

Grapevine

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comprising the parishes of Clydau, Llanglydwen,
Llanfyrnach, Llanwinio
and Mynachlog-ddu

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EDITORIAL

Part 1

When I was in St Michael's Theological College, Llandaff, the university term was over but we were expected to attend Holy Week and Easter in college, obviously because it was a vital part of our training for Ordination. We had daily services and read through the all the Biblical accounts of the period; on Maundy Thursday the organ was switched off during the service and hymns were no longer sung and we held vigil as the disciples would have done in the garden if they hadn't kept falling asleep. On Good Friday we attended part of the three hour meditation in the Cathedral and came back to the chapel in the college for anti-communion. On Saturday everyone went about sombrely as if Jesus was dead that day. Then on Easter Day at dawn the paschal candle was lit from a bonfire and processed into the chapel, the organ was turned back on and we sang, making a joyful noise. Unless your church is a very High church with a large congregation this could not be done in our local parishes. Over the years I have tried to make Holy Week special and important but, even having an Agape Supper with communion at Nant-Y-Ffin a few years, things have never really worked and by and large it has passed for any other week in the year.

Even with the fuss and ceremonial of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter that I experienced at college it was not like actually being there and living through it. We know the story from the point of view of the disciples already but with the benefit of hindsight we cannot know what it was like for them or all the emotions and the fear they would have gone through.

For the general population at the time there was a lot of shouting and celebration as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, but what did it actually mean to them? The next few days were like any other few days, perhaps some stories floating about. They would have celebrated Passover on the Thursday with their own families as they had every year and this was no different. Then there was the trial on the Friday and crowds gathered but did they know what was really going on? And the agitators in the crowd easily persuaded them to shout to have this fellow crucified. Saturday was a normal Sabbath and they would have had their usual services. Then on the Sunday, how many people actually knew about the resurrection?

Yet this is the pivotal point in the whole of history, this is the centre of the universe. For the whole of humanity this is the moment that everything was put right, this was our second chance, this was when God healed the rift between him and us. And the

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majority of people were, and still are, either oblivious or uninterested. This is why it is vitally important for us who believe to take these events seriously, to live the life that God has set us free to live, to show in our lives the death and life of Jesus, to witness to our close relationship with God. When we live through the days of Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter this year let us fully understand what it means to us and let this understanding and gratitude shine through us.

Part 2

I thought it would be good to know someone who was around at the time, so I asked Moonpool what it was like.

K: Moonpool, I would like to talk to you about Jesus's death and resurrection.

M: I have told you before, it is not my place.

K: But you were there.

M: No, I was here.

K: Surely you knew of the events as they happened. I just want to ask you how you felt at the time, what you knew and the effect on the world.

M: I knew of the events, this was The Son Of The Maker Of All Things, the universe is bound to him because it is of him and the two things I couldn't understand was how humanity in its arrogance could do such a thing and how the universe didn't end. We were all summoned to the throne and I expected The Maker Of All Things to end it but the throne was empty and the universe kept going. You cannot comprehend the utter devastation that ran through the whole of creation, the emptiness of the time between and the thrill that flooded the universe again with joy and hope. Nor will you ever comprehend the love.

She was silent and thoughtful for some time and I didn't know what to say. Then she looked at me with that enigmatic smile she has sometimes.

M: You tell them.

And she was gone.

Kingsley

Cylch y Frenni Circle of Churches

Clydau, Llanglydwen, Llanfyrnach, Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu

The Common Worship lessons and psalms for April

5th Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43, 16-21. Psalm 126. Philippians 3, 4-14 and St John 12, 1-8.

6th Sunday of Lent (Palm Sunday)

Isaiah 50, 4-9. Psalm 31, 9-16. Philippians 2, 5-11 and St Luke 22, 14 to Luke 23, 49.

Easter Day

Acts 10, 34-43. Psalm 118, 1-24. 1 Corinthians 15, 19-26 and St Luke 24, 1-12.

2nd Sunday of Easter (first Sunday after Easter or Low Sunday in the Prayer Book)

Acts 5, 27-32. Psalm 118, 14-29. Revelation 1, 4-8 and St John 20, 19-31

SERVICES IN APRIL 2022

3rd The Fifth Sunday of Lent - Purple

Llanglydwen	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Llanwinio	09.30 am	Boreol Weddi	PH
Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM

6th Wednesday

Bro Preseli	10.30 am	Home Communion	JW/EL
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10th The Sixth Sunday of Lent - Purple

Llanwinio	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Clydey	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Morning Prayer	HJ

14th Maundy Thursday – Purple/ Red

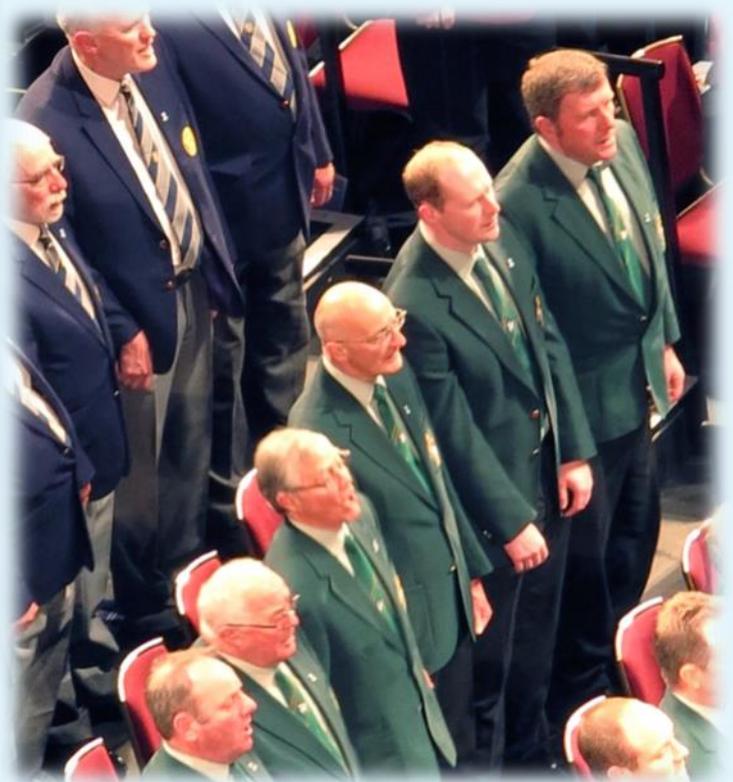
Llanfyrnach	7.00 pm	Last Supper	PM
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***Above:
Ash Wednesday service at
Maenchlogoch-ddu.***

***Left: Paul Macness
wearing Purple***

***Below:
Llanboidy Male Choir who have
been resting their vocal chords
during lockdown and are now
ready to entertain us again!***



15th	Good Friday – Purple / Red		
Llanwinio	2.00 pm	Holy Hour	PM
16th	Easter Eve		
Clydey	7.00 pm	Easter Vigil	PM
17th	Easter Day - White		
Llanglydwen	9.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Mynachlog-ddu	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
24th	The Second Sunday of Easter - White		
Llanwinio	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Clydey	11.15 am	Morning Prayer	EL

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

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Llanglydwen:	Mrs Jane Legg	01994 419856
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A message from the Archdeacon

The meaning of Lent – a personal journey

We never truly see ourselves as others see us, when we look in the mirror we see a mirror image, not what others see. Perhaps this is why, when we look at ourselves in photographs, we sometimes struggle to accept that we look like we do. Others see us very differently to how we view ourselves and how we might like to be seen. I know that people keep telling me that my sister Natalie and I look very similar, I just can't see it, neither can she, but people insist regardless. I have always thought of my sister as being pretty, whereas I am average at best.

Self-reflection – one of things that we are encouraged to do during Lent can be very uncomfortable and even disturbing because it takes us out of our comfort zones and

makes us have to perhaps look at ourselves with fresh eyes – that aren't wearing rose-tinted spectacles.

As the last Mackness of my branch of the family, my father's death has made me reflect more than perhaps I would have normally. Although I am in the youngest 25% of our clergy, I am still nearer 50 than forty (much nearer!), I have gradually been putting on weight during the lockdown, despite the odd bursts of physical activity (I was never very physically active) and I am like the other Mackness men prone to portliness rather than slimness. Losing weight is harder and getting harder as I get older. Things creak and crack when I move, and I have to face it that I am getting older and that I am middle-aged. I am resigned to being single, like my Agatha Christie favourite detectives Hercule Poirot, Miss Marple or Mr Satterthwaite. Not necessarily a conscious decision but something that appears to be an inevitability. I have loved and lost as a result of my calling.

I have reflected on 'what ifs'. A lot over the past two years, but of course, 'what ifs', are not the right thing to dwell upon because they are gone; choices were made, events happened, and I wouldn't be where I am today if I hadn't taken the path I now am on. I reflect upon what I would have done differently, but then realise that pining for something that has never been is not healthy.

My ministry so far has been varied, interesting and in the main enjoyable, I have had times of great sorrow, but also of great joy. When I reflect on what the 17 year old Paul was like compared to what I am like now, I can see the hand of God and his grace in my life, I can still be a crusty, pedantic, cynical and caustic man, but I have lost the anger that I held as a younger man and I have been saved by grace and Christian love, to be someone, who at least tries to do the best for all, rather than someone who was just angry with everyone.

Whilst I reflect, I recognise that I am still a sinner in need of grace, but then aren't we all? I can see Christ in my life's journey and I realise that having answered his call he stands beside me in good times and bad. Lent reminds me of His periods of self-reflection and agony, his dark night of the soul as he made choices that would change the universe and humanity forever. Although we never see ourselves as others see us, I know that I see Christ in others and I hope that through the presence of Christ in my life, people might be able to see some spark of the divine in me, that I may show Christ to others.

Please be assured of my continual prayers and support and please remember in your prayers:

- the Revd Alex Grace and Revd Jordan Spencer as they continue their phased return to work.

- Irene Hart (Reader and Focal Minister, West Cemais LMA) who is currently recovering from an operation.
- Valerie, the sister of Hazel Jones one of our Focal Ministers (East Landsker), who is seriously ill and for those who love and care for her.
- Judy Webb (Focal Minister for Llanwinio) who is currently recovering from surgery.
- Andy John, our new Archbishop, and for his future ministry and leadership of the Church in Wales.
- for all those currently self-isolating or awaiting test results or recovering from COVID, among them Bishop Joanna, the Revd Sophie Whitmarsh and Mr Tim Llewelyn, the Vice Chair of the DBF and Standing Committee
- for all those involved in the plans and rollout of immunisation and vaccine production.

We continue to pray for all key workers in the NHS, Social Services and providing essential services.

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We continue to pray for our colleagues who are Funeral Directors and their staff.

We pray for all teachers and staff and pupils across our Archdeaconry as they continue to deal with a constantly changing way of delivering and receiving learning and prepare for the next academic term.

We pray for the people of Ukraine and those providing support to refugees and working for peace.

Paul Archdeacon of St Davids

Llanwinio



It is with great sorrow that we report the death of Mrs. Margaret Robinson, Waunllan, Llanwinio, who passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday the 12th of March. Margaret was the beloved wife of Peter, and loving mother to Daphne and Colin. Margaret had been ill for several years following a series of strokes, during which time Peter devoted himself to caring for her. Her children and many grandchildren were equally dedicated to her care and comfort.

Margaret and Peter, who had been married for 71 years, were loyal members of Llanwinio Church since they moved to the area in the early 60s. Margaret acted as Treasurer for many years - taking over this



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post from Peter - and kept a tight hold on the purse strings which enabled Llanwinio Church to weather many storms. She was also the church organist for many, many years bringing the joy of music to the services which is becoming rarer and rarer in these difficult times. Margaret will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by all who were privileged to know her and we extend our wholehearted sympathies to her grieving family. The funeral and interment took place at Llanwinio Church on the 18th of March. Kingsley Thomas officiated assisted by Phil Higginson.

Best wishes go to Focal Minister, Judy Webb, who recently had an operation at Bronglais Hospital, Aberystwyth. She is now making a good recovery and we look forward to seeing her back in office.

Congratulations go to Clint and Judith Henry who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 8th of April. Judith and Clint were married at Llanwinio Church by Revd. Beynon in 1972.



Llanglydwen

The following poem was written by a member of Llanglydwen Church's congregation for a WI competition called New Beginnings:

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Left: St. Chadd

Above:

**St. Chadd's
Gospel Book**

Below:

**Spotted in a country
graveyard by Jonathan
Copus**



A New Day

Yesterday I cried myself to sleep.

The night wept

*Soaked the earth with salt tears of regret
And moaned and called a desolate plea for help.*

Dawn came ...

*Pushed steadily against the grey shadows of night,
Its gentle rays*

Easing through the curtain cracks

Searching out the folds

Of white linen and silk squared quilt

And reaching out gentle fingers

To play on eyelids tight-closed in sleep.

“Wake up ... a new day has come ...

Leave your shadows and walk with him.

Feel the earth dip beneath your feet,

Moss quiet-cushioning your steps.

Watch night’s tears rise as mist and float away

Released into forgetfulness.

Smell the scent of the wild rose and hazel

And taste the melting salt crystals of the cool sea breeze.

And listen ...

Listen to the quiet of my morning.

I bring you a pact of peace this new day”

The sun rose and filled the sapphire sky.

The air began to quiver and hum

With opportunity and desire,

Enterprise and life.

Sounds hung on the breeze,

Composing songs of love and happiness

To the heartbeat of the world.

This day I smiled myself awake.

Sally Watts

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The Pen y Bont at Llanglydwen is now open for food! Thursday through to Saturday from 6.00 to 9.00 pm; Sunday lunch 12 noon to 3.00 pm. Booking is preferred— phone 01994 419575.

Mynachlog-ddu

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Venerable Paul Mackness officiated at Mynachlog-ddu's dramatic Ash Wednesday service and Holy Eucharist service on 2nd March, marking the congregation's foreheads with the sign of the cross in ashes made by burning palm crosses blessed in the previous year's Palm Sunday celebration and mixing the ash with a little water or oil.

The ashes symbolise death and repentance, emphasised by the words Paul said when applying the cross on the forehead: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust, you shall return" to which the reply is "Amen."

Ashes (and sackcloth) rated a mention in the Old Testament reading (Isaiah 58, 1-12) as the public symbol of repentance in his time. And like Jesus after him, Isaiah didn't think much of people being too obvious in their duties to God.

The ceremony shows that we belong to Jesus Christ and depicts our grief and mourning for our sins. We show repentance and mourning for our sins because of our belief that Jesus died for our redemption from them.

Then Paul reminded us in his sermon not to be showy in our faith; reflecting the Gospel reading (Matthew 6, 1-6 & 16-21.) in which Jesus disses hypocrites for being flashy over giving alms or making a public show of their prayers.



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By starting Lent in this way – with this year’s palm crosses in church, we look forward to them being given out on Palm Sunday, at the start of Holy Week.

Richard Law

Liturgical colours – purple

While green is the most often used (all through Trinity), other colours make their appearance in the lectionary during the church year, so for Ash Wednesday, which signals the beginning of Lent, the Venerable Paul Mackness switched to purple to officiate at the dramatic Ash Wednesday service in Mynachlog-ddu on the 2nd of March.

Purple, which can vary a bit to violet or blue, is the colour of Lent and with a few alternative options (such as rose pink on the 4th Sunday of Lent) is used until Palm Sunday when the liturgical colour becomes red for Holy Week.

The services plan for April cites Palm Sunday as the 6th Sunday of Lent and indicates purple - there are liturgical variations in Christian denominations – and purple or red on Maundy Thursday.

Having had an Ash Wednesday ‘Ashes’ service this year, we also have the very special (and never before in my experience) Easter Eve service on Saturday 16th April in Clydey at 7.00 pm.

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What is interesting about Easter Eve in the context of liturgical colours is that it is the one day of the year to which no colour is allocated. So how Paul dresses for the occasion, and the background reasoning, will be explained in the next Grapevine after it has happened. Or to save waiting to find out, you could come to the service! Clydey has room for 27 people socially distanced or 120 if that has gone by then.

Richard Law

Clydau

No matter where we go, the Christian light of West Wales shines through. This is St. Chadd, one of the early bishops of Lichfield and, like all the others, a graduate of Lindisfarne. His Gospels book is a copy of St Jerome's Latin translation and for safekeeping was kept for many years by the St Teilo group of churches in north Carmarthenshire to protect it from the Vikings who never got as far as our neck of the woods.



Our Ever-knowing Triune God who Reveals Himself to All

'And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding that we may know Him who is true – and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ.' (1 John 5:20)

The Bible begins with the following words: *"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."* In this one indisputable statement, all ideas of atheism, dualism, polytheism (belief in more than one God), pantheism (the willingness to worship all Gods), to name just a few 'isms' concerning God, are dispelled. We are informed from the first statement in the Bible that God is singular, self-existing and incomprehensible. He is spiritual, uncreated, infinite, eternal, almighty and sovereign.

God exists in His own being, the essence of which cannot be comprehended by anyone but Himself (Exodus 3.14). God revealed Himself to be the "I am." He is the one who exists and who is present; He is the one who was and who will be. He is self-sufficient and independent. He doesn't need us in any way, and we cannot add to God's essential glory, for He is the God of Glory. People may acknowledge Him and glorify Him, but He doesn't need anybody or anything. We need food, water, warmth, clothing, friends, and uplifting. God needs none of these.

God is sovereign and has dominion over everything. The Bible tells us that He is on the throne, seated, and reigning. He has absolute and intimate knowledge of

everything. Psalm 139 tells us, *'He knew you in your mother's womb.'* He knows your thoughts from afar; He knows the steps you will take; He knows your words even before you speak them. His thoughts towards you are more than the sand particles of the seashore. God's knowledge is infinite and everlasting, and He is 'Holy, Holy, Holy.'

God is pure in Spirit and invisible and without passions – yet He possesses immortality like no other. Jesus told the woman at the well that God is spirit: "No one has seen God at any time but He who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him." When a person comes to the Lord Jesus, they begin to realise the enormity of the greatness, splendour, beauty and excellence of God.

We also learn that God is three persons. We know Him as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and each are co-equal, co-eternal and co-essential. The Lord Jesus said that all authority has been given to Him that we are to go into all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. When Jesus was baptised, He emerged immediately from the water, and the Heavens were opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove upon Him, and He heard a voice came from heaven saying, *'This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.'*

We cannot even begin to understand the mystery of God. From creation and from eternity, God has revealed Himself to us as 'one and yet three' – namely the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The God we confess is not like Allah, an impersonal and unitarian being who lives in solitude. The God of Scripture reveals himself to humanity as truly one, yet gloriously three.

Although self-sufficient, our triune God chooses to reveal Himself to creation. He is the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, and the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Father eternally loves the Son and the Son eternally loves

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the Father. Is it not wonderful that God's people may know communion with the triune God through the Spirit emanating from both?

Chris Rees

Minister of Bethesda Baptist Church, Narberth

Llangynin Gardening and Nature Group

Llangynin Gardening and Nature Group have arranged a programme of garden visits over the summer months and guest speakers from September to March in the Bryn Hall. For the garden visits it will be car sharing. and for the indoor meetings it will cost £2 per meeting and that includes light refreshments and a raffle. Any new members would be most welcome.

Wednesday May 4th Gwili Railway at 10.30am, cost £12 and the Bishop's Park Abergwili in the afternoon.

Wednesday June 1st Stackpole Walled Garden and Bosherton

Wednesday July 6th Treffgarne Hall & Stable Cottage 2 NGS gardens Approx. Cost £8

Wednesday August 3rd Llangolman Garden centre, then lunch at Maenclochog and then Glyn Bach Gardens in the afternoon

**For further information or to book contact Anita 01994 484711
or Barbara 01994 448256**

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The Reverend Kingsley G Taylor, BD MA

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Assistant Priest Dr Canon Jeni Parsons

Lay Worship Leader Mr. Nathan Jenkins

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Services in April

Sunday 3rd	Passion Sunday		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St David	KT
10.30 am	Morning Prayer	St Tysilio	PM
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Brynach	JP
Sunday 10th	Palm Sunday		
11.00 am	Matins	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
2.30 pm	Evensong	Cyffig	KT
Thursday 14th	Maundy Thursday		
7.00 pm	Holy Communion	St Mary	KT
Friday 15th	Good Friday		
11.00 am	Hour Meditation	St Tysilio	KT
2.00 pm	Hour Meditation	St Mary	KT
Sunday 17th	Easter Day		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St Tysilio	KT
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
2.30 pm	Holy Communion	Cyffig	
4.00 pm	Holy Communion	St Brynach	KT
Sunday 24th	Easter 2		
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ

Reflection

We know the term Military Precision but to witness it is another thing. Recently I had a Military Funeral in St Mary's. There was a rehearsal the day before, so everyone knew what they were doing, and that the Funeral itself went perfectly. The young Navy men who were the bearers followed the commands of when to lift, when to turn, when to step. Naval officers of all ranks lined the road as the hearse arrived and a guard of honour lined the path from the gate to the church with their guns. After the service there was a twelve gun salute and two buglers played the Last Post and Reveille on the church bridge. It was impressive and moving, but I was

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Photo by Carlos Delgado



It's

good to know that choristers of Whitland Male Voice Choir are now busy preparing for forthcoming concerts once again. Here are a few of the Second Tenors singing in London's Royal Albert Hall in recent years.

always aware that this was still a funeral, not a spectator event, and the family were mourning and feeling rather overwhelmed. This was a son, a brother, a partner, and we must never forget or overlook the human even at times like this.

At Easter, with all the show that sometimes the church puts on, let us not forget the human too, Jesus's mother and brothers and sisters and his friends and disciples and all they went through.

In Memoriam

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Chief Petty Officer Paul Gowlett who died sadly at 43 years. The funeral took place at St Mary's on Friday 4th March and at Parc Gwyn. Please pray for the family in their sad loss.

Also to the family and friends of Lady Margaret Maisie Howells who passed away peacefully on Sunday 6th March aged 92 yrs. The funeral took place on Thursday 10th at St David's, Llanddewi Velfrey and was taken by Revds Kingsley Taylor, Guto Llewellyn and Huw George. Interment at Bethel Chapel. Maisie was a much loved and respected lady, pray for her family in their time of loss. *Kingsley*

News from Llanboidy

Aid for Ukraine – Helpu' Ukraine:- Councillor Dorian Phillips organised a collection of medical and survival supplies to help Ukrainians recently. Llanboidy Market Hall was the drop-off point, and when I called it was a scene of great activity with the community bringing in supplies which a band of merry helpers were packing and labelling. Dorian tells me they had a massive response to his appeal and Oleksandr Lopuha collected the mountain of boxes that night. He came in a 4 wheel drive truck, but due to the generosity of the community of Llanboidy there was no way all the boxes would fit in to the truck and they had to drive to Mansel Davies to pick up a large Van!!! The van was travelling to London that night (13th March) to the Ukraine Community Centre where its load will be transferred onto an articulated lorry and will be travelling on to the Polish border following day. Then the load will be transferred to smaller trucks to go in to Ukraine.

Oleksandr also bought a smaller truck in Llanelli and he has arranged a driver to take it direct to Ukraine on 14th March with a lot of the Llanboidy collection on board. Before he goes in to the front lines the vehicle will be fitted with a machine gun on its roof!!!! As the Llanboidy Councillor, Dorian, said, he is so grateful to everyone who has donated and helped us to do our bit towards this terrible conflict. We thank you Dorian for organising this, and Well Done Llanboidy!!

Llanboidy Market Hall -It has been all go in March with the weekly Tuesday coffee mornings and workshops featuring taster sessions ranging from Welsh and Pilates to

Therapy Dog and Local History. These have been well attended and great fun for us all.

Plus the Saturday Club for children with workshops of Games and Art - the latter also proved particularly popular with parents and, grandparents!! These activities are all free to us at the moment, intended as a 'taster' to encourage others to run classes and activities in the Hall when the funding ceases in April .

April dates are:-

Coffee at 10.00 am followed by Optional Activity at 11.00 am on Tuesdays

5th April Singalong with The Elderleys - our very own local group playing music we can sing along to!!!

12th April Basic Computer Training

Activities for Children at 11.00 am on Saturdays

April 2nd Art Workshop

Cyril tells me there has been a good response to his questionnaires about what folks would like to have in the Hall and there is a big demand for Dance, Drama and Art – is there anyone who would be able to help with these, and if so please let me know and I'll pass them onto Cyril.

Afternoon Tea and Cake in **Llanboidy Market Hall –Sunday 10th at 3.00 pm—5.00 pm**, a chance for old and young, newcomers and locals to meet and get to know each other – so do come along - pass on the word, and if you fancy baking a cake it would be most welcome!

LLanboidy WI

Report of the 728TH meeting of Llanboidy Women's Institute.

Meeting held on March 10th 2022 in the Market Hall, with President



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Denise Harris in the chair. Also present were secretary Jan, treasurer Val, and members Pat, Heulwen, Betty, Gwen, Jayne, Brenda and Chris. **Apologies** were received from Mary, Beth, Eirey ,Mary, Mavis, June, Cynthia, Christine and Rosemarie.

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and signed by Denise.

Matters Arising The Market hall is available for us to use in the evenings from April 'til October, second Thursday in the month, so Jan will book this for us, meetings will start at 7.00 pm. Everyone was in agreement that we should not meet in August, but maybe have an outing instead. It was also agreed that we should not, at the moment, have a committee for decision making, everyone preferring to continue as we are.

Speakers:

It was agreed that we should invite speakers to the meetings again, and Gwen has agreed to contact the speakers that were invited for 2020, before the start of Covid, to see if they are still available. Gwen has been able to book speakers for the April meeting - They will be Lawrie and Devina Watson, talking about 'Ghosts!'

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Chris and Sue will be the tea hostesses for April, and the following months were discussed and planned.

The competition for April will be the best limerick, with the first line 'I had a new neighbour called Jac'. Competitions for following months will be announced monthly.

Subscriptions are due in April; Jan proposed and everyone agreed that this year it will be £30 per member.

Monthly Newsletter.

The County Quiz was answered.

Some activities were discussed including the walk from Pembrey to Kidwelly. There was no interest in the book quiz, but quite a lot of interest in the county quiz, which will be finalised next month.

We were reminded that medical type donations for Ukraine will be collected in the Market Hall on Sunday afternoon.

April 1st will see a swap shop in the hall, proceeds shared between the hall and the Ataxia Society. Bring your unwanted clothes and swap for something different, and have a chat with your friends! Tickets will include a bowl of chilli and a glass of prosecco, and will cost £10. The next meeting will be on April 14th at 7.00 pm, in the Market Hall.

G. Williams

Monumental Masons

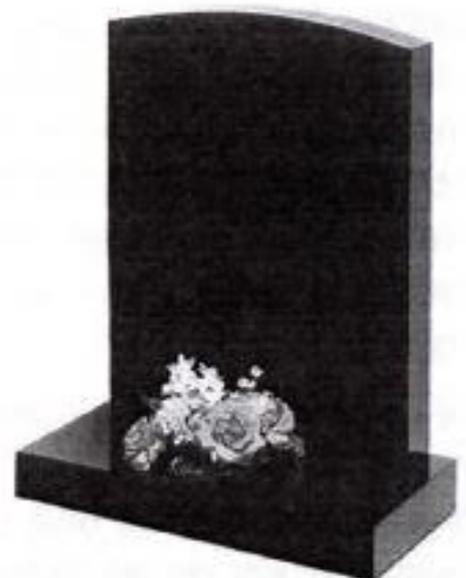
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St. Davids Day – was celebrated in style with an open evening held at Jabajaks, a local restaurant, on March 1st and hosted by new owners Jackie and Steve. It was a great evening for all with fantastic singing from Whitland Male Choir who were in fine voice; amazing dancing from Dawnsyr Talog and the haunting music of the mandolin and whistle pipes from Peni and Stef from Mordekkers, plus fireworks for the children and a fancy dress competition – all rounded off nicely with cawl and rolls.

St Brynachs Church - Many thanks to Tom from Cwarae Farm who volunteered to saw up the fallen tree in the Churchyard and cleared everything up afterwards, and also cut a few branches from another tree which was very close to the electricity cables. The churchyard is now ready to have the grass cut after the winter storms.

Church Services

Sunday, April 3rd at 11.00 am with Jenni officiating - Holy Communion

Easter Sunday, April 17th at 11.00 am with Jenni Parsons officiating - Holy Communion by kind permission of Revd Kingsley. Please note there will be **no** 4.00 pm service with Kingsley this month.

Decorating Church for Easter:- to be arranged

We wish all who have been unwell or in hospital during the last few weeks a speedy recovery, and remember, if you would like a visit from the Vicar please get in touch with one of the Wardens - they do “lift your spirits” you know!

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 the Grapevine and I will forward to Kathie our Editor – Thank you.

Sue Jones

CIFFIG

At the last service in February we were fortunate to have Mrs Sharon Edge to take part in the service and preach. Sharon has been to Cyffig several times now as part of her training.



Left: Dorian Phillips with some of the goods donated by the people of Llanboidy and by now on their way to The Ukraine.

Below right: Dorian Philips receiving his MBE from Prince William

Bottom left: Scene from a children's Drama Group at Llanboidy Market Hall

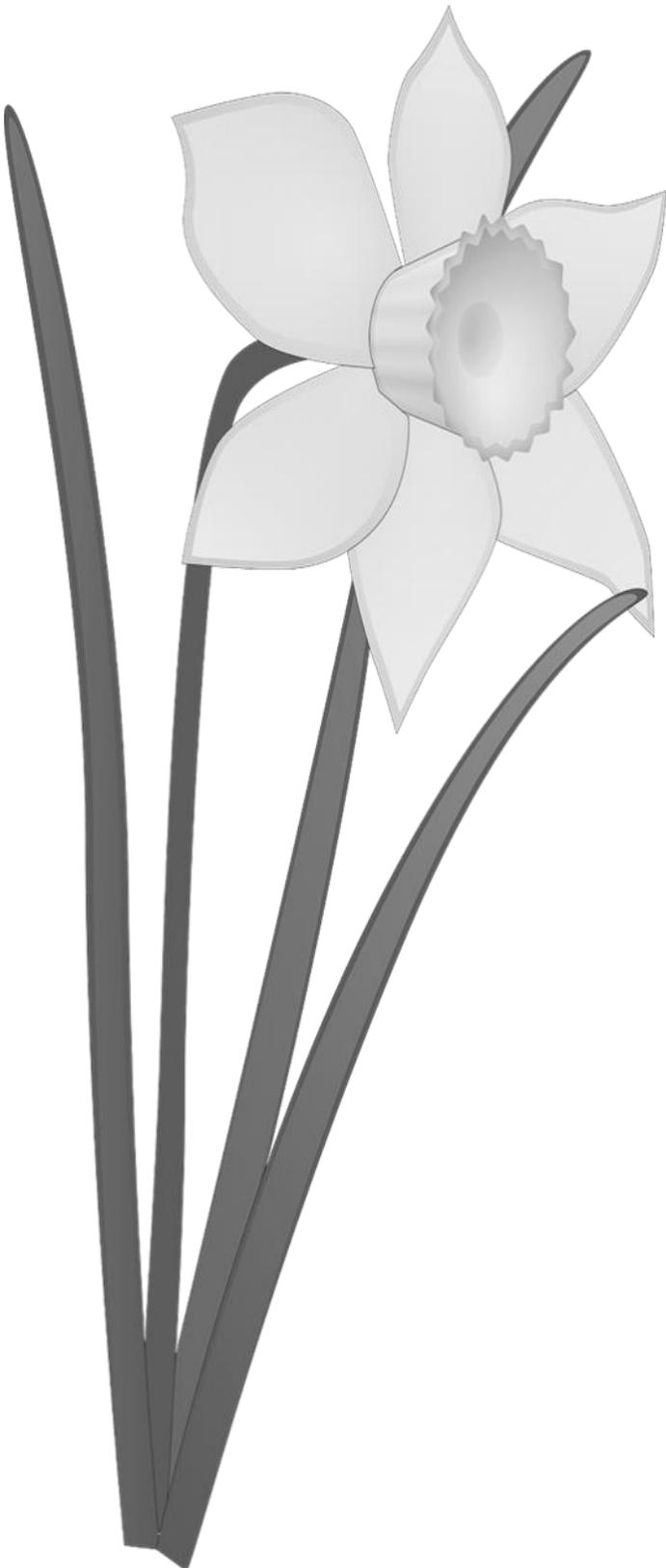


We enjoyed her pleasant manner and easy words of wisdom that we could think about afterwards and we look forward to seeing her again at Cyffig.

Best wishes to all our members, hoping everyone survived the recent storms.

Here is William Wordsworth's well-known poem about the daffodils - they come with such a rush, and we're so glad to see them, but this year they may be all over by Easter!

The Daffodils



*I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils,
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.*

I

*Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way.
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.*

*The waves beside them danced, but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A Poet could not but be gay
In such a jocund company!
I gazed – and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had
brought:*

*For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.*

William Wordsworth (1770—1850)

Submitted by Lynn Werrett

Afon Taf Gardening Club

Finally things are getting under way! Below is a brief list of activities planned so far:

Thursday April 21st:

Visit to Picton Castle Gardens to see, in particular, the Walled Garden, from 10.30 am onwards. £11.00 entry, carers free. Restaurant on site.

Sunday 24th April:

Sunday lunch at The Falcon Hotel in Carmarthen at 12.30 pm This was an annual event before Covid - time to enjoy it again! Cost is £20/25 for 2/3 courses.

Saturday May 21st: (Instead of evening meeting on May 19th)

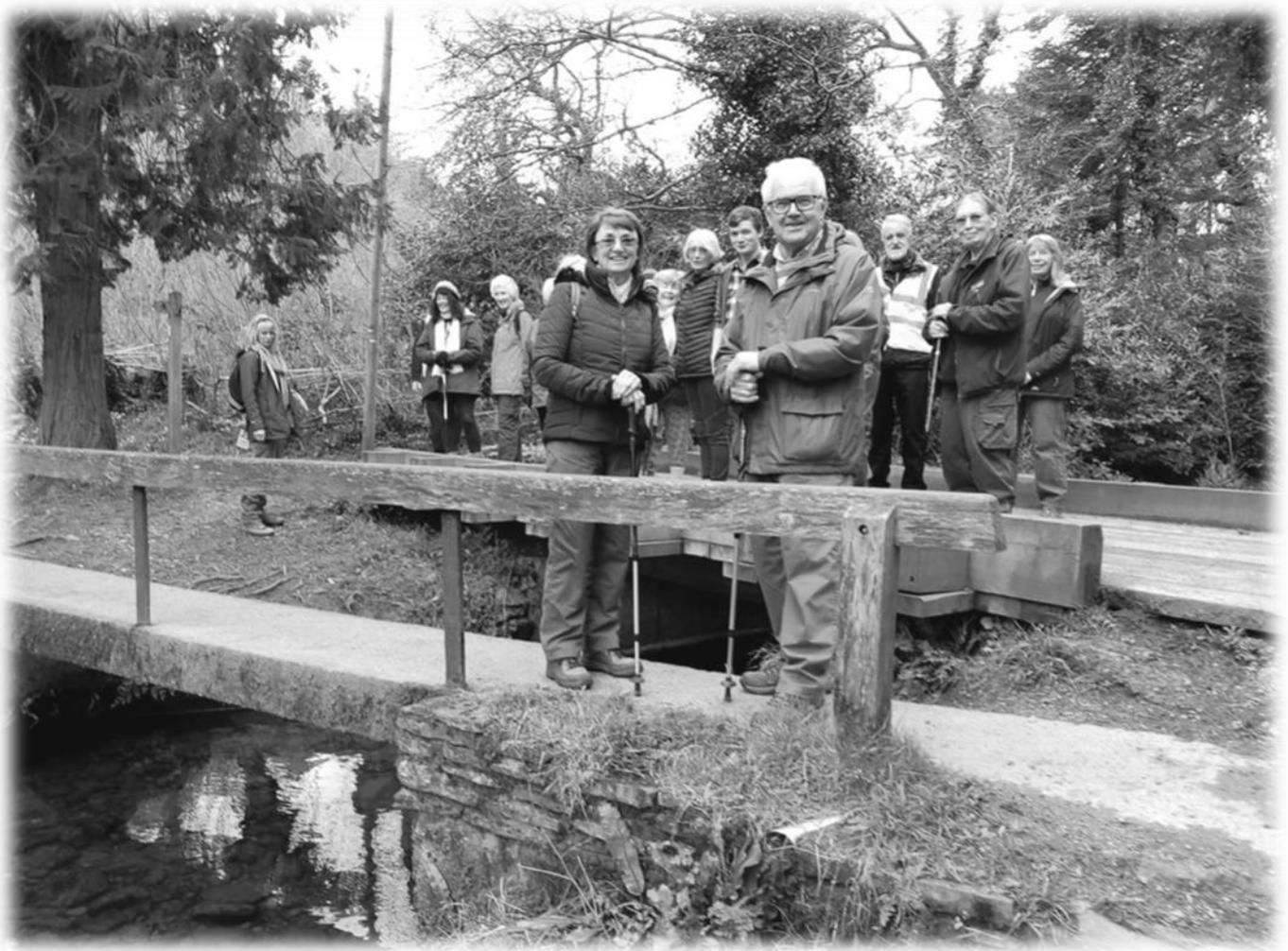
Daytrip to Clyne Gardens, Swansea. £5.00 contribution for transport. Meal not included.

St. Clears and District Walking Group



On the 16th of March members enjoyed a cold but sunny walk from Amroth to Colby Gardens and back again. The Rhododendrons and azaleas were just beginning to come out. The recent gales were much in evidence with the remains of several fallen trees which included, unfortunately, the famous Money Tree. The latter had probably been weakened anyway by the huge number of copper coins which had been pushed into it by visitors over the years. Members just made it back to the cars before the rain started. Next week there will be a gentle 'Stroller' walk at Llaugharne, and on the 30th of March the walk will be in and around Ferryside.

If you would like to join us please contact Kathie Dubben on 01994 484404.



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The above photograph, taken by Wally Rainbow, has been submitted by Roger Penn. Here we see the result of one of his father's propaganda exercises. These travellers were waiting for one of the many excursions that Dr. Penn, or his committee, arranged to promote the railways. He was spreading the news that railways are necessary down here in rural Wales at a time when they were facing the chop. Does anyone recognise themselves? He also campaigned to re-open the St. Clears Railway Station - and he would be pleased to know that this is now happening. Possibly because of the new hospital?

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