
	9.45am	Y Cymun Bendigaid
	4.00pm	Evensong
Merthyr	11.15am	Y Cymun Bendigaid (Sermon in Welsh)
6th	Feast of the Epiphany	
Meidrim	12.00	Sung Eucharist
12th	First Sunday after the Epiphany	
Meidrim	9.45am	Holy Eucharist
Merthyr	11.15am	Holy Eucharist
19th	Second Sunday after the Epiphany	
Merthyr	9.30am (note time)	Morning Prayer
Meidrim	11.00am (note time)	Eucharist (bilingual)
26th	Third Sunday after the Epiphany	
Merthyr	9.30am	Holy Eucharist
Meidrim	11.00am	Matins
	4.00pm	Hwyrol Weddi

Please note the revised arrangements for the third and fourth Sundays in the month

Meidrim

For almost ninety years Mr Les Lewis has lived in this village and been an active member of the Church and the community. However, because of health problems which have rendered independent living exceedingly difficult, he has removed of late to an old people's home near Llandeilo. He will join there another former resident of Upper Village, namely Mrs Connie Massicks. We hope and pray that Les will settle in well in his new surroundings although we shall miss his cheerful presence, his interest in sports and above all his interest in people.

We are sorry to report the demise of the late Mrs Doreen Evans of St Clears. Her husband, Mr Ben Evans, is a well-known and well respected business man in St Clears. Their son, Paul, lives with his family in Meidrim. We assure them all of our thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

Once again the pre-Christmas coffee morning had a very good financial result with over £2,100 being raised for church funds. At the beginning of

G. Williams

Monumental Masons

Established 1875

- * Over 60 Memorials on display
- * All types of monumental work undertaken
 - * Renovations and re-gilding
 - * Sawing service available
 - * House name plates supplied

ST. CLEARS - Tel: 01994 231390

Fax: 01994 231297

Pentre Road, St. Clears, Carmarthenshire



GOFALUS

HOME CARE WITH A DIFFERENCE

Our Mission:

"To provide care and support to Service Users and their families in accordance with their clearly identified individual wishes, fully supporting their human rights and upholding their dignity."

Our Services:

We provide generic services for those with needs due to frailty as well as specialist services for those with more complex needs.

Our services include;

- Personal Care • Social Care & Companionship**
- Learning Disabilities • Supported Living**

Our Team:

At Gofalus, we take great care in selecting and developing our team. We aspire to employ the best people and adopt a team approach that helps deliver the highest standards in the provision of care and services.

T: (01239) 832852 M: 07817 634810

E-Mail: gofalus@hotmail.com

Registered with the:



Ungoed-Thomas & King Solicitors • Cyfreithwyr

Understanding Trust Knowledge

Ungoed-Thomas & King is a long established, trusted, West Wales practice.

We are committed to providing the highest standards of quality care through expert knowledge, advice and legal services.

Please contact us at:

Ungoed-Thomas & King Limited,
The Quay,
Carmarthen,
Carmarthenshire SA31 3LN.

Telephone: 01267 237441

Facsimile: 01267 238317

e-mail: mail@utk.co.uk

www.utk.co.uk

Authorised and regulated by the
Solicitors Regulation Authority no.: 471940
Ungoed-Thomas & King Limited.
Company registered in Wales no.: 2755783.

Lexcel
Practice Management Standard
Law Society Accredited

utk





J.O. GRIFFITHS

FAMILY BUTCHER & PURVEYOR
OF HIGH QUALITY MEATS

23 High Street, Narberth, Pembro SA67 7AR

Telephone: (01834) 861045

PLEASE TO MEET YOU - MEAT TO PLEASE YOU



the event the hall looked to be sparsely attended but thankfully more people came in as the morning went on. We are grateful to Mrs Laura Howells, daughter of Mr Jeffrey Harries and the late Mrs Rosemary Harries. Laura introduced the event speaking about the significance of Advent and using Welsh and English alike to good effect. She was accompanied by her daughter Gwenllian. We thank Laura for her generous donation and also all those who in any way contributed to these busy and enjoyable few hours together.

News of the sick and recovering:

The Vicar's brother, John, who lives in Coventry, has recently spent three periods in hospital after a stroke but is now home and making progress.

Mr Mark Lewis is staying with his parents in Lon Ddewi at the time of writing after several weeks in hospital in Llanelli. We assure him of our good wishes.

Miss Sophie Lewis, daughter of Mr Shane Jones and the late Mrs Tracey Jones, has been in Ysbyty Gwynedd for six weeks. She has done really well in her course work at Bangor but sadly has to contend with ill health. She is also in her prayers.

The loose collection at the carol service on December 22nd was given to Shelter which is doing much to help the homeless. One of the very worrying signs of the growing economic inequality in this country is the increasing number of people sleeping rough on the streets of our towns. Shelter has a scheme aiming to give companionship, warmth, a nourishing meal and

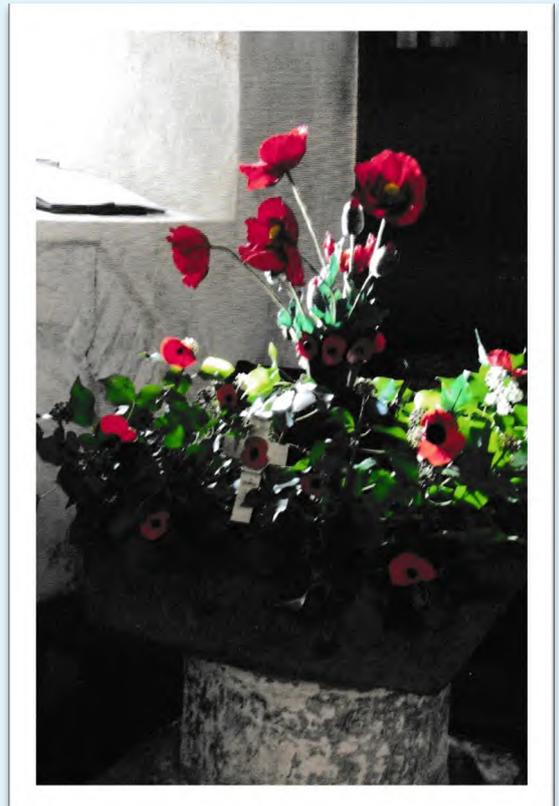


Left: Nos Fawrth, Rhagfyr 3ydd yn festri y Tabernacl, Hendy-gwyn, noson arbennig sef "Naws y Nadolig" (neu Tabernacle's Got Talent !) Tuesday, December 3rd at in the Tabernacle, Whitland vestry - a special Christmas theme night.

Right: Eglwys Gymyn Christmas Fayre on the 23rd of November

Below: Mrs. Veronica Thomas, Chair of the local Community Council, presenting a cheque to Church Warden, Mr Michael Lewis, Eglwys Gymyn

Below right: Arrangement of poppies in the font at Eglwys Gymyn



support on Christmas Day to such people. It aims to help the homeless to rebuild their lives by finding accommodation for them where ever possible. The significant growth in homelessness is a stain on our common life.

Merthyr

We are always pleased to see the Revd David Faulkner at our services and are indebted to him for his willingness to assist when the Rector is away. We look forward to welcoming him to St Martin's on January 12th when the Rector will be on duty at the canonry in St Davids.

Please note the change in times of the services on the third and fourth Sundays of each month. The two Parochial Church Councils in the group were content to implement this change which, we hope, will encourage some to come to church somewhat earlier than hitherto. Also it seems likely that Merthyr will favour holding the joint service at St Martin's somewhat earlier, namely at 10.00 am. This will still give us time to welcome visitors and Meidrim parishioners to refreshments at the community hall after the service.

W. J. Kenneth Davies & Sons

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Private Chapel of Rest, Capel Gorffwys Preifat, Blaenwern, Clynderwen

Tel: Clunderwen (01437) 563319





We are grateful to the Revd Dr Adrian Furse of Maenclochog for producing the orders of service for the crib service and to Mrs Ann Rees for printing them. Ann has also printed application forms for the Church electoral roll so if you are a communicant and over 18 then please take one and have your name entered on the roll. This will enable you to hold office in the Church in Wales and also to vote for others to hold office e.g. as a churchwarden. It also gives the clergy a very useful list of the communicants in each parish!

Our thanks go to Elin, Melissa and Caroline and their families for cleaning the church in November and for supplying the altar flowers in memory of Nicholas and Margaret Jones, formerly of Llwynpiod.

RTR

FIBREGLASS FLAT ROOFS

25 YEAR'S EXPERIENCE

20 YEAR GUARANTEE

01994 231222/07816 228155

robbie.nic@btinternet.com

**BUILDING & ROOFING CONTRACTORS
(FIBREGLASS ROOFING SPECIALISTS)**

84 LON HAFREN, STATION ROAD

ST CLEARS, SA33 4BU



Friendly, professional, reliable service

Whitland, Cyffig, Llanboidy

Llandysulio, Clunderwen

The Reverend Kingsley G Taylor, BD MA

01994 240494 ktaylor559@aol.com

Assistant Priest Dr Canon Jeni Parsons

Lay Worship Leader Mr. Nathan Jenkins

Services in January

5th Christmas II

St Mary	10.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St David	11.30 am	Holy Communion	KT

12th Epiphany I

St Mary	8.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St Tysilio	9.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St Mary	11.00 am	Matins	KT
St David	11.00 am	Matins	NJ
Cyffig	2.30 pm	Holy Communion	KT
St Brynach	4.00 pm	Holy Communion	KT

19th Epiphany II

St Mary	8.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St Mary	11.00 am	Matins	KT
St David	2.30 pm	Holy Communion	KT

26th Epiphany III

St Mary	8.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St Tysilio	9.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St Mary	11.00 am	Holy Communion	KT
St David	11.00 am	Matins	NJ
St Brynach	11.15 am	Holy Communion	JP
Cyffig	2.30 pm	Evensong	KT

Reflections of the past and the future

As we enter a new year it is worth looking back for a moment to reflect on the past year. Having moved and begun to settle into the new house, much of the year was overshadowed by that and also with Jo-an's sister Glenys dying, for whom she is still grieving. But many people have lost loved ones this last year and it would be easy to sink into sadness and we hope that this next year will be better.

Yet it is not all been upset and sadness—one thing that has encouraged me is the number of baptisms I had. Whatever we feel about the state of society and the seeming lack of belief there must be some reason parents still want to thank God for their child and come for baptism which they do not need to do. Our duty as a church is to make them welcome when they do come and so a little seed is planted and the future of the seed is between them and God.

N:4BC

Adeiladwyr

Dorian Phillips Ltd

Building Contractors

Dolau Gronw, Llanboidy, Whitland

Te/Fax: 01994 448435

Email: dorian.dpandp@btconnect.com

**BUILDING, PLUMBING
CONTRACTORS, ELECTRICAL**

Specialists in Barn & Loft Conversions,
Restoration and Ecclesiastical Work



The late Rev. Roger Thomas



Below: Children of the parish of Merthyr with the Rector, Canon Jeffrey Gainer following a crib service with carols at St Martin's on the Fourth Sunday in Advent. The collection was in aid of Tenovus. Father Christmas made a surprise appearance during tea in the Community Hall.





Jerry Williams & Sons

CLOTH HALL, LLANBOIDY

Tel: (01994) 448221

Spar Stores & Post Office

Coal & Calor Gas

Wines & Spirits, Newsagents



Some of the people I have met this year that have far more dealings with the world outside of Church than I do have noticed a change in people's attitudes towards faith and community which is very positive. Do not write off the world yet!

It is no secret that I have been going on about the Romans, how I blame them for everything. But I believe the future of the Church is in communities and the local people (which the Celtic Church was good at) rather than structure and order (which the Romans were good at).

There are two things to watch out for this year. We become the East Lansker Local Ministry Area on February 26th, that is if the third man has been appointed! And Bishop Joanna will be coming to Cyffig (proposed date 22nd March) for a Confirmation, so I will not be holding any other services in any of the churches that I will still be looking after on that day, so please don't use it as an excuse to have a Sunday off—come to Cyffig instead at 2.30!

Thanks

Thanks to the people of St Tysilio's for their generosity and hard work for the mince pie morning, and to the community for supporting them.

Thanks to Whitland and District Male Voice Choir, Ysgol Bro Brynach and Ysgol Griffith Jones for a wonderful Christmas Concert on 8th December in

St Mary's. It was a wonderful evening and got us all in the Christmas spirit, and thanks to all who supported the concert. Thanks also to all at Station House for the refreshments afterwards.

Prayer request

Please pray for Sue Jones.

Cyffig

There seem to have been more than the usual number of funerals this year. To everyone who is sad at this time, we send our sincere sympathy and to those who are not so well as they'd like to be, we send our best wishes for a speedy return to good health.

To everyone who comes to Cyffig Church, a little, or often, we wish you a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year 2020.

The Professional Approach

Award Winning Cleaning Company

*Providing services across Wales with
Professionally Trained, Uniformed, and Vetted Cleaning Operatives*

- *Quality Contract Office Cleaning*
- *Deep Kitchen and Duct and Canopy cleans*
- *Window and Solar Panels Cleaning - reach and wash system up to 55ft*
- *Gutter Clearance*
- *Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning*
- *Pressure Washing*
- *Holiday Park Cleaning*
- *One-off Spring Cleans*
- *Builders' Cleaning*
- *End of Tenancy Cleaning*
- *Sick and Holiday cover*
- *School Cleaning.*
- *Janitorial shop at Narberth*



*Let us delight you with our award-winning cleaning services, give us a call on
01834 86 26 26*

Unit 12, Rushacre Enterprise Park, Redstone Road, Narberth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 7ET

Email: sales.naberth@atlasfm.com

Web: www.atlasfm.com

Whitland Male Choir



On Friday 15th November the choir went to Huntingdon for the weekend, and stayed at the Marriot Hotel, Huntingdon. On Friday evening, after arriving, the choir were asked to sing at a Cancer Support Network UK launch at the hotel. Cancer Support Network is a charitable organisation based in the UK. The aim is to support cancer patients by raising funds and donating to bigger organisations, such as Cancer Research UK and The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. The aim is to support the funding research to ground breaking treatments of cancer world over. The launch was very successful and had supporters from Zimbabwe.

On Saturday morning we sang at the beautiful Ely Cathedral, integral to the Christmas Fair that was taking place. We sang for 45 minutes, and attracted an appreciative crowd. The acoustics were spectacular, and we were complemented for our performance.

On Saturday evening we sang with Huntingdon Male Choir All Saints Parish Church, St. Ives with guest soloist Karen England (Soprano). The church was full to capacity, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the musical evening. There were two Welshmen in the Huntingdon Choir, and it was lovely to catch-up with them.

On Saturday 23rd we had a Charity Auction evening at Broadway Country House, Laugharne organised by Jayne Phillips and family for Glangwili Chemo Unit and the Peony Breast Care Unit at Prince Phillip Hospital Llanelli. It was a fun and successful evening, raising over £5,000 that evening. A cheque of £10,000 was presented to Sheila Ralph (Volunteer), Breast Care Cymru, plus £1,370 on the Just Giving site. A proud and great evening all round.

Now is an ideal time to join the choir, and be part of a friendly group, raising funds for local charities at the same time as carrying on an old Welsh tradition. All you need is a voice, enthusiasm, commitment, and a sense of humour. If you are interested please attend our practice sessions on Thursday evenings at the Memorial Hall, Whitland at 7.30pm. You can sit

and listen or join in, no obligation. You can also contact our Secretary Hugh Lewis on 01994 240437

***On behalf of the Choir we wish you all a
Happy and Healthy New Year!***

Eglwys Gymyn

On a joyful note, the Eglwys Gymyn Christmas Fayre was held on November 23rd in order not to clash with other churches in the group. As at our first Fayre in 2018, it was a huge success, not just for the funds to pay our annual quota, but for it being such a happy occasion for all the contributors and the visitors.

The church hall was decorated ready for Christmas, carols were played and perhaps there was more contribution to the festive feeling from the mince pies, tea, coffee and a little mulled wine which helped to dispel the poor weather.

The Fayre was opened by Mrs. Veronica Thomas, Chair of the local Community Council, who presented a cheque to our Church Warden, Mr Michael Lewis This was a great surprise and gratefully accepted

On a much more solemn note, on the 3rd of December we were saddened to hear of the death of Mrs. Ruth May Owen at the age of 100 years. Ruth (or Ruthy as she was known), had attended Eglwys Gymyn as a schoolgirl until much later in life. She was well known in the local community and will

HEDD RHYS

HEATING SERVICES

Natural Gas, LPG and Oil
Boilers, Fires and Cookers
All Aspects of Plumbing

07786 628703

heddhg@hotmail.co.uk

Cross House, Cwm Bach, Whitland, SA34 0DS



be deeply missed by her friends and family, especially her daughter, Mrs. Suzanne Nicholas and her son-in-law, Mr. Brian Nicholas. The mainly private family service at Eglwys Gymyn on the 7th of December was taken by Rev. David Faulkner.

*Services in January will be as normal:
Every Sunday at 2.00pm with Rev. Huw*

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 in January

Bethel, Llanddewi:

January 5th: 14.00: Communion Service
January 12th: 14.00: Service through the medium of English
January 19th: 10.30: Oedfa o Fawl at the Tabernacle (cup of tea to follow)
January 26th: 14.00: Communion Service through the medium of English

Tabernacle, Whitland:

January 5th: 9.30: Communion Service
January 12th: 11.00: Service
January 19th: 10.30: Oedfa o Fawl (cup of tea to follow)
January 26th: 11.00: Service
(Sunday School at 9.30)



***Above: Llanddewi Joint Christmas Service at St. David's Church, Llanddewi
Below: Whitland Male Choir singing at Ely Cathedral***



WEST WALES GARAGE DOORS

Sales, Repairs, Installation
Automation to all makes of garage door

ROBERT THOMAS

Old Pale, Ciffig, Whitland SA34 0LY



Tel/Fax: 01994 241538
Mobile: 07890 518892

Trinity, Llanboidy:

January 5th: 11.00: Communion Service

January 12th: 9.30: Service

January 19th: 10.30: Oedfa o Fawl at the Tabernacle (cup of tea to follow)

January 26th: 9.30: Service

Tabernacle, Whitland

The highlight of Christmas at the Tabernacle every year is the nativity play by the children and youngsters and it was the same this year.

It was held on December 15th with nearly 20 children and youngsters taking part and with a congregation of over a 100. The nativity play was punctuated by Christmas poetry written by Carmarthen poets Tudur Dylan and Mererid Hopwood.

After the service there was a party for the children in the vestry and there was a visit by Father Christmas.

Looking forward to 2020, there will be a communion service at the Tabernacle at 9.30 am on January 5th and a "Oedfa o fawl" (Songs of praise) at the Tabernacle on January 19th at 10.30. Everyone welcome to all services.

***May we take this opportunity to wish a Happy New Year
to all the Grapevine readers.***

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i bob un.

Bethel

Our first service in December was the usual Welsh communion service and the following Sunday was an English service, which was the last service in Bethel for 2019.

On the 15th we attended the village's joint carol service which was held this year in St Davids Church. The service was organised by our minister as unfortunately none of the other local ministers could attend because of previous commitments. Members of St Davids, Ffynnon and Bethel took part with readings and prayers in English and Welsh and St Davids members also organised the traditional Christingle. Everyone enjoyed the service and we were able to socialise afterwards with tea and mince pies.

At the time of writing we look forward to going to Bethel Loveston for their Carol service on 22/12/19. On Christmas Eve there is a special service in Tabernacle taken by the young people of the chapel. Our next service in Bethel is on 5/1/2020.

Trinity

The minister, Revd. Guto Llywelyn officiated at most of the services at Trinity in November. The communion service on the first Sunday of the month took the form of a special service with members contributing appropriate readings and prayers. On Sunday, 17th November, members joined Bethel Chapel for a service led by guest preacher Mr Alun Lenny.

Midway Motors



- *Luxury coach hire and trips*
- *MOT approved station for testing Motorcycles, Cars and small goods vehicles*
- *Vehicle repairs and servicing*
- *Tyres, Exhaust and batteries*
- *Bodywork and Valeting*

Email: reesmidway@hotmail.com

The guest speaker at Trinity Sisterhood's November meeting was Mrs Janet Harries, Efailwen. During the evening, Janet shared recipes and demonstrated how to make a range of sweet and savoury Christmas dishes. Members thoroughly enjoyed tasting the dishes made. The raffle was won by Mrs. Rose Saer.

Members send their best wishes to Mrs Norah Heseltine and all members who are unwell at present.

We would like to wish all members and friends a happy New Year and thank them for all their support during the year.

Afon Taf Gardening Club Whitland

On the 5th of December members of Afon Taf Gardening Club celebrated Christmas and the end of another productive year in the garden with a party at Whitland Town Hall. Everyone brought a plate of food to share, the result being a wonderful tasty spread. Plenty of games followed and now we look forward to next year's programme which looks very varied and interesting.

The first meeting of the new year is on the 16th of January when Nigel McCall will be showing his award winning slides of A Year in Aberglasney Meetings usually take place on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm at Whitland Town Hall. New members will be warmly welcomed.



Siop Sian Steph Williams
Perchennog
Proprietor
London House
Crymych
Sir Benfro
SA41 3QE
Tel: 01239 831230
01239 831230
07966 848050
steph_ellen@hotmail.com
www.siop-sian.co.uk

St. Clears Walking Well Group



Another year's walking has drawn to an end. Members have enjoyed interesting walks twice a month around Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire with a summer trip to Swansea Marina and a trip down the River Tawe. There were also less demanding monthly 'Strollers' walks in the summer.

The Christmas lunch was held at the Wisemans bridge Hotel after a rather soggy walk around Stepside.

Walking Well Carmarthenshire is an initiative which aims to encourage



people of all
ages and
abilities to take
advantage of

the physical, social and mental health benefits offered by walking in groups of like-minded people. It does this by setting up Walking Well Carmarthenshire Walking Groups around the County.

Walking Well groups aim to fill in the gaps that exist in the availability of walking opportunities in Carmarthenshire. Walks are designed to suit the particular abilities of the members and usually start as strolls, moving on to gentle walks as fitness levels improve. As walkers get more experienced, they may also wish to participate in the more serious walks offered by Ramblers and others, but this is completely optional and all are welcome to stay with their Walking Well group for as long as they wish.



Ladds

'Modern solutions with Old Fashioned Values'

www.laddsclynderwen.co.uk

01437 563217

The St. Clears group meets at St. Clears Leisure Centre every other Wednesday at 10.00 am. From there they 'car-share' to the starting point of the walk.

If you would like more information about Walking Well please contact Nigel Bailey on 01267 211666

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.



The Grapevine wishes all its readers a happy, peaceful and healthy New Year!

1 Prospect Place, Crymlyn
Tel: 01239 831537
Mob: 07817 634810
Email: malcolm378@aol.com
Malcolm & Suzanne Jones
www.healthfoodwales.co.uk

**CYFANFWYDYDD / WHOLEFOODS
a / and
HAMPERS**

- Hampers - Welsh hampers and gift hampers available for all occasions
- Natural remedies, toiletries and cleaning products
- Wholefoods including pulses, nuts, fruits and grains
- Welsh produce/products including jams, chutneys, preserves, local beers, ciders and organic wines,
- Products for intolerances e.g dairy-free, gluten-free etc.
- 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

Sarah's Post Office, Newsagents & General Stores

13 St John Street, Whitland and Maenclochog Tel. 01437 532909

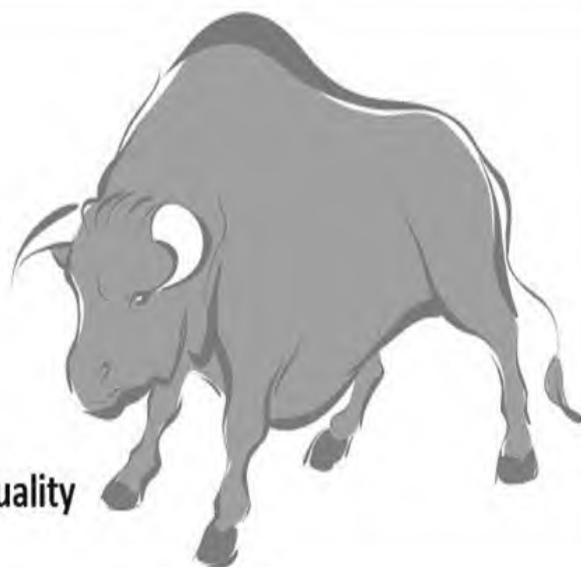
Drop in for a coffee and a snack, or an ice cream.

Ken Davies A'i Fab

Family Butchers

High Quality Catering Butchers
London House, Crymych, SA41 3QE
01239 831978

Quality Retail and Catering Family Butchers selling high quality
locally sourced meat and meat products



D E MORRIS & SON

Independent Family Funeral Directors
Cyfarwyddwyr Angladdau Annibynnol

Carmarthen 01267 222917

Narberth 01834 860439

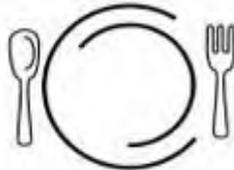
Email demorrisandson@btinternet.com
www.demorrisandson.co.uk

*Serving the whole of West Wales.
24 hour personal attention, conducted
with dignity and compassion. Chapel
of rest facilities. Pre-paid funeral
plans available.*

- Family Run Business
- 24 hour Care and Attention
- Conducted with Dignity & Compassion
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Pre-paid Funeral Plans



Left: Some of the baskets woven at last year's Willow Weaving Workshops at Canolfan Clydau



CLWB CINIO CLYDAU LUNCH CLUB

Please join us at our monthly Lunch Club in Canolfan Clydau in Tegryn, on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 12.30

It's just £6 for a home cooked lunch, pudding and tea or coffee - and a good chat!

Everyone is welcome, but you need to book in advance.

Just call Diana on 01239 612614 or Marie on 01239 698003.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ionawr 28 January 2020 | Mehefin June - Outing |
| Chwefror 25 February | Gorffennaf 28 July |
| Mawrth 24 March | Awst 25 August |
| Ebrill 28 April | Medi 22 September |
| Mai 26 May | Hydref 27 October |
| | Tachwedd 24 November |



£2

Te am 2 Tea at 2 2020

2il Dydd Sadwrn bob mis 2 pm
2nd Saturday every month 2 pm

- Ionawr 11 January - Canolfan Clydau Centre
- Chwefror 8 February - Neuadd Bwichegrogres Hall
- Mawrth 14 March - Canolfan Clydau Centre
- Ebrill 11 April - Neuadd Bwichegrogres Hall
- Mai 9 May - Canolfan Clydau Centre
- Mehefin 13 June - Neuadd Bwichegrogres Hall

CROESO CYNNES I BAWB ALL WELCOME

Tel. Diana 01239 612614 or Marie 01239 698003

M&J Plumb

Mini Tractor with Mini Hedge-cutter and Topper

Ideal for gardens, caravan parks and orchards

Tree Surgery and Mobile Wood-chipping Service

Seasoned Logs, Chipped Bark & Wood Chip Sales

Delivered to your door

Contact Mike - 01834 860 538 or 07711 821 663

E-mail: info@plumbwoodchip.co.uk Website: plumbwoodchip.co.uk

Blaenffynnonau Farm, Redstone Road, Narberth, SA67 7ES