



# Glamorgan Heritage Coast Parish Magazine

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Heritage Coast  
Parish Magazine



March 2020

## August 2021

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# Parish Magazine

The Rectorial Benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast comprises the Parishes of: St Bridget's, St Brides; St Michael and All Angels, Ewenny; St Giles, Gileston; St Cattwg's Llanmaes; St Michael and All Angels, Llanmihangel; St Illtud's, Llantwit Major; Holy Trinity, Marcross; St Mary's, Monknash; St Donat's, St Donats; St Tathan, St Athan; All Saints, Southerndown; St James, Wick.

This magazine serves them all.

## Contributions to be in by 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month please.

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Please don't forget to pass on this edition of the magazine to people who would otherwise not receive it.

## This Month's Cover

You might wonder why on earth there is a photo of the cover of the March 2020 magazine on the cover of the August 2021 edition? The answer is simply that the March 2020 was probably the last one that you saw in print. Each one since then has been sent out by internet. Now that Covid restrictions are being eased, we have hopes of returning to print before too much more time elapses.

What is delaying this action is whether or not our distributors are ready, willing and able to resume their deliveries.

If you can help us in this respect please get in touch with Father Edwin, the Parish Office or myself. All contact details are on page 20. I hope that we get a sufficient number to be able to go ahead. Please have a go and don't just leave it to someone else. Many thanks.

Ed

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*Fear can hold you prisoner, hope can set you free*

## From the Editor

Dear Friends,

I am extremely upset this month! We have just seen the final of the UEFA Euro 2020 final, delayed to 2021 because of the Covid situation, in which England lost to Italy. For those of you who do not follow soccer, England scored in the first 2 minutes and Italy equalised in the second half. There was no more scoring and this required extra time and still no more goals. So, we come to a penalty shootout where the teams take penalties alternately, 5 each. The atmosphere was really tense. Italy missed 2 penalties, but England missed 3 and so Italy won.

The three England misses were by “ethnic minority” players and everybody’s heart went out to them in their anguish in feeling that they had let the side, and nation, down. And now we come to the reason for my upset. Unfortunately, it wasn’t everybody’s heart that went out. The three players in question, received a torrent of racist abuse via social media from people presumably of the ‘rent-a-mob’ mentality who, by this action have forfeited the right to regard themselves as true England fans. I am fairly confident that if the three players had scored, those same abusers would have been equally emphatic in their praise.

Am I alone in feeling that the situation is not helped by the extremists on either side? The attitude seems to be “If you don’t actively support our view, you must be against it.” This leaves no room for the middle ground of irrelevance. By that, I do not mean that you don’t care about what happens with regard to racial abuse or other examples of intolerance. What I do mean is that you do not have feelings one way or the other. It isn’t an issue that is of any greater significance than the colour of a person’s eyes or whether or not they are left-handed or any other physical attribute which does not have any bearing on what sort of person they are.

I shall retell a story which appeared in this magazine some years ago and can vouch for its authenticity. My wife was doing the ‘Brownie run’ in the days before seat belts and had a car full of young girls who were chattering away. “Are you in the Christmas play?” “Yes, I’m a shepherd. What are you?” “I’m one of the Wise Men. Who’s playing Mary?” “Jean Smith.” “Who’s she?” “Always wears a red coat. Sits next to Janet Jones. In Mrs Brown’s class. Lives up Church Street. Her father works at the Supermarket.” And on and on. At no point did any of the girls think to mention that Jean Smith was black and, indeed, was the only black pupil in the whole school. This is what I mean by irrelevance. To those girls, the colour of Jean’s skin was of no significance and that is how it should be with all of us. No need for the extreme view - either way.

Yours sincerely, *Eric Sparks*

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*You can't have a better tomorrow if you are thinking about yesterday all the time.*



## Happy Endings

A wonderful example of selflessness was reported in the press a couple of weeks ago. Sam Astley is a 24-year-old man who had received an exceptional piece of luck when his girlfriend won a competition whose prize was to be the trip of a lifetime for them. Tickets for the Euro 2020 semi-final clash between England and Denmark with an overnight stay at a 5 star Hotel and £500 spending money thrown in was the sort of package that any soccer fan would have given his eye-teeth for.

So, what went wrong? It seems that Sam had signed up with the Anthony Nolan Charity which is a register whose purpose is to organise stem cell donors. This is a procedure where the donor gives anything up to a litre of bone marrow in an operation which leaves them greatly fatigued and in discomfort for about a month. The donated material is used to treat people with conditions such as leukaemia and lymphoma, both of which are greatly life-threatening. Very similar to an organ transplant.

The occasion arose that a patient for whom Sam was a compatible donor, needed the procedure to be done without delay just at the time that the match was due to take place. Many of us might well have been in two minds, but not Sam. He did not hesitate but made himself available saying: "Life is more important than a football game at the end of the day, no football game beats saving someone's life." A reaction to be greatly applauded. Not only did he miss the wonder trip, but he accepted the pain and discomfort which was going to be required of him.

The "milk of human kindness" did not stop flowing there. The news of his sacrifice became public, and a campaign was started to obtain tickets for Sam and his girlfriend to watch the final between England and Italy. Gary Lineker, an ex-England player, took up the cause, alerting his 8 million Twitter followers to the situation. Not only did this give welcome publicity to the Anthony Nolan Charity, but started a rush of offers to come flowing in. Vivo, the smartphone company arranged a package similar to the original, meaning that Sam and Beth, his girlfriend would be able to see the final. Sam said "I have been stunned by the support I have received. It's been going crazy; I've been overwhelmed and can't believe it.

So, we have two excellent examples of selflessness; devotion to fulfilling a promise and the rewarding of this expression of benevolence. Doesn't it warm your heart when stories have happy endings?

ES

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*If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.*

## Father Edwin's Page

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this, the Tokyo Olympic Games will be well underway, with athletes from over 200 nations and territories coming together to compete across a spectrum of sporting events. Sadly, the shadow of the pandemic won't be far away, with Covid cases already identified in the athletes' village, and that's a shame, because every competitor has put in years of preparation for these games. Just as sad will be the lack of crowds, due to Covid restrictions, so the astonishing feats of strength, agility and endurance that are hallmarks of the Olympics, will be played out to the echo of empty stadia.

I'm fortunate to have visited the Olympic stadia in London, Barcelona and Beijing on various trips over the years, although not during the Olympic Games. A great stadium can sometimes feel almost like a Cathedral, with a history stretching back over years, and I still remember standing alongside the track in the famous Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing, marvelling at the very spot where Usain Bolt broke the 100metres world record in 2008.

Way back in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, the ancient Olympics was as much a religious festival, as a celebration of athletic prowess, all done to honour the Greek God, Zeus; and, no doubt, in the Tokyo Olympics, we'll see countless athletes make the sign of the cross, lift their hands to the skies or fall to their knees in prayerful thanksgiving, after winning (or perhaps even just competing in) their special event. That seems to imply that there might be a hope of Divine intervention to help one competitor over another; if that was the case, surely, Team GB would be top of the medals table, with every Welsh athlete winning gold!

Yet the coming together of body, mind and spirit is powerful, and I see it strongly in Christian tradition, with St Paul famously reflecting that he had "fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith." Those few words remind me of an inspirational young basketball player called Maya Moore, who competed in the London Olympics in 2012. When a reporter asked what motivated her performances, she simply quoted a few words of scripture: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart." Maya Moore is not competing in Tokyo this year because she's using the same determination that won her an Olympic gold medal, for a different cause; working as an advocate for criminal justice reform in the USA. For me, that's the hallmark of a true Olympian, who's life has been shaped by her passion for her sport, and which she has used as a platform to serve her fellow human beings.

The real victory of the Olympic movement is not in the lavish, theatrical flourish of its ceremonies and medal presentations, nor even in the records that will be broken by celebrity athletes, at the height of their powers. No, I reckon there's something joyous in the coming together of the human family, with the rings of Olympic flag representing the 5 continents of our world, overlapping in a vision of unity and common purpose that must gladden the heart of God.

With every blessing, *Edwin*

## **The Reverend Emma Street**

We are looking forward to welcoming the Reverend Emma Street to the 'Heritage Coast', as she prepares to move to a new house and join our Ministry Team. Emma's ministry with us will be inaugurated with a Service of Welcome on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 7.00pm, to be held at St Illtud's Church in Llantwit Major.

We won't be able to pack the church to the rafters, as might have happened before the pandemic. However, we hope to welcome a good number of people, including Emma's family and friends, along with some of her current parishioners from the Vale of Neath, alongside representatives and friends from across the Heritage Coast churches. Details of the service and how to ensure you can attend will be made available shortly.

Alternatively, you can watch Emma's welcome and licensing from the comfort of your home by connecting to the service via Zoom. If you have Zoom downloaded on your computer, phone or tablet, you can join with the following Meeting Code and Password:

Meeting Code: **843 1686 9153** Password: **Emma**

The live link will be available from 6.45pm on the night.

Emma will be living in the Vicarage in St Brides Major and there will be a local welcome for her in the community of St Bridget's and All Saints churches on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August, which will be her first Sunday working in our Ministry Area. Please hold Emma, her husband Anthony and their children Christian and Heather in your prayers, as they make this important move to live and work amongst us.

## **Covid restrictions and updated guidance**

The Welsh Government and the Church in Wales have updated their guidance for churches as the Coronavirus pandemic continues to affect our lives in many ways. The latest guidance means that there will be a relaxing of some restrictions after 7<sup>th</sup> August, and this will be helpful to our churches as we continue to open up, and bring our congregations back after the turmoil of the last 16 months.

We will be able to reduce social distance, which will allow people who wish, to sit with friends. We won't have to book up a place in church before the service, although we will still need to keep a record of those who have attended services and events. However, we will still need to wear masks in churches for the most part, as the lifting of this particular restriction applies only to hospitality venues. On the positive side, we are now able to serve refreshments in our churches, and this will be helpful as we re-discover our churches as places of fellowship.

Please remember that many people are still very cautious about entering indoor spaces. There will certainly be places in all our churches where you can maintain a safe social distance from others; as we have said from the start, we are working very hard to ensure that our churches are safe places to visit during the pandemic, and we will also ensure that they feel safe for everyone who crosses the threshold.

EC

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*Worry takes just as much time as work but pays less.*



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## Ukelastics in Lockdown

This month the Ukelastic Band has celebrated its sixth birthday and, despite the Covid restrictions, we have managed to stay active, albeit in a variety of forms. To begin with we decided to keep in weekly touch via Zoom. We quickly found out that keeping together as we played was no easy matter. Varying broadband speeds, widely differing standards of competence with technical issues turned some of our sessions into a kind of séance with cries of “Can you hear me?”, “Is there anybody there?”, “What’s the password?” taking up more time than we could spend playing. We eventually cracked that one and once restrictions were eased, and it was possible to meet outdoors, we found the terrace at the rugby club provided a sheltered but open-air venue at which to meet. Passers-by encouraged us, often stopping to join in a familiar song and the staff of the nearby medical centre came out to thank us for providing an accompaniment to their work.

Once it was permitted for organised groups to meet indoors we were able to use the Function Room at the rugby club for our weekly practice sessions. This space is large, well ventilated and has all the sanitizing requirements the Covid regulations require. In addition, all our members are double-vaccinated, so we have been able to get back to something approaching our normal mode of operations. In 2019 we carried out 27 performances from village fetes to care homes. In 2020 we managed three before lockdown intervened. Of course, playing to a live audience has been a large part of our story so far and the loss of these opportunities has certainly been felt. However, we have used the time available to extend our repertoire and have had great fun in trying new material – with varying levels of success.

What have we learned during this unique time of separation and restriction? First, we have realised, even more fully than before, how important it is to maintain friendships and contacts despite the obstacles the virus has put in our way. Zoom has been a life-saver as many of our churches have found as they meet electronically. The ukulele band is as much a friendship group as a source of entertainment. As many as 19 or 20 of our 26 members have been present at our weekly practices where we have not only played a variety of songs but have caught up on family news, exchanged experiences and encouraged one another. This social aspect of the band’s life is extremely important, followed by the pleasure that playing music, however hesitantly, brings to so many people. We have enjoyed resurrecting the pop songs of our youth in an atmosphere of friendship and togetherness. The restrictions of the pandemic have been made easier to bear, especially for those who live alone. Each one of us is grateful that we have managed to stay together, to enjoy music making and to look forward to greater opportunities to play and sing together in the future.

Bob Smith

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*Appreciation is a wonderful thing it makes us what is excellent in others  
belong to us as well.*

## The Suit (part 2)

In 1982 I spent a month - usual division 2 weeks with Erwin at the farm on the Argentine/Paraguay/Brazil border, preceded by a week in Buenos Aires designing and ordering the new season's belts and inspecting onyx figures from two mines in the south. For a week walkabout I flew south to Tierra del Fuego with a brief stop at Rio Gallego, where I spent a few hours between planes and wandered into the local Business Men's Club. The list of past presidents included the name of Snr Jorge Jameson (pronounced Horhay Hameson). The white immigrant population of the deep south was composed mainly of Jamesons, Pattersons and Kellys, they said only the Scots and Irish were mad enough to live there. Looking south, all the trees grew at a 90 degree angle, an indication of the direction of the prevailing wind. We channel hopped by plane and completed the journey to Ushuaia, the capital, with an 8-hour drive over a spectacular mountain range along very rough roads.

Ushuaia, the main town was unimpressive and only two details remain with me. Southern beech, the predominant tree, with its very tiny leaves the size of a small fingernail, and the availability of Cadbury's Fruit and Nut in half pound blocks; their agent obviously doing a good job. I glanced at the headlines of BA newspapers in which the name Malvinas appeared frequently, the local papers seemingly uninterested. It occurred to me that if there was going to be a problem it would be better for me to be nearer communications so I got onto the next available plane to Buenos Aires.

On arrival I rang the British Embassy and spoke to Tom Nelson a close acquaintance who was now First Secretary. He invited me to lunch the following day. I checked into my favourite hotel, The Rochester, and in best bib and tucker lunched at the Embassy. I mentioned my concerns to Tom who dismissed them airily. "It's something and nothing" he said, "A bunch of Argentine scrap metal dealers landed on South Georgia and began to dismantle an abandoned whaling station but we soon put a stop to that. Nothing at all to worry about".

After lunch we strolled around the Embassy gardens. Every sentry we encountered, and there were many, sprang to attention as we approached. I was impressed and said to Tom "Do you always provoke this level of respect?" "It's not for me" he replied. "They think you are the Ambassador". I was wearing my suit... !!

I flew home shortly afterwards and on landing at Heathrow I phoned my secretary to say that I was about to collect my car and drive home. She said "I'm so glad you phoned. Bloxham school, a large boys' public school in Oxfordshire rang earlier and I told them that you would be landing this morning at Heathrow and driving home, and they asked that if possible they would like you to call and see their Estates Manager about one of our largest incinerators". I agreed to visit them.

The main office was a large Victorian house and the reception a

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*Sometimes a majority only means that all the foods are on the same side.*

cavernous room with a little hatch at the far end closely resembling the ticket office of an old railway station. I pressed the adjacent bell push and the hatch opened disclosing a small grey-haired bird like female, who said "Good morning" and a startled "Oh" and straightaway closed the hatch. Moments later she appeared at the door of the office saying, "Follow me please" and led me along a corridor. Mystified I did as requested. So far, I had not uttered a word and seemingly did not need to. At the end of the corridor, she flung open a pair of doors with a flourish and motioned me to enter. It was a large room filled with some 60 or 70 mostly male members of staff all busily drinking tea and coffee and enjoying what I took to be their mid-morning break.

My entrance was greeted by an enthusiastic and prolonged burst of applause and when it ceased a silver haired obviously senior member stepped forward and said, "Good morning sir, and on behalf of the staff and the school — welcome!" Further applause and when it ceased, I held up my hand and said, "Thank you very much for your welcome, but I suspect this may be a case of mistaken identity". The senior member came forward again. "You are sir, I take it, our new headmaster". "Sadly no" I replied. "I am here just to arrange the supply of a new incinerator". After that they carried on talking. I was at the time wearing the suit — there must be some connection surely?

Some time later I was chatting to my Leeds agent. "That suit you sold me" I said, "you had it made specially for a customer and then he refused it once he had seen it?" "That's correct" said my agent, "he thought it was too conspicuous". "What was his occupation?" I enquired casually. "A bookmaker," he answered, "an on-course bookmaker".

Bob Jameson

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

4 July Louis Matthew George Rudd  
11 July Dominic Winston Best  
18 July Mila Rose Griffin

### Marriages

17 July Rhys David Morgan and Emma Louise McClory  
24 July Paul Marshall Hartman and Kim Janie Fitzpatrick

### Burials

24 June Maureen Dorothy Evans aged 80 years, Llantwit Major  
25 June Marilyn Jennifer Hopkin aged 68 years, Llantwit Major  
28 June Christine Jeanette Campbell aged 80 years, St Athan  
26 July Shirley Laura Pryor aged 83 years, Llantwit Major

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*The rules are those to which everyone would agree if they did not know how much power they would have.*



## Humour

Gertrude Gasbag was the village gossip, know-all, scandalmonger and self-appointed purveyor of advice, especially to those who didn't need it or want it. Most of the village folk avoided her like the plague. One day she accosted Oswald the local odd-job man and launched into him. "You ought to be ashamed of yourself! Spending all your spare time in the Farmers' Arms. You have a wife and family to support and there you are, drinking yourself silly. Everybody is talking about you, and you ought to pull yourself together." Oswald broke in and said, "What the heck are you talking about? I don't spend all my time in the Farmers' Arms. Whatever gave you that idea?" Gertrude went straight back on the attack, "Don't you try to fool me young man. I've seen your van parked outside that den of iniquity, so we all know where you are." Oswald didn't say anything, but that evening he parked his van outside Gertrude's house and left it there all night.

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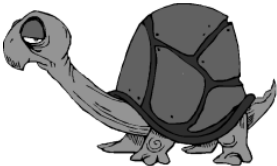
The Vicar was preaching a powerful sermon concerning life and death. At one stage in his homily, he said, "Just think, all of you living in this parish, will die, possibly in pain and suffering." A young man in the second row of pews, began to snigger. The Vicar was quite put out by this and, after the service, buttonholed the man and demanded, "What on earth did you think you were doing?" the man composed himself and said, "I don't live in this parish."

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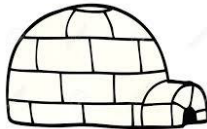
A housewife was helping her old mother to get up the stairs on the new electric stairlift when the vicar telephoned. He was horrified to hear her say "I'm so sorry; I'll have to ring you back. I can't talk right now because mother is in the electric chair and she's just waiting for me to press the switch."

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A church council is a gathering of important people who individually can do nothing but together can decide nothing can be done.



It's all these amber warnings that are worrying me. Just like traffic lights.



Can we really entertain 6 people indoors?



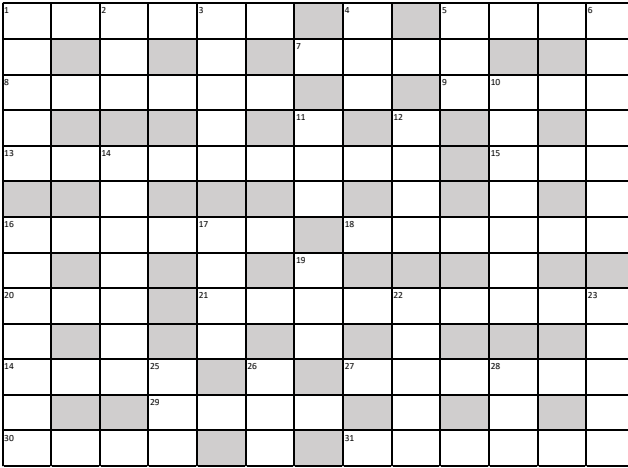
No! You can't come in without a mask.

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*Talk low, talk slow and don't say too much.*

# Puzzle Page

## Crossword No 106



### Across

- 1 Horsy  
5 Ado  
7 Bird  
8 Nursed  
9 Bloody  
13 Previously  
15 Anger  
16 Writer  
18 Avoid  
20 Spirit  
21 "Animalist"  
24 Improvise  
27 TV Prog.  
29 Fruit  
30 Meat  
31 Chewed

### Down

- 1 Additional  
2 Ewer  
3 Relative  
4 Offer  
5 Fruit  
6 Timidity  
10 Paper folding  
11 Wages  
12 Swirl  
14 Ideal  
17 Slime  
19 Tittle  
22 Legume  
23 Cautious  
25 Hostelry  
26 Unwell

Across: 1 Equine, 5 Fuss, 7 Kiwi, 8 Tended, 9 Gory, 13 Aforesaid, 15 Ire, 16 Author, 18 Bypass, 20 Run, 21 Zoologist, 24 Vamp, 27 Sitcom, 29 Ugli, 30 Meat, 31 Gnawed.  
Down: 1 Extra, 2 Urn, 3 Nice, 4 Big, 5 Fig, 6 Shyness, 10 Origami, 11 Pay, 12 Eddy, 14 Optimum, 17 Ooze, 19 Jopt, 22 Onion, 23 Timid, 25 Pub, 26 Ill, 28 Cow.

### Children's Word Ladder

Go from one word to the next by changing only one letter. The first three words

CARE	TEND
CAME	ARRIVED
TAME	DOCILE
	HOURL
	WEARY
	CABLE
	DRINK
	BREEZE
	BATON
	NEED
PANT	PUFF

### Mini Quiz

- What is the name of Spain's flagship Airline? (same as the peninsula)
- What is the name of the former prison in San Francisco Bay?
- Which Scottish Engineer was the first man to televise objects in motion?
- Which English composer's 3<sup>rd</sup> symphony is known as A Pastoral Symphony?
- The "Parsec" is a unit of length used to measure what?

### Answers

1 Iberia, 2 Alcatraz, 3 John Logie Baird, 4 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 5 Astronomical distances – very large.

Care, Came, Tame, Time, Tire, Wire, Wind, Wand, Want, Pant.

You can trust your dog to guard your house never trust your dog to guard  
your sandwich,

## **...that all men may thankfully enjoy them**

Those words from the Litany were the heading the Vicar used in the May issue of the 1972 Magazine, when he wrote about Christian Aid Week: *Good things are not given for our own use but to be shared, and Christian Aid Week once more brings home to us the desperate needs of so many millions of hungry people in the world and offers us some opportunity of help. In cooperation with Oxfam and other agencies Christian Aid is doing a tremendous job on our behalf where the need is greatest.*

After describing how the Young Wives' Group would undertake the distribution and collection of envelopes during the Week, the Vicar also announced that the Parish would take part in a 12 hour fast, recommended by the leaders of all the Christian Communion in Wales, he added this personal note from Miss Rhona Jones, who had recently had first hand insight into this need for help:

*Over the past few weeks many of you may have come to hear Mufulira Nutrition Group, Zambia. I was able to share in the creation of this group during my short stay in Africa and should like to thank everyone in Llantwit, on behalf of this group in Mufulira, for the support they have given to its work.*

*We had a very successful sponsored walk by the Church Youth Club, and a coffee morning, well supported, at Quaintways, which brought in something over £30, and £50. The Young Wives have contributed £18 from a fashion show. This money will all go directly to Mufulira where the people in the Nutrition Group, Zambians and Europeans, are working in the clinics, schools and the homes of malnourished children in an effort to prevent and cope with the many problems of malnutrition existing in that part of Zambia. The help which has been given will, I know, further their work considerably.*

But young Rhona wasn't the one to leave it there. For by the July issue, under the heading of A NEW JOB, the Vicar was writing about her again, this time saying that she had been made the assistant area organiser for Oxfam. He described how, at the beginning of the year, when she had been on "holiday" in Mufulira, a copper mining town in Zambia, there, largely through her expertise and energy, the much-needed Nutrition Group was set up. *This group, encouraged by the Zambian Government, has begun a very determined attack on the local causes of malnutrition. Since her return home Rhona has raised, from a wide variety of events, almost £200 for the work of this group, so she is particularly well qualified for her new job.*

He ended by suggesting that organisations making out their new season's programme should invite her as a speaker, giving her address as 7 Colhugh Street, Llantwit Major. I believe Rhona did this job for about three years, as there is note in the September 1975 issue, about Rhona moving away:

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*Adopt the pace of nature, her secret is patience.*

*Quietly and unassumingly, Rhona has done great work among us, as Sunday School teacher, in youth work in the Diocese and the parish, representing the Province in Geneva, and the Parish in East Africa.*

### **...and something to make you smile**

Last month I wrote about the very first visit to Llantwit Major of the Archbishop of Canterbury. But now I can go one better than that, because last month we had the first visit of the Pope to 6 Spitzkop!

The weather is so hot in the Vatican now, so perhaps she (note the gender) wanted a break, and is working as one of the carers for Maureen. So how about that!

[Clare Pope gave me permission to use her name, bless her.]

David G Brunning

## **What is the Mothers' Union?**

**The Mothers' Union** was founded in 1876 by Mary Sumner, the wife of a Hampshire clergyman. She had become very aware of the struggles of the women around her as they tried to bring up their children. She wanted to create an organisation for women that brought together rich and poor to build a network that would support mothers of all kinds as they brought up their children in the Christian faith.

Our world has changed in the last 145 years and MU has changed too in the way it works, though the support of families (and all in them) remains our main objective. Our vision is a world where everyone prospers. We actively pursue this vision through prayer and action, helping to build confident people and resilient communities. Our movement seeks to bring about justice, challenge prejudice and advocate change.

Mothers' Union is present in 84 countries. Nowadays our members are not all mothers, or even all women. They are single, married, parents, grandparents, or young adults just beginning to express their social conscience. Mothers' Union provides a network through which they can serve Christ in their own community. This is done through prayer, financial support and actively working at the grassroots level in programmes that meet local needs.

Llantwit Major MU usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month in St Illtud's, though in August we will be meeting for a walk and a picnic at St Illtud's on Monday August the 9<sup>th</sup>, which is the day on which we remember our founder, Mary Sumner.

Susan Beetleston

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*I have a memory like an elephant; in fact elephants often consult me.  
Honest people don't hide the deeds.*



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# The Meaning of the Creed

When a Christian recites the Creed, he is telling God and the world exactly what he believes in. The Nicene Creed, was decided upon by the first Ecumenical Council, which met in Nicaea, hence Nicene, in the year 325 AD. And these are the words:



*We believe in one God, the Father the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made, of one Being with the Father. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

When you read or hear the Creed, you are made aware of exactly what it is to be a Christian. Churchgoers say this form of words, or others which are very similar, at each service they attend: Eucharist, Morning Prayer and Evensong.

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*Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.*

## Early Street lighting in Llantwit Major

In an interview given to the Llantwit Major Local History Society, Lizzie Ann Powell, who was born in 1882, remembered that when she was very young there was no street lighting in Llantwit Major, so she didn't go out on her own. To go out some people lighted their way with their own lanterns. She recalled that some street lighting was introduced, made up of paraffin lamps, but it didn't last long as they went out of repair. She named John Deere as the lamplighter then. He lived with his mother in The Court in Colhugh Street. (The Court was a group of a few cottages arranged in a square around a courtyard). Then *we were years without anything*. The first proposals for street lighting were on the agenda of the Parish Council meeting of August 1895 at which it was agreed to adopt the Street Lighting Act. The Council then voted to allocate £30 for 46 oil lamps for the town. It is clear that the issue was challenged and was held up for some time, as it was not until September 1899 that the Council minutes record – *'the first of the votes was taken as to whether or not the town should have street lighting'*. A consensus was eventually arrived at, when the Council minutes state – *'on this occasion, the vote was carried\_'*. Presumably, the installation of street lighting took place soon after.

A list of the first lights was given by Glyn Davies, born in 1891. From his comments he is probably describing the lighting which Lizzie Powell remembered as later *'falling into disrepair\_'*, although he remembers that Bob Cummins was the lamplighter. Bob Cummins was also the Town Crier – *'He had one arm and did a bit for Gaskell [a local solicitor] rabbit shooting, He filled the lamps with oil lit them and put them out in the morning'*.

In his list Glyn locates 22 lights, not the original aim of 46.

1. On the corner of West Street
2. At Plymouth House
3. On the corner where Mr Mainwaring, game keeper for Col. Gaskell, lived.
4. On the pine end of the White Hart, where we lived at the time .
5. On the Town Hall steps
6. One on the Temple. (part of Island House -Colhugh Street.)  
This was locally referred to as Solomon's temple as Solomon James had the contract for lamp lighting in the 1890s. Although he did not live there it is said he kept his lamp lighting equipment there. Therefore three lamplighters are named during the time these lights were operational.
- 7-8. 2 lamps in Colhugh Street which Richard Price, The Hayes put in himself.
9. One on the corner of Methodist Lane
10. One on the Oddfellows which was at the time a functioning inn
11. One on the shop to show the tap and entrance to The Lanes.  
(The tap was outside the present bungalow-Bryntirion, Colhugh Street)

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*If we are here on Earth to help others, what on earth are the others here for?*



12. One on Lower Chapel (i.e. Tabernacle)
13. A lamp on our house where we live today.  
(This was Malta House, Colhugh Street, named by Glyn who had served in Malta WW1)
13. A lamp on our house where we live today.
14. On White House, Flanders Road.
15. On Woodford House.
16. On Rosedew Farmhouse
17. On Baptist chapel
18. On Chatterton-Davies's House. (Related to Glyn living in the cottage at the fork between Turkey Street and the Cowbridge Road)
19. Harry Wilkinson's stores – Wick Road
20. Upper House (Great House)
21. By Plas Newdd Farm- Cowbridge Road
22. On Bill Evan's corner (Somewhere on Boverton Road/East Street)

However, as Lizzie Powell explained, they were not carefully looked after, and there was no street lighting for 'years'. Its absence became an issue again in 1914, when it was pointed out in an article in the Glamorgan Gazette of that year - *'The bad reports, we are sorry to note, of the lightless town of Llantwit has travelled further afield. The 'Gazette' has tried to awaken the inhabitants from their benighted attitude in voting against granting the Council the money required to light the streets'*.

#### Postscript

Even in the 1960s there were complaints about the standard of lighting in Llantwit. It was reported – *'that some visitors were reported to have said - It's the worst place of lighting we've come across in the Vale of Glamorgan'*.

By 1963, Eddie Lloyd, the Town Clerk, reported to the Council that there were 189 street lights in the parish of which 99 had electric filament light bulbs. The cost of replacing each with sodium vapour lamps was £25 each. It would take ten years to complete the work. The Parish Council proposed to raise a £3,000 loan to modernise the town lighting system. They called a special meeting of the town parishioners, where it was decided to back the Council proposal.

Lighting became an ongoing topic of discussion in the 1970s, when the expense was not directly the responsibility of the Council. The Council heard that the authorities responsible for carrying out improvements to lighting in the town had spent £7,000 in the period 1975-76, and £1000 in the period 1976-77, but that further improvements for 1978-79 had been deferred. Councillor Jack George proposed that a letter expressing dissatisfaction with the provider should be sent.

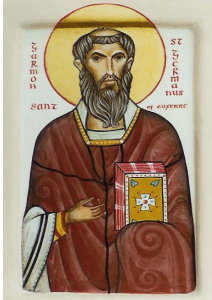
Christine Young

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*Friends are like walls, sometimes you lean on them and sometimes it's good just knowing they are there.*

# Saint of the Month

## 3 August: Germanus, Bishop



This month we are celebrating someone who became bishop of Auxerre in France way back in 418 – so what has he to do with us in the Glamorgan Heritage Coast parish?

Well, Germanus could have established a monastic school in Llantwit Major many decades before St Illtud came on the scene.

Bishop Germanus obviously had a great reputation as a teacher, preacher and upholder of

the Faith, for he was invited in 429 by the British clergy to come over the Channel to help them combat the rise of a heresy called Pelagianism. I won't go into the details of that heresy now, but Germanus' mission seems to have been successful, for the British clergy were certainly encouraged – not least because Germanus helped them ambush an army of invading Saxons and Picts. Germanus had taught the British soldiers (whom he had recently baptised) to shout 'Alleluia' as their war cry, and this so terrified the enemy that they either fled or were drowned in the nearby river, the British winning the battle without striking a blow. This is said to have happened near Mold in North Wales.

However, Germanus needed to lay some firmer foundations to prevent the heresy re-emerging, and a few years later he returned to Britain, this time establishing some monastic or missionary schools to teach the Christian Faith. It has been suggested that this time Germanus came to the west of Britain, and visited South Wales, before travelling up the Severn to the North, establishing Christian communities. Did he set up a school at Llantwit Major?

The 7<sup>th</sup> century *Vita Samsonis* mentions a tradition that the monastery at Llanilltud "had been founded by St Germanus" and calls Illtud "a disciple of St Germanus". A number of later *Lives* say the same, some claiming Illtud was ordained by Germanus and appointed him abbot, but this is not possible timewise. What this linking of Illtud with Germanus does show is that Illtud was following the teaching and tradition of Germanus, that is orthodox Christian faith, and therefore his credentials are sound. It could mean that there was already a monastic school at Llantwit when Illtud turned up, one that he might have attended and later appointed as abbot.

Philip Morris

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*At his best; man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice he is the worst.*

# Lateral Thinking

1 A man lives in a house where all the windows in each of the rooms on each of the four sides of the house face in the same direction. Where does he live?



2 A man lived alone. He never went out and no one ever visited him until one day he watered all his plants, tidied every room, turned off all the lights and then left the building. He never returned. This action resulted in the death of six men. Explain.



3 Two young boys, Keith and Alan, were on the beach and laid down for a rest. When they got up, Keith's back was covered in sand, but Alan's was completely clear. Alan then went to the sea to wash off the sand, but Keith did not do so. Explain



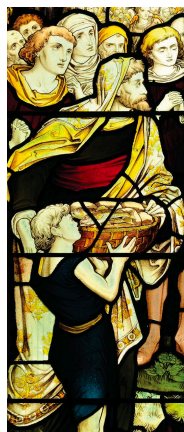
4 George attended a technical college and was taking a course in engineering comprising six students. One day his wife went into labour unexpectedly and the college secretary went to the room to inform George of the fact. The secretary was able to go straight to George to give him the message although she had never met any of the students previously. Explain.



1 At the north or south pole.  
2 The man was a lighthouse keeper. In turning off all the lights he extinguished the lighthouse beacon, as a result of which, a fishing vessel ran aground, and the six sailors drowned.  
3 Alan could see that Keith's back was covered in sand, though his was the same and so went to wash. Keith saw that Alan's back was clear and did not see the need to wash.  
4 Each of the other 5 students was a woman, hence he was the only man in the room.

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With the assistance of Philip Morris and Keith Brown, Stan Gilbert has produced a book of photographs of the stained-glass windows in the 7 churches in the Benefice which have them. The book costs £8.99 from The Chocolate Box or Nickleby's Bookstore with all profits going to Church funds.

*Life if, well lived, is long enough.*

# Benefice Directory

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<b>Team Vicar</b>	Rev'd Craig Vaughan The Vicarage, Trepit Road Wick. CF71 7QL fr.craig@ghcp.church	01656-890468
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<b>Reader</b>	Hazel Norfolk norfolk.1@hotmail.com	01656 880532
<b>Reader</b>	Penny Snowden pennysnowden@gmail.com	01446-775402
<b>Parish Office</b> 9 am-2.30 pm Mon – Fri.	Alison Weston. St Illtud's Church Church Street, Llantwit Major. CF61 1SB. office@ghcp.church	01446-792439
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.llanilltud.org.uk/">http://www.llanilltud.org.uk/</a>	
<b>School</b>	Mrs Ceri Thomas Wick & Marcross Church in Wales Primary School Church Street, Wick. CF71 7QE	01656 890253
<b>School</b>	Mr Duncan Mottram St Brides Major, Church in Wales Primary Heol yr Ysgol St Brides Major, Bridgend. CF32 0TB	01656 880477
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*The test of a first- rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposed ideas in the mind at the same time, and still retain the ability to function.*



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Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or need help.

Peidiwch ag oedi cyn cysylltu â mi os oes gennych unrhyw bryderon neu os oes angen help arnoch.

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