

# **LLANDUDNO**

**Cylchgrawn Plwyf**

**Parish Magazine**



**50p**

**February 2012**

# Services

## Holy Trinity Church, Mostyn Street

### Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Eucharist
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>  
& 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)
- Matins followed by  
shortened Eucharist (2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sunday)
- 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)
- 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)

oOo

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.

## 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.



Plwyf Llandudno  
Parish of Llandudno

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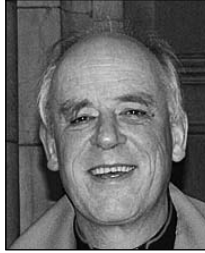
The deadline for copy for any edition is the 7th of the previous month. Please leave copy in box near pulpit in Holy Trinity Church or e-mail:

[editor@llandudno-parish.org.uk](mailto:editor@llandudno-parish.org.uk)

Copy may be on disk, printed or handwritten.

## From the Rectory

On a recent visit to another church in our Diocese I was somewhat surprised to see that both the Christmas tree and the Crib were still in situ despite the fact that it was half way through January. On first sight they seemed out of time and place, as if the congregation had simply forgotten to remove them. In fact the parish had made a deliberate decision to keep the tree and the crib in place throughout the season of Epiphany and they will only be put away after the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in early February.



Their reasoning behind this practice is that during Epiphany-tide we continue to celebrate the coming of Our Lord – Epiphany is after all really an extension of the Christmas season. For that parish it makes sense to have the symbols of Christmas visible throughout that time.

You may still find it rather odd to think of Christmas Trees and Cribs still being up at the beginning of February. But there's actually a lot more sense in keeping them for the whole 40 days of Christmas and Epiphany than to follow modern popular practice and put them up before Christmas actually begins – here in Llandudno it's common to see Christmas trees and decorations up in November (even in October) when it

isn't even Advent yet, let alone Christmas!!

But I'm not really concerned here with when Christmas trees and cribs should be put out or put away. My real point is to draw your attention to the day which in fact ends the

Christmas/Epiphany season and points us forward to Lent and Easter – the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord often known as Candlemas, one of the most beautiful feasts of the whole Christian Year.

It commemorates the moment when, 40 days after his birth, Mary and Joseph took the infant Jesus to be presented in the Temple in Jerusalem to fulfil a demand of the Jewish Law. For this reason the traditional date of the Presentation is 2nd February – 40 days after Christmas. However we transfer it to the nearest Sunday to give as many people as possible the chance to participate in this significant feast day.

The Presentation is a feast of light, the final celebration of the joy of the incarnation when we hear of aged Simeon taking Jesus in his arms and proclaiming him to be *“the light to reveal you to the nations and to give glory to your people Israel.”* And so we light candles to welcome the new born Christ to his Temple and into our hearts and lives.

But as well as being the last gasp of Christmas, this day leads us on away from the joy of the incarnation to the discipline of Lent and the sorrow of Good Friday. The offering of Jesus in the temple is a symbol of his future offering on the Cross for our salvation. Simeon recognises this when he tells Mary *“This child is destined to be a sign that will be rejected; and you too will be pierced to the heart.”* If our Crib and Christmas tree were still up we would certainly have to tear them down now.

We are being led to prepare our hearts and minds to share the sufferings of Christ. Having celebrated the coming of Christ the Word made flesh we now have to share in what he came to do.

I hope that everyone will make every effort to share in the Feast of Candlemas, that as Lent approaches we may be presented to God ‘with pure and clean hearts by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord’.

**Fr John**

## News and Notices

### Lenten Plans

Full details of our plans for Lent will be available soon. There will be the usual services of Compline with address on Wednesdays at the Hospital Chapel, Stations of the Cross etc. We will also be invited to participate in a Lent course with our sister parish of Rhos-cystennin.

### Happy 90th Birthday wishes this month ...

...to two of our wonderful ladies Gwen Robinson and Gwen Davies. Known by the same name and born on the same day these two intrepid ladies are both dearly loved members of our parish and have both contribute to the life of our parish throughout their lives. We see evidence of their creative talents

all around us in Holy Trinity – Gwen R. in her flowers and Gwen D. for the wonderful vestments she has made. Happy birthday to you both!

**Fr John**

### St. Tudno's Roof

After a long period of fundraising, the re-roofing work at St. Tudno's is due to begin on Monday 27 February. The work is expected to take 10 weeks and for safety reasons the church will have to be closed during the work.

We are very grateful to the Friends of St. Tudno's Church for all their fundraising efforts and to those who have supported them: the Friends have given £17,500 to the roof restoration fund. More than 1000 slates have been

sponsored through the Sponsor-a-Slate scheme and the next job will be to inscribe the names on to all those slates. This will have to be done at St. Tudno's, probably during March, and will involve a team effort.

If you would like to join the Friends of St. Tudno's in this, or if you have sponsored a slate and would like to inscribe your name yourself, please would you

contact one of us. Hot drinks will be provided at St. Tudno's but there is no heating!

If you would still like to sponsor a slate, please would you do so by the end of February – forms are available in both churches or from the parish Web site.

*Christine Jones*  
*Stephanie Searle*

### **Double Birthday Congratulations**

Happy 90th birthday to Gwen Davies and Gwen Robinson who are both 90 on February 16. On behalf of the Coffee Morning Ladies, we convey our very best wishes on your special day.

Thank you both for your friendship

God Bless

Dorothy, Joyce and the ladies

Begin Lent by coming to join us for the:

## **DEANERY QUIET DAY**

Saturday 25th February

10 00 – 3 30 p.m.

at the Stella Maris Centre.

The leader for our day will be the Revd Clive Hillman,  
Rector of Betws y Coed.

Bring your own lunch, hot drinks provided.

There will be a small charge to cover the costs of the day.

## **Wednesday Coffee Mornings**

There will be a planning meeting in the Church Hall on Monday, February 13 at 2.15 pm for those interested in helping at the forthcoming summer season of Copy Mornings commencing on Wednesday, April 18, 2012 – 10.00 am to 12.00 noon.

I hope to see you there

***Dorothy Trent (coordinator)***

## **Mrs Margot Hughes**

When deciding to write a tribute to my dear friend Margot, it was quite a challenge to say all that I would have liked. Everyone who knew her well not be surprised about the great esteem in which she was held.

Her love of the King James Bible was very evident in all the work that she did for our team in Exploring Worship. She was never happier than reading from her well-used copy. Margot devoted a huge part of her time to being a Sub-warden at Holy Trinity and also assistant sacristan, not for getting her work in the summer coffee mornings with Judith on her stall.

Margot had a wonderfully warm nature and a smile for everyone she met whatever their age. She also had a wicked sense of humour.

My own grandson, who lives in Liverpool, insisted on visiting Margot with my daughter when she was a patient in

Whiston Hospital. Graham had a great regard for Margot although he didn't get to see her as often as he would have liked.

Rest peacefully, Margot, with your beloved Gareth.

***Barbara Scott***

## **A Tribute to the Late Mrs Edwina Crawford**

The 8 am communicants miss this true lady with great sadness.

A stalwart of Holy Trinity Church for over 60 years, she inspired us all with her strength at 95 years of age, attending Communion at 8 am in all weathers.

Frail as Edwina became, she always insisted on going up to the altar to receive her Communion.

Edwina had a smile for everyone, especially for any visitors.

Over 40 years ago, she was the leader of the Young Wives' Group which thrived under her chairmanship.

Edwina, RIP

***The 8 am communicants***

## Mothers' Union AGM and Programme

The 2010 AGM of the Llandudno Parish Mothers' Union took place on Monday, January 16. The meeting was chaired by Fr John. After being officially leaderless for the past year, Maggie Leitch who had

been the *de facto* leader was elected as the Branch Leader. Also elected onto the Committee were Margaret Rostron (Secretary); Eira Jones (Treasurer); Angela Prichard (Deputy Leader); Viv-



*Retiring MU Treasurer Dorothy Trent (left) with Secretary Margaret Rostron.*

ian Reese; Adele Arrowsmith; Jenny Bicknell, Jennifer Fossi and Barbara Hughes.

Maggie Leitch writes: "I would like to pay tribute to the retiring treasurer, Dorothy Trent. Dorothy has given over 21 years of service working as our Treasurer. I owe her a huge debt of gratitude for the help she has given

me over the last year. All the members have a deep appreciation for her hard passionate work. Our new Treasurer is Eira Jones. Eira is a very dedicated person and we all thank for taking on Dorothy's outstanding work. So thank you Dorothy for your past support; we are eager to see you next month on the other side of the table."

### **Dates for all diaries**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Tue 3 April | Fr John: Stations of the Cross, 7.00 pm<br>Rev Jane Allen: Table Eucharist, 7.30 pm Open Evening         |
| Sat 19 May  | Bishop's 'Fun Day', Bangor Cathedral   |
| Fri 15 June | National General Meeting Service, Bangor Cathedral, 7.30 pm  |
| Sat 16 June | National General Meeting, Venue Cymru, 10.30 am to 3.30 pm   |
| Sun 17 June | Host members of the Diocese of Ripon and Leeds Mothers' Union at Holy Trinity Church at 10.30 am service |
| Wed 19 Sept | Diocesan Quiet Day, Nodffa   |
| Wed 5 Dec   | Diocesan Thanksgiving Service, Bangor Cathedral  |

### **Afternoon meetings, Mondays at 2.30**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 6 February   | Brian Lewis: Music by Ivor Novello         |
| 20 February  | Peter Plunkett: Naked Before the Cross     |
| 5 March      | Nia Higginbotham: Palestine                |
| 19 March     | Fr John: Quiet Day                         |
| 16 April     | Wendy Raffles: Observation of Life         |
| 14 May       | Keith Roberts: St Dunstan's                |
| 21 May       | Outing TBD (St Asaph?)                     |
| 11 June      | Linda Parry: Victim Support                |
| 25 June      | Glenis Roberts: An Anglesey Childhood      |
| 16 July      | Stan Whittaker: Hand Bells                 |
| 6 August     | Mary Sumner Day Afternoon Tea              |
| 3 September  | Christine Jones: Great Orme                |
| 17 September | Fun and Games' Afternoon                   |
| 15 October   | Emrys Evans: Smuggling Bibles into Europe  |
| 5 November   | Barbara Hughes: A Child's War              |
| 19 November  | Fr John: Quiet Afternoon                   |
| 3 December   | Glenis Roberts: Advent Readings and Carols |
| 17 December  | Christmas Lunch at Queen's Hotel           |



## Evening meetings, Tuesdays at 7.30

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 14 February  | Linda Parry: Victim Support                               |
| 13 March     | Fr Clive Hillman: Penmachno Parish                        |
| 3 April      | Stations of the Cross (7.00 pm) and Eucharist (see above) |
| 10 April     | An Evening with Anne Rimmer                               |
| 15 May       | Rev Jane Allen: (Rev Jane to decide format)               |
| 12 June      | Outing TBD  |
| 11 September | Eucharist followed by supper, Rev Jane Allen              |
| 9 October    | Brian Lewis: Rogers and Hammerstein                       |
| 13 November  | Barbara Hughes: A Child's War                             |
| 11 December  | Rev Jane Allen: Quiet Evening                             |

## Attendance Figures

### Holy Trinity

|                      |          |                                      |                         |
|----------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|                      |          | Weekday Eucharists to December 3rd   | 19                      |
| Thurs Dec 1st        |          | Holy Eucharist at the Trinity Centre | 5                       |
| <b>Sun Dec 4th</b>   | 8.00 am  | Holy Eucharist                       | 12                      |
| <b>Advent 2</b>      | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist                       | 77                      |
|                      | 4.00 pm  | Christingle Service                  | c35 Adults and children |
|                      |          | other weekday Eucharists             | 21                      |
| <b>Sun Dec 11th</b>  | 8.00 am  | Holy Eucharist                       | 16                      |
| <b>Advent 3</b>      | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist                       | 72                      |
|                      | 5.00 pm  | Evening Prayer                       | 2                       |
|                      | 6.00 pm  | Exploring Worship                    | 46                      |
| Tues Dec 13th        |          | Parish Fellowship Eucharist          | 10                      |
|                      |          | other weekday Eucharists             | 23                      |
| <b>Sun Dec 18th</b>  | 8.00 am  | Holy Eucharist                       | 14                      |
| <b>Advent 4</b>      | 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist                       | 76                      |
|                      |          | No Evening Prayer                    |                         |
| Sat Dec 24th         | 5.00 pm  | Crib Service                         | c40 Adults and children |
| <b>Christmas Eve</b> | 11.30 pm | Midnight Mass                        | 131                     |
| <b>Dec 25th</b>      | 8.00 am  | Holy Eucharist                       | 22                      |
| <b>Christmas Day</b> | 10.30 am | Holy Eucharist with carols           | 118                     |

**St. Tudno's**

|            |         |                       |      |
|------------|---------|-----------------------|------|
| Sun 18 Dec | 3.00 pm | Carols by Candlelight | c120 |
|            | 5.00 pm | Carols by Candlelight | 55   |

***PARISH REGISTER***

*The Departed*

*December 19th: Derek Claricoats aged 73  
Service at Colwyn Bay Crematorium*

*December 19th: Barbara Joyce Thomson aged 69  
Service at St. Tudno's Church followed by Burial of  
Ashes in St. Tudno's Churchyard*

*December 30th: Margaret (Margot) Hughes  
aged 84  
Service in Holy Trinity followed by cremation at  
Colwyn Bay*

**Sidespersons**

|             |   |             |   |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| February 5  | William Maidlow<br>Angela Pritchard<br>Cath Lloyd<br>Adele Arrowsmith | February 26 | Annabel Jones<br>Ray Millington<br>Pat Ridler<br>Doug Pritchard<br>Wendy C Stewart<br>Ron Illidge |
| February 12 | Barbara Yates<br>Geoff Howard<br>Terry Dewer<br>Joyce Crosby          | March 4     | William Maidlow<br>Geoff Howard<br>Stan Wittaker<br>Joyce Crosby                                  |
| February 19 | Dorothy Trent<br>Mary Rees  |             |   |



# Eulogy for Margot Hughes

by **Rev Jane Allen**. As given at Margot Hughes' Funeral on 30 December 2011.

You will all have your special memories of Margot, but just for a few moments, may I share mine with you. They say you shouldn't make up your mind too quickly about people, but from when I first met Margot back in 1997 I knew at once that this was a very special person. A lovely smile, welcoming words, great sense of fun, an absolutely sincere and sure faith which brought her both joy and comfort – these were instantly recognisable traits in Margot. She never took herself too seriously and disliked pomposity in others.

As you got to know Margot, you realised that she was a loyal friend who delighted in your joys and shared your sorrows. I know there are many here today who will have been comforted by kind and wise words and perhaps a hug in times of difficulty, sadness or worry. I often went to Margot when I was facing personal or family problems, visiting her in her lovely and welcoming home, sitting and having a coffee and talking things over, and I never failed to come away refreshed. If Margot had been born 50 years later, with her strong faith, her in-depth knowledge of the Bible, her empathy and compassion, I am sure she would have been a strong candidate for the ordained

ministry, but as it was, she exercised a valuable ministry anyway through her friendship, her listening skills, her understanding of human nature. She loved her Bible – especially her beloved King James Version – and Isaiah was one of her favourite books of the Old Testament. Isaiah's words – surely God is my salvation, I will trust and will not be afraid – were very much echoed in Margot's faith and witness.

Let me tell you for a moment about some of the things she liked – shopping for clothes, having meals with friends – and penguins. If you were at a loss to know what to give Margot, anything with penguins on was a sure winter – but perhaps that's because they are very lovable birds and make you smile just by looking at them. She got incredible enjoyment and delight out of her garden – and somehow the flowers and plants in it must have known this because things would blossom and flourish in the most unlikely spots and at the most unlikely times. She also liked to tease you, especially if she knew it was easy to catch you out or wind you up – I know this because I was often the victim of this gentle teasing, which was never unkind or unthinking but actually made you laugh at yourself – always a good thing especially if you're inclined to take yourself too seriously.

Although a traditionalist in terms of her

love of the King James Bible, she was a very modern lady. Her contribution with her team to Exploring Worship – our contemporary service here at Holy Trinity – was immense and her reflections showed just how deep and rooted was her faith. She enjoyed hymns and worship songs both old and new, ancient and modern – and regardless of the time of year always wanted “Little Donkey” included in the songs we sang even if the service her team was organising was taking place in the height of summer. I was tempted to ask everyone to sing a verse during the course of this tribute – I still may!

She loved going on holiday with her dear friend Judith, exploring new places or revisiting old ones, and these holidays always seemed to become an adventure with various mishaps occurring en route. On one occasion, Margot needed a wheelchair at the airport on her way home, but when she and Judith arrived at check-in, no wheelchairs were available, despite having been pre-booked. So Judith, ever resourceful, managed to locate one of those office chairs with wheels on. By the time this had happened, they were getting dangerously near to boarding time, and Margot, clutching suitcase on her lap, was wheeled by Judith at great speed through the airport on this chair – I’m sure to the amusement and surprise of other travellers. I can just see Margot, smiling sweetly however upset she was, taking all this in her stride – or rather in her chair – and enjoying the ensuing

fun and laughter.

So much of what Margot was and did could be summed up in one word – love. She left Cardiff and a good job with ICI to come to Llandudno to be with her darling Gareth, took care of and nursed her mother-in-law, her mother and then her husband, all done with grace and willingness. When she was telling me about this, I was minded of one of my favourite Biblical women – Ruth – and her words to her mother-in-law Naomi, “Your people will be my people.” Margot embraced her husband’s family with love and affection, as they did her, but that’s how she embraced life.

I know that Margot would want me to say something today about her friend Judith. They had a unique and very special friendship, each bringing their strengths and gifts to help, support and encourage one another. It was also a friendship which brought laughter, joy and fun to them both, and it was absolutely genuine. Judith’s care of Margot, especially in these last many years where Margot’s health was not at its best, could never have been bettered, and Margot valued all that Judith did for her – she was for Margot, I know, a jewel without price. But Margot likewise cared for Judith in showing how much she valued her, encouraged her. There’s quite a gap between their ages – over 21 years I believe – but it never showed because, of course, Margot was always young at heart.

Judith reminded me recently that in

every hospital, hospice or treatment centre where Margot went, the same comment was always made by all the staff who she became involved with, “Isn’t she a lovely lady.” But of course looks alone don’t make people beautiful – their character has a great deal to do with true beauty. So I am absolutely sure that God, who sees everything, who knows what is in our hearts, is aware of our deepest thoughts and understands just what makes us the sort of people we are, will know just how beautiful Margot was.

St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians

writes, “Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, meekness, patience and forbearing ... and above all these put on love.” Paul uses those words “Put on” in the sense of completely cover or clothe yourself with these things. And certainly, they were not just casually put on by Margot, they were an integral part of her.

We give thanks for having known her, for our memory of her smile, her affection, her sense of fun, and for her faithful witness down all the years of her life to her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ..

## From the Parish Pump

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### **Age UK links up with the Met Office to save lives this winter**

In an attempt to lower the number of unnecessary deaths this winter, Age UK has set up a new initiative with the Met Office and the Department of Health. The Met Office now gives Age UK advance warnings when it predicts a cold spell so that vulnerable older people can be pre-warned and given tips on how best to stay warm and safe.

The figures show that there are up to 26,000 preventable deaths of older people each winter in the UK, many

of which could have been avoided by people taking simple measures to stay warm. Low temperatures raise blood pressure, putting people at greater risk of heart attacks and strokes as well as increasing the likelihood and severity of flu, chest infections and other respiratory problems.

### **Big Toddler, Big Fun!**

If you work with children under five then, this year, why not consider joining a Barnardo’s Big Toddler? It is a short, sponsored walk which last year saw almost 500,000 Toddlers and more than 10,000 groups register. The Big Toddler 2012 has an optional superheroes dressing up theme, so you can get

creative with your costumes!

All the money raised by the Big Toddle goes to local Barnardo's projects for children under 5 throughout the UK. The children's charity works with vulnerable and disadvantaged children and their families. It's all about children helping children.

Whether you are a nursery, an early years' group or a childminder, you can register now for the Big Toddle 2012. Simply go to [www.bigtoddle.co.uk](http://www.bigtoddle.co.uk) or call 0845 270 9900.

### **Children's media use and attitudes**

UK's Ofcom has recently produced a research document on media use and attitudes of children and young people aged 5-15.



"It's either an appeal to youth culture or the heating's playing up again"

It found that children aged 12-15 are now more likely to miss their mobile phone or the internet than television. 91% of children in the UK have internet access via a PC/laptop, up from 87% in 2010. 43% of 12-15s having internet access in their bedroom, compared with 14% of 8-11s and 4% of 5-7s.

According to BARB data, children aged 4-15 watch an average of 17 hours 34 minutes of television per week, up from 15 hours 37 minutes in 2010. At least 50% of 12-15s go on social networking sites once a week or more. It also found that parents express high levels of trust in their child to use the internet safely.

### **Church growth in deprived areas**

The Archbishops' Council and Church Commissioners have now distributed £1 million as part of a nationwide move to help develop successful church growth projects in deprived areas.

The £100,000 grants have been distributed to 10 projects across nine dioceses where existing activity has a proven track record of growth.

In Liverpool, St Andrew's Clubmoor, situated in one of the most deprived areas of the UK, links with the community by providing vital services. These include foodbanks, debt advice, self help groups and parent and toddler groups. The church also runs missional communities that work alongside particular groups in the community. The grant

will be used to bring the mission and practical work closer together.

The ‘Sorted Project’ in Bradford has been called “a fantastic example of inspiringly led youth evangelism that is home grown and is now being replicated elsewhere.”

A further £2million in grants is being distributed this year.

### **Mothers now able to receive gifts from their children in prison via Angel Tree**

Prison Fellowship has expanded its Angel Tree programme, so that now prisoners will soon be able to send a card and present to their Mums for Mothering Sunday. The pilot scheme was trialled in three Young Offender Institutions last year.

The hope is that each prisoner can attach a personal message to a small gift up to the value of £5. Chocolates, gift vouchers and potpourri have all already been sent, whilst overseas prisoners have been given phone cards so they can call their Mothers. Volunteer groups who fundraise will work with the Chaplaincy teams to facilitate the scheme.

Prison Fellowship, through its volunteers, works to restore the lives of prisoners and victims, and their families. They support these groups in practical ways and help to break the cycle of re-offending. If you would like to help

in any way, please visit: [www.prisonfellowship.org.uk](http://www.prisonfellowship.org.uk)

### **Christian Aid launches emergency appeal**

Christian Aid has launched an emergency appeal to enable its partner organisations in the Philippines to reach more people who have lost their homes and livelihoods in floods caused by Typhoon Washi, which struck the southern island of Mindanao late last year.

Christian Aid, which has already allocated £50,000 to relief work, will distribute emergency supplies in the Cagayan de Oro port area, such as: rice, mineral water, canned goods and cooking oil as well as mats, blankets, mosquito nets and cooking utensils. These will go to 700 families in Consolacion and another 250 families in Macasandig.

### **61% of UK adults say excessive drinking is a problem in their neighbourhood**

A YouGov survey has revealed that 61% of UK adults believe that excessive drinking is a problem (from minor to major) in their neighbourhood.

The survey, carried out on behalf of three major British Churches, asked people to judge the effects of alcohol on the area within walking distance from their home, or where they use local facilities.



The Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church have expressed concerns about the increasing availability of cheap alcohol and the effect that this might be having on communities across Britain. They believe that enforcing a minimum per-unit price could be part of the solution to this problem, a move that has already been taken by the Scottish Government and that has been backed by health watchdog, the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE).

### **Local radio a vital community tool, says Church in response to BBC plans**

The importance of local radio to the community, both in times of crisis or seasonal emergencies, and on a daily basis, must not be ignored, warns the Church of England in a submission to the consultation on the BBC Delivering Quality First Review, which closed at the end of 2011.

Local radio plays a vital role in the community, along with the Church and particularly in rural and more remote areas, but appears to be undervalued in the proposed cuts which could have serious repercussions, says the submission.

The response, drawn up by the Rt Revd Graham James, Bishop of Norwich and lead bishop on media issues, is based on input from the Church of England's

44 dioceses. Almost half contributed with particularly strong feelings about the cuts.

The submission concludes: "We ask the BBC Trust to recognise local radio as one of the 'Crown Jewels' of the BBC. We do not argue that there should be no cuts in budget at all, but we believe that the total protection from cuts given to BBC 1, Radio 4 and the Proms is disproportionate in relation to what is proposed for BBC local radio.

### **Who did it?**

A solicitor, doctor, and minister went hunting red deer together in the Highlands. When a deer ran past them, they all fired at the exact same moment, and the deer dropped. However, when they went to look, there was only one bullet hole. They didn't know which of them shot it, and asked one of the stalkers what they should do.

The stalker said: "Let me look at the deer. Sometimes I can figure it out." He asked a few questions, examined the deer carefully, and declared, "The minister shot this buck!" Amazed, they all asked how he knew. Stooping down, he pointed out the wound. "See here. It went in one ear and out the other."



## GEORGE HERBERT

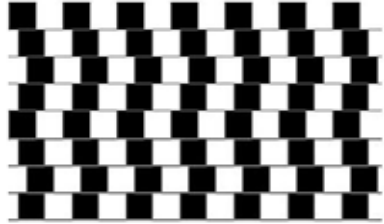
Born the seventh of 10 children in 1593, George Herbert grew up to be well known as a scholar and became a Member of Parliament. In 1630 he became a parish priest and spent the rest of his life in a small Wiltshire village. He preached, wrote poetry, helped rebuild the church and cared deeply for his parishioners who called him the 'Holy Mr. Herbert'.

He died aged 40 of tuberculosis, and perhaps we would never have heard of him were it not for his poems. He hid patterns and puns in his poems: in one called 'Easter Wings' the printed words look like the wings of birds soaring into the sky. A number of his poems became hymns, such as 'King of Glory, King of Peace', 'Let All the World in Every Corner Sing' and 'Teach me, my God and King'.



There is a window honouring George Herbert in Westminster Abbey, but he lives on in the words of hymns that are still sung today.

## PUZZLES BEFORE YOUR EYES...



Do these lines go straight across or do they slope? Check them with a ruler to get the answer.



Roses are red  
Violets are blue  
Some poems rhyme  
But this one doesn't!



**What birds spend all their time on their knees?**

Birds of prey.

**What do you call a group of chickens playing hide-and-seek?**

Fowl play.

## Signs of Spring

Not a native Great Orme flower this time but one that does grow in St. Tudno's Churchyard and is one of the first flowers to appear in spring. Tucked away in a shady corner there are a few clumps of snowdrops which were probably planted there many years ago and have been flowering faithfully ever since.

The snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*), in its single flowered form, is suggested to be native to some parts of Britain, such as mid Wales and Western England, but to have been planted and naturalised elsewhere. There are about 20 species of snowdrops and many cultivated varieties, including "double" flowered forms. There are both single and double flowered forms at St. Tudno's. Various gardens and stately homes have snowdrop events at this time of year, when the ground is carpeted with flowers and a close inspection will reveal the

wonderful range of flower types to be found in this little plant.

Another sign of spring on the Great Orme is the arrival of the goat kids, which are generally born during February and March. A proportion of the nannies are treated with contraceptives as part of the herd management but there should still be a good number fluffy, white kids to be seen.

I would like to pass on a message from the Wardens of the Great Orme Country Park: if you see a goat kid on its own, please leave it alone! A nanny will often leave her young kid on its own while she goes off to feed, returning periodically to suckle it. However, if somebody handles the kid she may abandon it. If you are worried about a kid, please telephone the Country Park Wardens on 01492 874151.

**Christine Jones**





*Single (above) and double (below) flowered forms of snowdrops.*



## **Forgiveness**

A Sunday School teacher had just concluded her lesson and wanted to make sure she had made her point. She said, "Can anyone tell me what you must do before you can obtain forgiveness of sin?" There was a short pause and then, from the back of the room, a small boy spoke up. "Sin," he said.

## **Husbands**

Two men were talking about how much their wives thought of them. The first said, "My wife, she thinks so much of me that she won't let me do work around the house. It's incredible." The second man said, "That's nothing. My wife thinks I'm God. Every night at the table, she places a burnt offering before me."

# Poetry Corner

## Hearts and flowers

A frosty solitary snowdrop,  
Shaking and shivering, awaiting the spring,  
When purple robed crocus strives to overshadow the delicate friend,  
Awakening golden daffodils with trumpets so grand,  
Announcing their splendour,  
Daring all nature more beauty to send.

It's the start of the season for cards to be bought,  
For Valentines often so secretly sought.  
Hearts may be broken and flowers will fade  
But real love can never die in the shade  
Or be daunted by imperfect behaviour,  
As the source is our Lord and Saviour.

*Shirley Georgeson*

# Coffee Time

## Cryptics (*thanks and courtesy Barbara Cartwright*).

All male Christian names.

1. Found in the bog, we hear. (4)
2. Used the spade and nothing else. (4)
3. Monaco's prince "Le Brat" is spoilt. (6)
4. Wilder attempt at nanny's partner? (5)
5. Man enters drunkenly. (6)
6. Man in study, writing up evil deeds. (6)
7. Judges followed him (6)
8. Ollie's pal is in last answer. (4)
9. Heavenly sign observed in the battle orders. (3)
10. Boy caught lion out. (5)

Results for last month:

1. Kent
2. Keep
3. Kilo
4. Kingfisher
5. Keystone
6. Khaki
7. Kashmir
8. Keats
9. Kit
10. Know All