

July/Gorffennaf 2023

Cylchlythyr/Newsletter

Rhif/Issue 55

BABELL ZION NEWYDD

Rhiw Babell Pensarn Caerfyrddin SA31 2DJ



Sunday Club News

Sympathy

Our sincere sympathies are extended to Liz and Ellie Grace on the passing of Mrs Amy Elizabeth Pugh, a beloved mother and grandmother. The funeral was held at the English Baptist Chapel on May 15th with the Sunday Club represented by Helen, Sian and Molly. Mr Martin Dalling and Rev Mike Shephard officiated at the service.

Gŵyl Hirddydd Haf

The children are now preparing for the District Service to be held in the Park on July 2nd. They have taken the hymn 'Think of a world without any flowers' – 'Meddwl am fyf heb flodyn i'w harddu' as their theme and, to illustrate, they have drawn the seven days of creation in stained glass form to remind us of the first chapter of Genesis.

Think of a World Without any Flowers

This is a song about thankfulness. It was written by English music-teacher, hymn-writer and accompanist Doreen E Newport (née McFee). Born in Manchester on 24th February 1927, she was educated at Somerville College, Oxford and then at the University of Manchester, where she completed a Diploma in Education. Newport, known familiarly as 'Bunty', taught music in Norfolk, Cambridge and Winchester, as well as being active as an accompanist. In 1951 she married a Congregational (later URC) minister, Jack Newport. She died in Winchester on 25th October 2004. Her best known hymn is "Think of a world without any flowers."

Think Of A World Without Any Flowers,
Think Of A World Without Any Trees,
Think Of A Sky Without Any Sunshine,
Think Of The Air Without Any Breeze.

We Thank You, Lord, For Flowers And Trees And Sunshine,
We Thank You, Lord, And Praise Your Holy Name.

Think Of The World Without Any Animals,
Think Of A Field Without Any Herd,
Think Of A Stream Without Any Fishes,
Think Of A Dawn Without Any Bird.

We Thank You, Lord, For All Your Living Creatures,
We Thank You, Lord, And Praise Your Holy Name.

Think Of A World Without Any People,
Think Of A Street With No-One Living There,
Think Of A Town Without Any Houses,
No-One To Love And Nobody To Care.

We Thank You, Lord, For Families And Friendships,
We Thank You, Lord, And Praise Your Holy Name.

For almost two thousand years, Christians have used music as a way to worship. In the Bible the Apostle Paul writes: "Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs." The word "hymn" comes from the Greek word "hymnos" which means "a song of praise". Originally these would have been written in honour of the Gods. Hymnody (the singing or composition of hymns) has evolved and changed over the centuries and been affected by new thinking and developing religious beliefs: throughout the history of the church, whenever there has been renewal, revival or restoration, new songs of worship have appeared.

During the Middle Ages hymnody developed in the form of Gregorian chant or 'plainsong'. It was sung in Latin and most often by monastic choirs. But in the 16th century, church goers were given much greater access to hymns as a result of the invention of the printing press and the influential German theologian, Martin Luther, who began encouraging people to sing together in congregations. In England the non-conformist minister Isaac Watts (1674-1748) began a transformation of congregational singing. Watts believed strongly that hymns should express the religious feelings of the people and he became a prolific writer, creating hundreds of new hymns. Watts has been described as "the liberator of English hymnody" as his hymns moved people away from simply singing Old Testament psalms, inspiring people to sing from the heart, with great faith and understanding.

In the same period, another significant movement affected the hymns of the church: the Methodist movement, led by John Wesley. Wesley and especially his brother Charles used simple rhythms and sing-able melodies to help congregational singing. They wrote many of our most well-known hymns that are still very popular today.

In the late 19th Century a new style of hymnody known as "gospel" emerged. These songs were usually characterised by a strong lead vocal and exciting harmonies, and were a great influence on later contemporary worship worldwide.

The twentieth and twenty first centuries have seen an explosion of new hymn writers and approaches. Old texts have been refreshed by new tunes and lots more contemporary hymns have sprung up. In the non-traditional church movement there has been a move away from the previous style of congregational singing to worship led by one singer or a worship band. Instrumentation has become more popular and musical styles have become much freer. The church today is richer than ever in musical resources and continues to bring congregations together through song.

I think we all have a hymn which holds a special place in our hearts. As most of you know, my favourite hymn is, and always will be, "The Day Thou Gavest Lord is Ended," but lately another 3 have snuck their way into my heart for a completely different reason. They are "What a Friend we have in Jesus," "When we Walk with The Lord," and "Blessed Assurance." If you notice, if it is my turn at the organ and these hymns are sung, you will find me looking towards the seat where mum used to sit each Sunday as I can hear her singing these hymns at the top of her voice.

Hymns and the memories they stir up!



As a chapel, we extend our deepest sympathy to Rosemary and family on the passing of her husband Sam.

Over recent weeks, we have heard of a few of our members/friends who have been experiencing ill health. We especially think of:

Nan Thomas who is now out of hospital and is staying with Tina.

Vi, whose health is improving and it was lovely to see her at the Strawberry Tea with her family.

Rev Adelaide who has had another fall and suffered a concussion.

Please keep them and anyone else known to you in your prayers.



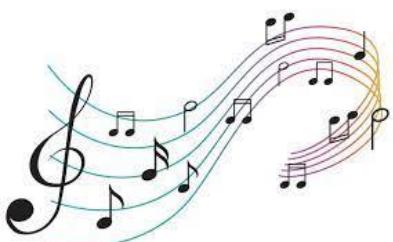
Our intrepid group of walkers braved the elements on Saturday 10th June and headed off “down west” on their latest walk. Despite a dismal start to the day, they parked in Stackpole Quay and walked to Barafundle Bay and around to Bosherston Lily Ponds. Barafundle Bay is a small bay backed by dunes and pine trees, accessible only by a half mile walk from the nearest car park. Swathes of golden sand and crystal clear waters, Barafundle has been voted many, many times as one of the best beaches in Britain and the world; it’s often likened to a Caribbean beach! This pristine beach is isolated which means no facilities; so everything you take has to come back up over the cliffs. Bosherston Lily Ponds need no introduction, for they are far-famed among visitors to the county as an unusual beauty spot to be seen and enjoyed. A group of freshwater lakes, the Lily Ponds are part of a large wildlife reserve in the area and are home to a plethora of wildlife including otters, wildfowl and dragonflies. Of course, the main attraction is the beautiful carpet of lilies that cover the manmade ponds that have made them a must visit for those staying in Pembrokeshire. A wonderful day was finished off with a meal at The Carew Inn. Thank you to Gareth and Dawn who organize these walks every month.



Thank you to everyone who collected and donated during this years' Christian Aid Week. A cheque from Babell Zion Newydd, for £200, was presented to Mrs Llinos Roberts at the last Presbytery meeting in Gosen, Llandybie. Mrs Roberts has taken over from Rev Tom Dafis, following his retirement last August, as our regional representative.



Thank you to all who contributed in whichever way they could, towards our Strawberry Tea which was held last Saturday (June 24th). We had our usual cake, bottle and hand crafted items stalls, a wonderful array of raffle prizes and the "piece de resistance," scones, cream and fresh strawberries. The grand sum of £282.30 was raised.



Cylch Caerfyrddin Annual Cymanfa

This will be held at Penygraig on Sunday 24th September at 5pm. Conductor for the evening will be Meinir Richards.

Helen will be taking the rehearsals for this and these will take place on Sunday 16th July and Sunday 10th September. Both rehearsals will be at 5pm in Penygraig for anyone wishing to attend.



Congratulations to Helen in her new role of "Llywydd Henaduriaeth Myrddin."

Friendship Centre Rota

06/07/23	Maisie
13/07/23	Pat & Molly
20/07/23	Tina
27/07/23	Sian & Helen

Pray At All Times

When we're in need of guidance
Through times we cannot see
Just where we are heading
Or where we ought to be

When we need more faith
Through times that we doubt,
For those times when we question
What life is all about

When we're in need of comfort
Through times of so much grief,
Those times when our hearts ache
And we have so many needs

When we need a friend
Through times when we're lonely,
Those times when there's no one,
Just God and us only

When we need more power
For those times we're attacked
The struggle with temptation
Is one of Satan's traps

When we have His blessings
Abundant in our lives
When things are going well
And doors open wide

Through all of these times
In life that we go through,
One thing is very certain
In what we all should do

That we should never cease
From a lifetime of prayer,
For praying opens heaven's doors
And causes us to hear

What God wants to say to us
And the things He longs to show
So we can walk in His perfect will
Wherever we shall go.

E	A	C	L	C	L	F	C	A	J	W	O	C	L	A
V	E	L	A	W	A	A	P	E	H	P	R	A	M	S
F	U	M	Q	L	T	E	P	D	E	A	M	U	S	S
B	E	M	L	T	L	O	C	C	O	B	W	W	L	Y
L	X	O	L	I	L	F	B	O	O	V	T	K	W	W
Q	N	E	C	E	W	O	E	I	N	C	E	A	O	G
L	M	A	T	S	M	U	O	Y	R	E	K	V	O	R
L	N	N	D	L	N	L	B	O	T	D	Y	P	Y	G
T	A	E	R	O	I	O	E	T	Y	I	S	G	A	Q
N	E	V	A	R	J	O	I	L	N	E	B	R	N	A
R	T	L	L	U	G	U	N	P	L	E	K	B	L	E
X	S	V	I	P	E	R	R	V	R	E	P	N	A	C
C	H	E	W	E	K	R	O	T	S	O	Z	R	O	R
W	V	O	T	A	B	P	E	H	S	C	A	E	D	
E	A	G	L	E	W	O	L	F	T	Q	F	S	G	S

Antelope	Coney	Foul	Rabbit
Ass	Cow	Goat	Raven
Bat	Deer	Gull	Scorpions
Birds	Donkey	Hawk	Serpent
Bull	Dove	Lamb	Sheep
Camel	Eagle	Lion	Stork
Cattle	Ewe	Owl	Viper
Cock	Fallon	Pelican	Wolf

Dates for the Calendar

Friendship Centre	Every Thursday 10:30 – 1:30
Singalong Tuesday Dates	July 4 th
	July 18 th

Please note that both the Friendship Centre and the Singalong for Dementia will be suspended during August.

Next Elders' Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th July at 10 am

Sunday Services/Gwasanaethau ar y Sul

Rev Mike Shephard	10 am	02/07/23
Joint Pastorate @ Soar, Pontyberem	10 am	09/07/23
Mr Dafydd Evans	10 am	16/07/23
Rev Emrys Williams	2 pm	23/07/23
Rev Chris Rees	2 pm	30/07/23
Rev Mike Shephard	10:30 am	13/08/23
To be confirmed	10 am	03/09/23

Sunday Club every Sunday at 11:30am/Clwb Sul pob Dydd Sul am 11:30 y bore

	Flowers/Blodau	Cleaning/Glanhau	Announcing and Communion/ Cyhoeddi a Pharatoi'r Cymun
July	Charmaine Williams	Carole, Meurig & Sian	Carole Rees
August			
September	Esme Phillips	Lynn & Janet Davies	Sian Cassell
October	Megan Griffiths	Owen & Kim Jones	Pat Morgan

Have you any news or items for the newsletter? Please forward to Carole at
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or Helen at helengibbon1@btinternet.com