



NEWSLETTER

2. Winter 2010 Information and news from;
Blackwood, Bedwas, Newbridge, Pontllanfraith and Trinant Churches

Greetings from Blackwood.

This is the second sectional Newsletter and it is good to get to know the news from the other four churches. We are getting to know the Bedwas members more now as six came to the Harvest Supper and Quiz.

Again we remember in our prayers the family of Mair Whiting who recently died very suddenly, Edna Gane who is still poorly and Pauline Shore whose is improving and should be home soon.

The weather has not been so good, but during a "fine" period one of our members decided to go to the Sirhowy river bank and pick blackberries. What a lovely afternoon he had, as well as wonderful berries he saw a Heron and a fox and wild flowers in abundance. Since it is Harvest time we should all remember God's creation as we do take it for granted sometimes.

All activities have started their new sessions and are going well including our visit to the Beatrice Webb Care Home.

Saturday 9th October we held a youth club reunion for members who attended in the 50's and 60's. 54 people attended coming from far and wide. Gordon Bennett organised this occasion and it was an emotional and moving day.

Christmas is looming and carols are being chosen for our local Carol Service,

Sunday Evening December 17th all welcome. Boys Brigade will be holding their Christmas Service on Monday 13th December 7pm, again all welcome.

Saturday November 6th is our Christmas Fayre so please come and support us. Looking forward now to our Circuit Service in County Hall.

Every blessing from the Blackwood members.

News from Bedwas.

We hosted a well - attended Churches Together Service in September. Ecumenical communion continues each Tuesday. We have fortnightly ecumenical lunchtime Bible study on the theme "Women of the Bible" led by Rev. Gareth Edwards.

Gareth led us in an enjoyable Harvest Festival Service, and the produce was donated to the Caerphilly Day Centre.

Whilst the Quinquennial inspection was successful, it highlighted defects that have prompted us to embark on an extensive programme of refurbishment. Removal of overgrown conifers is being undertaken by Community Service.

Sadly one of our longest serving member, Sheila Humphris died recently in hospital after a prolonged illness. She will be sadly missed.

Another member, Graham Maslen, died in July. He was a keen member of Caerphilly Male Voice Choir and was instrumental in getting the Choir to use our chapel for rehearsals.

Every Blessing

Gordon Maslen.

News for Pontllanfraith.

We remember at this time all those who cannot attend services for different reasons. In our thoughts and prayers we especially think of Mary Hocke, Megan Rogers and the Snook family. We congratulate Richard Shelton on completing the Ramshackle Rally to Croatia from which he raised nearly £2000 for the Parkinson's Society.

Bible Study: Bible study has started again on Thursday evenings and thanks to Ann James for leading this. It is good to see her making a good recovery after her operation.

Coffee Mornings: Thanks to all who have supported our coffee mornings on Thursdays and to those who organise it.

Women's Fellowship: The season started in September with Gareth giving us a very interesting, illustrated talk on "illusions". As usual we have had a variety of evenings and speakers. Our sessions end in December with our Christmas dinner at the Bowls Club and then our Carol Service to which all are invited.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday November 10th: Church Council at 7 30 pm.

Monday November 29th Church Coffee evening 7pm.

Sunday December 19th ; Carol Services at 11am and 6pm.

Every Blessing Sue Radford.

News from Trinant.

In the last Newsletter we mentioned that we were to have a mini Health Fayre alongside our usual coffee morning. This went very well and lots of people turned up and information was shared and lots of blood pressures taken!

We have a number of special meetings over the next few months, starting with;

Sunday 31st October 6pm

We will be holding a memorial service to remember loved ones who have passed away. During the service there will be an opportunity for a member of each family to light a candle. If you have no evening service, please do join with us in this act of remembrance.

Tuesday 7th December 5 30pm.

Over the last few years it has become a tradition in Trinant for 'Father Christmas' to visit the village. Children who have previously made lanterns then parade behind the Father Christmas float, carrying their lanterns around the streets ending in the singing of carols in the community hall. This year they have asked to have a short service in the Church prior to the parade, which Gareth will conduct. Please remember this in your prayers.

Sunday 12th December 6pm

Lynda booth and Gareth are organising a united Section 'Healing and Wholeness' Service.

Sunday 19th December 5.30pm

At the Methodist Church, we hold our united Carol Service with Horeb, which this year will be a little different and we are looking at the 'True Story of Christmas'. We are hoping to advertise it widely in the village and pray that people from the village will join us.

Wishing you all a very blessed and happy Christmas and also Every Blessing for the New Year from Trinant.



NEWSLETTER CONTINUED

Greetings from Newbridge.

Even before Kaye was made Senior Steward at Newbridge a lot of change had taken place, most notably, the fact of being part of a much larger Circuit. However our little "family" at Newbridge has been busy - with several of our "more active" members taking the opportunity to involve themselves in Parish Nursing and Street Pastors.

We recently celebrated a 90th birthday with Millie Protheroe, our longest serving member, and shared the joys of the birth of 2 great grandchildren with both Millie and Margaret Thomas.

We also had a Christening of 2 children from 2 families outside the membership; it was wonderful to see the church full and to see so many young people present. The Rev Bill Jones led the service and his experience showed as he coped with so many children.

There have been several other highlights of late; in one of our local arrangements services, Cyril Hardwick (who was responsible for redesigning our church interior some years ago) gave us an ingenious presentation of his recent trip to Oberammergau.

In addition, our Harvest Festival Service was well attended and meaningfully led by Eric Smith, a Local Preacher from Beaufort who gave us much food for thought. Our Harvest food was donated to the local shelter where we hope to continue with support in the near future. Following the service we shared the bread and cheese with our usual Cup of tea.

We have recently started -Thursday evening 6-7pm -" **Easyoga**" - relaxation, breathing exercises and gentle stretching exercises for seniors most of which is done sitting on a chair. It is going very well at present and every week we have new people joining.

We still meet for prayer fortnightly and at present we are reading through a book entitled "Praying and getting results" by Bob Gass. We find it challenging - with lots of scope for discussion as well as prayer!

We look forward now to a wedding in our church on December 11th. Our youngest member Lynne Jarman is marrying David Williams. We send our congratulations and love, and hope they will share many years of happiness together. Finally we will be preparing for our **section Christingle** and we look forward to seeing the faces of the children as they process into the church with their Christingles.

Kaye Williams & Sandra Fry [Stewards]

Parish Nursing News

Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and prayerful support of the `Parish Nursing Project` which is now accredited having met with quality standards set by Parish Nursing Ministries UK.

Forthcoming Events

- *`Just Listen` training day – How can we respond to Gods` challenge to listen in a noisy world? For Parish Nurse pastoral volunteers and those interested in Christian listening. This day is led by Revd Dr Gareth Edwards & Parish Nurse Lynda Booth.*

Wednesday 20th October 10am - 3pm at Blackwood Methodist Church

- A Meeting of the `Faith and Health Committee` will be held on **Wednesday 17th November 7.30pm at Newbridge Methodist Church. All Welcome!**
- A Service for Healing and Wholeness on **Sunday 12th December at Trinant Methodist Church 6pm**
- A `Health Fair` on **Saturday 16th April 2011 at Blackwood Methodist Church (further information to follow).**

Parish Nurse Lynda Booth is available at Blackwood Methodist Church (side door) each Tuesday - 10am - 12midday, term time only. To speak to the Parish Nurse or to arrange an appointment please phone:-01495 272162 / mobile 07507579583(answer phone service is available on both these numbers).

BLACKWOOD SECTION NEWS And dates for your diary.

Holiday Club

In the last week of August we once again had a very successful holiday club - 'Rocky's Plaice'. We had an average of 30 to 40 children attending every day and many thanks extended to all those who made this outreach into the community, a rewarding and enriching experience.

Street Pastors

This project has now been running for a year and continues to provide a very necessary and worthwhile outreach on Friday and Saturday evenings in Blackwood. More help is needed in the church with the prayer group, supporting the street pastors on the streets. The prayer team work from 10pm to 12 30am and anyone who feels they can help can contact Rev. Gareth Edwards.

The Choir

The Choir continues to meet on Wednesday evenings, 6 30 -7pm. in Pontllanfraith church. All welcome. We sang in the 'Songs of Praise' held in County Hall in Cwmbran in October. This was an uplifting experience for all the Churches in our Circuit. We continue to practise items for Christmas and thanks extended to Guin and Brenda.

Quiet day - Saturday November 27th at Cwmcelyn Methodist Church. 10 - 4pm

The day will be led by Anne Davies entitled; **OPEN TO GOD by exploring Prayer.** The day has always provided an opportunity to meet together in fellowship, away from the busyness of our lives, and to be still in God's presence. Please bring food to share.

Circuit Website.

To access, log on to www.gwenthillsandvales.org.uk . If you would like to add any items to the website contact Rev. Gareth Edwards.

Dates for your diary. Sunday November 28th,

Christingle Service, Newbridge at 5pm. Cheques to be presented to our charities - the proceeds from the sponsored walk in July.

Sunday December 12th

Section Service 6pm at Trinant. Healing and wholeness.

May we wish all the members and friends in our section and the wider Circuit a very happy Christmas and God's blessing for a peaceful 2011.