

CHURCH MAGAZINE
FOR THE PARISH OF
TRELLECH & PENALLT

October & November 2011



St. Nicholas, Trellech



Old Church, Penallt

FREE to all houses in the parish, but donations towards printing costs are always welcome! Please call the Treasurer on 01600-860122 for information on how to make a donation.. Thank you.

Parish web-site: - www.parishtrellechpenallt.org.uk

Vicar: Revd. Sandra Howells, The Vicarage, Penallt 01600 716622
sandjune@btinternet.com

Trellech and Penallt

Vicar's Warden: Mrs Rose Parsons, Fairways, The Narth 01600 861855

Peoples Warden: Mrs Sarah Haeffner, Fairview, Penallt 01600 712349

Sub warden; Mr Terry Churchward, Maes-y-daler, Penallt 01600 714478

Sub warden; Mrs Kay Bowen, Bowmead, The Narth 01600 860594

Finance: Mr Eric McFarlane, The Byre, Trellech 01600 861806

PCC Secretary: Mr Steve Vickers, 10 Claypatch Rd, Mon. 01600 713632

Penallt Verger: Mr Jim Saunders, Lime Kilns Farm, Penallt 01600 860880

Gift Aid Secy: Mrs Stevie Coutts, The Reynolds, Tregagle 01600 860277

(For information on how Gift Aid can enhance the value of a donation to the church please contact the Vicar or the Gift Aid Secretary).

Parish Website: kathsteve@hotmail.co.uk

Friends of Trellech Church & Churchyard, contact Karen Lowe 01600 860122

Bell ringing (Mondays from 7.30pm) Contact Vicar for information

Society of the Sacred Cross, Ty Mawr Convent, welcomes visitors

Daily Eucharist: 12 Noon. Other service times contact Convent 01600 860244

Trellech Methodist Church: Evening Service Sunday 6.15pm
Secretary: Mr David Hoare 01600 860174

Parish Magazine: Lyn Harper, 'Nyanza', Penallt, NP25 4SE. 01600 713528

Email for magazine ONLY: - parishmageditor@googlemail.com

Copy date for December/January magazine Saturday, 12th Nov., 2011

Adverts: Mrs K. Lowe, The Old Vicarage, Trellech 01600 860122

St Nicholas Church Development Project trellechchurchdevt@hotmail.co.uk

Printed by G. T. S. Monmouth.

From the Vicarage

Budgeting in difficult times is essential, for households, for business and also for churches. How do we ensure that we can afford all that is necessary, when income is not increasing at the same rate as the utility bills? In these situations, be it home, business or the church, we need to apply wise stewardship of what we have, whilst we look at where we can increase our income to meet our expected needs.

Our churches in Trellech and Penallt need an combined income of around £2,800 per month to maintain their running costs and regular expenses. £1500 of this is our primary responsibility which goes directly to Monmouth DBF to meet our Parish Share. This helps to cover central administration expenses of the Church in Wales, clergy stipends and pensions. The remainder goes on utilities, insurance, churchyard maintenance, parish and parochial expenses, mission and charitable giving.

With the generous support of our regular direct givers and plate collections we meet nearly 60% of this expenditure; this year the remainder has been met by our fundraising events and one-off donations.

The Diocese is looking at ways of keeping the parish

share to a minimum, which includes reducing the number of paid clergy in this area, and as a parish we plan to reduce our own expenses. To have a more stable financial position we would ideally want our costs to be covered by direct giving and plate collections, thus allowing our fundraising activities to be channelled to our special church developments or projects.

One painless way of increasing income is to encourage more people to gift aid their regular giving and introduce this method of giving to those who do not yet give on a regular basis. Our Gift Aid secretary offers more information in her article further on in the magazine. Meanwhile the Finance committee is working with the PCC to explore new ways of increasing our income and reducing our expenditure, and would welcome any suggestions you might have to either cut church expenditure or help generate funds for the running of the churches.

Rev Sandra Howells

WAITING FOR CHRISTMAS

The weeks leading up to Christmas are known as the season of ADVENT, a time of waiting and preparing. As we get our homes ready for Christmas, with all that this entails, so as Christians we are called to prepare ourselves spiritually to receive the Christ child into our lives as once again we remember the mystery of that first Christmas.

During this period, the three house groups that meet throughout the year studying the Bible and sharing fellowship, all break from their own programme, and study the same material as they prepare for Christmas. Others are invited to join the groups at this time, and we are happy to create further groups if numbers increase to make it sensible to do so. But at the moment the groups are as follows

Monday mornings at THE NARTH. Host and contact Rose Parsons

Tuesday afternoons at PENALLT. Host Anne Stratton.
Contact James Coutts/Lyn Harper

Tuesday evenings at TRELLECH CROSS . Host and contact Peter Symes.

This year our subject will be WAITING.

Week beginning 28th November: Waiting with Courage

Week beginning 5th December: Waiting with Patience

Week beginning 11th December: Waiting with joy

Week beginning 18th December: Waiting in faith

If you would like to be part of the groups do make contact with any of the group leaders or speak to the vicar.

Registers and Acknowledgements

Deaths and burial

George Taylor formerly of Cleddon Hall

Rev Robert Durant former Vicar of Trellech

Burial of cremated remains

Phyllis Riley of the Narth

Donald John Smillie formerly of Trellech

Baptisms

Sebastian Lee

Lucia Lee

Matilda May Snell

Charlotte April Sanger

Holy Matrimony

Alex Robertson and Denise Carter

Rosie Lee Allerhand and Daniel McAllister

Nia Jones and Stuart Pillinger

Blessing of Marriage

Graham and Dorinda Wrightson (married in Canada)

Diocesan Conference & 90th Celebration

As you will know this takes place at the Caerleon Campus of the University of Newport on Saturday, 15th October and a lot of hard work has gone into the planning to make it a great celebration for the diocese and I hope parishes will bring lots of people because there will be something for all ages. You may wish to bring a coach load!

Posters and fliers will be sent out to parishes next week - please use them and encourage people to come along.

MONMOUTH BRANCH OF RINGERS

KIDS RING OUT June 25th - Oakwood Theme Park

Teenagers from many different towers get together for outings from time to time, led by Pip Penny of Shirenewton tower. In the holidays we had a combined trip, calling at some towers on the way to Oakwood Theme Park.

I was the only member of our tower to go, but I soon linked up with some people I knew and made new friends too.

First we rang a few times each with some tricky but satisfying bells at two church towers. We did rounds, call changes and cloisters. Then we headed towards Oakwood Theme park where we had great fun on big rides as we walked all around and through the park. A very enjoyable day indeed and I hope to do some more stuff with Pip also.

Redwick Magor. Two of us went to the Branch ringing Practice one Saturday evening. . The bells at Redwick tower were tricky to ring mainly because they were light and bouncy and it was difficult to keep up. In the end though, (after struggling with the Bells) we tested each bell and tamed them. Seeing familiar faces it was also very fun and learning. The methods we did were similar because we mainly did rounds whilst we struggling. Learning in a different tower is tricky but achieving. Love to go again sometime.

Katherine Dullforce

Recently I read an article about how the church needs to engage its community - get in the twenty somethings, how drum kits and trendy vicars really **aren't the way forward, how that churns the stomach of most (me included)** and ultimately the way to engage is to make the church the heart of the community as in medieval times when the church would have been a market hall and a meeting place as well as a place of celebration and worship.

<http://www.express.co.uk/ourcomments/view/259366/Church-must-engage-us-all>

The article got me thinking about our own church in Trellech. The Church currently does engage with those who have time for it, normally those that have reached (ahem tactfully) more mature years, those who find support and peace there and a ready made network of people to be relied upon who in turn may rely upon them.

I am 31 and a fairly young and relatively new member of the Parish and member of the PCC, there are a few of us with young kids who love to bring our children to a family service, none of us are Gospel choir or drum kit types but understand the love and community that we and our children have found **in Church. Also Vicar Sandra doesn't seem to mind if the kids use the church as a race track which helps.**

I have found peace and solace - friends and laughter in Trellech Church but **I understand why others my age don't** - why they may not have the time to fit a Sunday service into the hectic weekend schedule - The Bible is relevant **but maybe the building or the people or the hymns or the sermons don't suit.** How does the Church then engage with them?

Trellech church is currently at a pivotal moment in its history. It could end up dying like a lot of other rural churches unable to pay the large heating **bills, sustain it's costs. (YAWN YAWN MONEY YAWN) What does the future hold then??** A large church / house conversion, a derelict dark cloud in **the centre of the community. "Yeah that's where I got married - it closed down though - used to have a big spire but they had to take it off for 'elf and safety reasons"**

Or there are some people at St Nicholas Church working for it to become a **hub of the community like the Medieval model. Instead of becoming let's be**

honest what currently is really a large waste of space to most of the community for most of the week. It could be something great. People now more than ever really need to ask themselves if they would like to see this building and the Church not only survive but thrive. The numbers that come in the door for Easter and Christmas would suggest a resounding YES.

It is such an unusually large church for a rural community, but that is what makes it special and beautiful and full of opportunity.

Other communities have formed visiting post offices, cafes, shops, drop in centres, clinics and all sorts of other things to make the Church a hub instead of just a useful place for weddings and funerals.

To the Community I say it is time to step up. You may not want to go to a Sunday Service now but what about in twenty years time - Sunday services not for you I completely understand but - **WHAT IS?** Speak to your church and get yourself heard. What could you do with in the community **that you don't currently have.**

What could you do that you don't currently? Come along to an event see what a wonderful space you have in the heart of Trellech. Pop in and have a **look around if you haven't for a while** - the Church is normally open - leave comments - leave a prayer in the prayer book, appreciate what a beautiful place it is and what a loss it would be if closed.

Christianity can't just be about Sunday Worship it is also about Community and about People.

Please now don't sit at home in response to this saying "they really should do that" or "I would do that if I went" it doesn't help - Do something - tell us what you would do - Volunteer some of your time or energy - send us a **cheque if you've got a few quid. . Bring your ideas and enthusiasm.**

There are already a lot of people in St Nicholas who work tirelessly for the good of the Church and the community but they need your help. Without it St Nicholas Church could become another big Church shaped building full of flats - OR bats. Alternatively it could become a really great vibrant part **of the Community. Don't leave it too late. Ask now** - not only what you can do for your Church but what your Church can do for you!

Bethan Green

Report from the recent Deanery Conference.

About four years ago, the Diocese had many discussions with members of congregations about the way the church could develop in changing times, and produced a document called **'Hope for Monmouth'**.

At this recent meeting, we discussed how things might develop now, in the light of dwindling congregations and diminishing finances. Monmouth Diocese has to budget; reserves are already being drawn on, so the numbers of clergy in the Diocese as a whole have to be cut down. This Deanery can only justify two stipendary clergy instead of three as at present. So after careful thought it was suggested that groupings of parishes need to be re-adjusted; thus it seems possible that Tintern will move to Chepstow Deanery; and the other parishes **will split into two groupings. 'North'** - the 8 churches in the Rockfield & Dingestow group and Monmouth and Overmonnow; **and 'south'** - Penallt/Trellech, Llanishen, Llandogo. (To my mind this seems very unbalanced - perhaps Cwmcarvan and Pen-y-Clawdd could be moved from 'north' to 'south' ... but this is just a personal opinion ! There are no decisions set in stone yet !)

The other discussion was over the way the Deanery could best be administered, and agreement was general that we need one **'centre' and the obvious place is for that to be in Monmouth** itself. The two paid clergy would look to Monmouth as their administrative centre, and would both work with various Lay ministers, and other trained lay help.

At all times and in all decisions, Archdeacon Pain **emphasised we must ask ourselves "Are we doing what God and the Kingdom want ?"**

Lyn Harper

PLACE YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IN OUR CHURCH
MAGAZINE

Support our magazine and promote your business at the same time.

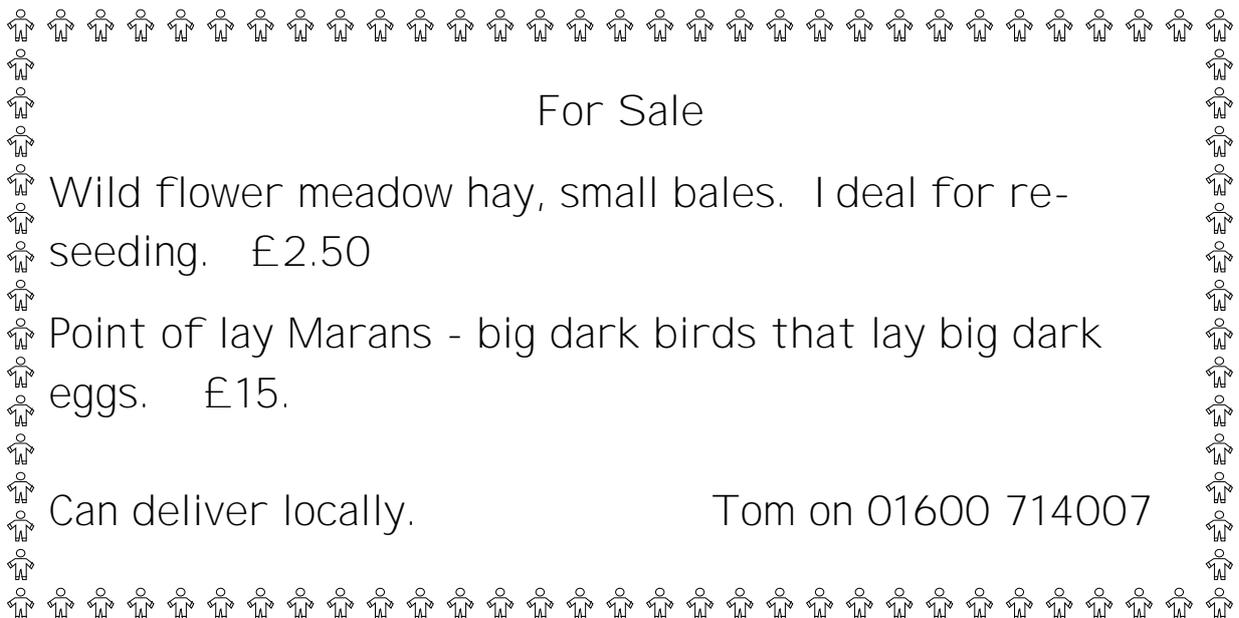
Quarter page. 61X92mm £12 single issue or £72 per year (6 issues)

Half page 128x92mm £20 single issue or £80 per year (6 issues)

Whole page adverts are not accepted but we will insert and distribute 700 flyers for a cost of £24.

Cheques for new adverts or distribution of flyers are payable to The Parish of Trellech and Penallt and delivered to the Vicar, Parish secretary or Chair of Finance, Mr Eric McFarlane. The Byre , Trellech, NP254PA

Adverts or flyers go direct to the magazine editor after payment is received.



For Sale

Wild flower meadow hay, small bales. I deal for re-seeding. £2.50

Point of lay Marans - big dark birds that lay big dark eggs. £15.

Can deliver locally. Tom on 01600 714007

Visitors to our Churches

As well as the many visitors that call in to both our churches, St Nicholas Church has recently opened doors to two groups of pilgrims. A coach of pilgrims from S John Baptist, The Hays, in Cardiff enjoyed a warm welcome of supper and evensong after a visit to Tintern Abbey and area. Pilgrims from Christ Church, Roath, Cardiff, made their second visit to St Nicholas church for prayers and coffee, when spending a day in the area and visiting Ty Mawr Convent. St Nicholas has also hosted a visit from the Forest of Dean U3A group, and a regular number of bell ringers, throughout the summer months.

HOME & GARDEN

Autumn is here why not contact Jon and Laura for an estimate for all of those Gardening projects:

Tree work~ Hedge & Conifer cutting~
Grass cutting~ Pruning Shrub~
Paths & Decking~
Planting & Digging borders~

In and about the house:

Painting Decorating inside & out~
Plumbing repairs & new projects~
Roof work~ Guttering cleaning

Why not give a gift voucher to a friend or family for a birthday present?

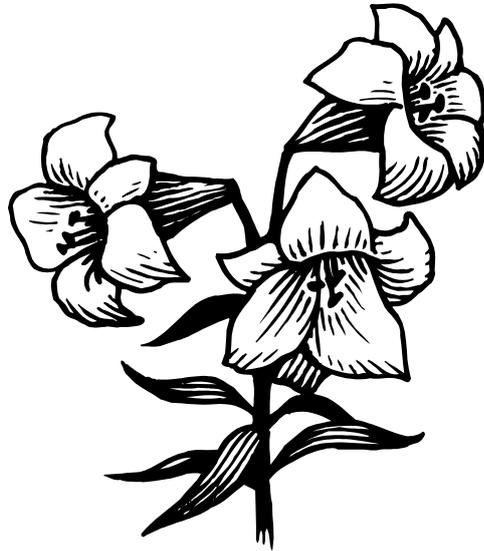


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jon.airey@btinternet.com
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Remembering those who have died



Tuesday 21st November

6.30pm

St Nicholas Church, Trellech

ALL SOULS EUCHARIST

The Commemoration of
The Faithful Departed

If you wish a loved one to be remembered in prayer please add their name to the list in either church. To order a lily to be put in church for the service or to have a name entered in the remembrance book, please take a form from either church or ask for one from the Vicar.

BISHOP DOMINIC RAISES OUR AWARENESS OF PLIGHT OF CHURCH IN ZIMBABWE

Dear friends

I am taking the unusual step of forwarding one of the regular communications that I receive but I think it shows how desperate the situation is for the Anglican Church in Zimbabwe. As you will have seen from the news, Archbishop Rowan is planning to visit Zimbabwe and hopes to have a meeting with President Mugabe to plead for justice for the Anglican Church there.

As Zimbabwe priest is freed, bishop is robbed of communications equipment

The Bishop of Harare the Rt Revd Dr Nicholas Chad Gandiya said he is suspicious of a robbery at his house in which only money and communications equipment were taken.

On the same day that international media carried the news of the arrest and imprisonment of Anglican priest Reverend Julius Zimbudzana and of the impending visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to Zimbabwe, four men forced their way into the bishop's home on Thursday evening. They ordered him and his family to lie on the floor and then proceeded to ransack the house.

Bp Chad said, "We gave them all the money we had between us all which came to \$600 to \$800. They threatened to kill us if we did not give them money. They searched my son's bedroom and ours for money and any valuables they could get. They literally trashed our bedroom. They took my laptop and my son's two laptops and all our cell phones.

"They shoved us all into the bathroom and tried to lock us in

but it did not work. They threatened to load all our property in cars and take it all away. We rejoice and thank God that none of us were hurt. We simply did what they told us to do.

"I am however, very suspicious of this robbery. It seems what they were after were just the laptops and phones."

He added that the robbery means that his ability to communicate is now, of course, much more limited than before.

The robbery took place only hours after the priest in charge at **St Mary's Anglican Church, Reverend Julius Zimbudzana, was** finally released from jail after being arrested on a charge of taking over Anglican church property worth over US\$1.5 million.

A spokesperson for the Diocese of Harare said yesterday , "We thank God that Reverend Julius Zimbudzana was this afternoon released from police custody without any charges laid against him. The Attorney General's office said the police should investigate their case before making arrests."

He added, "Although we are afflicted in every way, we are not crushed and we do not lose hope."

The Anglican Church in Zimbabwe has been under attack from the excommunicated bishop, Dr Nolbert Kunonga, since 2007. Kunonga, with the support of police and henchmen, has seized CPCA church property and used violence to break up church services. In an interview with the New York Times, Dr Kunonga was quoted as saying that his aim is for his church to control about 3,000 Anglican churches, schools, hospitals and other properties in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Malawi.

Since a recent ruling that Dr Kunonga had custodianship of properties belonging to the Church of the Province of Central Africa he has starting forcing Anglican priests and others to leave homes and other buildings. Today the Zimbabwe government-supported newspaper The Herald revealed that the latest victims of Dr Kunonga's eviction campaign were the Revd Muyengwa Murombedzi the headmaster of Daramombe Mission near Chivu, Mr Denford Javangwe the headteacher of Daramombe primary school, and senior nursing staff at the Mission.

St Paul wrote that in the body of Christ 'if one member suffers all suffer' so may I ask you all to pray for this situation and to bring it to the attention of your congregations. The bishops and priests and people are facing this persecution with great courage and the church continues to grow.

*With all good wishes,
+ Dominic*

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

5.00pm

Sunday 27th November

St Nicholas Church
Trellech



The Old School and Capel Pentwyn At the Heart of Penallt



- *Thinking of a family get-together ?*
- *More guest space for a wedding ?*
- *Want to enjoy time with old friends but don't have the space ?*

The Old School (sleeps 6) was built in 1834 from local oak and stone and was restored by a local architect in 1997 using local craftsmen and artists. It retains all the essential character of the original building with oak beams and wood stoves.

Capel Pentwyn (sleeps 5), the old St Mary's Church, was built as the school chapel in 1869 at the height of the Arts and Crafts period and was made redundant in 2003. It adjoins the Old School and a stunning conversion by a local architect and furnishings by owners Ros and Alastair Robertson reflect the style of that period.

Both properties can be let separately or together for larger groups. Rentals are normally by the week or 3 or 4 day short breaks. The 5-Star spec of both properties means that all guests need to bring is food and drink. Everything else you will need is provided and included in the rental price.

For information and availability www.oldschoolpenallt.co.uk or phone **Ros Robertson at 01600 715781**

Make a Party of it!

OLD CHURCH FLOWERS & CLEANING

***Always needing volunteers ... please ring Sarah Haeffner on
01600-712349***

October: Mrs Virginia Hartley & Mrs Sue Dean
Mrs Sally Welsh & Mrs Anna Welsh-Morgan
November: Mrs Lou Allerhand & Mrs Gill Boucher

Penallt W. I.

Next meeting will be on Thursday 6th October when David Harrison will be talking about 'Fabulous Statues'.

Home communion and prayer ministry on request

Weddings, baptisms & funerals

Date/time	Season/place	Service	
2nd October	Trinity 15		
09.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Matins	
11.00.	Old Church Penallt	Holy Eucharist	<i>healing ministry</i>
9th October	Trinity 16		
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	BCP Eucharist	
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Holy Eucharist	
16th October	Trinity 17		
09.30.	Old Church Penallt	Holy Eucharist	
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Holy Eucharist	<i>healing ministry</i>
23rd October	Trinity 18		
09.30.	Old Church, Penallt	Holy Eucharist	
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Holy Eucharist	
30th October	Feast of All Saints		
6.15	Trellech Methodist	united service	
Tues. 1st Nov	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed		
6.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Eve of All Souls	<i>remembering</i>
6th November	3rd Before Advent		
09.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Sung Matins	
11.00.	Old Church, Penallt	Holy Eucharist	<i>healing ministry</i>
13th November	Remembrance Sunday		
10.00	Old Church, Penallt	BCP Eucharist	
11.00.	Penallt Village	Act of Remembrance	
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Service of Remembrance	
3.00.	Catbrook Hall	Service of Remembrance	
20th November	Christ the King		
09.30.	Old Church, Penallt	Holy Eucharist	
11.00.	St Nicholas Trellech	Holy Eucharist	<i>healing ministry</i>
27th November	Advent Sunday		
09.30.	Old Church, Penallt	Holy Eucharist	
5pm	St Nicholas Trellech	Advent carol service	
4th December	Advent 2		
09.30.	St Nicholas Trellech	Sung Matins	
11.00.	Old Church, Penallt	Holy Eucharist	<i>healing ministry</i>

by arrangement with the vicar

Thursdays 10 a.m., St Nicholas, Communion & coffee

<i>reader 1</i>	<i>reader 2</i>	<i>server/chalice</i>	<i>chalice 2</i>	<i>welcome</i>
A Powis	F Kemp			A Powis
D Shannon	V Kimber	L Harper		S Haeffner
A. Stratton B Green	S. Haeffner	L. Harper K Lowe	K Bowen	A. Stratton B Green
C Mills	S. Dean	L Harper		S. Dean
R Parsons	H Leak	R Parsons	A Gilbey	A Stubbs
L Harper K Lowe	W. Boycott B Richards	L Harper K Bowen	K Lowe	W. Boycott K Bowen
tba	tba			
B Green	J Rogers	A Gilbey	R Parsons	A Gilbey
F Kemp	A Powis			A Powis
G. Blick	J. Blick	L. Harper		S. Haeffner
T Churchward	S. Haeffner	L. Harper		S. Haeffner
R Parsons n/a	B Green	K Lowe	A Gilbey	B Green
J. Coutts	S. Coutts	L Harper		S. Coutts
B Richards	H Leak	R Parsons	K Bowen	H Leak
W. Boycott TBA	C Mills	L Harper		C. Mills R Parsons
A Powis	F Kemp			A Powis
T. McGorrigan	S. Dean	T. McGorrigan		S Haeffner

Waiting in Doncaster , to catch speeding drivers, a Police Officer sees a car pattering along at 22 MPH. Says he to himself: "This driver is just as dangerous as a speeder!" So he turns on his lights and pulls the driver over. Approaching the car, he notices that there are five old ladies, two in the front seats and three in the back...wide eyed and white as ghosts.

The driver, obviously confused, says to him "Officer, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit! What seems to be the problem?"

"Ma'am," the officer replies, "you weren't speeding, but you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers."

"Slower than the speed limit? No sir, I was doing the speed limit exactly...Twenty-two miles an hour!"the old woman says a bit proudly.

The Police officer, trying to contain a chuckle explains to her that A22 is the road number, not the speed limit.

A bit embarrassed, the woman grins and thanks the officer for pointing out her error.

"But before I let you go, Ma'am, I have to ask....Is everyone in this car OK? These women seem awfully shaken, and they haven't made a sound this whole time," the officer asks.

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute officer. We've just come off the A120."

ART IN PENALLT

Dinner and Talk by Local Artist Richard Alun Wills

The Inn at Penallt - Tickets: 01600 772 765
7 pm - Friday 30th September

Fine Art Exhibition - Paintings, Sculpture, Glass, Ceramics & Jewellery. New Works by Leading Artists

Capel Pentwyn (Free Entry)
10am - 4.30pm Sat 1st & Sun 2nd October

Meet the Artists - Reception (Free Entry)

Capel Pentwyn - 5pm Sat 1st October

Art Boot Sale - Have you got Cash in the Attic ?

Babington Meadow - Pitches: 01600 715781
10am- 4.30pm Sunday 2nd October

Information: Cathy Farber 01600 860476



Sept 30th - Oct 2nd

REFLEXOLOGY

The natural healing therapy for body, mind and spirit

Are you, or a member of your family, suffering from?

Allergy
Anxiety/Depression
Back pain/sciatica
Chronic tiredness
Eating disorders

Irritable bowel syndrome
Headache
Hormonal imbalances
Sleep disturbance
Stress

Reflexology is an ancient form of foot massage which can help relieve the symptoms and address the cause of these and many other illnesses. Relax and enjoy the benefits of this gentle, safe and effective therapy in the peaceful surroundings of a private home in the beautiful Wye Valley.

For more details please see enclosed leaflet or telephone Priscilla Churchward MBSR for an appointment on 01600-714478.

Bell Ringing in Trellech

The Trellech bell ringers have set out their new constitution and elected Edward Rogers as the Tower Captain. Colin Harris remains the Ringing Master and there is also an assistant ringing master in the person of Thomas Edgeworth. Yvonne Turner remains secretary and Peter Mossman the treasurer. When all are present there is a band of 11 Ringers and new members would also be welcome.

Over the summer months the ringers have covered weddings as well as regular services, and a number of visiting ringers have also called at this tower to ring. A Quarter Peal was successfully ring in July by a band of ringers from the Monmouth branch of Ringers. Some of our younger ringers have been on trips and courses, gaining valuable experience in different towers and ringing with other experienced ringers.

Practice night also proved popular with the archaeological students who were camping and working on the site of the ancient town of Trellech, and some have been inspired to take up ringing when they return home.

Practice night is on Mondays at 7.30, and for information please contact any of the ringers or telephone the tower captain or vicar whose numbers are on the inside cover of the magazine.

TRELLECH AND PENALLT
PARISH RECORDS DAY

INSPECT THE CHURCH RECORDS
Access to the registers for a donation to church

EXPLORE THE GRAVEYARD PLANS
Find your ancestors

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY
With Chepstow branch of the Gwent Family History
Society

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR LOCAL
WAR MEMORIALS
With Peter Garwood and his research material

ENJOY AFTERNOON TEA WITH FRIENDS
And visit our stalls to support the church

SATURDAY 5th NOVEMBER
ST NICHOLAS CHURCH
2pm - 5pm

PARKING AT THE BABINGTON CENTRE

GIFT DIRECT

Fact: Every parish needs money to pay the Parish Share*, to pay for heat, light and insurance, to maintain church buildings and to support missions.

Fact: In this parish our annual income is insufficient to cover our costs so we have regular fund-raising events like fetes and concerts but it is a constant struggle and sometimes we have to dip into savings to pay our way.

Fact: By using Gift Aid all charities can reclaim 28% of money given by those who pay income tax.

**The Parish Share covers clergy stipends and training and other administrative costs.*

The Church in Wales is running a campaign called **'GIFT DIRECT' to encourage direct giving, with Gift Aid** for those who pay income tax. It is recommending that we set up a direct debit at our bank to ensure regular financial support whether or not we are able to attend church on Sunday. Gift Aid will be reclaimed, where appropriate, by the Church **in Wales's administrative office.**

Over the winter those who already give financial

support will be approached with information about Gift Direct in order to introduce this more efficient way of increasing our giving. Of course, we may continue to put money into the collection and to use yellow envelopes as usual. Meanwhile, if you would like to know more, please talk to Gift Aid Secretary Stevie Coutts (phone 860277 or stephaniecoutts@btinternet.com) or to the Vicar.



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TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:

01594 833108 - 07951 516161

OR VISIT US @ WWW.OVENPIG.CO.UK

CATBROOK MEMORIAL HALL EVENTS

Saturday 8th October at 7.30pm- Race Night. Tickets £8 per head to include light refreshments.

Sunday 13th November at 3pm - Remembrance Day Service.

Saturday 26th November 7.30pm - Tony Jacobs, The Swing Cabaret Duo.

Friday 9th December at 7.30pm - Christmas Singalong.

Sunday 18th December at 11am - Christmas Carol Service.

Yoga classes with Ruth Routh on Tuesday evenings, 7-8.30pm and Thursday mornings, 10.30-12 noon.

Coffee mornings third Wednesday of each month at 10.30 am.

To book the hall email Rose at info@catbrook.info.

PELHAM HALL, PENALLT

Regular events

Bowls Club every Tuesday

Wednesday morning PILATES ... contact Diane Bartle 891249

W.I. **1st Thursday of the month ... contact Trish Hayward on 712864.**

The hall is available for private functions ...book with Vin Godier on 716502

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### FILM NIGHTS at PELHAM HALL

Starts again in September -

see article on page 34

for details of this autumns films.

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HARVEST SUPPER

Saturday, 15th October, 2011

7 - 7.30 p.m.

Tickets: £8 (£4 for under 12's)

THE NARTH HALL

Contact person - Sue Stocker - Secretary 860530

Art group meets every Wednesday. Contact Sue Seymour on 860033

Bridge Group contact Vivienne Casson on 860054 to find out more.

Films on The Narth Contact Hywel Rees on 860516 for information

Gardening Club last Tuesday of the month. Contact John Lewis on 860374.

Keep fit for the mature person Thursday a.m.. Contact Huw Smith on 860659.

The Narth Singers Wednesdays at 7.30pm - contact Jenny Hickey on 860216.

Play reading group Meets one Monday a month. Contact Gordon Casson on 860054

Whist drive third Friday of each month at 7.30pm. Contact Sue Stocker on 860530

Womens' Institute 7.30pm on the third Tuesdays. Contact Jan Stephens on 860576

Youth Club fortnightly on a Thursday, 7.30pm - 9.00pm. Contact Kate Rees on 860516 or Rachel Widdicks on 869142

Private Bookings To book hall & for rates, contact Mary Pardington on 860227.

BABINGTON CENTRE - TRELLECH

Forthcoming Feature Films

Saturday 1st October Mao's Last Dancer

Saturday 5th November Brighton Rock

Saturday 3rd December Jane Eyre

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 22nd October

Apple Day (Details to follow)

See our new website www.thebabington.co.uk

To hire Babington Centre, contact Dave Robbins, 01600 860714

Burning Issues Forum

The next BI F meeting will take place on Friday 11th November at 7pm in the Babington Centre, Trellech when Jo Lloyd, the manager of Monmouth Citizens Advice Bureau, will talk about its work. At a time of increasing financial difficulty and fuel poverty for more and more people, problems caused by debt are on the increase. The CAB provides free advice and support to people with a whole range of problems, including debt and benefits.

If you have not yet been to one of these informal discussion suppers, do consider coming to this one. We begin with a drink, then listen to a talk on a topic of current interest and continue the discussion over a simple meal. We aim to finish by 9pm. There is no charge but we ask for donations to cover the cost of hiring the centre and providing food and drink. Everyone is very welcome.

A recent United Nations report has concluded that there are three sorts of people in the world: Those who can count, and those who can't !!

Was it Yorick ?

"When the space under the pulpit saw the light of day, he was startled to discover a human skull - with a hole in it ..."

The answer to this puzzle can be found in V F Kimbers book *'Penallt Revisited'*, published in 2009, profits to the Old Church fabric fund. Copies of this illustrated compilation at £15 each are available - phone 715804. It looks back over the twenty years since *'Penallt - A Village Miscellany'* appeared, copies of which are also available at £10 each.

The two books are particularly interesting to new-comers and visitors to the village whose interest is more than superficial.

They are also available of the Church Christmas Bazaar.

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VENT,
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13th November
Remembrance Sunday

PENALLT:

Change of time for church service: 10am,
Moving to village war memorial for
ACT OF REMEMBRANCE 11am

TRELLECH

Full service of Remembrance
with muffled bells
St Nicholas Church. 10 55 am

CATBROOK

Catbrook Memorial Hall
3pm Service of Remembrance
with Royal British Legion and Brass Band

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them ...*



The Old Church Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, 26th November, 2 p.m.

Pelham Hall



Teas ...
Books ...
Gifts ...
Cakes ...



Once again, please collect books, white elephant goodies, gifts for the gift stall, toys ...

An afternoon of fun and food is certain, so come along with full purses and empty bags, and have some pre Christmas fun !!



Contact Sarah Haeffner on
01600-712349 for further
information.

ST NICHOLAS'S CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - PROGRESS REPORT

This summer has been spent discussing our proposals and **aspirations for St Nicholas's with the Diocesan Advisory Committee**. This is a group made up of experts in a range of church-and conservation-related fields who advise the Diocesan Chancellor on the architectural, conservation and aesthetic aspects of proposed changes to church buildings. It is inevitably a slow process achieving a consensus across a group of individual volunteers who meet perhaps once a month, but we are making progress. The Committee has visited the church twice and so far we have approval in principle to the idea of:

Screening and reordering the Chancel; Enlarging the kitchen and providing new toilets in the existing vestry area; Exploring methods of heating the church and remedying the damp rising through the floor; Removing some pews at the back of the church to create a social space.

None of this can just happen, of course. We still have to submit detailed plans for agreement (and raise the money to do the work!).

Further investigation and discussion is required regarding:

The provision of a community/activity room at the west end of the church

A replacement for the vestry (possibly upstairs) and a mezzanine office

Local and family history facilities

Permanent parking facilities (without which extending the

use of the church will be very difficult).

The five-yearly structural review of the church has just been carried out, too, and this will indicate what work we need to do to secure and maintain the building.

We are acutely aware that our ability both to care for the building and to take this project forward depends on extending the use of the church beyond religious worship. We are meeting with trustees of the Babington Centre to explore how both buildings can be sustained and complementary facilities and activities can be provided. The **Monmouth Deanery plans for implementing Bishop Dominic's** strategy for the Diocese, *Hope for Monmouth*, may also **have an impact on how we go forwards with St Nicholas's.**

One way or another, the next few months are likely to be critical in shaping our future plans.

Tessa Murray (Project Manager)

Penallt Film Nights ... Usually first Saturday in the month at Pelham Hall. £5 to include a delicious light meal !

Saturday 1st October Milarepa: 7.30pm Neten Chokling Bhutan 2006 90 mins

Using actual Tibetan monks as film extras, this extraordinary film tells the mystical tale of Milarepa whose once wealthy family falls on hard times at the hands of an evil Uncle. Milarepa is obliged by his mother to learn the black arts of sorcery in order to seek revenge, an education which involves some bizarre magicians and **demons. But Milarepa ultimately takes no pleasure in his Uncle's** downfall and later gains more traditional Buddhist mystical insights. The film features some stunning mountain scenery as its backdrop.

Saturday 12th November 7.30pm (NOTE Date not first Sat.): Beaufort Joseph Cedar Israel 2007 125 mins

Based on the bestselling novel by Ron Lesham, this Oscar-nominated film gives the viewer a realistic experience of being among the last Israeli soldiers in the Lebanon just before their withdrawal in May **2000. The soldiers are holed up in the mountain top "Beaufort Castle", a former Crusader fortress of more symbolic than** strategic value. The occupation of the Lebanon is all but over and the Israelis are in retreat, but while the politicians work out the details, the soldiers are feeling like cannon-fodder for the Hezbollah whose main aim is to propagandise the appearance of an ignominious Israeli defeat.

Saturday 3rd December 7.30pm: Machan Uberto Pasolini Sri Lanka 2008 109 mins

Pasolini was one of the producers of The Full Monty and this directorial debut follows on well with a touching comedy about a group of poor Sri Lankans with a crackpot idea that they can sneak into the EU under the guise of playing for a handball team. Shot in a semi-documentary style, Pasolini manages to coax some delightful and brilliant comic touches from his band of relatively inexperienced actors.

Art for Africa comes of age!

The twenty-first annual Art for Africa exhibition of paintings and craft by local artists was held at *Bridges* Community Centre, Monmouth over the weekend of 15th to 17th July.

After fifteen years at Fern Lea, Trellech Cross, and then five years at Catbrook Memorial Hall, the move was made to *Bridges*, a fine old building with ample parking close to Monmouth town in which an amazing variety of activities take place to serve the local community. Thanks to *Bridges* for their help and support.

Many artists who have participated for many years took part, plus some new exhibitors were welcomed this year. The Gallery at *Bridges* proved an excellent place to hang pictures and there was also room for some pottery and produce. However, the number of visitors was down this year, as was the number of pictures sold. Perhaps the economic climate is making people think twice before investing in the luxury of pictures. The best sellers this year were tea towels and jam! The Traidcraft stall also did good business, as did pottery. Also on the bright side, donations were up and the total raised to support Christian Aid food and clean water projects in Sierra Leone will exceed £1,600!

A big thank you to all artists and supporters, and a request. This year's exhibition was administered by Aled Pickard, Regional Coordinator Christian Aid in Cardiff. He will not be able to do it again next year. So a new person, or perhaps a small group, is needed to grasp the exhibition and take it forward, perhaps into new areas and activities.

It would seem a pity if Art for Africa ceased after twenty-one years. Is there anyone out there prepared to take it on and run with it? It demands a lot of commitment over quite a period of time, but the results are rewarding in that the proceeds always go to a specific project in an African country run or supported by Christian Aid.

If anyone is interested, please contact either Aled Pickard, Regional Coordinator Christian Aid, 5 Station Road, Radyr, Cardiff, CF15 8AA, telephone 029 2084 4646 or Peter and Catherine Symes, Fern Lea, Trellech Cross, Monmouth, NP25 4PX, telephone 01600 860264.

Dates for the diary

6 th October	Churches together meet. 7.30
7 th Oct	Burning Issues Forum. 7pm Babington Centre
9 th Oct	Quarter Peal attempt 7.15 Trellech tower
11 th Oct	7.30 PCC meeting
15 th Oct	Diocesan Conference . 90 th Anniversary celebrations
15 th Oct	12noon. Wedding in Trellech
20 th Oct	2pm School Harvest service in church
1 st November	All Souls service
5 th Nov	2pm Trellech records Day, with stalls & teas.
13 th Nov	Remembrance Sunday
15 th Nov	Visiting Ringers. Trellech
15 th Nov	5.30 Chapter meeting
20 th Nov	Baptism in St Nicholas Church
26 th Nov	Old Church Christmas Bazaar
27 th Nov	5pm Advent Carol Service (no Matins)
28 th Nov	Advent study groups begin
1st December	2pm St Nicholas Church, School Christingle
6 th Dec	Quiz night in St Nicholas Church

Mobile Library dates - use it or lose it !

Monmouthshire Mobile Library calls in Penallt, at the lay-by near Pentwyn Park, opposite the Old Post Office, every third Friday morning, at about 11.40, but because of vehicle problems, holidays and the weather, they often change the date at the last moment, so please phone the library to check; the van is expected October 21st, November 11th & December 2nd

PLEASE support this very useful service ...

Library phone: - 01600-775215