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Parish Magazine



50p

May 2017



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Services

Holy Trinity Church

Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Eucharist
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- Matins followed by shortened Eucharist (2nd Sunday)
- Family Worship (5th Sunday when applicable – Eucharist included in service or follows it)
- 5.00 pm Evening Prayer
- 6.00 pm Exploring Worship – in Church Hall (2nd Sunday unless notified otherwise)

Weekdays

- 8.30 am ~~Morning Prayer (Tue, Wed, Thurs & Fri)~~ Canceled TFN
- 9.00 am Holy Eucharist (Wed)
- 11.00 am Holy Eucharist (Thurs & major saints' days)
- Holy Eucharist in Welsh (Sat)
- 5.00 pm Evening Prayer (Tue, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

Parish of Llandudno
Piwyf Llandudno

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St. Tudno's Church, Great Orme

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer (Sat)
- 11.00 am Open Air Service (Sun from end of May to end of September)
- On the first Sunday of each month, the service is followed by a shortened Eucharist in the church.

The pattern of Sunday and Weekday services sometimes changes. Please check the calendar in each month's magazine and the weekly bulletin.

The Rector is in Holy Trinity church on most Saturday mornings from 11.30 - 12.00 to see parishioners on any matter – for confessions, spiritual guidance, the booking of baptisms or weddings etc.

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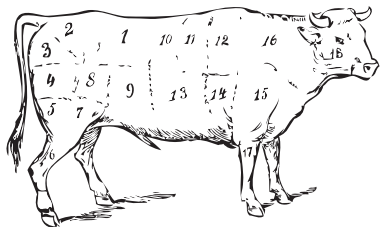
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The deadline for copy for any edition is the 7th of the previous month. Please leave copy in box near pulpit in Holy Trinity Church or e-mail:

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R. EVANS



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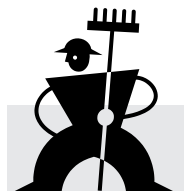
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Clergy & Officers

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From the Rectory

“My beloved speaks and says to me: ‘Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.’”

(Song of Solomon 2:10-12)

To my mind this is one of the most joyous passages in the Old Testament, perhaps in the whole of the Bible. It is a celebration of the new life of spring and the hope and joy that this season brings. This celebration is set within a book, the *Song of Solomon* (or the *Song of Songs*), which can be read both as a wonderful celebration of human sexual love and also the love between God and the human soul. In the passage the lover invites his (or her) beloved to celebrate their love in the context of the new life of nature.

Spring begins rather tentatively in March, gets going in April, and really bursts into life in May. So it's not surprising that May is associated with fertility, both human and in the world of nature around us. Quite possibly May customs such as dancing around the maypole had their origins in ancient fertility rites.



Many Christians keep May as a month particularly associated with Mary, the Mother of the Lord. Why should this be? In his poem *The May Magnificat*, Gerard Manley Hopkins asks just this question:

“May is Mary’s month, and I
Muse at that and wonder
why....”

He goes on to speak of how, in her motherhood Mary is at one with all the mothering going on in nature in spring and how the joy seen in nature reminds her of how, as an expectant mother, she praised God in her Magnificat. Underlying this, I think is the notion that Mary’s fertility in bringing the Christ to birth can be compared to the fertility of nature in Spring.

So spring can be for us both a celebration of the new life of nature, a celebration of human sexuality and love, a celebration of Mary’s motherhood and spiritual fertility, and of course of God’s love for each one of us.

And of course, with all this going on, we continue to celebrate the new life of Easter, the new life offered to us by the risen Christ. Truly a month for rejoicing!

Fr. John

News and Notices

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week this year is 14-20 May. An article on Christian Aid and how you can help can be read on page 24. A coffee morning is to be held on Saturday 20 May from 10.30 am till 1.30 pm. Offers of baking would be very much appreciated.

Angela Pritchard

Lent Compline Study Group

It was a great pleasure to host the Llandudno and Rhoscystennin Joint Parishes Lent Compline & Study Group Meetings at St. David's Hospice again this year. The Hospice is always pleased to welcome local communities, and attendances were good averaging 23 per Wednesday.

May I thank all those who contributed so generously to the collection on the final Wednesday which raised the magnificent sum of £170. As agreed, this year the money has gone into hospice funds and the donation is very much appreciated. I am also grateful to the two volunteers who took on the job of opening up the reception and greeting people as they arrived.

Personally, I found both the Complines and study group meetings very helpful and meaningful, so thanks to the clergy for leading us. It was good to be with

friends from both parishes.

With best wishes

Revd Jane Allen
Hospice Chaplain

Action on Hearing Loss

On behalf of myself, and the Action on Hearing Loss Cymru team, I would like to say a big "thank you" for volunteering and helping out at last Saturday's (18th March) coffee morning. We raised a total of £279.60 on the day

Your support is crucial to ensuring that we gain awareness of the charity to support our vital work with people that are deaf and hard of hearing

Hearing loss affects 1 in 6 people; this means over half a million people in Wales alone. Many of these people will at some point feel isolated and lonely. Through our services and projects, Action on Hearing Loss Cymru works to improve the lives of people who are deaf or hard of hearing by providing advice, information and invaluable support to help make a positive change for the future.

All this would not be impossible without the generosity and support of people such as you. With your help we can continue to support people who rely on our services. We can

also reach and engage with individuals who could currently benefit from our services but have yet to seek help for their hearing loss.

Thank you for your support!

Kind regards,

Colin Evans

Terry Dewar adds he and Colin would like to thank everyone who helped on the day.

St. Tudno's Church

For Palm Sunday, St. Tudno's followed an old country tradition of decorating the church with willow catkins. These also used to be carried in Palm Sunday

processions instead of palms and an alternative name for pussy willow is therefore "palm".

The annual service of Light and Shadows was held at St. Tudno's on the Wednesday in Holy Week. This was a joint service with Aberconwy Mission area and was led by Revd Peter Walker, with 26 people attending. The service began with lighting of candles, which were gradually extinguished during reading of the Passion Gospel, with the old Paschal Candle being the final one to be put out. The moving service ended in darkness with singing of a worship hymn. After the service the altar was stripped in preparation for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.



Traditional willow catkins decorations at St. Tudno's for Palm Sunday.



Service of Light and Shadows at St. Tudno's Church.

At the beginning of the Easter Liturgy at St. Tudno's, at 5.30 am on Easter Day, the new Paschal Candle was lit from a new fire. Eighteen people braved the early hour and slightly inclement weather to attend this beautiful service. The Rector sang the ancient Easter hymn, the Exsultet, and the service included the Vigil readings, renewal of Baptismal Vows and the first Eucharist of Easter. After the service, breakfast

was provided by the Friends of St. Tudno's Church.

The churchyard tour leaflet has been finalised and printed, with many thanks to Andy Leitch for the design work. The self-guided tour provides an introduction to the history of the churchyard and the wildlife to be found there and visits a number of graves with interesting stories or memorials. The various stopping points are indicated by white



Father John sings the ancient Easter Exsultet at St. Tudno's Church.

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Exploring St. Tudno's Churchyard



Welcome to St. Tudno's Churchyard; we hope that you will enjoy following this short tour. The tour provides an introduction to the history of the churchyard and the wildlife to be found here, and visits a number of graves with interesting stories or memorials. All of these can be seen from the main tarmac and grass paths. For your own safety please keep to these as the ground in the churchyard is very uneven.

A separate leaflet suggests activities for children. There is a map overleaf.

The new St. Tudno's Churchyard tour leaflet.

stone markers and the tour uses the main paths. Leaflets can be found in the lych-gate and the church and we do hope that you will try out and enjoy the tour. A complimentary leaflet with activities for children is being produced.

There will be two working parties in May to prepare St. Tudno's for the summer season and details can be found in the Friends of St. Tudno's article.

The first open air service will be on Sunday 28 May at 11.00 am and a free taxi will depart from Holy Trinity at 10.30 am. The church is open every day and Morning Prayer is said there most Saturdays at 9.00 am. We look forward to seeing you at St. Tudno's.

**Christine Jones
Shirley Georgeson**

Winter Coffee Mornings

This year we had 20 weekly coffee mornings. Thanks to both our regular local customers and holiday makers, we were able to raise £2524. Our nominated charity is Llandudno Carers – this will continue until October 2017.

Many thanks to our wonderful team – Linda, Jen, Trish, Barbara, Gladys, Ron, Vernon & Roz. All have worked extremely hard, some at very short notice. Additional thanks to Barbara for baking every week.

We are looking for helpers! – It doesn't have to be every week. We seek people who are willing to join our reserve list.

The members of our team who have helped every Wednesday from April 2016 until April 2017 raised a total of £6674. Very many thanks again everyone who has helped to make up our team. The summer season started again on 26 April 2017. We appreciate your support.

Joyce Smith – 875451

150 Club

The March draw was held during the PCC meeting on the 20th April 2017 as there had been no coffee mornings for the last two weeks.

The prize fund stood at £150 and the following three winning numbers were drawn:

1st	Number 89	
	Eurig Jones	£90
2nd	Number 134	
	Marjorie Jones	£40
3rd	Number 67	
	David Brooks	£20

Congratulations to all the winners.

An updated list of all the winners is displayed on the notice boards in the Church hall and inside the main Church entrance.

Since this Club was started back in November 2013 we have paid out £5920.00p in prize money.

The next draw will take place on Wednesday, 10th May 2017 during the coffee morning about 11am.

It is not too late to join the 150 Club. Forms are available at the back of the Church.

The more people involved will mean that we will have bigger prizes and maybe more of them.



The cooks at St. Tudno's Church enjoying their own Easter breakfast.



Easter breakfast at St. Tudno's.

Do you know someone who would like to join in this great adventure (Must be 16 years of age or over). Maybe you have a friend or relative who may be interested.

May I again thank everyone for your continuing support in this project?

Terry Dewar (Organiser)

Friends of St. Tudno's Church

The Friends were involved in the Holy Week and Easter services at St. Tudno's and provided breakfast after the Easter Liturgy. Maria Duda and Harry Ford cooked bacon in the church porch for a nutritious breakfast of bacon baps,

marmalade muffins and mini chocolate Easter eggs!

There will be two working parties in May to prepare the church for the summer season and clear cut grass to encourage wildlife. These will be on Friday 12 and Saturday 13 May, both from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm and we will be joined on the Friday by Archdeacon Paul of Bangor. The benches will be set out for the open air services, the church cleaned various other jobs undertaken – there will be tasks suitable for all abilities and refreshments will be provided. Perhaps you could join us on one of these days?

Christine Jones

Holy Week and Easter at Holy Trinity

On Palm Sunday the donkey and the Sunday School led the palm procession around the grounds of Holy Trinity, followed by the choir and congregation. At the beginning of the service the



This page: Palm Sunday at Holy Trinity.

final items were laid at the foot of the cross which had provided a focus at the 10.30 am services during lent, the objects relating to the theme of each week's service.





The Stations of the Cross.

On the Tuesday evening the Rector led the service of Stations of the Cross, with readings of Malcolm Guite's Stations of the Cross sonnets. These beautiful and though provoking sonnets can be found in Malcolm Guite's book

Sounding the Seasons. Stations of the Cross was followed by a Table Eucharist led by Revd Jane Allen, during which the bread and wine were passed around the table, with each person administering to their neighbour.



Table Eucharist in the Memorial Chapel.

On Maundy Thursday the evening Eucharist included the Washing of Feet, recalling Jesus washing his disciples' feet before the Last Supper. At the end of the service the altars were stripped in preparation for the starkness of Good Friday. The altar in the Memorial Chapel formed the Altar of Repose and the Watch was held here, ending with Compline at



Cytun service on Good Friday.



Easter Cross and Garden.

9.50 pm, after which this altar too was stripped.

On Good Friday there was an event for children in the morning, the Cytun open air service at midday and the Liturgy of the Cross at 2.00 pm.

The church was beautifully decorated



for Easter Day with the Easter garden and many flowers, while the wooden

cross had been transformed into a cross of flowers.



Easter flowers.





Calendar for May 2017

Tue 2nd	10.00 am	Julian Meditation Group at Stella Maris
Thur 4th	SS Philip & James, Apostles (transferred from 1st)	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist
Sun 7th	Fourth Sunday of Easter	
		Services as usual for the 1st Sunday plus:
	12.30 pm	Holy Baptism
Tue 9th	7.30 pm,	Churchwardens' Service at Llanfairfechan
Thur 11th	10.00 am	Guild of Health & St Raphael meeting
	11.00 am	Eucharist with Ministry of Healing

Fri 12th	Archdeacon's visit to the parish. For details see Weekly Bulletin
Sat 13th	10.00 am St. Tudno's Working Party

14-20 May Christian Aid Week

Sun 14th	Fifth Sunday of Easter
	Services as usual for the 2nd Sunday plus:
	2.30 pm Holy Baptism
	6.00 pm Christian Aid Week service at Gloddaeth United Church
Wed 17th	St. Matthias the Apostle (transferred from 14th)
	9.00 am Holy Eucharist
	10.30 am Christian Aid Coffee Morning (till 1.30 pm)
Sun 21st	Sixth Sunday of Easter
	Services as usual for the 3rd Sunday
Thur 25th	Ascension Day
	11.00 am Holy Eucharist
	7.30 pm Holy Eucharist
Sun 28th	Sunday after the Ascension (7th of Easter)
	Services as usual for the 4th Sunday
Wed 31st	Visit of the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth
	9.00 am Holy Eucharist

Attendance Figures for March 2017

March 1st	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist	17
Ash Wednesday	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	38
	7.30 pm	Holy Eucharist	10
		Imposition of Ashes given at all celebrations	
		Other weekday Eucharists	19 + 1
March 5th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	12
Lent 1	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	68
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	3
March 10th	12.00 noon	Lent Prayers	5
		Other weekday Eucharists	26
March 12th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	10
Lent 2	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	71



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PARISH REGISTER

The Departed

April 18th: Jack Finch

*Service at Holy Trinity Church followed by internment
at Llanrhos Lawn Cemetery.*

	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	3
March 13th	10.30 am	Morning Prayer for Bangor Synod	c30
March 17th	12.00 noon	Lent Prayers	5
		Other weekday Eucharists	22
March 19th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	11
Lent 3	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	83
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	2
March 24th	12.00 noon	Lent Prayers	6
		Other weekday Eucharists	28
March 26th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	11
Lent 4	10.30 am	Family Eucharist	99
Mothering Sunday	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	1
March 31st	12.00 noon	Lent Prayers	5
		Other weekday Eucharists	18

Sunday Rota

Sunday 7 May

Reader	Cynthia Poysner
Sidespersons	Linda Blundell
	Wendy C-Stewart
	Pat Riddler
	Angela Pritchard
Eucharistic	Cath Lloyd
Ministers	Stan Whittaker

Sunday 14 May

Readers	Gaye Stythe-Jones
	Ray Stythe-Jones
Sidespersons	Cath Lloyd
	Ron Illidge
	Vernon Morris
	Angela Pritchard
E' Minster	Marion Heald

Sunday 21 May

Reader	Stan Whittaker
Sidespersons	Joyce Crosby
	Annabel Jones

Doug Pritchard
Barbara Yates
Angela Pritchard
John Riddler

Sunday 28 May

Reader	Yvonne Mason
Sidespersons	Cath Lloyd
	Marion Heald
	William Maidlow
	Pat Riddler
Eucharistic	Marion Heald
Ministers	Maggie Leitch

Sunday 4 June

Reader	Angela Pritchard
Sidespersons	Linda Blundell
	Annabel Jones
	Wendy C-Stewart
	Barbara Yates
Eucharistic	Cath Lloyd
Ministers	Stan Whittaker

Christian Aid Week



Christian Aid was founded 70 years ago and the "Week" began 60 years ago to assist people in Europe, displaced by the 2nd World war. A Christian Aid supporter Theodor Davidovic orphaned at 8 years old, now aged 91, fought as a teenager in the resistance movement in Serbia but had to flee in the ensuing chaos. He lived in refugee camps for two and a half years and says he owes his life to the support of organisations like Christian Aid. He built a new life for himself in Scotland but doesn't forget the help he received.

Today, tens of millions of people across the globe are fleeing their homes because of war, conflict and disaster, making dangerous journeys in search of safety, in the biggest movement of people since that time.

The vast majority of refugees seek sanctuary in poor countries, but more than a million refugees have crossed into Europe. Many like Nejebar from Afghanistan (full story on following page), have endured years of conflict. With borders across Europe currently

closed, her family and thousands of other refugees are now stranded in camps in Greece urgently needing help. Christian Aid, working with our Greek partners, are there to give security, comfort and basic necessities.

Our support is more vital than ever. The first ever house to house collection was in the Llandudno area, 60 years ago,....one of seven towns in North Wales to participate. Sadly it is very limited now, but our Churches and Chapels now host events in Christian Aid week. If you are in town do pop into one, details are on our notice boards. If there is no house to house collection in your road and you would like to give to the Week" then please take an envelope from the back of the Churches and return it the following Sunday.

Christian Aid is also a member of the Disaster Emergency Committee which is appealing for funds to help starving families in South Africa.

The 2016 Week focused on changing the lives of families in Bangladesh whose homes were submerged by river water. Many now have a safe home and livestock because of Christian Aid working through their partner GUK.

Christian Aid changes lives and we have been a part of that, thank you.

Overall, the Llandudno area Churches and Chapels raised £7341.60 for the

Week and an annual total of around £9800.00.

In 2016, house to house collections raised more than half of of Christian Aid week's total. The UK week raised 10.2 million of which £500,000 came from Wales.

Christian Aid Week 2017 is 14 - 20 May and we are asked to walk with refugees like Nejebar. Can we help?

On Sunday 14 May at 6.00 pm there will be an evening Service at the newly refurbished Gloddaeth United Church Llandudno for Christian Aid, so please make a note in your dairies and join us if you can especially organisers and collectors.

The March Coffee morning at St. Paul's, hosted by the Mission Area raised £190.91. Thank you to those who helped and brought cakes (we had some lovely cakes) and those who came along to support and enjoyed fellowship. A special thank you to St. Paul's ladies for hosting the event.

The Male Voice Choir evening at Peniel Chapel in Deganwy specifically to help the Philippines raised £373.00.

We **can** make a difference, so let's do it again

this Christian Aid Week. Your Llandudno Parish representatives are Eira Jones, Jenny Jones and Angela Pritchard.

Jeanette Bennett Williams

Nejebar's Story

It is better to die in a camp than to die in a war.

That's what Nejebar thinks.

It's better to travel for months, in rain and snow, with young children. To walk until you injure your feet. To risk your children's lives in a plastic dinghy. And to leave everything you know behind.

When the alternative is fear and terror, almost anything is better. When the alternative is bombs, bullets and war, almost anything is better.



Nejebar and her husband Noor. (Christain Aid)

Fleeing horrors

Nejebat's husband Noor was a teacher in Afghanistan. Imagine the horror the family felt when the Taliban announced they would kill anyone, like Noor, who worked for the government. Imagine how they felt when the Taliban carried out that threat on another family member, taking out his eyes before killing him. Almost anything has to be better than that.

But now they've arrived in Greece, all they have is a tent. They have no other protection against wind and rain. There's no school for their five children. And they have no certainty or clear idea of what will happen to them now. They thought they would stay here for 10 days, but it's already been six months and there's no end in sight.

Noor describes their initial reaction to arriving in the camp in Greece: 'It was like suicide for us. But we took the decision that it is better to die here than to die there from war.'

Together

Throughout it all, Nejebat has desperately wanted what is best for her children. But her circumstances make it very difficult.

Her youngest, Sudai, is five years old but looks much younger. He hasn't been growing as he should. His tummy is swollen and they don't know what is wrong with him. And because the only on-site doctor is Greek, they haven't been able to find out. They don't have the language to explain that Sudai is much older than he looks.



Nejebat, with her sons Hinayat (left) and Sudai. (Christian Aid)

Nejebat's strength and steadiness make her the rock at the centre of her family, holding them together in this difficult and uncertain situation. But she hasn't stopped there. Despite her circumstances, she has welcomed two brothers, Faraidoon and Farzad, into her home.

Faraidoon and Farzad don't know where their parents are, or if they're even alive. Nejebat has welcomed them into her family, giving them refuge as they wait for news.

An uncertain future

Nejebat says: 'We still have some hope that one day we will get out of here and we have hope for our children's future.'

'Our wish is to get out from this situation and to be able to go further. We only want a peaceful life. We want our children to have an education, to go to school. The most important thing is for our children.'

We won't turn our backs on refugees like Nejebat now.

The Great War – Nov-Dec 1917

John Hughes

56109, Private, 21st Northumberland Fusiliers

Died of illness, 4 November 1917, aged c 26

Buried at Étapes Military Cemetery, France

According to the records of the Commonwealth War Graves' Commission, John Hughes was the brother of Annie Thomas of Nant-y-Gamer, Llandudno, he was a native of Nant-y-Gamer, and he was aged 25 when he died. John Hughes' death certificate states that he was aged 27. Annie Thomas (née Hughes and formerly Edwards, the wife of Edwin Edwards [qv]), was the daughter of Elias Hughes of Nant-y-Gamer and his second wife Martha Williams. Notwithstanding, no direct evidence

has been forthcoming so far to indicate that John was the son of Elias and Martha Hughes though it appears that Annie (b 1884) and John (b circa 1889) were brought up as if they were brother and sister. The Census of Wales for 1911 records Elias Hughes (78), Annie Hughes (26) and John Edwards (21, described as a nephew and a carter) living at Nant-y-Gamer. Whether John Edwards and John Hughes are one and the same person is presently unknown.

John Hughes' service record no longer exists though it is known that he enlisted in Llandudno. It appears that he first served with the Army Service Corps. His ASC number of 216830 was probably issued around October 1916. It is not known where or when he disembarked in France but in around September 1917, he was compulsorily transferred to the Northumberland Fu-

siliers and posted to the 21st (Service) Battalion (2nd Tyneside Scottish). This battalion had formed at Newcastle in October 1914 and had been in France since January 1916. His new regimental number was 56109.

John Hughes died of an intestinal obstruction on 4 November 1917 at the 24th General Hospital at Étaples. He was buried at the Étaples Military Cemetery. His effects were left to Annie Thomas

Known memorials:

- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*
- *Bethania Chapel, Llandudno (possibly)*

Thomas Ivor Jones

266380, Private, 1/6th Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Died of wounds, 6 November 1917, aged 19

Buried at Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel

Thomas Ivor Jones, the son of Robert and Sarah Ellen Jones, was born in Llandudno on 6 December 1897. The Census of Wales for 1901 records the family of the couple and five sons including Alun (7 – qv) and Thomas Ivor (4) living at “Ringwood House”, Deganwy Street, Llandudno; Robert Jones was a shopkeeper. Thomas Ivor Jones (as Ivor) is recorded as attending

Lloyd Street School. In the Census of 1911, the family is recorded as living at “York Villa”, Clifton Road, Llandudno; Robert Jones described as a grocer and Thomas (13) as at school. Thomas left school shortly after “for work”.

Thomas Jones, now a draper’s assistant, volunteered at Llandudno to join the army under the Derby Scheme on 7 December 1915. He claimed to be 19 years of age though in fact he enlisted one day after his 18th birthday. He was given a day’s pay and put into the Army Reserve. He was called up 29 January 1916 and joined the 6th Reserve Battalion (3/6th), Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Territorial Force with a regimental number of 3885. He passed a machine gunners’ course on 11 February 1916. Thomas embarked for Egypt on 11 December 1916 and landed at Alexandria 15 days later. He joined the 1/6th Battalion RWF Territorial Force at El Ferdan (Suez Canal) on 31 December 1916. Sometime in 1917, he was renumbered 266380.

On 6 November 1917, just after the Battle of Beersheba, Palestine, Thomas was dangerously wounded in action with a gunshot wound to the abdomen. He died the same day at a casualty clearing station. Commonwealth War Grave Commission records indicate that he was 21 years of age when he died but he was in fact a month shy of his 20th birthday. He was buried at Beersheba War Cemetery.

Known memorials:

- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*

Norman Adair Roberts

265672, Private, 1/6th Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Killed in action, 6 November 1917, aged 24

Buried at Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel

Norman Adair Roberts was born in Tyldesley, Lancashire in 1893. He was the son of Thomas Lewis Roberts, a clerk, and Sophia Jane Roberts (née Williams b Bethesda 1873). Norman's siblings were Bertie and Ellen Elizabeth. Thomas Roberts died in 1898 and his widow, Sophia married Trevor Roberts later that year. The Census of Wales for 1901 records Norman at the home of his grandparents, William Enoch and Ellen Elizabeth Roberts, at 6 Station Road, Bethesda; the same census records Sophia living at Dwygyfylchi with her children Bertie, Ellen (Nelly) and William. In 1911, Norman, a shoe-maker's apprentice, was still living with his grandparents, now at 4 Station Road, Bethesda, whilst Sophia, her husband Trevor and their other children lived at 10 Alexandra Road, Llandudno. It is apparent that Norman Adair Roberts was brought up by his grandparents at Bethesda.

Enlisting at Caernarvon on 3 October 1914, Norman joined the 6th (Carnarvonshire and Anglesey) Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Territorial Force. With a regimental number of 2084, he initially served with the 1/6th frontline battalion, at Bedford from May 1915, but when that sailed for Gallipoli in July 1915, Norman remained at Bedford with the 2/6th RWF. In November 1915, he joined the 3/6th Battalion before joining the 1/6th on 23 April 1916, embarking from Devonport on the same day and disembarking at Alexandria on 3 May 1916. He joined his battalion at Wadi Natrun (50 miles north-west of Cairo) on 14 May 1916. Sometime in 1917, he was renumbered 265672.

On 6 November 1917, just after the Battle of Beersheba, Palestine, Norman Adair Roberts was killed in action aged 24 and buried at Beersheba War Cemetery.

Norman had named his grandmother, Ellen Elizabeth Williams as his next of kin and there is some correspondence in his record as to who should receive his medals, scroll and war plaque: his grandmother at Bethesda or his mother at 3 James Street, Llandudno.

Known memorials:

- *Bethesda War Memorial*
- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*

John Rowland-Ellis DCM and Bar

*37443, Serjeant, 55th Field Ambulance,
Royal Army Medical Corps*

*Killed in action, 22 October 1917, aged
35*

Buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery

John Rowland-Ellis (aka John Rowland Ellis, John R Ellis, John Ellis), was born at "Plas Llewelyn", Llandudno on 13 April 1885. He received the same name as his father (b 1859), a medical student at Edinburgh University, and his grandfather (b 1823), a chemist (Ellis John R, Llewelyn Street, Llandudno). His mother was Jane Isabella Ellis (née Dalglish). The Census of Scotland for 1891 records the family, John (1859), Jane, John (1885 aged 5) and Jessie Gwendoline (4) living at Main Street in Gifford, East Lothian; John (1859) was a general practitioner. No census record for John or his father can be found for 1901, but his mother Jane and his sister Jessie are recorded at Hanley in Staffordshire, Jane being the matron of a rescue shelter. On 12 September 1905, John, as John Ellis, married Lizzie Bailey at St. Mary's Parish Church, Tunstall. John gave his address as 21 Havelock Street, Stoke-on-Trent, his occupation as a car conductor and his age as 22 though his actual age was 20. Lizzie Bailey also claimed to be 22 though she was actually 23. The couple's daughter, Isabel Nora Ellis was born the following year. In 1911, the young family, now using the surname Rowland-Ellis, lived at 70 Cornwallis Street, Stoke on Trent; John (25) was described as a

tramway motorman. The same census records John's parents and sister also living at Stoke on Trent and also using the surname Rowland-Ellis; his father was now described as a medical assistant.

John Rowland-Ellis' service record no longer exists but *Soldiers Died in the Great War* records that he enlisted into the Royal Army Medical Corps at Tunstall and had a regimental number of 37443, a number issued in September 1914. He disembarked in France on 27 July 1915 with the rank of serjeant. John Ellis was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal twice. The first was gazetted on 20 October 1916: "For conspicuous bravery and devotion when leading and directing stretcher-bearers, under a heavy fire, for thirty-six hours. On one occasion he volunteered to go for and administer first aid first-aid in the open, under very heavy shell fire, before the stretcher parties could advance." The second, gazetted on 26 July 1917 read, "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, in leaving a trench at great personal risk to rescue two men who had been wounded by enemy snipers at close range. He was steadily fired upon the whole time. One of the men was hit a second time and killed before he could be brought to safety."

John Rowland-Ellis was killed in action on 22 November 1917 aged 35 whilst serving with the 55th Field Ambulance. The 55th FA was part of the 18th (Eastern) Division and took part in

many of the significant actions on the Western Front. John Ellis was buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, Belgium. This is significant because this cemetery was the resting place of casualties who died whilst being treated at the nearby casualty clearing stations which indicates that he may have been wounded initially.

Known memorials:

- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*

Note. John Rowland-Ellis is recorded on the Llandudno Roll of Honour as a private in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Enquiries using these clues drew a frustrating blank. However, the Commonwealth War Grave Commission records 37443 Serjeant John Ellis, RAMC, the husband of Lizzie Ellis of 76 Cornwallis Street, Stoke-on-Trent. *Soldiers Died in the Great War* records his birthplace as Llandudno which with together with the details on his marriage certificate confirms that the John Rowland-Ellis remembered in Llandudno and 37443 Serjeant John Ellis DCM & Bar RAMC were one and the same person.

Griffith Thomas

36810, Private, 19th Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Killed in action, 23 November 1917, aged 21

No known grave

Born in 1896, Griffith Thomas was the son of John and Annie Thomas. He was born at Llangernyw, Denbighshire and the Census of Wales for 1901 records John Thomas as being a farm labourer. Ten years later, Annie Thomas was a servant living at “Park House”, Mostyn Street, Llandudno whilst Griffith (14) was a farm labourer living at “Rose Cottage”, Trefriw.

Giving his address as “Park House”, Mostyn Street, Griffith volunteered for the Royal Welsh Fusiliers at Llandudno on 10 November 1915 and joined the 20th (Reserve) Battalion at Conway the following day. His regimental number was 36810. The battalion trained at Kinmel Park. Griffith embarked at Folkestone on 18 March 1916 and joined the 16th (Service) Battalion RWF (formed Llandudno November 1914) on 20 April 1916. On 29 November 1916, he was evacuated by 129 Field Ambulance with acute abdominal pains and was returned to England on 13 December 1916 where he was given an appendectomy. After his convalescence, he was posted back to France on 11 May 17 and posted to the 19th (Service) Battalion RWF (originally a

Bantam Battalion) on 2 June 1917.

Griffith Thomas was killed in action during the Battle of Cambrai. He has no known grave and for official purposes his death is recorded as being on 23 November 1917. He was aged 21.

Known memorials:

- *Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, France*
- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*

Mervyn Sinclair Davies

61350, Private, 2nd Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Killed in action, 28 November 1917, aged 22

Buried at Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium

Mervyn Sinclair Davies was born in Llandudno on 31 December 1894. His birth was registered as Merfyn Sinclair Davies but all later references are to his Anglicised name. He was the son of David and Jane Davies. Mervyn attended Lloyd Street School. The Census of Wales of 1901 records the family living at 2 Eden Cottage, Back Mostyn Street, Llandudno; David Davies was a joiner/carpenter. In 1911, Mervyn (16) was described as a grocer's assistant.

Mervyn Davies' service record no longer exists but *Soldiers Died in the Great War* shows that he enlisted in Llandudno into the Royal Welsh Fusiliers

and that his service number was 61350. Soldiers with close service numbers were enlisted at the end of 1915 and joined the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion RWF at Litherland for training. After disembarking in France, sometime in 1916, he spent some time at an infantry base depot before being posted to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The 2nd Battalion RWF was an infantry battalion of the pre-war Regular Army and had landed in France in August 1914.

Mervyn Sinclair Davies was killed in action on 28 November 1917 aged 22 during operations subsequent to the Second Battle of Passchendaele. The war diary for the battalion records that it was still in the front line and that shelling continued in bursts. In the period from 24 November to 1 December 1917, the casualties included 49 killed. Mervyn Davies was buried near where he fell but was reinterred at Tyne Cot Cemetery in 1919, his identity being confirmed by his identity disk.

Known memorials:

- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*
- *English Presbyterian Church, Llandudno*
- *Parents' headstone, St. Tudno's Churchyard, Great Orme's Head*

George Arthur Bennett

*Second Lieutenant, 2/6th Royal
Warwickshire Regiment*

*Killed in action, 3 December 1917, aged
31*

No known grave

George Arthur Bennett was the son of George Samuel Bennett and Sarah Jane Halford. He was born in Birmingham on 27 August 1886 though his parents did not get married until 1891. The Census of 1891 records the family living at 39 Temple Street, Birmingham, George Samuel Bennett being described as a caretaker. George attended George Dixon School and his sister Ethel was born on 21 August 1893. In 1901, the family still lived at Temple Street, Birmingham, George (junior, 14) being described as a cabinetmaker. George was also a student at the Midland Institute School of Music where he later became a teacher of the French horn. He was a member the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and the Festival Choral and other societies. He played with the Kilties Band of Belleville, Ontario during a tour of England and afterwards accompanied it through Canada and the United States in 1906. George married Madeline May Wright at St. Mary's Church, Smethwick on 29 May 1909. George joined the Hallé Orchestra in 1910 and during its summer break played in the Llandudno Pier Orchestra. The Census for 1911 records George and Madeleine lodging at 17 Maple Road, Bramhall, Cheshire. George was

described as a musician in an orchestra. On 28 March 1912, George departed Liverpool for New York on tour with the London Symphony Orchestra and returned to Plymouth on 10 May 1912. Curiously, George named his father as his next of kin. George and Madeleine's son, John Leslie Bennett, was born in Manchester on 17 October 1914.

George enlisted at Llandudno on 12 December 1915. It was not until 28 October 1916 when George joined the 2/28th (County of London) Battalion (Artist's Rifles) Territorial Force at the Dukes Road Drill Hall, Euston Road, London with a regimental number of 9114, later renumbered to 763118. On Boxing Day 1916, he played his final engagement with the Birmingham Festival Choral Society. On 27 June 1917, George received a commission as a second lieutenant in the Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers and was attached to the 2/6th Battalion Territorial Force.

George Arthur Bennett was killed in action on 3 December 1917 aged 31 during a German bombardment and attack near La Vacquerie, during the Battle of Cambrai. It was reported that he was hit by a shell after leaving a dug-out. He has no known grave. His medal index card gives his widow's address as "St. Leonard's", Charlton Street, Llandudno.

In 1939, George's mother, widow, sister and son resided at 26 Belgrave Road, Birmingham.

Known memorials:

- *Cambrai Memorial, France*
- *Birmingham Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*

Thomas James Astall

265786, Private, 1/6th Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Killed in action, 28 December 1917, aged 27

Buried at Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel

Thomas James Astall was born in Everton on 31 August 1890. He was the son of William Jefferson Astall, a labourer, and his wife Hannah Astall (née Fick). He was baptised at St. Peter's Church, Everton on 1 October 1890; the baptismal register records the family's address as 42 Rushton Street. The census for the following year records the family of seven living at the same address, William being recorded as a bill poster. In 1901, the family lived at 50 Henry Street, West Derby. The Census for 1911 records William and Hannah Astall living in Everton whilst Thomas and his elder brother Joe were boarding at 4 Jubilee Street, Llandudno, Thomas (20) being described as a donkey driver on the sands.

On 12 October 1914, Thomas Astall volunteered at Caernarfon to join the 6th (Carnarvonshire and Anglesey

Battalion), Royal Welsh Fusiliers, one of four peacetime battalions of the Territorial Force. Whilst some volunteers preferred to join the New Armies that were forming at the time, others preferred to join the Territorials. It was around this time when the 6th Battalion split into the 1/6th, its men electing to serve overseas, and the 2/6th for home service. At his attestation, Thomas gave his address as 6 Bellevue Terrace, Great Orme, Llandudno and his occupation as a fishmonger. He was given the service number of 2341. Though having signed for overseas service, when the 1/6th sailed for Gallipoli on 19 July 1915 he had been posted to the 2/6th (on 21 May 1915). He was promoted to acting lance corporal in June 1915, to acting corporal in May 1916 and to acting lance sergeant in November 1916. At the time he served with the 2/6th, the battalion was engaged in home duties at Bedford and Southwold. On 19 May 1917, Thomas was posted to the 4th (Reserve) Battalion RWF, formerly the 3/4th, and in July 1917 was posted to the 1/6th RWF, now in Egypt, having reverted to the rank of private. In 1917, he was renumbered 265786.

Thomas James Astall was killed in action on 28 December 1917 aged 27 during the Battle of Jerusalem. He was buried at the Jerusalem War Cemetery.

Known memorials:

- *Llandudno Roll of Honour*
- *Llandudno War Memorial*
- *Memorial Chapel, Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno*



St DUNSTAN

Dunstan (909 - 988) was the most popular saint in England for nearly two centuries, being famous for many stories about defeating the devil.

A story tells how as a monk Dunstan nailed a horseshoe to the Devil's hoof when he was asked to re-shoe the Devil's horse. This caused such pain, and Dunstan only agreed to remove the shoe and release the Devil after he promised never to enter a place where a horseshoe is over the door.



They say that is why people still hang horse shoes over doorways.

St Dunstan is the patron saint of blacksmiths and bell ringers as well as goldsmiths and silversmiths. His Feast Day is 19 May, which is why the date year on the hallmarks on gold and silver runs from 19 to 18 May, not the calendar year.

NOT JUST ON YOUR FEET....

The answers to these are all something you could wear on your feet, but the word also means...

1. A sure-footed pack animal
2. A thin sharp knife
3. A wobbly dessert
4. A poisonous snake
5. Isn't safe on ice
6. A gymnastic move
7. Equipment used to move water
8. An Irish accent
9. Part of a car used for storage
10. A sports coach



What do you call a shoe that looks like a banana?

A slipper.

Who always goes to bed with his shoes on?

A horse.



Answers: 1 Mule 2 Stiletto 3 Jelly
4 Moccasin 5 Slipper 6 Flip flop
7 Pump 8 Brogue 9 Boot 10 Trainer

The Churchyards in April

At the beginning of the month the Mothers' Union cherry tree at Holy Trinity put on a splendid show of blossom, which also attracted a variety of bees. The Parish Fellowship tree was making a good recovery from the damage which it had suffered previously, with growth of new branches. Later in the month the Guides put some new plants in the troughs by the church and daisies dotted the grass, recalling the children's hymn *Daisies are our silver*.

At St. George's a combination of cultivated bluebells and wildflowers made a pretty show, with lesser celandines, violets and speedwells joining the primroses which were already flowering amongst the grass and under the

trees. Cuckoo flowers were starting to appear and these delicate flowers are worth looking for in the churchyard this month. In the sun insects which could be seen visiting flowers or sunning themselves included bumblebees, solitary bees and bee flies.

At St. Tudno's lesser celandines sparkled gold in the grass as they opened in the sun and cowslips and violets also began to bloom. Queens of buff tailed and red tailed bumblebees could be seen exploring the churchyard in search of nesting sites and it is hoped that, as in previous years, some will make their nests here.

Christine Jones



New plants in a trough at Holy Trinity.



Hoverfly on a dandelion at St. George's.



Violets at St. Tudno's.

The Bishop's Ministry Fund contribution for 2016 is £75000

This sum of money or "quotia" (formerly the "Parish Share") is paid by the parish contributing to the costs of clergy stipends across the diocese.

If you have not already and are a payer of income tax or capital gains tax, please consider revising your method of regular giving so the Parish can more-easily pay its dues in the following way: please declare regular giving and donations as 'Gift Aid' so HM Customs and Revenue might refund to us the tax you paid on earning your gift.

If you make a donation of £10, the Parish receives an extra £2.50 at no cost to you.

Please contact Stan Whittaker, the Gift Aid Secretary. (Tel: 596796)



Coffee Time

Cryptics (thanks and courtesy Barbara Cartwright).

All begin with "S"

1. To bribe a small number after a way. (7)
2. Corpse-like weight over a century old!. (5,4)
3. The shop-keeper who bursts into tears. (9)
4. In so lush a house an ex-king may be found. (4)
5. My sonny's irritated - in other words, it's just the same. (7)
6. Make fun of him and dispatch it to a higher place. (4,2)
7. Gorged like a taxidermist. (7)
8. One has one of them, another three. (9)
9. The deficiencies consist of little periods. (9)
10. To which the old dears are not invited! (4,7)

Results for April:

1. Daffodils
2. Easter
3. Bulbs
4. Lambs
5. Gazebo
6. Ice cream
7. Roses
8. Tadpole
9. Tea garden
10. Greenhouses



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