

MEHEFIN 2024 JUNE

ISSUE/ RHIFYN 65

BABELL

ZION

NEWYDD



Urdd

Llund cist  
o lofnodion  
a chanrif o sôn  
am Gymru heddychlon-  
ond heddiw  
a oes heddwch?  
Cawn gip, rhywle rhwng y sŵn  
a'r llwch,  
yn llewyrch llygaid y plentyn bach sy'n hedfan barcud  
yn yr awyr iach.  
Gan mai gweithred yw gobaith i fyw yn gyntun  
i blannu daioni  
yng nghalon pob un.  
Ond heddiw  
a oes heddwch?  
Oes,  
yng nghariad  
a harmoni'r gân- yn her canrif newydd  
y ddalen lân.

Neges Ewyllys Da 2024  
Translation on next page

**Last month's question 1: Where would you see these plaques in Carmarthen?**

**ANSWER: On the wall of the English Baptist Church in Lammas Street to the right of the gate.**



Revd Dr Gwilym Davies was Minister at English Baptist Chapel between 1908 and 1915. He worked tirelessly to promote peace in the world, supporting the United Nations and Unesco, writing countless articles and chairing committees. The message of Peace and Good Will which is transmitted every year from the youth of Wales to the youth of the world was founded by Dr Davies in 1922, the same year as the Urdd was founded by Syr Ifan ap Owen Edwards and it is the Urdd which has taken on the role of writing and relaying the message ever since. It is also interesting to note that that first transmission on St David's Day 1922 in Welsh by Dr Davies was the first ever wireless transmission in Welsh. Another interesting fact is that Dr Davies received a letter from Carrie Chapman Catt in New York dated 19<sup>th</sup> of June 1925 congratulating him on the idea of the Children's wireless message but also suggesting that he ask the women who began the petition for world peace to also do the same. As noted in last month's newsletter, that petition has now been returned to Wales and can be seen at the National Library in Aberystwyth.



the

This year's Message of Good Will was inspired by that petition of 390,296 signatures and can be seen in 66 languages on the Urdd Website.

#### Hope is an Action

A chestful  
of signatures,  
and a century of defining a landscape of peace.  
But does peace  
stand a chance today?  
We catch a glimpse, somewhere between the discourse  
and the dust,  
in the bright eyes  
of the child  
who traces the arc of a kite  
across fresh acres of sky.  
For hope is an action  
to live in unison,  
to nourish the seeds of goodwill in each and every heart.  
But does peace  
stand a chance today?  
Yes,  
in the love that inhabits the harmony of our song – and in the challenge  
of our century's next chapter.



Urdd



**Last Month's Question 2: Where would you find this plaque?**  
**Answer: on the left hand side of the entrance to the car park next to the Falcon Hotel**

### **Elfed Lewis Blaenycloed** **Some facts about Elfed**

- He was born on April 14<sup>th</sup> 1860 at "Y Gangell" near Blaenycloed, the first of 10 children!
- As a child he was not physically strong, but he was studious and loved poetry.
- His mother taught him to read: he had to say a prayer and read a chapter from the Bible every morning.
- A school was opened in an upper room of one of the farms where young people came to be taught.
- Later on a school was opened in the chapel vestry and called Blaenycloed Day School.
- From an early age Elfed was determined to become a Minister and so he went to Newcastle Emlyn Grammar School and early in 1874 and at the age of 14 was invited to preach at Penybont. He soon became a very popular preacher.
- From 1876 to 1880 he was at the Presbyterian College in Carmarthen. He studied Hebrew, Greek and German and was able to translate German hymns into Welsh and English.
- Following his studies and preaching itinerary he received a calling to Buckley Flintshire and then to Hull in 1884. He was still going back and forth to Buckley during those first few years but the reason soon became evident when in 1887 he married Mary Taylor, a farmer's daughter from the Gladstone Estate.
- He wrote many hymns and poems, articles and essays during these years and won many eisteddfod prizes.
- He accepted a calling to Park Church Llanelli in 1891 where he started a Debating society for young people to discuss the Bible and continued his writing of hymns and sermons. He arranged for the National Eisteddfod to be held at Llanelli and founded a free library. Four children were born while in Llanelli: Malcolm, Glyndwr, Enid and Ailsa.
- He was a gifted preacher and people were mesmerised by his voice and the gift of the "Hwyl" which he had.
- In 1898 he left Wales for Harecourt Church where amongst the congregation was David Livingstone. But very soon, following the retirement of Dr Owen Evans, he was being pressed to take up ministry at the Tabernacle King's Cross which he did in 1904. A daughter Vona was born while in London.
- Mary, his wife, died in 1918. He remarried in 1923 – Elizabeth Lloyd, the widow of a Welsh Minister from Tredegar but her frailty and poor health led to her death in 1927.
- He was Archdruid of the National Eisteddfod from 1924-29.
- Elfed became totally blind by 1930. He settled in Penarth in 1940 with his third wife Mary and they became members at Ebenezer Church Cardiff.
- He continued preaching until his death on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1953.

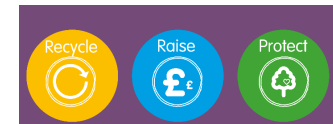
There are 44 of Elfed's hymns in Caneuon Ffydd. Can you fill in the gaps?

1. Arglwydd Iesu, dysg im ..... trwy y ..... yn ôl dy .....
2. Rho im yr .....
3. Arglwydd, mae yn ....., gwranddo ar ein .....
4. Nefol Dad, mae eto'n .....
5. Yn dy law y mae .....
6. Nef a ....., tir a .....
7. Pob peth, ..... ac agos
8. Da yw bod wrth..... yr Iesu
9. .... gwlad. Benllywydd.....
10. Hyfryd ..... Iesu, ..... ynddynt sydd

### **A reminder of the box in the vestry**

### **CODI ARIAN / RAISING MONEY**

Rydyn ni'n ailgylchu ond hefyd yn codi arian at y capel/ We are recycling items but also raising money for the chapel. Ymholiadau i Nan neu Tina



### **Rydyn ni angen / We need:**

- Gemwaith /Jewellery (e.g. bracelets, rings, watches - any style, any metal, any condition)
- Offer digidol / digital devices (e.g. mobile phones, cameras, sat navs, games consoles, ipads, ipods, tablets)
- Arian / Coins (e.g. any currency UK or foreign, even unchangeable currency)
- Stampiau / Stamps (e.g. loose stamps, used stamps, first day covers)





Mike Shephard writes a musing!

### **WHERE THERE'S A WILL**

I see that TV personality, Anne Robinson, is leaving some £50,000,000 to her children and grandchildren and that to prevent the taxman getting his hands on the money it is being handed over in the here and now.

I am aghast at such news for several reasons:

I am amazed that anyone could accumulate so vast a sum of money in a single lifetime. Why on earth would anyone need that amount of money in their bank account?

Those who know my background might conjecture that such a comment is motivated by that green eyed monster named envy – and I take the point. My immediate forebears had precious little to leave anyone, and my sole inheritance to date adds up to the princely sum of £9.50. My wife, it is true, received £13 pursuant to the death of her parents which was sufficient, back then, to meet the cost of a fortnightly shopping bill. We thought ourselves in clover and lived lavishly for those two weeks!

The more important question has to do with the distribution of wealth, the fact being that the gap between rich and poor is huge. We, in the western hemisphere are relatively well off but even in Wales thousands of children are described as living in poverty. I have long outgrown my socialist roots because socialism, at its worst, fosters a culture of dependency and destroys the incentive to do well in life. I know of people with one arm longer than the other whose infirmity was brought about by 'swinging the lead'! We could all cite instances of families where members have never done a day's work in their lives – not because of illness – but laziness.

That said, there are genuine disparities between those who have too much and those who have too little. Indeed, there is an article on the internet asking us to imagine that the world is represented by a village of 100 inhabitants. We can read it for ourselves, the most sobering of all sobering thoughts being that over a quarter of the inhabitants will be close to starvation. How on earth can someone leave huge sums of money to a handful of relatives against a background of need on such a scale? It is scandalous!

The issue, though, gives rise to another query. When we make bequests do we consider the effect of our action on recipients. It is always helpful to be given a 'hand up' in life and a gift, given wisely, can do so much good.

But fifty million pounds! It could well have the effect of destroying the desire to work or achieve. Why bother to study or work hard when one has an excess of money at one's disposal? And what of the old Arab proverb reminding us that too much sunshine makes a desert? We can make life too easy for our children and grandchildren. For heaven's sake stand back and let them take a few knocks from

life. It will teach them resilience and encourage fortitude. Encourage them to pick themselves up, dust themselves down and march on, turning negative experiences into positive, life enhancing ones. How did Samuel Rutherford put it: *"I owe so much to the hammer, furnace, anvil, and discipline of life."* We seldom appreciate these things at the time. In retrospect we see them as the most valuable of events in that they encourage compassion and empathy for others.

There is one other question that I want to ask of Anne Robinson. Are her children and grandchildren deserving of an inheritance of any kind?

Newspaper articles, published since the story appeared, also ask that question with one grandmother stating that she is determined to restrict any bequests to those who have given her of their love, interest, and time. I echo that sentiment the fact being that some children and grandchildren grow up to become selfish adults interested only in themselves. As one grandmother expressed it: *"I change my will so often that the process resembles the 'hokey-cokey.'* I think that statement to be brilliant and the sentiment is one that I share.

I also love the story of the grandfather who arranged for his grandchildren to receive an envelope after his death. With the passing of time they each received a fifty pound note – this being payment for the love and concern shown him. Great stuff! It is almost as good as the grandparent who closed his will in this way: *"I believe that my grandchildren want a mention in my will. Brian, Lucy, Matilda, Alan – HI!"*

Perhaps we all need to think about bequests and to whom we make them.

Mike Shephard ©

#### A Prayer of thanksgiving and remembrance



We thank you Lord for all our members and friends who are celebrating their birthdays or a special wedding anniversary during these months. We also ask you to keep in the palm of your hand all those who are grieving as they remember the death of a loved one at this time. Be with them all and especially those who are finding life difficult during these days. Amen.

Arglwydd Dduw, ryn ni'n diolch i Ti am bawb o'n cynulleidfa sy'n dathlu penblwydd neu benblwydd priodas arbennig yn ystod y misoedd hyn. Ryn ni hefyd am i Ti gadw yng nghledr dy law y rhai sydd yn galaru am eu hanwyliaid ac sydd yn cofio diwrnod eu marwolaeth yn ystod y cyfnod hwn. Bydd gyda nhw a phawb sydd yn cael bywyd yn anodd am ba rheswm bynnag y dyddiau rhain. Amen.

## Sunday Services/Gwasanaethau ar y Sul

Dr Dai Lloyd	2 pm	2/6/2024
Communion Service with Rev Emyr	10 am	9/6/2024
Parch Dr Desmond Davies.	2 pm	16/6/2024
Members' Service	10 am	23/6/2024
<b>United Service at Capel Newydd Llanddarog gyda "Coda NI"</b>	<b>2pm</b>	30/6/2024
Revd Mike Shephard	10 am	7/7/2024

Flowers/Blodau		Cleaning/Glanhau	Announcing and Communion Cyhoeddi a Pharatoi'r Cymun
Sian Cassell	June/Mehefin	Owen and Kim Jones	Pat Morgan
Vi Williams	Gorffennaf/July	Sian/Carole/Meurig	Sian Cassell

Singalong Tuesdays: June/Mehefin 4th  
at BZN June/Mehefin 18<sup>th</sup>  
Gorffennaf/July 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Gorffennaf/July 16<sup>th</sup>

### Dates for the Diary

Mehefin 5ed: Gwasanaeth Chwiorydd yr Henaduriaeth yn y Babel Zion 2pm  
gyda'r Parch Dr Mary Thorley

Mehefin 6ed: Henaduriaeth Myrddin yng Nghapel Bancyfelin am 6.30pm

Mehefin 17: Christmas the Story Meeting at the English Baptist 6pm

June 23<sup>rd</sup>: Members' Service at 10 am. Dinner at the Falcon at 1 pm.

Mehefin 26ain: Cyfarfod Gofalaeth y Gwendraeth yn Llanddarog 6.30pm

Mehefin 28fed: Sports Event for the Sunday Schools at Bronwydd 5.30pm  
Mabolgampau MIC

June 29<sup>th</sup>: Trip to Blaenycloed – Henllan – Wool Museum Drefach  
Felindre – a meal at La Calabria

As a result of a lunch collection during the Sasiwn held at BZN recently a sum of £100 was raised with which Bibles have been bought for pupils at Llangunnor School. These will be presented later this month,



Diolch i'r casglwyr ac am yr holl gyfraniadau yn ystod  
Wythnos Cymorth Cristnogol. Daeth y casgliad i £323.08.

Thank you to all collectors and for all your contributions  
during Christian Aid Week.

## Friendship Centre Rota

6/6/2024	Maisie and Rosemary
13/6/2024	Pat and Carole
20/6/2024	Nan, Tina and Kevin
27/6/2024	Helen and Sian

## Out and about

## Cerddwyr Cynnwr

The walk on May 18<sup>th</sup> was from Cenarth to Newcastle Emlyn. The bus journey to Cenarth took an hour and a quarter with detours to Glangwili Hospital, Henllan Garden Centre and Drefach Felindre before arriving at Cenarth in lovely sunshine. The walk took us along the path beside the Falls and then followed the river Teifi for most of the way. A lunch stop at Cwm Cou, opposite a renovated Corn Mill, was most welcome and then a walk through the forestry with the woodpecker chatting nearby. A hearty meal of fish and chips at Newcastle Emlyn was also quite welcome before boarding the bus once again. Diolch Gareth am ddiwrnod pleserus iawn.

## Eisteddfod yr Urdd

Llongyfarchiadau i bawb ar Eisteddfod arbennig iawn ym Meifod ac i bawb o'n cydnabod lleol a wnaeth gymryd rhan ynddi. Gwych!

## Singing at Plas y Dderwen

