St Johns Church Newsletter October 2018



Memories from Cong Corner

Sunday-school picnics to exotic places -Carew, Llanstephan, with egg and spoon races, And Warlow and Rufus, excitement non-stop, and sack-races, ice-cream and crates of red pop. When summers were sunny and the fun never quit, And a bag of Smiths crisps cost a threepenny bit. The Church Anniversary made its annual rounds Presenting a programme chock-full of Browns. Ruby at the piano tickling the keys, and organ recitals singing "Oh Lovely Peace".

Chapel. - The sermon, the solemn effects Old ladies with foxes wrapped around their necks. Nativities, pageants, I remember them all, "Queen of the Seasons" in the Sunday-school hall. Harvest Festivals -flowers, ripe fruit, palms and sheaves.

And Heywood Lane russet with rustling leaves. Picking fat blackberries brambly and sweet, and trips to Stack Rocks on the White Funnel Fleet. A cold crisp November brought Bonfire Night, With showers of sparks the dark sky would ignite. Liberty-bodiced, gloved, scarved, rosy-snitched, We hugged the coal fire till our numb fingers itched. Whooping cough, chicken-pox, lumps, mumps and

A germy assortment of childhood diseases, The Christmas bazaar came with lucky-dip barrels. Emrys' Toy Sunday and concerts of carols. Santa was coming with toys, books and games, And the Sunday-school Party was here once again. Jelly and musical mat, and Good Heavens! That plump Father Christmas looks just like Fred Evans! Our Christmas feast – bellies ballooning and puffing, A big golden turkey oozing with stuffing, Sprouts and roast spuds, an enormous main course. Then a hot steaming Christmas pud soaked in white sauce.

Then, whether by luck or just by coincidence, We all got sixpence, a jolly, jolly sixpence. Poem written by David Brown for Eluned's Golden Weddina

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Editorial

The close off date for the November 2018 Newsletter is Friday 19th October. Please leave contributions in box at back of the Church or (especially photos) to shirleybdraper@gmail.com

Apologies

The Editor is sorry (I'm getting old!) for putting wrong names for Peter, (not David) father of Rhys, Jessica (not Melissa) and Megan in the September Newsletter. Who can find this month's deliberate mistake?

Children's Corner

Autumn Colour is reaching its peak towards the end of October, as deciduous trees gradually stop producing the green chlorophyll that helps them to produce food from sunlight, and close down for the winter. The absence of chlorophyll reveals a different colour in every tree i.e. Beech forests turn a warm copper, and birch a buttery yellow.

Knitted Bible

We were fortunate to have the exhibition open for just over three weeks in the peak holiday times in Tenby. It also formed a major part of our 150th Anniversary celebration.

We were open each day, except Sundays, from 10.00am to 3.00pm although on some days we stayed open longer as people were browsing. We got a good start with local publicity as we had Simon Hart our local MP to open the exhibition and local press were present.

We had a total of over 2200 people with visitors from 15 countries around the world, excluding England. We kept a separate visitors book and received many favourable comments, this book may be viewed in the vestry. We had one gentleman who was concerned that we did not have an actual Knitted Bible. We had a joyous experience talking with many people who commented very favourably on the displays; saying it brought back memories of childhood Sunday schools. We were fortunate to receive over

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£1500 in donations and we will be sending a significant donation to St Georges Church, Harlepool who made all the displays. We also met members of a church in Neyland (near Milford Haven) who have also created a similar display and who are now making it available for display in local churches. Surprisingly we had heard nothing about this one, poor advertising on their part. The ladies of our Craft Club had been very busy making Knitted and Crochet Crosses as book marks, these we offered as a gift to visitors, they were so popular production had to continue up until the last day. The railing and trees in front of the church where decorated with knitted sleeves and bunting which added to the attraction. There was a children's quiz available and we had over eighty entries for this, three successful winners were drawn from the pile and a gift token was sent out to children in Bradford-on-Trent, Cheltenham and Bath.

Finally very many thanks to all people who help set up, man the church whilst open and then pack up at the end; what would we have done without you.

News of Members

Barbara Stredder thanks everybody for their prayers stretching over the last 3 years. 'My 2 years of treatment at Singleton Chem Day Centre have now come to an end, though I will continue to be monitored. My fortnightly visits have given me an insight of human nature at its most considerate, caring and kind. I feel every member of the staff has become a friend.

Recipe of the Month : Speedy Brownies Makes 16. Cooked in Microwave.

150g butter, 65g unsweetened cocoa powder, 200g sugar, 2 eggs, 1 tsp vanilla extract, 100g plain flour.

Melt the butter in the microwave on high for about 30-40 seconds. Add the sugar, cocoa, and vanilla in that order and mix well.

Add the eggs, slightly whipping after each one. Add the flour and mix well.

Grease a microwave-safe dish and spoon in the brownie mixture. Cook on high for 4-5 minutes (the more powerful your microwave and less time

it takes). Let the brownies rest for at least 10 minutes before cutting.

Stella's Induction



On Saturday 1st September 2018 St Johns celebrated the Induction of Rev Stella Hayton as Minister of Word and Sacrament to the South Pembrokeshire Pastorate.

With the Synod Clerk Rev Adrian Bulley standing in for the Wales Synod Moderator, Rev Simon Walking, who was indisposed, the service began with an Introit, Adrian as cantor and the congregation singing responses. This was followed by sentences from the scripture and then the first hymn. Adrian led the Prayers of Praise and Confession and the statement of purpose.

Representing the sister churches, Janice from Templeton and Linda from Pembroke read the Old and New Testament passages of scripture. Stella's friend Rev David Gent, a priest in the Anglican church, gave the sermon. He spoke about our walking together in the furtherance of faith, and he enlarged on this in a light hearted but thoughtful address. A hymn by Nick Fawcett with "different words" was sung to a well-known tune.

Rev Martin Span then made formal presentation of the candidate, and Rev Cathy Gate representing the Methodist Church, gave the formal welcome. Stella, herself made a statement about her call to ministry, which began when she was introduced as a spouse in her husband's call to ministry, and she said a

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little about her ministry in Yorkshire and Somerset.

Graham Powell, Secretary, explained the way in which the members called Stella to be our minister. Rev Sally Thomas, Ecumenical Officer for the Wales Synod conducted the "Nature, faith and order" statement to which the congregation responded, and Adrian, spoke to Stella of her affirmation of faith and promises to serve as a minister in the United Reform Church. The assistant chair of the Methodist in Wales asked the congregation to affirm their faith and acceptance of Stella. The third hymn was followed by prayer and the Declaration of Induction by Adrian. Then there were greetings from Rev Andrew Grace, St Marys Church, Capt Morgan, Salvation Army, Mr Bryn Rees, Deer Park Baptist, the Mayor of Pembroke, Mr Andrew Davies, Tenby Town Clerk, and Mrs Eluned Brown on behalf of St Johns Congregation. Welcome gifts were presented by Kathryn from Pembroke Tabernacle, Edward, Reynalton, Meirion Templeton, and Carol from St Johns. Rev John Hayton led the Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer, and to the tune of Hyfrydol (chosen by Ron Hurlow) we sang the final hymn. Stella spoke the Dismissal and Blessing.

A magnificent tea prepared by St Johns willing ladies was much enjoyed in the large hall.

The Church Mouse says

Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Hebrews 11.1

Volunteers

The Wednesday coffee morning need help in serving, please see Liz or just come along. The Welsh cake ladies would love someone to come and help them too.

Poem read by Stella Hayton at the 11am service on Sunday 2nd September

I got up early one morning, and rushed into the day. I had so much to accomplish, that I didn't have time to pray. Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task. "Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered. He answered, "You didn't ask."

I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, grey and bleak. I wondered why God didn't show me, He said, "But you didn't seek."

I tried to come into God's presence, I used all my keys at the lock. God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock."

I woke up early this morning, and paused before entering the day. I had so much to accomplish that I had to take time to pray.

More Memories of Richard Williams

I was indeed, very interested in Eluned's reminisces in September's newsletter, about Richard Williams. I, too, know of his background when Mr & Mrs Peerless adopted him and arranged for him to be musically trained.

I remember him being present at our school eisteddfod at Greenhill on the 1st March each year. (Then only about 150 pupils). Eluned referred to the school song written by the Minister Rev Lloyd Williams, the tune composed by Richard Williams. All I can remember is the last line of each verse "Our School by the Silver Sea".

Another item of interest concerning Mr Richard Williams. It was he who trained my cousin Della James (as she was then) in singing for three years before she left for London to attend the Royal Academy of Music where she attained a gold medal. Many years later she returned to Saundersfoot with her husband Pen Thomas. From then on she sang in many concerts in the area (including St Johns) and became a soloist with Tenby Male Choir (sometimes singing duets with Mrs Joan Luke).

Sadly in later years she was mostly housebound and passed away last November aged eighty eight years old. I would think that Della would have been the last of many in the area who were trained in voice singing by Richard Williams.

Eileen Algate