



VIEW OVER THE FIELDGATE

The season of self indulgence is over! My liver and stomach are more than happy for me to be back in work (shame the rest of me in on holiday)! Fieldgate Towers turned into an episode of “Butterflies” as the left over food is used in all manner of concoctions. I expect to come home one day and find Mother Fieldgate standing over a cauldron with a half empty bottle of eye of newt! If anyone has any recipes for left over Christmas fayre I am more than happy to include for next year...BUT...please leave out any involving eye of newts!

At the moment I'm watching the snow swirling around the garden and thinking people could be reading this magazine amongst daffodils, primroses and bluebells...which seems a long way off from the snow laden fields and roofs. Our snowdrops were shooting quite nicely until the snow dropped on them (if anyone wants to see snowdrops, I recommend the wonderful displays at the Rococco Gardens in Painswick, Stroud, Glos www.rococogarden.org.uk) or there is usually a nice display in the green lane by The Cripple Creek, but this year they are not as good as past years, perhaps the recent wet summers are having an effect on them? Hopefully the wild daffodils and bluebells on Clytha Hill won't suffer the same fate. Why not don a pair of sturdy shoes and have a look around the Parish at the spring flowers in the hedgerows.

On the downside, the Parish is down to two Priest led Church Services a month for a while – the first Sunday at 3pm and the third Sunday at 8.30am, and Claire Bradley will be taking a Service on the second Sunday but you need to keep an eye on the pew sheets for confirmation of the times.

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It is with great pleasure that I write this first epistle with the news from St Peter's Church, Bryngwyn. Last December saw a number of excellent services starting with advent carols on 2nd & closely followed by our own Coffee & Carols evening which will be reported on in another article. The big success was most certainly the Candlelit Carol Service on Sunday 23rd December at 3.00 p.m. We saw over 70 people at the church & it was wonderful to see so many friends from near & far. David Parry gave his usual performance of "Oh Holy Night" & we had three excellent renditions from the choir as well as our own usual readings & carols. On behalf of the PCC I would like to thank all those who took part, whether reading, playing or singing. The whole service saw warmth of sharing so relevant to the Christmas season. It was also an occasion where we were able to give some small tokens of our appreciation to several people who have been of help to the church not only during the past year but also over very many years. David Parry was thanked & given an appreciation of his driving some distance to play the organ at our services once a month as well as this Christmas service. The "two vicars" Rev Joan & Rev Sheila were both acknowledged & our warm wishes were extended to Rev Joan embarking on a three month sabbatical. Rev Sheila was also wished well in taking the helm in Joan's absence. I am sure that anything we can do to help will be gratefully accepted by her. Finally gifts of garden tokens in appreciation were given to Sam Inglefield for all his years as Treasurer, although he now continues as Churchwarden, & to Olwen for her years as Churchwarden. We hope that their gardens flourish & that we may enjoy the results in future visits! The service ended with tea, coffee & mince pies & our apologies go to those who had to wait for their tea due to the numbers of people attending!

Sheila Vaughan was also thanked at our Christmas Morning service which was also well attended. This novice Churchwarden was embarrassed at not having put the baby Jesus in his place at the crib scene in time for the service to begin! However all turned out well & we were able to welcome him in the usual manner.

During December there were many meetings of discussion on the way our group of churches (Raglan, Llandenny & Bryngwyn) would be run during Rev Joan's sabbatical. The final agreement was that Llandenny & Bryngwyn would only have two clergy led services during the first three months of the year. Thus Bryngwyn has a 3pm service on the first Sunday & an 8.30am service on the 3rd Sunday of the month. We have since been discussing holding some other services on the alternative Sundays & as at writing we are in discussion with Clare Bradley from Raglan, who has volunteered to take some services, over the possibility of morning service on the second Sunday. Often there are to be joint services on the fourth Sunday or alternatively we could visit one of our sister churches. A form with these possibilities has been circulated, & is also attached in this newsletter. Please let either Sam Inglefield or myself know your views. These arrangements will all be reviewed after Easter & Joan's return. I wish you all a happy & peaceful new year & look forward to seeing as many people as possible at our services over the next few months.

Kay Spencer, Churchwarden



The only event held of late has been the Coffee & Carols evening at Plas Hendy on December 7th at Plas Hendy. Again we had a really successful evening with the usual warm welcome & traditional glass of mulled wine from the Crawley family. A tremendous atmosphere prevailed in the packed room with almost 60 people in the room & more helpers outside in the Hallway & Kitchen. Molly Brickley-Clark a very talented young person, who is well known for her appearances on stage in the Borough Theatre, gave an excellent programme of entertainment & the usual carols were as ever sung with gusto! A successful raffle was organised by Carol & Sue with the hamper being won by Judy Jenkins who was delighted with the gift. Everyone enjoyed the buffet supper & went home full of Christmas spirit! The evening raised over £500 for the funds – a well appreciated amount. Our grateful thanks go as ever to the Crawley family & to all those who contributed in any way towards the evening.

The entertainment committee has not yet met this year due to our Chairman, Olwen having been suffering a really nasty cold, but we will do so soon & would appreciate suggestions as to what people would like to have in the village in support of the Church this year. Possibilities include a garden party at Bryngwyn Manor & maybe something in conjunction with the Hall committee. It has also been suggested that we move the Coffee & Carols to the Hall this December so your views on that would also be appreciated.

Kay Spencer, Churchwarden

From Fieldgate: We hear on the grapevine that Helen Hayward is hoping to have her operation very soon and we all wish her a full recovery...she will be up and about within our Parish and community before we know it...which is very welcome as she has been greatly missed at the village and Church events.

Also from Fieldgate: We wish Rev Sheila Toms a very happy birthday on the 28th January when she celebrates her 21st birthday...again...and again...and again...!

Finally from Fieldgate: we wish Iris Richardson a speedy recovery as she is currently in Nevill Hall Hospital.

COFFEE BREAK



CRACKER JOKES

When is a door not a door?
When it's a-jar!

What did the beaver say to the tree?
Nice gnawing you!

Which pantomime is set in a chemist's shop?
Puss in Boots!

What do you get if you cross a stereo with a refrigerator?
Cool Music!

Who is the most famous singing elf?
Elf-is!

From Fieldgate: okay, with jokes this bad, who else is glad we only pull crackers at Christmas?

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		6	4					



OK, Show of hands...
Who's tired of snow?

St Peter's Church, Bryngwyn

Due to the sabbatical for Rev Joan there will only be two clergy-led Eucharist/Holy Communion services per month. Therefore for January to April there will be Eucharist at 3 p.m. on the first Sunday and 8.30 a.m. on the third Sunday. On the alternate Sundays there will be services in Raglan and Llandenny but should there be sufficient interest then other forms of worship, not requiring an ordained priest could be held.

Please indicate below which services you would be interested in attending:

Morning Prayer

Songs of Praise

Evening Prayer

Informal worship (Coffee, fellowship and a discussion of the day's readings)

Please return to Church Wardens – Sam or Kay



The last get together in 2012 was greeted with howls of laughter when the ladies of the Committee put on a mini pantomime written by Sandra Gunter, members saw a side of their Committee they had never seen before, nor are likely to see again!!!!!!

The pantomime was just part of the Christmas festivities enjoyed by members. Tables were decorated & there was a Christmas tree, with lights, to put everyone in the Christmas spirit.

Attention was drawn to the photograph in the Gwent WI Newsletter of Diane Watkins, President, & Carole Tranter, Secretary, at the Jubilee bonfire on Clytha Hill. The programme for 2013 was now completed & will cater for all tastes. Members enjoyed quizzes, consequences, pass the parcel & honesty Up & Down games. A festive buffet supplied by all & finished the evening with Father Christmas distributing presents & everyone singing carols

January 2013 saw us seeing the New Year in with a meal at the Cripple Creek. As usual Rob & his team provided an excellent meal & hospitality.

If you would like to join us please contact Carole Tranter, Secretary on 01291-690341 or e-mail carole@illa2.plus.com

We meet the first Thursday of each month arriving at Crawley Hall at 7.30 p.m.

We wish you all a Happy, Prosperous & Healthy 2013

On a personal note I would like to thank everyone who enquired after I was unexpectedly admitted to Nevill Hall Hospital for 5 days.

I have confounded medical science – they can't find anything wrong with me!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Carole Tranter

The Church in Wales has introduced a new scheme called Gift Direct to simplify the way in which parishioners can support the church.

This is being introduced in the parish of Bryngwyn & it is hoped that in time it will largely take the place of the traditional church plate collection.

The way it will work is that regular members of the congregation & others who wish to give money to the church will be asked to complete a form which authorizes a regular monthly direct debit to the Representative Body of the Church in Wales.

The scheme will be centrally administered (with no charge) by the Representative body & the money will be credited on a monthly basis to the Bryngwyn parish bank account.

This scheme can be used by anyone, whether or not they are taxpayers (who it is hoped will use it in place of the gift aid envelope scheme). For those who qualify for gift aid, the Representative Body will reclaim the tax & add this to the monthly repayment to the parish.

The advantages of this scheme are many including making life easier for the giver, who will no longer have to find cash, for church treasurers who will no longer have to deal with cash collections & take them to the bank & for the parish itself which will be assured of a regular & predictable source of income.

It will still be possible for those who prefer to give cash either on the collection plate or in a gift box as they leave a service. Those who give by Gift Direct may also, if they wish, put additional money on the plate or in the gift box.

Forms will shortly be available from the churchwardens (Kay Spencer & Sam Inglefield) or from the treasurer Helen Hayward.

Sam Inglefield, Churchwarden

DATES OF NOTE

2013

24th March Palm Sunday Service
10am St Peter's Church

31st March Easter Sunday Service
8.30am St Peter's Church

7th April PCC Annual Vestry Meeting

13th September Harvest Service, St Peter's Church
Harvest Lunch, Crawley Hall

6th December Concert

8th December Coffee and Carols Evening
7.30pm

***SUBMISSIONS FOR

NEXT MAGAZINE BY

15th MARCH 2013 ***

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PCC

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BRYNGWYN MAGAZINE

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CHURCH SERVICES & ROTAS

	Date	Time	Readers	Flowers & Cleaning
February	3 rd	3pm	J Fletcher; K Spencer	
	10 th	See pew sheet	C Davies; S Inglefield	K Spencer
	17 th	6pm	O Smith; H Hayward	O Parry
	24 th			
March	3 rd	3pm	D Inglefield; B Fletcher	
	10 th	See pew sheet	Sian; J Fletcher	
	17 th	8.30am	C Davies; K Spencer	B Davies O Smith
	24 th	10am	K Spencer; S Inglefield	
	31 st			