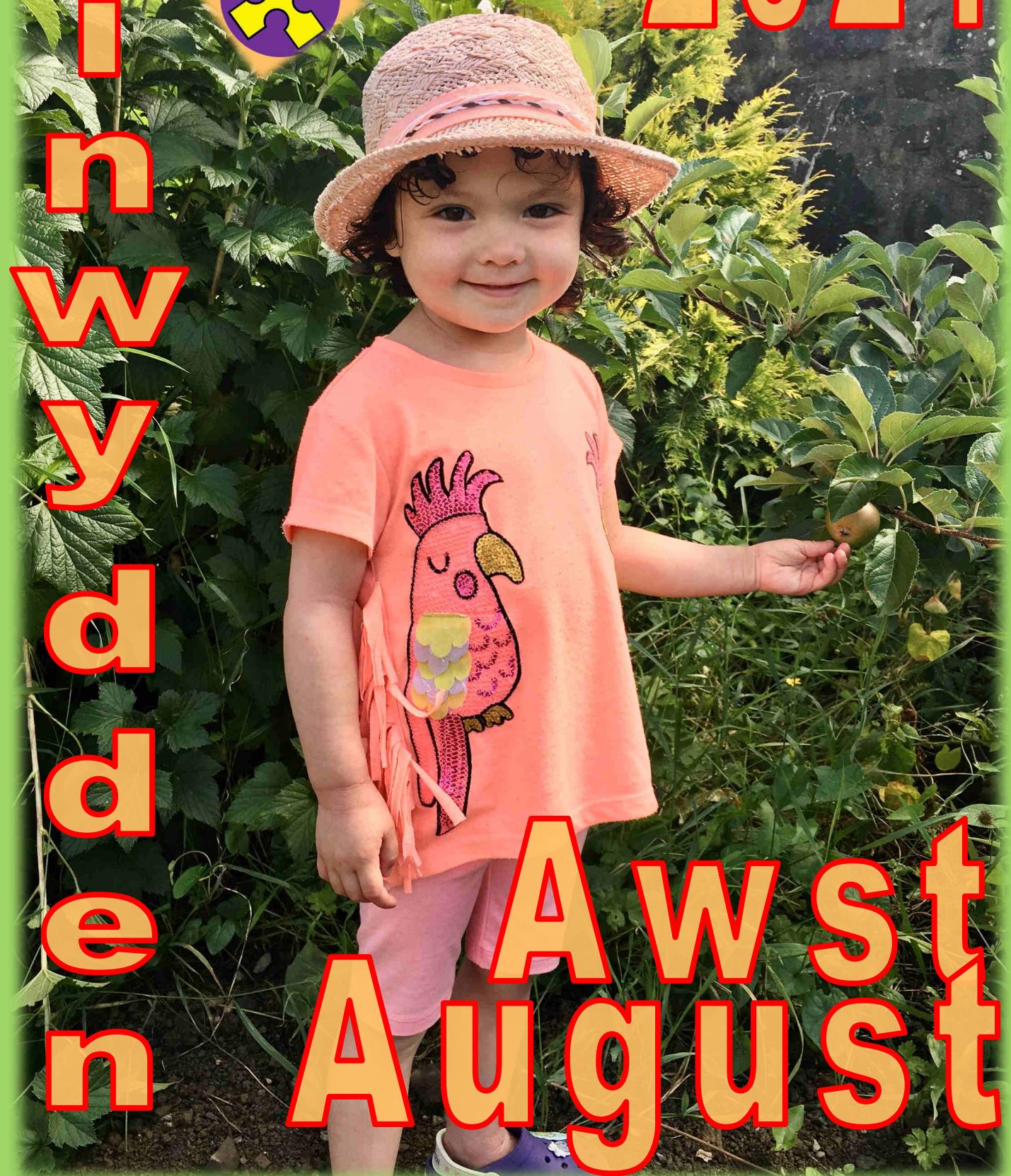


Grapevine w/ 1-10 in 2021



Awst
August



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Llanfyrnach, Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu

www.frennichurches.org.uk

LMA Dean: The Revd Kingsley Taylor, BD MA, 01994 240494 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
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	llanfyrnachsecretary@frennichurches.org.uk

Llanglydwen:		llanglydwensec@frennichurches.org.uk	
Llanwinio:	Mr. Hugh Phillips	07971 54772	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
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<u>Editor:</u>	Ms Kathie Dubben, Myrtle Hill, Gellywen, SA33 6DS	editorgrapevine@frennichurches.org.uk
		01994 484404

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Front cover: Roger and Celeste Penn's daughter, Faith, in the garden at Dolycwrt

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EDITORIAL

At this time of year, we at Dolycwrt are enjoying a lot of fun with the birds. We have little sparrows nesting all around, lots of visiting blackbirds, and occasionally pigeons and gulls drop in on us also. One blackbird has become almost a 'house bird.' We often see him strutting around our lawn, head up, watching what is happening, always alert to food. Sometimes he searches for grubs and other times he strolls up to our open back door with a "Hey, what about me, guys" look on his face. He's a wise character; 'Knock and the door shall be opened,' says Matthew 7:7 and he virtually does this – whilst habitually staying near to where his bread is buttered – well almost! I believe the saying nowadays is, 'You've got to be in it to win it' and, fair play to the fella, he is a winner in the survival game.

As I get older, I am learning more about animals and our wildlife friends. When we lived at Hillside, my father felt that it was his duty to keep cattle in our small field in front of the house, before the bypass took most of the land away. This meant that I got to know cows, heifers, bulls and bullocks rather well and I think, sadly, they gave me a poor initial impression of animals. They used to pull hay down onto the ground from the hayrack with repeated monotony before trampling it into the mud; and when kept inside during the coldest winter months, they were always excreting into their water buckets. Sadly, their ways never changed.

Some years ago, I got to know a black Labrador and had my eyes opened. What a beautiful understanding girl she was, yet she guarded her patch like a lion. Equally, when Celeste and I cared for a little terrier, named Ted, a few years ago whilst his owner was abroad for three weeks, he was just as thrilling. When I

took him for a walk, all of Ted's senses were alert; and whenever he saw a cat, it was automatic for him to chase it away, usually beneath a nearby car. Then he was happy: job done. When encountering dogs, even those twice his size, Ted drew a line with his front paws, as if to say, "That's the boundary, now get back, don't cross it or you're in my space." Whenever Ted arrived, he immediately sniffed around the boundary walls to search for the scent of other dogs. This way, he knew the territory was his own.

Animals and birds know what they are doing in every respect – apart, perhaps, from our cows at Hillside! God has programmed their thinking and behaviour meticulously – for eating, mating, fighting and ultimately surviving. Do we, the privileged, who have dominion over the animal kingdom, honestly have such clarity of thought? I doubt it. There is no *Book of Proverbs* for our wildlife friends, because their knowledge and wisdom is inherent. Yet we, who know of its contents and offerings and possessing bounteous free will, go round in circles. Despite having been led into the *Bible* and its guiding practices through formative education, Sunday schooling and Joseph M. Scriven's song, '*What a friend we have in Jesus,*' we often find it more exciting to plot our own course, fluctuating as it does through time, temptations and events.

As I write, I think of some of the headline stories this week. John Bercow, former Speaker at the House of Commons, a Conservative member since college days in

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the 1980s, has proudly put his hand up and told the world he is abandoning the political party that has given him exulted status over four decades, for another. He criticises leadership as his reason for defection. I am, of course, speaking of *loyalty* here, not *politics*, and about a man who for years called “Order, order” from his seat of power amidst the drama of ‘Prime Minister’s Questions.’ I find this surprising, to say the least.

Prince Harry continues to grab headlines having stirred up his own hornet’s nest since walking away from the Royal household. Yet, not many years ago, he was serving his grandmother, the Queen, and our country admirably in serious military manoeuvres in Afghanistan. What a change of direction – and how I am reminded of the *Parable of the Prodigal Son* in the story’s broad outline. Yet, more to the point, Harry’s revelations are feeding the ravenous public and heaping upsets on a family who have given him so much. Is it not extraordinary that the privileges of our ‘freedom of choice’ are so perilous? Is it not equally evident that Biblical stories keep reappearing today, in front of our eyes, thousands of years after they were written?

I can think back to 1969, aged 11, when I was one of a few thousand people in Market Street, Whitland, celebrating the visit of Harry’s father, Charles, as the newly invested Prince of Wales. It was a baking-hot summer’s day, and Prince Charles stepped out of the car, that had brought him from Pembrokeshire, into the front courtyard of the Memorial Hall for a brief chat with local dignitaries. Then, he was driven onwards in a different vehicle for a lunch of local trout from the River Towy, as I recall, at a reception in Golden Grove.

Across the road from the Memorial Hall, the roof of Lionel James’s garage was crowded with onlookers, while yards away at the Primary School we showed our respect while watching Prince Charles’s car passing by waving mini-flags and singing a catchy little song:

*Among our ancient mountains
And from our lovely vales
Oh let the prayer re-echo
God bless the Prince of Wales.*

When my blackbirds arrive at the table, which is actually our courtyard, I am amused to watch their swift departure in an extremely low trajectory. They are



After spending her 80th birthday alone (due to lockdown) Eunice's son and daughter decided to take her away for a few days to Talley, Llanelli with family members so she wouldn't be alone this year. The photo is of Eunice's son Nigel and daughter Bev, surrounded by family members and dogs in the grounds of the Abbey.

wise enough to imagine a predator up above, eagle-eyed, hungry and ruthless, ready to pounce in one fell swoop on both bird and bread. No doubt, Prince Charles's fresh trout had exercised equal vigilance earlier that day in 1969 in the deeper waters leading from the Towy into the estuary. Those belonging to the animal kingdom do not dilly-dally, like we do in the 'fruit and veg' shop or at the butcher's counter when choosing green apples or red ones and ham slices or chicken pieces.

For our great privileges, we are, however, expected to be civilised and kind to one another, which is essentially to 'love one's neighbour.' As we know, kindness runs its course throughout the *Bible*, and I find the *Parable of the Rich Young Man* fascinating, sobering and scary in equal proportions, for it lifts generosity to an altogether higher level. "Go sell your possessions and give them to the poor and you will have treasures in heaven," says Jesus, to a man intent upon living a good life but who simply cannot go this far. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle," says Jesus, "than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

The notion of building up a Bank balance in Heaven intrigues me. I know from my days in Lloyds Bank that the first question asked when someone wants to

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buy into a business or contemplates major capital expenditure is: ‘How much money can you put into the venture?’ If they have little or nothing, they usually have less, or no, chance of help. Matthew in 6:20 is explicit:

‘Store up for your selves treasure in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.’

It is my understanding that before hoping for a comfortable landing at heaven’s door and entry inside, we must firstly lay before God our own capital injections in the form of personal deposits built up during earthly endeavours. As for getting our counterfoils stamped, it is for us simply to *Trust and Obey*.

These three words are the title of the hymn we sang last Sunday, July 4th at St Mary’s, Whitland, when normal hymn singing was resumed – the choice of organist, Mary Morris. I am sure the piece, written by Brooklyn’s John. H. Sammis, is well known to us all, but I will quote the first verse, as appearing in hymnals all over the world, as I close:

*When we walk with the Lord
In the light of His word
What a glory he sheds on our way
While we do his good will
He abides with us still
And with all who will trust and obey*

Roger Penn

Cylch y Frenni Circle of Churches

Clydau, Llanglydwen, Llanfyrnach, Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu

SERVICES IN AUGUST 2021

1st Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Llanwinio	9.30 am	Boreol Weddi
Mynachlog-ddu	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist

8th Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist
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15th Mary Mother of Our Lord

Llanglydwen	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist
Llanwinio	09.30am	Boreol Weddi

22nd Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Llanwinio	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist
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29th Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Clydey	11.15am	Holy Eucharist
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Please be aware that social distancing measures are in place in all the churches which means places may be limited. Please contact the relevant Focal Minister or Church Warden if you wish to attend.

Many thanks, Cylch y Frenni Ministry Team

Clydey:	Mrs Elizabeth Law	01239 698607
Llanfyrnach:	Mrs Eunice Batchelor	01239 831556
Llanglydwen:	Mrs Jane Legg	01994 419856
Llanwinio:	Mrs Judy Webb	01239 698405
Mynachlog-ddu:	Mrs Sharon Edge	01437 532681

MERCY UPDATE



Mercy is allowed outside now to practise walking on her new legs!



Llanfyrnach

The marriage took place on the 26th of June of Miss Carol Ann Davies, daughter of Colin and Julie Davies of Arosfa, Hermon. The groom was Mr Ryan Anthony Little, and the ceremony, which was held at Llanfyrnach Church, was conducted by the Reverend Kingsley Taylor. The happy couple held their reception at Canolfan, Hermon, before heading for their honeymoon in North Wales.

Llanwinio



On the 20th of July Llanwinio WI enjoyed their first day out together since Lockdown.

It was a blisteringly hot day as they set off west to Pembrokeshire. First stop was the Love spoon Workshop at Cold Inn near Kilgetty where they had a talk and demonstration from the Thomas Family who have been hand carving exquisite love spoons since 1975. They create bespoke love spoons as well as standard ones.

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LMA Group pilgrimage to St. David's Cathedral in July





Dai Thomas working on one of his love spoons at the Love spoon Workshop

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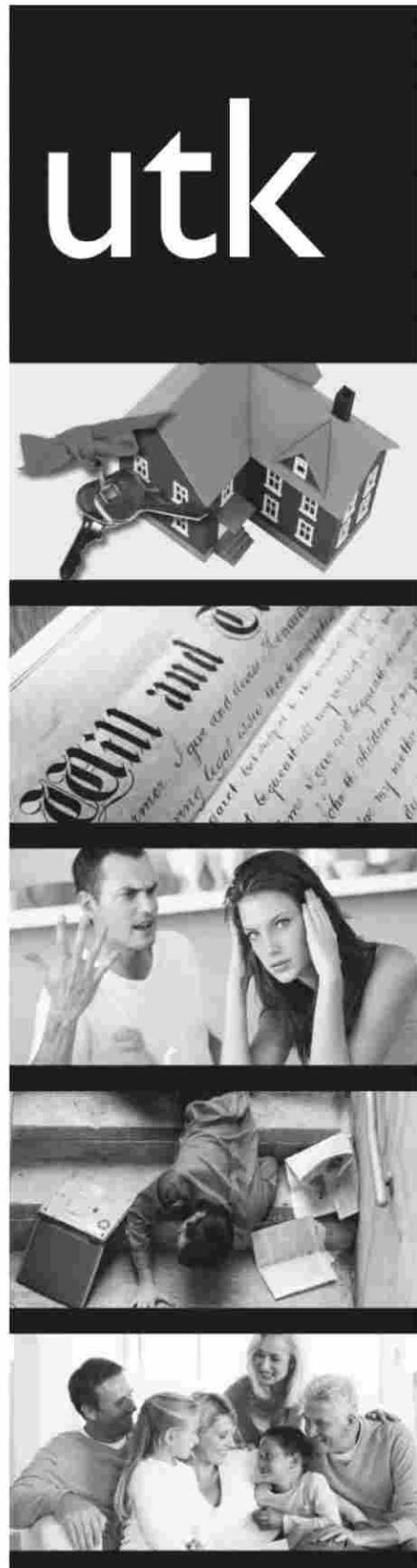
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Love spoons vary greatly in their intricacy, from the plain and simple to the elaborate and complicated, but all of them have a story to tell. The Welsh love spoon has shown an ability to adapt and evolve. For the maker it can cater for greatly varied ability levels, and the recipient can have greatly varied tastes regarding style and design. A simple heart and bowl design can be as meaningful to the recipient as one that has numerous hours of toil. The making of a love spoon can give true meaning to the idea of a labour of love. Styles used when designing a love spoon can be equally diverse, from traditional, to Celtic, to more modern. Unlike other areas of modern life few rules are needed and applied when it comes to the making of a love spoon.



Then the group moved on to the YHA café at Skrinkle Haven for lunch. Too hot for even the shortest walk on the coastal path!! From then on to the Garden Centre at Manorbier for coffee and cake before heading for home. Altogether a very pleasant day despite temperatures nearing 30°

NOT AS WE KNOW IT

‘Gospel truth’ used to mean the plain, unvarnished facts. But the writers of the New Testament gospels used perhaps rather more varnish than they have sometimes been given credit for, and over the years theological experts have become increasingly fascinated by why the evangelists (as they’re usually called) wielded their brushes in the way they did. It’s not that they set out to tell outright porkies; just that they framed the truth they were anxious to convey in

a way different from a 21st-century television reporter. As the 1987 hit single *Star Trekkin'* might have put it: 'It's truth, Jim, but not as we know it.'

So, following Richard Law's excellent pieces on the individual gospels, this series of articles aims to outline an overview of how scholars have come to view the formation of the gospel tradition.

Someone coming fresh to the New Testament could be forgiven for thinking that the order of the books reflects the date of composition. After all, we have four works which look like biographies of Jesus (a view re-adopted by recent scholarship) followed by an account of the growth of the early church (Acts) followed by some letters by early church leaders, finishing off with a strange, dream-like work (Revelation).

But in fact the letters were written first (starting around 50 AD) followed by the gospels, the earliest of which (Mark) was composed some time between 65 and 75 AD. Since even that deals with events which happened 30-40 years earlier, it's been suggested that the gospels result from a process of reflection, filtration and distillation by the Christian communities which gave them birth.

So who actually wrote them? Apparently, four gentlemen by the names of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Well, that could be true, although not one gospel actually carries the author's name in the body of the text. And it was later tradition that tried to link the writers with people mentioned in the rest of the New Testament – often on the flimsiest evidence or none at all. The attribution of St Luke's gospel to Luke who was the companion of Paul, for example, is pure guesswork, and almost certainly wrong guesswork: the accounts of Paul's conversion in Acts differs from Paul's own in his letter to the Galatians, to cite just one instance of divergence. 'Mark' was the commonest men's name of all in the Roman empire at the time, so identifying the author of the gospel with the John Mark mentioned in Acts is like saying a newspaper article signed just 'Dai' must have been written by Dai Jones of Efailwen just because you happen to know him – except that in the gospel's case the article isn't even signed.

And as we'll find out later on, the evangelists acted more like collectors and editors, taking pre-existing material and moulding it to suit their own theological standpoint. One major concern of Matthew, for instance, was to show how what happened to Jesus had been foreshadowed in the Old Testament; and it looks suspiciously as though he's introduced some elements

into his gospel simply to emphasise that point. He is the only person to say that Jesus and his parents fled into Egypt to escape a massacre of infants by the infamous King Herod the Great, who was afraid he would be deposed by this new-born ‘King of the Jews’. Although Herod was a nasty piece of work (he murdered three of his own sons), this particular dastardly deed is not recorded by anyone else; and the likelihood is that Matthew inserted the episode simply to draw a parallel with the Egyptian Pharaoh’s massacre of Israelite children recorded in Exodus. Indeed, Matthew himself says of the family’s return *This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet [Hosea], ‘Out of Egypt I called my son.’* The full explanation of this comparison is complicated, but you can see immediately that it identifies Jesus as God’s son.

Borrow Dr Who’s Tardis, take St Matthew down the pub and ask: ‘Look, Matt, did this journey actually take place or not? Can I go back and film it with my video recorder?’ I bet you he’ll give you a look of pure astonishment, put his head in his hands and groan: ‘You just don’t get it, do you? All that work, and you still don’t get it.’

St John joins you, and you ask him: ‘This changing of water into wine at Cana in Galilee. Did anyone actually use a hydrometer to check that the specific gravity of the liquid had altered?’

‘It wasn’t a conjuring trick,’ he responds, with a blank stare of disbelief. ‘I was trying to point out that the arrival of Jesus is like festive wine replacing the ineffectual attempts at purification offered by traditional Judaism. And there’s more...’

‘Yes yes, but did it actually *happen*?’

At this point, Matthew and John make polite excuses to you and take their pints to another table.

So let’s take *our* drinks over and join them. Next time, let’s explore how they got their material, and how and why they reshaped it. And let’s decipher the secret codes they used to convey their message to fellow Christians.

Please note that we shall not be trying to debunk the gospels in any way: on the contrary, we’ll be trying to let them speak more clearly to us across the centuries. And note also that what they are trying to tell us is the unchanging truth that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God; and if we faithfully follow him our faithful God will pour upon us the riches of his grace.

Jonathan Copus

Meidrim and Merthyr

Canon Jeffrey Gainer 01994 231378
sieffre@meidrim@gmail.com

Services in August

Meidrim

1 st	Ninth Sunday after Trinity	9.00 am 9.45 am 4.00 pm	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Evensong
6 th	The Transfiguration of our Lord	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist
8 th	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	9.00 am 9.45 am 4.00 pm	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Hwyrol Weddi
15 th	The Blessed Virgin Mary	11.15 am 4.00 pm	Morning Prayer Evensong
22 nd	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	11.15 am 4.00 pm	Holy Eucharist Hwyrol Weddi
24 th	St Bartholomew the apostle	10.30am	Holy Eucharist
29 th	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	9.00 am 9.45 am 4.00 pm	Boreol Weddi Holy Eucharist Evensong

Note: all services are bilingual.

Merthyr

1 st	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist
8 th	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist
15 th	9.45 am	Y Cymun Bendigaid
22 nd	9.45 am	Morning Prayer
29 th	11.15am	Holy Eucharist

Meidrim

Best wishes go to Mrs Elinor Jameson of Cilhir Isaf who is retiring soon from her post as headmistress of Abergwili school where she has given dedicated service to many children over the years.

A near neighbour of Mrs Jameson was Mrs Violet Taylor who passed away on June 27th at Plas y Dderwen Carmarthen. Her husband, Edwin, predeceased her several years ago and they lived at Talfan Isaf. Violet leaves a niece. Mrs Kathleen Evans, of Abernant and Violet herself was the sister of the late Mr John Jones, a former churchwarden there. Violet is to be buried in St Lucia's churchyard. Abernant. May she rest in peace. Violet came from a well-established family in Abernant but served for some years as a prison officer in Birmingham. One of her ancestors was the perpetual curate of Abernant from 1786 till his death aged over 90 in 1851 - those were the days before clergy had to retire - and he is commemorated in a tablet in the sanctuary of St Lucia's church. The same clergyman also served as the secretary of the first provincial eisteddfod held at the Ivy Bush inn in Carmarthen in 1819 at which Iolo Morgannwg played an important part.

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs Rozanne Kirk of Whitland at the age of sixty and extend the assurance of our prayers and sympathy to all her family at this sad time. Rozanne herself gave valuable service to the community as a police woman, but the loss will be most felt at home by her husband, children, siblings and her parents, Mr and Mrs Raymond Thomas of Meidrim.

We are pleased to mention the brief but interesting autobiography of the Revd. T. Howell Mudd who retired from a pastorate with the Welsh Congregationalists some years ago. His memoirs reflect the man: his awareness of country traditions and attitudes, his interest in sports, his rich vein of humour and an independence of mind rooted in a firm Christian faith. He was related to the late Mrs Sal Williams of Lon Ddewi in Meidrim and is also a friend of Mr Leslie Lewis who for many years was the church sexton. The book, entirely in Welsh, is illustrated and is an easy read, being reasonably priced too! Its title is Rhai ysgubau allan o ysgubor y cof. i.e Some sheaves from memory's barn. Well recommended.

News of the sick: we remember at this time Mrs Janice Lovecey who had a nasty fall recently at home and received prompt attention at Glangwili hospital.

She is a cheerful presence around the village where she has lived for almost half a century although she comes originally from Abertillery. She and her husband Terence are well known for hosting an enthusiastic small choir, the Merlin Singers, which has put on many concerts for charitable causes over the years. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Merthyr

The Rector writes: Recently I was stopped in a supermarket in Carmarthen by a smiling stranger who let me know that he was a Christian and that two years ago he and a small group of friends had established a congregation in St Clears which was flourishing. I do not recall the name that they had given to their congregation. It is a curious fact that all over Wales with its large numbers of historic church and chapel buildings there are nonetheless similar groups which attract many people to their often ebullient services on homes and halls. I was left wondering why this should be and have come to the conclusion that they attract some believers who are seemingly left unmoved by the worship and witness of the mainstream churches. However it is also true that, as the sociologists of religion indicate, these new groups, whilst rapid in their numerical growth, are sometimes short-lived and have a rapid turnover of membership. It is no accident that St Benedict of Nursia who long ago showed a genius for establishing communities of monks stressed the need for stability. He stopped his brethren moving about from place but settled in one place for a long time. Moreover they sought

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spiritual stability through a rule of life which combined work, prayer and study. In a way we can see the same ideal, in some measure at least, in the ordered life of our country churches where families and individuals may sustain a connection and a Christian conviction over many years, even a lifetime. This itself stands in marked contrast with so much of contemporary society with its short term patterns of employment and transient relationships..

Merthyr church was once known as Merthyr of the Monks as the monastery in Carmarthen owned the advowson, that is, the right to appoint the priest here. We have been very fortunate to have had the unstinting services of one lady as our treasurer for well over four decades. Mrs Marilyn Davies's tenure of the office has been characterised by tenacity, a scrupulous attention to detail and, in addition, a genius for fund raising. All this has been done out of a concern for the well being and witness of our own small Christian community. She has indicated her intention to retire shortly and it would be very remiss were I not to take this opportunity to thank her publicly and warmly on behalf of us all at Merthyr for all that she has done over such a long period to "keep the books in order". Perhaps the best way in which we can express our thanks is to emulate her own example of dedicated and unselfish service and her faithfulness in worship. Diolch o'r galon, Marilyn.

At this time too we assure her of our prayers and good wishes for her son, Robert, who farms near Tavernspite. Robert has been in Glangwili hospital again of late. We assure him and his wife Sian of our thoughts and prayers at this time.



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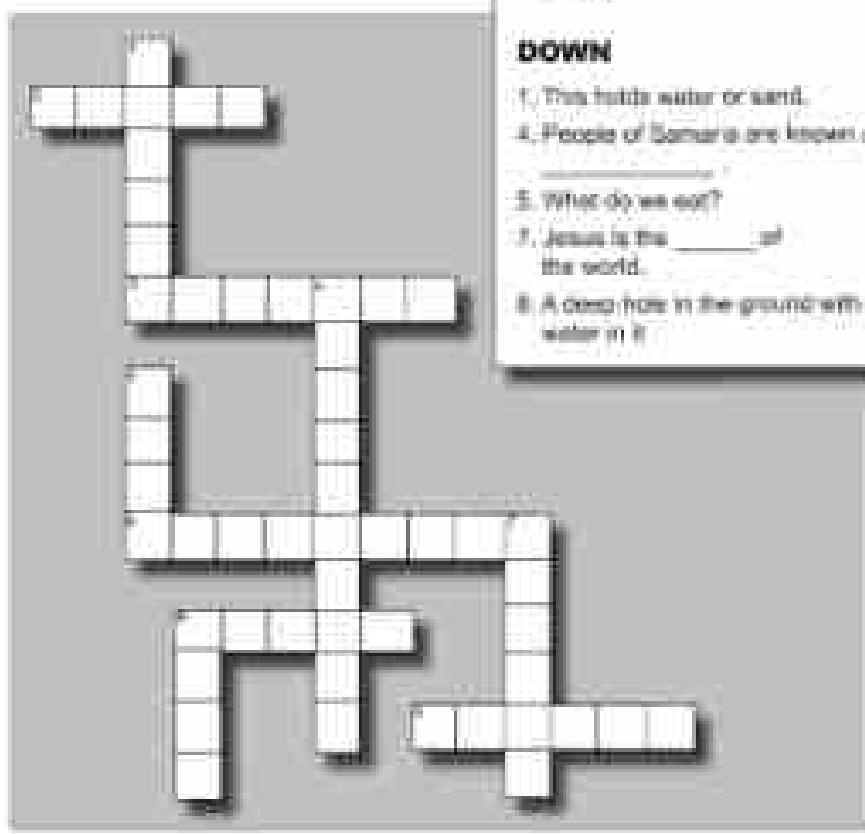
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We also remember Mrs Helen Carpenter who is undergoing treatment at Singleton hospital and wish her and all her family well for the future. Brysiwch wella, Helen.

Jeffrey Gainer

East Landsker Ministry Area Whitland, Cyffig, Llanboidy,

The Woman at the Well Crossword Puzzle



Solutions:
Across:
Down:

1. Truth 2. Chastity 6. Disciples 8. Woman 9. People
10. Bucket 4. Samarium 5. Food 7. Saviour 11. Well

Above puzzle submitted by Glyn Harbour, Meidrim

Llandysilio, 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
eastlandsker.com

Services in August

Sunday 1st	Trinity IX		
10.30 am	Morning Prayer	St Tysilio	PM
11.00 am	Morning prayer	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Brynach	JP
Sunday 8th	Trinity X		
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
2.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Cyffig	KT
Sunday 15th	Mary, Mother of Our Lord		
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
Sunday 22nd	Trinity XII		
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
2.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Cyffig	KT
Sunday 29th	Trinity XIII		
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ

Catching up

As things open up again I find I am very busy catching up. I have had one wedding so far, so I have been contacting couples who had postponed their

weddings - most are still waiting. I will be taking a couple of baptisms soon that have also been put off.

I have also got round to sorting out the LMA Council and with the help of Deb Bowen Rees, who I asked to be acting Chair, and Jeremy. We had our meeting partly in Llwyn Y Brain and partly via zoom. Deb was formally appointed Chair, Edward Howells was appointed Treasurer, Hazel Jones Secretary, Sharon Edge Deans Warden, Kim Potter Peoples Warden, Deb Bowen Rees Safeguarding Officer and Philip Mahiuques as Eco and Sustainability Officer. My sincere thanks to everyone who attended and especially those who were willing to take on the necessary roles. Other members of the council are Judy Webb, Jane Legg, Eunice Batchelor, Elizabeth Law, Nathan Jenkins, Gwyn Price-Evans and Susan Morris.

My second book 'Reflecting: Continuing emails from a Country Vicar During the Pandemic' is out, available from Waterstones, Amazon and me, price £13.99. Archdeacon Paul Mackness has said this is better than my first!

Kingsley

News from Llanboidy August 2021

Congratulations to Dorian Phillips of Llanboidy on being awarded an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours for services to sport and the community, in both Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire.

As Otters Chairman, Dorian has helped raise funds for the club and continues to work to improve the Otter grounds for the benefit of all.

He has been a part of the Llanboidy Tug of War Club ever since it was started in 1968, and, as head coach, ensures that Tug of War plays a vital role in bringing the Community together and to include the younger generation in physical and team activities.

Dorian is a long standing member of Whitland Male Voice Choir, of which he is a past Chairman, and has been involved in recent years in helping to raise funds for good causes ,including prostate and breast cancer charities

He is the local councillor for Llanboidy Ward and, in response to the Covid pandemic, he co-ordinated a volunteering group that was an invaluable lifeline for many of the locality



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Congratulations also to Margaret Kedward of Hafod on the safe arrival of another great grandson – a third grandson for Rod Kedward and a second son for Ryan and Charlotte. Oliver William George was born on 15 June one day before his big brother Alfie's second birthday.

And a very warm welcome to all new babies and new families who have come to our locality recently – it will be good to meet all as restrictions are removed – perhaps we can have an open afternoon in the village to welcome all our newcomers?

At the 721st meeting of Llanboidy Women's Institute, held on June 17th in the gardens of Maesgwynne Mansion Llanboidy, a discussion was held to decide whether Llanboidy WI should continue to meet in afternoons. There were several pros and cons – particularly in relation to encouraging younger members who may not be able to attend in the afternoon due to work or family commitments. It was agreed that we should carry on meeting in the afternoons in the short term, and that meetings would be held outdoors when weather permits, but to enquire about using the Market Hall if necessary.

Some members then did '**Show and Tell**':

June brought jumpers which she had spun and knitted with wool from her own Shetland sheep – she even knows the name of the sheep! During lockdown she has started to use natural dyes to introduce colour into the knitting.

Norah brought a jumper which she had knitted for her grandson – using pure wool from Jacobs sheep, which she bought from Yorkshire.



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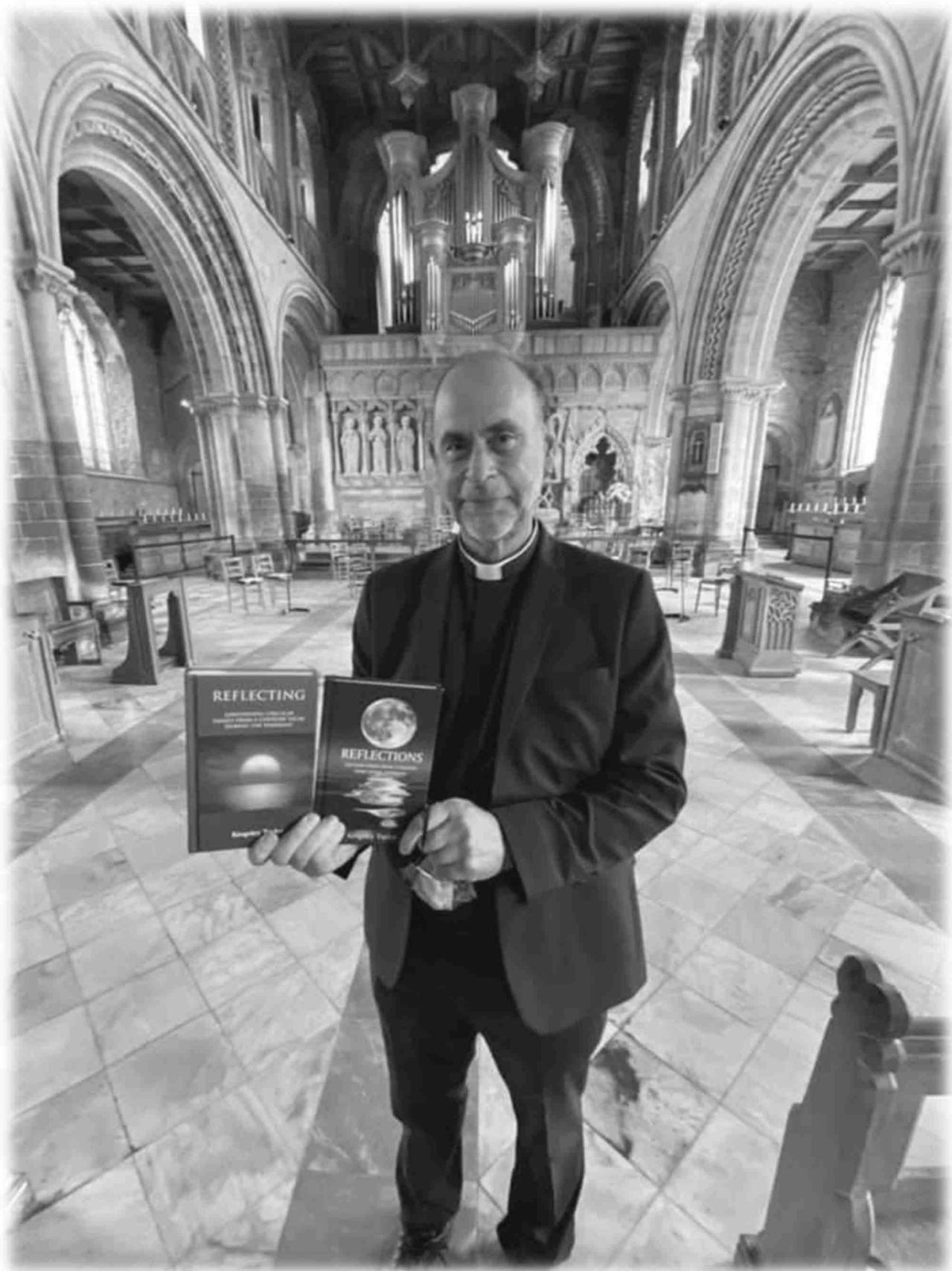
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Merle brought several items which she had embroidered with cross stitch – a fire screen, cushions and lavender bags - very fine work

Brenda has been knitting children's jumpers for charity.

Denise has carried on with her hobby of beading and showed several beautiful items of jewellery, Christmas decorations and the beginnings of a Nativity scene.



Cynthia used an Oxford Punch needle to make a fantastic carpet bag, which she had also lined using machine embroidery, and a cushion to match a rug she has made. Cynthia uses wool from Cheviot sheep which she dyes.

Cathy is doing a course on Aromatherapy, and when she qualifies as a 'White Witch' offered to give a talk to the WI about the pressure points on hands and feet which relate to the body – Reflexology.

Gwen brought some beautiful animals – squirrels, mouse and hedgehog which she had made needle felting. Very cuddly!

Everyone agreed that there is a lot of talent in Llanboidy WI!

Members enjoyed their packed lunch. Raffle prizes were won by June and Jan. Chris was thanked for hosting the meeting again.

Keep well and safe everyone and enjoy what we all have which is a beautiful and friendly area in which to live - and remember a problem shared is a problem halved , so please ask for help if you need it, or just want a friendly ear to listen to you, and I will certainly try and help you – my contact details:

email: sue@llanboidycheese.co.uk

Phone: 01994 448303

Text: 07530 523813

And please, please, please let me, *Sue Jones*, have any Llanboidy news for the next edition of Grapevine and I will forward to Kathie our Editor – Thank you.

Sue Jones

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CIFFIG

We're still in July at the moment, desperately waiting for a spell of dry weather in which to cut grass for silage or haylage! the weather is being very perverse and "hindering".

Around the world there are rural communities coping with much worse, so we say "Thank you" and try to be patient.

Cyffig Church is quietly watching time pass, each of the members doing what they can to keep it cared for and looking "loved". Thank you to Revd. Kingsley for taking services for us.

Thankfully, we are slowly emerging from the Pandemic, but times seem to be more uncertain than before. Is it only hind-sight that makes us think it was better then.

Best wishes to all our members, especially Colin Beynon and Mary Richards to whom we wish better health soon.

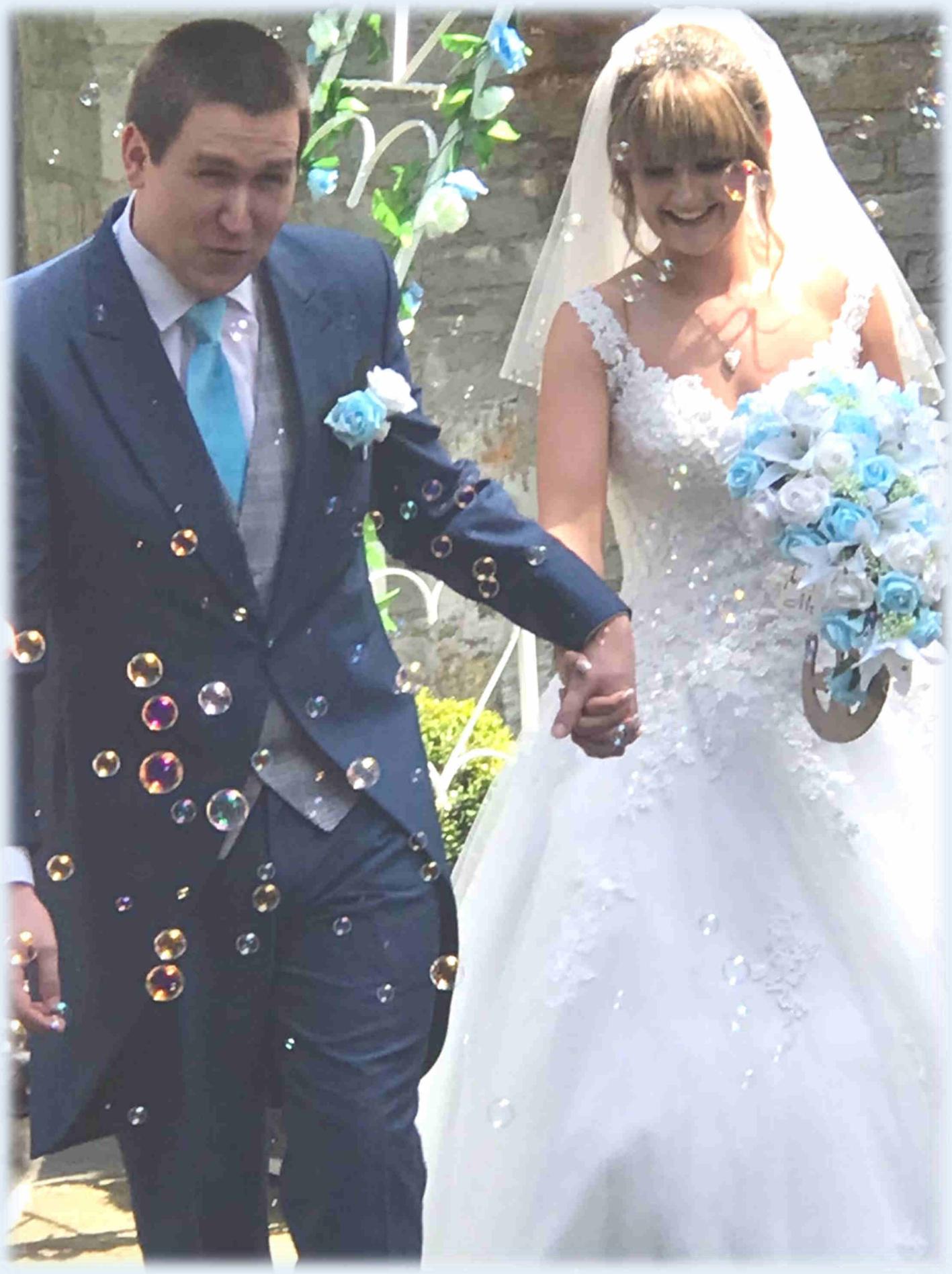
Here's a poem written by Leonard Clark 1905—1981:

Good Company

I sleep in a room at the top of the house
With a flea, and a fly, and a soft-scratching mouse,
And a spider that hangs by a thread from the ceiling,
Who gives me each day such a curious feeling
When I watch him at work on the beautiful weave
Of his web that's so fine I can hardly believe
It won't end up in such terrible tangles,
For he sways as he weaves, and spins as he dangles.
I cannot get up to that spider, I know,
And I hope he won't get down to me here below,
And yet when I wake in the chill morning air
I'd miss him if he were not still swinging there,
For I have in my room such good company,
There's him, and the mouse, and the fly, and the flea.

St. Clears and District Walking Group

On the 7th of July Nigel and Liz Bailey led a lovely walk around St. Dogmaels. This is the time of year when the group ventures a little further afield, but due to ongoing reservations about Covid, it was decided to stay a little closer to home. It was a fascinating walk down along the river and up pretty little roads well off the beaten path with glorious views over the River Teifi. The walk took us past the old Workhouse which is a beautiful building now converted into holiday accommodation. We ended up at the site of the Abbey where enough of the stonework remains to give you an idea of what it once looked like—the rest of the stone work was obviously cannibalised to build most of the older houses in St Dogmaels! Opposite the abbey is a lovely mill pond and one of the last remaining working flour mills in Wales complete with water wheel. Altogether a fantastic interesting walk—and beautiful weather to boot!



*The marriage of Miss Carol Ann Davies, daughter of Colin and Julie
Davies of Arosfa, Hermon and Mr R Anthony Little took place on
26th June at Llanfyrnach Church*



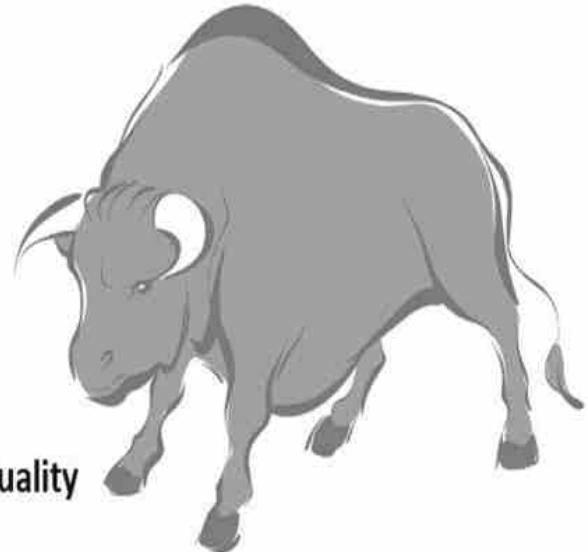
If you would like to join us, we meet every other Wednesday in St. Clears. Walks are usually gentle and of about 3 miles duration. Ask Kathie (01994 484404) for further information.



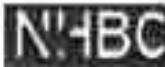
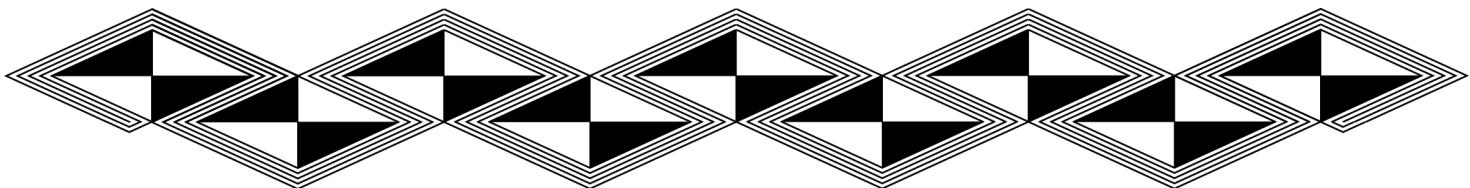
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Collection!

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 Vicar of St David's Church, the Rev Canon Jeffrey Gainer, will be retiring at the end of September after 29 years of service. He will be moving to live in a small village near Aberystwyth. His last service will be on Sunday 26th September at 4.00 pm which will be our annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service. To mark his retirement we plan to hold a social event after the service subject to COVID-19 restrictions. Full details will be available in due course.

In addition, we plan to have a Parish collection to buy him a retirement gift as a token of our appreciation of his extensive work in the parish. If you would like to contribute to this collection would you please forward your contribution to either Dorian Evans, Treasurer, or Church Wardens Glyn James or Lilian Rees. Cheques should be made payable to St David's Church, Meidrim. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Dorian Evans on 01994 230820 or at Hafan Las, Trelech Road, Meidrim.

Fel y byddwch siwr yn ymwybodol, bydd y Canon Jeffrey Gainer yn ymddeol fel ein ficer ddiwedd mis Medi yn dilyn 29 mlynedd o wasanaeth gyda ni. Bydd yn symud i fyw mewn pentref bach ger Aberystwyth. Bydd ei wasanaeth olaf ym Meidrim ddydd Sul 26 Medi am 4yp sef ein Gwasanaeth Diolchgarwch Cynhaeaf Blynnyddol. I nodi ei ymddeolaid rydym yn bwriadu cynnal digwyddiad cymdeithasol ar ol y gwasanaeth yn ddybinnol ar gyfyngiadau COVI-19. Bydd manylion llawn ar gael maes o law.

Yn ogystal, rydym yn bwriadu cael casgliad Plwyf i brynu anrheg ymddeol iddo fel arwydd o'n gwerthfawrogiad. Os hoffech chi gyfrannu at y casgliad hwn, a fydddech cystal ag anfon eich cyfraniad i Dorian Evans, Trysorydd neu Wardeiniaid yr Eglwys, Glyn James neu Lilian Rees. Dylai ynrhyw seic fod yn daladwy i Eglwys Dewi Sant, Meidrim. Os oes gennych unrhyw ymholiad, peidiwch ag oedi a chysylltu a Dorian Evans ar 01994 230820 neu Hafan Las, Heol Trelech, Meidrim.

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