

Times of Worship

St Silin's, Llansilin

1st Sunday	Holy Communion	10.30 am
2nd "	Matins	9.00 am
3rd "	Family Service	10.30am
4th "	Holy Communion (said)	9.00 am
	Evensong	6.30 pm
5th "	Holy Communion	10.30 am
Every Friday	Morning Prayers	9.00 am

St Cedwyn's, Llangedwyn

1st Sunday	Evensong	6.30 pm
2nd "	Holy Communion	10.30am
3rd "	Holy Communion (said)	9.00 am
4th "	Family Service	10.30 am
5th "	Holy Communion (said)	9.00 am
Every Tuesday	Morning Prayers	9.00 am

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

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin a'r Cylch

Maw

1	Parch Stanton Evans (C)	Cefncanol	10.00 am	Gwasanaeth dan ofal y Chwiorydd
8	Parch R Dyfan Thomas	Rhiwlas	2.00 pm	
15	Mr D Glyn Williams	Llansilin	6.30 pm	
22	Mr T M Ellis	Cefncanol	6.30 pm	
29	Mrs Nesta Barker Jones	Rhiwlas	2.00 pm	

Ebr

5	Parch Stanton Evans (C)	Llansilin	6.30 pm	
12	Parch T R Wright	Cefncanol	6.30 pm	
19	Parch Ddr Elfed ap Nefydd Roberts	Rhiwlas	2.00 pm	
26	Mr Gwilym Jones, Abergwili	Llansilin	2.00 pm	

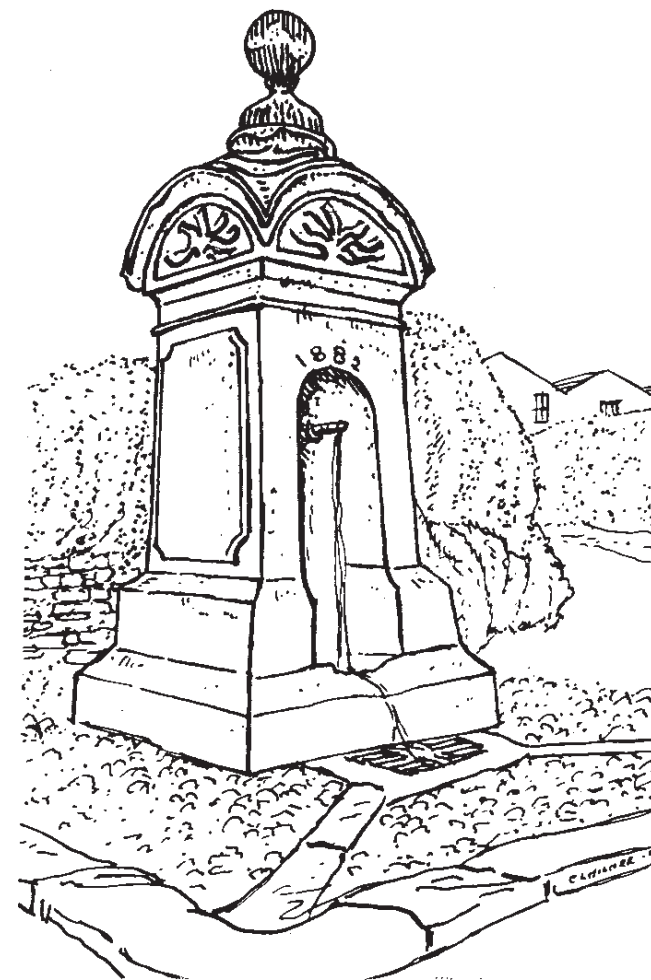
Mai

3	Cyfarfod gweddi	Cefncanol	10.00 am	Cymanfa Ganu, Seion 6.00
10	Mr John Ellis	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm	Sul Ieuenctid
17	Parch Stanton Evans	Llansilin	6.30 pm	
24	Parch John Curig Thomas	Cefncanol	2.00 pm	
31	Parch Dr Sion Aled	Rhiwlas	6.30 pm	

* *Pregethwr o Seion, Croesowallt* (C) *Cymun*

Llansilin Newsletter

Church, Chapel and Village News



**Number 65
Spring 2009**

This issue has been funded by Valley Security Services, Llansilin

Dear Friends,

One of the most memorable village occasions of 2008 was the Victorian Christmas Festival – an ambitious and enjoyable programme of events that took place throughout the Advent and Christmas season. It was good to see so many different village locations used for the variety of events. There was something for everyone, of whatever age, to enjoy.

St. Silin's Church was pleased to be a focal point for quite a number of the events. There was a special Advent Evensong with the Llansilin Choir to launch the Festival, as well as an art exhibition, display of Victorian arrangements, folk concert, coffee-morning and storytelling. These were additional to all the usual Christmas services, the annual Plygain and Crown of Light fundraising. For everyone concerned, it made for an extremely busy, but thoroughly joyful, festive season, and we were pleased to welcome so many people into our Church.

Many people have spoken to me of the pleasure the Victorian Festival has given them, and on behalf of parish and community, I thank all those involved for the hard work and dedication that enabled it to take place. Their vision, enthusiasm and tenacity not only sustained them, but also encouraged many other people to come forward and participate.

Our Annual Show, the Victorian Christmas Festival, and many other activities like these reach out to the whole village and bring us all together. They are valuable and unifying factors in village life; our village can be rightly proud of all its achievements.

Now, here we are in a new year – 2009 – eagerly anticipating the events and opportunities it will bring to each one of us. I pray that God will guide you and protect you in all that you do.

With every blessing and best wishes to you all for this coming year,

Margaret Robarts
Priest-in-Charge

THANK YOU VERY MUCH to Valley Securities for again generously funding this edition. Also to Clifford Milner for his drawing of the fountain.

“Did you Know?” ... The village water fountain was erected by grateful villagers in 1882 to commemorate Walter Jones, surgeon, who had the vision to pipe water into the village from “Ffynnon Silin”, a spring, in a field behind Tyn Llan. His grave is in the churchyard near that of his father, the Reverend Walter Jones, former Vicar of St Silin's.

Mobile Library: every other Monday at Llansilin Church at 1.30 pm, then Moelfre layby 2.40 pm, Llangadwaladr 3.15 pm, Rhiwlas 3.45 pm. ☎ 01938 553001

Mothers Union meets in the Parish Room every third Thursday at 2.15 pm. Contact Glenice Jones ☎ 791 296

Over 60's Club meets alternate Tuesdays at 2.30 pm in the Institute. Contact Sarah James ☎ 791 346

PALS (Players At Llansilin Drama Group) meets first Monday in month at 7.30 pm in the Institute. Contact Alison Beeston ☎ 791 262

Parochial Church Council Meeting: meets regularly on second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the Parish Room

Playgroup in the Institute: Wednesday and Friday free education for over 3's 8.45 am to 11.45 am (over 2½ welcome for £3 a session). Ti a fi Wednesday 9.30 am to 11.30 am (£2.50). Contact Lynwen Morris ☎ 828 366

Police (Wales)	0845 330 2000 for non-emergency calls (messages left will be picked up and dealt with quickly)
Police (West Mercia)	08457 444 888
All areas in UK	999 for life-threatening emergencies

Post Office at Capel Wesle	Tuesday	8.30 am to 2.30 pm
	Thursdays	8.30 am to 12.30 pm

Rhiwlas Community Centre: contact Will Thomas ☎ 680 451

Rural Car Service for visiting the doctor, dentist, chiropodist, etc. Contact Christine Williams ☎ 791 563 between 8 and 9 am and 6 and 7 pm unless an emergency

Table Tennis every Tuesday from September to April 7.30 pm (2008/9 season starting on 26 August) in the Memorial Hall. Contact Pat Lovell ☎ 791 235

Village Drop-in Coffee Mornings in the Parish Room 10 am - 12 pm alternate Tuesdays. Contact Joan Fox-Linton ☎ 791 260

Whist drive every second Wednesday from September to May, 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Emyr Evans ☎ 791 240

Women's Institute: every second Friday in the month at 7 pm in the Institute. Contact Tanya Jones ☎ 791 580 or Rosemary Edwards ☎ 791 413

YFC: contact Richard Evans ☎ 600 228

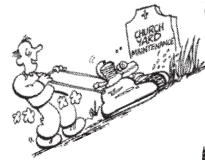
Youth Club meets Thursdays 7 - 9 pm in the Hall. Contact Elena Jones ☎ 772 477

Thank you to everyone who helps to keep this list up-to-date. Please carry on checking.



Village Activities

and other useful bits of information



Bell Ringing practice on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm (6 bells, 5-3-0):

Bowls Club 8.00 pm in the Memorial Hall on Mondays. Ray Denye ☎ 791 434

Bus service no.78 Wednesdays and Fridays Oswestry Bus Station (stand 3) 10 am; Llansilin (Maes y Llan) 10.20 am; Oswestry Bus Station 10.42 am. Oswestry 1 pm; Llansilin 1.22; Oswestry 1.43 pm. Tanat Valley ☎ 780 212

Churchyard grass cutting: April to October every Thursday at 6 pm

Community Council meets every second Tuesday on alternate months 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Contact Harry Hughes ☎ 657 972

C.R.A.F.T. Group meets on Monday mornings 10 am - 12 noon. Contact Alison Beeston ☎ 791 262

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

Drawing and Painting for all Tuesdays 10 am - 12 noon Rhiwlas Community Centre

Farmers Crisis Network: www.fcn.org.uk ☎ 0845 367 9990

Karate for ages 6 and above in the Memorial Hall on Wednesdays from 5.45 pm. Contact Sue Rose-Martin ☎ 828 624

Llanfyllin Group Practice Patient Participation Group Comments and questions regarding any aspect of medical care and practice to Huw Edwards ☎ 791 264

Llansilin Mixed Choir weekly practice in the Memorial Hall. Henry Evans ☎ 791 410

Local History Society: contact Chris Burton ☎ 791 274

Lunch for All: second Thursday of month in the Parish Room at 12 pm. Contact Pam Johnson ☎ 791 345

Meals on Wheels: contact Carol Foulkes ☎ 791 326

Memorial Hall and The Institute: Arthur James ☎ 791 346

FROM THE PARISH AND CHAPEL REGISTERS, 2008

Baptisms

20th April

Carys Elizabeth Ann Blowers, Pant-y-Celyn, Briw

14th July

Toby Dennis Morris, Tynwydd, Llansilin

20th July

Ffion Mary Evans, Sunnymead, Rhiwlas

Marriages

16th August

Russell Andrew Charles Thomas of Graigwen Fach to Bethan Jane Samuel, Bayston Hill Shrewsbury

21st June

Zachary Joseph Stang, Chorlton, Manchester to Ellen Evans, Chorlton, Manchester at Llangadwaladr Church

2nd August

Gwyn Ellis Williams, Ael-y-Bryn, Llanrhaeadr YM to Lowrie Mai Jones, Pantglas Isaf, Moelfre at Llangadwaladr Church

16th August

Rhian Griffiths, Ty'n Llwyn, Rhiwlas to Richard Tomlinson, Penygarnedd, Llanfyllin at Rhiwlas Chapel

4th October

Jeremy George Lee, London to Vanessa Honor Richards, Pentre'r-gaer Uchaf, Croesaubach

Funerals

8th February

John Oswald Jones, America Cottage, age 97

28th March

Nesta Elizabeth Morgan, Green Acres, age 75

14th July

Eric Avery, Clyrun Fach (cremation) age 70

9th September

Edna May Edwards, Hill View, age 88

21st October

Glyn Lloyd Roberts, Hafan Deg (cremation) age 78

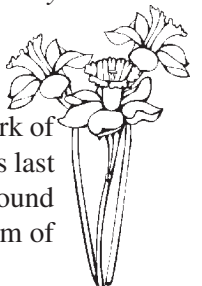
15th December

Dennis Glyndwr Hughes, 3 Bryn Dentyr (late of Ael-y-Bryn) age 83

Reports have come in that the church bells have been heard from as far away as Sarn Faen (on the road to Efail Rhyd). Do let Tower Captain, Christine Williams, know if you have heard our bells from other distant parts of the valley.

DAFFODILS IN THE VILLAGE

Thanks to funding from the Community Council and the hard work of Diana Hutchison and Bill Renshaw, who planted 25 kilos of bulbs last autumn, we can all look forward to a "host of golden daffodils" around the village soon. Just what we need to dispel the gloom and doom of the winter.



VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL IS A GREAT SUCCESS

(with a few photos from the Christmas Fair)

For a whole month there was something on every day - we certainly needed that super calendar to keep track of everything. The launch, with the Llansilin Choir and an exhibition of Margaret Charman's paintings, the wonderful displays in the church, the art competition for budding young artists, the Christmas Fair opened by our very own Queen Victoria, the Old Tyme Music Hall, with top of the bill Gaenor Ellis, the sell-out Bosco concert, the many events staged by the Wynnstay Inn, the ingenious "round the houses" anagram, the Victorian ABC quiz - the variety of events on offer, the high quality and the number of different groups taking part, all combined to make it an outstanding success.



THANK YOU – The organisers of the Victorian Christmas Festival are most grateful to everyone who contributed, in so many different ways and also to everyone who supported the wide variety of events held during December. Our aim was to include the whole village and surrounding areas and to support as many local venues as possible. We hope that we have achieved this and that the seeds we have sown will grow on to be of benefit to the whole community in the future.



As well as all the enjoyment shared by so many people throughout the Festival, £1,045 was raised for local causes: £293 for Ysgol Bro Cynllaith; £252 for the Wales Air Ambulance; £100 for the Llansilin fountain and £200 each for the Chapels and St Silin's Church. The cheques will be presented at a Social Evening at the Memorial Hall on Saturday, 7 March from 7 pm. Admission is free but a raffle will be held to cover the cost of the hall. Light refreshments will be offered and there is an open invitation to everyone to attend. It will be a golden opportunity to relive the Festival and share happy memories.



Gweinidog

Parch Stanton T Evans
20 Croeswylan Lane, Croesoswallt 654 682

Gofalaeth Bro Llansilin A'r Cylch

Ysg Wyn Davies 791 395
Trys Carys Evans 791 240

Vicar

The Revd M Roberts 791 209
Y Ficerdy, Llansilin

Churchwardens, St Silin's

Vicar's Warden: Christine Williams 791 563
People's Warden: Deborah Hill-Trevor 791 402

Organist, St Silin's

Morfudd Williams 659 369

Communion Assistant

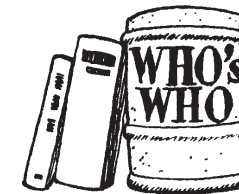
Margaret Lloyd 791 472

Parochial Church Council Secretary

Valerie Burton 791 274
email: vmb@envex.demon.co.uk

PCC Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary

Graham Moss 791 528



Bellringing, St Silin's

Steeple Keeper: Chris Burton
791 274

Tower Captain: Christine Williams 791 563

Ringling Practice

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm

Rhiwlas Mission Church

Contact Marjorie Evans
600 228

Llangadwaladr Church

Contact Vera Evans
791 471

Press Secretary

Jeffrey Olstead
791 250
jeffrey.olstead@basc.org.uk

The newsletter is produced by Val and Dave Talbot (Tel: 791 310) and the Chapel news by Carys and Emyr Evans (Tel: 791 240)

Distributor: Christine Williams, tel: 791 563. You can get your newsletter by post for a year by sending 4 stamps to Christine at 4 Maesyllan, Llansilin, SY10 7QE

Items for the Summer 2009 issue please by the end of April to: Val Talbot, Graigwen Cottage, Wernddu, SY10 9BL. Tel: 791 310 Email: val@daval.demon.co.uk

Past copies of the newsletter are now available on line by logging on to www.daval.demon.co.uk and following the link.

DIARY DATES

February

28 Penllan Quartet at Llangedwyn Memorial Hall 7 pm

March

7 Social Evening at Llansilin Memorial Hall from 7 pm to present cheques raised by Victorial Christmas Festival

April

2 Farmers' Market in the Memorial Hall 3 pm

6 First Local History meeting of the season in the Institute: Harry Hughes on Changes in Local Government

May

9 Start of Christian Aid Week 2009

June

20 "Percussion Unlimited" midsummer concert in St Silin's

NB Details of regular church and chapel services are on page 16
Details of regular village activities are on pages 14 and 15

SERVICES FOR LENT AND EASTER 2009

February

25 Ash Wednesday: Holy Communion at Llangedwyn 7 pm

March

1 St David's Day: Holy Communion at Llansilin 10.30 am;
Evensong at Llangedwyn 6.30 pm

22 Mothering Sunday: Holy Communion at Llansilin 9 am;
Family Service at Llangedwyn 10.30 am; Evensong at Llansilin 6.30 pm

April

5 Palm Sunday: Holy Communion at Llansilin 10.30 am and
Rhiwlas 2.30 pm; Evensong at Llangedwyn 6.30 pm

9 Maundy Thursday: Holy Communion at Llangedwyn 7 pm

10 Good Friday: Devotional Service at Llansilin 2 pm

12 Easter Sunday: Holy Communion at Llansilin 9 am;
Llangedwyn 10.30 am and Llangadwaladr 2.30 pm

Readings and discussion for Lent will be centred around the York course on Faith, Hope and Love and will be held at 7 pm on each Thursday evening throughout March in the Parish Room

REMINDER - that all church rotas are now on the notice board in the porch. Thank you very much, Deborah.

A FEW PHOTOS FROM THE OLD TYME MUSIC HALL



CONCERT

St. David's Celebration/Dathlu Gwyl Ddewi
Saturday, February 28th/Chwefror 28ain 2009 7 pm
Cawl a Chan/ Soup and Song
Llangedwyn Memorial Hall
with/efo
Pedwarawd Penllan Quartet
in aid of Llangedwyn Church
01691 780432/01691 791376

VILLAGE LUNCH FOR ALL

January saw a very good start to the lunch for all scheme with 10 people enjoying soup, apple pie and coffee. After costs, £26.30 was raised for the Air Ambulance. Even more people turned up for the February lunch of beef casserole and fruit mousse and £40.20 was sent to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

The next lunch will be on 12 March in aid of Hope House. For the menu please see village posters. Everyone is welcome - even if you would only like a coffee, please come along. If anyone would like to help with a lunch to raise funds for their favoured charity, please call Pam Johnson on 791345.

Get ready for the Village Show on 31 August

The show committee has lined up an interesting list of Arts and Crafts competitions for this year's Llansilin Show. There's plenty of scope and we look forward to lots of entries!

- ▶ The ever popular photograph section includes one simply entitled "Weather". Two others are "Happiness" and "Farming and the Countryside".
- ▶ Others might enjoy sewing - why not try a cross stitch item?
- ▶ For the artists there is a chance to think about a pencil sketch or any type of painting - "Landscape".
- ▶ For the really creative there is a class for "Flowers" in any medium.
- ▶ For those who enjoy knitting, try the baby item or the beanie hat. There is a set pattern for the hat, copies of which will be available from the Post Office.
- ▶ A hammer and nails is required for the class for a bird house made of wood.

Advent Anagram Competition / Cystadleuaeth Calendr yr Adfent

Thanks very much to everyone who hosted a letter in their window, and to everyone who took part. A special thanks to Carys Evans for the translations.

Solutions:

English: **GOD REST YOU MERRY GENTLEMEN**

Cymraeg: **O DEUWCH AC ADDOLWN GRIST O'R NEF**

The winners were:

English

Chris Burton, Llansilin - £10 voucher for Honeysuckle Wholefoods, Oswestry

Kalra Family, Llansilin - £10 voucher for The Gates, Oswestry

Marian Lewis, Llansilin - £10 voucher for Rowanthorn, Oswestry Indoor Market

Cymraeg

Iona Jones, Moelfre - Coffee/Tea and cake for two at Aroma Cafe Bar, Oswestry

Bethan Jones, Oswestry - £10 voucher for Rowanthorn, Oswestry Indoor Market

Mr J W Jones, Moelfre - Lunch for two and wine at the Wynnstay Inn, Llansilin

Special early-bird prize (for being the first entrant, by miles):

Dawn Thomas, Llansilin - A bottle of wine

commitments it was agreed that the precept for 2009/10 be £3,500. The following road complaints would be submitted to the appropriate highways officer: dilapidated condition of surface of road leading to Fron Ucha, Rhiwlas; blocked drains near Peniarth and Old School, Rhiwlas; open ditch near Tanrhallt; potholes on road near Fron Isa, water on road near lower entrance to Tynyfron.



Christian Aid Week: 9 to 15 May 2009

Christian Aid Week is 7 amazing days of fundraising, prayer and action against global poverty. Christian Aid are asking people to add their time, money and voices and see them multiplied to make an impact around the world. Please join us that week in the activities which Rhiannon Lewis and her band of volunteers will be organising. Look out for posters with details nearer to the time.

VICTORIAN FESTIVAL QUIZ

Thank you for taking part in the quiz and I hope you enjoyed it. We had loads of replies, of which 6 were all correct: Marjorie Harding, Jessie Hanson, Joan and Neville Stockdale, Jonathan Sockett, Gareth Williams and Peter and Sheila Wilks. One day I will have one question you fail to get. I live in hope!

Beloved **ALBERT**; aka Mrs **BROWN**; Christmas **CRACKERS** for sweets; controversial author **DARWIN** (not Dickens); composer **ELGAR**; hymn tune **FRANCONIA** (not Finlandia); TB vaccine **GUERIN**; **HALFPENNIES** 480 (or 200); Viceroy of **INDIA**; golden and diamond **JUBILEE**; author born in India **KIPLING**; **LIVINGSTONE** named Lake Victoria; kissing plant **MISTLETOE**; lady with the lamp Florence **NIGHTINGALE**; **OSBORNE** House on the Isle of Wight; prime ministers either **PALMERSTON** or **PEEL**; Australian state **QUEENSLAND**; sculptor **RODIN**; the guns captured at **SEVASTAPOL** were used to make VC medals; **TINY TIM** said God bless us everyone; William IV was Victoria's **UNCLE**; US president was **VAN BUREN** (I did have to look that one up!); **WRIGHT** brothers did eventually take off; Rontgen worked on **X-RAYS**; William Butler **YEATS** was the Irish poet/playwright who went on to win the Nobel prize for literature in 1923; Count **ZEPPELIN** tested his air-ship in 1900.

The winning names were put in a hat and the name drawn for the bottle of port was Jonathon Sockett. As so many people replied we did a lucky dip of all the entries that were returned and the winners of that were Peter and Sheila Wilks.

Sheila Ashley

The beginners group was hotly contested by Izzie Kalra, Hannah Lloyd and Rob Lloyd, who are all making excellent progress. This was their first competitive event. The game between Izzie and Rob saw Izzie take the first set quite easily but the second set was a different proposition. Rob hit form with some good topspin forehands and took the lead before Izzie fought back. At 10-all, it was evenly balanced but Izzie eventually won through taking an exciting set 16-14. The main match of the group was between Hannah and Izzie. This was an evenly balanced match between two consistent players who are showing a lot of potential. Izzie won in two closely contested sets 11-9, 11-7 taking the group trophy with Hannah taking the runners up award.

Table Tennis at Llansilin is proving to be very popular. Sessions are held every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the village hall from September until the end of March. It costs £1 and everybody is welcome, irrespective of age or experience.

LLANSILIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

At the November meeting Cllr Hywel Jones gave a detailed report of a meeting convened by the Liberal Democrats regarding wind farm development in Montgomeryshire. The consensus of opinion appeared not to favour further development. The external auditor had audited the council's finances for 2007/08 which were satisfactory. Notice was received that the annual grant from Powys County Council in respect of the Youth Club would be reduced from £500 to £250. Members were fully supportive of the North Montgomeryshire Heritage Trail and it was agreed to forward correspondence regarding the "Tidy Towns" initiative to the local Youth Club. It was agreed to convene a special meeting to carry out an inspection of the lighting system and to make the necessary recommendations to the lighting authority. £25 would be donated to the 2009 National Eisteddfod in Bala. The clerk was requested to submit a further complaint regarding the continuing problems adjacent to the two entrances to Tynyfron, Rhiwlas and also to contact Tai Clwyd in connection with the area of land in Bryn Dentyr which is still in an unkempt condition.

At the January meeting members were delighted to be informed that, following recommendations made to the lighting authority, several lights in the village have been reinstated. Despite assurances from Powys Highways that the provision of double lines in Llansilin would be brought before the November meeting of the appropriate committee, this has not been done and the clerk was asked to take this up with a senior officer. The following planning applications were supported: conversion of barn to dwelling at Bwylchryhiw; listed building consent for alterations to provide additional accommodation at Salem Chapel; erection of agricultural dwelling on land opposite Felin Newydd. To meet increasing financial

NEWS FROM YSGOL BRO CYNLLAITH



New starters: We welcome Emily Morris to full time school and Catherine Edwards, Elin Evans, Rhys Jones, Caitlin Fuller and Ayla Willman to our 3 year olds setting. Future numbers for the school are looking very good!

Panto: "Snow White", the school's panto, was very successful and all the children were involved. Our thanks to David Lloyd for writing and producing it and to all the locals who came out to support us.

Salmon: We have taken delivery of some salmon eggs, a tank and filtration system from the Environment Agency and we plan to hatch the eggs in school and the children will release the salmon into the River Cynllaith. The eggs have started to hatch after just a week with us - so watch this space!!

5-a-side football: Our team played very well in the Urdd Football Competition but just missed out on making it to the next stage. Bad luck.

Visitor from Uganda: The children were interested to hear about life in Uganda from Miriam Maraka, a Dolen Ffermio visitor. They now know how mud huts are built in the villages and how orphans are given livestock and seeds by the Dolen Ffermio Orphan Project so that they can help to look after themselves. They heard how 3 laying hens could multiply - to make 2 local goats!

Farmers' Market: We held another very successful Farmers' market in the Hall on 4 December. Many thanks to everyone who supported it and to the PTA for providing refreshments. The next one will be on Thursday, 2 April at 3 pm. All the money raised from these markets go towards our fundraising to develop a further part of the school field into an outside classroom with a nature area, wet area, etc. All children spend a large part of every Wednesday, come rain or shine, outside in their wellies studying their environment - hands on!

Fruit and Veg Co-op: Our banana cart co-operative is going well, with the children handling over 30 bags of produce some weeks. Bags of fresh fruit or veg can be ordered from school at £3 a bag by Friday and will be ready for collection the following Tuesday afternoon. The children are responsible for running this non-profit making scheme and do all the order taking, payments, sorting/weighting of produce and paying the supplier.

As usual, we continue to collect stamps, used ink cartridges and Yellow Pages.

"Did you Know" answer to the question in the winter Newsletter. "Why is 8.20 the wrong time to wind your Grandfather clock?" - because the hands obscure the winding holes!

LLANSILIN PARISH NEWS



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas began with the special Evensong to herald the launch of the Victorian Festival, with contributions from Llansilin Choir. All the other Christmas services took place amidst the delightful Victorian displays which filled the church. We were pleased to welcome back Revd Kit Carter to conduct the ever popular Midnight Communion Service.

FAMILY SERVICES

The Family Services are going from strength to strength. The December service took the Nativity as its theme and this was followed by a karaoke disco party. A first for the Parish Room and much enjoyed by all the young people there.

CROWN OF LIGHT

Much to everyone's pleasure the lights from the church tower again shone out at Advent over the village and the valley. Donations amounted to over £300 to present to the Severn Hospice and Hope House Children's Hospice. Thanks to Edgar for the additional help to install the cables and the bulbs and thanks to Margaret Lloyd and Joan Williams who collected the donations.

ANNUAL PLYGAIN

On display at this year's Plygain were the photographs, taken by a professional photographer, of the 2007 Plygain and which had been featured in a recent glossy magazine article. A number of parties sang carols, some traditional and one very modern – composed for a recent National Eisteddfod competition. The singing of the Swper Song by the men was followed by a splendid supper, prepared by the ladies, and enjoyed by the singing parties and the congregation from a wide area.

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

Our happy team of volunteers is now sadly depleted. We start again around the first week of April and would welcome some more help. The work is not arduous, the company is good, with tea and biscuits at half time. The reward? – the satisfaction of caring for a lovely oasis of peace. Without regular care it would so quickly revert to a wilderness.

EASTER

If anyone would like lilies, or any other suitable flowers, bought in memory of anyone, will they please see Deborah with their contribution. The church will be cleaned and decorated on the Saturday, and all volunteers will be very welcome. A special Easter programme of services is given on page 12, together with details of the Lent study course.

GWEINIDOGAETH BRO

Dros y gaeaf yn unig mae'r Gymdeithas Ddiwyllidol yn cyfarfod, ac i agor y rhaglen cawsom sgwrs gan John Pryce o Fachynlleth am ei blentyndod yn Sir Fôn. Sleidiau lleol gan Henri Evans oedd yr ail gyfarfod, a phawb wedi eu mwynhau yn ôl y trafod dros banded ar ddiwedd y cyfarfod. Noson dda iawn arall a gafwyd oedd Gaenor (Y Felin gynt) yn dweud ei hanes fel cantores broffesiynol, a chael cân neu ddwy yn y fargen.

Dechrau Mis Rhagfyr, cawsom ein Cymanfa Nadolig, yng Nghefn Canol y tro yma, a'r casgliad yn mynd tuag at Dolen Ffermio.

Ar y Sul cyntaf o'r flwyddyn bedyddiwyd Dewi Euros Griffiths, Brynhafod, gan y Parch Stanton Evans. Gwasanaeth hyfryd yw gwasanaeth bedyddio plentyn bach.

Ac wrth gwrs roedd yr Wyl Fictoraidd ym Mis Rhagfyr yn llwyddiant mawr.

Our Literary Society meets through the winter months, and to kick start the programme, John Pryce, Machynlleth, gave a talk about his early life on Anglesey. Henry Evans gave a slide show from his post card collection, and as usual he had an interesting anecdote about each one. Another excellent evening was enjoyed in the company of Gaenor Smith (née Ellis), as she talked about her singing career interspersed with a song or two. At the beginning of December we had our Gymanfa Garolau, and the collection was in aid of Dolen Ffermio. On the first Sunday of the year at Rhiwlas Chapel, Dewi Euros Griffiths was baptised by the Reverend Stanton Evans.

And of course, the Victorian Festival was a great success. Congratulations to all involved.

Llansilin Youngsters Shine in Junior Table Tennis Grand Prix



The third round of the Oswestry Grand Prix Junior Table Tennis event was held at Llansilin on January 6th. The three groups are graded on experience and youngsters from Llansilin competed in the beginners group and the top group. David Taylor and Bryn Davies from the Llansilin "B" table tennis team feature in the top group. David Taylor was unable to attend as he was recovering from an appendix operation. At the first two grand prix events at Porthywaen and Criftens, he put in some sparkling performances and was unbeaten. Despite his absence David still leads the merit table in the top group. Bryn Davies was attending his first event and showed that he was in good form taking all his games to three sets but narrowly losing out in the final set in each game.