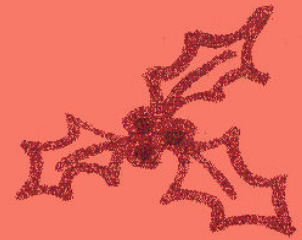


VMB/PPB

Number 28
Issued Quarterly
December 1999



Llansilin Newsletter

covering

*Bethania Chapel, Bethesda Chapel, Cefncaenol Chapel,
Rhiwlas Chapel, Rhiwlas Mission Church, Salem Chapel, Soar Chapel,
Llangadwaladr Church, Llansilin Church.*

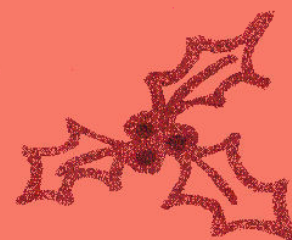
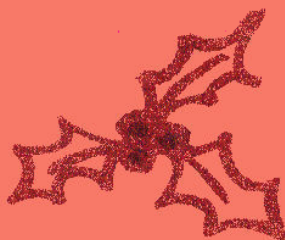
A Prayer for a New Millennium

O God who gave us life,
and in whose arms we die,
you know us as we are,
understand what we have been,
and see what we shall become.

We give you back our lives,
that you may make them new;
generous, committed to hope,
and fearless to do your will;
that your whole creation
may live to praise your name,

Now and forever,

Amen





SERVICE TIMES

Llansilin

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	10am
	Sunday School	10am
2nd Sunday	Matins	10am
3rd Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30am
4th Sunday	Cymun Bendigaidd	9am
	Evensong	6.30pm
5th Sunday	Family Service	10am

Llangedwyn

1st Sunday	Evensong	6.30pm
2nd Sunday	Holy Communion	8.30am
3rd Sunday	Family Service	10.30am
4th Sunday	Holy Communion	10.30am
5th Sunday	Matins	8.30am

Llangadwaladr

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	2.30pm
4th Sunday	Matins	2.30pm

Rhiwlas Mission Church

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	2.30pm
3rd Sunday	Matins	2.30pm

Please contact the vicar, to arrange home communion, visiting or special services.

Gofalaeth Bro, Llansilin A'r Cylch

Rhag

5	Gweinidog	Bethesda	6.30pm
12	Gwasanaeth Carolau	Seion	6.30pm
19	Gweinidog	Rhiwlas	2pm
26			

Ion.

2	Gwasanaeth Undebol y Mileniwm Newydd		
	Yn Eglwys y Plwyf	am 10 oi gloch	
2	Gweinidog	Salem	6.30pm
	Gwasanaeth yr Ifanc,	Cymun	
9	Parch E E Richards	Cefncaanol	2pm
16	Gweinidog	Bethesda	10.30am
23 *	Parch D G Jones	Soar	2pm
30	Mr Gwilym Jones	Rhiwlas	2pm

Chwe.

6	Gweinidog	Bethania	6.30pm
13	Mr T M Ellis	Salem	10am
20	Gweinidog	Cefncaanol	6pm
	Gwasanaeth da ofal yr Ifanc		
27	Parch J C Thomas	Bethesda	6.30p
	* Pregethwr o Seion, Croesoswallt		

WHO'S WHO

Gweinidog:	The Vicar
Y Parch S T Evans,	Rev C F Carter
20 Croeswylan Lane	Y Ficerdy, Llansilin,
Croesoswallt,	Oswestry, SY10 9PX
Ffon (01691) 654 682	Tel. (01691) 791 209

Church wardens at St Silin's
Deborah Hill-Trevor Tel 791 402
Beryl Jones Tel. 653 941

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin A'r Cylch
Ysg Wyn Davies Tel. 791 395
Trys Carys Evans Tel. 791 240

Organist, St Silin's
Morfydd Williams Tel. 659 369

Parochial Church Council Secretary
Valerie Burton Tel. 791 274

Parochial Church Council Treasurer
Esther Milner Tel. 791 323

Covenant Secretary, St Silin's
Brenda Jones Tel 791 261

Rhiwlas Mission Church
Contact Marjory Evans Tel 600 228

Llangadwaladr Church
Contact Vera Evans Tel. 791 471

Tower Captain, St Silin's
Eric Avery Tel. 791 298

Steeple Keeper, St Silins
Chris Burton Tel. 791 274

MAGAZINE CONTACTS

Editorial panel:

Anneli Thomas Tel. 791 239
and Emyr Evans Tel. 791 240.

Editorial Deadlines:

Please send items for inclusion in the March 2000 issue by end of January 2000 to :

The Newsletter, Graigwen Fach, Wern Ddu
Oswestry, SY10 9BN

Distribution:

Margaret Lloyd Tel. 791 472
Anyone wanting copies by post, please send £1 in stamps for one years postage to: Mrs M Lloyd.
8 Maes Y Llan Llansilin Oswestry SY10 7QE

Dear Reader

During the years gone by, a non-conformist minister would not be allowed to participate in functions and services in the Anglican Church and vice versa. But things have changed for the better. As Church and Chapel members are dwindling, we are getting closer together, thank goodness.

Fe garwn ddiolch a galon i'r ficer ac awdwrddodau Eglwys y Plwyl Llansilin am gael rhan y gwasanaeth lysegri Clychan a'r Hydref 16. Yn sicr 'roedd yn wasanaeth bendithiol ar yn ddiwrnod iw gofio.

Thank you for allowing me to participate in the Dedication Service on Saturday 16th of October. Yeah, a day to remember. Diolch yn fawr.

We are once again approaching the end of the year, and according to the majority of people, the end of this century.

By the time you read this, Remembrance Day will have been and we will soon be celebrating Christmas. Whilst I am writing this I can't but wonder at the sight of the colourful trees and the variety of colour they display. Among many poems composed by David Hope, I especially like this one:

Autumn is the best of seasons
Rich in colour, full of cheer
Bright with gold and bronze and copper
Crowning glory of the year

Coming down the garden path one evening I placed my heel on an autumn leaf and nearly went my length on the ground. Later, I got a rake and a brush and set about sweeping up leaves. My wife came out, stood for a moment or two, picked up a leaf and started back in again.

I asked her what she was up to, and she told me she was looking for a richly coloured leaf. "You can have a gardenful" I said with a sweep of my arm, "but why?"

"Well dear" she smiled, "if you must know, I'm going to press it in my hymn book at the Christmas carols". I must have looked puzzled for she went on. "We have had a lovely summer with a lot to look back on and be grateful for. So I just thought - if I popped the leaf where we'll find it at Christmas, it will help tie up the year, so to speak".

I smiled to myself after she'd gone. As I continued my sweeping in the gathering dusk I wondered if there wasn't a parable in my wife and her leaf - *looking back and looking forward - That surely is the secret of a happy spirit!*

Bydded i chwi fel aelodau o Eglwys yr Arglwydd Iesu Grist dderbyn yn helaeth o fendithion y Nalog hwn cleni. Llewyrched yr Arglwydd ei wyneb arnoch i'r flwyddyn Newydd hefyd i'r ganrif newydd pan ddel.

Parch / Rev Stanton Evans

Milestones

We welcome in HOLY BAPTISM

12th September Carla Jane Ashley, Rhandir Isaf
31st October Lisa May Jones, Plas Isaf

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

18th October William Levi Jones, Gobowen

Congratulations to Jo and Rob Elliot on the birth of twins, a boy and a girl, in October. Jo's help with the newsletter whilst living in Moelfre was much appreciated. The family has settled in Oswestry and Jo has her work cut out with the babies and toddler Megan, but may rejoin the newsletter at a later date

This is the first issue of the newsletter which has been jointly produced by Chapel and Church. Its purpose is to inform people in the parish of what goes on in the area, and anyone is welcome to contribute with news and views, about Chapel, Church or village events - anything which will be of interest to readers. Until the next issue which comes out in March, we would like to wish everyone

A very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year



The Bells Dedication Service.

This special service was held in St Silin's Church on Saturday 19th of October to a packed church. It was a momentous occasion with guest clergy and Llansilin Choir lifting the roof with fine singing. The children from Ysgol Bro Cynllaith performed and a small brass ensemble played a fanfare. The congregation was able to see and hear the blessing of the bells from the ringing chamber and to see the bells in action when rung thanks to a video relay system. The service was followed by a Reception with toasts in the recently refurbished Memorial Hall and visiting ringers from far and wide had a chance to ring the bells during the afternoon. The occasion was the culmination of dedicated and skilful work by a small band of volunteers during the preceding spring and summer months. Chris and Valerie Burton and Eric Avery have been the primary workers of this project.

There is a group of learner bell-ringers who practice under supervision of experienced ringers for the time being. This group also accept requests from visiting ringers to come and ring the bells at Llansilin as is customary in ringing circles.

The ringing chamber has been completely restored and decorated and is now a heated, comfortable, light and spacious room which is available for loan for meetings and such. Bookings can be made with the PCC Secretary.

Anyone interested in joining the Bell Ringers or wishing to visit the renovated belfry may contact the Tower Captain, Steeple Keeper or PCC Secretary.

The Bells of St Silin will be joining all the other bells throughout Britain at 12 noon on the 1st of January 2000!

The Church yard has never looked better than this summer, thanks largely (but not entirely) to a group of able-bodied and reliable men who have it all under control! Thursday evenings have taken on a whole new aspect - a bit of mowing, a spot of weeding, a cup of tea and plenty of fun and laughter. Lets hope we can keep it up for next year, and a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped.

Millennium Bell

By Avril Jones

Equal second prize in the Poetry Competition

Llansilin people, lend me your ears
You'll soon hear a sound, you've not heard for years
the bells will ring out for the millennium, we are told
a memory for all, in our hearts we can hold.

They've lain there silent for such a long time,
It will be quite an event when we hear them chime,
They'll give the church and village a new lease of life
They'll ring out at weddings for a new husband and wife.

The people who worked to get this off the ground,
will soon be rewarded with the heavenly sound
of the bells peeling out, to ring in our ears,
No doubt on that day, we'll shed a few tears.

We'll remember those who have left this life,
Our family, friends, a dear husband or wife,
Who live on in our hearts, until we meet one day,
So as the bells come to life, a prayer we will say,

We'll think of the past, the present and more,
Especially the future and what is in store,
We could be like the bells, all restored and new,
So if life hasn't been kind, we wish a fresh start for you.

The Mothers Union

The members are having their **Christmas Lunch at the Wynnstay Inn, Llansilin on 2 December at 12 noon for 12.30 pm.**

The January meeting will have a chance of listening to a talk by Kay Hughes on her holiday travels.

The speaker for the February meeting is yet to be arranged.

Lights in the middle of the village
By the time this newsletter is published, the floodlights to lighten-up St Silin's church will already have been installed. Thanks to yet another lottery funded project, The Church Floodlighting Trust, means that 400 churches throughout Britain have had the chance to illuminate these buildings.

There will be a dedication ceremony of the floodlights in St Silin's Church at 11.30pm on New Years Eve after which the lights will be switched on and the bells rung to welcome the new millennium at midnight.

.What Napoleon Bonaparte said

There are two world powers - the sword and the spirit, but the spirit has always vanquished the sword.

Christmas and New Year Services

3rd December Plygain 7.30 pm, St Silin's Church. Traditional welsh carol singing by a variety of local families, followed by supper in the Institute. Everyone welcome.

19th, Carol Service. 6.30 pm, St Silin's Church

24th, Shelter Home Service. Rhiwlas Mission Church 7 pm. Service with carols and reading, collection for Shelter Cymru.

24th, Candlelit Midnight Mass, St Silin's 11.30pm

25th, Spoken Communion Service 8am St Silin's

26th, Evensong and Christening service, 6.30 pm St Silin's *Please note NO welsh 9 am service*

31st, Short service 11.30pm with dedication of Floodlights. Switch-on of lights and ringing of bells at midnight

January 2000

1st, Short Service, 11.30am St Silin's Church followed by **Ring In The Millennium**

2nd, United Church and Chapel Millennium Service, 10 am, St Silin's

Pereindod Gweinidogaeth Bro Llansilin

Eleni aeth pererindod gweinidogaeth Bro Llansilin i ardal Tywyn. Ar ol paned yn Celtica ac ymweliad byr a'r arddangosaf yr Hen Sened-dy Owain Glyndwr cyrhaedd Eglwys St Cadfan, Tywyn a chael ein croeshawu gan y Canon Riley a rhoddodd sgwrs ar hanes yr eglwys. Enwyd yr eglwys ar ol St Cadfan a ddaeth i'r ardal yn y 6ed ganrif ac mae'r eglwys bresennol yn dyddio o tua 1100. Gwelsom Garreg Cadfan, sy'n dyddio o tua'r 8 ganrif ac sydd ar engraifft cynharaf o gymraeg ysgrifenedig arni. Diddorol oedd sylwi ar gofeb yn y gangell "Ann, wife of Pice Maurice of Lloran in Denbighshire who was buried on the 5th of October 1767, age 48".

Symyd ymlaen wedyn i eglwys St Celynin, Llangelynin. Eglwys mewn llecyn hyfryd yn edrych i lawr ar y mor ac a ail agorwyd yn 1917 ar ol bod ar gau am 60 mlynedd. Ar y wal mae elor geffyl a ddefnyddiwyd gyda dau geffyl i gludo'r arch lawr y ffordd serth i'r fynwent. Yn y fynwent mae bedd Abram Wood, "Brenlun" y sipsiwn Cymreig. Anoddodd gadael y llecyn hyfryd yma ond rhaid oedd symud ymlaen i Llanfihangel Y Pennant, eglwys Mari Jones, yr hon, ar ol cynnilo'n galed, a gerddodd yr holl ffordd dros y mynydd i'r Balai brynu ei Beibl ei hun gan Thomas Charles. Y weithred yma a fu'n gychwyniad i'r Gymdeithas Feiblaidd a'i arwyddair "Beibl i bawb o bobl y byd". Ar ol gwasanaeth byr dan ofal y Parch Stanton Evans, cerddodd y rhai mwyaf heine yr hanner milltir i weld y cof golofon adfeilion ei hen gatref.

I gloi y diwrnod cawsom bryd blasu o fwyd yn Fronoleu, Dolgellau.
Emyr Evans

A Day To Remember

On November 6th, I had the honor of representing Llansilin when our new Bishop John was formally enthroned at St Asaph Cathedral. It was a most impressive occasion with processions and finery, and the Cathedral packed to capacity. The Bishop gave a moving sermon, some of it quite funny! My day was enriched, not least by the very best of travelling companions. To all who made the day possible, Thank you.
Gareth-Lloyd Jones

NEW ERA NEW CHURCH

In preparation for year 2000, Christian Charity Fanfare for a New Generation launched it's *Millennium Challenge to the Churches*. Backed by Archbishop George Carey and Cardinal Basil Hume and churchleaders from a host of denominations and groupings, it sets out 10 practical goals aimed at helping congregations to be more welcoming, relevant and challenging in christian worship communities. They are:

1. We will make you welcome
2. We will be family friendly
3. We will make sure you can hear clearly
4. We will be practical and relevant
5. We will help you explore answers to your deepest questions
6. We will offer you time to stop and think in a busy life
7. We will help you make sense of the bible and who Jesus is
8. We will make sure your visit to a place of worship will be helpful and challenging
9. We will help you discover for yourself God's love, acceptance and forgiveness
10. We will offer you a chance to make a new start

Reference - New Era New Church ISBN 0-00-274026-6 by Steve Chalke and Sue Radford

How will these suggestions apply to us in Llansilin? Watch this space.

Advent

The Christian year starts and this millennium ends with Advent. The word means "coming". Christians look forward to the birth of the baby Jesus, a jewish boy born in an area that is now shared between the Palestine and Israel. We believe that Jesus, God's son, came to earth to show us God's love in person. We don't know Jesus' actual birthday so we borrowed December 25th from the druids - the longest night of the year had passed and the days begun to lengthen and get lighter.

Neither do we really know the actual year of Christ's birth, some people think either 4 or 10 B.C. is a possibility, but what odds - come he did and love us he does and basically that is all that matters.
SHEILA ASHLEY

Village News

Village in the spotlight

Llansilin recently won the Powys Village of The Year Award. Chosen with 42 other villages it will represent Powys in the 1999 Great Britain Village of the Year Award, and the winning village will be announced at a luncheon in London on 6th December where the guest of honour will be the Minister for the Environment, Rt. Hon Michael Mearcher MP. The event is sponsored by Calor Gas and The Daily Telegraph. The village was overall winner in the Community Life category and runner-up in projects and activities for young people. The type of things that were presented for judging included the car park recycling plant, Llansilin playscheme activities, local businesses and facilities (post-office, shop, bus service, school, telephone kiosk, public house), clubs and societies for all age groups, inter-village communications (noticeboards, newsletter) Llansilin show and sheepdog trials, village hall, welsh speaking musical and cultural activities, a mixed village choir, bell-ringing, a kneeler embroidery project and a millennium photographic record project. Quite a list for a small village!

New Year's Eve Celebrations

At the Wynnstay Inn, Llansilin,
Disco and Buffet
Admission by tickets only. £5 per person
tel. 791 355

Millennium Keepsakes

The village Millennium Committee are presently finalising their plans for producing a specially commissioned ceramic mug with a special logo for Llansilin, which will be given to the children in the village to commemorate the entry into the next millennium. Jackie Willman and Tom Barker, both local artists, are involved in the design and production of the mugs.

Llansilin Playscheme

During the next year, there will continue to be a variety of activities for school-age children. There will be playdays during the school holidays and after-school activities in the Institute. Details will be posted on the noticeboards in the village. The under 8's will be able to join in a Moonshine Music Event after school on Thursdays in the Institute. Look out for The Christmas Play Day Special on 17th December 3.30 - 5pm in the Memorial Hall.



A very successful and well supported concert was held in St Silin's Church in October. The Pen-y-bont Fawr Male Voice Choir conducted by Mr Tegwyn Jones gave a fine performance much appreciated by the audience. Mr Tudor Vaughan and Mrs Olwen Jones performed as soloists and Mrs Linda Thomas was the accompanist. The event was staged to raise funds for Meifod National Eisteddfod 2003.

Millennium Yews

The Yews For The Millennium Conservation Foundation has been taking cuttings from 32 ancient Yew Trees, estimated to be at least 2000 years old. The donor trees were actually growing when Jesus was here on earth! Quite a few of the cuttings have been grown from trees at Pennant Melangell. Churches and village organisations were invited to apply for plants and Llansilin booked some several years ago. There will be a "St Asaph Diocesan Yew Distribution Service" at the Cathedral on Saturday December 4th at 2.30pm. Anyone wishing to go and want a lift, telephone Sheila Ashley on 791 283

1st Llansilin Guides

Newspapers

As there is now a paper bank in the village the Guides will no longer be collecting newspaper for recycling. They extend a big THANK YOU for your support over the years. With your help they have been able to make a worthwhile contribution for the 'Children in Need' appeal.

Cri de Coeur! I

Is there anyone out there willing and able to help with a lively group of Guides on Tuesday evenings 7 - 8.30pm during term time? Previous experience in Guiding not necessary, but a sense of humour and an element of patience is! Please contact Alison Beeston tel. 791 262 who is eagerly awaiting your response.

Police - Your local telephone number

(Llanfyllin) 648 222

If un-manned, calls are automatically transferred to the Welshpool Police Station and the nearest police car in your area will be contacted and could be on the scene in minutes!

Do not delay if you are in need of assistance.

Readers Rota

12th December	Evensong	Brenda Jones	Malachi 3, 1-5.
9th January	Matins	Gareth Jones	Isaiah 60, 1-6
23rd January	Evensong	Sheila Ashley	1 Samuel 3, 1-10
13th February	Matins	Anneli Thomas	Micah 4, 1-8
27th February	Evensong	Graham Moss	Genesis 3, 1-15

Flower and Cleaning Rota

December 5th Esther Milner and Eileen Bignall
 12th and 19th Olive Jones and Gwyneth Jones
 22nd and 23rd Cleaning and decorating of Church for Christmas. Everyones help is appreciated on either of these days please.

January 2nd and 9th Valerie Burton and Anneli Thomas
 16th and 23rd Mary Morris and Margaret Lloyd
 30th Beryl Jones and Morfydd Williams

February 6th Beryl Jones and Morfydd Williams
 13th and 20th Janet Davies and Avril Jones
 27th Sheila Ashley and Christine Williams

Sidesmen's Rota

December	5th	Communion 10am	Beryl Jones	653 941
	12th	Matins 10am	David Bickerton	791 234
	19th	Communion 8.30am	Deborah Hill Trevor	791 402
	24th	Candlelight Mass 11.30pm	Brenda Jones	791261
	25th	Communion 8.30am	Sheila Ashley	791 283
	26th	Carol Service 10.30am	T B A	
January	2nd	Communion 10am	Churchwardens	
	9th	Plough Sunday 10am	T B A	
	16th	Communion 8.30am	Margaret LLoyd	791 472
	23rd	Cymun Bendigaid 9am	Olive Jones	791 363
		Evensong 6.30pm	Peter Carter	791 226
	30th	Family Service	Sunday school	
February	6th	Communion 10am	Beryl Jones	
	13th	Matins 10am	Anneli Thomas	791 239
	20th	Communion 8.30am	Phyllis Hughes	791 412
	27th	Cymun Bendigaid 9am	Vera Evans	791 471
		Evensong 6.30pm	Esther Milner	791 323



VILLAGE ACTIVITIES



Aelwyd - Welsh League of Youth., Fridays 7.30-10pm. Memorial Hall.
Contact **Emyr Evans** tel. 791 240

Bowls Club. Mondays 7.30pm, Memorial Hall. Contact **Sharon Lee** tel. 831 431

Community Council meet every second Tuesday on alternate months, from September in Memorial Hall 7.30pm. Contact **Harry Hughes** tel. 657 972

Cor Llansilin Choir practice in the village on Sunday nights.
Conductor **Iona Jones** tel. 791 251

Cymdeithas Ddwylliadol Llansilin (Welsh Cultural and Literary Society) Memorial Hall September to April,
Mondays 7-9pm. Contact **Sarah James** tel. 791 346

First Llansilin Guides, The Institute, Tuesdays 7-8.30pm.
Contact **Alison Beeston** tel. 791 262

Local History Society, Contact **Chris Burton** tel. 791 274

Mothers Union meet in The Institute every third Thursday monthly, 2.15pm.
Contact **Glenice Jones** tel. 791 287

Meals on Wheels (needs assessed by Social Services)
Local contacts **Margaret Lloyd** tel. 791 472 and **Olive Jones** tel. 791 363

Over 60's Club Alternate Tuesdays from September 2-4.30pm, The Institute.
Contact **Kay Hughes** tel. 791 216

Playgroup, Mondays and Thursdays term time, 9.30am-12.30pm. Memorial Hall.
Contact **Eirían Glennie** tel. 791 378

Rhiwlas Community Centre, Contact **Will Thomas** tel. 680 451

Rhiwlas Gardening Club, every first Monday 7.30pm in Community Centre.
Contact **Dorothy Bullard** tel. 791 373

Rural Car Service- for visiting the doctor, dentist, chiropodist etc.
Contact **Norma Garment** tel. 791 335 between 8-9am and 6-7pm unless an emergency

Sunday School, every first Sunday term time, 10am in The Institute.
Contact **Sheila Ashley** tel. 791 283

Memorial Hall and The Institute, Chairman of The Committee and Booking Clerk,
Arthur James tel. 791 346.

Whist Drive Every second Wednesday 7.30pm September to May in The Memorial Hall.

Womens Institute Every second Friday 7pm in The Institute.
Contact **Dorothy Bullard** tel. 791 373

YFC, contact **Richard Evans** tel. 600 228

Youth Club, Thursdays 7-9.30pm in The Memorial Hall. Youth leader **Elena Jones** tel. 780 315