

# The Beacon

April 2015

*Llangunllo*

*Beguildy*

*Heyope*

*Bleddfa*



Christ carrying his cross

Central panel

Brinsop Church

Price: £6 for the year or 60p per copy



Solar Eclipse taken by a pin-hole in a sheet of paper!

*(Photos by Graham George)*

**Solar Eclipse at Bleddfa –** Ethereal light gives a spooky shadowy effect.



The left and right panels - Brinsop Church

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Victoria House, Victoria Road  
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rojohanna@waitrose.com

## **Benefice Wardens**

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Phil Fourie 01547 510 347

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Flowers: Dorothy

## **St Mary Magdalene's, Bleddfa Churchwarden**

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## **St Cynllo's, Llangunllo Churchwardens**

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## **St Michael's, Beguildy Churchwardens**

Fay Payne 01547 510 320  
Phil Fourie 01547 510 347  
Sidesman: David George  
Flowers & Cleaning: 30 Mar - 12 Apr,  
Kath & Jayne. 12 - 26 Apr, Emma  
& Sandra. 27 Apr - 10 May, May &  
Monica.

### **NEW Website**

**[www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk)**  
The full Beacon is on our website.



*Cover:* The stained glass at one of the finest small churches in Herefordshire: Brinsop Church, puts the Good Friday story into a modern context. In the Biblical story Simon from Cyrene helps Jesus carry his cross, but Comper, who designed this window in 1920, shows a modern sailor carrying one end of the cross and a soldier carrying the other end with Jesus in the middle. Such was the sacrifice of navy and army in the Great War. Biblical women and Roman soldiers watch the event. It is an intriguing combination of old and new.



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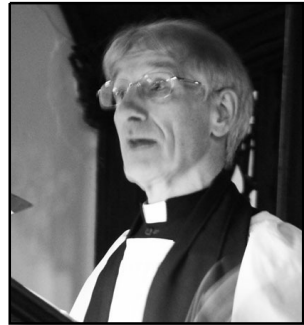
# Contents

Faith in the Easter Story.....	5
Where on earth will Laura go next!? .....	7
7th April, World Health Day.....	7
Open the Book .....	9
Scouting – Into the Hills!.....	9
Thoughts on Life and Faith – A Thin Place.....	11
St David’s Day!.....	12
Knucklas Litter Group Needs Volunteers!.....	12
Recipe: Tutti Frutti Bars.....	15
The Mystery Visitor to Beguildy.....	16
Teme Valley Tots.....	19
Holy Days in April.....	21
Songs of Praise at Beguildy.....	22
‘Not Quite’ at Bleddfa.....	25
Remembering Albert Einstein – 60 years on.....	25
Llangunllo Defibrillator Is on Its Way .....	27
Mum’s the word . . . ..	28
Welsh Names .....	31
The New Age WI at Felindre.....	31
Knucklas Notes for April, 2015.....	33
Llangunllo WI March Meeting.....	37
Art of Peter Clare for Contemplation.....	38
Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir.....	38
The Parish of Beguildy (Shepherd's House).....	41
April’s Sweet Peas.....	43
Children’s Page.....	45
April Diary.....	47
East Radnor Ramblers.....	48
Readings.....	49
Opening of Rhos Garden & Precious Earth.....	50
Red Noses and Characters at Llanbister School.....	50
Schedule of April Services .....	52



## Faith in the Easter Story

Easter gave birth to Christianity, and at the centre of Christianity is the love of God, expressed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The fallout of Easter is redemption for all humankind. If we were to cash in these thoughts of Easter they would realise a wonderful transformation in our ordinary and routine daily lives, plus an expectation, beyond the "great expectations" we may have in this life.



We can expect, because of Easter, to experience the love of God, forgiveness of sin, cleanness of heart and mind, peace and assurance, joy and gladness, purpose and vision, freedom and justice, and a lifestyle that will include the vulnerable and weak; in a word, "Redemption", which carries with it the DNA of the Kingdom of Heaven.

To bring all this down to earth and to the reality of ordinary people like ourselves, we come to Jesus trusting, with maybe little understanding of his teaching, and feeling out of our depth. Remember the thief on the cross next to Jesus. How much did he know about redemption? But in his simple and honest inquiry, he was welcomed by Jesus into the Kingdom of Heaven.

I do not see the spiritual side of faith in God as unusual or beyond belief. I would ask you to consider, is it not possible we are more than what some people would have us believe? For what it's worth, I began believing in God and in Easter in 1958 at the age of 14. Do I now know all the answers? Of course not. Does the passing of time make it any more true? No. I believe, and Lord help my belief to be firmly fixed on your holiness, goodness and justice. And may the world be better for it, to your glory and praise.

Experience Easter, enjoy God and look forward to His eternity.

*John*



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## Where on earth will Laura go next!?

**Ladies Guild** was very well attended this month because Laura has a wonderful reputation for interesting travelogues with really amazing and well presented slides.

We were not disappointed!

Outer Mongolia is not the first place to spring to mind when planning a holiday; with the fearsome reputation of Ghengis Khan and the bitter cold, it sounds more like a place of banishment than relaxation.

How wrong could we be...

Starting in the scrub land of the Gobi desert Laura and Mags travelled on a bus through the most spectacular, vast, hot and largely deserted countryside, with few people or animals. They stayed with small farming populations accommodated in Gers (known as Yurts in Russia). More than just a tent they



proved to be both comfortable and attractive, with painted furniture, comfortable beds, electricity and a water supply.

Laura showed us slides of Buddhist temples, wide open landscapes, village life and the farmed livestock (goats, horses and camels).

Most spectacular of all were the slides of the meadows with the most beautiful wild flowers, many of which were familiar. To see them all growing wild and in such profusion was finally enough to put Mongolia on the map as a place well worth visiting.

*Come and join us at Ladies Guild, visitors are always welcome, for more about us contact Mary Wilding 01547 528474*

## 7th April, World Health Day

World Health Day, on 7th April, celebrates the founding of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 1948. The theme this year is food safety.

Unsafe food kills an estimated two million people annually – including many children. And no wonder: food that contains harmful bacteria, viruses, parasites or chemical substances is responsible for more than 200 diseases, ranging from diarrhoea to cancers.

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## Open the Book



## Down Through the Roof

The Open the Book team ('Churches Together') along with Knighton School children told the New Testament story of a paralysed man. Friends lower him on a stretcher down through a roof to Jesus in a crowded room. Jesus forgives the man's sins and heals him. The man takes up his bed, and walks! The star of the show was Darren, the very large puppet in the photo, who played the paralysed man.

**You're never too old to learn something stupid.**

## Scouting – Into the Hills!



In January 1957 I was moved by my bank from sedate, flat, Southport to the hilly cotton town of Rochdale. It was rather colder there and I obtained lodgings through a Scouting connection. It was with an older couple, away from the town centre, on a bus route. After a while I brought my bicycle and that proved most useful

I joined the Scout Troop at the local Salvation Army but had to get a new uniform. Salvation Army Scouts wore grey! Shorts were still in vogue, even for adults. We met in their Sunday School hall and there were indoor toilets. My previous place at Southport did not have this luxury! We had no nearby field to play on, but there was a field in the town centre up a hill, behind the magnificent gothic (I think) Town Hall.

We went camping and on one occasion we had a visit from the then Chief Scout, Lord Roweallan.

Next month I will write about a bank move to Bolton and until getting a property near there I had to commute to work. So, we wander off to Bolton next month.

George Linnaker

**It's nice to have five years between elections. It takes people that long to regain their faith.**



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## Thoughts on Life and Faith – A Thin Place

The western shore of Iona is very beautiful and there, overlooking the sea, is a mound known as Sithean Mor or the Great Fairy Hill. Many years ago, it was known as the Hill of the Angels, because it was here that St Columba was visited by a host of angels, clad in white garments, who stood around him as he prayed. George MacLeod, who founded the Iona Community, described Iona as being a “thin place”, meaning that there seemed to be only a thin curtain between this world and the kingdom of heaven. It is now fashionable for people to describe many places of pilgrimage as “thin places”. But Columba didn’t just see angels on Iona. He and others saw them and even spoke with them in all sorts of situations. It was a characteristic of early medieval Celtic Christianity to be attuned to what was going on in the spiritual world around them.

In a way, this leads on to what we have been doing in our Lent group. One of the sessions was about Jesus being the visible image of the invisible God. We went on to talk about how we imagine God and where we imagine him to be. Some people thought of him as being inside us, in the depth of our being. Some others thought of him as being just behind us, looking over our shoulder to guide us. Basically, we don’t have to be in a special “thin place” to be conscious of God’s presence with us. Anywhere, even the most desperately troubled parts of



St Columba Bidding Farewell to the White Horse by John Duncan

the world, can be a so-called “thin place” to those who seek God.

Jesus came among us saying, “The kingdom of heaven is at hand”; and he promised his followers, “I will be with you always”. I imagine God as being very close at hand, all around us like the air we breathe. Where do you think God is?

Rosemary Hanna

**You must do the things you think you cannot do.**

*Eleanor Roosevelt*

## St David's Day!



Another stunning lunch served by the Castle Inn lifted our celebration of our patron saint of Wales! Great Castle lunch, followed by a wide range of homemade puddings, the RAFFLE, 200 Club Draw and general chit chat over food and drink.

Our Benefice service on St David's Day was a Celtic celebration. All of the prayers and liturgy came from the Celtic tradition – fitting for the occasion. Our guest preacher, Rev Christobel Hargraves, spoke about the lives of Welsh saints. Some endured trials and torture. Their vocation was always to point people to Christ, not to focus attention on themselves.

From the little we know of David, he lived a simple, humble life that directed the people of Wales to God.

## Knucklas Litter Group needs volunteers!



As part of the 'Keep Wales Tidy' scheme, the Teme Valley Environment Group organised a litter pick with some Knucklas residents on the 25th February. In less than one and a half hour's the six volunteer's collected 13 bags of rubbish from just a small area.

Dave Smyth of Castle Green would like to set up a group of willing volunteers to help with Knucklas litter picks on a regular basis. If you are interested please email Dave on [davesmyth@redtag.plus.com](mailto:davesmyth@redtag.plus.com)

### Easter in the Beacon Hill Benefice

Good Friday Meditation at Heyope, 2-3pm, 3rd April.

Holy Communions on Easter Day, 5th April.

9.15am Heyope

11am Bleddfa

11am Beguildy

6.30pm Llangunllo



**Each of us is  
a mixture of  
dust and  
deity.**

## **St David's Lunch**



**Isabel and Liz**



**Jonathan and Bernard**



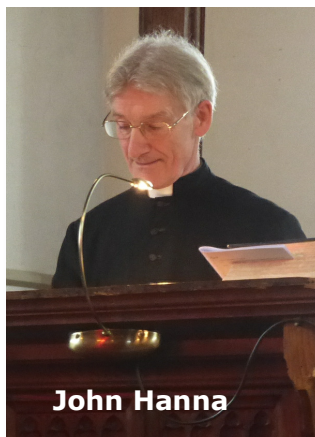
**Rhoda, Hayley, Abby**



**John and David**



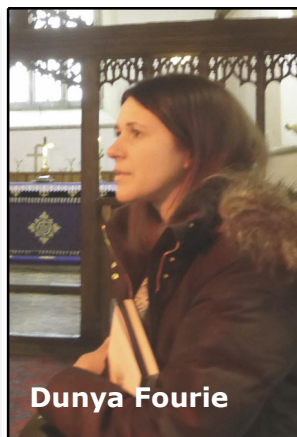
**Trevor hiding from the camera**



**John Hanna**



**Phil Fourie**



**Dunya Fourie**



**Carwen Maggs**



**Sarah Sanford**



**Mary Wilding and Fay Payne**

## **St David's Festival Service**

*Photos by Hilary Howcroft*



## Recipe: Tutti Fruiti Bars

### Ingredients:

- 1 beaten egg
- 4oz chocolate (or whole bar)
- 4oz coconut
- 4oz sugar
- 4oz cherries or almonds or dried fruit (or a mixture)



**Method:** Melt the chocolate. Let it set thoroughly in a foil lined swiss roll tin. Mix the other ingredients and spread over the cooled chocolate. Bake in a moderate oven until light brown. (15-20 minutes) Cut bars while still warm, but cool completely before lifting.



If there be righteousness in the heart  
There will be beauty in the character.  
If there is beauty in the character,  
There will be harmony in the home.  
If there is harmony in the home,  
There will be order in the nation.  
When there is order in every nation,  
There will be peace in the world.

*Old Chinese Proverb found in the church porch at St David's, Colva.*

"Police? This is St Mary's Ladies' Knitting & Vigilante Circle. We've detained two gents trying to nick the church silver."

**No matter how far you have gone down the wrong road,  
turn back.**  
*(Turkish proverb)*

## The Mystery Visitor to Beguildy

After church one Sunday morning my husband pointed out a headstone in Beguildy Churchyard. It was for Edward Homer Sargant who died at Beguildy Vicarage in 1903. The headstone said that he was from Edgbaston in Birmingham. Being a Brummie, I was intrigued. I wondered how he came to be staying at the vicarage and decided to do some research.



Edward Homer Sargant was born in July 1856 in Birmingham. He was baptized on 13 August 1856 at St John's Church Ladywood (an area of the city). St John's was built between 1852 and 1854 and was consecrated in

March 1854. I used to attend St John's church when I was in my teens so can picture the church quite clearly. The home address shown for Edward and his parents on the Baptism record was Summerfield House, about a mile from St John's. Summerfield House was a large country house dating from the 17th century. A country house near to central Birmingham? In 1856 Birmingham was less built up than today and a great deal of the area adjacent to Summerfield House would originally have been deer park on one side and agricultural land on the other. Summerfield House was situated within its own parkland. I don't know how extensive the grounds were but in 1876 Birmingham town council bought the house and 6 hectares of its land to turn into Summerfield Park, a public amenity. The house was demolished in 1886 and a bandstand was built in its place. The park and bandstand are still there.

So can we assume that Edward was from a well to do family? Further investigation shows that we can. Edward's parents were Edward and Caroline Sargant (nee Chance). They were cousins and married in April 1855 when both in their thirties. Edward Sargent was a solicitor. Caroline was the daughter of Robert Lucas Chance, one of the two Chance brothers who founded the glassmakers Chance Brothers and Company. Their glassworks were in Smethwick, just outside Birmingham, The Company became known as the greatest glass manufacturer in Britain. Amongst other things, Chance Brothers made the original glazing for Crystal Palace for the great Exhibition of 1851 and for the Houses of Parliament. It was also the only firm at the time that was able to make the opal glass for the Westminster Clock Tower which houses Big Ben.

Summerfield House was owned by the Chance family and appears to have been Caroline's family home. At some point, she and her husband moved into a house on Hagley Road in the Edgbaston area of Birmingham. Over the years they seem to have moved several times, always to a dwelling on Hagley Road. If you have ever travelled into Birmingham via Kidderminster you are bound to have driven down Hagley Road past the places where they lived.

I can find no record for the family on the 1861 census but in 1871 when he was 14, Edward Homer Sargant was living at The Rectory in Little Hornead, Hertfordshire. Edward is shown as a scholar and is boarding with the rector William Brown and his family. I can only assume that he was attending school nearby. The census shows that his parents remained in Birmingham.

Ten years later in 1881 when he was 24, Edward was again a boarder. This time he was staying with John Morgan and his family at Glascoed, the Vicarage at Dolfor. Edward's occupation is shown as a student/pupil but gives no clue as to what he was studying or where. The 1891 census shows Edward again boarding at the Vicarage in Dolfor. He is 34 and shown as living on his own means. The vicar is John Pughallorga.

Ten years on in 1901 he is boarding at Beguildy Vicarage with the clergyman John P Morgan. Once again Edward is living on his own means. The census details for the vicar and his family suggest that Edward lodged with the same vicar and his family since 1881, moving with them from Dolfor to Beguildy. The family Christian names and ages are consistent. I have no idea why the surname appears to be shown differently on the 1891 census.

We then come full circle to Edward's death in 1903 aged 46. I don't know what he died from. Both his parents were dead by this time and he was an only child. In his will he left the sum of £23,344 6s 9d, (worth close to £2 million pounds today) which appears to have been bequeathed to two male relatives.

Although I have unearthed some interesting facts about Edward, I don't know how he came to be here or why he boarded for so long with the local vicar. Does anyone know any more?



Heceta Head Lighthouse in Oregon. The Chance Brothers Fresnel lens, built in the early 1890s, is still in operation. *(From wikipedia)*

Sarah Sanford



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## **Teme Valley Tots**

Over the last year we have welcomed new members and new arrivals Sian, Elsa, Vida and Ffion to the group which has been a very exciting time, with more arrivals on the way! The parents enjoyed a meal out in September and we went to the Metropole Hotel again for our Christmas meal and dance, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We now have Sophie leading the craft sessions which the children are really enjoying and this term they have been concentrating the craft around the jungle theme.

To end the term we have invited Corner Exotic (animal man) to the group to show off his large amount of reptiles and insects for the children to see and handle. In November Marie and Rob Ruell and May and Steven Ruell allowed us to hold a bonfire and firework party at The Pound which despite the rain was a great success and we hope to do again. The children were visited at Christmas by Santa himself who delivered presents to all and they had a lovely party before our two week break. During half term we had an outing to Mickey Millers play barn which was busy but again thoroughly enjoyed.

Over the next few months we are hoping to secure the outside of the village hall ready for the better weather so we can enjoy the outdoors. Thanks go to all those who have donated toys to the playgroup; they are greatly appreciated. After Easter James and Herbie will be leaving us for school and we wish them every luck. If anyone would like to see more about what we get up to and what we have coming up we have a facebook page Teme Valley Tots or just turn up for a cup of tea. Felindre Village Hall Tuesdays 10-12.

**EASTER HOLIDAY FUN FOR THE CHILDREN**

**TEME VALLEY TOTS PRESENTS.....**

**CORNER EXOTIC – THE ANIMAL MAN**

**TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2015 10.00 am FOR 10.30 START**

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## Holy Days in April

- 2 Maundy Thursday
- 3 Good Friday
- 5 EASTER
- 6-12 Easter Week
- 13 **Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1945), Martyr**
- 15 Padarn (6th century), Bishop
- 20 Beuno (c 640), Abbot
- 21 Anselm (1109) Bishop & Doctor
- 23 George (304) Martyr & Patron Saint of England
- 25 Mark, Evangelist
- 29 Catherine of Siena (1380) Writer



Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
(4 Feb 1906 – 9 April 1945)

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer** was a German pastor and one of the most influential Christian theologians of the last century. He was known for his staunch resistance to the Nazis and their persecution of the Jews. He was arrested in April 1943 by the Gestapo, imprisoned for a year and half, and then tried for an alleged plot to assassinate Hitler. He was executed by hanging on 9 April 1945 as the Nazi regime collapsed, just two weeks before Allied forces liberated the camp and three weeks before Hitler's suicide.

### TEME VALLEY TOTS

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Tuesdays 10-12pm

Felindre Village Hall

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Contact: Jen Bright 01547 510655 for more info or just turn up to see what we're about.

## Songs of Praise at Beguildy

Mothering Sunday at Beguildy was a Songs of Praise with hymns selected and introduced by community members and played ably by Monica Thomas. The hymns represented both ends of the spectrum: the most chosen wedding hymn “Love Divine” as well as a popular funeral hymn “On a Hill Far Away”.

Moirá Hurley told us the history of the much loved “Amazing Grace,” written in 1779 by John Newton after his conversion to Christianity. Newton had served on slave ships, but became an abolitionist after his conversion. He was consulted by the member of Parliament, William Wilberforce, who had also experienced a conversion. Early on he had been a tear-away. His mother had died when he was only six, and his father took on the role of both mother and father, loving his rebellious son. The three – Newton, Wilberforce and the hymn – converged on the scene and were instrumental in passing the anti-slavery law of 1833.

The Young Farmers chose “He’s Got the Whole World in his Hands” because of the happy memories of singing it in primary school. We also sang the modern, “Lord of the Dance” with its foot tapping melody. Perhaps it is the melody that makes “Guide me, O thou great Redeemer” by William Williams so memorable in Wales.

John explained four Mothering Sunday traditions: (1) It was always on the 4th Sunday in Lent, (2) People visited their mothers, (3) People went to the Cathedral or their ‘mother church’, (4) Simnel cake!

Our first lesson was from the Book of Ruth in the Old Testament. John Hanna reminded us that Naomi, mother-in-law to Ruth, had a miserable time with the loss of children and husband, but she remained faithful and true. By the end of her life, her sufferings were transformed to joy.

All the women received a posy of daffodils, and we all enjoyed a glass of bubbly or wine along with traditional simnel cake and Welsh cakes, as well as a good old natter with friends.

### 200 Club Winners (Jan/Feb)

#### Beguildy/Heyope

£50 Chris Upton, Knucklas  
£10 L & R Kueglar, Knucklas  
£10 Edward Lewis, Felindre  
£10 James Williams, Llangunllo  
£10 Steven Barrett, Beguildy  
£10 Simon Powis, Heyope

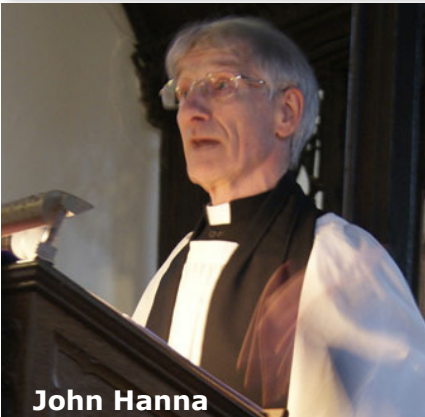
**No man in the whole world can change truth. One can only look for the truth, find it and serve it. The truth is in all places.**

**– Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

## **Mothing Sunday**



**Monica Thomas**



**John Hanna**



**Carol Peregrine &  
Joyce Matthews**



**John Sanford**



**Moira Hurley**



**John Peregrine**



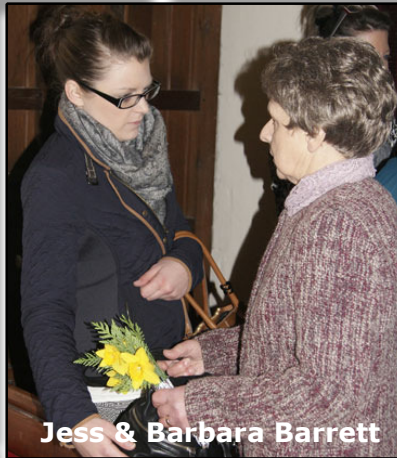
**Phil & Dunya Fourie**



**Jayne Harris**



**Helen Barrett**



**Jess & Barbara Barrett**

**Mother's Day  
Beguildy**



**Jane Bright**



**Jayne & Ella Harris**

## **'Not Quite' at Bleddfa**

The 'Special Service' at Bleddfa contained things 'not quite'.

Radnorshire was always a separate place, even with its own language, so it was "not quite Welsh." We heard folklore about Llewelyn, last Prince of Wales: where he was captured in a cave near Aberedw (the baddies), how he was fooled by horses being shod backwards, and his eventual beheading. Also we learned a bit about Owain Glyndwr and the burning of both Knighton and Presteigne, perhaps even Bleddfa church! Of course, the accounts were written by the English, so they were "not quite true."

We moved on to Francis Kilvert, the 19th century curate and diarist who fell in love with Radnorshire and left us a lively picture of life here. Although he spoke of the coming railway lines bringing the "hated English" he in fact was "not quite Welsh" as he came from Wiltshire.

John compared the early Celtic people who were rough and ready to the rather polished Roman missionaries. The Celts were closely bound to the natural world and found Christian inspiration in stones and skies, landscape and animals; hence they were "not quite Christian" in the eyes of some.



**Rob Fountain & Malcolm Forbes**

The service was made tranquil with hymns and carefully chosen music for meditation. Part of the collection went to the East Radnorshire Day Centre.

## **Remembering Albert Einstein – 60 years on**

Albert Einstein died 60 years ago this month, on 18th April 1955. His 1905 theory of special relativity and his formula  $E=mc^2$  radically changed scientists' views on space, time and matter.

He was instrumental in persuading Churchill to bring Jewish scientists out of Germany and into British universities in the mid-1930s. He was also a pacifist, and regretted his role in persuading America to build an atomic bomb. He felt that the most important question facing humanity was "Is the universe a friendly place?"



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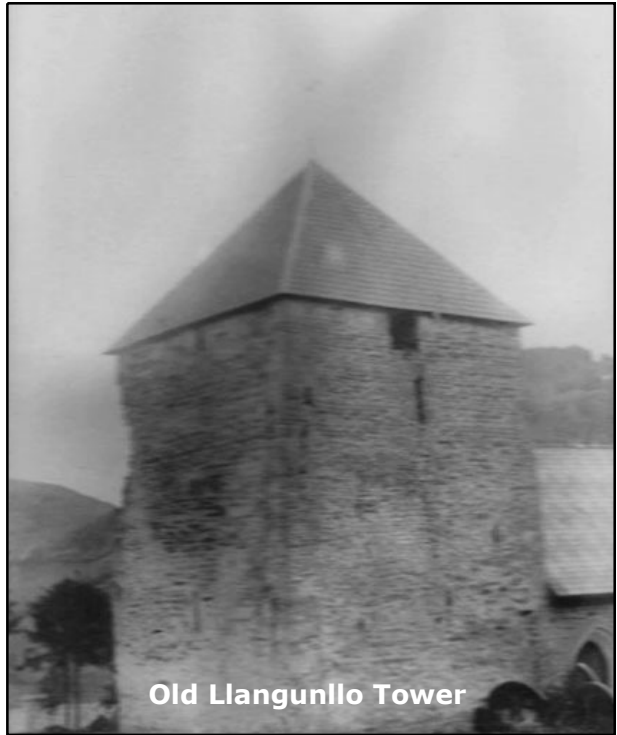
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**Fast is fine, but accuracy is everything. - Wyatt Earp**

## Historic Photo:

Our four Benefice Radnorshire churches would have had massive towers similar to this one at Llangunllo. Cascob still boasts such a fine old tower, which could date back to the early 14th Century. Date of the photo is unknown, but the current Llangunllo tower was built in 1895.



## Llangunllo Defibrillator Is on Its Way

We are hoping all the village will take this project to *heart* and give it their support.

A large box of training aids has arrived from the British Heart Foundation, which is part funding our Llangunllo community defibrillator. There will shortly be free CPR training for Llangunllo residents who wish to take part. This will be provided by the Welsh Ambulance Service and will include some first aid as well as CPR. Those wishing to book a place, please leave a message on 550676 leaving your name and telephone number. The more people trained the more successful the project will be.

Three members of the WI have agreed to help with the project, they are Di Alderson, Sue Lovell and Anne Newton.

For those wishing to contribute to the defibrillator fund, cheques should be made payable to the Llangunllo Community Defibrillator Fund and delivered to Di Alderson (The Old Vicarage), Anne Newton (The Glebe House) or Maggy Cain (Touchwood). They will be paid into the account as soon as possible.

We are awaiting instructions from the Welsh Ambulance Service about when it is available for training sessions.

Maggy at Touchwood



## Mum's the word . . .

or Mom, or Mummy or even Mamma – but keeping quiet about it was the last thing we were doing in Llangunllo on 15th March as we celebrated the role of mothers ancient and modern in our Mothering Sunday Service.

As usual some of the children of the parish were much in evidence, starting with energetic and somewhat creative efforts at bell ringing. Following the reading from Proverbs, which gave an impressive account of the many admirable qualities of a virtuous woman of Old Testament times, the children gave a presentation which brought the subject up to date, whilst also showing that there are still many common threads to be found. Various items which represented different aspects of a mother's role were pegged onto a washing line which was held aloft by two volunteers - gentlemen from the congregation! (Maybe that was the nearest they'd got to a washing line for some time!)

John Hanna gave us some background information about customs surrounding the occasion and then called some of the children forward to ask them what particular thing they would most like to thank their mothers for. It soon became apparent that our youngsters have a lot to be grateful for. They proudly took up the collection and then made sure that all the ladies had a posy of spring flowers to take home.

This year we had a delicious simnel cake as a centre piece to our celebration table along with all the usual post service dainties and a welcome cup of tea.

John sent us all off home with the hope that, if they hadn't already done so, the ladies would benefit from some kind of special treatment in line with the spirit of the day. I'm sure our offspring and men folk did their best to rise to the occasion!

Pam Livingstone-Lawn

### **Llangunllo Boundary Walk**

A group of locals propose to walk the old Llangunllo bounds over a period of three days: **2, 3, & 4 May** with a bit of a celebration in The Greyhound on the final evening. We would like to hear from you if you're interested in joining us.

More details are available from:

Karen 550246 / [kjedgar01@gmail.com](mailto:kjedgar01@gmail.com) / Jan 550390 /  
Charles at [charles@kightly.plus.com](mailto:charles@kightly.plus.com) / Pam & David 550605

# Mothering Sunday – Llanguunllo



**Bob Williams**



**Jenny Williams**



**Shirley Brown**



**Chris Pugh & Hannah Lewis**



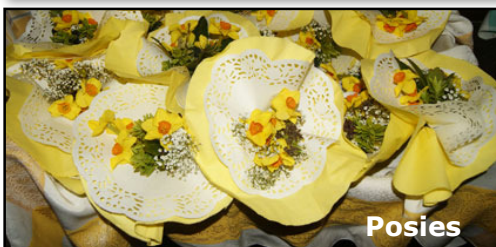
**Becky Pugh & Mark Pritchard**



**David Blake & Rachel Hughes**



**Simnel cake**



**Posies**

## Mothering Sunday – Llangunllo



**Isabel with the laundry**



**Hanging up 'new' Proverb**



**Katie reading the 'new' Proverbs**



**Boys telling what they liked about their mums**



**Passing out posies**



**"Well, my mum ..."**

## The New Age WI at Felindre

Rhona our President welcomed 17 members. Matters discussed included our visit to "Tesco" for food tasting and tour. Our visit will be in October. 'New Age Kurling' in April at Crossgates includes four pairs from Felindre .

The Centenary Scrapbook is progressing. The members visiting Anglesey will go on 16th May to the Toll House, home of the First W.I., and this includes a craft exhibition and light refreshments.

We are now planning for the County Show to be held on the 9th May at Knighton Community Centre, so lots of busy ladies will be getting ready for this event.

It was then time for our speaker and demonstrator Kath Horn. She prepared buffet food and two superb gateaus, and then instead of our usual tea and biscuits we devoured the goodies she had prepared. She was thanked by Rhona for a most enjoyable evening.

The competition for five decorated fairy cakes was won by Sue Woodhall, Rebe Brick 2nd, and 3rd Rhona Bennett.

Our next meeting will be held at Felindre Village Hall on the 1st April entitled "Your Flight" by Ian Burgin. All are welcome,

Pat Buckley

## Welsh Names

**Dilys** – "genuine" in Welsh.

**Elain** - "fawn" in Welsh.

**Eirwen** - white snow" from the Welsh elements *eira* "snow" and *gwen* "white, blessed".

**Eluned** - Derived from Welsh *eilun* "image, idol". This was the name of a 5th-century Welsh saint.

**Emlyn** - Probably from the name of an ancient region in Wales, its name meaning "around the valley".

**Emrys** - Welsh form of AMBROSE. Emrys Wledig (or Ambrosius Aurelianus) was a Romano-British military leader who fought against the invading Anglo-Saxons in the 5th century. Tales of his life were used by the 12th-century chronicler Geoffrey of Monmouth to create the character of Merlin, who he called Merlinus Ambrosius or Myrddin Emrys.

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## **Knucklas Notes for April, 2015**

**St. David's Church, Heyope:** An earlier but enjoyable luncheon was held at the Castle Inn, Knucklas, in honour of St David, followed, on St. David's Day, by a friendly Patronal Festival at the church. As I write, we are in the middle of Lent with discussion groups still in session at the vicarage in Knighton and at some other venues.

On 3rd April it will be Good Friday with Easter on the 5th. There will be special services on both days.

There is a slow movement towards the churches in our benefice becoming part of a Ministry Area of some fourteen churches, probably centred on Knighton.

**Other Churches in the Area:** Knucklas Baptist Chapel, in common with our own churches, has been functioning on a much reduced service schedule. Llanfair is offering an evening meditation with a performance of parts of Mozart's Requiem and accompanying words, led by Revd. Diana Hoare, on Good Friday. The Llanfair Singers recently led a Choral Evensong at Worcester Cathedral. The future outlook across the Teme is also for fewer clergy actively ministering and with greater responsibilities for lay-people to provide local leadership.

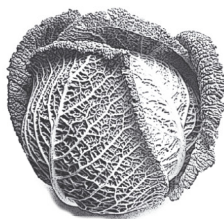
Revd Carol Whittock, Mission Priest of Churchstoke, writes: "I believe that there is a hunger in our innermost souls for God, the living god. Our culture and secular society has tried to squash it out of us but I believe that people are not satisfied with a superficial spirituality. We want deeper meaning."

**The Wider World:** As always, we have been subject to the awesome forces of nature, which we can usually adapt to but never control. In the southern Pacific Ocean there has been a cyclone (code named 'Pam') of almost unprecedented ferocity, without any apparent warning, which has been absolutely devastating for the scattered island communities of Vanuatu etc. Britain, as usual, has been one of the very first to send significant aid, a proud record.

We, in our more temperate climes, have passed through a winter which has seemed hard at times but with a record-breaking amount of sunshine. Parts of our country have also been privileged to have a view of the Aurora Borealis on two occasions with a 90% eclipse of the Sun due shortly, as I write. Our view of the awe-inspiring phenomenon will, of course, be dependent on a clear sky, but most of us are not likely to be alive the next time it happens. There have also been some wonderful dawns and magnificent sunsets on view during the late winter.



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In the Severn Estuary, which normally has some of the highest tides in the world, they experienced an eighteen-year 'high', due to the gravitational pull of the Sun and the Moon and the elliptical nature of the Earth's orbit.

This year, spring does not seem to be specially early arriving but climatologists say that it now comes two weeks earlier than in the mid-1900s.

Prior to the planting season, ground is being cleared and some useful working parties have been in action on the allotments and the approaches to Castle Hill. Similar things are happening at Clungunford (the churchyard) and at Chapel Lawn (Brineddin Woods) and at Crug-y-byddar (the former churchyard), amongst other places. All involved are volunteers, and more help is always needed.

Although Knucklas continues to be remarkably quiet, quite a lot of organised activity takes place, ranging from weekly walks to monthly talks and from folk evenings to fortnightly craft afternoons. And in addition to all this is the regular duty of dog-walking. Also, a growing number of visitors are to be seen in the area, most of them outdoor enthusiasts.

Knucklas is well represented in Knighton, too, with several local residents serving in the shops, either as paid employees in Tuffins etc. or as volunteers in the two charity-shops. In Tuffins we no longer see James Lomax (from Park Cottage) now living at Hopton Heath. Ann Hawkins and Flo.Simpson (both of Glyndwr) are now enjoying a well-earned retirement.

Morale has received a boost, in Britain generally and in Wales in particular, from a number of sporting successes recently, including the Welsh Rugby team's promising start in the Six Nations Championship, Swansea City F.C. giving a good account of themselves in the Premier League, Lewis Hamilton's early triumph in the first round of the Australian Formula One Grand Prix, and Wrexham A.F.C. appearing at Wembley for the third time in three years for the F.A. Trophy Final. At 150 years, it is the oldest professional football club in Wales.

Both Hereford and Knighton hospitals were under brief 'lockdown' recently due to a virulent infection. Now pressure on our hard-pressed medical services has eased a little. It is good to know that George Linaker is recuperating after his operation and that Sally Olds is able to get about much better.

The mobile library is henceforth reduced to monthly visits with the next one due slightly later than previously, on Tuesday 28th.April. It will be brought up from Brecon by Russell.

Robert Forbath



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## **Llangunllo WI March Meeting**

Once again Llangunllo drew on local talent for their 17th March meeting at the Village Hall when they welcomed Ian Burgin of Knighton who came to tell us about his experiences in a long career in the RAF. We were also pleased to have with us several friends from Whitton WI. The evening began with a brief meeting for members when President, Isabel Morris, outlined forthcoming WI events to celebrate the Centenary of the WI in Britain.

Some members are looking forward to going to Anglesey to Llanfairpwll to see the hall where the first WI in Britain was founded in 1915, and plans are being made for a two-day trip to Harrogate for a special Centenary Exhibition. All members were delighted to hear that a member from every WI in Britain would be invited to a special WI Garden Party at Buckingham Palace the same week as this year's AGM in the Albert Hall. A ballot would be held at our next meeting to find out who would be the lucky winner attending this prestigious event.

Vice President Jenny Williams introduced our speaker and we sat back for a professional presentation showing many of the aeroplanes Ian had serviced in his long career. The first slide in black and white showed a young Ian proudly pictured on his bike and we could see that he would be going places. So it proved to be and a couple of years later he joined the RAF and after extensive training enjoyed servicing a wide range of aircraft in many locations all over the world. The excellent pictures were accompanied by an informative and witty account of various experiences when he and his friends were not working. The wanderlust did not leave him when he left the RAF and he and his wife still love travelling to exotic locations. Ken and I set up home at Biggin Hill which is famous for its Battle of Britain history, but I learned more about the RAF from Ian at our meeting than we ever did when the airfield was in our village. On behalf of everyone Jenny Williams thanked Ian for his excellent presentation and the meeting ended with our usual tasty and sociable supper.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th April at Di and Chris Alderson's home, The Old Vicarage, when we are looking forward to hearing from Dame Margaret Anstee about her distinguished international career as a high power UN diplomat. We first met Dame Margaret on a garden visit to her home at Knill Gardens last summer, when she suggested she would like to come and speak to us this year, which was of course too good an offer to miss and we look forward to a fascinating evening. Visitors are always welcome and for details of events at Llangunllo WI call our Secretary Shirley Brown, on 01547 550555.

Carwen Maggs

## Art of Peter Clare for Contemplation



We continue during Lent with Peter Clare's **Stations of the Cross**. Last month we saw Jesus falling under the weight of the cross. Here we see Station 12 where Jesus dies on the cross. Why is the cross so large?

Station 13 is called "The Deposition" where Joseph of Arimathea retrieves Jesus' body from the cross. What hand is it that reaches from above?

At Station 14 Joseph and one of the women place Jesus' body tearfully in the tomb.

The last image shows the risen Christ with Mary Magdalene joyfully clinging to him after she recognises him, but Jesus says to her: "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" (John 20.13.)

Consider the Easter story as shown here, and find what speaks to you.

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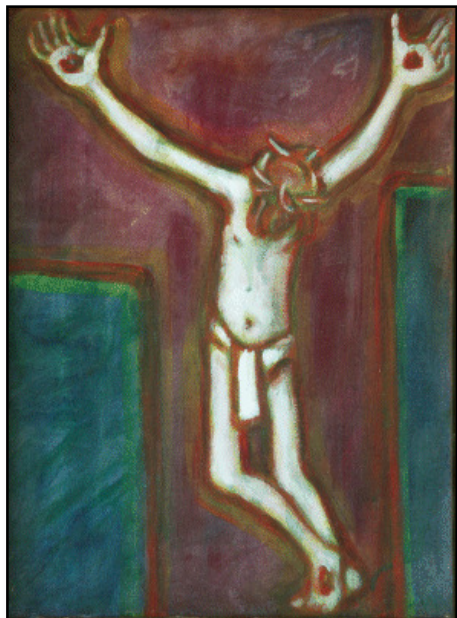
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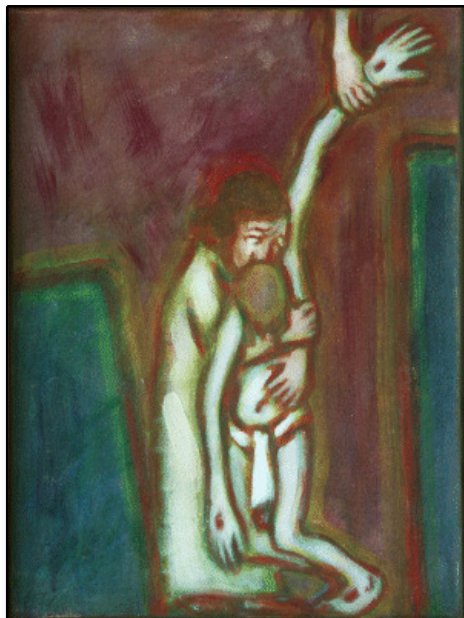
Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir from Cornwall joins BUILT Male Voice and BUILT Ladies Choirs in The Bracken Trust Charity Concert at The Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells on Saturday 11 April 7.30pm (doors open 7.00pm).

Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir has toured extensively throughout the UK and Europe, promoting the particular style of Cornish male voice singing.

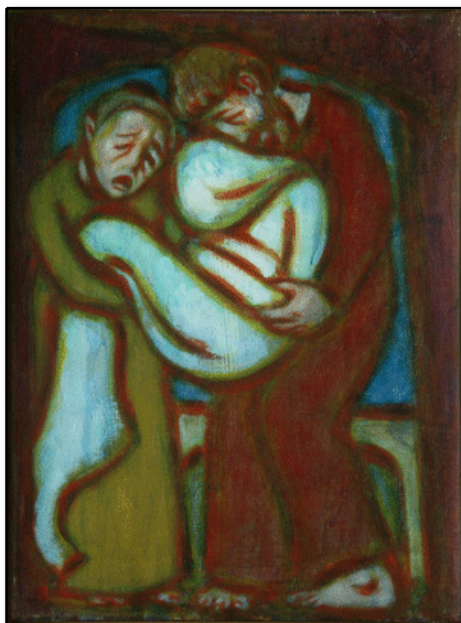
The concert has been organised by The Bracken Trust to raise funds for its work in supporting people who are living with cancer.



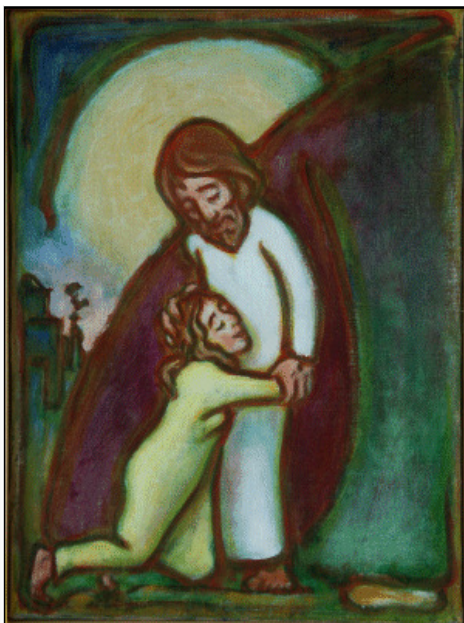
Christ dies on the cross



The Deposition: removing Christ from the cross



Jesus is laid in the tomb



The risen Christ: "Touch me not"



# Beguildy - Shepherd's House



14th Century Priest's Door



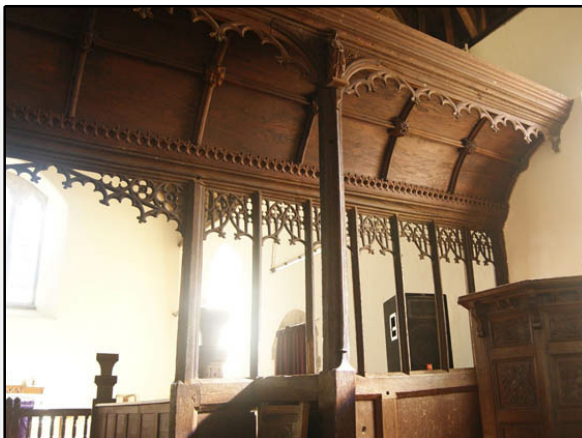
13th Century Warden's Chest



Loft Coving with Original Tudor Roses



14th Century Font



15th Century Rood Screen

## The Parish of Beguildy (Shepherd's House)

The date of the earliest Church on the site is not known, but we do know it's a long time ago, as there was a church there in the 11th Century. The first reference to be found of Beguildy, appears as Bugelte in 1259, and Bugeyylde in 1291 hence Bugail and Ty - "Shepherd's House." This was recorded as "Ecclesia de Bugeylde", and valued at oelO 13s 4d. (Ref: Historic Churches)

The present building is thought to be mainly 14th Century, with some 15th Century fittings. There was some restoration in the 17th Century, but most of the church was restored in the 19th Century, remaining now pretty much as it was then. A number of interesting relics remain in St Michaels' Church; the earliest is believed to be the dugout chest, which was made from a solid block of timber, which was used to store the church's and the Churchwarden's valuables, each in a lockable half of the chest and possibly dating from the 13th Century. There was an iron ring in the one end in order for the chest to be towed by a horse and buried or hidden in times of trouble.

The 14th Century octagonal font bears the marks that are reputed to be from the sharpening of swords by Cromwell's troops. A holy water stoop at the south door and a Priest's door in the south wall by the choir stalls are both 14th Century. The rood screen and loft coving is a very fine example of 15th Century workmanship, bearing some original coloured Tudor roses, and is also the home of our own green man. The two oak benches in the chancel are probably from the same period. There were three bells, dated from 1661 and 1664; sadly only two remain. The church also has some really lovely stained glass windows.



Green Man on loft coving

The first Vicar recorded that we can find, was in 1393: David Ap Jevan as Vicar of Bwkyldde in the diocese of St David's. Closely followed in 1397: Lewis Ap Merduth, Chaplain to the Vicarage of Bugeilde, diocese of St David's.

*(Taken from Radnorshire Society Transactions 1947 Medieval Radnorshire Clergy by E J Cole.) (to be continued)*

Submitted by Margaret Harris

**Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps  
today of its joy.**  
**- Leo Buscaglia**

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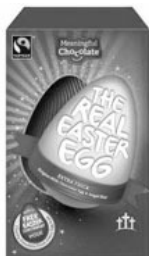


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Available at Beguildy Shop and other local shops.

## April's Sweet Peas

The flower for April is the sweet pea, also known as the "Queen of Annuals." It was first recorded in 1695 by Francisco Cupani, a member of the order of St. Francis in Sicily. Cupani sent seeds in 1699 to botanist Dr. Casper Commelin in Amsterdam, who published an article on sweet peas.

Another part of the story is that Cupani is believed to have also sent seeds to English teacher Dr. Robert Uvedale, an aficionado of new and unusual plants.

Keats, the poet, apparently first used the name sweet pea in his poem "I stood tip-toe upon a little hill."

*Here are sweet peas, on tip-toe for a flight:  
With wings of gentle flush o'er delicate white,  
And taper fingers catching at all things,  
To bind them all about with tiny rings.*

They became so popular in the 1800s that they were the designated floral symbol for Edwardian England.

Henry Eckford, a Scottish nurseryman, is credited with cross breeding and developing the sweet pea into the floral sensation of the Victorian era. Prior to that it was considered mostly a rather insignificant flower.

Info from  
[www.whatsmybirthflower.com](http://www.whatsmybirthflower.com)

God called down to Moses and said, "I've got good news and bad news. Which do you want first?" Moses replied, "Most merciful God, if I have brought you any favour, please give me the good news first." God said, "Moses, the good news is that I have chosen you to deliver my people from bondage; I will force Pharaoh to release my children by causing years of pestilence in Egypt. There will be plagues of locusts and frogs and incredible devastation upon the land. Pharaoh's armies will chase you as you try to leave, but do not fear because I will part the waters of the Red Sea to aid in your escape." Moses asked, "And the bad news?" God replied, "You have to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement."

**Man cannot live by bread alone. Nowadays he also needs a roll of cellotape and a can of WD-40.**







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## JESUS IS ALIVE!

Early on the first Easter morning Mary Magdalene and some other women went to the tomb where Jesus had been buried. When they reached the tomb it was open, the big stone that had sealed the entrance was rolled away - and it was empty! They thought that someone had stolen Jesus' body but an angel told Mary what had really happened, that Jesus was alive!

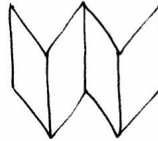
The disciples were all together when Mary arrived back with her news and told them what had happened, but they wouldn't believe her. They were confused and afraid. Sometimes we say 'I can't believe it' if someone tells us really good news. We say 'I'll believe it when I see it with my own eyes' and that is what the disciples said. And when they saw the risen Jesus they believed. Read about what happened that first Easter Day in the four Gospels. And what is the next thing that you do when you hear good news? You want to share it with someone else.

Share the Good News with someone this Easter!

## SPREAD THE NEWS

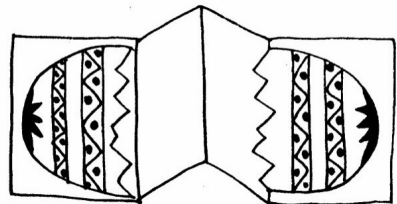
One way you can pass the good news on is to send Easter cards. You could make some of these easy Easter egg cards (the egg is a symbol of new life so that's why we have eggs at Easter). You will need

- a strip of thin card about 10cm by 30cm
- another piece of coloured card for the egg about 9cm by 12cm
- felt tip pens
- a ruler, scissors and a glue stick.



Fold the long strip of card in half and then each half back on itself to make a W shape.

Draw an egg shape on the coloured card and cut round it. Cut the egg in half with a jagged edge and stick it onto the folded card as shown. Decorate it and write your message inside - you could even draw a fluffy yellow chick inside the egg.



~~~~~

**What is smooth, oval and very rich?**

An eggstravaganza.

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## Diary for April 2015

- 1 A meditation for Holy Wednesday, Llanfair Church, 7pm.  
Felindre W.I. 7.30, Felindre Village Hall. Speaker: Ian Burgin "Your Flight."
- 2 Maundy Thursday.  
Llanfair Waterdine W.I., 7pm at Everest Hall. Speaker: Ian Burgin "Italy – The not so grand tour."
- 4 Family Allotment Club at Knucklas Allotments. 11-1pm.
- 7 Felindre Village Hall Committee, 7pm.
- 11 Tintagel Orpheus Male Voice Choir, Llandrindod Wells Pavilion, 7.30pm.
- 13 Teme Valley Gardeners' Club, 7.30, Knucklas Community Centre,  
Will Scott "Tool Sharpening for the Terrified."
- 14 Llangunllo W.I. The Old Vicarage, 7pm. Talk from Dame Margaret Anstee  
"Makers and Crafters (Craft Club), Knucklas Comm. Centre, 2-4pm.
- 16 Folk Down the Track at Castle Inn, Knucklas, 7pm onwards.
- 21 St David's Ladies Guild, Diane Mulberry "Stretch, Relax and Energize with  
Hatha Yoga" 7.30, Knucklas Community  
Centre.
- 25 Steam Train today.
- 28 Makers and Crafters (Craft Club),  
Knucklas Community Centre, 2-4pm.



**Penithon Chapel:** April 5, Easter Sunday, 2.30 pm. Preacher will be Debbie Peck from Llanidloes.

### Services at Haydn's Chapels in April 2015

| Date                                                         | Maesyrhelem     | Pound          | Gravel            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>April 5</b>                                               | 10.30 Communion | 2.30 Communion |                   |
| <b>April 12</b>                                              | 6.30 Service    | 11.00 Service  | 2.30 FS/Communion |
| <b>April 19</b>                                              | 10.30 Service   | 2.30 Service   | 6.30 Service      |
| <b>April 26</b>                                              | 6.30 Service    | 2.30 Communion | 11.00 Service     |
| 26th Anglicans and Methodists to come to the Pound at 2.30pm |                 |                |                   |
| 26th Maesyrhelem go to Bwlchysarnau at 6.30pm                |                 |                |                   |

- Please come suitably clad with walking boots or stout shoes, warm clothing and waterproofs, according to the weather.
- Bring a packed lunch and a warm drink.
- Everyone welcome, but no dogs please.
- Walkers walk at their own risk, and the leader has the right to alter or postpone a walk if the conditions are unsuitable.

**All walks start at 10am.** Enquiries: 01547 520266

**Wed April 1.** Pales, Dolau, Penybont Common. 7.5 miles moderate (350m ascent). Start at Exp 200 SO 136640 The Pales.

**Sat April 4.** Dorstone to Hay, Linear walk, Hereford Trail and Wye Valley Way. 10 miles moderate. Start at Exp 201 SO230423. 9.55am bus from opp Hay main carpark (charge).

**Wed April 8.** Eardisley Circular. 8 miles moderate. Start at Exp 201 SO 312491 Lay by near church

**Wed April 15.** Bucknell, Bucknell Wood, Stowe, Weston. 6.8 miles moderate 445m ascent. Start at Exp 201 SO 351740 Baron Pub carpark

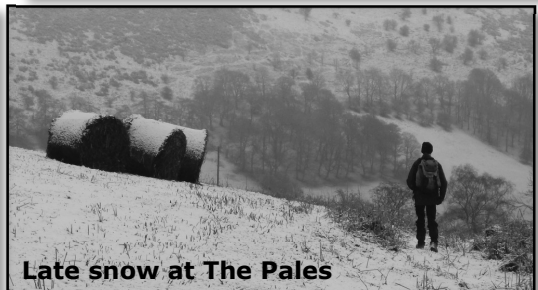
**Sat April 18.** Four Stones, Cefn-dre-Wern, Gwaunceste Hill. 7.5 miles moderate. Start at Exp 200 SO167582, Llynheilyn Lake.

**Wed April 22.** Downton Gorge National Nature Reserve. Limited number – members only.

**Wed April 29.** Leintwardine Circular. 7 miles moderate. Start at Exp 203 SO 404738 park near bridge.



**Spring sun at Fachwen Pool**



**Late snow at The Pales**

### Knucklas Baptist Chapel

April 12th 6pm

Mrs Sue Wilson & friends

April 24th 6pm

Rev M Humphreys  
(communion)

### Knighton Food Bank - Shopping List Request

Tinned cold meat / Tinned stewing steak / Tinned mince & Irish stew

Biscuits / Sugar / Rice Pudding & Custard / Pasta Twirls

Coffee & Drinking Chocolate / Tinned potatoes, tomatoes & carrots

Jam, Spread & Marmalade / Washing up Liquid & Washing Powder

Toilet Rolls / Toothpaste & Toothbrushes / Shower Gel

Alternatively, if you would prefer to give a small cash donation instead of an item of food, we can put it towards buying fresh milk, bread & eggs etc, to add to the food parcels.



| Readings                        |                                                             | Beguildy                  | Heyope                   | Llangunllo | Bleddfa                |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| April 5<br>Easter               | Isaiah 25.6-9<br>Acts 10.34-43<br>[John 20.1-18]            | M Rickerby<br>J Sandford  | R Forbath<br>Judy North  | T.B.A.     | M Forbes<br>H Howcroft |
| April 12<br>Easter 2            | Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20-21<br>Act 4.32-35<br>[John 20.19-31] |                           | Ann Edwards<br>R Forbath |            |                        |
| April 19<br>Easter 3            | Zephaniah 3.14-20<br>Acts 3.12-19<br>[Luke 24.36b-48]       | S Sandford<br>J Peregrine |                          |            |                        |
| April 26<br>Vocations<br>Sunday | Genesis 7.1-5, 11-18<br>Acts 4.5-12<br>[John 10.11-18]      |                           |                          |            | Peter Lane<br>M Forbes |

## Precious Gardens



Kirsty Williams, AM, came to celebrate the opening of Rhos Market Garden (one of our new advertisers) run by Mick and Alice Westrip and Precious Earth run by Paul and Ann Williams. Their new shop is on the site of the Old Garage opposite Knighton Library. This delightful and colourful premise sells all the organic veg we are used to from the Thursday market stall as well as a wider range of healthy groceries.

Alongside the foods are the fine eco household products, clay paints, natural building materials, flooring, insulation and other sustainable products at Precious Earth. They are open Tuesdays to Saturdays.

## Red Noses and Characters at Llanbister School

St David's Day was celebrated with enthusiasm in the school and lots of children wore traditional Welsh dress. Celebrations included a Welsh Assembly, Welsh flags, making of Welsh wooden peg dolls, making and eating Welsh cakes.

In March we combined World Book Day & Comic Relief and successfully raised approximately £40 by dressing up on March 13th as some of our favourite book characters and wearing red noses!

Class One are exploring the theme of "Clothes" so had a dress down day, have made their own fabric bags as well as some button bookmarks to show off their sewing skills. We enjoyed a visit from Janet Thomas who brought in a brightly-coloured sari from a recent visit to India.

Class Two are also busy exploring the wonders of the night sky, attended an Athletics Day in Llandrindod Wells, hockey skills at the school and the older girls enjoyed a Street Dance session.

Kym Berry



Clothes Day



Red Nose Day

## Rhos Garden – Precious Earth



Alice serving the customers



Kirsty and Jenny discussing business







Alice, Ann, Paul and Kirsty (she did buy these bananas)

## The Old Garage 26th Feb



Sue and Paul



| <b>Church Services in April 2015</b>      |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                  |                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date 2014</b>                          | <b>Beguildy</b><br>St Michael's                                                   | <b>Heyope</b><br>St David's                                                       | <b>Llangunllo</b><br>St Cynllo's | <b>Bleddfa</b><br>M Magdalene's                                                    |
| April 2<br>Maundy Thur                    | St Edward's, Knighton<br>Holy Communion, 7pm                                      |                                                                                   |                                  |                                                                                    |
| April 3<br>Good Fri.                      | Good Friday Meditation on the Cross<br>St David's Heyope 2.30 pm (JH / LWJ)       |                                                                                   |                                  |   |
| April 5<br>EASTER<br><i>White</i>         | 11am Holy Communion<br>JH                                                         | 9.15am Holy Communion<br>JH                                                       | 6.30pm Holy Communion<br>CH      | 11am Holy Communion<br>CH                                                          |
| April 12<br>Easter 2<br><i>White</i>      |  | 3pm Evensong<br>JH / LWJ                                                          |                                  | 8.30pm Compline<br>MF                                                              |
| April 19<br>Easter 3<br><i>White</i>      | 11am Morning Worship<br>JH                                                        |                                                                                   |                                  |  |
| April 26<br>Vocations Sun<br><i>White</i> |                                                                                   |  |                                  | 11am Morning Worship<br>JH / LWJ                                                   |



Native daffodils at St Edward's, Kempley during Daffodil Weekend.

Please send material for the May Beacon by 20th May.

Email:

[laura\\_woodside\\_jones@hotmail.com](mailto:laura_woodside_jones@hotmail.com)

Post: 1 Heyope Road, Knucklas,  
LD7 1PT Tel: 01547 520266