

# LLANDUDNO

Cylchgrawn Plwyf Parish Magazine



50p

June 2011

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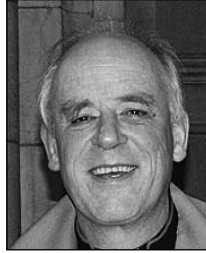
The deadline for copy for any edition is the 7th of the previous month. Please leave copy in box near pulpit in Holy Trinity Church or e-mail:

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

Copy may be on disk, printed or handwritten.

## From the Rectory

I was fascinated by the coverage of President Barack Obama's recent visit to Ireland, and in particular his trip to the village from which some of his ancestors came. Past Presidents have made similar visits to ancestral homes in Ireland but they had names like Kennedy or Reagan, which gave them an obvious Irish connection. But here was a President of partly African ancestry also claiming to be Irish! It goes to show what a melting pot America is – and indeed it reminds us that today all over the world there are people with mixed ancestry, having their roots in a variety of very different places and cultures.



Some years ago I did quite a bit of work on my family history and learnt all kinds of interesting things about my ancestors. My roots (at least as far back as I could trace them) are certainly not as diverse as those of President Obama; most of my forebears came from the home counties of England with just one strand emanating from the Scottish lowlands. However, it was enriching to discover about the lives of those who together made me what I am. So if you have not looked into your family history I would certainly encourage you to do so – to discover your roots!

This month we have an opportunity

to reflect upon our roots as members of the church in Llandudno as we celebrate the feast of St. Tudno our patron and founder. We think right back to the beginnings of the life of the church in this place – to the moment around 1400 years ago when Tudno came to the Great Orme to establish his monastic community and to preach the faith to the inhabitants of these parts. But that was only the beginning. Since Tudno's time countless generations of faithful servants of Christ have continued to worship God and live the Christian life here. We enter into a rich and wonderful heritage. So do make every effort to be present at St. Tudno's Church as we keep our patronal festival as a parish to give thanks to God and to renew our commitment to serve Christ and the people amongst whom we live and work.

A week later we will be enabled to reflect upon our Christian roots in a deeper sense. Pentecost Sunday reminds us of the very beginnings of the Church itself. When the Holy Spirit was first poured out upon the apostles and disciples of the Lord, a bunch of men and women who had been followers of Christ were united together in a divine society, the fellowship of the Spirit, in which Christ could be known and loved and in which his grace could be shared

for the living of the Christian life and the proclamation of the Gospel. Into this divine life we were immersed when we were baptised. So, come on the Feast of Pentecost to thank God for the Church, the Body of Christ of which we are part.

And then a week later still we keep Trinity Sunday. As our parish church is dedicated to the mystery of the Holy Trinity this is naturally of special interest to us. But this wonderful mystery, that God is three persons in one divine

life is of importance to every Christian. If we really want to trace our roots as Christians, ultimately we come to understand that the deepest truth about our lives is that our ultimate home is in God, who has revealed himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and who offers us no less than a share in His Divine Life.

There's a lot to contemplate this month!

*Fr John*

## News and Notices

### **Bible Society Strawberry Tea**

Please support this event to be held on Thursday 16th June, in the Church Hall at Holy Trinity Church, between 12 and 4pm. The strawberry tea will consist of strawberries, cream, homemade scone, bara brith, shortbread and pot of tea or coffee, all for only £3.00. Sandwiches and cake will also be available for those looking for a light lunch!

Tickets for the strawberry tea can be purchased from Rev. Peter Plunkett or Angela.



### **Contributions to the Magazine**

It is not always easy to fill up these pages to create an interesting magazine and the Editor thanks all contributors for their support.

Contributions, spiritual or secular, to this magazine are always welcome. Your Editor sits firmly on the shelf and leaves it up to the contributors to determine the balance of the magazine.

However, this does not mean that I can print everything that is submitted. A recent embarrassment occurred because an item submitted in good faith and marked 'Anon' turned out to be the copyright of a living writer. So if you do submit anything written by another, please do not be offended if it is excluded because its copyright status is unknown.

## Parish Fellowship

Our Spring Session began with the Eucharist service held in the Memorial Hall led by the Rev Peter Plunkett. He was thanked and also everyone else who took part and helped in any way.

The Spring Programme was organised by Vernon and was a real mixture of enjoyable themes from home and abroad. We thoroughly enjoyed them all.

The first speaker was Mrs Richardson telling us her very interesting life story, 'Where Elijah Beckons'. She contrasted the beliefs between Judaism and Christianity. She also told of the highs and lows of her life and how through meeting different people can change one's life. She emphasised that the best thing in life was having the love of family and friends.

The following week Mr Tony Peters and his wife entertained us with the 'Highlights of a Recent Visit to Egypt'. They brought a selection of the photos and films they had taken. These brought alive those wonderful places we have all read about and which made the talk so interesting to hear.

At the end of the last report I wrote about the terrible flooding in Australia an area the size of Wales. The very next week we had torrential rain and flooding in Wales. Around Conway and Betws-y-Coed the wind was so strong it lifted the roof and closed the supermarket! Our speaker for that day was Mr Paul Kay and his subject was

'Wales Under Water'. His actual talk was about the sea around Wales and his films were about the beautiful fish and the stunning and colourful plants under the sea. We thoroughly enjoyed it and hope he will come again.

The following week Mrs Lawson-Reay spoke about 'Llandudno Shops Old and New'. So many of the members remembered the old shops and how the town has changed. Again it was very interesting to see the old pictures.

We also had a 90th birthday to celebrate with a tea party for Mrs Joy Jones. Congratulations to Joy.

Another day we welcomed Mrs Stephanie Searle who was to talk about her 'Life in Kenya'. How interesting it was and how wonderful it must have been for her and her family to live there and love the country and the people. We thoroughly enjoyed hearing and learning about it all. Thank you.

The next week we welcomed Mrs Barbara Cartwright telling us about 'Guiding – an account of a Brownie leader'. She told us amusing stories about the children and of the time she spent with them.

Our last speaker for the session was Peter Harris, 'An Afternoon in Tanzania'. We were not sure what this was going to be about but again it was so interesting and wonderful. Dr Harris told us about going to Tanzania and helping to build a school for the children and what a difference this would make to



their lives. It was very moving and we thanked him for sparing the time to come and visit us. Of course our last meeting was the Eucharist with Peter. We thanked him for his time and commitment.

We thanked Vernon for the time and effort he put into getting together such a wonderful programme and for the time he spent contacting all the speakers. We have enjoyed and learned so much over the sessions from October to March. Thank you again

Also we thanked Betty Craven, our treasurer, for dealing with our expenses: Dennis for playing the organ for us: and all the members who help with the refreshments and in other ways.

We are sorry to miss members who

are ill and unable to come: Thelma and Dick Owen and Glyn but it has been good to see June and Trevor when the weather has been good.

Since we finished we have been on a trip to Betws-y-Coed on the train which we enjoyed and hope to have some more trips over the holidays if we can use our bus passes as a minibus is quite expensive.

To thank you all again and God Bless

**Adele**

### **Easter Vigil**

The Easter Vigil service at St. Tudno's was held at 5.30 am on Easter Sunday and 26 people, including some visitors,



*The open air service after the Good Friday Walk of Witness from Emmanuel to Holy Trinity.*



*Fr. John sings the Exultet while the rising sun lights up the east window.*

managed to get up to St. Tudno's before dawn to take part in the service. The service began with lighting the Pascal Candle from the new fire and then

passing the candle light from person to person in the unlit church. I am told that there was a beautiful sunrise at 6.00 am when the barbecues were lit outside



*After the service, enjoying breakfast following a lovely service, in a lovely place on a lovely morning.*

the church. By the end of the service, after Communion, the barbecues had reached cooking temperature and most of congregation stayed to enjoy 'bacon butties' prepared by the Friends of St. Tudno's Church.

### **St. Tudno's Working Party**

Many thanks to everyone who took part in the spring working party on 14 May. All the benches were set out for the open air services and the church and churchyard given a good clean and tidy up. At the same time the grass around the church received its first cut of the season and the grass cutters have again agreed to leave patches of

wildflowers uncut to allow them to set seed.

### **Miriam Restored**

During the working party the marble cross which was used as a 'battering ram' during the February break in was returned to its grave. However, it had obviously suffered from the burglar's handling as the cross snapped off the base when it was lifted. (We understand that the burglar was arrested in London, was wanted by police forces throughout the UK and has been deported home to Poland. Thanks to Llandudno police for all their help with this.) The broken windows have just



*William, Rob and Vernon sorting out the benches.*





*Miriam restored.*

been replaced after restoration and we are delighted to have 'Miriam' back in the St. Tudno's.

### **St. Tudno's Day**

St. Tudno's Day is on Sunday 5 June and there will be an open air Parish Eucharist at St. Tudno's at 10.30 am. **There**

**will not be a 10.30 am service at Holy Trinity** on this day and we do hope that you will come to St. Tudno's to celebrate the feast day of Llandudno's patron saint.

A 30 seater bus will provide a shuttle service between Holy Trinity and St. Tudno's, departing from Holy Trinity at 9.15, 9.45 and 10.15 am. Please sign the list at the back of Holy Trinity to indicate which bus you will travel on. The bus will return from St. Tudno's at 12.00, 12.30 and 1.00 pm and those catching the first bus up are asked to catch the first bus back, etc.

Parking at St. Tudno's is limited and, with the agreement of the Highways Department, the area opposite the steps into the churchyard will be reserved for the bus to turn, so we hope that you will take advantage of the bus service. Tea, coffee and toilets will all be available at St. Tudno's and if you are travelling back on one of the later buses you might like to bring some sandwiches and picnic in the church grounds after the service. In the event of bad weather, the service will be held in the church.

### **Pilgrimage Walk**

The annual pilgrimage walk from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's will take place on St. Tudno's Eve, Saturday 4 June, beginning with a short service at Holy Trinity at 4.00 pm. We will then walk to St. Tudno's via the Prom, Happy Valley, Ski Slope and Pink Farm, with appropriate

stops for Psalms and prayers. We will visit St. Tudno's Well by kind permission of the landowners and the pilgrimage will end with a short service at St. Tudno's Church. Please wear stout footwear and bring a packed tea.

### **St. Tudno Services**

The open air services will continue at the regular time of 11.00 am from Sunday 12 June and the taxi from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's will depart at 10.30 am each Sunday.

The first service of Compline by Candlelight for this season will be on Tuesday 7 June at 7.30 pm.

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

*Christine Jones  
Stephanie Searle*

### **Mothers' Union**

Our Mothers' Union members had their outing to Anglesey this month. Fortuitously, the sun shone as we headed west along the A55. Our first destination was to Pringle's at Llanfair PG for an hour's retail therapy and refreshments. We then went on our scenic drive which took us to Four Mile Bridge. We had a lovely lunch at the Anchorage which went far to quickly.

It was then on to Llanfaelog Church; Joan and Phil Langrill greeted us and we had a guided trail around the church.

A short service and readings were given by Joan and Phil. The stained glass windows are very beautiful and include the Burne Jones 'St. Cecilia' window, the 'Last Supper' East window and the 'Music Window' by Tiffany Tate. The woodwork, 'the Tree of Life', is by Bill Swann and Colin Pearce. We then had tea & coffee with Fruit loaf and cake. This was a good end to a nice day and we were soon all back on the coach to Llandudno.

**Please note the afternoon meeting on June 13th has been changed to June 20th.** The Bishop of Lango from Uganda is visiting us. We would like to encourage as large a turnout as possible from those who attend both our afternoon meetings and evening meetings to welcome our distinguished guests. We will be joined by the Rev Jane Allen.

On June 14, the evening MU members are having a fish & chips' supper in the Hall.

The programme of events until our AGM in January will soon be with members.

*Maggie Leitch*

### **Confirmation**

On Sunday 23 May, the Bishop of Bangor, the Right Rev Andrew John conducted a Confirmation and Eucharist at Holy Trinity Church. The candidates were Ben Edwards, Luke Davies, David



*Above: Flanked by Ben and Luke, Bishop Andrew confirms Geoffrey Howard. Below: Bishop Andrew Confirms David Gilmour.*

Gilmour and Geoffrey Howard.

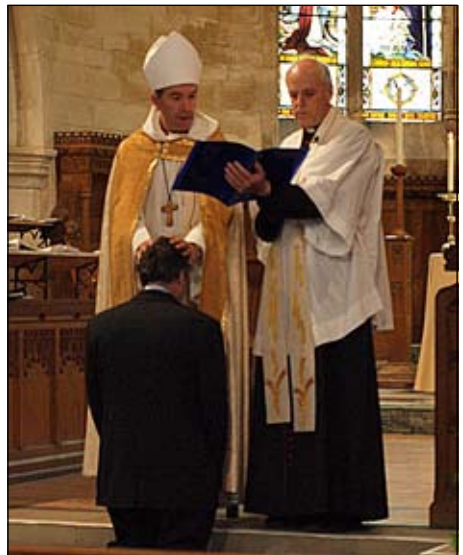
The following messages have been received by the magazine:

'A big thank you for all the help and support given to us on our Confirmation Day, for all the cards and presents, we truly appreciated your kindness to us.

'Thank you again; we both said it was one of the best days of our life.

'Special thanks to Fr. John for our lessons, which we really enjoyed.

***Ben and Luke'***



'Dear Bishop Andy, Father John, Peter Plunkett, David, Ben and Luke, Oh! okay - then hello everyone!

'I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone for making my confirmation day so special. Confirmation was something I missed out on as a boy; don't know why. It's something I have wanted to do for years but never quite found the time or had the courage. The older one gets, the more easy it is to be embarrassed by doing the things most people do in their youth.

'The first step, seeing my friend and neighbour Peter Plunkett - just a general chat and he gave me all the encouragement I needed to go for it. Thank you friend!

'Next step - Father John coming to our home for a shared pot of tea and a chat. How Agatha Christie is that? More tea vicar?

'The rehearsal, meeting the other candidates, Dave, Ben and Luke - what a lovely trio of guys. Dave seemed to be as nervous as me but the two young guys full of life. Wonderful!

'The big day and the question to Father John, "How does one address the Bishop? Your worship? (am I in court) Your Grace? Your Lord?" Father John's reply: "Call him Bishop Andy!!" "Are you serious Father? Get real ! This is the Bishop!" But Bishop Andy was fantastic; what a lovely, gentle guy with the ability to put as all at ease with his easy way and smile. Thank you so much

Bishop Andy!

'Thank you too, to my three new friends, Dave, Luke and Ben, Thanks to Ray Millington, David Hay, the choir members that gave us all a big smile, and of course to all the congregation that made us feel so welcome and gave us three a party with a super cake afterwards.

'Thank you Bishop Andy, Father John and Peter Plunkett for a lovely day

'God Bless all of you

***Geoffrey Howard'***

### **Holy Trinity - Building & Fabric Matters**

The stonework and glazing of the west window are in urgent need of restoration and the PCC is to seek a Faculty to carry out the necessary work at an early date. More details regarding cost etc will be available as they become known in due course.

Discussion has also taken place about a redecoration/makeover of the Church hall, but with damp problems in certain areas, the architect has been called in to inspect and advise about the roof. It is likely that a complete reslate of the roof will be necessary first together with any other repairs which might be revealed. Again the PCC is to seek a Faculty and more details will be made known in due course.

***Stan***

## PCC Parking Reminder

The seven spaces near the choir vestry/hall doors are FOR THE USE OF CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICIALS and those on Church business if space permits. Anyone else wishing to park should use the remaining spaces to the north, east and south of the Church ie the Pay & Display areas. Your full co-operation will be appreciated.



## Thank You

**Doug and Angela** would like to thank all the people who contributed to the flowers and gift cards they received at the Winter Warmers' Llandrillo College lunch. It was so generous and unexpected, thank you so much.



*Photos this page: Winter Warmers' Lunch at Llandrillo College. Rear Cover: Doug and Angela Pritchard who have retired as organisers.*



# Calendar for June

All events are held in Holy Trinity or Holy Trinity church hall unless indicated otherwise.

Thurs 2nd	<b>Ascension Day</b>	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	7.30 pm	Holy Eucharist
Sat 4th	4.00 pm	Pilgrim Walk from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's Well & Church
<b>Sun 5th</b>	<b>St. Tudno's Day/Sunday after Ascension</b>	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist – Holy Trinity
	10.30 am	Parish Eucharist at St. Tudno's Free bus service from Holy Trinity to St. Tudno's For times etc see weekly bulletins and page 13 <b>There is no 10.30 am service at Holy Trinity</b>
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Tues 7th	10.00 am	<i>'Julian' meditation group at Stella Maris</i>
Thurs 9th	10.00 am	Guild of St. Raphael Meeting
Sat 11th	<b>Barnabas, Apostle</b>	
	11.00 am	Yr Offeren
<b>Sun 12th</b>	<b>The Feast of Pentecost</b>	
	08.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist (not Matins)
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
	6.00 pm	Exploring Worship (Hall)
<b>Sun 19th</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday – Patronal Festival</b>	
		Services as usual for the 3rd Sunday
Mon 20th	2.30 pm	Visit of members of Lango Diocese to our Mothers' Union
Thurs 23rd	<b>Corpus Christi</b> (Thanksgiving for the Eucharist)	
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist
<b>Sun 26th</b>	<b>Trinity 1/Pentecost 2</b>	
		Services as usual for the 4th Sunday
Weds 29th	<b>SS Peter &amp; Paul</b>	
	9.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	10.30 am	Eucharist at Ysgol San Sior

*Continued*

Thurs 30th

11.00 am

Visit of Chester branch of Guild of St. Raphael  
Eucharist with Ministry of Healing followed by  
lunch & a talk by Jane Jones

## Sidespersons

June 5th

William Maidlow  
Mary Rees  
Wendy C Stewart  
Joyce Crosby

June 26th

Pat Ridler  
Doug Pritchard  
Stan Whittaker  
Judith Williams

June 12th

Dorothy Trent  
Ron Illidge  
Annabel Jones  
Vernon Morris

July 3rd

William Maidlow  
Mary Rees  
Wendy C Stewart  
Joyce Crosby

June 19th

Sandra Davies  
Angela Pritchard  
Terry Dewer  
Adele Arrowsmith

## *PARISH REGISTER*

### *Holy Baptism*

*April 3rd: Isabelle James*

*April 3rd: Victoria Franklin*

*April 3rd: Jack Anthony Domonic Pearce*

*April 10th: Georgia May Darnell*

*April 17th: Ella-Rose Anna Hunter*

# MEN WHO SING

8 pm Sundays from 29 May till 25 Sep - £6

Sun 29th May	Bangor Dinas Male Voice choir
Sun 5th June	Dyfryn Nantile Male Voice Choir
Sun 12th June	Colwyn Male Voice choir
Sun 19th June	Bro Aled Male Voice Choir
Sun 26th June	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 3rd July	Betws yn Rhos Male Voice Choir
Sun 10th July	Bro Aled Male Voice Choir
Sun 17th July	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 24th July	Wolverhampton Orpheus Male Voice Choir
Sun 31st July	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 7th Aug	Great Sutton Male Voice Choir
Sun 14th Aug	Dyfryn Nantile Male Voice Choir
Sun 21st Aug	Bangor Dinas Male Voice choir
Sun 28th Aug	Bangor Dinas Male Voice choir
Sun 4th Sept	Colwyn Male Voice choir
Sun 11th Sept	Blackpool Male Voice Choir
Sun 18th Sept	Llanrwst Male Voice Choir
Sun 25th Sept	Colwyn Male Voice choir



# Attendance Figures for April

April 2nd		Total Eucharists	7
<b>April 3rd</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	16
<b>Lent 4</b>	10.30 am	Family Eucharist	100
<b>Mothering S'day</b>	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	5
April 5th		Mother's Union Quiet Evening	14
April 9th		Choral Evensong and presentation of the Archbishop's Awards for Church Music	237
		Other weekday Eucharists	19
<b>April 10th</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	15
<b>Lent 5</b>	10.30 am	Liturgy for Passion Sunday and Holy Baptism I	19
		Shortened Eucharist	24
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	5
	6.00 pm	Exploring Worship	43
April 12th	10.00 am	Easter Service for Ysgol Tudno	c40
April 14th	10.30 am	Eucharist at Ysgol San Sior	c30
		Other weekday Eucharists	13
<b>April 17th</b>	8.00 am	Blessing of Palms for Palm Sunday and Holy Eucharist	14
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	10.30 am	Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist	95
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	3
April 18th	2.30 pm	Quiet Afternoon	17
April 19th	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	6
	7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross	c18
	8.15 pm	Mother's Union Eucharist	20
April 20th	7.00 pm	Service of Light and Shadows (St. Tudno's)	46
Ist	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	19
<b>Maundy Th'day</b>	7.30 pm	Mass of the Last Supper Watch	34
	11.50 pm	Compline	3
April 22nd	10.30 am	Children's Service	?
<b>Good Friday</b>	2.00 pm	Liturgy for Good Friday	42
<b>April 24th</b>	05.30 am	Easter Vigil (St. Tudno's)	26
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	22
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	165
	5.00 pm	Choral Eurchrist	18
		Other weekday Eucharists	10

## Red Valerian

During summer the deep pink to dark red flowers of red valerian (*Centranthus ruber*) are so common on walls and rocks in this area that it's easy to imagine that this is a native plant. However, the plant originates from southern Europe and the Mediterranean region and is likely to have been introduced to the UK as a garden plant.

The Elizabethan herbalist John Gerard (1546 – 1612) included red valerian in his *Herball or General Historie of Plantes* (John Gerarde [sic], 1597, printed in



*Red valerian.*

London by John Norton) and in addition to describing the plant illustrated he mentioned his difficulty in collecting the seeds: 'the seedes are carried away by the winde, being few in number, and little in quantitie'. Gerard also suggested that 'The roote is very thicke, and of an excellent sweete favour.'

The plants growing here are somewhat more prolific in flower and seed than Gerard's seem to have been, though the small seeds are definitely carried away by the wind and efficiently dispersed over a wide area. The thick tap root provides a firm anchorage among rocks and allows this perennial plant to re-grow in the spring after the foliage has died back over winter. However, I'm not sure about Gerard's comments on the flavour of the root – the unpleasant smell given off by the plant when it's bruised would certainly discourage me from trying to eat it!

A white form of red valerian also oc-



*Small tortoiseshell.*



curs but is still called red valerian, the 'red' part of the name being important to distinguish the plant from common valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*). Common valerian is a native British plant and is the source the valerian extract used in herbal remedies, while red valerian has not been reported to have any medicinal properties.

I allow a number of red valerian plants to grow in my garden, despite the almost constant job of weeding out seedlings, as the plant is so attractive to bees, butterflies and moths. The flowers



*Queen red-tailed bumblebee.*

are pollinated by insects but the nectaries are deep in the narrow tube of the flower and so can be reached only by long tongued insects. Insects which I have seen feeding on red valerian include the small tortoiseshell butterfly (*Aglais urticae*), the long tongued garden bumblebee (*Bombus hortorum*) and common carder bumblebee (*B. pascuorum*), while only the queen of the shorter tongued red tailed bumblebee (*B. lapidarius*) is large enough to feed on these flowers.



*Garden bumblebee.*

**Christine Jones**

### **The Parish Share or 'Quota' for 2010 is £76111**

The Quota is the sum of money that we have to contribute to pay the stipends of our clergy. For some years, we have partially paid the Quota from our reserves. This is ultimately unsustainable and it is imperative that we maximise our giving.

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)



## Great Hymns at THE Wedding

The recently-wed Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have something in common with the writer as the three hymns sung at their wedding have been subjects of this series of 'Great Hymns'. Congratulations to them on their marriage and taste. Notwithstanding, I am not convinced that their choice of hymns was entirely suitable for a wedding ceremony.

'Guide me O though Great Redeemer' was almost certainly chosen for both its Welsh origin and its singability. It is no use having an obscure tune at a wedding. The first stanza asking God for guidance is suitable for newlyweds and tyro kings and queens but the last stanza is more suitable for an upbeat funeral.

No one can deny that 'Love Divine All Loves Excelling', Charles Wesley's parody of Dryden's secular 'Fairest Isle All Isles Excelling' is ideal. 'Had that at my wedding' commented my mother. 'Not to that tune' I replied for the mighty *Blaenwern* has only become a mainstream in Anglican churches relatively recently. Great words, inspirational Welsh tune, perfect.

A Web site that suggests wedding hymns describes Blake's 'Jerusalem' as 'the wonderful wedding hymn'. Some clergymen refuse to use it for the reason that the song is not is not a proper hymn at all. There is nothing in the lyric

that is relative to newlyweds. However, its setting to Parry's tune makes it a national treasure.

I would imagine that the three hymns were the choice of the bride and groom but if I had been advising them, I would have suggested Neale's 'Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation'. Normally sung at the dedication of a church, its lyric suits a wedding perfectly. The hymn was sung at the wedding of Princess Margaret to Purcell's appropriately-named tune *Westminster Abbey* – a wonderful stately tune as befits such an occasion. Henry Purcell, buried at 'no expense' in the north aisle, would have loved it.

I failed to detect any hymn or music with any Northern Irish link so I have given some thought to choosing something. Perhaps the most prolific writer from what is now the Province was Cecil Frances Alexander, wife of the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe. However, her output was largely directed towards children and her masterful translation of St. Patrick's Breastplate is hardly suitable. The winner would be 'Praise My Soul the King of Heaven' by the Rev Henry Francis Lyte, born in Scotland but educated in Enniskillen and Dublin. The runner up would be the Rev John Monsell, born in Londonderry, who gave us the very laudable 'O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness' as well as the most inappropriate 'Fight the Good Fight'!

## Coffee Time

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

All answers have a holiday theme

1. Arrange again to see Blackpool (6)
2. Junior going on about an island in the Med (7)
3. Sounds like you both need an arm (8)
4. Spains offshore bird sanctuaries? (6,7)
5. Said to interfere with Florida resort (5)
6. Capital plaster? (5)
7. Troop review round Iberian city (6)
8. Veto band entering resort (4)
9. State I'd be among native plants (7)
10. Crazy king is travelling on the snow (6)

Results for last month:

1. flattery.
2. first aid.
3. fresco.
4. fever.
5. furrows.
6. furnaces.
7. felt.
8. forthright.
9. fork.
10. foreigner.

**Winter Warmers' Lunch**  
**More photos inside p17**

