

LLANDUDNO

Cylchgrawn Plwyf

Parish Magazine

Coffee 80p
Tea 70p
Hot chocolate 40p
Orange Squash 40p
Toast 40p
Crumpets 40p
Toasted Tea Cakes
Jam 20p
Cakes 80p - 1/1

Cakes 60p
Cupcakes 80p
Bara Brith 80p
Rolls 80p



50p

December 2013



Your Greetings at Christmas



With Christmas greetings and love to all our friends at Holy Trinity and St. Tudno's from **Betty and Peter Plunkett.**



Derek and Marlene Simpson wish everyone at Holy Trinity and St. Tudno's a Happy and Blessed Christmas and New Year.



Sarah Dean wishes all her friends a Very Merry Christmas and all Blessings for 2014.



Jennifer and Tony Fossi wish you all a Blessed and Holy Christmas.



Ray Millington wishes all his friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

David Hay wishes the clergy, the wardens, the organist, the choir, and parishioners a Blessed and Joyful Christmas.



Ray Millington wishes all his friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Ray and Gay Stythe-Jones wish everyone every Joy and Blessing this Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



Rob and Shirley George-son wish everyone a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.



Wishing you all Peace and Joy at Christmas and through the New Year. **Joan Colligan.**



Your Greetings at Christmas



Best Wishes to all the Coffee Morning Team, Friends and Supporters for Christmas and 2014. **Dorothy Trent.**



Geoffrey and Trish Howard wish all their friends at Holy Trinity and St. Tudno's a Joyful Christmas and a Peaceful and Happy New Year. God Bless.



Terry Dewar wishes everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and thanks all for the support throughout the past year.



Joy and Blessings at Christmas and the New Year to our friends at St. Tudno's and Holy Trinity from **Peggy and Christine Jones.**

Denis and Barbara Cartwright wish all their friends a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



From Andy and Maggie Leitch. May this Christmas and the coming year bring everyone Peace, Happiness and Blessings.



To all friends at Holy Trinity Church from **Betty Dodd** with love. May your homes be filled with Love and Joy at Christmas and all year through.



Angela & Doug Prichard and Ben wish all their family at St. Tudno's and Holy Trinity a Blessed Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Services

Holy Trinity Church, Mostyn Street

Sundays

- 8.00 am Holy Eucharist
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist (1st, 3rd, 4th
& 5th Sundays)
- Matins followed by
shortened Eucharist (2nd
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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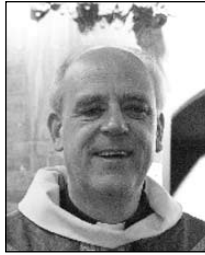
editor@llandudno-parish.org.uk

Copy may be on disk, printed or handwritten.

From the Rectory

Well, the run up to Christmas has certainly begun in earnest! First of all the hotel Christmas Trees appeared in late October for the famous 'Turkey and Tinsel' breaks. Then the TV ads began – one after the other offering all kinds of Christmas foodstuffs and potential presents of all kinds – so many of them that I don't think anyone could possibly remember which was which! Then the Christmas lights started to get switched on in town centres all over the land – and at the time of writing Advent hasn't even begun yet! One blessing though – I have yet to hear my first 'Merry Xmas Everybody' of the season – I'm referring of course to the song by the group Slade – which I have to say is one of my least favourite of all songs ever and which seems to sum up the banality of much that passes for the celebration of this important festival.

Well, I sound a bit like a grumpy old man which is, what Gaynor would probably tell you I truly am! A bit of a kill joy you might say. Actually I'm much more laid back about the abuse of Christmas by the commercial and entertainment worlds than I used to be – it's such an expected part of this time of year these days that it doesn't really bother me anymore. And in a way as a parish we are 'offenders' ourselves by having a Christmas Fayre in the middle of



November!

I just thought I would begin my December letter in this way to illustrate a common feeling among Christians that Christmas has been hijacked by popular culture as well as by commerce. This feeling leads to campaigns such as the worthy 'Put Christ back into Christmas' campaign. At the recent Cytûn Conference on the subject of RE in schools the speaker – Philip Lord – told us that many of the young people in our schools wouldn't mention the birth of Christ if you were to ask them what was the meaning of Christmas. At least not until after they had mentioned lots of other things!

However before we get too firmly fixed on our high horses about all this perhaps we need to remember that 'Christmas' had a pagan origin and was celebrated as a Midwinter Festival long before the Church 'baptised' it, and made it the celebration of the birth of Christ. These pagan roots never completely went away which is why the Puritans of the 17th century were always suspicious of Christmas and wanted to abolish it. One might say that in this post-Christian age the pagan element has simply re-asserted itself.

What then should our attitude to all this be as faithful Christians for whom

the birth of Christ is so precious, so central to our thoughts and feelings at this time of year? Well firstly 'don't panic!' Let the world have its pagan Christmas. We can't stop it even if we wanted to. And let's be honest – we enjoy quite a lot of it ourselves. But as part of the 'Christmas package', mixed in with all the other stuff – Santa, reindeer, snowmen, Bing Crosby (and Slade!) songs, eating and drinking, presents, parties etc etc – the story of the birth of the Saviour of the world is still there at the heart of it all.

After all, the name – **Christmas** – is there to remind everyone that this is indeed the celebration of the **Christ-Mass**, the Mass or Eucharist of the birth of Christ the Word made Flesh. The carols, the cribs the church bells and so much more remind every one of the event which we believe to be pivotal in the history of our world. Even the most 'pagan' of people is likely to

pause in the midst of his or her celebrations to wonder with John Betjeman:

*And is it true? And is it true,
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,
A baby in an ox's stall:
The make of the stars and sea
Become a child on earth for me? (Christmas)*

So, yes, we must do our best to put Christ back into Christmas. But the best thing of all, I think, is to let the story itself, which still speaks powerfully at the heart of the modern 'Christmas package', do its quiet work in the minds and hearts of the men and women of our communities.

Some of them may indeed turn aside to kneel in silent wonder with shepherds and Magi and the crib of the Lord of all the earth.

Fr. John

News and Notices

Christmas Preparations

Amid all the busy preparations for the celebration of Christmas don't forget that we all need to prepare spiritually. Take time to reflect through the reading of scripture and prayer to receive Christ into your heart and life. One way you might consider doing this is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). How good it would

be to start Christmas with the past put firmly behind and the heart cleansed and renewed for the service of Christ our King. How silly to neglect the sacrament Our Lord gives us to make this a reality in our lives!

I will be available in Holy Trinity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Christmas Eve at 4.00 pm but if you can't make this time an appointment

Holy Trinity Church
Mostyn Street



Plwyf Llandudno
Parish of Llandudno

St. Tudno's Church
Great Orme

Anglican — Church in Wales

Christmastide Services

All services are at Holy Trinity Church except where stated

Sun 8th Dec	4.00 pm	Christingle Service
Sun 22nd Dec	3.00 pm & } 5.00 pm }	{ } Carols by Candlelight at St. Tudno's Church
Christmas Eve	5.00 pm	Crib Service
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist
	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist with Carols

Details of our other services and further information can be seen on our website at www.llandudno-parish.org.uk

**Dymuna Blwyf Llandudno Nadolig
Bendigedig iawn i bawb**

**The Parish of Llandudno wishes
everyone a Very Blessed Christmas**

to suit you can be arranged. Perhaps you want to have a chat about this sacrament before deciding whether you ought to avail yourself of it. If so I am happy to have a chat and explain all that is involved. If you would rather go to another priest I would can recommend one to you. I will be going to Confession myself before Christmas, I invite you to experience the joy and freedom of knowing Christ's forgiveness through this sacrament that I have known for many years.

Fr. John

The Church Hall

I am sure that everyone would agree that our newly refurbished Hall at Holy Trinity was worth the wait and certainly worth the considerable sum that we have spent on it. As I write there are still one or two items to complete – the fitting of the blinds to the windows and the installation of the projector and screen among them – but otherwise all is complete. We were delighted when the deputy mayor came to our Christmas Fair to declare the Hall reopened.

Our gratitude must go to all the members of the Fabric Committee who spent much time planning and managing this refurbishment. Terry Dewar and Peter La Trobe played an important role and we thank Canon Peter Plunkett for lending us storage space for the furniture in his garage. Joyce Smith put

in hours of work helping to prepare the new kitchen for the re-opening. But the two people who we need to thank most are Geoff Howard and Judith Williams who have spent hours and hours of their time and expertise on this project.

The project was hard work but we did have quite a lot of fun along the way. For example I had the unusual experience of being weighed at the scrap yard – if you want to know what that's all about ask Geoff or Terry!

Finally we need to thank our architect graham Holland and Grosvenor Construction (the main contractor) for their work and patience with us!

Fr. John

Parish Christmas Fayre

The church hall was officially reopened on Saturday, 16 November on the occasion of the Parish Christmas Fayre by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Malcolm Bullock JP, although it had been used for an Exploring Worship service the previous Sunday. Organiser, Judith Williams said, 'I would like to thank all those who have worked so hard in making the Fayre such a great success: those who manned the stalls and the raffle, those who made and served refreshments – and not forgetting the festive hand bellringers. A sum of almost £800 was raised.'



The Deputy Mayor flicks a switch to officially declare the refurbished church hall open.



The Rev John Nice, Councillor Malcolm Bullock, Judith Williams and Geoff Howard.



Photographs this and next page of the Christmas Fayre.



Llandudno Showplayers

Many thanks to Llandudno Showplayers, under the direction of Roger Gleave, for an excellent summer season at Holy Trinity. A jolly good time was had by many, many visitors and townsfolk alike with the group putting on a fantastic show the whole summer through.

On top of their agreed fee they gave us, Holy Trinity, a very generous £2000 bonus towards the hall refurbishment.

I am sure I speak for us all in thanking Roger and his team.

Looking forward to welcoming them back next year.

Geoff Howard

150 Club

I am pleased to report that the 150 Club membership to date now stands at 39 members with 68 numbers between them and growing. This has proved to be a great start to this new fundraising project and I wish to thank everyone who has joined so far.

The first draw is planned to take place at the coffee morning in the Church Hall on Wednesday, 11th December 2013 at 12 noon. We now plan to have three prizes in this draw.

We will then hold future draws in the same place at the same time on the 2nd Wednesday each month. Anyone wishing to join can do so at any time. The more numbers sold will mean larger

prizes and maybe more of them.

How it works:

You may have as many numbers as you wish at a cost of £2 each number per month. Therefore if you want 5 numbers it will cost £10 per month. You will keep the same numbers as long as you are paying. The best way is to set up a standing order through the bank and pay monthly. You can also pay by cheque or cash.

Further details with the application to join form can be found at the back of Holy Trinity Church.

All winning details will appear in the Church Magazine each month. You do not have to be member of the Church to join, so why not ask your friends if they are interested. Stuck with what to give as a Christmas present, then why not purchase a number for them?

Please remember that you have to be over the age of 16 to take part.

Terry Dewar

Boer War Remembrance

On Saturday, 9th November a service was held at St. Tudno's Church in remembrance of the ones that lost their life's during the Boer War. The Rector, the Rev'd John Nice conducted the service. There were 13 people in attendance. These included The Mayor of Llandudno (Cllr. Garry Burchett) and members of the Lions Club.



The Mayor of Llandudno lays a wreath at the Boer War Memorial.

The mayor laid a Wreath on behalf of the Town Council and one was laid by the Lions. We were blessed with dry weather but it was cold.

Terry Dewar

Guild of St. Raphael

Five members of our Guild branch travelled to Lichfield Cathedral in October to attend the Festival and Annual General Meeting of the Guild of St. Raphael. We were joined by Christine Jones who was doing a 'recce' for a planned 'Friends of St Tudno's' outing to Lichfield next year.

We heard an excellent address from the new Warden of the Guild, the Bishop of Ely, and this was followed by the Annual Meeting and then a wonder-

ful Eucharist which included laying on of hands and anointing. We always find it inspiring and moving to join with fellow members of the Guild from many different branches to celebrate Christ's gift of healing.

The exciting news is that the Guild are coming to Llandudno for their Festival next year – Holy Trinity Church will be the venue for the Guild festival and Eucharist and we hope that this will be an opportunity for many of our parishioners who are not members of the Guild to come along and see it in action in a big way!

Lichfield is a lovely city – well worth a visit – and if the Friends' pilgrimage/outing goes ahead next summer it will be an opportunity for many of us to enjoy all that it has to offer.



The photo (above) shows our little party (minus me, who took the photograph!) in the lady Chapel of the cathedral after the Eucharist.

Fr. John

Hot drinks and homemade cakes were served afterwards. We all enjoyed the DIY service (although the Rector had prepared the content).

**Shirley Georgeson
Christine Jones**

St. Tudno's

On Sunday 27th October the first of the winter services was held. The weather was extremely squally, nevertheless a congregation of 16 attended. There were no clergy available to officiate, therefore a number of the Friends of St. Tudno's, together with the Wardens, led a short service on the theme of 'A Celebration of the Saints'. Michael Thomas played the organ and Christine Jones read a poem she had written, entitled 'The Way of the Saints'.

At. St. Tudno's in December

Over winter, St. Tudno's is open weekends, Wednesdays and bank holidays. The two services of Carols by Candlelight will be on Sunday 22 December, at 3.00 pm and at 5.00 pm. The paths will be lit, weather permitting, but a torch may still be useful if attending the later service. Although there is no heating in the church the welcome will be warm and we look forward to seeing you there.

Friends of St. Tudno's Church

The Friends will be preparing St. Tudno's for Carols by Candlelight, beginning on Saturday 21 December at 10.30 am and continuing on Sunday 22 December at 11.00 am. The Friends will also be involved in the services, so please let me know if you are interested in taking part. Our exclusive Christmas cards are still available, please contact me or Shirley Georgeson if you would like some.

Christine Jones

Remembrance Sunday

The annual Service of Remembrance was held in Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, 10 November at 9.45 am. The

service was conducted by the Rector, the Reverend Prebendary John Nice and the Reverend Neil Kirkham, Minister of Gloddaeth United Church. The service was attended by the Mayor of Llandudno, Councillor Garry Burchett with the Members and Officers of the Town Council together with members of the local ex-service and voluntary organisations.

After the service, the parade marched to the town Cenotaph where the Remembrance Ceremony was introduced by the Reverend Prebendary Robert Griffiths, Rector of Rhos-cystennin. Two minutes of silence were observed at 11 am. This was followed by the Last Post, the Royal British Legion ceremony, the Reveille and the Laying of Wreaths by

Continued on page 22.



After the Service of Remembrance at Holy Trinity Church on Remembrance Sunday.







The Remembrance Sunday parade marches off to the town Cenotaph.

Continued from page 19.
the Mayor, the President of the Royal British Legion Llandudno Branch, the

Officer Commanding of RAF Valley, representatives of other organisations, and others.



Congratulations

To the Rev Mike and Roz Harrison (photographed below with their family) on the occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary. This was celebrated by a Eucharist at Holy Trinity Church recently. For a lucky number of the congregation, grandson Lucas and a friendly hippopotamus re-enacted the Siege of Masada (right).



Calendar for December

Sun 1st	Advent 1	Services at usual times for the 1st Sunday with the addition of: 12.30 pm Holy Baptism 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Messy Church 'Candles & Conifers'
Mon 2nd	2.30 pm	Mothers' Union – Advent Readings and Carols
Tues 3rd	10.00 am	'Julian' meditation group at Stella Maris
	7.30 pm	Mothers' Union Quiet Evening – The Revd Jane Allen
Thurs 5th	7.30 pm	PCC Meeting
Fri 6th		St. Raphael Guild visit to Chester Cathedral
	7.45 pm	Carol Concert (in aid of the organ fund)
Sun 8th	Advent 2	Morning Services as usual for the 2nd Sunday
	12.30 pm	Holy Baptism
	4.00 pm	Christingle Service
	6.00 pm	Exploring Worship service in the Hall
Thurs 12th	10.00 am	St. Raphael Guild Meeting
	11.00 am	Eucharist with Ministry of Healing
Fri 13th	2.30 pm	St. Raphael's Guild Eucharist at the home of Dennis Wiley
Sun 15th	Advent 3	Services at usual for the 3rd Sunday
Sun 22nd	Advent 4	Morning services as usual.
	3.00 pm & 5.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight at St. Tudno's No Evening prayer at Holy Trinity
Tues 24th	Christmas Eve	
	4.00 pm	Confessions
	5.00 pm	Crib Service
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
Wed 25th	Christmas Day	
	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist

Thurs 26th	10.30 am	Eucharist with Carols
		Stephen, Martyr
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist
Fri 27th		John, Apostle & Evangelist
	11.00 am	Holy Eucharist
Sat 28th		Holy Innocents
	11.00 am	Bilingual Eucharist
Sun 29th		Christmas I
		Morning services as usual
		No Evening Prayer at Holy Trinity

Attendance Figures

October 2nd		Eucharist at The Trinity Centre	3+1
		Weekday Eucharists to October 5th	26
October 6th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	19
Trinity 19	10.30 am	Family Eucharist – Harvest Festival	83
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	2
		Other weekday Eucharists	25
October 13th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	19
Trinity 20	10.30 am	Choral Matins	68
		Shortened Eucharist	15
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	5
		Other Weekday Eucharists	31
October 20th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	16
Trinity 21	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist	87+4
	5.00	pm Evening Prayer	4
October 22nd		Eucharist for Parish Fellowship	14
October 26th	4.00 pm	Eucharist to celebrate the Ruby Wedding of Revd. Mike and Roz Harrison	96
		Other weekday Eucharists	27
October 27th	8.00 am	Holy Eucharist	20
Trinity 22	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist with Ministry of Healing	82
	11.00 am	Celebration of the Saints (at St. Tudno's)	16
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer	1
		Other weekday Eucharists	18

PARISH REGISTER

Holy Baptism

October 27th: Roman Lawrence Jordan Kemp

October 27th: Tara Louise Kemp

The Departed

*October 1st: Marie Griffiths aged 69
Service at St. Tudno's followed by cremation at
Colwyn Bay*

*October 18th: Lyn Mair Lloyd aged 61
Cremation at Colwyn Bay*

*October 21st: Carole Anne Wall aged 58
Cremation at Colwyn Bay*

*October 23rd: Andrew Paul McNamra aged 51
Service in Holy Trinity followed by internment at
the Lawns Cemetery Llanrhos.*

*October 25th: Brenda New aged 75
Service in Holy Trinity followed internment at
Bron-y-Nant Cemetery.*

*October 25th: Alice Muriel Jones aged 96
Cremation at Colwyn Bay*

*October 28th: Sidney Carl Thomas aged 63
Cremation at Colwyn Bay*

Sunday & Christmas Rota

1st Dec

Reader Christine Jones
Sidespersons Ron Ilidge
Wendy Stewart
Annabel Jones
William Maidlow
Eucharistic Ministers John Ridler
Maggie Leitch

8th Dec

Readers Ray Stythe-Jones
Gay Stythe-Jones
Sidespersons Sandra Davies
Cath Lloyd
Mary Rees
Ray Millington
E' Minister Angela Pritchard

15th Dec

Reader Eira Jones
Sidespersons Terry Dewer
Ron Ilidge
Wendy Stewart
Annabel Jones
Eucharistic Ministers Cath Lloyd
Christine Jones

22nd Dec

Reader Marion Heald
Sidespersons Judith Williams
Vernon Morris
Ben Edwards
Dorothy Trent
Eucharistic Ministers Stan Whittaker
Maggie Leitch

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

Reader Ann Rimmer
Sidespersons Angela Pritchard
Doug Prichard
Ben Edwards
Terry Dewer
Pat Ridler
John Ridler
Eucharistic Ministers Christine Jones
Jennifer Fossi

Christmas Day

Reader Stephanie Searle
Sidespersons Vernon Morris
Mary Rees
Ray Millington
Gwen Robinson
Eucharistic Ministers Stan Whittaker
Denise Horswood

29th Dec

Reader Sandra Davies
Sidespersons Doug Prichard
Barbara Yates
Angela Pritchard
Pat Ridler
Eucharistic Ministers Lyn Ferriday
John Ridler

5th Jan 2014

Reader Peter La Trobe
Sidespersons Joyce Crosby
Gwen Robinson
Linda Blundell
Cath Lloyd
Eucharistic Ministers Marion Heald
Angela Pritchard



THE GIFT OF HOPE

Choosing the right gift for a loved one can be tricky. Will they like it? Will it be appreciated? Or will it be a gift that is quickly forgotten? For one deaf boy growing up in the occupied Palestinian territory, the gift he received from a Christian Aid partner has gone on to transform his life.

In 2012, Christian Aid's Christmas appeal focused on Waleed Badir, a Palestinian boy whose hearing difficulties made growing up in conflict in the West Bank (part of the occupied Palestinian territory) an even more isolating and frightening experience.

Waleed was helped by Christian Aid's partner Physicians for Human Rights Israel (PHRI). PHRI works to raise awareness of the inequalities in accessing medical treatment experienced by people living under occupation. PHRI gave Waleed a hearing aid and he soon started to make progress.

This year, when Christian Aid visited Waleed again, it was clear that he has gained far more than his hearing. As his speech improves, he is finding it easier to make friends. His improved ability to differentiate between sounds and people's voices has brought him closer to his family. This has transformed him into a confident, self-reliant boy who is getting on better at school and is able to help his dad after school in the family-run falafel shop.

This Christmas, Waleed and many others like him are enjoying a future filled with new hope. This is thanks to the committed support of churches in Britain and Ireland, which continues to make a difference year on year.

Please take the opportunity this Christmas to give thanks and praise to God that his children will continue to grow in peace and courage.

To learn more about Waleed, contact your local Christian Aid office or visit the Christian Aid website. Here you will find resources to support your worship activities throughout the Advent and Christmas season and have the opportunity to support the work of partners like PHRI.

Visit christianaid.org.uk/christmas



Healing in this Holy Land



Churchyard Matters

As winter approaches readers may be wondering what your Churchyard Committee has been up to this Autumn, so this article is designed to give you a flavour of what we've been doing, and what plans we have for our three Churchyards.

At Holy Trinity we have conducted an initial survey which has revealed a number of issues that require attention. Three dead trees that currently look very sorry for themselves need removing, and we would welcome any suggestions on possible replacements. A sapling has taken up residence in the Mostyn Street wall: Terry Dewar has set about extracting it before the capstone falls into Mostyn Street, but removing the sizeable trunk without demolishing too much of the Churchyard wall is a challenge.

Readers who remember Dutch Elm disease that ravaged the UK's Elm Trees in the 1970's may be aware of the fine, mature specimen that survives in the North West corner of the Churchyard. I suspect many younger people may never have seen a mature Elm. More bulbs have been planted, and I hope you've noticed the pansies that have been planted either side of the barrier entrance to the car park.

While on the subject of flowers, we've had a meeting with a town councillor who is keen to see the Churchyard

'pushed up' a bit to impress the Wales in Bloom judges when they visit Llandudno. Along the same lines your Committee thinks that it's time our Churchyard had a stab at the Llandudno in Bloom awards. We feel that this is a standard to which we should aspire. Do let us have your views! Would you like to see more colour? Would you like to see an area set aside for wild flowers, which is something your Committee is actively considering?

We are also considering putting up nest boxes in the trees. While on the subject of trees, Jennifer Fossi, one of our Committee members, is wading through the tree reports carried out some years ago, to see if there is anything that needs our urgent attention... and, before you ask, we're not proposing to get the chain saw out!

When we set up the Churchyards Committee we felt that our Churchyards should also be a vehicle for developing links with our community. To this end we have held initial discussions with CAIS to see if there are areas where Holy Trinity can enlist the help of CAIS staff in a mutually beneficial relationship, and also to support this North Wales initiative that does so much excellent work in our community. There are more plans for Holy Trinity's Churchyard, and we hope that you will see more evidence of our activity in

the Churchyard very shortly. Watch this space!

As readers will be aware, we retain responsibility for St. George's Churchyard even though the Church is no longer used for worship. This is Church in Wales policy, and is extremely difficult to change. We have a duty to maintain the Remembrance Garden, and we are exploring possibilities of involving our Church School, Ysgol San Sior, at the Churchyard. Roz Harrison, who represents Holy Trinity on the School's Board of Governors, is looking at the curriculum possibilities the Churchyard might offer, and we are also thinking about creating a 'Sacred Places' trail in the Churchyard, using ideas generated by the children. It's all very early days, but again your Committee sees the Churchyard at St. George's as an opportunity to involve the community, and encourage a greater awareness of their faith amongst the children.

As you might expect, St. Tudno's under the capable leadership of Christine Jones, is probably some way ahead of the other two Churchyards in terms of habitat management. Some of you may have seen the excellent information board that Christine has created, and the QR (Quick Response) codes for mobile phone technology also installed in the Churchyard. Nevertheless St. Tudno's Churchyard presents its own challenges, especially when it comes to ensuring that we achieve the aims there that Christine has identified. Fortunately we have a very dedicated

band of loyal supporters at St. Tudno's – the Friends – and we hope that in the Spring the Friends will be keen to learn skills such as scything and hay baling, to ensure that we create the best opportunities possible for the ecology at St. Tudno's.

Such is Christine's dedication to St. Tudno's that your Committee has recently received her report for our Committee Meeting from the other side of the world...Christine is taking a well deserved break in New Zealand, and I'm sure we're all looking forward to reading about her travels when she returns. More about Christine's report in a future edition of the Magazine or, of course, in the Friends Magazine.

If you've read this far, you'll probably have gathered by now that your Committee is keen to develop the potential for wildlife that Churchyards can provide. Recently Terry Dewar, Christine, and myself attended the annual North Wales Wildlife Trust Lacey Lecture at Venue Cymru. This year's Lacey Lecture was given by wildlife writer and broadcaster Chris Baines. In many ways Chris Baines was the pioneer of wildlife gardening, creating the very first wildlife garden at the Chelsea Flower Show as long ago as 1985. Awarded a medal by the RHS, the inscription referred to a wildfire garden!

In an inspiring and thought provoking talk, Chris set out to convince us that so many perceived 'problems' can, with imagination, become part of the

solution. An interesting perspective for Llandudno residents watching the emergence of the Gwynt y Mor wind turbines, is that this is one area where even the Spanish fishermen hesitate to operate, thus providing a much needed sanctuary for depleted fish stocks. Furthermore, research in the US has shown that the installations themselves, over time, can emerge as artificial reefs, providing a home for all manner of marine life. Applied to our Churchyards such a perspective offers much food for thought as we ponder what sort of Churchyards we want. Chris Baines' talk encouraged us to think solutions rather than problems, and how we can develop our Churchyards in the wider context.

What we do want to hear, are your views on how you would like to see our Churchyards managed in the future.



'We've got online carol singers again!'

We would also be delighted if church members felt able to join us in working parties, or serve on our Committee. It should also be emphasised that we would especially welcome people without any association with our Churches. As I have said elsewhere in this article, your Churchyards Committee wants to reach out to the community, and anyone who would like to join us is assured of a very warm welcome. Your Committee members are Christine Jones, Terry Dewar, Jennifer Fossi, and William Maidlow. Do get in touch with one of us! In the meantime a very Happy Christmas to you all, and a thought to ponder: where I come from, Mistletoe is very much a feature of the landscape but seems not to grow in this area. I wonder....

William Maidlow

Editorial

Regular readers will be well aware that I generally fill up the last few pages of the magazine with snippets from a religious news subscription service. There is no need for that this month for in spite of adding an extra four pages, I am left with only half a page to fill. This is due largely to receipt of some really good photographs of the refurbished Holy Trinity Church Hall. It looks good (and it sounds good) and I add my congratulations to all involved.

A very Happy Christmas to everybody from the Magazine Team.

Christmas Flowers

There are various garden plants which can be expected to flower during December and over Christmas but what might be found on the Great Orme at this time? Some flowers of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) may be seen throughout the winter and a few flowers of common rockrose (*Helianthemum nummularian*) can be expected in November and possibly beyond. During a mild autumn and winter some plants may continue to flower much later than the flowering periods suggested for them in books, particularly if the plants are in sheltered places. For example, I have seen red valerian (*Centranthus rubra*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*) flowering on Christmas Day.

Herb Robert is one of those small, common flowers which is easily overlooked but the pink flowers with their dark red sepals are very pretty if you look at them closely. Depending upon which authority is consulted, the plant may be expected to flower any time from April to November, so flowers in December are not unlikely if the conditions are right. This is a plant of woods and

hedgerows but it can also be found in rocky places and in the clefts, or grikes, of the limestone pavement on the Great Orme. The foliage has a pungent odour if crushed and the mounds of dark green leaves may be tinged with red or turn a dark red in colour.

Depending upon the weather, you may be able to spot a number of plants in flower on the Great Orme during December but toadstools, ferns, mosses and lichens will also provide interest on a winter walk.

Christine Jones



Herb Robert.



St NICHOLAS

Feast Day 6 December

St Nicholas was the bishop of Myra, in Asia Minor, in the fourth century. Lots of stories are told of his kindness and generosity. He is the patron saint of Russia, children, scholars, merchants and sailors.

One legend tells of his secret gifts to three daughters from a poor family. It is said that he threw 3 purses of gold down the chimney where they landed in the girls' stockings which they had hung up to dry in front of the fire. This is supposed to be the origin of hanging up Christmas stockings.



Over time the name of St Nicholas changed to Sinterklass and thus to Santa Claus in the Christmas celebrations.

STOCKING DECORATIONS

You will need some Christmas-coloured felt, a needle and thread, fabric glue, ribbon and sequins or buttons for decoration.

Fold the felt in half and cut out two simple stocking shapes. Sew these together with a simple running stitch, leaving the top edge open. Sew a loop of ribbon to the top of the stocking.

Now you can decorate the stocking with scraps of felt, lace, buttons or sequins. Glue them on carefully and leave to dry. You could even try writing a name in glue and sprinkling on glitter to cover it.

This would be nice to give as a present with a little present or sweet inside or to hang on the Christmas tree as a



decoration. You can make them any size you like.



How many presents can Santa fit into an empty stocking?

Only one, after that it is not empty any more.

Why is a foot a good Christmas present?

Because it's a stocking filler.

Poetry Corner

Floating through the salty air
Wafts of pungent spices drift
Across a crowd of people
Enjoying plates piled high
With curry and rice, pancake wraps,
Paella and even lobster and oysters.

Shirley Georgeson

There are tents for drinks, others for puddings
And a stall for Amazing Garlic Graters
By the megaphone announcing boat cruises.
In the town there are carvings of pumpkin cat faces
With invitations to try chilli jam tasters
Alongside queues for sizzling hot dogs and barbecued burgers.

At the far side of the fayre
An art installation is staged
Inspired by the work of Dylan Thomas,
Folk music emanates from an enclosed marquee
Whilst children weave in between the throng
With ice-cream cones dipped in hundreds and thousands,
Almost the number seen today, smiling and joking on Conwy quay.

Coffee Time

Cryptics (thanks and courtesy Barbara Cartwright).

All connected with Christmas.

Results for Nov

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Pilfer the game. (4) | 1. Vocation |
| 2. An appointment associated with the French evangelist. (7) | 2. Varnish |
| 3. Weep about strange barren fruit. (9) | 3. Valentine |
| 4. Lead when I get out of step. (4) | 4. Vital |
| 5. Seasonal blazer. (4.3) | 5. Voodoo |
| 6. Here and now. (7) | 6. Visitor |
| 7. Not bubbly, but nevertheless a grape product. (5.4). | 7. Versed |
| 8. He's learned to provide some seasoning. (4) | 8. Vigilance |
| 9. Fowl coward? (7) | 9. Vanity Fair |
| 10. Drink makes band leader amorous! (6) | 10. Vinegar |