

# LLANDUDNO

Cylchgrawn Plwyf

Parish Magazine



50p

June 2010

# 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

© 2010 Rectorial Benefice of  
Llandudno

Registered Charity 1131171  
[www.llandudno-parish.org.uk](http://www.llandudno-parish.org.uk)

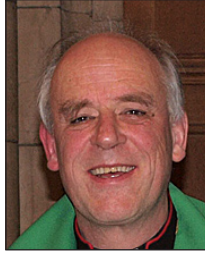
The deadline for copy for any edition is the 7th of the previous month. Please leave copy in box near pulpit in Holy Trinity Church or e-mail:

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

Copy may be on disk, printed or handwritten.

## From the Rectory

In recent centuries Christians have used different ways of naming their places of worship. In the Welsh Non-conformist tradition it was common to give chapels a Biblical name – for example here in Llandudno we have *Seilo Church*. Some Christian communities simply named their church to denote what denomination it was and where located: eg *Llandudno Baptist Church*. Recently founded evangelical churches, which tend to worship in community halls etc, sometimes give themselves intriguing names such as the local *i61* group which now meets in John Bright School.



Anglicans, together with Roman Catholic and Orthodox Christians, maintain the ancient tradition of naming churches after the holy ones (saints) of the faith or after God or Christ eg Holy Trinity, Christ Church, St. Saviour, Christ the King, Emmanuel, Holy Spirit etc.

The practice of dedicating churches to saints seems to have begun with the placing of the relics of the early martyrs beneath their altars. The martyr may have come from that community, or died there, or perhaps his or her relics were brought there. The most famous example of this would be St. Peter's in Rome. These Christian communities would feel close to that particular

saint and be deeply inspired by their life and manner of death. As time went on the dedication of churches to saints widened out to reflect growing devotion to Mary the Mother of the Lord, the Apostles, and to many other

holy men and women held in honour by the Church.

Here in Wales the dedications of churches are often to the person(s) believed to have founded them – as in our own *St. Tudno*. Sometimes these were not canonised 'saints' in the strict sense but may well have been persons locally recognised for their holiness of life. In some cases they may not even have been particularly 'holy' at all but simply the one who gave the money to build the church in the first place! And I was intrigued to read in a historical journal recently that some ancient Welsh dedications may actually reflect the names of pagan deities originally worshipped in the area.

In this parish we are fortunate to have both an ancient church dedicated to the saint who founded it, and a more recent parish church dedicated to God himself. Why Holy Trinity was chosen as the dedication of our parish church I do not know – though this particular dedication seems to have been particularly popular for seaside churches built

in the Victorian era.

Last month we celebrated the Patronal Festival of our parish church on the Feast of the Holy Trinity and this month we shall be keeping St. Tudno's Day and so recalling the man who first brought Christianity to this place and is patron of our parish and of our town.

I believe that we must never take these dedications for granted and just use them as mere names or means of identifying our churches. 'Trinity Church' so often slips easily off the tongue. In a sense these dedications define us as a *particular* and unique Christian community and give a special slant to the way in which we experience and live out our Christian faith. To be dedicated to St. Tudno means that as we reflect on this pioneer of the Christian faith up on the Great Orme we dedicate ourselves afresh to our worship and witness in 21st century Llandudno. It also surely means that we have a special

relationship with this citizen of heaven who prays and is concerned for us who follow in his footsteps.

And to be dedicated to the mystery of God the Holy Trinity will be a constant reminder to us that we are called to share in the life of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to whom we were dedicated in our baptism. As a Christian family we should be particularly concerned to build up a community of love which in some way reflects, albeit imperfectly, the giving and receiving of love which is the very life of the Holy Trinity itself.

So, at this time of year when we celebrate our patronal festivals, may we be proud of our dedications, proud to be the sons and daughters of blessed Tudno, even prouder though to be members of a church named after the mystery of the being of Almighty God.

*Fr John*

## News and Notices

### Llandudno Music Festival 2010

The festival takes place this year from June 19th-July 9th and will consist of eight concerts and a **Festival Evening at 5.00pm on Sunday 4th July**. Rehearsals for this service have already begun so it will be a splendid occasion.

Can I draw your attention to some concerts which I hope you will want

to attend.

**Saturday June 19th in the Town Hall at 8.00pm: Rhyl and District Musical Theatre Company present 'Around the world in 80 Songs' –** an excellent programme of music from the shows, performed by the hugely popular members from Rhyl.

**Saturday June 26th in St John's Church at 8.00pm: Piano Recital**

**by Caroline Clipsham.** Caroline is a fine young pianist who is fast making a name for herself in the south of England and can frequently be seen on the Cruise Liners these days.

**Thursday July 1st at Holy Trinity 8.00pm: Organ Recital by John Hosking (St. Asaph Cathedral).**

John is considered to be one of the finest recitalists in the country. He has also agreed to play the organ at the Festival Evensong on the 4th July.

**Saturday July 3rd at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity: The Ratcliff Foundation Symphony Concert.**

I will be conducting the Festival Orchestra in a programme consisting of The Hebrides Overture by Mendelssohn; The Clarinet Concerto by Mozart with soloist Peryn Clement-Evans and Beethoven's Second Symphony. This will be the main event of the festival and should be well worth a visit.

There are other events in the Festival which are displayed on the festival brochures which can be found at the back of the church.

This will be my last Festival as Musical Director so please try to support as many concerts as possible.

***Norman Rimmer***

**Llandudno Youth for Christ**

The Annual Meeting of Llandudno Youth for Christ Trust will be on Wednesday, June 30th, 2010 at 'The Garage', New

Street, Llandudno at 7.30 pm. As well as hearing a Report and receiving the Accounts, members will elect a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, and any new Trustees. Plans for future development will also be shared. Membership is open to those living in the Llandudno area, who are in sympathy with the aims of Trust. Details from The Revd. Peter Marshall, 01492 547352 (revmarsh35@yahoo.co.uk)

***David Marshall***

**A tribute to Rene Woodyatt**

It is with sorrow that I write this tribute to my dear friend Rene, who died one month short of her 94th birthday.

Irene Woodyatt (Rene or Woody to most people) was born on the 11th of April 1916 at 29, Alexandra Road, West Shore. She lived there all her life! The second child of Lucy and William Woodyatt. Born whilst her father was serving in France during the First World War, she was one of four children, three girls and one boy. Her younger sister, Doreen, died aged nine. It must have affected Rene greatly and she often talked of that sad time.

She attended Dyffryn Road School and then Central School in Trinity Avenue.

On leaving school she worked as a milliner at Clare's in Mostyn Street. During the Second World War she volunteered, against her father's wishes, and served with the ATS. She was at-

tached to the Signal Corps in the East of England and worked on Ack-Ack, plotting German bombers, and later on the telephones.

At the end of the war she returned home and worked for some time at Mabel Lewis' dress shop and then at Arnold's. She remained there until her retirement and was highly thought of by staff and the owners. She worked in the 'Ladies Underwear' department and was considered by her Head of Department as the most patient person to deal with customers. That patience was also tested at the frequent 'Fashion Shows' that the store took to various hotels and clubs. 'Woody' was the 'dresser' for the night and her work behind the scenes made sure that the evenings were a success.

Rene was involved in the life of the Church all her life, initially at the 'Old Tin Church', St. Andrew's, then Church of Our Saviour until its closure. The move to Holy Trinity was a big wrench but she got round to enjoying it. Not least for the number of people who greeted her each Sunday 'Hello Miss Woodyatt.' The majority of ex-Sunday School pupils had been taught by Rene. She must have created a big impression on these people both as a teacher and her production and participation in Sunday School plays. She taught in Sunday School for sixty years! She was proud that her efforts were remembered by the pupils and the Church. This culminated in her receiving an Award from the Bishop of Bangor in

recognition of those sixty years.

Much of her spare time was taken up by activities in the Church. She was a faithful member of the Parish Fellowship. Until a few years ago she assisted with the Afternoon Teas on Tuesdays, raising money for Church Funds.

She was a wonderful lady.

I hope it is of some comfort to her family to know that 'Aunty Rene' was loved and respected by so many. We shall miss her.

**Vernon Morris**

### **Services at St. Tudno's in June**

The first open air service of the season will be on Sunday 30 May at 11.00 am and services will continue each Sunday until the end of September. The Parish is again providing a taxi service to St. Tudno's for these services. The taxi will depart from Trinity Square, outside Holy Trinity, at 10.30 am and return from St. Tudno's at 12.00 noon. The Friends of St. Tudno's souvenirs will be on sale after the open air services.

Saturday 5 June is St. Tudno's Day and we will be celebrating this with a pilgrimage walk, Eucharist and tea. The pilgrimage will begin with a short act of worship at Holy Trinity, after which we will set out to walk to St. Tudno's, with some stops for prayer and reflection. On the way to St. Tudno's we will be visiting St. Tudno's well, by kind permission of the landowners, where there

will be a short service of dedication. The Eucharist service at St. Tudno's will be at 3.00 pm and this will be followed by tea and cakes in the church grounds. If you would like to take part in the pilgrimage, please wear walking boots or stout shoes and bring waterproofs and a packed lunch

The open air service on Sunday 6 June will be a special one to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Great Orme Country Park and, as usual on the first Sunday in the month, it will be followed by a shortened Eucharist service in the church.

There will be a service of Compline by Candlelight at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 8 June. On Tuesday 29 June we will again be pleased to welcome clergy from Bangor and St. Asaph dioceses, when the Society of Catholic Priests hold a concelebrated Eucharist at St. Tudno's.

We look forward to seeing you at St. Tudno's.

### **Friends of St. Tudno's Spring Fair**

Many thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the fair in April such a success, as more than £900 was raised towards re-roofing St. Tudno's. The publicity generated for Sponsor-a-Slate has resulted in another £600 of slate sponsorship being received since the fair and hopefully this will continue. The weather was beautiful on the day of the fair, so some of the stalls were placed outside, though there was rather hot work in the kitchen, particularly as the dishwasher was out of order! Unfortunately, the soft toy bungee jump had to be cancelled as the operator was ill. We do apologise to all the disappointed toys (and their carers) but hope that



*All photos on this page and the next page are of St. Tudno's Spring Fair.*





the bungee jump will in operation at the Friends' Fair in September.

### **St. Tudno's working party**

Thank you very much to everybody who took part in the working party at St. Tudno's in May. In addition to setting out the benches, the churchyard was cleared of rubbish, the church cleaned thoroughly, the vestry tidied, the headstone wobbling survey was performed and canes were placed to mark wildflowers in the churchyard. The church is now ready for the start of the summer season of open air services.

**Christine Jones & Stephanie Searle**

*All photos on this page are of the May working party at St. Tudno's.*





*The Easter candle being lit at St. Tudno's. With Father John is Christine Jones ...*



*... who (first from left) later gave a presentation to the Mothers' Union on the flora and fauna of the Great Orme.*

## Men Who Sing ...

... or Male Voice Choir concerts to be more accurate, are starting up again on Sundays this summer at Holy Trinity with a view to bringing some cash into the parish coffers.

We will of course need some help on a rota basis to make refreshments for the choirs, and people willing to welcome the audience, lead a prayer, introduce the choir for that week and be a gener-

ally good egg on behalf of the church for the evening.

The first concert, just to be different, will actually be on Saturday 5th June and not on Sunday 6th. So please everyone, come and support our first concert and get the season off with a bang for us. The programme for the season to date is as follows:

***Peter & Wendy La Trobe***

<b>Saturday</b> 5th June	Barnburgh Male Voice Choir
Sun 13th June	Bangor Male Voice Choir
Sun 20th June	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 27th June	Shrewsbury Police Male Voice Choir
Sun 4th July	Bro Aled Male Voice Choir
Sun 11th July	Bangor Male Voice Choir
Sun 18th July	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 25th July	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 1st Aug	Wolverhampton Orpheus Male Voice Choir
Sun 8th Aug	Flint Male Voice Choir
Sun 15th Aug	To be announced
Sun 22nd Aug	Bangor Male Voice Choir
Sun 29th Aug	Peak District <b>Youth String Orchestra</b>
Sun 5th Sept	Flint Male Voice Choir
Sun 12th Sept	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 19th Sept	Bro Aled Male Voice Choir
Sun 26th Sept	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir

## Calendar for June

Tues 1st	10.00 am	Julian Meditation Group at Stella Maris	
Thurs 3rd	7.00 pm	PCC Eucharist & Meeting	
Sat 5th		<b>St. Tudno, Patron of Llandudno</b>	
	12.00 noon	Pilgrimage Walk from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's including visit to St. Tudno's Well.	
	3.00 pm	Holy Eucharist	
<b>Sun 6th</b>		<b>Trinity 1 (Pentecost 2)</b>	
		Services as usual for the 1st Sunday	
Tues 8th	10.30-2.30	Carpet Fund Refreshments	
	7.30 pm	Compline by Candlelight at St. Tudno's	
Weds 9th	2.00 pm	Bible Society Fund Afternoon Tea	
	8.00 pm	Trinity Players' first concert of the season	
Thurs 10th	10.00 am	Guild of St. Raphael Meeting	
	11.00 am	Eucharist with Ministry of Healing	
Fri 11th		<b>Barnabas, Apostle</b>	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
<b>Sun 13th</b>		<b>Trinity 2 (Pentecost 3)</b>	
		Services as usual for the 2nd Sunday	
<b>Sun 20th</b>		<b>Trinity 3 (Pentecost 4)</b>	
		Services as usual for 3rd Sunday	
<b>Sun 27th</b>		<b>Trinity 4 (Pentecost 5)</b>	
		Services as usual for the 4th Sunday	
Tues 29th		<b>Peter &amp; Paul, Apostles</b>	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	
	7.00 pm	Concelebrated Eucharist for Society of Catholic priests at St. Tudno's – Chief Celebrant & Preacher: Bishop Andrew	

## Attendance Figures for April

April 1st	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	13
<b>Maunder Thurs</b>	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist at Trinity Centre	5

	7.30 pm	Mass of the Last Supper	39
	11.50 pm	Compline	4
April 2nd	10.30 am	Children's Service	Adults 13
<b>Good Friday</b>			Children 12
.	2.30 pm	Liturgy	54
<b>April 4th</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	31
<b>Easter Day</b>	10.30 am	Festal Eucharist	197
	5.00 pm	Choral Evensong	25
		Other weekday Eucharists in Easter Week	20
<b>April 11th</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	14
<b>Easter 2</b>	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	65
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	5
		Total of other Weekday Eucharists	32
<b>April 18th</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	16
<b>Easter 3</b>	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	90
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	5
	6.00 pm	Exploring Worship	35
		Total of other Weekday Eucharists	25
<b>April 25th</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	19
<b>Easter 4</b>	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	80
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	8
		Total of other Weekday Eucharists	25

### **The Parish Share or 'Quota' for 2010 is £76992**

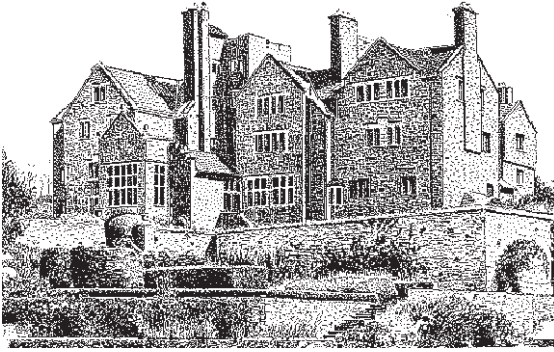
The Quota is the sum of money that we have to contribute to pay the stipends of our clergy. In 2008 and 2009, we partially paid this sum from our reserves. This year the increase is £3550 more than 2009 (+4.83%) and we do not have the reserves.

If you are able, please consider revising your regular giving so the Parish can pay its dues.

If you are a payer of income tax or capital gains tax, 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)



## The Spa at Bodysgallen

Telephone: (01492) 562500

Facsimile: (01492) 562515

Email: [spa@bodysgallen.com](mailto:spa@bodysgallen.com)

[www.bodysgallen.com/spa](http://www.bodysgallen.com/spa)

### **Voted North Wales' Premier Day Spa (Sunday Times)**

The Spa is housed in a converted stone-built farm and contains a large swimming pool, spa bath, sauna and steam room. We have a new gymnasium with state-of-the-art equipment. There are five modern treatment rooms and a relaxation room to relax in after your treatments.

At the Spa we offer a wide range of treatments and products from Anne Sémonin, a luxury brand exclusive to North Wales. Experience one of the luxury made-to-measure ice cube facials to firm and tighten the skin; see amazing instant results.

The five-star brand Decleor offers a wide range of treatments and products including luxury massage and aromatherapy facials.

The CACI Quantum machine offers a non-surgical face-lift, as used by the stars. The CACI Chromaclear machine offers microdermabrasion and oxygen facials to improve skin texture and appearance.

St. Tropez Aero Bronze spray tans are available. We stock all of the St. Tropez products.

### **Packages available at the Spa**

Why not spend more time with us at the Spa and opt for one of our packages? These will give you full use of the Spa facilities. We also have spa breaks available should you wish to spend the night in the hotel. These breaks include spa treatment.

**Half days – £55**

**Luxury half days – £85**

**Full days of health and beauty – from £140**

**Spa breaks – from £210**

Private memberships are also available. Members enjoy unlimited use of our award-winning exclusive Spa.

# From the Parish Registers

## Holy Baptism

April 18th: Ando Llewelyn Hannant at St.Tudno's Church

April 25th: Wesley Andrew Simpson

April 25th: Dillon Lewis Simpson

## The Departed

2nd March: Linda Ann Dunn aged 55  
Service in Holy Trinity followed by burial in the Great Orme Cemetery (*We apologise for the delay in printing this notice*)

April 16th: Cllr. Alun Barrett aged 64  
Service at Holy Trinity followed by Cremation at Colwyn Bay

April 22nd: Margery Ellen Owen aged 88  
Cremation at Colwyn Bay

## Sidespersons

June 6th	Annabel Jones Angela Pritchard William Maidlow Ron Illidge	June 27th	Sandra Davies Eileen Roberts Judith Williams Ray Millington
June 13th	Dorothy Trent Vernon Morris Terry Dewer Mary Rees	July 4th	Barbara Yates Angela Pritchard Annabel Jones Ron Illidge
June 20th	Pat Ridler Doug Pritchard Wendy Campbell Stewart Adele Arrowsmith		

## Resources for Christian Living — 4

In the previous articles in this series we explored the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) as a wonderful, if often neglected, resource for our Christian pilgrimage, helping us to know God's forgiveness and the opportunity of a new beginning. We turn now to another sacramental ministry of the Church – the anointing of the sick, an important element in the Church's ministry of healing.

The outward sign of this sacrament is an anointing with pure olive oil which has normally been blessed by the diocesan bishop on Maundy Thursday. The use of olive oil as a medicinal ointment is very ancient. Later it developed from this to become a symbol of healing and became a sacrament of the Christian Church. Indeed Christians have used oil sacramentally from the earliest times. We read in the letter of James in the New Testament: *'Is any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord'*.

What actually happens at the celebration of this sacrament? The person wishing to be anointed is first prayed for and then receives the laying on of hands. The priest then anoints them with the oil on their forehead and on the palm of each hand saying the following words (or something very similar: *'As we anoint you outwardly with*

*this holy oil, so may our heavenly Father anoint you inwardly with the gift of the Holy Spirit that you may receive the healing of all your infirmities of body, mind and spirit. May the merciful Father comfort you, give you confidence in his mercy and keep you always in peace and safety, through Jesus Christ our Lord.'* The sacrament of anointing may be celebrated privately in church, in hospital or at home. Or it may form part of a Healing service in Church.

What is the expected outcome of this sacrament? It *may* result in the cure of the person being anointed, or be a contributing factor in a cure. Alternatively, although there is no cure, the sacrament may relieve symptoms or give the person the strength to cope with disease. It *will* almost certainly bring peace of mind and heart and a deeper sense of the presence of the Lord in the person's life.

Who should ask for this sacrament? The answer is – anyone who feels an urgent need for healing. I would say that it is for people in a variety of circumstances: it may be they are coping with serious illness or disability, perhaps preparing for an operation or a course of treatment (eg chemotherapy, radiation treatment etc), maybe they are depressed or under great stress in their lives. It can be administered to someone with physical, mental or spiritual problems. At the end of the



day it is for anyone who really feels they need it.

Some folk are frightened of this sacrament because they associate it with death. It is true that anointing is often given to the dying as part of the 'last rites', but this is only one of its functions it is also a sacrament of healing very much for the living.

So please do ask for anointing if you feel you need it. And as you receive this sacrament open yourself up to Christ's gracious healing presence in your life. Whatever the outcome you will know His peace and be given strength to cope with whatever lies ahead.

**Fr John**

## Burnet Rose

The May blossom on the hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) was late appearing after the cold spring but another member of the rose family (in addition to the blackthorn) had started flowering before the hawthorn. The burnet rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia* or *R. spinosissima*) can be expected to flower from May to July, so June is a good time to see it on the Great Orme.

The bushes are low growing and are generally said to reach up to 50 cm

(18") high, though they may achieve 1 m (3') in sheltered areas. The Great Orme is, however, not very sheltered and the bushes here are more often 30 cm (12") than 50 cm. I'm not sure how much grazing contributes to the lack of height: though the bushes are very spiny, a few spines or thorns do not usually deter the goats!

It is suggested that the name burnet rose resulted from the similarity in shape of the leaves to those of salad

burnet (*Poterium sanguisorba*) or from the purplish-brown colour of the stems. The flowers are a beautiful, waxy cream or white and open to reveal golden stamens which bear the pollen. The flowers are about 2 – 4 cm ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ " ) in diameter and show clearly amongst short grasses in the dry, open areas where these plants are usually found.

**Christine Jones**



## Great Hymns — Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

There is a 1992 film set during the Rebecca Riots in West Wales called *Rebecca's Daughters*, based upon a scenario by Dylan Thomas. At the end of the film, the triumphant 'daughters' return home singing a Welsh hymn to the tune *Hyfrydol*. The problem is that the turnpike laws in Wales were amended in 1843 and though *Hyfrydol* was first published the following year, it is inconceivable that the tune could be sung in close harmony by the home-bound rioters.

My introduction to the tune is decidedly Anglican, originating in the 1906 wedding between William Chatterton Dix's words 'Alleluia! Sing to Jesus' and the tune in the *English Hymnal*. Undoubtedly this will be the combination familiar to most readers of this magazine but both words and tune have had, and continue to have, other partners.

William Chatterton Dix (1837 - 1898) was born in Bristol, the son of John Dix, a surgeon. His father gave him his middle name in honour of Thomas Chatterton, a poet who had tragically died young about whom he had written a biography.

Most significant Victorian hymns were written by clergymen but after attending Bristol Grammar School, Dix elected for a commercial career. He became the manager of a marine insurance company in Glasgow.

A high Anglican lay-theologian, his heart was in the poetry of worship. He wrote more than 40 hymns over the course of his life.

At the age of 29 he was struck with a near-fatal illness and consequently suffered months confined to his bed. During this time he became severely depressed. Yet it is from this period that many of his hymns date.

His hymns and carols include 'As with Gladness Men of Old,' 'What Child is This?,' 'To Thee, O Lord, Our Hearts We Raise' and 'Alleluia! Sing to Jesus'.

Some of his contributions were renderings in metrical form of Dr RF Littledale's translation from the Greek in his *Offices ... of the Holy Eastern Church*, 1863; and of the Rev JM Rodwell's translation of hymns of the Abyssinian Church. In addition to detached pieces in prose and verse for various magazines, he published two devotional works, *Light; and The Risen Life*, 1883; and a book of instructions for children entitled *The Pattern Life*, 1885.

Discovering much more about Dix has proved quite frustrating. His clergymen contemporaries either kept diaries or are otherwise well documented. He died at Cheddar, Somerset, which is only a few miles south of his native Bristol. Presumably he retired there. He was buried at the parish church

of St. Andrew. His simple white stone gives away few clues: 'Here lies William Chatterton Dix, Hymn Writer, 1837 - 1898.

Dix's communion hymn for Ascension-tide, 'Alleluia, Sing to Jesus', was written in 1866 to fulfil an acknowledged need for Eucharistic hymns. It first appeared in Dix's *Altar Songs, Verses on the Holy Eucharist* (1867), under the title 'Redemption by the Precious Blood'.

In the nineteenth century, many ancient liturgies were rediscovered and used as an inspiration for the new Victorian hymns; this hymn imitates an ancient Alleluia. Stanza 2 references the Ascension (Mark 16:19 and Luke 24:49-53) and other biblical references include: stanza 2, line 8 (Matthew 28:20); stanza 3, lines 1-2 (John 6:32, 50-51, Revelation 4:6-11; stanza 4, lines 5-6 (Hebrews 6:19-20), stanza 4, line 8 (Hebrews chapters 3 to 9, and Revelation 5:9).

*Alleluia! sing to Jesus!*

*His the sceptre, his the throne.*

*Alleluia! His the triumph,*

*His the victory alone.*

*Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion*

*Thunder like a mighty flood.*

*Jesus out of every nation*

*Hath redeemed us by his blood.*

*Alleluia! not as orphans*

*Are we left in sorrow now;*

*Alleluia! He is near us,*

*Faith believes, nor questions how;*

*Though the cloud from sight received  
him*

*When the forty days were o'er*

*Shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?*

*Alleluia! bread of heaven,*

*Here on earth our food and stay!*

*Alleluia! here the sinful*

*Flee to thee from day to day.*

*Intercessor, Friend of sinners,*

*Earth's Redeemer, plead for me.*

*Where the songs of all the sinless*

*Sweep across the crystal sea.*

*Alleluia! King eternal,*

*Thee the Lord of lords we own;*

*Alleluia! born of Mary,*

*Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.*

*Thou within the veil hast entered,*

*Robed in flesh, our great High Priest.*

*Thou on earth both Priest and Victim*

*In the Eucharistic Feast.*

(The first stanza was repeated.)

The hymn was included in the Communion section of the Appendix (1868) to the first edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (#350), comprising five stanzas. The tune used in *H, A&M* was *Alleluia* by SS Wesley (1810-1876), especially written for the words.

Subsequently, the hymn has been published in most, if not all, mainstream Anglican hymnals and the hymnals of many other denominations that celebrate the Eucharist. Initially, *Alleluia* was the preferred tune though *Knightsbridge* (1885 – Rev James Baden Powell, Precentor of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge), *Eucharist* (composer unknown) and *Eucharistica* (JW Elliott), are listed. (Fascinatingly and morbidly, I discovered the tune

*Euthanasia* during my research!)

The New Edition of *H, A&E* (1905) preferred the ill-fated *Adoration*, penned by its musical editor, Bertram Luard-Selby who substituted several tunes with arguably inferior ones of his own composition. The tune *Lowell* (H Ernest Nichol) was written in the same year (though published in 1929) but it was the *English Hymnal* of 1906 that first printed the Welsh tune *Hyfrydol* (Delightful) with the words. The harmonisation was by Ralph Vaughan Williams though he did not copyright it. The repeated fifth stanza was dropped. The second stanza was asterisked, thus potentially shortening the hymn when sung outside Ascensiontide.

*Hyfrydol* was written by Rowland Huw Prichard (or Pritchard) when he was aged 20. Named after his grandfather, the bard Rowland Huw, he was born at Graienyn near Bala in 1811. Music was his main interest and he laboured long in the cause of music and congregational singing.

In 1844, Pritchard published *Cyfally Cantorion* (*The Singer's Friend*), a song book for children of about 40 tunes, including *Hyfrydol*. The tune later appeared in *Haleliwia Drachefn* (1855). The narrative splits at this point. Some references have Prichard moving to Holywell, possibly in reduced circumstances, in 1880 (aged c 70) to serve as a loom-tender's assistant at the Welsh Flannel Manufacturing Company. Others say he was an official. He died in 1887 and was

buried at St. Peter's Church.

Quite what text Prichard had in mind for his tune has been difficult for me to ascertain but there is reference to it being set to words by William Williams (Pantycelyn).

I have accessed *Llaw lyfr Moliant* (1890) and *Hyfrydol* heads three sets of words, including one by Williams: 'Tyr'd i fyny, o'r anialwch'. I believe that this hymn is now obscure but a Welsh text by William Williams that is sung today to *Hyfrydol* is 'O llefara addfwyn Iesu' (O Speak, Gentle Jesus):

O llefara, addfwyn Iesu,  
Mae dy eiriau fel y gwin,  
Oll yn dwyn i mewn dangnefedd  
Ag sydd o anfeidrol rin;  
Mae holl leisiau'r greadigaeth,  
Holl ddeniadau cnawd a byd,  
Wrth dy lais **hyfrytaf**, tawel  
Yn distewi a mynd yn fud.

Though this Baptist hymnal prefers the tune *Pantycelyn* (W Davies, 1888) to these words, could they be Prichard's inspiration? A possible clue is in line 7.

*Hyfrydol* did not become the *de facto* tune to 'Alleluia! Sing to Jesus' immediately but after subsequent publication in *Songs of Praise*, 1925, other tunes have barely had a consideration though *Alleluia* is still occasionally used.

*Hyfrydol* has been set with many other texts, especially by congregations where the Eucharist has no or a lesser significance. Mention must be given to Charles Wesley's 'Love Divine All

Doh G. M. 84.

R. H. PRICHARD, Bala.

D : - : r	d : r : m	f : - : m	r : d : r	S : - : f	m : - : m
S <sub>1</sub> : - : t <sub>1</sub>	d : t <sub>1</sub> : d	d : r : d	t <sub>1</sub> : l <sub>1</sub> : t <sub>1</sub>	D : - : t <sub>1</sub>	d : s <sub>1</sub> : d
M : - : s	s : f : m	l : s : s	s : - : s	S : - : s	s : m : s
D : - : s <sub>1</sub>	m : r : d	l <sub>1</sub> : t <sub>1</sub> : d	s <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub>	M : - : r	d : - : m <sub>1</sub>

D.C.

r : - : d : r	d : - : -	S : - : s	s : f : m	f : - : f	f : m : r
t <sub>1</sub> : - : t <sub>1</sub>	d : - : -	D : - : d	de : r : l <sub>1</sub>	l <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub> l <sub>1</sub>	t <sub>1</sub> : d : s <sub>1</sub>
f : - : f	m : - : -	M : - : m	m : r : de	r : - : r	r : d : t <sub>1</sub>
s <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub>	d : - : -	D : - : d t <sub>1</sub>	l <sub>1</sub> : - : l <sub>1</sub>	r : - : d : t <sub>1</sub> l <sub>1</sub>	s <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub>

M : - : m	m : f : s	s : f : m	r : - : -	S : m : s	f : r : f
S <sub>1</sub> : s <sub>1</sub> : l <sub>1</sub>	t <sub>1</sub> : l <sub>1</sub> : s <sub>1</sub> d	d : s <sub>1</sub> : s <sub>1</sub> l <sub>1</sub>	t <sub>1</sub> : - : -	D : - : d	t <sub>1</sub> : - : t <sub>1</sub>
D : m : d	d : - : d	d : r : m fe	s : - : -	S : - : s	s : - : s
D : t <sub>1</sub> : l <sub>1</sub>	s <sub>1</sub> : f <sub>1</sub> : m <sub>1</sub>	l <sub>1</sub> : t <sub>1</sub> : d	s <sub>1</sub> : - : -	m : d : m	s : - : s <sub>1</sub>

m : d : m	r m : f m : r	S : - : s	l : s : f	m : - : r	d : - : -
d : s <sub>1</sub> : d	s <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub> : t <sub>1</sub> : d	d : - : d	d : - : t <sub>1</sub>	d : - : -
s : m : d	t <sub>1</sub> d : r d : t <sub>1</sub>	D : r : m	f : s : l	s : - : f	m : - : -
d : - : d	s <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub>	M <sub>1</sub> : r <sub>1</sub> : d <sub>1</sub>	f <sub>1</sub> : m <sub>1</sub> : f <sub>1</sub>	s <sub>1</sub> : - : s <sub>1</sub>	d <sub>1</sub> : - : -

*Hyfrydol* as it appeared in *Llaw lyfr Moliant* in 1890. When the tune was later reworked by Ralph Vaughan Williams, he exchanged of the timing of bar 2 with bar 7. If you are familiar with the tune, you do not need to be an expert in Tonic Sol-fa to notice this.

Loves Excelling'. It is occasionally set to these words here in the UK but more frequently in the USA where the mighty *Blaenwern* is less well known.

*Hyfrydol* is usually printed with Vaughan Williams' harmonisation but others do exist. 'Alleluia! Sing to Jesus' has remained remarkably unchanged apart from the dropped fifth, repeated stanza. 'Holy Zion' occasionally replaces 'Peaceful Zion' in the first stanza and changes to Jesus' person are not unknown: 'Yours the sceptre' etc.

This hymn typifies Victorian hymn writ-

ing and demonstrates the strengths of both *H,A&M* and the *EH*, the former for encouraging new texts and the latter for its music. It's a great combination.



William Chatterton Dix and Rowland Huw Prichard.