

Llanfair Uniting Church
Newsletter
Issue 1
March 2015

Newyddion
Llanfair
News

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Anne Lord

Newyddion Llanfair News

Consultation Day a Success



It was agreed by all that the consultation that was held at Llanfair on 23rd February, 2015 was a great success, led by the Revd. Peter Noble. The consultation was the result of the meetings held by local volunteers, the residential team, and members of the Sponsoring Body following "the crisis" of July 2014, when it was thought that Llanfair might have to close. The determination and hard work that ensued, ably supported by John and Norah Morgans, culminated in the presentation of the life and work of Llanfair to a wider audience.

The day began when the children of Penrhys Primary School sang Llanfair's theme song "One More Step Along The Way". Local volunteers, the residential team, and church members then spoke about the history of Penrhys and the continuing work of Llanfair - how important Llanfair is to them personally and to the wider community. A number of workshops were held, in which ideas and suggestions for the future of Llanfair were discussed.

After lunch, we prayed and gave thanks for the chapels and churches that were once abundant in the valleys,

especially those, most of which have now closed, in and around Tylorstown and for those who had laid the foundations for a church in Penrhys.

The conference closed with a rousing rendition of "Cwm Rhondda".

Exploring Together

Following the success of the conference the hard work to secure the future of Llanfair continues. The recommendations made by the workshops are being followed up and John and Norah have agreed that their monthly visits will continue.

Easter Worship at Llanfair

Palm Sunday March 29th

Sunday School at 2.00pm

Family Service at 3.00pm

Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday and

Holy Wednesday Services at

10.30am

Maundy Thursday April 5th

Service at 10.30 am

Last Supper Service at 6.00pm

Good Friday April 6th

Service at 10.30 am

Pilgrimage from the Well at 2 pm

Service at 3 pm

Easter Sunday April 8th

Walk to Bristol Tump at 8.00am

Followed by Breakfast at Llanfair

Sunday School at 2.00pm

Easter Play at 3pm

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Keira and Donna's Adventures in Tonypandy

A dramatic police chase took place in Tonypandy on Tuesday 10 March, when Donna Coburn of Penrhys was heard to cry, "Follow that bus!"

It all began when Donna and her friend Keira were travelling to Tonypandy to do a bit of shopping. Their friend Myra was on the bus too and Keira and Donna offered to show Myra the town, though she'd been there many times before, and offered to buy her lunch in a popular fish and chip restaurant.

On alighting from the bus, Keira discovered that her purse was missing and realised that she must have left it on the bus. The girls approached a nearby police constable and asked him if the bus would be returning to the bus station. He replied that he didn't know which route the bus would be taking. So Donna suggested that they should follow the bus in his police car. He told them to "jump in." So they did.

Ms Coburn would like to point out that this was the first time she'd ever been inside a police car. She was very excited and asked if they could have flashing lights and sirens. Disappointingly, the handsome young policeman declined.

They drove all the way up the hill to Clydach Vale, and caught up with the now empty bus as it was turning around at the terminus. Keira said that the bus driver looked very worried when the policeman waved him down. A very relieved Keira found her purse exactly where she had left it, on the seat.

She later said, "That was God paying me back, for being honest this morning when Diane in the Post Office gave me my money, but didn't take it off the balance in my account."

The obliging policeman returned them to Tonypandy, where they had a slap meal in the fish and chip shop, and treated Myra to an ice cream sundae.

Au Revoir not Goodbye

Sadly, we have had to say another temporary goodbye to Rebecca, Miara, Hannah and Seren. Due to immigration regulations, they have to spend three months away from the UK before their new visas can be issued. The family travelled to London's Heathrow Airport on Saturday 14 March with our friend Rob Moverley, in order to catch a 12 hour night flight to Mauritius, where they were to catch a second 2 hour flight to Madagascar. They will spend part of their time away in Madagascar with Miara's family, before travelling on to Mizoram, India to visit Rebecca's family. They plan to return home to Penrhys at the end of June.



Llanfair's Football Team join League

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Llanfair Uniting team joined the Ely Valley 5 a-side League, Tonyrefail at the end of last year. This is an over 16's league and the Penrhys boys often face older, stronger, more experienced players. Despite this drawback they already have a win under their belts and are improving with every match. There are 8 regular team members aged 16-24. They play every Monday night and are very enthusiastic and keen to do well for Llanfair Church.



They are trained by Michael Caswell and Miara Rabearisoa, and Sharon can be seen each Monday sporting woolly cap and scarf, running up and down the touch line with water bucket, cold sponge, and sliced oranges!

We have made an application to the Community Chest Sports Wales grant for a kit and equipment, along with training for the boys and the leaders.

Michael, Miara and Sharon realise how important it is to have the opportunity to keep in touch and communicate with the boys as they travel to and from the matches together in the car. The boys come up with some interesting questions and ideas, for example one is learning to drive and has

asked for his car to be 'blessed' after he passes his test!

Miara and Rebecca's absence has left a big gap in Llanfair's Team, and changes have had to be made to Llanfair's programme to accommodate this. Although there has been a good response to previous calls for help, there is always room for more. So if you have a few weeks, days, or hours to spare please give of your time to assist us in our bid to keep Llanfair a busy and lively place. There is comfortable accommodation available

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