

Number 27  
Issued Quarterly  
September 1999

**LLANSILIN PARISH CHURCH**  
with LLANGADWALADR CHURCH and RHIWLAS MISSION CHURCH  
**NEWS**



**MASTERMIND OF GREAT BRITAIN 1999**

We wish to heartily congratulate Rev Christopher Carter, **Mastermind of Great Britain 1999**. Rev Carter was awarded this prestigious title on 21st June this year after a close-fought final. Our vicar now for 19 years, Rev. Carter is well-known throughout the Tanant Valley not only as a minister, but also as actor, singer and poet. It seems our vicar has many interests - his specialist knowledge subjects covered Birds of Europe, North Africa and The Middle East; The House of Tudor 1430-1603 and Customs and Traditions of Great Britain.

**Well done Vicar!**

**CHURCH SERVICES****Llansilin**

|            |                                 |               |
|------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 1st Sunday | Holy Communion<br>Sunday School | 10am<br>10am  |
| 2nd Sunday | Matins                          | 8:30am        |
| 3rd Sunday | Holy Communion                  | 8:30am        |
| 4th Sunday | Cymun Bendigaid<br>Evensong     | 9am<br>6:30pm |
| 5th Sunday | Family Service                  | 10am          |

**Llangedwyn**

|            |                |         |
|------------|----------------|---------|
| 1st Sunday | Evensong       | 6:30pm  |
| 2nd Sunday | Holy Communion | 8:30am  |
| 3rd Sunday | Family Service | 10am    |
| 4th Sunday | Holy Communion | 10:30am |
| 5th Sunday | Matins         | 8:30am  |

**Llangadwaladr**

|            |                |        |
|------------|----------------|--------|
| 2nd Sunday | Holy Communion | 2:30pm |
| 4th Sunday | Matins         | 2:30pm |

**Rhiwlas**

|            |                |        |
|------------|----------------|--------|
| 1st Sunday | Holy Communion | 2:30pm |
| 3rd Sunday | Matins         | 2:30pm |

Vicar Rev CF Carter  
The Vicarage, Llansilin  
01691 791209

**GOFALAITH BRA LLANSILIN**  
**CHAPEL SERVICES****Medi - September**

|      |                     |           |         |
|------|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| 5th  | Gweinidog           | Cefneanol | 10:30am |
| 12th | Parch Ann E Jenkins | Bethesda  | 2pm     |
| 19th | Gweinidog           | Soar      | 6:30pm  |
| 26th | Mr Thomas Morris    | Rhiwlas   | 10:00am |

**Hydref - October**

|      |                     |           |         |
|------|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| 3rd  | Gweinidog           | Bethania  | 10:30am |
| 10th | Parch Brian Jones   | Salem     | 2pm     |
| 17th | Gweinidog           | Cefneanol | 10:30am |
| 24th | Mr Arthur Hughes    | Bethesda  | 2pm     |
| 31st | Parch R J Griffiths | Soar      | 2pm     |

**Tachwedd - November**

|      |                   |           |        |
|------|-------------------|-----------|--------|
| 7th  | Gweinidog         | Rhiwlas   | 6:30pm |
| 14th | Mrs Nesta B Jones | Bethania  | 2pm    |
| 21st | Gweinidog         | Salem     | 6:30pm |
| 28th | Mr Thomas Morris  | Cefneanol | 6pm    |

**WHO'S WHO IN YOUR CHURCH****The Vicar:**

Rev. Christopher F Carter  
☎ 791209

✉ Y Ficardy, Llansilin, Oswestry SY10 9PX

**The Church Wardens:**

The People's - Beryl Jones ☎ 653941  
The Vicar's - Deborah Hill Trevor ☎ 791402

**Covenant Secretary:**

Brenda Jones ☎ 791261

**Parochial Church Council Secretary:**

Val Burton ☎ 791274

**Parochial Church Council Treasurer:**

Esther Milner ☎ 791323

**Church Organist:**

Morfudd Williams ☎ 659369

**Mothers Union:**

Glenice Jones ☎ 791287

**Gweinidog Minister:**

Y Parch Stanton T Evans ☎ 654682

**St Cadwaladr's Church, Llangadwaladr:**

Contact: Vera Evans ☎ 791471

**Rhiwlas Mission Church:**

Contact Marjory Evans ☎ 600228

**MAGAZINE CONTACTS****Editorial Panel:**

Jo Elliot ☎ 661003  
Anneli Thomas ☎ & Fax 791239

**Distribution:**

Margaret Lloyd ☎ 791427

If you would like copies by post please send £1 in stamps (to cover postage for 1 year) to Mrs M Lloyd, 8 Maes Y Llan, Llansilin, Oswestry SY10 7QE.



## THE VICAR'S VIEWPOINT

As harvest-tide approaches, concerned Christians remember the world's poorest peoples, whose wretchedness is often increased by the need to grow cash crops to enrich foreign creditors who have a stranglehold on the local economy. Hence the current "Jubilee 2000" campaign to cancel third-world debt.

However the recent behaviour of the US government warns us that any such appeal is likely to fall on deaf ears.

Resurgent South Africa is in the front line of the battle against the AIDS epidemic.

Life-expectancy is plummeting and nearly a quarter of pregnant women are HIV positive. Drugs exist which can prevent transmission of the virus from mother to baby, and to reduce the infection rate in rape victims, of whom South Africa has all too many. However these

drugs have now been "cornered" by big corporate companies who derive vast profits from their monopoly, charging prices well beyond the means of the over-stretched South African economy.

So President Mandela's government passed a law which enabled them to manufacture the drugs locally, allowing the patent-holders a reasonable fee. The patent-holders have responded by closing ranks and have used their influence to obtain a vote in the US congress encouraging the state department

to wage economic war over the issue. "All relevant agencies of the US government" boasts a spokesman, "have been engaged in an assiduous, concerted campaign to persuade South Africa to withdraw." Other Western governments, to their shame, helped to apply the pressure. Last month congress passed an act requiring African countries hoping for US aid, trade concessions or debt relief to hand over their key assets to US corporations and to cut expenditure on social services. One of the bill's sponsors remarked that "... child survival, health, agriculture, educational and humanitarian programmes ... have not helped the American economy; it is time to re-evaluate our policy."

So which is the "evil empire" now, and has Britain become part of it?

Reading this sorry story in *The Guardian* I found myself paraphrasing Jesus' parable of the sheep and the goats:

"I was weak, and you exploited my weakness; I was hungry, and you made me grow you food;

I was poor, and you cut my wages; I was ignorant and you closed my school; I was sick, and you grudged me treatment; I was enchained by debt and you threw away the key; for whatever you did to the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did to me."

*Christopher Carter*

## FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

### We welcome in HOLY BAPTISM

15th August Daniel Moreton Owen of Hendre, Penybontfawr

### We bless and congratulate in HOLY MARRIAGE

19th June Timothy Charles Tansley of Oswestry to Rebecca Emily Neal of Northampton

17th July Jason Harvey Evers of Llansilin to Deborah Ann Lee of London

### As God has lent them to us, so we say farewell and give back in HOLY DYING

May Susan Hammond, formerly of Llansilin

June Blodwen Roberts, formerly of Gobowen

Dennis Gordon Williams, formerly of Llansilin

August William Erfyl Smith, formerly of Llansilin

## CHURCH NEWS

### THE NEW BISHOP OF ST ASAPH

The electoral college have chosen as the new Bishop of St Asaph the venerable John Stewart Davies, who has been Archdeacon of St Asaph since 1991. He studied at Bangor and Queen's College, Cambridge, and trained for the ministry at Westcott House, Cambridge. He was made deacon in 1974 and priest in 1975, and has always served in this diocese. Since being made Archdeacon he has been Rector of Llandyrnog with Llangwyfan, in the Vale of Clywd. He has also taught at St Deiniol's library and held several important diocesan posts, notably Warden of Ordinals. He is due to be consecrated bishop on Saturday, October 23rd and will be enthroned in the Cathedral soon afterward.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL



Throughout the ages people have needed to say thank you for a successful harvest. The Romans worshipped their Harvest Goddess Ceres, the Incas thanked their Sun God for the maize harvest and the ancient Egyptians praised their God Osiris when the rains came. Over time Pagan and Christian festivals and beliefs have blended. In Britain the last stems of straw to be cut were believed to contain the spirit of the harvest. This corn was carefully cut and made into a corn dollie, usually shaped like a person or a cross, which was then blessed in church. The following spring the dollie would be buried in the field where the corn was being sown. If she had been well cared for her spirit would make the seeds grow in the coming year. In 1843 the vicar of Morwenstow in Cornwall decided to restore this harvest custom. On October 1st 1843 The Revd R S Hawker decorated his church with symbols of harvest - corn, fruit, vegetables - and held a special service of thanksgiving. The idea quickly

spread and the Harvest festival grew to become the significant religious date it is today.

*On October 3rd at 10am there is a Harvest Festival service in L.Lansilin Church. Children are encouraged to come (with their parents) and many bring a gift of produce.*

### LLANSILIN BELFRY RESTORATION PROJECT - HISTORY IN THE MAKING



**A MILLENNIUM PROJECT**  
SUPPORTED BY FUNDS  
FROM THE NATIONAL LOTTERY  
**PROSIECT Y MILLENIWM**  
CERHOGWYD GYDA CHYMORTH  
ARIANNOI O'R LOTERI GENEDLAETHOL

So far progress has been good - the 4 ½-tonne steel bell frame has been hauled up piece by piece and bolted together in the tower. It looks very impressive and is strong enough to carry the tremendous force of the six bells swinging through 360 degrees.

The tower has been wired for electricity. Additional flooring has been built underneath the bell frame and the church has new partition panels to enclose the clock weights during their weekly descent down the tower corners.

When they are ready and have been collected from the factory, the bells will take a couple of weeks to install with all their fittings - the head stocks and bearings, stays and sliders, wheels, ropes and sallie jugs.

The initial band of bell ringers continue to have practice sessions at St Oswald's in Oswestry - how grateful we are to our patient tutors. The knack of getting the timing right does not come easily! We hope to be able to ring "rounds" by the time of the Dedication Service. Get ready to listen! It may be discordant but we will get better!

### KNEELER PROJECT

If you have a completed kneeler at home please get in touch with Anneli on 791239. Help is at hand for anyone struggling with theirs so please get in touch. We hope to begin concentrating on the making up and finishing off of the Kneelers by the end of September so that we can start using them.

### CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

Grateful thanks to the noble volunteers who come along every Thursday to mow the grass in St Silin's churchyard. Do go and have a look - the whole two acres are looking very tidy which is a great credit to the helpers. It would be interesting to measure how many miles are walked behind mowers and strimmers in a season! Roll on the day - perhaps not too far distant - when a robot trimmer will deal with the awkward bits!

### What d'you know?

- 🔔 St Silin's has received a donation of £3000 from the North Wales Bellingringing Association
- 🔔 Ysgol Bro Cynllaith held a concert in the Church before their Easter break raising £64, which they have generously donated to the Bells Project
- 😊 St Silin's has acquired a large capacity kettle (50 cups) and are happy to make it available for functions and get togethers. There is also a collection of cups and saucers available for loan.
- 🌟 Llansilin Choir, led by Mrs Iona Jones, competed for the first time in this year's National Eisteddfod.
- ☹️ Owing to major works being carried out at the hall, it will not be possible to hold our annual Eisteddfod - Aelwyd Llansilin - this October.

### RESTORATION WORK AT ST CADWALLADR'S CHURCH

Fundraising for the renovation work has started off well with a coffee evening, bring and buy and raffle which raised in excess of £600 - £300 of which was kindly donated by Cronfa Mynwentydd (church committee of Moelfre and Llangadwalladr). Donations are still coming in and the figure is now close to £1000. Late donations can be handed to Mrs Vera

Evans, Tysilin, Llansilin. A big thank you to everyone for their support so far.

### POSTCARD OF THANKS TO THE CONGREGATION

The warmth and friendliness of St Silin's congregation have been praised by recent visitors Sarah and Mark Gregory of Lancashire who sent the following message to Rev Carter:

*"We thank you so much for making us so welcome at your service on Sunday. We have never been made to feel so at home or greeted by so many smiling and happy faces. We appreciated it very much...We hope to see you all again on our next visit."*

### WHY NOT GET INVOLVED?

#### LLANSILIN MILLENNIUM PROJECT

Llansilin Millennium Project plan to produce a pictorial record of Llansilin over the last 100 years. Funds have been secured and the organisers are appealing for your help. If you have photographs recording village life over the last 100 years - perhaps of people, buildings or events - please contact Pam Johnson ☎/Fax 791345, Mary Morris ☎ 791223 or Gill Avery ☎ 791298. The project aims to be completed by early next year. Any photos for inclusion by mid October please.

#### DECEMBER'S NEWSLETTER

The next issue of this newsletter will be the first in a joint venture between the Chapel and Church congregations and will therefore cover all aspects of Christian life in our parish. Emyr Evans will represent the Chapel and Anneli Thomas the Church. We are hoping to close the gap between the two factions as we approach the millennium and look forward to future publications in the atmosphere of Christian Unity. Please contact one of the representatives with items for inclusion in the newsletter by November 1st. Contact details inside front cover.

**LLANSILIN VILLAGE  
NEWS**

**LLANSILIN RECYCLING  
CENTRE**

**Powys**

Powys County Council has recently opened a recycling centre at Maes-y-Llan Car Park.

Current facilities allow for the collection of glass and paper but it is hoped to include cans and plastic bottles at a later date. The site has been formally "adopted" by the Playing Fields Association who are paid by the Council for keeping the site clean and tidy and reporting full banks to the contractors. The rate paid to the PFA has been set at £18 per tonne of material collected. In this way, the more material that is collected, the bigger the cheque sent to the PFA.

The Recycling and Waste Minimisation Officer can be contacted on ☎ 01597 827668

**EISTEDDFOD 2003**

The National Eisteddfod of Wales will be held in Montgomeryshire in 2003. A site near Meifod has already been chosen. There will be a chance to join the Eisteddfod choir of 500 voices; to serve on committees; to provide bed and breakfast for the many visitors. All school children will have a chance to take part in a special production. All these events require a lot of local fund-raising. Each village has been set a target - Llansilin's is £3000. A start has already been made locally with a successful coffee evening. The next event is a Sacred Concert in the Church on Sunday October 24th by Penybontfawr Male Voice Choir.

Erbyn hyn fe wyr pawb fod yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yn dod i Faldwyn a'r Gororau yn y flwyddyn 2003. Mae'r maes wedi ei ddewis, sef ar dir Mathrafal, ger Meifod. Dyma gyfle gwych i bawb, cyfle i fod yng nghor yr Eisteddfod o tua 500 o leisiau, cyfle i fod ynglwm wrth bwyllgorau, cyfle i gynnig llety i'r llu ymwelwyr, cyfle i blant yr ysgol fod mewn cynyrchiad arbenig ac amryw o weithgareddau eraill. Yn anffodus, diwedd y gan yw'r geiniog, a tharged Llansilin yw £3000. Cafwyd Noson Goffi arbenig o dda i gychwyn y gronfa a'r digwyddiad nesaf yw Cyngerdd Cysegredig yn yr Eglwys gan Gor Meibion Penybontfawr ar nos Sul Hydref 24ain.

**BELLS FOR THE  
MILLENNIUM POETRY  
COMPETITION**

We are pleased to announce the winners of our poetry competition- judged by Mr Talog Davies. 1st prize was awarded to Mr Charles Styles for **The Bells Voice Choir**. 2nd Prize was jointly won by Mr Eric Avery for **Tower Tale** and Avril Jones for **Millennium Bells**. The Children's section was won by Kate Jones with Nicola Jones as runner up. Well done to all who took part

Here is the winning entry:

**THE BELLS VOICE CHOIR**

By Charles Styles

We hang on high in spire and tower,  
With distant views of field and hill,  
And silence keep till timely hour  
Bids us the air with sounds to fill.

Though set on high our start was low.  
As ores we lay beneath the soil  
Till mined by men who worked below  
And smelted them with skill and toil.

Man's sweat ran freely from his brow  
Enduring heat while we were cast.  
Our form was hidden until now.  
Our shape sprang from cold mould at last.

The woods we see have given timber  
For the joists and pulleys round  
Which the ropes run to the chamber -  
Without these there'd be no sound.

For voice we need the practised ringers.  
To sing our notes we need their skill,  
Learned from captain's subtle fingers,  
To tell the news of good and ill.

Our knell rings slowly, o'er the land,  
Our curfew prays, to keep from harm,  
Our tolling measured strokes, command  
Our tocsin warns, with loud alarm.

Miners and moulders, smiths and ringers  
Without them bells would be as nought.  
Our peals ring out in celebration  
Of the skill with which we're wrought.

Other entries will be printed in the newsletter during the next year

### WHAT'S ON THIS AUTUMN

|                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| 5th September  | Sunday School - The Institute   | 10am<br>Contact Sheila Ashley               |
| 9th September  | Open planning meeting for celebrations of the bells - St Silin's Church | 7.30pm                                      |
| 16th September | PCC meeting   | 7.30pm                                      |
| 1st October    | Harvest Service and Supper - St Silin's Church                          | 6.30pm - onwards                            |
| 5th October    | Harvest Service - St Cadwalladr Church                                  | 7pm   |
| 15th October   | Harvest Service - Rhiwlas Mission Church                                | 7pm   |
| 16th October   | Afternoon of full circle bell-ringing - St Silin's Church               | 2pm<br>Bells Dedication Service & Reception |
| 24th October   | Penybontfawr Male Voice Choir - St Silin's Church                       |   |
| 20th November  | Fundraising event for Macmillan Nurses and St Silin's Church            | 2pm   |

### CHURCH FLOWERS AND CLEANING ROTA

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| September 5th & 12th  | Beryl Jones & Morfudd Williams                            |
| September 19th & 26th | Mr & Mrs Withers Green                                    |
| September 29th & 30th | <b>EXTRA CLEANING FOR HARVEST FESTIVAL. LIST IN PORCH</b> |
| October 3rd & 10th    | Glenys Jones & Alma                                       |
| October 17th & 23rd   | Sheila Ashley & Christine Williams                        |
| October 31st          | Megan Evans & Nancy Williams                              |
| November 7th          | Megan Evans & Nancy Williams                              |
| November 14th & 21st  | Pam Johnson & Dorothy Jervis                              |
| November 28th         | Esther Milner & Eileen Bignall                            |

### CLEANED SIDING'S ROTA

|                |                       |                    |         |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| 5th September  | Beryl Jones           | Holy Communion     | 10am    |
| 12th September | Dennis Sockett        | Matins             | 10am    |
| 19th September | Deborah Hill-Trevor   | Early Service      | 8.30am  |
| 26th September | Wynn Hughes           | Welsh Service      | 9am     |
| 26th September | Mary Morris           | Evensong           | 6.30pm  |
| 1st October    | Wardens               | Harvest Festival   | 6.30pm  |
| 3rd October    | Sunday School         | Harvest Service    | 10am    |
| 10th October   | Michael Withers-Green | Matins             | 10am    |
| 17th October   | Phyllis Hughes        | Early Service      | 8.30am  |
| 24th October   | Dan Jones             | Welsh Service      | 9am     |
| 24th October   |                       | <b>NO EVENSONG</b> |         |
| 31st October   | Sunday School         | Family Service     | 10am    |
| 7th November   | Beryl Jones           | Holy Communion     | 10am    |
| 11th November  | to be appointed       | Remembrance Day    | 10.30am |
| 14th November  | Margaret Lloyd        | Holy Communion     | 8.30am  |
| 21st November  | Olive Jones           | Welsh Service      | 9am     |
| 21st November  | Valerie Burton        | Evensong           | 6.30pm  |
| 28th November  | Sunday School         | Family Service     | 10am    |

**VILLAGE ACTIVITIES**

**Aelwyd - Welsh League of Youth:** From September Fridays 7:30 - 10pm, Memorial Hall  
Contact: **Emyr Evans 791240**

**Bowls Club:** Mondays 7:30pm, Memorial Hall  
Contact: **Sharon Lee 831431**

**Community Council:** From September every second Tuesday alternate months 7:30pm, Memorial Hall. Contact: **Harry Hughes 657972**

**Cymdeithas Ddwylliadol Llansilin** (Welsh cultural & literary society): Monthly September to April, Mondays 7 - 9pm. Contact: **Sarah James 791346**

**First Llansilin Guides:** Tuesdays 7 - 8:30pm, The Institute  
Contact: **Alison Beeston 791262**

**Local History Society:**  
Contact: **Chris Burton 791274**

**Mothers Union:** Every third Thursday 2:15pm, The Institute  
Contact: **Glenice Jones 791287**

**Meals on Wheels Service:** Need assessed by Social Services  
Contact: **Margaret Lloyd 791472** or **Olive Jones 791363**

**Over 60's Club:** From September, alternate Tuesdays 2 - 4:30pm, The Institute  
Contact: **Kay Hughes 791216**

**Playgroup** - Mondays & Thursdays 9:30am - 12:30am, term-time only Memorial Hall  
Contact: **Eirian Glennie 791378**

**Rhiwlas Community Centre:** Contact **Will Thomas 680451**

**Rhiwlas Gardening Club:** Every first Monday 7:30pm, Community Centre  
Contact: **Dorothy Bullard 791373**

**Rural Car Service** - For visiting doctor, dentist, chiropodist etc.  
Contact: **Norma Garment 791335** (Please ring between 8 - 9am or 6 - 7pm unless emergency)

**Sunday School - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL UNTIL SEPTEMBER** thereafter: Every first Sunday during term time 10am, The Institute. Participate in the family service on the fifth Sunday. Contact: **Sheila Ashley 791283**

**Village Hall:** Committee meet when needed. Contact: Secretary **Arthur James 791346**  
Booking enquiries for Memorial Hall and Institute contact: Booking clerk **Wendy Jones 791498**

**Whist Drive:** September - May every second Wednesday 7:30pm, Memorial Hall.

**Womens Institute:** Every second Friday 7pm, The Institute.  
Contact: **Dorothy Bullard 791373**

**YFC:**  
Contact: **Catrin Williams 780496**

**Youth Club:** Thursdays 7 - 9:30pm, Memorial Hall  
Contact: Youth Leader, **Elena Jones 780315**

NB. September/October dates will be affected this season due to building work at The Memorial Hall.