

Tafod Twrog

Rhif/No 75

October/Hydref

November/Tachwedd

December/Rhagfyr

2018



SAINT TWROG'S CHURCH
LLANDDAROG

Ficer/Vicar

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Annwyl Ffrindiau

Ni nawr yn nhymor y cofio, ond nid yw yn dymor sy'n cael ei adnabod yn y Llyfr Gweddi. Mae yn amser i gofio pobl a'r cyfraniad mae nhw wedi eu gwneud i'n Heglwys a'r Gymdeithas. Mae Mis Tachwedd yn fis lle rydym yn cofio cymaint o bethau. Mae yn dechrau ar Dachwedd 1^{af}, Gŵyl Yr Holl Saint, pan y cofiwn am Seintiau Duw a gysegrodd eu bywyd i ddilyn ewyllys Duw. Dylai eu hesiampl ein hysbrydoli ni heddiw. Mae y Colect am Wyl Yr Holl Saint yn dweud hyn: "Caniatâ inni ras felly i ddilyn dy Saint gwynfydedig mewn buchedd rinweddol a duwiol, fel y delom i'r llawenydd anhraethol hwnnw". Dyna gyfle gwych i bawb ohonnom ddod i'r "llawenydd anhraethol hwnnw".

Yna ar y dydd canlynol Tachwedd 2^{ail}, Dygwyl Y Meirw, fe gofiwn am y rhai yn ein teuluoedd sydd wedi marw. Diolchwn i Dduw am gyfraniad a dylanwad y teulu, ffrindiau, cyn glerigwyr ac athrawon sydd wedi ein helpu ar ein taith yn y ffydd. 'Rwyf yn cofio sawl un sydd wedi fy annog i ar hyd y blynyddoedd, a'u cynghorion wedi bod o gymorth mawr i mi.

Efallai mai gwell bydd annwybyddu Tachwedd 5^{ed} a hanes Guto Ffowc ac amser helbulus y Catholigion a'r Protestaniaid.

Fe ddown wedyn i amser aur y Seintiau. Ar Dachwedd 8^{fed} cofiwn am Seintiau Cymru. Rhown ddiolch am ddynion a gwragedd sydd wedi lledu Efengyl Crist trwy y Dalaith. Gwnaethont ymladd a dioddef llawer ond er hynny dal yn gryf ac argyhoeddedig dros y Ffydd Gristnogol. Mae y Colect yn ein hatgoffa bod Duw yn galw eu etholedigion o bob cenedl, ac y dylem ni ddilyn esiampl Saint Cymru, a chael ein cyfnerthu gan eu cymdeithas, fel ein bod yn ffrwythlon mewn gweithredoedd da. Mae y thema yn parhau:- bod y bobl yma, yn wŷr a gwragedd yn ein hannog a'n hysbrydoli trwy amseroedd da a thywyll.

Wedyn fe ddawn at Dachwedd 11^{eg} pan fyddwn yn cofio ac yn diolch am yr holl ddynion a gwragedd a rhoddodd eu bywyd adeg y Rhyfel. Ac wrth gwrs eleni i ni'n dathlu canrif ers diwedd Y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf. Roedd Cadoediad 11eg o Dachwedd 1918 wedi ei anelu at ddod a heddwch a gobaith i'r Byd. Yn anffodus dyw hynny ddim wedi digwydd. Felly gweddiwn heddiw y bydd heddwch Duw a gobaith newydd yn dod i fobl y byd.

Wrth i ni gofio yr holl bobl yma ar ddechrau Mis Tachwedd, edrychwn nid yn unig i'r gorffennol ond hefyd i'r dyfodol gan ddysgu oddi wrth eu cysegriad a'u haberth.

Cofiwn amdanynt i gyd gyda Diolch.

Canon Bryan

Dear Friends

We are now in the season of Remembrance. Not a season recognised in the Prayer Book but nonetheless a time of Remembrance. It is a time to remember people and the contribution they have made to our Church and society.

For some reason November is the month when we remember so many. It begins on November 1st, All Saints Day, when we remember the Saints of God who dedicated their lives to follow the will of God. Their example should surely inspire us today. The Collect for All Saints Day prays: 'grant us grace to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys'. What a wonderful opportunity – unspeakable joys!

Then only the next day, November 2nd, on All Souls Day, we remember our own loved ones who have died before us. We thank God for the influence and encouragement of family and friends, former Clergy and teachers who have helped us on our journey of faith. I certainly remember a number of people who have encouraged me over the years and whose advice has proved so helpful.

Remember, remember the 5th of November – well perhaps we move swiftly on from Guy Fawkes and the Catholic/Protestant troubled times.

We come then to the golden age of Saints when on November 8th we remember the Saints of Wales. We give thanks for those men and women who spread the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the province. They fought and suffered much yet remained committed to the Christian faith. The Collect reminds us that God calls his elect from every nation; and we today should follow the example of the Saints of Wales and strengthened by their fellowship, we may be fruitful in good works.

The same theme continues – that these people, men and women, encourage and inspire us through good and bad days.

We then come to November 11th when we remember and give thanks for all those men and women who gave their lives in war. Of course this year is especially poignant as we remember the centenary of the ending of the first World War. The Armistice of November 11th, 1918 was to bring peace and hope for our world. Sadly, that has not happened. Therefore, we pray today for God's peace for the people of our world.

As we remember all these people on these dates in early November we do so not only to look back but to look forward – to learn from their dedication and sacrifice.

A verse from the Hymn ‘O valiant hearts’:

These were his servants, in His steps they trod,
Following through death the martyred Son of God:
Victor, He rose; victorious too shall rise
They who have drunk this cup of sacrifice.

We Remember them all.

Canon Bryan

Editorial

I hope you all enjoy this edition of Tafod Twrog – lots of news from our parishioners and some thought-provoking issues raised by them too

We are looking forward to a time of celebration with Christmas in the not too distant future. There is a lot going on in our church and it will be a busy time – a happy one we hope for everyone. But please spare a thought for those who are lonely or struggling with life. We will be continuing to collect for the foodbank which provides emergency food packs for those in need who are referred to them by various agencies. Imagine what it must be like to have Christmas ‘looming’ ahead with little hope that you can put food on the table for your family, let alone give them any presents, so please give generously in the box near the font.

Thinking about Christmas, that will be when we are publishing the next Tafod Twrog so I would be grateful to have your articles for that edition by 8th December at the latest please.

Margaret Rees, Ty’r Llain

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Blodau’r Allor ~ Altar Flowers

Hydref/October

14 & 21

Mrs. M. Lewis

28 & 4 Nov

Mrs. Y. Lewis

Tachwedd/November

11 & 18

Mrs. G. Lewis

25

Mrs. A. Liggins

Adfent ~ Advent

Rhagfyr/December

25 & 6 Jan

Mrs. M. Little

Bedydd/Baptism

Yn y chwarter diwethaf cynhaliwyd un bedydd / One baptism was held in the church in the last quarter

Priodas/Marriage

Yn y chwarter diwethaf dathlwyd tair priodas / Three marriages were celebrated in the last quarter.

Angladd/Funeral

20.08.18 Mrs S Turton

15.9.18 Mr Meurig Voyle (More details in the next edition)

Cofiw'n yn gariadus am bawb a fu farw yn ddiweddar; ac am bawb y mae tymor eu coffhad yn syrthio yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn. Bydded i'r ffyddloniaid ymadawedig orffwys mewn hedd a chyfodi mewn gogoniant. / We remember with love all those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries fall at this time of the year. May the faithful departed rest in peace and rise in glory.

Cleifion/The Sick

Gweddiwch dros bawb sy'n glaf mewn ysbryd corff neu feddwl, gartref neu mewn ysbyty. / Please pray for the sick in body, mind or spirit. Please inform the wardens if someone falls ill or is in hospital. Home communion can be arranged.

Llongyfarchiadau/Congratulations

Congratulations to all those celebrating special birthdays and anniversaries in the coming quarter, also to Doreen who was 85 in September.

Thanks/Diolch yn Fawr

Diolch o galon i bawb am eich consyrn a'ch caredigrwydd pan oedd Huw yn yr Ysbyty yn ddiweddar. Rydym yn gwerthfawrogi eich cefnogaeth yn fawr iawn. Thank you so much for your concern and support when Huw was recently in hospital. Thanks to Keith Knott and Peter Rees who turned up unexpectedly to mow the lawns for us. This indeed was a Christian act and truly valued.

Diolch/ Thank You

Huw and Jean

Mrs Jean Thomas

Rydym fel Eglwys yn cydymdeimlo gyda'r Hybarch Randolph Thomas a'r teulu ar farwolaeth Jean. Fe ymladdodd yn ddewr yn ei salwch a hynny hyd y diwedd gan ddangos dewrder. Gwraig ddiwymongar a oedd yn ffrind i bawb a wnaeth ei

chwrdd. Yn wraig, mam a mamgu ffyddlon a chariadus, yn Gymraes frwd a chanddi ffydd cadarn. Braint oedd i bawb ohonom gael cydgerdded rhan o'r daith yn ei chwmni. Fe ymdrechodd ymdrech dêg, fe orffennodd ei gyrfa a do fe gadwodd y ffydd. Coffa da amdani.

We sympathise as a Church with The Venerable Randolph Thomas and the family on the death of Jean. She was so courageous as she faced her long battle with cancer, but she always had a smile on her face, never questioning "Why me"? She was a caring and faithful wife, mother and grandmother. Jean was unassuming and such a humble person. It was William Shakespeare who said, "My crown is called content, a crown that seldom Kings enjoy". She was a rock to her family and we remember them in our prayers at this difficult time.

Dyro iddi, O Arglwydd, orffwys tragwyddol. A llewyrched goleuni gwastadol arni.

Jean

Mrs Sylvia Turton

We sympathise with Karl, Susan and Sharon and all family members on the death of Mrs Sylvia Turton. The family had lived in Is-y-llan for the past 50 years and Sylvia cared for all family members as the family was her life. She was young at heart even though she had celebrated her 80th birthday in June. She was a popular face book personality as "My Gran" and had many followers. But we remember her best as a pleasant and caring personality, always ready for a chat, when you saw her on the road or in The Post Office. She idolised her grandchildren and they had great respect for Sylvia. Respect is one of the greatest expressions of love.

Jean

Newyddion Clwb Iau News

Thank you so much to Jean, Huw and Auriol for sharing their home with us and hosting our Sports Evening and Barbecue on June 28th. We have enjoyed our long school summer break and will come back to Clwb Iau with renewed enthusiasm for our September meeting on the 9th, which will have the theme of Harvest and New Beginnings. The children will be able to bring a friend in the hope they will join Clwb Iau in the future.

May I take this opportunity to thank Maria and Sian for their support and all the other helpers who help us run the Clwb Iau.

Helen Beynon, Clwb Iau Co-ordinator

Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod o'r CPE ar y 8^{ed} o Orffennaf. Roed 23 o aelodau yn bresennol gyda Canon Bryan Witt yn y gadair. Dechreuwyd y cyfarfod â gweddi.

Materion a drafodwyd. Matters discussed:

1. Graveyard: A ride on mower and one smaller mower had been purchased. It was decided to purchase a new strimmer.
2. Treasurer's Report (Robert Jones): As a result of the Open Garden at Ty'r Llain the church had received £400, Ty Miriam £400 and Llanddarog Show £300. The Lenten lunches at the Vicarage had raised £462.50 and donated to Tŷ Miriam. The collection from the Community Service of £203.10 had been donated to Llanddarog School at the request of the Chair of the Community Council. New Testaments had been purchased and presented to Year 6 pupils at a special Leavers' Service.
3. Church and Hall Field: A copy of the intended advert for the field had been received. The DBF had agreed to the sale. It was decided to continue with the sale of the field.
4. Tower: Work had been carried out by steeplejacks on 5th/6th June. Church officials had met Steven Knott, David Siggery and his foreman on 26th June. Photographs had been obtained by a drone. The work to be rectified by the steeplejacks and masons.
5. Harvest Supper to be held on Thursday 27th September at 7.45 at the Village Hall. Tickets £8.
6. The Vicar invited the members to tea at the Canonry followed by Evensong at the Cathedral either on 29th July or 12th August.

Diolchodd y ficer i bawb am eu presenoldeb a therfynwyd y cyfarfod gyda'r gras.

Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod o'r CPE ar Nos Fawrth 14 at 6.30 yh. Roedd 19 o aelodau yn bresennol gyda Canon Bryan Witt yn y gadair. Dechreuwyd y cyfarfod â gweddi.

The Vicar explained that the meeting had been called to discuss further developments to the tower. Confirmation had been received that David Siggery and the steeplejacks would return on 23rd August, together with Steven Knott who would supervise the work. Keith Knott would also be there to represent the PCC.

The meeting ended with grace.

Cymuned/ Community

Summer 2018 and the long sunny days have meant that more people than usual have been walking and cycling. There have been many opportunities for us to get to know new people living in the area as they walk their dogs or decide to venture out for a walk. I think people are fascinating. We have had six weddings in Church this Spring and Summer and again an opportunity to meet new people. The Llanddarog YFC Club whilst celebrating their 70th Anniversary this year, have organised numerous and varied activities to provide us with opportunities for fellowship. The Llanddarog YFC Tug of War teams need our heartiest congratulations for all their success this year, from the County Rally to the Royal Welsh to the UK Championships at Bedford. They certainly have put Llanddarog on the map. We should therefore be so proud and privileged to belong to such a great community. But a community is made up of people, all different; how boring it would be if we were all the same, but we need to respect our differences. When Jesus chose his disciples he chose a mixed group, they all had different talents and could serve our Lord in different ways.

A story that really touched my heart lately was a story of that teacher at Pantglas School Aberfan who led her class to safety. She died in August at the age of 75 years after suffering a heart attack. I can't recall anyone mentioning the story before or I could have missed it, but to me this lady known as Hettie Taylor, in 1966 was a very young, inexperienced teacher, who kept calm under very difficult circumstances and led her class to safety.

One of the pupils said, "We remember how professional she was and how safe we felt when she was getting us out of school". On October 21st 1966, 144 people were killed at Aberfan and 116 of them children. That morning Hettie Taylor was teaching her class of seven and eight year old pupils. After the walls of her classroom began to bulge and crack as the waste tip covered the school, the then 23 year old teacher guided her pupils from the classroom to safety. One of the pupils said "I was sitting there at the desk when the noise came. I think it's the noise that everybody remembers. The building shook, a crack appeared across the wall behind Miss Taylor's desk and little puffs of dust came out of the crack as it appeared. The lights were on very long flexes with white shades on them, and they were swinging around. Outside we could see the masonry and the debris falling. Miss Taylor just said "Get under the

desks, keep calm”, I’m not sure how long we were there, but Miss Taylor said we were all right but the door was blocked. She could see a gap that we could get through. She said “Right now line up, I want you to leave the classroom. I want you to walk straight out to the yard, don’t look back”. No college course would have prepared her for this, but she put her pupils’ safety first, kept calm and led them out of that school that morning. How different things could have been if she had kept them under the desk for longer. It doesn’t surprise us therefore that over 500 people including the people in her class that day, turned up to pay their respects to their former teacher known today as Hettie Williams. Just imagine if something like that happened today, everyone would want to be the first to photograph the story and put it on social media. We have become such a sad nation.

In 1966 during the Aberfan disaster I was a 1st Year Student at Trinity College Carmarthen and I vividly remember that news item. Three weeks later I was going on my first Teaching Practice, not to one of the valley schools but to Crymych CP School. However this disaster was something I couldn’t get out of my mind. I could sense how a community had been shattered by such an ordeal. Three years later when I started as a teacher at Abercerdin School, Gilfach Goch, the headmaster Mr Phillips was telling me that their school had a similar tip behind the school, but after the Aberfan disaster it had been flattened and made safe. The Valley Communities even in the midst of their economic problems shared love and kindness to one another. You could see people at their best. What I remember from Gilfach Goch is this, if there was only one joint of meat in the street, everyone had a slice. My two Years teaching at Gilfach Goch was my experience of the University of Life and I am grateful to those wonderful people I have met on life’s journey. People shape you, people influence you, it’s people that make you what you are. Gadewch i ni felly ddweud ein diolch personol i’r bobol hynny sydd wedi ein dylanwadu ni ar daith bywyd. Dylem fod yn eithriadol ddiolchgar i bob un ohonynt. Hettie Taylor (Williams) might not have been rewarded with a **CBE** (Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by the Queen, but I think to us all and especially to her pupils she deserved the **C**ommunity **B**ravery **E**ndeavour Award.

Jean Voyle Williams

The Angel Gabriel's Most Sensitive Mission

by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

As the tall, stately angel rose and walked toward the front of the chapel, there was a buzz among the cadets. Gabriel was a living legend. He cleared his throat.

I've been asked to speak to you today about what I've learned throughout my career. Foremost is this: we are servants of the Most High God. This lesson I learned not during my days here at the academy, but from a human being, a girl.

I had been summoned before God to be briefed on a new mission. He told me: "Gabriel, you have a most delicate assignment. I am sending my Son to redeem the earth. To do this he must become a human himself. Your mission is to announce this plan to the young woman I have chosen to be his mother.

"Her name is Mary. She lives in the village of Nazareth in Galilee. She is betrothed to be married. That means that she is already considered a wife, though she is living at home until the final ceremonies a few months from now. And Gabriel ... she is a virgin." He went on to describe my role and brief me on the various contingencies, concluding with these words. "Gabriel, by all means, be gentle."

I arrived one spring morning as Mary was climbing the path from the well and came to where I was sitting on a large boulder. She's only a child, I thought when I first saw her — only twelve or thirteen. Betrothed at that age? But such were the customs of that place and I was assured that the Father knows what he is doing. As she approached, I stood, dressed as I *always* dress — long white robe, golden sash, and so forth.

"Greetings, Mary," I began. She gasped. "Hail, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you!" All the color drained from her face. I motioned for her to sit. She carefully removed the full water jug from her head, set it down, then eased herself onto the far end of the rock.

"Don't be afraid, Mary," I said. "You have found favor with God." I waited a moment for her to calm down. "You will conceive in your womb and bear a son. You are to name him Jesus." She appeared stunned by these words, but I continued. "Your son will become a great man. He will be called the Son of the Most High God. What's more, the Lord God will give him the throne of David his ancestor. And he will reign as Messiah over Israel forever. Of his kingdom and reign there will be no end!"

I paused. The message shocked *me*; I couldn't imagine the impact it must have had on *her*! She was quiet for a time. Then she asked in her young teenager voice: "How will this happen, since I am not yet married?" I answered: "The Holy Spirit will come to

you, The Power of the Most High will overshadow you, Therefore your son to be born will be holy, He will be called 'Son of God.'"

Amazing! The Father was prepared to rest his entire Christ-enterprise on this young girl — her response, her whim, her decision. She was to be the mother of God's own Son — so young. I continued to reassure her.

"And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has conceived a son." Mary murmured, "Old Elizabeth? Really? Oh!" I could see just a glimmer of a twinkle return to her eyes. "Yes, they called her 'barren,' but she's already six months pregnant." Mary was almost grinning for a moment. Then I saw her smile fade. I couldn't read her thoughts, but could only imagine what she must be thinking.

How could she ever explain this to anyone? Who would understand? Who would ever believe her? Her father would be furious, her mother deeply hurt. And Joseph? There would be no wedding. Her dreams of marriage and family vanished in an instant. And the town fathers? Would they try to stone her?

I had been given one sentence by the Father with which to respond: "Nothing will be impossible with God," I said. "Nothing!" She was quiet a moment longer, lost in her thoughts. Then she looked up at me with clear eyes and said intently: "Here I am. I am the Lord's servant, his handmaid. Let what you have said come to pass."

She stood up. As she began to lift the heavy water jug to her shoulder and then hoist it up to her head, I reached to help, but she shook her head and lifted it up herself. As she made her way up the path to the village, her steps were assured, almost a spring to them. At the top of the hill she steadied the jar with one hand and waved to me with the other. Then she was lost from view.

And that is how I met Mary. She taught me what it means to be a servant when it's hard to obey, when there seems to be no hope except God's promise. Mary took the words, "For nothing will be impossible with God," and believed them. Whenever I struggle with obedience, I think of this young girl who began a servant's journey with the words:

"I am the servant, the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be! Let it come! I am His servant."

The tall angel touched the corner of his eye for a moment, then stepped down and took his seat. Gabriel had learned servanthood from an even greater servant than himself — a young virgin from Nazareth named Mary.

I found this on the internet and couldn't resist including it - Margaret Rees

DYDDIADAU AR GYFER Y DYDDIADUR / DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(am fanylion am batrwm misol y gwasanaethau, gwelwch y dudalen olaf)

(for details of the monthly pattern of services, please see the back page)

Hydref/October

6 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday

10.00am Cynhadledd Esgobaethol/Diocesan Conference Lampeter.

7 Dydd Sul/Sunday Drindod 19/Trinity 19

9.30am Gwasanaeth Teuluol y Cynhaeaf/Family Harvest Service (Bilingual)

7.00pm Gwasanaeth Diolchgarwch am y Cynhaeaf Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc
Llanddarog (Cymraeg).

9 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday

10.00am Boreol Weddi (Bilingual)

10.30am Paned a Chlonc (For those who want to learn Welsh)

17 Dydd Iau/Thursday

2.00pm Undeb y Mamau/Mothers' Union

14 Dydd Sul/Sunday Drindod 20/ Trinity 20

9.30am Boreol Weddi (Cymraeg)

5.00pm Holy Communion (English)

21 Dydd Sul/Sunday Drindod 21/Trinity 21

9.30am Holy Communion (English)

2.30pm Gwasanaeth yn yr Ardd Fotaneg /
Special Service in the Botanic Garden (Bilingual)

23 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday

10.00am Boreol Weddi (Bilingual)

10.30am Paned a Chlonc (For those who want to learn Welsh)

28 Dydd Sul/Sunday Sul y Beibl/Bible Sunday

9.30am Cymun Bendigaid (Cymraeg)

11.00am Holy Communion (English)

Dim gwasanaeth yn yr hwyr/No evening service

Tachwedd/ November

4 Dydd Sul/Sunday Teyrnas 1/Kingdom 1

9.30am Cymun Bendigaid (Cymraeg)

5.00pm Evensong (English)

8 Dydd Iau/ Thursday

7.00pm Undeb y Mamau/Mothers' Union

10 Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday

10-3 Ffair Grefftau/Craft Fair in Church.

11 Dydd Sul/Sunday Teyrnas 2/Kingdom 2

11.00am Sul y Cofio/Remembrance Sunday (Bilingual)

Dim gwasanaeth yn yr hwyr/No evening service

12 Dydd Llun/Monday

10-3 Mothers' Union Create and Faith Day at Christchurch, Carmarthen

13 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday

10.00am Boreol Weddi/Morning Prayer (Bilingual)

10.30am Paned a Chlonc (For those who want to learn Welsh)

18 Dydd Sul/Sunday Teyrnas 3/Kingdom 3

9.30am Holy Communion (English)

2.30pm Gwasanaeth yn yr Ardd Fotaneg /
Special Service in the Botanic Garden (Bilingual)

2.30pm Clwb Iau yn yr Ardd Fotaneg / Clwb Iau in the Botanic Garden

25 Dydd Sul Teyrnas 4/Kingdom 4

9.30am Cymun Bendigaid (Cymraeg)

11.00am Holy Communion (English)

Dim gwasanaeth yn yr hwyr/No evening Service

27 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday

10.00am Boreol Weddi/Morning Prayer (Bilingual)

10.30am Paned a Chlonc (For those who want to learn Welsh)

28 Dydd Mercher/Wednesday

Ysgol Llanddarog Ffair Nadolig / Llanddarog School Christmas Fair

Rhagfyr/ December

2 Dydd Sul/Sunday Adfent 1/Advent 1

9.30am Gwasanaeth Cristingl/Christingle Service (Bilingual)

7.00pm Cymanfa Ganu i ddathlu 70 mlynedd Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Llanddarog yng Nghapel Newydd.

5 Dydd Mercher/Wednesday

Ysgol Llanddarog Sioe Nadolig y Cyfnod Sylfaen / Llanddarog School Foundation Phase Show – Neuadd y Pentre

6 Dydd Iau/Thursday

Ysgol Llanddarog Cyngerdd Nadolig yr Adran Iau / Llanddarog School Junior Concert – Neuadd y Pentre

9 Dydd Sul/Sunday Adfent 2/Advent 2

9.30am Boreol Weddi (Cymraeg)

5.00pm Holy Communion (English)

10 Dydd Llun / Monday

2.00 pm Mothers' Union Deanery Advent Service in Llangunnor Church

11 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday

10.00am Boreol Weddi/Morning Prayer (Bilingual)

10.30am Paned a Chlonc (For those who want to learn Welsh)

13 Dydd Iau/Thursday

7.00pm Undeb y Mamau/Mothers Union

16 Dydd Sul/Sunday Advent 3/Advent 3

9.30am Holy Communion (English)

5.00pm Naw Llith a Charolau/ Nine Lessons and Carols (Bilingual)

23 Dydd Sul/Sunday Advent 4/Advent 4

9.30am Cymun Bendigaid/Holy Communion (Bilingual)

24 Dydd Llun/Monday Noswyl y Nadolig/Christmas Eve

2.00pm Gwasanaeth Y Preseb Crib Service (Bilingual)

11.30pm Cymun Bendigaid/Holy Communion (Bilingual)

25 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday Dydd Nadolig/Christmas Day

9.30am Cymun Bendigaid/Holy Communion (Bilingual)

30 Dydd Sul/Sunday Sul ar ol y Nadolig/Sunday after Christmas

10.00am Gwasanaeth Ardal Gweinidogaethol Llannau Tywi yn Eglwys

(Bilingual) Llanarthne/Llannau Tywi Ministry Area Service at Llanarthne Church

Dim gwasanaeth yn yr hwyr/No evening service.

Ionawr/ January

6 Dydd Sul/Sunday Gŵyl yr Ystwyll/Epiphany

9.30am Cymun Bendigaid (Cymraeg)

5.00pm Evensong (English)

8 Dydd Mawrth/Tuesday

10.00am Boreol Weddi/Morning Prayer (Bilingual)

10.30am Paned a Chlonc (For those who want to learn Welsh)

13 Dydd Sul/Sunday Ystwyll 1/Epiphany 1

9.30am Holy Communion (English)

5.00pm Gwasanaeth Y Plygain

Ffair Grefftau yn Eglwys St Twrog / Craft Fayre in St Twrog's Church

A Craft Fayre will be held in St Twrog's Church on Saturday November 10th from 10 am to 3 pm. We do hope you will come to join the fun. Entry will be free for all and there will be lots of stalls selling articles for Christmas – bags, cakes, paintings, cards, hand made wooden articles, and lots more. It will be a good opportunity for you to order your Christmas cake and wreaths and perhaps find something 'different' for a Christmas gift, while enjoying some refreshments, so we hope to see you there.

Bydd Ffair Grefftau yn cael ei chynnal yn Eglwys Sant Twrog, Llanddarog ar Ddydd Sadwrn 10^{fed} o Dachwedd o 10 hyd 3 o'r gloch. Gobeithiwn yn fawr iawn y dewch i ymuno gyda ni yn yr hwyl. Mynediad am ddim i bawb, ac fe fydd yna nifer o stondinau yn gwerthu pethau Nadoligaidd - bagiau, cacennau, lluniau, cardiau, darnau o waith coed a llawer mwy. Fe fydd yna gyfle i chi archebu eich cacen Nadolig a thorch gelyn, ac efallai dod o hyd i rhywbeth 'gwahanol' ar gyfer anrheg Nadolig. Fe fydd yna luniaeth ysgafn i'w gael, felly edrychwn ymlaen i'ch croesawu.

Where Have All The Cats Gone?

Rob and I recently went to Ypres for a few days. We were deeply moved by the sight of so many cemeteries kept in pristine condition by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as I am sure many of you have been before us. On our coach tour were two people who each wanted to visit places of particular relevance to themselves; one was in the huge Tyne Cot cemetery which was included on the tour, but the other was in a much smaller, out of the way, place. Our extremely knowledgeable guide managed to fit both in on our day's outing, and those of us brave enough to leave the air-conditioned haven of our coach joined both ladies as they paid their respects to their family members. The temperature was in the upper 30's, and the brilliant sunshine heightened the contrast between the individual white headstones in the orderly open spaces of the many British memorial gardens, and the cool, gloomy appearance of the only German cemetery, where flat black stones, each naming several people, are laid between tall trees.

Also on this day we visited an art installation called "Coming World Remember Me". This consists of 600,000 terracotta figures, each slightly larger than a tennis ball, displayed in an area that was a heavily contested region of 'no-man's land' in the Great War; the clay used to make the figures contains a mixture of Belgian and German soil. The number represents how many people were killed on Belgian soil during the four years of the conflict, and the sculptures were finished by the start of 2018. They are arranged on the ground in the shape of the Ypres Salient region. There are also 600,000 metal dogtags, engraved with the names of the victims. When we saw them, the tags were in a perspex case, but on November 11th this year they will be transferred to their permanent home, inside a bronze 'cracked egg' sculpture. Also at that time, the makers of the eggs, or families of the people they represent, will be able to collect one to take away. It is hoped that any uncollected ones will find suitable resting places in museums, both in Belgium and abroad. In the middle of the terracotta field was a large clay cracked egg, from which 40,000 smaller eggs were spilling, but we have no idea what they are supposed to represent. On the following day we visited the outstanding "In Flanders Fields" museum to find out more about the sights we had seen previously.

On a lighter note, we also visited the City of Ypres Museum, opened only a few weeks before we arrived, and found there the answer to something we had been puzzling about. As we wandered around the city we had come across

numerous effigies of cats; tiny knitted ones, stuffed toys in all colours and materials, brightly coloured waist high heavy ones, and even a six foot tall stone sculpture, but not one live feline. We think this may be the answer:

Why is Ypres known as the city of cats?

The cat festivals are mentioned for the first time in 1420, but throwing cats, a rural custom, is much older. Did people do this because cats 'come from the devil' in folklore? Was it a form of popular entertainment? Or to prevent a plague of cats? Cats kept the mice away from the wool in the Cloth Hall, but enough is enough... The last cat was thrown from the Belfry tower in 1817. The tradition was reinstated in 1938 with kittens made from velvet. On 6 March 1955 the first Cats' Parade took place through Ypres as a symbol of the tradition's revival. There we are then, mystery solved!

Elsewhere in the museum it said that at times of civil unrest, the aldermen of the town suffered the same fate as the cats. Local councilors beware!

Kate and Rob Jones

OUR WIGWAM EXPERIENCE

At the "Grand National day" back in the spring, the Vicar and I were lucky enough to make a winning bid for a wigwam stay, with the intention of treating our two grandsons to a mini break. However due to unforeseen circumstances, we were unable to take them. The wigwam or Pod (what the Vicar and I called it) was able to sleep up to five persons. Not wanting to postpone or cancel the trip we decided to go by ourselves.

The Campsite Cwm Erwbarfe, was in a picturesque cleft of the Rheidol Gorge at the foot of the Plymlimon Mountains, just shy of Devils Bridge. It was a wet drizzly day when we arrived but hard standing for the car and a well-made path to the decking in front of the pod made it easy for us to transfer all our belongings quickly and without getting anything wet, unlike the poor souls a few pitches away from us struggling to erect a tent in the inclement weather with dog and children helping! It was snug and warm inside with all modern amenities for camping, microwave, kettle, toaster. Outside there was a sink and fire pit, somewhere to have a BBQ, chairs and a picnic table. The one drawback - NO LOO. Mad dashes in the dark to the beautiful new pristine and clean shower block in the wee small hours!

The rain eased and it started to dry up and from the decking area I could see a small Church. After consulting the OS map, we set off along the road to see if

we could find the Church of St John the Baptist Ysbyty Cynfyn and then take the path behind the church and find "Parson's bridge". We were not long before coming across this little Church which has the grave yard encircled by stones, some much larger than others, reminding me of Stonehenge, Pentre Ifan , and the numerous stone circles which litter the Welsh landscape. The present Church was built in 1827 but there was a building previously with the oldest grave in the grave yard from 1793 and the site with its numerous large stones is indicative of something even older. There is mixture of interesting names in the graveyard, as the church served miners and farmers alike; many of the miners coming from Cornwall in search of work. Also, the first recorded quads are buried here - unfortunately they succumbed to typhoid. The gates on the entrance to the church are adorned with a large shell which is a symbol of pilgrimage and this route was used by pilgrims travelling to St Davids and Strata Florida Abbey some miles away. The notice board in the church implies that the sight was a hospitium of the order of the Knights Templars of St John offering pilgrims' hospitality.

A small well-kept Church with lovely stained glass, a sweet little children's area with carved chairs with a Celtic cross emblazoned on the back. A thoughtful touch taking the beliefs of the Knights of St John into the 21st century was the refreshment tray at the back of church offering tea, coffee and biscuits with kettle and cups to make drinks for those walkers who pass by. This church was open and in a remote place, something to think on.

It was now getting late, but I was determined to find the "Parson's bridge" which was built supposedly so the Vicar could travel easily from Llanbadarn fawr to Ysbyty Cynfyn. It was a pleasant walk, well sign posted through the fields of sheep, then into the Rheidol Gorge, which was a steep leaf strewn path. Here the Vicar declined to follow, staying to admire the view. It was a scramble! Well worth the descent as well as the upwards journey after. The bridge is now a sturdy metal construction, installed in 1951 to replace the previous wooden plank and chains. The river gushed and boiled below, carving circles and pools out of the rocks as it headed down to the sea.

Cwm Erwbarfe was a great spot for exploring this part of Wales which I had not really visited since a child. It was the Vicar's first time. Amongst some of the memorable sights was when in that stunning scenery we saw an Osprey flying high above us, then settle on a crag along one of the mountain passes. A most relaxing few days.

Heather Witt

Undeb y Mamau ~ Mothers' Union

On Saturday 30th June members and friends left Llanddarog at 9am and headed to Brecon where we had a couple of hours to explore and have coffee before going on to Hay on Wye. Lots going on and to see, several walked along the Wye and visited St. Mary's church. A good day with lovely weather.

The September meeting was a Celebration of Holy Communion followed by a business meeting.

Dates for your Diary

- 17th October Visit to Castell Howell Foods, Crosshands (2.00 pm)
- 3rd November Diocesan AGm Bronwydd Hall (take a packed lunch)
- 8th November Canon Patrick with more tales of Cosmo the Christ Church Cat.
Hostesses Marilyn Jones & Gill Lewis
- 12th November Create and Faith Day 10am till 3.30pm at Christchurch,
- 24th November Autumn Council meeting 10am till 1pm at Bronwydd Hall
Carmarthen
- 10th December Deanery Advent Service 2pm in Llangunnor Church
- 13th December Wendy Davies (Blodwen). Flower arrangements for Christmas.
Hostesses Elizabeth Wills & Heather Witt

Don't forget items for Mission to Seamen, Baby Bundles for Plant Dewi and Cross in your Pocket.

Meetings are in church at 7pm unless stated otherwise. New members always welcome. Enquiries to Jean Voyle Williams 01267 275222

Barbara Quick

"Christmas can be celebrated in the school room with pine trees, tinsel and reindeers, but there must be no mention of the man whose birthday is being celebrated. One wonders how a teacher would answer if a student asked why it was called Christmas."

Ronald Reagan

"When did wishing someone a Merry Christmas become politically incorrect?"
— *Suzanne Woods Fisher, A Lancaster County Christmas*

Newyddion Ysgol Llanddarog

Croeso cynnes nôl i bawb i'r flwyddyn ysgol newydd wedi chwech wythnos o wyliau haf braf iawn. Croeso hefyd i dri disgybl newydd sydd yn dechrau ar eu haddysg yn y Cyfnod Sylfaen - Milo Williams, Ellie Roper a Leo Murphy.

Rydym wedi ailgydio yng ngwaith a phrysurdeb bywyd ysgol unwaith eto ac fel arfer mae yna ddigon i'w edrych ymlaen ato. Themau daearyddol sydd gan yr Adran Iau y tymor hwn. "Y Goedwig Wylt" yw teitl thema Dosbarth 3 a 4 a 'Troi a Llifo,' sef dysgu am daith yr afon, yw teitl thema Dosbarth 5 a 6. 'Cofiwch, Cofiwch' a hefyd Oes Fictoria yw themau'r Cyfnod Sylfaen a fe fyddan yn ymweld ag Amgueddfa Caerfyrddin yn ystod yr wythnosau nesaf er mwyn cael profiad o'r hen ysgol Fictoraidd.

Mae gennym Eco-Gyngor newydd a etholwyd ar ddiwedd tymor yr haf. Llongyfarchiadau i Lili-Ela Jones, Osian Morgan, Bedo Hallam, Menna Evans, Hywel Williams, Siencyn Rhys, Ffion Rees, Cari Wyn Seymour, Hawys Llewelyn Jones a Betsan Plimmer. Maent nawr yn barod i ddechrau ar y gwaith pwysig o gynrychioli a gweithredu syniadau'r disgyblion.

Llongyfarchiadau i Ela Mai Williams Blwyddyn 6 a ddaeth yn ail yng nghystadleuaeth Siocled Divine eleni. Ar ddiwedd tymor yr haf, daeth y Parchedig Tom Defis i'r gwasanaeth boreol i siarad am waith Cymorth Cristnogol ac i gyflwyno y wobr iddi. Cynhaliwyd diwrnod gwisgo dillad traeth i'r ysgol i godi arian at elusen Badau Achub RNLI a chyflwynwyd yr arian i Mrs Sian Moran yn ein gwasanaeth boreol ddydd Llun 23ain o Orffennaf.

Roedd 14 disgybl o Flwyddyn 6 yn ein gadael eleni. Cyn ffarwelio â hwy ar ddiwedd tymor yr haf, buont ar y bererindod flynyddol i Dŷ Ddewi yng nghwmni Mrs Jones, Mrs Evans a Mrs Janet Ingram. Cawsant ddiwrnod cofiadwy wrth gerdded ar hyd arfordir Sir Benfro a chael cyfle i fyfyrion am eu profiadau yn yr ysgol gynradd cyn gorffen y daith gyda gwasanaeth byr o flaen Cysegrfa Dewi Sant yn yr Eglwys Gadeiriol. Dydd Mawrth ola'r tymor, cynhaliwyd y gwasanaeth ymadael yn Eglwys Sant Twrog dan ofal y Ficer pan soniodd pob un ohonynt yn eu tro am eu profiadau yn yr ysgol gynradd a'u gobeithion am y dyfodol. Cyflwynwyd iddynt y Testament Newydd yn rhodd gan yr Eglwys yn ystod y gwasanaeth. Dymunwn y gorau iddynt oll ar ddechrau cyfnod newydd yn eu haddysg yn yr ysgol uwchradd.

Fe fyddwn yn cynnal Bore Coffi Macmillan, ddydd Gwener, 28ain o Fedi yn ffreutur yr ysgol. Felly os am sgwrs fach dros banded o goffi a dewis o gacennau blasus, gwnewch yn siwr i alw mewn atom. Gwyliwch mas am bosteri o gwmpas y pentre! Croeso i bawb!

Marian Evans

Bowlio Dan Do Llanddarog Indoor Bowls

League games are played on Tuesdays with practice nights on Thursdays from 7 to 9pm in the Village Hall. New members welcome. Enquiries to Lewis Jones 275593.

Clwb Cinio/Luncheon Club

Last Tuesday in the month. Yn fisol ar y dydd Mawrth olaf. 1pm Prince of Wales, Porthyrhyd.

Knit and Natter

The knit and natter group sessions are hosted in different group members' houses on the first and third Thursday of each month. We have a lot of fun during our meetings and yet we are still very productive! If you are interested in coming along, contact Margaret Rees on 275479. Don't worry, if you need a lift, we can usually fit one or two more in!

The hosts for this quarter are as follows:

4 October	Celia Bond	15 November	Margaret Morris
18 October	Carol King	6 December	Jenny Youens
1 November	Rosemary Tilley	20 December	Mo Whitehead

Merched y Wawr

Ar Orffennaf 5ed aethom ar ein taith flynyddol i bentref Myddfai. Croesawyd ni gan staff y Neuadd ac roedd te prynhawn yn ein disgwyl yn ogystal â siaradwr a oedd i'n hannerch sef Mr Lyn Richards. Trosglwyddodd i ni ddarlun o Fyddfai ym mhumdegau'r ganrif ddiwethaf. Cyfeiriodd at ddyfodiad trydan a theledu i'r gymdogaeth, at ddyfodiad y Tywysog Siarl yn gymharol ddiweddar ac ymwelwyr yn sgil hynny. Wrth gwrs roedd rhaid rhoi crynodeb o hanes Rhiwallon a'r ferch hardd a gododd o'r llyn a'i thri o feibion a ddaeth yn enwog fel Meddygon Myddfai. Cyn dychwelyd adre aethom o gwmpas Eglwys Sant Mihangel a chlywed peth o'i hanes yn dechrau yn y ddeunawfed ganrif.

Cawsom wahoddiad i ymuno â Changen Llangyndeyrn ar Fedi 6^{ed} pan fydd Tweli Griffiths yn siaradwr gwadd.

Bydd ein cyfarfod cyntaf o'r tymor a'r 19^{eg} o Fedi am 7.15y.h. yn Neuadd y Pentref, ein gwestai cyntaf fydd Siân Davies – Podiatrist (Chiropodist).

Ar Hydref 17^{eg} cynhelir Noson Goffi yng nghwmni Alun Wyn Bevan, tocynnau yn £5 a rhannir elw'r noson rhwng elusen Cancr Y Fron a M.Y.W.

Estynnir Gwahoddiad a chroeso cynnes i bawb. Cysylltwch â Eirwen 275593 neu Megan 275461.

Neuadd y Pentre Llanddarog Village Hall

Addas ar gyfer pob math o weithgareddau yn y Brif Neuadd, cegin hwylus, ystafell gefn ar gyfer gweithgareddau llai o faint maes parcio eang. / Looking for a place to hold an event, then Llanddarog Village Hall is the place with a main hall, a committee room, a spacious kitchen and a large car park. Cysylltwch/Contact: Mair Davies 275271/ 07527933331

Paned a Chlonc

On the second and fourth Tuesday in school term time, following the usual 10 o'clock morning prayer service, we meet in the community area of the church at 10.30 to share coffee and chat so that Welsh learners have an opportunity to practise their Welsh. See Dates for your Diary here in Tafod Twrog. All are welcome.

Porthyrhyd & Llanddarog Pensioners Society

Having enjoyed a wonderful summer with trips to Aberaeron and St. Davids we look forward to travelling to the Isle of Wight from 29th October to 2nd November.

Our meetings will be:-

October 2nd A thanksgiving Service for the NHS.

November 6th Behind the Black Door (No.10 Downing St.)

December 4th Christmas Lunch.

Which will conclude a very active year.

New members are always welcome as we all enjoy the friendship and activities offered by the society. Meetings are held at Neuadd Fach, Porthyrhyd on the first Tuesday of the month unless otherwise stated and begin at 2pm. Enquiries to Marion Little 01267 275507.

Porthyrhyd, Y Neuadd Fach

The Hire of The Hall and Cae'r Efail: The hall is an ideal venue for private parties, group meetings or conferences. If you wish to hire the Hall or Cae'r Efail please contact Mair Evans 01267 275411 or e-mail mairevans@hotmail.com or 01267 275730 / Mae'r Neuadd Fach ar gael i'w llogi ar gyfer cyfarfodydd, dosbarthiadau, partion ac ati. Ffoniwch 01267 275411 neu 01267 275730

Noson Nadoligaidd: Rhagfyr 11^{eg}

Christmas Carols: December 11th

Sioe Llanddarog Show

We were fortunate that the Show held on the 23rd June and were fortunate with a sunny day, which attracted a record attendance and exhibitors from far afield. Chairman, Emyr Williams, welcomed visitors and introduced this year's show presidents Mr and Mrs Eirwyn Williams, Llwynonill.

An attraction in the marquee again this year was the display in the children's section of items prepared beforehand and also on show day, thanks to the School Staff for their assistance in organising. Cerys Best of Year 4 in Llanddarog School designed the cover page for this year's show schedule.

Despite the added restrictions on animal movements and quarantine requirements there were record entries in the sheep section but with cattle entries slightly lower. There were large entries for the vintage tractors, the dog shows and horse-jumping. Afternoon events were completed with a fun tug of war competition between teams from various groups within the community.

Local groups Baldande, Soul Dragon and the Welsh Whisperer provided the evening entertainment in the marquee.

Committee members wish to thank all those who assisted, competed and visited the show and helped make it a thoroughly enjoyable event. The Committee is also grateful to Mr and Mrs Rees, Ty'r Llain for their generous donation from proceeds of the Open Garden Day.

The Annual Dinner will be held on Friday the 21st. September at the Red Lion, Llandyfaelog with the AGM held on the 26th September.

For further information visit our web-site www.sioellanddarogshow.co.uk or contact Lewis Jones on secretary@sioellanddarogshow.co.uk

Llanddarog and District Women's Institute

Programme for this quarter:

October 3 rd	Send a Cow to Africa
October 11 th	Autumn Group Meeting.
November 7 th	A.G.M.
November 17 th	Annual Council Meeting with speakers Mary Thorley & Tori James.
December 12 th	A Christmas Celebration.

We meet in the committee room of Neuadd y Pentre, Llanddarog at 7pm on the first Wednesday of each month. New members are always welcome, please contact Marion Little 01267 275507.

YFC/C. Ff. I Llanddarog

Cysylltiadau: Caryl Jones ar 07875797587 neu carylj96@hotmail.co.uk.

A REMINDER

Thank you to those who are using www.thegivingmachine.co.uk when purchasing online. They have already helped raised much needed funds for our church.

St Twrog's is signed up to "TheGivingMachine" website and you can help to raise donations for our Church from the comfort of your armchair or desk. What's more, it won't cost you a penny and it's very easy to do! The donations are paid for by commissions from participating retailers and paid to the charity of your choice.

In order to start claiming free cash donations please go to: <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/parish-of-llanddarog> and join today.

Please also download the Shop&Give application at: <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/shop-and-give/>

It takes just a few minutes to install on your web browser and means that every time you click onto a retailer that supports this scheme you will get a prompt asking you to donate. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Many thanks and we look forward to the free donations rolling in.

Rob Jones (Treasurer) 01267 275756



GWASANAETHAU'R SUL YN EGLWYS Y PLWYF
SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Sul/Sunday 1	Cymun Bendigaid	9.30 am	Evensong	5 pm
Sul/Sunday 2	Boreol Weddi	9.30 am	Holy Communion	5 pm
Sul/Sunday 3	Holy Communion	9.30 am	Service in the Botanic Gardens	2.30 pm
Sul/Sunday 4	Cymun Bendigaid	9.30 am	Holy Communion	11 am
Sul/Sunday 5	Cymun dwyieithog gyda eglwysi eraill LLannau Tywi / Bilingual Holy Communion with the other churches in the Ministry Area of Llannau Tywi. Lluniaeth i dillyn/ Refreshments to follow			10 am

SWYDDOGION ST TWROG OFFICIALS

WARDENIAID/WARDENS		Mrs Mair Rees	285396
		Mr Huw Voyle-Williams	275222
TRYSORYDD/TREASURER		Mr Robert Jones	275756
YSGRIFENNYDD/SECRETARY		Miss Vilna Thomas	275372
UNDEB Y MAMAU/ MOTHERS' UNION	Secretary	Mrs Mair Rees	275396
	Treasurer	Mrs Margaret Rees	275479
CLWB IAU		Mrs Helen Beynon	275623
		Mrs Sian Plimmer	07761083414
		Mrs Maria Jones	07528378374
GLANHAUWRAIG/CLEANER		Mrs Pam Roper	275656
SWYDDOG DIOGELWCH IECHYD/ HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER		Mr Huw Voyle Williams	275222
SWYDDOG DIOGELU/SAFEGUARDING OFFICER		Mrs Daphne Evans	275666
WEBSITE COORDINATOR / CYDLNYDD Y WEFAN		Mrs Margaret Rees	275479