

THE BRIDGE



Dog Rose
Rosa canina



The Dog Rose is the common wild rose of our hedgerows, flowering in June and July. It can grow on a wide range of soils, attains 3 metres or more in height, and is able to spread by suckers.

The long arching stems are green to purple and have strong, curved prickles, which serve both as a protection and to catch onto surrounding shrubs.

The flowers each have five petals and may be white or pink. They are usually found in clusters of up to five flowers. The fruits which follow are the familiar orange or red rose hips seen in the autumn. The hips are rich in Vitamin C and were collected to make rose-hip syrup during World War II. As children we also used the fibrous outer part of the hip to manufacture an effective itching powder!

Dog Roses are subject to attack from many insects. In particular the crimson mossy balls on the leaf stalks - called 'Robin's pincushions' - which are produced by a gall-forming wasp.

JUNE 2008

No. 294

DIARY OF EVENTS - JUNE & JULY 2008

Sun 1st Jun	Canon Bill Rowell's last service at Llandysilio, 10.30 am Canon Bill Rowell's induction, St Mary's Welshpool, 2.30 pm
Tue 3rd Jun	Diocesan Mothers' Union Festival, Wrexham, 7 pm
Thur 5th Jun	Bingo Evening for Criggion Church, Criggion Village Hall Llandrinio Village Hall Committee, 7.30 pm
Fri 6th Jun	Coffee & Puddings Evening, Geuffordd, 7 pm Arddleen Tabernacle annual meal
Sat 7th Jun	Coffee Morning for Criggion Church
Sun 8th Jun	Tabernacle District Singing Festival, Christchurch, Oswestry
Tue 10th Jun	Evergreens outing to the Conwy Valley
Thur 12th Jun	Canon Clive Southerton at Llandysilio Mothers' Union
Fri 13th Jun	Llandrinio Church Coffee Evening at Haim House, 7 pm
Sat 14th Jun	Festival of Transport, Powis Castle (and 15th)
Sun 15th Jun	Close date for the July edition of 'The Bridge'
Tue 17th Jun	Llandrinio Mothers' Union summer outing
Sat 21st Jun	West Mids Show (and 22nd)
Sun 22nd Jun	Car Boot at Llandrinio Village Hall
Fri 27th Jun	Pampered Chef evening for Llandysilio School PTA
Sun 29th Jun	Criggion Sunday Lunch
Thur 3rd Jul	Llandrinio Village Hall Committee, 7.30 pm
Fri 4th Jul	Four Crosses WI Fundraising event
Sat 5th Jul	Penrhos & District Sports, Bronheulog, Deytheur
Fri 11th Jul	Churches Social & Music Night, YFC Marquee
Sat 12th Jul	Four Crosses YFC 75th anniversary weekend
Sun 13th Jul	Four Crosses YFC 75th anniversary weekend Sacred Concert at Geuffordd Chapel
Tue 15th Jul	Deanery Mothers' Union Festival, Welshpool, 7 pm
Wed 16th Jul	Evergreens Fundraiser at 'The Acorns'
Thur 17th Jul	End of School Term
Sat 19th Jul	Welshpool Air Show

LLANDRINIO VILLAGE HALL

available for
meetings, parties, dances etc
Fully licensed bar

Booking Secretary
Mrs Olive Evans
01938 556680

Each week at Llandrinio Village Hall

Tuesdays:

Karate 6-8 pm

Bingo 7.30 pm

Salsa Dance Lessons 8 pm

Wednesdays:

Age Concern from 10 am

Bridge 7.30 pm

Women's Institute 7.30 pm 2nd in mth

Thursdays:

Playgroup 10 am

Walking Group 1.30 pm

Bowls 7.30 pm

Saturdays:

Whist Drive (1st in each month)

Thanks and Good Wishes

- Congratulations to Sali and Graham, married at Llandysilio Church on May 30th.
- Congratulations to Jean and Cledwyn Roberts of Four Crosses, who celebrate their Golden Wedding on 14th June 2008.
- Good wishes to John Lewis, The Stores, Llandrinio, who celebrates his 60th birthday on 24th June 2008.
- Birthday congratulations to May Hillier, 70 on Sunday 25th May 2008.
- Thanks to all the performers in the Show at Llandrinio, and also to all who helped backstage and on the door etc - it was excellent, and I thank you all for what was done.
Joyce Burgoyne
- Alex and Giles Stevens would like to say a big thank-you to all the friends and neighbours in Four Crosses village for their overwhelming kindness at their hour of need, due to fire - loss of their home and contents in April.
- A very big thank you to all who were involved in the great production from the musicals in Llandrinio. Who needs to go to London - we have plenty of talent here!
Nanette and Angus McKay

● Arddleen Brownies raised £386.66 during their recent Sponsored Jigsaw Evening in aid of Children with Leukaemia and Pack Funds. A total of 140 jigsaws were completed by 21 Brownies in 26 minutes. A cheque for £200 has been sent to the charity. Many thanks to all who supported this money raising event.
Meryl Thomas

MITCHELL'S FOLD

Mitchell's Fold, near Chirbury, is the best example in this area of a stone circle, 27 metres in diameter, with 30 original stones, of which 14 survive today.

It sits some 1000 feet above sea level on the ridge of Stapeley Hill, and dates from between 2000 and 1400 BC.

Local legends say that one of the stones is an evil witch turned to stone as punishment for milking a magic cow through a sieve instead of into a bucket. The good people of the parish set a circle of other stones around her so she could not escape. This story is depicted in a sandstone pillar in Middleton Church, one of the carvings done by Revd Waldegrave Brewster, vicar from 1872, who grew up in Llandysilio.

Severn Valley Strollers

In Llandrinio
It's fun and it's free

AGE
Concern

We meet each Thursday -
Join us for a gentle walk
of up to one hour

Trained walk leaders will help you to discover the benefits of regular exercise, and the enjoyment of being outdoors in good company

Meet us In the Village Hall car park in Llandrinio at 1.30 pm. No special equipment needed, just sensible shoes

Just turn up, or call 01686 623707
to find out more

ORGANIST NEEDED

St Tysilio's Parish Church, Llandysilio, is looking for an organist to play for main Sunday services on a regular basis, and also for weddings, funerals etc through the year. The church is fortunate in having a beautiful organ which is in good order and well maintained. If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Mrs Carol Davies, PCC Secretary, on 01691 831008.

SOME LOCAL EVENTS IN JUNE

On 14th/15th June the annual Festival of Transport will take place on Powis Castle showground - for contact details tel 07974 682715. There will also be various boats on the Montgomery Canal adjoining.

On 21st June there will be a Community Day at Welshpool Town Hall at which organisations will have the chance to have a free table to promote themselves. tel 01938 553142. There should be lots of displays and local information you will find interesting. The Welshpool Air Show on 19th July will include the annual Red Dragon Race, in which entrants try to get in the air by pedal power. Contact 01938 553142 for more details.

And on 20th July a Country and Western Show on Powis Castle Showground will raise money for the Heulwen Trust tripboats on the Montgomery Canal at Welshpool. To find out more please telephone 01938 553173

JOHN WESLEY WALK

On the 9th and 10th August a re-enactment John Wesley walk from Welshpool to Llanidloes will take place, recalling the original walk, on 9 and 10th August in 1769. A 'John Wesley' walker will give a replica sermon from Llanidloes market hall on Sunday 10th. This will be a sponsored walk for local charities - those taking part will not be expected to walk on both days, you'll need to be dedicated walker to walk the full 30 miles. For details contact 01686 621354.

CANAL NEWS

The Montgomery Canal National Campaign Festival at Welshpool will take place on 30th and 31st August, when there will be lots to see on the canal and on the Maesydre Showground adjoining. Entry is free, and you should contact 01938 590543 if you would like to have a stall, charity stalls are free.

The Heulwen Trust has recently changed its policy and now can offer weekday narrow boat canal trips for groups including schools, WI's etc. They will make a small charge but for disabled people in groups, the trips are free. The trips can be from 2-7 hours duration with catering facilities on board. The new Heulwen boat, Silver Lady, should be launched this summer. For details contact 01938 552563. The boats can accommodate up to 12 passengers and 3 carers.

SUNDAY LUNCH AT CRIGGION VILLAGE HALL in aid of the Parish Church: 29th June, after the morning service. Tickets £10 from church members.

BORDER BRIDGES CHURCHES & CHAPELS

MUSIC & SOCIAL EVENING - FRIDAY 11TH JULY

The organisers have had a bit of a rethink since the notice in last month's 'Bridge' - people we've spoken to seem to want something simpler (and less expensive) than we'd originally planned. So there'll still be an enjoyable evening of music in the marquee made available to us by the Four Crosses Young Farmers' Club (for which we're very grateful), and we'll be welcoming the **PORTHYWAEN YOUTH AND TRAINING BAND**, with other local performers. But tickets will now be £5 (half price £2.50 for 'primary age' children). A drinks bar with light refreshment will be available, and the evening's entertainment begins at 7 for 7.30 pm. Tickets can be obtained from church members at Llandysilio, Llandrinio, Penrhos and Criggion, and chapel members at Llandrinio and Arddleen. Further information: 01691 831226 or 830628.

CAR BOOT AT LLANDRINIO VILLAGE HALL

A car boot sale will be held at Llandrinio on Sunday 22nd June at 2 pm. To book or for further details please telephone 01938 556680.

A note from Llandysilio C. in W. School

Do you have an old boat or dinghy lurking in your shed or garage that is no longer seaworthy? The dinner supervisors at our school are working on a project which will make playtimes more stimulating and less football dominated and would really like a boat as a base for a play feature.

Also needed are some oddments of brightly coloured paint for a stage set mural on one of our school walls. If you are able to help out with any of these items would you please contact the school on (01691) 830339.

Good luck to our dancers who are in the Urdd National finals of the creative dance in Penrhyn Bay on Bank Holiday Monday. We will let everyone know how we got on in the next issue.

Alison Ellis

WEST MID SHOW TICKETS

This year's West Mid Show is on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd June. Advanced discounted tickets are now on sale at Llandrinio Post Office. This year's attractions include Big Pete and Grim Reaper Monster Air Trucks, the Devil's Horsemen Cossacks Trick Riding and Medieval Jousting, and the Red Devils Freefall Parachute Team.

Family tickets are £20 (two adults and three children);

Adult tickets £10

Senior Citizens Tickets £8

Children £2

MY WORD

FROM MRS BARBARA HOLT OF AMPHILL, BEDFORDSHIRE

It was of great interest to read the email from Hugh Jones in the May 'Bridge' - or, as myself and a few others remember him, Lawrence.

I lived at Portland Cottage and have two younger brothers. My name is Barbara Holt (nee Parry), and my brothers were Dennis and Derrick.

I enclose a copy of a photograph taken in the field at the back of our house, with myself aged about 11-12 years, Frances Jones, Lawrence, and I cannot recall the other girl, although I do think she was an evacuee.



Our mother died in 1940, and father in 1947. I have been told my older members of the family how very helpful and caring the Revd H.I.K. Jones was to us.

My older brother recalls how when they were way down the fields Derrick complained of awful pains which turned out to be appendicitis, and it was the Rector who took him to hospital. Derrick is the same age as Hugh, and I am five years older.

When the family moved to Emberton my now husband and I travelled from Bedford by bus to attend his induction there.

I wonder if he will recall us - you never know what will pop up in the 'Bridge' next!

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT THE WEATHER

Let's hope for a better - and dryer - summer than last year's! But here are some weather thoughts and rhymes, beginning with:

The rain it raineth every day
 Upon the just and unjust fella,
 But on the just it raineth more,
 Since the unjust stole the just's umbrella!

and When windows won't open, and salt clogs the shaker,
 The weather will favour the umbrella maker!

Frogs are a sign of rain. It is said that "The louder the frog, the longer the rain", and "Frog goes a-hopping, rain comes a-dropping." Cold weather in May, like the one just past, is often reckoned as a good sign - so: "A cold May gives full barns and empty churchyards." And if it does turn out to be dark and rainy, listen out, because "If cocks crow during a downpour, it will be fine before night."

BOAT TRIPS FROM LLANMYNECH

The GW Buck trip boat base at Llanymynech operates on the Montgomery Canal at weekends, from the Visitor Centre alongside the canal. Trips during June will be on Sunday afternoons between 2 pm and 4.30 pm, and during July and August on Saturday afternoons also. The trips take about half an hour and the visitor centre and exhibition area will be open on afternoons that the boat operates. Groups can also book a trip on the boat during the week - please telephone 01691 830506. The Heritage area near the Visitor Centre is also well worth a visit.

GET WALKING!

The Age Concern Montgomeryshire organised walks continue to be very popular in the Llandrinio area. Please come along to the Village Hall at 1.30 pm on Thursdays to join in. It's an ideal way to get some exercise and catch up with the latest news!

QUIZAID

Thanks to all those who gave good support to the Quiz Evening at Llandrinio Village Hall on Friday 16th May to raise funds for Christian Aid. A very pleasant evening was had, with Ged Cliffe acting as quizmaster. Both the bar and a fair trade stall saw plenty of trade. The winning team - after a tie break - was 'Canon Van', consisting of Canon Bill Rowell and Mrs Myfanwy Lloyd. About £100 was raised for Christian Aid.

LLANDRINIO VILLAGE TENNIS

I would like to thank Denis and Brian for putting the new tennis nets up. They have been purchased at great expense to the hall, after they were trashed last year (for fun?). Let's hope everyone takes care this year, and does not mind paying £1 per person per hour, the same as last year, to cover some of the costs.

A caring village resident

FOUR CROSSES EVERGREEN CLUB

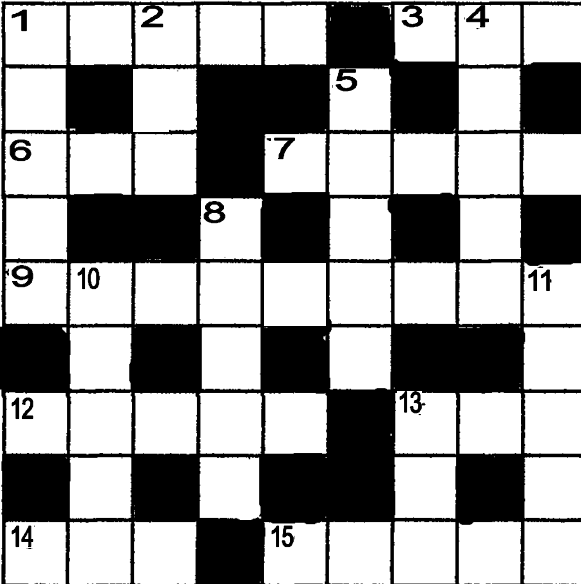
Once again there was an excellent attendance at the meeting held on May 13th. Final arrangements were made for the trip and for the fund-raising effort to be held at the home of the branch leader on 16th July.

Our speaker for the afternoon was Mr David Morrell who had come representing the Community Health Council. He explained that the CHC "is an independent body within the NHS established by Parliament to keep the local health service under review and to represent the interests of the public in all aspects of the NHS."

If there are questions to be asked these people are the ones to ask, and they can be contacted at 2nd Floor, Ladywell House, Newtown SY16 1JB. They will advise and assist people who are experiencing problems with health services or who have concerns or complaints about their health care. Mr Morrell was thanked by Pryce Southerton who, along with Barbara Coleman and Jean Foulkes, provided teas. Draw prizes were won by Phyllis, Gwen and Pryce.

General Knowledge Crossword

ACROSS:



- 1 - Son of King Priam in Greek legend, rejected by his father as an infant (5)
 3 - Highest or lowest card in the pack (3)
 6 - Frozen water (3)
 7 - Capital of Egypt (5)
 9 - Punishment by death (9)
 12 - Reference pages at the back of a book (5)
 13 - Flying mammal (3)
 14 - Emmet (3)
 15 - Traditional hand-threshing implement, of a short heavy stick swinging from the end of a wooden stave (5)

DOWN: 1 - Name given to a number divisible only by itself and one (5)

- 2 - British species of deer (3)
 4 - Interesting or unusual objet d'art (5)
 5 - Espresso coffee topped with milk (5)
 8 - Eight piece group or band (5)
 10 - Heavy inert gaseous element (5)
 11 - "KwaZulu ----", state of South Africa (5)
 13 - Large constricting snake (3)

Answers on page 16
(Web - page 18)

LLANDYSILIO MOTHERS' UNION

Members were joined by Llandrinio MU members and friends on their afternoon outing to the churches at Middleton-in-Chirbury and Fitz. Revd Waldegrave Brewster came to the parish of Middleton at the beginning of 1872, and over the years he did numerous carvings there in wood and sandstone, which we were able to marvel at and enjoy. Preb Philip Harratt met us and gave a brief but interesting talk regarding Mr Brewster and his work. His carvings can also be seen in the church at Fitz, his next parish, which we also visited, to be greeted there by hospitable church members. This Waldegrave Brewster was, we believe, the son of the Revd Waldegrave Brewster, Rector of Llandysilio at the time the present church building was erected. Middleton-in-Chirbury was his first parish (strangely, at the same time his father was Rector of Middleton in Manchester, to which he went from Llandysilio in 1870). Waldegrave Brewster the son went on to serve for thirty years at Fitz, where he died in 1935. He is buried in Llandysilio churchyard, next to his mother's grave. *[More opposite*

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

COCONUT MERINGUE SLICES

Ingredients - Base

3 oz margarine
4 oz caster sugar
2 egg yolks
2 tbsp milk
6 oz self raising flour
Pinch of salt

Topping

2 egg whites
3 oz coconut
4 oz caster sugar
Chopped cherries and nuts

Method

- 1 Cream the margarine and sugar together for the base.
- 2 Beat in the egg yolks and milk.
- 3 Fold in the flour and salt, and spread evenly over swiss roll tin.
- 4 Beat egg whites stiffly (for topping).
- 5 Fold in sugar and coconut.
- 6 Spread mixture over the base, and sprinkle with cherries and nuts.
- 7 Bake at 325°F for about 35 minutes.
- 8 Remove from oven and leave to cool before cutting into slices.



No service on Sunday 1st June

8th June	11.00	Revd Norman Price (Holy Communion)
15th June	11.00	Miss Joyce Holmes, Dudley
22nd June	11.00	Revd John Howard, Chairman of District
29th June	11.00	Mr Ron Hughes, Pant

ADVERTS IN THE BRIDGE

We are very grateful to all those who advertise regularly in 'The Bridge'. The donations made by advertisers are essential to our viability as a magazine, and we recommend a minimum donation £5, then £10 for a half year and £20 for a full year. Adverts can be left, with donations, at the Post Office & Garage in Llandrinio. New adverts this month have been placed by Mary's Plants, Trev's Scrap Metals, Arwel Evans and Waterworks Plumbing. Please support all our advertisers! Adverts are a standard size, and form the middle pages and the front and back of the back cover page.

CHANGES TO YOUR 'BRIDGE'

Over the next couple of months, as the 'Bridge' is prepared by different hands, and using a different program, there are bound to be some changes. Please bear with us, and make sure items are submitted **PROMPTLY** for inclusion - thanks!

Llandrinio Produce and Craft Show

At Llandrinio Village Hall on Sunday 7th September 2008. OPEN TO ALL. 30p per entry, children free. Entries to be at the Hall between 10 am and 12 noon. The hall will be closed in the afternoon for judging. It will reopen at 6 pm for viewing and awards. Entrance 50p to include tea, coffee and biscuits. Certificates awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category. 1st place - 3 points, 2nd place - 2 points, 3rd place - 1 point. Competitor with most overall points wins £10 (2nd - £5, 3rd - £3). Competitor with most points in each section will receive a trophy. Children's trophy for 1st in each section. Children's age groups are primary school (11 & under) and secondary school (12 - 16). Special cup for best exhibit in show.

We have added/alterd several categories after last years show, following your comments. Thank you very much; we are always open to suggestions.

Produce

1. 3 white potatoes
2. 3 red potatoes
3. 3 white onions
4. 3 red onions
5. 3 beetroot with 3" tops
6. 3 carrots with 3" tops
7. 3 parsnips with 3" tops
8. 1 cucumber
9. 1 lettuce
10. Largest marrow
11. Longest runner bean
12. 3 runner beans
13. 6 shallots on a plate
14. 3 pears
15. 3 cooking apples
16. 3 eating apples
17. 3 tomatoes with stalks
18. 3 plum tomatoes
19. Plate of small variety tomatoes
20. Plate of damsons
21. Plate of dessert plums
22. Largest pumpkin
23. Any vegetable not in Schedule
24. Ugliest/funniest vegetable

Flowers

1. Single rose in a vase
2. Vase of sweet peas
3. Vase of mixed dahlias
4. Vase of mixed flowers

5. Flower arrangement - Theme of 'The Ballet' (max 18")
6. Pot grown aromatic plant
7. Geranium in pot
8. Flowering houseplant
9. Bowl of 5 flowerheads floating in water
10. Fuschia in a pot

Cookery

1. Chocolate sandwich with butter icing
2. Victoria sponge sandwich
3. White loaf
4. Wholemeal loaf
5. Bara brith
6. 4 muffins
7. Loaf type of cake, any ingredients
8. Jar of chutney
9. Jar of strawberry jam
10. Jar of stone fruit jam
11. Jar of lemon curd
12. Jar of marmalade
13. Plate of 4 fairy cakes
14. 4 slices of traybake
15. 4 fruit scones
16. Round of shortbread

Craft

1. Handmade greeting card
2. Patchwork article / appliqué

3. Baby's knitted garment
4. Any item using beads
5. Photograph - a local view
6. A peg bag - any medium

Children's Produce (11 & under /12 - 16)

1. Largest onion
2. Largest potato
3. Largest beetroot
4. Largest tomato
5. Longest runner bean

Children's Craft (11 & Under / 12-16)

1. Collage 'The countryside', any medium
2. Decorated jam jar
3. Modelling clay - animal or bird
4. Animal made of vegetables/fruit
5. Painting - the garden
6. 'My dream room' - in a shoebox

THE CLOCK

Of all the homely things we
have is our clock,
It's so dependable, and never
runs amok.

It has a rhythmic sound, a
soft and gentle tick,
It's such a friendly noise,
neither slow nor quick.

Dear old clock, you are on the
same familiar place,
The mantelpiece would be empty
without your face.

Joyce Burgoyne

*"Whenever people agree with
me, I always feel I must be
wrong" - Oscar Wilde*

A Word to the WISE

As I sat down to pen these few lines, the news came over my radio that diesel prices have hit a new high (and that's red diesel too, of course). At this time of the year we'd normally expect diesel and fuel oils to be coming down a bit in price, but markets are volatile and traders are nervy, and it doesn't look as though we'll have any respite. Prices could yet soar much further, analysts tell us. Oh joy! Rural communities are usually much harder hit. Prices are often higher than in the towns, and we don't have much choice but to use our cars.

How much can really be done to help ease things, I'm not sure. But - even if nothing else can be done tax-wise - a little adjustment to the VAT rate would at least be a positive gesture.

Meanwhile, growing our own vegetables is that latest thing. Most people I see round here are already doing this, but perhaps we'll all have to take it more seriously. If even yuppies with window boxes are beginning to grow their own, things must be serious! And, aside from what you eat, you may get some entries for the Produce Show.

A new campaign has been launched, by the Daily and Sunday Telegraphs, to 'save our churches'. It has the support of the Archbishop of Canterbury and also Loyd Grossman, who chairs the Churches Conservation Trust when he's not bottling up his pasta sauces. Our local churches are all fascinating buildings - and mostly in good order and repair at the moment. But these important and historic buildings have a focal significance to the whole community, over and above their use in worship, and we certainly should value and protect them.

LLANDRINIO PARISH CHURCH and the churches of the Border Bridges Group
SUNDAY SERVICES THIS MONTH **FLOWERS**

1st	Trinity 2	No Service
8th	Trinity 3	6.30 Evening Service
15th	Trinity 4	11.15 Family Communion
22nd	Trinity 5	11.15 Holy Communion
29th	Peter & Paul	No Service

FAMILY COMMUNION

There was a good attendance for the Family Communion service on Trinity Sunday, which included the baptism of Cerys Elizabeth Ebrey. The theme was 'God's special word', and there were puzzle and colouring sheets for children.

INTERREGNUM

This is the technical term used for the period between one Rector going and another being appointed, and is likely to last for about six months. During this time the post will be advertised and interviews arranged by a committee that will include representatives from each of the four parishes. The usual round of Sunday and weekday services will be maintained through this period, with some minor changes, and local retired and non-stipendiary clergy will be among those taking these, along with Pryce Southerton and Mary Newsom. Many of our services will be taken by Revd Glyn Morgan, and Revd Hilary Jalland will also lead worship, including the group service at Criggion on Sunday 29th June.

BILL AND ANN'S MOVE

Although Revd Bill Rowell begins work as Vicar of Welshpool on Sunday 1st June, he and Ann will not be moving from the Rectory here until several weeks after that, as necessary work on the house at Welshpool will not have been completed. Bill and Ann are very grateful for the good wishes and gifts they have received from friends in recent weeks, and for the help, support and encouragement of many people throughout their time in these parishes.

SERVICES AT THE OTHER CHURCHES [* = Holy Communion]

	Llandysilio	Penrhos	Criggion
1st	10.30 *	No Service	No Service
8th	9.00 *	11.15 *	10.00 *
15th	11.15	9.00 *	10.00 *
22nd	9.00 *	10.00 *	10.00
29th	No Service	No Service	10.30 *

LLANDRINIO MOTHERS' UNION *Continued on page 15 (web page 17)*

We were welcomed to Severn Hospice on 6th May by Ms Val Walters who took us on a tour 'behind the scenes'. She told us about the vital work involved in the day to day running of the Hospice. Volunteers play a major part in the work of the Hospice be it in the Hospice itself or in the Hospice shops. It goes

FEATHER REPORT¹⁴ Musings from the Rectory Garden

We soon won't be musing in this garden any more, and we'll be sorry to be leaving it, especially with everything growing and blooming as it is now. I may continue to send you some musings from the Vicarage Garden (in Welshpool) until the end of the year, and I wonder how different it will be: urban versus rural, for example. Two immediate differences I've already noticed - our new garden will have ducks (mallards that have developed the habit of wandering up from the canal), and it will also have squirrels.

Pardon me if squirrels are already a feature of your patch, but on the whole they haven't been here at the Rectory. This might be because so many of our neighbours have cats, that seem to spend a lot of their time in our garden - but probably on the whole it's just luck. I say luck because squirrels are of course great causers of damage to bird tables and feeders, and they do tend to take over.

A friend living in the south-east of England tells me that squirrels are a minor irritation compared to the parakeets that regularly bend, twist and snap the metals bars and meshes on his feeders. But squirrels are bad enough. Someone I knew used to feed them (they like maize apparently), and was amused by their acrobatic tricks as they visited his garden each day. But then he went on holiday and they had two weeks of not being fed. Not on maize, anyway: they ate putty from his window-frames and an amazing amount of plastic piping instead. His lesson? Don't befriend squirrels, they'll take you for everything you've got!

There's a serious point here that has to do with birds as well as squirrels: to what extent does garden feeding encourage an unhealthy dependence? Do birds forget how to exploit natural sources of food, since feeders make it all so easily available? What happens if - as I'm about to here - we suddenly stop providing all this free food?

I've been watching the birds that use my front garden feeders, to see if they offer any clues. The main users of these feeders are house sparrows, and they, like their close relatives the finches, tend often to be natural exploiters of food sources - that is to say, they are quite catholic feeders, taking anything on offer within reason. So using bird feeders for these species is just second nature, an extension of their normal behaviour. If I stop they'll look elsewhere, and they shouldn't have too much difficulty finding other sources of food.

The blue tits and great tits that come use the feeders rather differently from the squabbling and argumentative sparrows that spend so much time on them. A blue tit will come and take seeds from the feeder, but then you'll see the same bird prospecting nearby branches for insects. What I feed them seems to be used to supplement, rather than replace, the traditional natural food sources. It's been observed that parent birds will feed up quickly on bird feeder nuts, before spending time catching caterpillars and grubs to feed their chicks. I suppose that the main issue here is whether this habitat on its own could support such a high population without the help my feeding gives. I'll just have to hope enough of my neighbours go on feeding the birds!

TABERNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ARDDLEEN

Sunday services for June:

1st	11.00 am	Mr T. Jobling
8th	11.00 am	Mrs Sweeting
15th	11.00 am	Rev W.K. Jones
22nd	2.30 pm	Joint Communion Service at Cwmgoleu
29th	11.00 am	Miss R.E. Charles

'Come and Worship' is held on the first and third Sunday of each month in the schoolroom at 7.00 pm. 'Cantoris,' a choir from Runcorn, gave a concert on 11th May, accompanied by Rev. Colin Gordon-Farleigh.

Our annual meal for members and friends will be held at The Horseshoe, Arddleen on 6th June. Menu and details available from secretary. On 8th June the Tabernacle District Singing Festival will be held in Christchurch, Oswestry at 6.00 pm. Our new minister, Dr Diane Stirling will be joining us in July.

For further details of any of our events please contact our church secretary, Mrs Vena Jones, on 01938 590350.

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL. REQUESTS FOR PRAYER ARE INVITED.

LLANDRINIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

RESULTS OF UNCONTESTED ELECTION FROM 1ST MAY 2008

Llandrinio Ward

<u>Mr BC Foulkes</u>	Enfield Cottage, Rhos Common, Llanymynech SY22 6RW
<u>Mr HV Jones</u>	The Meadows, Llandrinio, Llanymynech SY22 6SQ
<u>Mrs KMO Owen</u>	Haven Newydd, Llandrinio, Llanymynech SY22 6RR
<u>Mrs M Weston</u>	Little Rhos, Llandrinio, Llanymynech SY22 6SB
<u>Mr AA White</u>	The Malt House, Llandrinio, Llanymynech SY22 6SG

Arddleen Ward

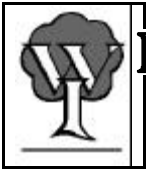
<u>Mr J Biltcliffe</u>	Ark Cottage, Pool Quay, Welshpool SY21 9LE
<u>Mr RHR Davies</u>	Border View, Arddleen, Llanymynech SY22 6PU
<u>Mr TN Davies</u>	Perthy Cottage, Arddleen, Llanymynech SY22 6RU
<u>Mr JG Evans</u>	8 Naylor Fields, Arddleen, Llanymynech, Powys
<u>Mr WO Jones</u>	Kingswood, Pool Quay, Welshpool SY21 9LG
<u>Mr JF Thomas</u>	Edgebold, Sarnau, Llanymynech SY22 6QJ

County Councillor

Mr RG Brown Preswylfa, Houghton, Llandrinio, Llanymynech SY22 6SH

Special tribute and thanks to David Wigley and John Morgan who have retired as Community Councillors from 1st May 2008. The contribution they have made to their communities has been invaluable.

Carol Davies, Clerk.



REPORTS

LLANDRINIO

The monthly meeting was held at the Village Hall on Wednesday May 14th at 7.30 pm. Maxine, the President and Sylvia, the Secretary welcomed 18 members.

Julia reported that she found the Resolutions meeting very interesting and the speakers informative, but some of the subject matters discussed were already being dealt with by the authorities.

At the County Show at Four Crosses we did not do quite so well as last year, being only second overall, but we did gain many placings. There was a bumper attendance, and our 'tea ladies' were thanked for their sterling help. Our paintings were excluded as they were said to be 'oversized', but there was said to be ambiguity in the specifications, and this will be reviewed and changed for next year for both craft and cookery.

The WI of the Year competition had 103 entries nationally. We were not placed in the top ten but the judges said: "Well presented portfolio of an enthusiastic WI with a keen sense of community - congratulations." The meeting applauded those member who had given so much time and energy to this project.

Names were taken for the 'early bird' dinner, to be at the venue for 6.30 pm. Annette spoke about next year's calendar, and said that five paintings had been submitted already, and suggested that the subject matter should cover a wider local area. Those interested were to attend a preliminary meeting on May 28th at 10 am.

The summer trip was discussed and names were taken for a possible trip on the canal at Llanymynech. Members were reminded about collecting plastic bottle tops for the Arddleen Brownies. It was decided to enter a team in the Christian Aid Quiz (we came third out of 9), and names were taken for possible teams in the WI County Quiz in September.

The speaker for the evening was a local beauty therapist from Brydges Gate, Trish Scott-Perrin, who gave a demonstration of hand and nail care, with detailed explanations. Heather was the volunteer 'patient'. The raffle was won by Eileen.

FOUR CROSSES

Resolutions Night! Not everyone gets excited about hearing all about the Resolutions, but apart from one lady who was unable to come we had a full attendance at the meeting held on May 1st. It was the same night as the council elections, so there was a lot of activity in and around the Village Centre.

The usual monthly business meeting took place, and Isobel Jones gave her report of the Group Committee meeting she had attended. We were all pleased to know

that Heather Hodgson, a member of Llansantffraid WI, is to be the new Convenor. Four of our members had attended Castle Caereinion, where they were able to listen to the arguments for and against the Resolutions. Mrs Barbara Wellings will be going to Liverpool as our delegate on June 4th, and will vote as instructed by the Four Crosses members. On July 4th there will be a fund-raising effort held at the home of Mrs Barbara Wellings.

Unfortunately, our speaker for the night was not well, and had apologised for not being with us. However, we were very fortunate to have Mr Iestyn Thomas of the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust: he stepped in at short notice and talked about the wildlife in this area, illustrating his talk with some beautiful slides. We all felt that we would like to visit the places he showed us - Snowdonia, Coed Pendugwn, Llanymynech Rocks and Llyn Mawr were just a few of the places of beauty. Otters, dormice, dragonflies, hay meadows and orchids were all there to be seen if you go looking for them - even water buffalo and Hebridean sheep!

At the close of his talk Mr Thomas was bombarded with questions, which proved that we had enjoyed ourselves. Mrs Jean Rhodes proposed the vote of thanks, and also provided refreshments along with Mrs Christine Savage. While taking our refreshments we all took part in a competition which was organised by Isobel Jones, and won by Jean Foulkes, with Ann Rowell and Glad Jones taking second and third places.

LLANDRINIO MU - FROM PAGE 11 (13)

without saying too that the Hospice is very dependant upon voluntary donations. We met Rev. Harry Edwards who gave a very interesting and detailed account of his role of Chaplain. We enjoyed the cuppa and home made biscuits at the end of the tour. Whatever our thoughts may have been before the visit they certainly could not have envisaged the relaxed atmosphere that exists there. A lovely afternoon tea awaited us at Pool Quay Church where we were joined by the Rector and Ann. On behalf of the branch May presented them with a garden seat at the same time thanking them for their help and guidance to our Branch and wishing them well in their new home in Welshpool.

We joined with Llandysilio MU on 8th May to visit the churches at Middleton near Chirbury and Fitz near Montford Bridge to see the wood carvings of the Rev. Waldegrave Brewster a former Rector of Llandysilio Church. We were most impressed with the carvings in both Churches. The drivers among us were thankful we were on a bus as the roads were rather narrow at times!! We enjoyed the lovely tea at Golden Lion. Many thanks to Mrs. Glenys Lloyd for organising the trip and for inviting us to join Llandysilio branch.

Our annual outing on June 17th is to the Chocolate Factory in Oswestry to arrive there by 2 pm. The Deanery Mothers' Union Festival will take place at Welshpool on Tuesday 15th July, at 7 pm.

Thank You!

... to everyone who helps produce, print and deliver The Bridge' month by month. Thanks also to the many people who give donations, this month including :-

Rod & Jackie Lightfoot

David Wood, Four Crosses

Doreen Breeze, Four Crosses

Nanette & Angus McKay, Four Crosses

Marion & Meryl Thomas, Sarnau

Mrs SM Richards, Arddleen

Arwel Evans, Llanrhaeadr

Shop Sales

Carys & John Bull, Llandrinio

Glenys & Roger Latham, Carreghofa

Waterworks Plumbing

Rees & Margaret Evans

Joyce Burgoyne, Trawscoed

Trev's Scrap Metals

Mary's Plants

DID YOU KNOW? Mosquitoes prefer children to adults, and blondes to brunettes.....or maybe those are the people who complain most about them.

The Painter's Bill

The
Back Page

An artist was once employed to restore a wall-painting in an ancient parish church. In due course he presented his bill, but the Rector refused payment, as the full details of the work performed had not been specified. The next day an itemised account was given :-

Embellishing Pontius Pilate and putting new ribbons on his hat	7 shillings
Putting a tail on the rooster of St Peter and amending his comb	6 shillings
Re-pluming and re-gilding left wing of Gabriel	6 shillings
Washing High Priest's robes	7 shillings
Cleaning out King David's ears	5 shillings
Renewing Heaven, adjusting the stars and cleaning up the moon	7 shillings
Brightening up the flames of Hell, putting new tail on the devil, mending his hoof and doing several odd jobs for the damned	8 shillings
Improving Purgatory and restoring lost souls	7 shillings
Mending shirt of the Prodigal Son	3 shillings
Touching up Pharaoh's daughter	2 shillings

Total for work carried out	£2.18s.0d

Q: Why is 6 afraid of 7? **A:** Because 7 8 9.

Q: What's a Hindu? **A:** Lay Iggs.

Q: Where does Quasimodo's rabbit live? **A:** Hutch, back of Notre Dame.

Crossword Answers: AC (1) Paris; (3) Ace; (6) Ice; (7) Cairo; (9) Execution; (12) Index; (13) Bat; (14) Ant; (15) Flail; DN (1) Prime; (2) Roe; (4) Curio; (5) Latte; (8) Octet; (10) Xenon; (11) Natal; (13) Boa.

Copy for the July 'Bridge' by 15th June, please, to:
Mrs Jean Lewis, The Garage, Llandrinio SY22 6SB (830102) or
Mr S. Harrison, Orchard Croft, Llandrinio
Electronic copy is very acceptable, preferably as MS Word file -
Email to -