St Johns Church Newsletter March 2019



News of Members

Eluned Brown has had a visit to Withybush hospital, and we wish her a speedy recovery. Marlene's sister Gill Edward's husband Bernard died at the end of January. Our thoughts are sent to all their family.

Editorial

Anybody wishing to have Newsletters sent to them by email, please give Shirley your name and email address.

The close off date for April 2019 Newsletter will be Friday 22nd, with the Newsletter being available just in time for Mothering Sunday, 31st March!

Shirley thanks everyone who has contributed and please keep information coming, either in box at back of church, or to

Shirleybdraper@gmail.com. Thanks.

Eluned Brown on the Rev John Emrys Davies

Following Rev Ellis Rogers (December 2018 newsletter) was Rev J. Emrys Davies. He came to us from a little chapel in the valleys -Troedyrrhiw. He was born in Treherbert in the Rhondda Valley. He was with us for 2 ministries. The first one was from 1949 – 56. When he came to us, he and his wife Kathleen had no children. After 3 years here, they adopted a little girl, and called her Sylvia Kathleen. Then three years later they had their own little girl – Eileen Mary. (I used to tease them and say THAT happened because they were living next door to me, which was then the manse)!!

Emrys was a very clever and modest man. He was a BA, BD, B.litt.Oxford. He was very liked by our members, so much so that in 1968 we asked him to come back, which he did. He had left us in 1956 to go to a larger church – Park Church, Llanelli, the only English

Congregational Church there. Emrys was also very well liked in Tenby. His 2nd ministry with us from 1969 – 78 when he retired and they



went to live in Church Stretton. Shropshire. While he was with us, we had а Christening Font put up, and new stained-

glass windows to replace the plain glass. He also wrote a children's creed (see February 2019 newsletter) which we all used to say every Sunday morning. Emrys liked children and we put on a few concerts while he was here the first time.

Noson Lawen

On Saturday 9th March at 6pm there will be a fish (or chicken) and chip supper before the concert. Get your ticket £6 from Sue Broomhead as soon as possible.

Look Closer

What do you see, nurses, what do you see? Are you thinking when you are looking at me, A crabbit old woman, not very wise, Uncertain of habit, with far-away eyes, Who dribbles her food and makes no reply, When you say in a loud voice, "I do wish you'd try"

Who seems not to notice the things that you do, And forever is losing a stocking or shoe, Who, quite unresisting, lets you do as you will, With bathing and feeding, the long day to fill? Is that what you're thinking, is that what you see? Then open your eyes, you're not looking at me. I'll tell you who I am as I sit here so still, As I move at your bidding, as I eat at your will, I'm a small child of ten with a father and mother, Brothers and sisters, who love one another,

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A young girl of sixteen with wings on her feet, Dreaming that soon a true lover she'll meet; A bride now at twenty -my heart gives a leap; Remembering the vows that I promised to keep; At twenty-five now I have young of my own, Who need me to build a secure, happy home; A woman of thirty, my young now grow fast, Bound to each other with ties that should last; At forty my young sons will soon all be gone, But my man stays beside me to see I don't mourn; At fifty once more babies play around my knee. Again we know children, my loved one and me. Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead, I look to the future, I shudder with dread, For my young are all busy with young of their own. And I think of the years and the love that I've known.

I'm an old woman now and nature is cruel, 'Tis her jest to make old age look like a fool. The body it crumbles, grace and vigour depart, There now is a stone where I once had a heart, But inside this old carcase a young girl still dwells, And now and again my battered heart swells. I remember the joys, I remember the pain, And I'm loving and living life over again. I think of the years all too few - gone too fast, And accept the stark fact that nothing can last. So open your eyes, nurses, open and see, Not a crabbit old woman, look closer and see ME. Phyllis McCormack.

A Nurse's reply.

What do we see, you ask, what do we see? Yes, we are thinking when looking at thee! We may seem to be hard when we hurry and fuss, But there's many of you, and too few of us. We would like far more time to sit by you and talk, To bath you and feed you and help you to walk, To hear of your lives, and the things you have done; Your childhood, your husband, your daughter, your

But time is against us, there's too much to do -Patients too many, and nurses too few, We grieve when we see you so sad and alone,

With nobody near you, no friends of your own. We feel all your pain, and know of your fear That nobody cares now your end is so near. But nurses are people with feelings as well, And when we're together you'll often hear tell Of the dearest old Gran in the very end bed, And the lovely old Dad, and the things that he said. We speak with compassion and love, and feel sad When we think of your lives and the joy that you've had.

When the time has arrived for you to depart, You leave us behind with an ache in our heart. When you sleep the long sleep, no more worry or

There are other old people, and we must be there. So please understand if we hurry and fuss -There are many of you, and too few of us. Liz Hogben (Put in box at back of church.)

The Church Mouse says:

Every day may not be good, but there's something good in every day.

Continuing Spiritual Vitamins:-

Hindrances in the Way? Take Vitamin V Violent shall take it by force Matthew 11:12 Faint-Hearted? Take Vitamin W Word was in my heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones. Jeremiah 20:9 Feel Hesitant? Take Vitamin X Wax Bold Acts 13:46 Struggling In the Christian Life? Take Vitamin Y Yield yourselves unto God Romans 6:!3 Lazy and Lacking Initiative? Take Vitamin Z Zealous of good works Titus 2:14 God says: "Attend to my Words, incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine hear. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. Proverbs 4: 20-22 Editor says this is the end of the Alphabet – no

more Vitamins. Thanks to Suzanne Tolley for these.

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Recipe of the month: Glamorgan Sausages:

Make for St David's Day on 1st March or any other time of the year!

Mix two slow-cooked leeks with crumbled Caerphilly cheese, a handful of breadcrumbs, chopped thyme and parsley, and 2 beaten eggs. Chill for ½ hour in fridge, then form into short sausages, roll in breadcrumbs and fry. Bramleys, St Florence Garden Centre, has Glamorgan Sausages on their menu!!! And are recommended.

Children's Corner: Ode to a spell checker

Eye halve a spelling chequer. It came with my pea sea It plainly marques four my revue Miss Steaks eye kin knot sea. Eye strike a key and type a word And weight four it two say Weather eye am wrong or write It shows me strait a weigh. As soon as a mist ache is maid It nose bee fore two long And eye can put the error rite Its rare lea ever wrong. Eye have run this poem threw it I am shore your pleased two no Its letter perfect awl the weigh My chequer tolled me sew.

Craft Club Report for 2018

The Craft group continues to meet every Monday and we average 10-15 people. Some come for a cup of tea and a chat and to pass on valuable advice and ideas. Some come to learn new skills from members whilst others bring things they are working on at home. Our skills vary from knitting, crochet, and needlework to painting, pottery, and box making. Our biggest achievement in 2018 was completing a banner which has been hung in the church, celebrating the 150-year anniversary. None of us had done anything like this before, so we were very pleased with the result.

All of us produced crocheted and knitted daffodils for the daffodil festival and they were placed in glasses that we had painted with daffodils. One of our members crocheted poppies and made them into an everlasting wreath which has been placed in the church as a memorial to those involved in the two world wars. For the Christmas tree festival, we produced various colour items portraying our skills which then were used to decorate a Rainbow Christmas tree. All are welcome, whether to learn new skills

or just to enjoy the companionship of likeminded people.

From Sue Powell at the AGM.



You Must Not Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will, When the road you're trudging seems all uphill, When the funds are low and the debts are high, And you want to smile but you have to sigh. When care is pressing you down a bit... By all means pray, and don't you quit. Success is failure turned inside out. God's hidden gift in the clouds of doubt. You never can tell how close you are, It may be near when it seems afar. So trust in the Lord when you're hardest hit... Its when things go wrong that you must not quit. Anon. but contributed by Suzanne Tolley.

February

Was the shortest month of the year only 40,320 minutes long. Did you make the most of each minute?