

# St. Dyfnog's Church Newsletter.

Llanrhaeadr.

November 2009.

*All Saints ( Nov 1<sup>st</sup> ) & All Souls ( Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> )*

From the Vicar

*" See I make all things new. " ( Revelation 21:5 )*

The world around us continually demonstrates God's power to restore and renew. Autumn by autumn the leaves fall from the trees, but in next to no time new buds swell up and in the spring nothing can hold back the new life. Day by day the sun goes down and darkness falls, but come the morning the cycle begins again. New day, new life. Every day the same is true of ourselves as human beings. We fall into bed exhausted, activity ceases and sleep overtakes us like a mini-death - but in a matter of hours we bounce back.

November is the first month of winter, the sun loses its warmth and there's dampness in the air. Yet this month the festivals of All Saints and All Souls give us the opportunity to say " Thank You " for the prize-winners and the more ordinary folk of Christian history - those people who found new life in responding to Jesus Christ in their lives.

In a few days we will have the fireworks and we can imagine them as a celebration of All Saints and All Souls - rockets bursting into stars, crackers surprising us with their noise, the roman candles burning long and so brightly and the sparklers which light up the faces of those we love.

November may have its short days and darkness but it is brightened by the fireworks just as the gloom of a troubled world is dispelled, by saints made new.

*" See - I am making all things new. "*

Michael

## The Cardi Bach.

Life can sometimes be like an Ealing film comedy. Imagine, if you will, a bus driver on a remote rural run grovelling under his vehicle in order to rescue a wood pigeon. The bird had been injured by a falcon and carefully placed it on the verge, although it had probably lost its power of flight.

I witnessed this when taking a day out on the Cardi Bach a small bus which goes to places which other buses don't reach in Ceredigion. While other holiday makers were lying on Mediterranean beaches we spent a very pleasant holiday in West Wales and the trips on the little bus were the highlight.

At another point on the journey Ian, our driver, suddenly stopped the bus, jumped down from his seat and proceeded to pick some damsons which he had spotted in the hedgerow. He then distributed them among the passengers.

A Scottish vicar got off at Aberporth but not before he had shaken hands with all the passengers and the driver.

A man joined up at Llangrannog and Ian announced that he was the presenter of a motoring programme on Sky television. It seemed rather ironic that he should be travelling by bus!

At Mwnt the driver invited passengers to spend a few minutes in the beautiful whitewashed church there.

Ian was knowledgeable about some of the places of worship and drew our attention to the neglected and overgrown churchyard at Llangranog.

Cardigan Bay, with its headlands, beaches and secluded coves are all encompassed by the Cardi Bach and we can hardly wait to return there next year in order to take a further ride.

Dewi Roberts.

**Christmas is coming and this is an opportunity to save your STAMPS , these we send off to the Society who raise funds for research into Retinitis Pigmentosa (an incurable eye disease) a box is to be found in church, by the hymn books. Thank you.**

## **The Jesse Window**

On October 10<sup>th</sup> the Worshipful Company of Glaziers from York visited St. Dyfnog's to view the Jesse window.

They had travelled by coach and the Vicar welcomed them on behalf of all present.

Dr Sarah Brown, who is based at York University, spoke about the window. She mentioned the painstaking work carried out by Medieval craftsmen which resulted in the sumptuous colours which characterise it.

In summing up Dr. Brown described it as the finest window of its kind in England and Wales, a view which was shared by the late Mostyn Lewis in his book on stained glass in places of worship.

A member of the Glaziers then presented Jane and Michael with gifts to remember their visit.

**Dewi Roberts**

**A Cook's Tour - ( cont. ) 19<sup>th</sup> Century.**

The eating day was broken up into four meals - a substantial breakfast, lunch in the club or chop house for father or nursery or light lunch for the wife and family at home, afternoon tea and early evening dinner.

For the grander occasions the old two courses of a dozen or so dishes had become dinner a la Russe by the 1850s where the servants served individual items in relays to the diners. (this did lengthen the meal time by at least another hour) The men, however, were expected to join the ladies in the dining room for tea or coffee before too long!

The 19<sup>th</sup> century published the cookery book for the guidance of inexperienced young housewives. The most famous, of course, was Mrs Beeton's "Book of Household Management" in 1862. By 1868 nearly two million copies were sold. As she wrote, Men are so well served out of doors - at their clubs, well-ordered taverns and dining houses that in order to compete with attractions of these places, a mistress must be thoroughly acquainted with the theory and practice of cookery" Recipes were for large numbers to include plenty of children and servants, filling enough for a lack of central heating and an active life. Meat was predominant and fish, but few vegetables and filling puddings and pastries.

#### Chestnut Pudding.

Contains 11/2 dozen boiled chestnuts, beaten with sweet sherry, mixed with 2 quarts cream, 12 yolks of egg 3/4 whites beaten with sherry and sugar and butter. Bake in puff pastry.

The height day of Edwardian rich was a series of parties and picnics, dinners and receptions, backed by an adequate staff of servants and full larders.

The Great War was the end of this epoch.

#### 20thCentury.

WW1 did not have rationing introduced until the winter 1917/18. To begin with imports were not cut off. With bumper harvests and extra land production food rationing and the Ministry of Food were not regarded as necessary till later in the war, after failing crops and shortages. Conscription had revealed a much poorer standard of general health than had been realised - only a third of the conscripts was fully fit for military service. Recipes became economical and more vegetables were eaten.

#### Post War (WW1)

Social changes after the war affected eating habits. Servants became rarer. The munitions factories had offered higher wages, more independence and camaraderie. Books and magazines on cookery increased to help the hapless middleclass housewife or hostess since the 1930s aimed at entertaining. Publications lacked the superb, appetising colour photographs of to-day and were rather upmarket in their aspirations. They did not suit working-class women who prepared the food their mothers knew. There was still a class-consciousness that was dissolving uneasily.

There was a realisation that domestic science required training and service must be

replaced by technology. Training colleges were opened. Ovens, refrigerators, washing machines, vacuum cleaners were mass produced. Travel introduced people to new ideas of eating habits from foreign cultures. Nutrition and dieting were linked to the fashions of the day. Vegetarianism and the Mediterranean diet, as well as a strong American influence, brought a new awareness and interest in cookery. Regional cookery became significant. Florence White published "Good Things in England" in 1932 as a leading member of the English Folk Cookery Association.

#### Pontac Sauce.

1 pint ripe elderberries.  $\frac{3}{4}$  pint vinegar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teasp. Salt, mace or root of ginger, **12** cloves, **40** peppercorns, 4 shallots.

Pour vinegar over elderberries and let jar stand all night in a cool oven. Strain. Boil the liquid for 5 minutes with spices and shallots. Bottle when cold with spices. Should be kept **for seven years.**

**Vera Lamb** ( to be continued. )

#### **Mothers' Union.**

A very successful Open Meeting was held on October 7<sup>th</sup>. At Tros y Parc, by kind invitation of Stephen and Camilla Cheshire. Many guests were welcomed and all present thoroughly enjoyed the talk by Mrs Norma Walmsley of Pantasaph, Holywell, on her ten years' experience as governess to the children of the Sultan of Brunei. It was evident, amid all the lavish splendour of the royal court, that her services were greatly appreciated and her influence has been lasting on the children.

Members, and even guests, had generously provided refreshments of all sorts for the afternoon tea and for the cake stall. The total proceeds will help swell the diocesan total for the Mothers' Union project for 2009, namely Overseas work. Special thanks go to the "Kitchen staff" - Marilyn, Pam (Prion), Shirley - as well as Judith who had come as a guest! They did wonders with all the food, washing up and repacking of crockery etc.

It was truly a memorable afternoon!

**Helen Jenkin Jones**

#### **Connect and Encourage.**

You will find in church the winter edition of the magazine Connect and Encourage, it is well worth spending a few minutes reading it. The subject dealt with is some of the individuals imprisoned world wide for their beliefs, and how it is possible to write letters of encouragement to these people. Spend a little time reading their replies they desperately need to know that they are not alone. You will have noticed the white tree branches in church, with little labels hanging, each of these represents one of the people imprisoned for their beliefs.

#### **A selection from Church Bulletins**

Ladies don't forget the Rummage Sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again", giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir they need all the help they can get.

Next Sunday the Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing - "Break forth into Joy."

Weight-Watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

### **Mum's House Rules (for a happy home)**

If you can sleep in it, make it up.

If you can wear it, hang it up.

If you drop it, pick it up.

If you spill it, wipe it up.

If you eat out of it, wash it up.

If you open it, close it up.

If you empty it, fill it up.

If it rings, answer it.

If it howls, feed it.

If it cries, love it,

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD.**

Once again it is time to fill the shoe boxes for Operation Christmas child, last year we sent 106, hopefully, this year we will increase this. These boxes are so important for the children who receive them, so please pick up a box next time you are in church - return by 15<sup>th</sup> November.

*One Thursday afternoon a group of dedicated ladies gathered in church to cover the shoe boxes for Christmas Child, everybody had their own 'quicke' way of doing the boxes, no two boxes were alike! Thank you ladies and a special 'thank you' to Allan for the very welcome pot of tea (served in Krithias best cups and saucers, fresh from the kiln!)*

### **Diary Notes - November / December**

- November 8<sup>th</sup> 11am Remembrance Sunday prayers at the War Memorial  
11.15 Morning Prayer and Act of Remembrance
- 15<sup>th</sup> 11.15 Holy Eucharist - Shoe Box Sunday
- 29<sup>th</sup> 11.15 Advent 2009 - Service of Hymns & Readings
- December 5<sup>th</sup> 10am Christmas Fair at St Dyfnog's
- 13<sup>th</sup> 4pm " Carols for Cancer " - Village Carol Service / Concert  
An opportunity to prepare for Christmas through word and music and to support those whose lives have been affected by cancer.( n.b. 8.30am Holy Eucharist - **No 11.15 Service** )
- 20<sup>th</sup> 11.15 Service of Readings & Carols for Christmas
- 24<sup>th</sup> 11.30 First Eucharist of Christmas
- 25<sup>th</sup> 11.15 Christmas Morning Holy Eucharist
- 27<sup>th</sup> 11.15 Morning Prayer ( **N.B. No 6pm Welsh Eucharist / C.B.**  )
- 31<sup>st</sup> 6pm Compline and Prayers for Peace in a New Year

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### Quiz

**Q:** Who was the greatest male financier in the Bible?

**A:** Noah - he was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

**Q:** Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

**A:** Samson - he brought the house down.

**Q:** Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

**A:** Pharaoh's daughter - she went down to the banks of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

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