

# Gwinwydden Grapevine

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# Grapevine is published monthly by: Cylch y Frenni Circle of Churches

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

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**Front Cover: Eve Brenan at Ladies Day, Royal Ascot.**

# Cylch y Frenni Circle of Churches

## Clydau, Llanglydwen, Llanfyrnach,

## Llanwinio and Mynachlog-ddu

### SERVICES IN JULY 2022

<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Thomas, Apostle - Red</b>		
Llanglydwen	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Llanwinio	09.30 am	Boreol Weddi	PH
Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wednesday</b>		
Bro Preseli	10.30 am	Home Communion	
<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Fourth Sunday After Trinity—Green</b>		
Llanwinio	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Clydey	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Morning Prayer	HJ
<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Fifth Sunday After Trinity - Green</b>		
Llanwinio	9.30 am	Boreol Weddi	PH
Mynachlog-ddu	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The Sixth Sunday After Trinity—Green</b>		
Llanwinio	10.30 am	Joint Morning Prayer	PH
<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>The Seventh Sunday After Trinity—Green</b>		
Llanwinio	09.30 am	Holy Eucharist	PM
Llanfyrnach	11.15 am	Holy Eucharist	PM

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## EDITORIAL

### HRH Queen Elizabeth II

I had been asked to 'write something' for the July issue of Grapevine and, as I sit here wondering what to write about - things like the journeys of St. Paul after his

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

Epiphany, how the term The Way of The Cross originated and other theological articles come to mind, and then after coming down from the lofty heights of academia and landing back on earth with a bump, I realised we can't let the epic 70 year reign of our Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, pass by without mention.

The Queen, who is 'Defender of the Faith\*' and Supreme Governor of the Church of England', has a Quire Stall in St David's Cathedral, and is renowned for her deep Christian Faith. (\*appears as FID DEF on coins: the title was awarded to King Henry VIII by the Pope before they fell out over his divorces.)

Incidentally, Elizabeth is only the second longest reigning monarch in the world, being pipped to the post by Louis XIV, who reputedly reigned for 72 years from the approximate age of 4 years old.

As I watched on TV the many celebrations that took place over the long bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June; no matter how great the entertainers, how colourful or loud the fireworks, no matter how many turned out, I realised it does little to reflect the 70 years of dedicated service Her Majesty has shown to our country. What it does show is the love and appreciation, and the great esteem in which our beloved Queen is held in the hearts of the people she serves.

It was wonderful to see just how many people came out to celebrate. From planned street parties to extravagant celebrations in London over the entire weekend. This was not only a fantastic opportunity to celebrate 70 years of our Queen, but also an opportunity to do things together with friends and neighbours. Something which we have all forgotten in the busyness of modern everyday life, even more so since the start of the Pandemic.

I am not ashamed to admit that I am a monarchist. I believe in the succession of the throne, and I believe we have been privileged in our lifetime to have seen one of the greatest examples of a dedicated monarch.

Our beloved Elizabeth never expected to become Queen: it was only because her uncle forsook his birth-right in favour of the love of his life. Elizabeth's father was then thrown, unwillingly, into the limelight and onto the throne. The impact this had on him has been well documented so I think we should leave that there. But what of the impact on his daughters? Elizabeth's life, at just 11 years old took an unexpected turn. Instead of moving further down the line of succession as was expected, she was suddenly heir to the throne. How did she feel I wonder? I would think that Elizabeth took this all in her stride as upsets and problems she has taken so many since.

As has been well documented; our Queen, at the time a Princess, took active service in the ATS (Auxiliary Territorial Service) where she trained in a mechanic. There are not many women, let alone heirs that can strip down of an engine vehicle and reassemble it. In fact, our dearly loved Elizabeth is surviving the last head of state to have served during WWII. At the end of the war Elizabeth and her sister Margaret snuck out from the palace in disguise to join in the celebrations with the people of London, linking arms with others, reputedly joining in with them all, albeit for one night. An Imperial War Museum article reports that the Queen states "it was one of the best nights of her life."




documented; our time a Princess, service in the Territorial where she Aldershot as There are women, let to a throne, strip down of an army reassemble our dearly Elizabeth is surviving to have served the end of the her sister from the palace in celebrations with the linking arms with a conga and being as one night. An Imperial War

Elizabeth came to the throne on the death of her father on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1952, a young mother of two, at the age of 25. The first sovereign in over 200 years to accede while abroad. I know that my brother, like many children in the UK, was given a silver spoon to mark the occasion of her coronation a year later. He still has

# Ely Cathedral



 ELY  
CATHEDRAL

## Jubilee Black Oak Table 'A Table for the Nation'

- 5000 years ago the East Anglian Fens were densely forested by large oak trees which, due to rising seas, fell into the silt of the flooded forest floor and were preserved in the peat.
- In 2012, on a farm at Wissington Fen, near Downham Market, a 5000 year old giant sub-fossilised black, or bog, oak tree, 13.5m (45') was found. It is widely acknowledged that this was just 1/4 of the original size of the tree.
- The oak was carefully lifted out of the fen and cut into planks which were dried in a purpose-built drying kiln. It took 9 months to remove 400 gallons of water from the wood. This also meant the depth of the planks shrunk by over 50%.
- The dried planks were moved to the Building Crafts College in Stratford, London, where the students helped create the 13m (43') long and 1.5m wide table you see today. The under-structure is created from patinated bronze.
- The Fenland Black Oak Project was set up by a group of volunteers and funded entirely by public donations. It has taken 10 years to preserve and craft the table. The project was led by Hamish Low, from furniture specialists Adamson and Low.
- As the Oak was discovered in 2012, the year of the Diamond Jubilee, and completed in 2022, the year of the Platinum Jubilee, the table has been presented to the nation. The table was unveiled by HRH The Princess Royal and will be on display in the North Nave Aisle from 18 May 2022 until March 2023.

[www.thefenlandblackoakproject.co.uk](http://www.thefenlandblackoakproject.co.uk)



that spoon and it is among his treasured possessions. We have been lucky enough to take part in four special Jubilee celebrations since her accession – 1977 Silver, 2002 Gold, 2012 Diamond (year of the London Olympics) and 2022 Platinum, although her ruby and sapphire were much lower key. Like many readers I remember them all but, I am a little too young to remember the coronation!

Elizabeth has seen so many changes in her lifetime. I often wonder what she really thinks of the world now compared to the world she grew up in. Does she ever compare them? Does she wish we were back in a time like the one she experienced of her childhood? I doubt it. No matter what, no matter how life or the world has changed, she never seems to look back; always moving forward; always positive; embracing change; taking everything in her stride. Up until 2021 she had the love of her life—her loyal, beloved Philip—by her side, supporting her every step of the way. I am sure we all have the sad image ingrained in our memories, of her frail and alone in St George's Chapel, watching and grieving through the funeral of her husband of 73 years, obeying all the rules of Covid lockdown at that time.

We have seen our monarch go through so many things, apart from being evacuated, her home being bombed and serving in the ATS during WWII, even in my lifetime she has had her fair share of personal troubles to deal with, but she has come through with grace and dignity, never seen publicly pointing fingers or apportioning blame on anybody. Simply dealing with these situations in her own quietly confident manner the same as she deals with state matters, visiting heads of state and parliament.

Everybody will have their own special memories of each Jubilee celebration, I have many, but mostly for me it will be Her Majesty's great sense of fun, her willingness to take part in some unlikely skits, like in 2012 when she took part in the sketch with Daniel Craig as James Bond. We saw her with 007 and Prince Philip enter a helicopter. Then she and her husband 'parachuted' from the helicopter to land in the middle of the celebrations, appearing together on the balcony. This time Her Majesty was having tea at the palace, with Paddington Bear making his usual social Faux Pas, sharing secrets of marmalade sandwiches then finishing using the royal cups and spoons to tap out the beat of 'we will rock you'. Priceless. Memories of a Queen willing to show her sense of humour to us all. Also the precious home movies of Elizabeth and her family, sharing with the nation, herself in ways we don't usually see her. As a daughter, a sister, a wife and mother.

No matter what anybody thinks of the monarchy, there is one thing for sure. We, as her people, will never see another Sovereign reach their 70-year Platinum Jubilee again in our country, in our lifetime.

God Bless Her Majesty, may she continue to reign happy and glorious.

***Sharon Edge***

# Llanwinio

## West

**G**wenllian Higginson, daughter of Phil Higginson, starred in this wonderful two person play, West, at the Torch Theatre, Milford Haven, last month. It was a very moving production using minimal props, and the acting was superb.



Gwenllian and Gareth in Los Angeles

Written by Owen Thomas, the award-winning writer of 'Grav' and 'The Wood'. It stars Gareth John Bale and Gwenllian Higginson. The play explores the lives of two Welsh people who fall in love and decide to leave Wales in order to build a new life in the New World. It details the hardships and adventures they faced, focusing primarily on the theme of immigration. The play is written in a lyrical, poetic style and presented using minimal set and a physicalised performance style. It is directed by Gareth John Bale, the Welsh actor and director whose credits include 'Grav' and 'Nye and Jennie', and Gwenllian Higginson, best known to Welsh theatre audiences for 'Gwlad yr Asyn', 'Miss Julie' and 'Merched Caerdydd'. The play has already been taken to New York and is now taking part in the Hollywood Fringe Festival in America.

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## Bwlch-y-Groes

Less spectacular than the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and better attended than her tea with Paddington Bear, our parish met at Bwlchygroes Community Hall for a picnic on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June. The hall rebuild plans got knocked for six by the various lockdown restrictions of the past two years, such that while the shell is complete, most of the internal works remain to be done, as does the landscaping outside.



The Platinum Picnic was the first public event in the hall since all the lockdowns and despite the hall being 'unfinished' it was nevertheless a popular first opportunity, apart from funerals and church services, for us all to meet. There was no charge for admission and picnic packs available at £5 each for those who didn't bring their own. The raffle raised £152 for the hall's funds.

And we have a wedding in the church on 23<sup>rd</sup> July when Osian Lewis Davies from Eglwswrw and Mared Lois Davies of this parish end their long engagement. Their wedding invite list exceeds the capacity of our church's 120 pewed seats, but by rearranging the furniture and borrowing chairs, our mini cathedral can accommodate 160 people for the occasion.

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We all grieve in our own ways after the loss of a loved one, and in my case I get to do it in writing. My brother in law checking out so soon after mother in law – he was clan chief for just four weeks and four days before passing that buck to Elizabeth – hauled us back to London for the clan gathering it caused; not to mention the funeral and the wake. Having a week staying with Elizabeth's sister put us not far from Ely, which had been in the news just the week before.

A farmer in the boggy fens discovered a massive fallen oak tree, buried by the boggy conditions and by time. Lots of it: that tree was ancient when it fell before recorded history began back in the stone age. The bog preserves organic material that sinks into it. I have inherited a family heirloom walking stick made of bog oak excavated when the Manchester ship canal was being dug. What Ely cathedral got from the fens

was much more spectacular. The discoverers of this fallen oak resolved to get it out in one piece, which didn't work. What they did was to plank it on site and the end result, unveiled at Ely cathedral in time for our visit, is a massive table, forty-five feet long and made in one piece.

Elizabeth has a penchant for church mice so now we have a cardinal mouse pictured leaving Ely for the journey to our parish. We were also beckoned by the highlander mouse, as though he were waiting. He will get to church eventually, but is currently guarding the service sheet from Alex's funeral.

**Richard Law**

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## The Abbot's Farewell

*T*here it is then, gone. Four hundred years of witness in this place nestled between Nant Colomendy and Afon Gronw, gone. The light smothered, the smoke wafting away like the holy spirit on the breeze. No candles flickering in this heavenly glade.

*Horses, and they were fine horses, no longer reared or shod. Walls that echoed devotion, torn down, mere building stone. Chants, prayers, song riding on the wind of time.*

*The love of God, through Jesus his son and his holy mother Mary, the blessed patron of our Cistercian order, are they gone too from this place? Honest labour of monks in plain love of Jesus our saviour and the wonder of creation, gone.*

*No visitors, no hospitality, no Irish monks – to overstay their welcome. No care for those sick of mind and body. No alms for the poor. No copying of scripture, nor*



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*recording the annals of princes. No thrill in educating the brightest peasant children, no learning for them.*

*No need to tread a careful line between the earthly and heavenly realms. No stance of equivocation in supporting Welsh Princes against Anglo Normans Lords.*

*No poems. No poets, ah...the poets. They who astonished our brethren with their craft, the magic in their metre.*

*Those early seeds sown by our brothers from Little Treffgarn. I believe they were Welsh brethren who had taken holy orders at Vaucelles, by Bayeux in Normandy, before returning to their native intent of founding a Cistercian Abbey. They moved to this place in 1151 and soon there were as many as one hundred monks here. The first buildings, likely of timber followed in time by the stone Abbey. I know that the great house at Tintern, founded in 1131, was originally made of wood, followed by a simple church and cloisters. It was over a century later, in 1269, that our brothers there saw the stone masterpiece rise on the banks of the Wye.*

*Lamentation. Time for patience, time for acceptance.*

*Henry VIII has caused much change, much disruption. The end has indeed come.*

*So, here am I, William ap Thomas, in the year of our lord 1539.*

*I feel shame.*

# Ladies' Day At Royal Ascot 16th June 2022



*Eve celebrated 'Ladies' Day' with her sisters Barna and Tricia and her family for Barna's special birthday. It was a magical day – full of fun and laughter. The outfits and hats had to be seen to be believed. Eve's outfit came from Pethau Olyv, that wonderful shop in St Clears, a place you must visit! Eve would like to say a big thank you to her friends who made this trip possible and also for the care and support they have given her whilst she hasn't been feeling too well! (The group photo includes Sarah and Pippa, Eve's two nieces.)*

*The last thing ever I would have wished has come to pass – I am the very last of the Abbots at Abaty Hen Dy Gwyn, Alba Landa. From the days of Walter, the very first, his successor Cynan, and through the years Peter, Cadwgan, Dafydd, and many others named in the record – all good and faithful servants. We were all custodians of our order and its traditions as set out in Carta Caritas (the Charter of Charity) our constitution.*

*One of its sayings sums up our way: “una caritate, una regula, similibusque vivamus moribus” (may we all live in one love, under one rule and with like customs.) It set out too how we were to develop our daughter Abbeys and to care and nurture them over time.*

*And we were a growing order – we mothered many houses throughout Wales: Strata Florida, Cwm Hir, Valle Crucis and others, and further afield in Ireland; Albus Tractus (White Coast) in County Cork was founded in 1225 and Comber Abbey in County Down, all colonised by monks from here at Whitland.*

*Now, this dreadful dissolution. I fought off the first attempt to close the Abbey two years ago by raising £400. In vain. The crown is determined to see an end to all the monasteries. Now is the end. Mercifully, the five brothers that remained have found benefices or, as others, have received pensions. Constant prayer helped me find a way. I tried to focus on the practical, to do my best to ensure the brethren were looked after best as could be. I kept my mind from distractions. It would have been so easy to get caught up in the pain.*

*What a terrible and tragic irony that the sovereign responsible for our closure shared blood with the native princes who were our great patrons for, although we began under Norman patronage it was the Welsh Princes who were our patrons for the greater part. Lord Rhys of Deheubarth was the first in 1164 – his son Cadwaladr is buried here at the Abbey.*

*We were a plain order, self-sufficient to all purposes, industrious in doing God’s work in the world. There was pain and suffering, how could there not be? It is of this sinful world. But there was loving kindness too. Sweet smiles, laughter, pleasures given, and taken without regret.*

*There were fishponds. One of our many splendours, as were our fine vegetable and herb gardens. Our devotion to the pastoral life and hard work led to great success in crop growing and animal husbandry. At one time we managed as many as seventeen Granges.*

*There are so many stories of this place, I hope they survive in popular memory. My favourites?*

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*Well...*

*On the 21 March 1188 Archbishop Baldwin of Canterbury, no less, and high-born Gerald of Wales stayed here during a tour of Wales to raise recruits for the crusade to retake the Holy Land. Gerald, it is said, was not at all happy at being put in the general guest house rather than in the more prized accommodation in the Abbey itself. At that exact time too, there was an incident in St Clears. Twelve archers of that town killed a man who was on his way to enlist for the crusade. Luckily for them he had not taken the oath at the time they killed him, and they were given the option to take the cross and join the crusade rather than face trial for their crime. They all took the cross.*

*I hope the conversi, the lay brothers, who worked here and at the Granges and farms over the centuries are not forgotten. They were a key part of the energy and colour of the place. Although they had renounced the world, they took a mischievous delight in ale, amongst other things. The problem got so bad at one time that the Abbot completely banned the quaffing of ale, even at the Granges. How did the conversi react? They stole the horses and refused to give them back until the Abbot relented. They could be an awkward crew – the Whitland locals.*

*There are forces in the world that rear up and lead to massive change. Like earthquakes in many ways, they come unexpectedly. When you reflect, you realise that you had felt minor tremors for a long while. These are forces beyond human control. The best response I find is usually to be found in calmness, with prayer, seeking guidance, working with others. Often earthquakes bury what was before. Faults hidden deep underground rip the land apart. It can never be the same again.*

*The monastic houses, even the grand ones, are now dissolved, liquidated, cast aside. Yet, it was always the case that Alba Landa was amid conflict. Indeed, during the rise of the Anglo Normans most of Wales was a 'contested' area with tensions between the Welsh Princes and the Anglo Normans and this continued throughout the Abbey's time and long after the loss of Welsh Independence in 1282.*

*It was around that time that the worst desecration of the Abbey occurred and Whitland paid heavily for supporting the fight for Welsh independence under Llewelyn ap Gruffydd. In 1257 three Norman lords, accompanied by a band of knights, invaded the Abbey, attacked the monks, stripped the lay-brethren, and took the abbey servants into the monastic cemetery and slew them. The marauders took with them all the horses and valuables, except those in the church.*

*Even in the time of Owain Glyndwr and his 'war of independence' the Abbot was accused of being a 'sympathiser and rebel'. So, yes Whitland Abbey you were Welsh, and 'native', in culture.*

*That is how it was, it is ended, the future is in the hands of the Lord.*

*I close with this prayer Lord, by Thomas Merton, (a 20<sup>th</sup> century Anglican) Cistercian:*

***A Prayer by Thomas Merton OCSO (Br Louis)***

*My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.*

*I do not see the road ahead of me.*

*I cannot know for certain where it will end.*

*Nor do I really know myself,*

*and the fact that I think I am following your will*

*does not mean that I am actually doing so.*

*But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.*

*And I hope that I do not do anything apart from that desire.*

*And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,*

*though I may know nothing about it.*

*Therefore I will trust you always*

*though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.*

*I will not fear, for you are ever with me,*

*and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.*

*Thomas Merton, 'Thoughts in Solitude', Farrar Straus and Cudahy, 1958, p.83.*

**Meic Thomas**

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### Services in July

#### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

#### **Thomas, Apostle**

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 10<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Trinity IV**

11.00 am	Matins	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
2.30 pm	Holy Communion	Cyffig	KT

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Trinity V**

9.00 am	Holy Communion	St Tysilio	KT
11.00 am	Matins	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
4.00 pm	Holy Communion	St Brynach	KT

#### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Trinity VI**

11.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary	KT
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	St David	NJ
2.30 pm	Evensong	Cyffig	KT

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Trinity VI**

11.00 am

Holy Communion

St Mary

KT

11.00 am

Morning Prayer

St David

NJ

## The Way of the Cross Grand Tour

**A**t the time of writing we have walked from Clydey to Llanfyrnach to Llanwinio to Llanboidy to Llanglydwen to Mynachlog Ddu to Llandysilio. I am grateful to Edward Howells (cross bearer) who has been on every stage and members of his family (mostly his sister Janet), and to Idwal who has only missed one, and Phil Higginson who joined us for a few of the stages. I am also grateful to the hospitality of the churches where members have provided refreshment when we have arrived. And thanks to all who have kindly donated to our Ukraine appeal along the way.

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## News from Llanboidy



### Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

**W**hat a great time we all had at the village tea to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee on Sunday afternoon, 5th June in the Llanboidy Sports hall and marquee!

There was face painting and games in the marquee for the youngsters.

The Sports hall looked a treat as it was beautifully decorated with Jubilee celebration bunting kindly made by Jacqui and her Thursday Craft Group, and



colourful paper plate buntings made by the pupils of Ysgol Bro Brynach.

Llanboidy WI had contributed lots of luscious cakes and tea, coffee and squash provided by the Sports Hall

The icing on the cake, so to speak, was a rousing performance by Whitland Male

Voice Choir, which had one of my 3 year old grandsons totally enraptured and a potential chorister in the future with them!



We all had a super time, old and young, and it was so lovely to have the whole local community together again after the last few years of Covid and restrictions .

### **Llanboidy WI Report of the 730<sup>TH</sup> meeting of Llanboidy Women’s Institute**



Meeting held on May 12th, 2022 in the Market Hall, with President Denise Harris in the chair.

After Minutes Arising, Denise then introduced the speaker, Jeff Kedward, who told us about his work as a volunteer for Blood Bikes, an organisation which answers calls from hospitals etc. when blood is needed in a hurry. He brought his huge motor

bike into the hall for us to appreciate just how big and powerful it is. There are three in West Wales, covering quite a wide area. They carry blood products but not organs for transfer.

Unfortunately he couldn’t show us the video on the large screen because no one could get it to connect, but some of us watched it on his iPad and found it very interesting.

Jeff was then thanked and asked to judge the competition for three scones.

The winner was Denise, with Val second and Jan third.

Our next meeting will be on June 9<sup>th</sup> in the hall, when our speaker will be June Wells, talking about spinning.

Tea hostesses are Gwen and Jane

#### **Church Services:-**

- |                          |                                   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Sunday, July 3rd</b>  | 11.00 am with Jenni officiating   | Holy Communion |
| <b>Sunday, July 17th</b> | 4.00 pm with Kingsley officiating | Holy Communion |

We wish all who have been unwell or in hospital during the last few weeks a speedy recovery

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 we will certainly try and help you.

That's all for now folks!

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 .

**My email – sue@llanboidycheese.co.uk**

**Phone – 01994 448303**

**Text – 07530 523813**

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## Cyffig

I hope everyone had a Happy Jubilee weekend! I helped with organising Teas in Tavernspite Hall which was very well supported with true community spirit. God Bless her Majesty for getting folks together.

On May 22nd. we held a Vestry Meeting after Evensong, and discussed the ongoing problems facing small Churches today. Revd. Kingsley did his best to allay our fears. Cyffig Church itself carries on quite oblivious to things that bother mere humans.

Officers as before.

We shall be holding a Coffee Morning on:

Saturday July 2nd. 10.00 am—12noon at "Pen y Lan" Tavernspite Road, Whitland

We send our best wishes to members not feeling so fit as they'd like to be. We wish



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***Judy Webb, Focal Minister of Llanwinio, who ‘rang the bell’ at Felindre Hospital, Cardiff recently after successfully completing her treatment. Well done, Judy—you got there in the end!!!***

them better health soon.

Continued Congratulations to Revd. Kingsley who is walking The Way of the Cross Grand Tour. We shall be happy to offer refreshments to pilgrims from St. Mary's Whitland, on Monday 18th July.

Here's a poem by Jenny Joseph. Born in 1932, she died in 2018. I wonder if she was wearing purple and a red hat!

## WARNING

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple  
With a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.  
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves  
And satin sandals, and say we've no money for butter.  
I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired  
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm  
bells  
And run my stick along the public railings  
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.  
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain  
And pick flowers in other people's gardens.  
And learn to spit.

You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat  
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go  
Or only bread and pickle for a week  
And hoard pens and pencils and beer mats and  
things in boxes.

But now we must have clothes that keep us dry  
And pay our rent and not swear in the street  
And set a good example for the children.  
We must have friends to dinner and read the papers.  
But maybe I ought to practise a little now?  
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised  
When suddenly I am old, and start to wear purple.





## St. Clears and District Walking Group



On the 25th of May we all enjoyed a lovely walk at Marros Mountain. There were lots of scary looking highland cattle but we were all very brave!! We also came across some 'easy care' sheep who don't need shearing! The bluebells were beautiful.



Then on the 1st of June we went to Llansteffan for a 'Strollers' walk. These walks are held once a month or so, and are easy walks, designed for the slightly less able.



Again a fantastic walk in the sunshine with good views and good company.  
On the 8th of June the Group explored Green Castle Woods on the way to

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Llansteffan, wandering along old footpaths and bridleways.

Our next walk is on the 2nd of June when we will be walking to Pleasant Valley and Stepside from Wiseman's Bridge.

Our annual trip on the 6th of July will take us to Brecon.

If you would like to join this friendly group, please get in touch with Kathie on 01994 484404. Walks are usually about 3/4 miles in length and usually take place every ~~other Wednesday, frequently starting from St. Clears Leisure Centre.~~

## **Llangynin Gardening and Nature Group: June Garden Visit**

# **G. Williams**

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W

hen Barbara, the Group Secretary, suggested admiring the water lily in case the lilies at Bosherton Lily Ponds weren't in flower, we should have recognised the premonition and taken note. The

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NHBC

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# ***Jubilee Celebrations At Bwlch-Y-Groes Community Hall***






Following lunch at the café, the group headed off to Bosherton only to discover the National Trust car park was packed and local roads were gridlocked with half term holiday traffic. A hastily arranged detour took the group to Broad Haven South for a wander on the headland and then on to St Govan's Head.

The more intrepid members of the group took on the challenge of visiting St Govan's Chapel (pronouncing on their return that the steps, all 75 of them, were actually quite steep).

The day ended with a meal at the Begelly Arms. Things hadn't quite gone according to plan but good company and laughter made up for the lack of lilies. Everyone is hoping the Group's next visits to Treffgarne Hall Gardens, Stable Cottage and Glyn Bach Gardens go without too many hiccups! To join the Group on their summer visits, please call 01994 448256 or 01994 484711.






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