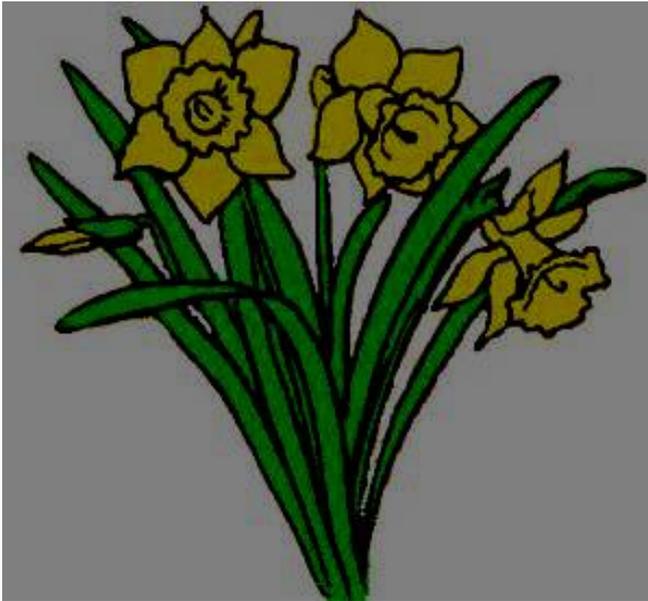


**MARCH 2017**  
The Magazine  
of  
**UNITING CHURCH SKETTY**



**Dillwyn Road, Sketty, Swansea SA2 9AE**  
**[www.unitingchurchsketty.org.uk](http://www.unitingchurchsketty.org.uk)**

Minister: Reverend Leslie Jane Noon

Senior Elder: Pat D

Senior Steward: Gwen D

Weekly Notices by Friday morning to Lynne

Sunday Services: 10.30am including regular All-age Worship.

Refreshments in the Wesley Room following morning worship.

Evening at 6.30pm

Adventurers: 10.30am Departments 3-15 years

Creche available on request – please speak to a Church Steward

Baptisms on Sunday mornings by arrangement with the Minister.

This Magazine is available on tape for the vision impaired.

Also, we are able to record some of our services for anyone unable to attend, whether regularly or on a particular Sunday.

Please contact **Jean K** for further details.

**Please submit all items** for the **April** magazine to Jan T by

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

**The Magazine for April** will be issued on **Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017.**

### **Redevelopment Fund-raising**

Some of the funding we have been granted to assist with the building project, in order to improve facilities for community use, require that we should show the sponsors' logos on certain documents including magazines.



## From the Manse

Dear Friends,

There is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.

Our Church needs YOU to be Somebody! Our church, like any church cannot thrive without people willing to take on a variety of roles. As your minister, I am so grateful that there are so many willing and capable people within our church family who are able to offer their time and talents to serve in the church. But there are now a number of 'gaps' in the roles and jobs that need to be done.

So I would like to invite each and everyone of you to consider whether there is something more you can do for the church, and to have a word with me in person, by email or on the phone. We could then discuss the time you have available and the talents you have to offer and work out if there is a role or a job that you could do.

Maybe it's on the pastoral care side of things  
Maybe it's on the practical side of things  
Maybe it's on the organisational side of things  
Maybe it's something else altogether.

If all of us do what we can, then our church life will be healthy, with responsibility shared appropriately and all God-given talents used.

With best wishes,  
*Leslie*



## **For Lent – Transforming Conflict**

Tues 7 March at 10 am and Thurs 9 March at 7.30pm: Session 1  
Tues 21 March at 10 am and Thurs 23 March at 7.30pm: Session 2  
Tues 28 March at 10 am and Thurs 30 March at 7.30pm: Session 3

Our Faith and Fellowship sessions will look at the conflict that Jesus encountered on his way to the cross and will help us look at conflict we encounter and how we deal with it and even transform it.

All are most warmly welcome.

Weds 5 April at 7.30pm: Son of Man play at Dylan Thomas Theatre  
Thurs 6 April at 7.30pm: Follow up discussion on the Son of Man

When it was first aired, the play *Son of Man* by Dennis Potter caused considerable controversy and conflict. Although less so 50 years later, it will be interesting to see it in conjunction with our Faith and Fellowship sessions as it portrays the conflict between Jesus' human nature and his divine nature.

A sign up sheet is in the Welcome Area –  
please sign if you would like to come.

Tickets £10 (£9 concessions)

## **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 2pm

Reflect  
Remember  
Repent

All are welcome to this quiet  
**and reflective service.**

### **COMMUNION COLLECTIONS IN MARCH**

Communion collections this month will be for Commitment for Life. This funds Christian Aid projects in Bangladesh, Central America, Israel / Palestine and Zimbabwe as part of the mission work of the URC. Current projects include supporting people in Bangladesh suffering from flooding due to climate change, providing food and skills to rural people in Zimbabwe where up to 42% can struggle to find enough to eat and training farmers in El Salvador in new techniques so that they can grow crops on arid land.

**Susan G**

## **ST PAUL'S NEW VICAR**

We are delighted that after a long interregnum, St Paul's will be welcoming and inducting their new Vicar, the Rev Robert Davies-Hannen. We look forward to working with him and the church for the good of our local community. The Induction will take place on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.30pm.**

## **ACTION for CHILDREN – League of Light Boxes**

Can it be? Yes, it is a year since I collected our boxes for emptying. So, to my little band of faithful collectors, can I ask that you bring your box in over the next few weeks. Thank you as always on behalf of the children and young people we are assisting.

**Jan C**

## **FREE ORGAN RECITALS AT THE BRANGWYN HALL**

I am pleased to announce three more lunch-time free organ recitals to be held at the Brangwyn Hall. They are:-

**March 1<sup>st</sup>** with **Andrew Goodwin** who is Organist Emeritus of Bangor Cathedral.

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** with **James Gough** who is a young person from Neath who has established himself nationally as a recitalist and choral accompanist.

**All three recitals will begin at 12.45pm** and last for approximately forty-five minutes. Come and enjoy a relaxing lunch-time listening to the magnificent Brangwyn Hall organ. The bar will be open for drinks and bar-meals.

**Alan S**

## **STATEMENT ON PAST CASE REVIEW FROM THE URC**

We have all made mistakes and we want to learn from those mistakes. People have been hurt by bullying or abuse in churches in the past. Things went wrong and people may be carrying the hurt inside them. We want to learn from the past and do better in the future. **The Past Case Review** is a way for the United Reformed Church to listen and learn.

We really want to hear about any behaviour which may need challenging, or if you have been hurt by anyone in the United Reformed Church.

If anyone who has had any connection with your church wishes to share something that has happened to them within any United Reformed Church, we would ask them to get in touch with the **Review Team**.

We want our churches to be safer places, where people can grow without fear.

Telephone: 020 7916 8682

Website: [www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review](http://www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review)

Email: [pastcase.review@urch.org.uk](mailto:pastcase.review@urch.org.uk)

Further resources and information are available online at [www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review](http://www.urch.org.uk/past-case-review)

## **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

After watching the film Spotlight in our Real to Reel group (a film which focuses on sexual abuse within the Catholic church in Boston and the extent to which the church turned a blind eye and deaf ear), it was good that round 30 people in our church attended the recent Safeguarding training. It reminded us of the importance of vigilance in our communities and taking care that our church is a safe place for all. A huge thank you to our own Pat D and Lynne T who are our Circuit Safeguarding Co-ordinators.

## **CHURCH GAMES AFTERNOON**

It seems a while ago now that we met in the church hall for our games afternoon; indeed it was back in November. What a fun time we had, building cannons, flapping fish, scavenger hunting, passing balloons over and under and more. I laughed for the best part of two hours and when I wasn't laughing, was probably tucking into the good food at half time. It was a time of pure, silly fun and a time to enjoy ourselves together. I wanted to say thank you to the organisers for their time and their great ideas. I hope we can have another games afternoon soon.

**Ann**

## **It's Over – Oh Yes It Is!**

After the frenetic activities of the past few weeks, the weeks when you wonder if the show will ever come together, it is difficult to realise it is time to put it all to bed. However, before we do, I, and indeed the whole panto team, those you saw and the very many you didn't, would like to say a sincere "thank you" to you, our church family. However good, (no comments please!) a production is, it is nothing without you, our audience. It is you who make it a success and success it was.

With your support we raised over £1500 for our circuit project together with a £300 donation to our church. However, I am sure you will all agree it is not just the money we make which indicates success. What is equally important, maybe even more important, is that our church, led by our minister, demonstrates to our community the fun and friendship we share. Many of the people in our audiences have never crossed our threshold before. Who knows, if we keep inviting them, they may want to join us and share in the fellowship Jesus instructed us offer in his name. So thank you everyone for joining us this year, as we followed **The Coastal Path**.

**Jan C.**

## **REVIEW OF OUR CHURCH PANTO: FOLLOW THE COASTAL PATH**

We enjoyed a cornucopia of characters and situations as we travelled along The Coastal Path! It began with a group of actors lost without their producer, who was lost for ideas and so all lost direction. Eventually, gleeful Gwenny and dashing Dylan, guided by the Spirit of truth and light, decided to search for Camelot, to find Merlin the Magician, who could help everyone achieve their dreams aspirations. To get there, they had to follow The Coastal Path. En route they met Cyril the Swan from Swansea, The Welsh Dragon, the comical and musical Mistresses Oyster and Seaweed, the saucy French mademoiselle, and a burly life boatman. Four Swansea Girls gave a forceful depiction of empowered ladies of today. Genteel Queen Coreen and her beautiful sea nymphs of the Coral Seas, provided stunning dance routines and sweet singing. Dr Who and his two assistants X and Ray guided them to Camelot via different time zones, adding to the great adventure; especially when they found Uther Pendragon, Ghost of Camelot in the dungeons, oh yes they did! Meticulous Mrs Mop burst into every scene, intent upon keeping everything spick and span; including the famous Tardis! Once at the Court of Camelot, King Arthur and Queen Guinevere treated us to hilarious scenes of confusion and misunderstanding, with sturdy Sir Lancelot providing solutions for all. The shed scene with King Arthur, Sir Lancelot, Sir Tristram de Lyones and Sir Kay, was uproarious; cleverly depicting the minds of many men! Meeting the marvellous Merlin, they all realised their needs rather than their wants and that love and friendship reign supreme. An extra special thank you to Jan C, who wrote, directed and produced the whole panto, so clever and funny. Special thanks are due to Lynne W for the beautiful backdrops she painted, and to Linda J for the costumes most of which she made. The lighting was in the safe hands of Adam E, Front of House with John D and prompt with Jon and Sandra H. Alan J was, as ever, the utterly reliable Backstage Director. Brilliant!

### **FOLK DANCING ON MONDAY AFTERNOONS**

Every **Monday at 2pm in Bethel Hall** (entrance via back door). We are a friendly group who always welcome new members of any age and ability. Why not come and join them? We look forward to welcoming you.

**Rosemary B**

### **LADIES' KEEP FIT**

Come and join us on **Tuesdays at 10 to 11am in Bethel Church Hall**. We do gentle standing and floor exercises, so please bring a mat and a sense of humour. The exercises are suitable for all ages and it just costs £2 per session. New members always welcome.

**Maisie H**

### **CRAFT GROUP**

We will meet in the Wesley Room every **Tuesday, from 2pm to 4pm** during term time. We look forward to seeing everyone and extend a warm welcome to any newcomers.

**Kath D**

### **COVER TO COVER**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 10.30am**, in the **Bethel Room, UCS**, when Ian and Judith will lead our discussion of **A Whole Life**, by **Robert Seethaler**.

**Mike W**

### **THURSDAY CIRCLE**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 2pm in Bethel Hall**. We welcome all to join us. Speaker to be arranged.

**Pat 'B' D**

### **THE WOMEN'S DAY OF PRAYER**



The Women's World Day of Prayer service for our area takes place at **Pantygwydr Church at 10.30 am on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of March**. The material has been prepared by the women of the Philippines. It is always an inspiring occasion and I would encourage people to attend.

**Delyth**

### **FOR THE BROWNIES AND CUBS**

The box for Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers will again be at the hall end of the church corridor, and it would be much appreciated if you could leave your vouchers there for our Brownies and Cubs.

## **TUESDAY EVENING HOUSE GROUP**

Not everyone can get to a house group, or does not feel it is right for them. If you want to see what we do from the comfort of your own home, this is what we are doing at present.

In the Methodist Prayer Handbook, each day there is a Bible reading, hymn from Singing the Faith and a Psalm. We choose the reading, hymn and Psalm from the date we are meeting; look up some information and then discuss.

Many of us use different Bible versions and we see how passages are put in the different versions. We have a chance to share bits that puzzle us and any incites we may have. We also share concerns for people who are ill, as well as celebrating good news. We have tea and coffee at an appropriate point during the meeting.

At our next meeting on **Tuesday 7th March** we are looking at 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verses 18-25, Singing the Faith 455 (All My Hope on God is Founded) and Psalm 119 verses 17-32.

If you want more information about the group please contact me.

**Heather C**

## **THE WELSH SINFONIA AND SWANSEA UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA**

As part of their **Crescendo** project, the acclaimed Welsh Sinfonia joins forces with Swansea University Musicians Society and will be playing live at the **Great Hall, Bay Campus, Fabian Way on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30 pm**. They will present a programme of classical favourites and film music, conducted by **Mark Eager & Dr Ian Rutt**. **Crescendo** brings professional players to work and perform alongside aspiring amateurs, helping them build up confidence and musicianship over several years. The project has already been very successful in schools across Wales. Now, Crescendo has come to Swansea University, and this concert is the first fruit of that collaboration. Telephone bookings at The Great Hall Box Office 01792 60 49 00 | 01792 60 49 99. Full price £15, concessions £12.

## **REEL TO REAL**

The film we saw in February was **Spotlight** and the discussion was difficult, taking into account the subject nature of the film. The horror and scandal of child abuse by Catholic priests in Boston which led to world-wide investigation. However our discussion ranged from the power of truth and the power of listening to people who have been silenced, to what should be the role of the media and the necessity of having an honourable press.

**Due to copyright issues we are unable to display any information regarding film chosen in this online version of the church magazine. For details please see posters in the church or the paper copy of the church magazine.** Everyone is welcome for a small donation towards refreshments and church costs.

The **discussion** will be on **Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7.30** in the Wesley Room.

**Sandra C**

## **TRAIDCRAFT**

The dates for our Traidcraft Stalls are **March 19<sup>th</sup>** and **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

The new **Spring Catalogue** is here, so feel free to pick one up to have a look. If there is anything you would like to order for yourself or like to see on the stall, please speak to Jackie or Gary C. Let us know around 10 days before the date of the stall so we have time to order it in for you.

**Jackie & Gary C**

## **MY SKY DIVE IS OFF!**

I visited Fairwood again recently, having done the exercises I was given by the Chief flying instructor, to be re-tested to ensure my landing would be safe. Unfortunately, because the muscles in my legs are too weak, I was not able to pass his test. So, I will not be doing my sky dive. Obviously I am disappointed, but I can't afford to take any risks. Instead, I will be doing a zip wire challenge in North Wales in May. If anyone who has given me money already, wishes me to return it, I shall understand, so please contact me.

**Janet N**

## **Editor's note**

Janet when you first mentioned your sky dive, I was horrified at thought of you jumping out of a plane. If you remember, I said that I would give you double if you decided not to do it; I will stand by my word. Many in your church family, are relieved that you have decided to do something else to raise funds for your worthy charity. Well done Janet and good luck in May on the zip wire.

## Quotes' Corner

Just a little something to make us think:

St David's most well-known saying was,  
"Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd",  
"Do the little things in life."



### **THE FOLLOWING WORDS WERE FOUND IN A JOYCE MEYER BOOK.**

'If you woke up this morning with more body parts that don't hurt than those that do, you are blessed. If you have food, clothes, and a place to live, you are richer than 75 percent of the world. If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, or spare change at home, you are among the top 8 percent of the world's wealthiest people. If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of five hundred million people in the world. If you can read this message, you are more blessed than two billion people in the world who cannot read.'

**Myrddin P**

## **QUIZ NIGHT AND BUFFET!**

**7pm on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

at

**MUMBAI RESTAURANT, BLACKPILL**

Tickets £15

Tickets from: Heather C, Jan C, Gaynor B  
and other members of Events Committee.

Proceeds for Church Funds.



## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### DEFIBRILLATOR DONATED TO CHURCH

Myrddin and family have kindly donated a Defibrillator to our church in memory of Enid. We are very grateful to Myrddin and his family for this kind gift that could save lives.

### ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSM (AAA) SCREENING TEST

I have recently had an Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Screening test. I feel not many people know about this free test. This is available to men **over 65**. It is a simple ultrasound scan which takes only a maximum of half an hour. If the test shows everything is normal you are informed immediately and will not be required to have any further test again.

Contact: South West Wales: 01792 453162 or email:

aaa.screening@wales.nhs.uk with your full name, date of birth, address and contact telephone number. The test will be in SA1, Langdon Road. They will telephone you to make an appointment and confirm by letter together with a leaflet explaining everything.

**Myrddin P**

### WE SEND BIRTHDAY GREETINGS IN MARCH TO:

Elis on the 1<sup>st</sup>

Sophie on the 1<sup>st</sup>

Ezra on the 7<sup>th</sup>

Anwen on the 21<sup>st</sup>

Caitlin on the 26<sup>th</sup>

Luke on the 26<sup>th</sup>

Arlon on the 28<sup>th</sup>

Mason on the 28<sup>th</sup>

## COMING EVENTS

**Services: 10.30am & 6.30pm**

**Adventurers: 10.30am**

On Sundays a Steward will introduce the preacher and ask the congregation to stand as the Bible is brought in.

Please stay and have refreshments with us after the morning service in the Wesley Room.

There is an induction loop for those with hearing aids.

There are large print versions of hymns in the pews and large print notices at the door.

For evening services the offerings plate is placed at the entrance.

### Weekly in term-time:

Monday 2pm Folk-dancing

7pm Wesley Club

Tuesday 2-4pm Craft Group

4.30-5.30pm Beavers

5.45-7pm Cubs

6.15-7.30pm Brownies

Wednesday 10-11.30am Sunbeams Play Group

7.30pm Sketty Madcaps

Uniting Church Sketty weekly notices:

Lynne W

(Please send to Lynne by Friday morning)

Property Stewards:

Alan J

Keith M

Gwyn B (Bethel property)

Booking enquiries and heating requirements:

Kath & Bill D

Bethel booking and heating requirements:

Sonia B

## MARCH DIARY

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wed 2pm Ash Wednesday Service
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri 10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer at Pantygwydr  
Baptist Church
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sat 10am-12noon: Coffee Morning for Pettifor Trust
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sun 10.30am Rev Leslie Noon: **Communion**  
6.30pm Mr Ken Allison
- 6<sup>th</sup> Mon 7pm Wesley Club: The Land of Ice and Fire with Janet N
- 7<sup>th</sup> Tues 7.30pm Tuesday Evening House Group at Janet N
- 12<sup>th</sup> Sun 10.30am Rev Kim Fabricius  
6.30pm Rev John Jones
- 13<sup>th</sup> Mon 7pm Wesley Club: Dementia Research with Prof. Andrea  
Tales
- 17<sup>th</sup> Fri 7.30pm Reel to Real: Suffragette
- 19<sup>th</sup> Sun 10.30am Rev Leslie Noon  
6.30pm Rev Leslie Noon: **Communion**
- 20<sup>th</sup> Mon 7pm Wesley Club: Writing your Memoirs with Rita Bell  
7.30pm Methodist Circuit Meeting at  
Murton Methodist Church
- 26<sup>th</sup> Sun 10.30am Dr Alan Cram  
6.30pm Mr Jeff Coleman
- 27<sup>th</sup> Mon Wesley Club: **NO MEETING**: Church Quiz & Curry Event  
7pm Curry and Quiz Night at Mumbai Restaurant.
- 29<sup>th</sup> Wed 7.30pm Reel to Real: discussion

## MARCH ROTAS:

If you are unable to fulfil your place on a rota, please make other arrangements or contact the organiser.

### **Welcome Teams: Myrddin P**

<b>5 MARCH</b>	<b>12 MARCH</b>	<b>19 MARCH</b>	<b>26 MARCH</b>
Harry O	Allan & Joe	Ian & Susan	David,
Graham	Caroline	Shirley	Jan T
David P	Tina	Grosvenor	Leighton
	Paul E		

### **Sound**

Bill D	Elizabeth	Myrddin	Gary
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### **Evening**

Keith	Myrddin	Ann	Pat D
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### **Flowers: Rosemary B**

#### **Giver:**

Pat G	Pat T	Lynne W	Pat B D
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### **Arranger:**

Rosemary	Una	Lynne	Pat B D
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### **Distribution of the Flowers: Anne W**

Sonia B	Janet N	Maggie C	Anne W
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### **Sunday Morning Coffee: Paul H E**

John & Sandra	Kath & Bill	Susan & Ian	Margaret
Lynne W			Una G
			Pat D