# St Johns Church Newsletter Method September 2023

# Editorial

Shirley, the Editor, asks for book reviews, recipes, holiday stories, etc. please send to her email shirleybdraper@gmail.com or leave in box at back of church. Church news is needed in particular, and the close off date for the October Newsletter is 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

# **Church Cleaner**

If anyone employs a cleaner, or knows someone who would be willing to do the job of cleaning St Johns, please let Carol BT, Stella, or Sue know. Urgently required!

# **Ministers for September**

3<sup>rd</sup> Rev Stella Hayton 10<sup>th</sup> Worship Group 17<sup>th</sup> Rev Stella Hayton 24<sup>th</sup> Adrian Davies 1<sup>st</sup> October Rev Stella Hayton

### Rainbows

Where do bad rainbows go? Prism but it's a light sentence and gives them time to reflect.

# News of members

Shirley is going on the Heart of Wales train in October. During the winter months this train trip is free if you have a Wales Old Age Bus pass which must be shown to conductor. It leaves from Llanelli and goes to Shrewsbury where you can stay as many nights as you wish (Premier Inn or Wetherspoons, etc.) and come back on same route. You can go by train from Tenby to Llanelli easily.

### **Teddy bear festival**

St Johns opened the festival on 9<sup>th</sup> August and it closed on 23<sup>rd</sup>. At the service on 6<sup>th</sup> August able bodied men were asked to help bring the wooden boards from the back shed into the church for the displays and marvellously a line of men from the shed into the church formed. Within 10 minutes



the heavy boards were in their position on the backs of the side seats. Thank you to our members and visitors! Then on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> it was all go as various members and friends worked hard to form the display. In the lobby were Ironman, the lifeboat, a huge teddy bear's picnic with tiny cup cakes made by Beth (in craft). King Charles's Coronation with Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England bears at the side of him, and Caldey Island Lighthouse. There was also a huge display of Christmas Bears, even one asleep in a bed!

Inside there was a marriage scene and a christening. Then around the walls – The Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark, Moses among the bulrushes, Joseph (a multi-coloured bear!), Daniel and the lions, David and Goliath, even a teddy sat at the organ! Then on the platform, the main events of the life and death of Jesus that is the essence of our Christian Faith, a nativity scene, the three kings, in the pulpit the empty cross with the crown of thorns. Depictions of the resurrection and ascension and the Holy Spirit, and along the steps the last supper with bread and wine, a cockerel next to Peter reminding us of his denial, and some pieces of silver next to Judas reminding us of his betrayal.



Beside the font, the huge Bible and a boat with Peter, James and John bell with a net full of fish. Then up the other side of the church, stories from the New Testament of the Bible. A collection of pitchers telling of Jesus' first miracle when the water turned into wine at the Wedding feast in Cana. The Good Samaritan, the good Shepherd, the tax collector who climbed the tree to see Jesus from above the crowds, the return of the prodigal son, the sermon on the mount and the

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feeding of the crowd when Jesus turned just 2 fish and 5 loaves into enough to feed 5,000. Ending with Saint Paul writing all his letters to the new Christian churches.

Children and adults alike loved the bears and the messages with each story-telling display. In the centre seats were more bears that were sold for Ty Hafan, the Children's hospice in Cardiff. It was so good that Members and friends of the Church gave of their time to be on duty daily to welcome the visitors. And on Sundays of course everyone who came to the service saw them and all who attended the 2 concerts during the exhibition sat amongst the bears and thoroughly enjoyed seeing the displays. Well done to everyone who was involved, for all their brilliant ideas and hard work. Another very successful and thoroughly enjoyable event at St Johns.

### Summer Fete

This was held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August, a lovely sunny day, outside the church with a stall for cakes, bottles, white elephant, books, a huge raffle, and of course the usual tea and coffee was available in the hall as well as outside. Welsh cakes were being made! An added attraction was the human fruit machine (the six armed bandit).



The custome r paid 50p for 3 goes, with each dinged

the bell three humans reached into a Co-op bag and produced a piece of fruit! And if all 3 matched they won and was able to choose a prize from the fruit from the basket! It was amazing how many times 3 apples came up to the delight of the children, and adults alike. A big thank you goes to the local Co-op supermarket for donating the fruit as the prizes. The summer fete raised £850.

#### What's coming at St Johns.

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Sept Coffee morning for Macmillan. 30<sup>th</sup> Sept Art in Worship with Deacon Jon Miller at Sketty.

1<sup>st</sup> Oct Harvest Festival Service followed by a faith lunch.

20<sup>th</sup> October Church Meeting Wed 6<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Fayre.

### Fish

Koi fish always travel in 4s. If attacked Koi A, B, and C will scatter..... leaving behind the D Koi.

# Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> Tenby Free Community Day

This is to be held on South Beach, Car Park, and Battery Gardens from 10am with lots of stalls providing information and fun things to do. Help may be needed for a free St Johns human fruit machine "outreach"!

### Wednesday Coffee Mornings

Men meet around a table to have coffee/tea. This happens naturally. Women too gather. So, if you are a lonely man and want the company of men come along to St Johns between 10 and midday each Wednesday.

#### Church news

The Christian Aid coffee morning raised £400. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> August, the Welsh cake income was donated to Tenby Fire Service. It was a bonus to meet Peter Beynon's Mum and Aunt and for them to help with the Welsh cakes! The work to the front of the Sanctuary is booked for October, and updating the Sanctuary lighting is to start soon.

Thank you to Ian Bonser for repairing holes in the Schoolroom and Sanctuary floors.

#### Peace

Ultimately, we have just one moral duty: to reclaim large areas of peace in ourselves, more

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and more peace, and to reflect it toward others. And the more peace there is in us, the more peace there will be in our troubled world. Etty Hillesum (1919 – 1943)

# Welsh cakes and St Johns Church An extract from our 2015 Newsletter by Sue Broomhead.

As August is rapidly coming to an end, signalling the onset of Autumn, we can look back on a very busy and productive summer.

The Welsh cake bake continues to be very popular with our visitors, many of whom return year after year. The weather has been particularly kind to us and we only "lost out" on one or two Wednesdays. We are donating the proceeds from one baking session to the Air Ambulance in memory of Ruth Mardon who was involved for 10 years until her health failed. We miss her enormously. We also miss Winifred, who has not been able to play her part for the last two summers. We are hoping she will soon be well enough to return. The whole project started in 2000 when St Johns members were each given £5.00 as "talent money". Winifred and Elly had the idea of baking Wesh cakes and purchased the ingredients. The first baking session was set up outside St Johns in 2000 with a couple of borrowed gas rings and some calor gas. Not ideal when the wind was blowing the gas out! An electric griddle was donated by John Craig and mounted on a trolley made to measure by Derek Griffiths. What a difference! Output increased and extra help recruited. One griddle was not enough and a second was donated by Ruth – another trolley for Derek to make! He also masterminded other accessories - like wooden blocks to raise the tables to comfortable working height and even an H to wind up the extension lead! We now have it all, including a happy team of workers supplemented by "extra help" at busy times. Our recent helpers include Ann, who usually comes for coffee, Eloise and Catrin from Glasgow, and Brenda's son Peter who bravely did some rolling out for us!

We would like to thank all of you for your continuing support - the cake eaters as well as the dough makers! Especially our boys, Graham, Ron and Ieuan, who are always happy to deal with the "technical or heavy stuff".

Brenda ran a "Guess how many Welsh cakes baked since January this year" at the summer fair. The answer was 8,730 and was won by one of regular visitors. With a bit of luck and "a fair wind" we hope to carry on for many more years.

Editor: So, it is 23 years since baking began...and as new members join the baking team, the tradition continues and the reputation of the delicious Welsh cakes available each Wednesday at St Johns spreads, probably worldwide!

# A pattern for living (spot the common thread)

1. Let your lust for money be a trimming in your life. Tim 2:3

2. Know when to button your lips. Prov 10:11

- 3. Measure up to your calling. Luke 6:38
- 4. Put some snap into your life. Col 3:16
- 5. Thread your work with dependability. John 3:5

6. Expand your love to include everybody. Matt 5:44

7. Guard against the sharp points of discouragement. Psa 37:1-17

8. Let your message be felt. John 1:3-11

Answers: 1. Trimmings 2. Button 3. Ruler 4. Press stud 5. Thread 6. Elastic 7. Safety pin 8. Felt Margaret of Craft Group

# **Craft Group**

Two faithful Members of the craft club, Helen and Hannah Hughes recently enjoyed a concert



and the Teddy Bear Festival Cream Tea at St Johns.

Hannah's birthday celebration with the craft club when Helen brought in a cake for us all to share.

