

**Parish of Llanilid with  
Pencoed & Heol-Y-Cyw**

Report to the Annual Vestry  
of St David's Church, Pencoed  
and St Paul's Church, Heol-Y-Cyw

Meeting at  
St David's Church, Pencoed  
Tuesday April 17<sup>th</sup> 2018  
at 7pm



The Parish of Pencoed with Heol-y-Cyw is in the County Borough of Bridgend. It is in the Church in Wales Diocese of Llandaff and is part of the Deanery of Bridgend and benefice of Llanilid with Pencoed. The Church in Pencoed is dedicated to St David and is situated on Penprysg Road, Pencoed. The Church in Heol-y-Cyw is dedicated to St Paul and is situated in High Street, Heol-y-Cyw.

**Incumbent:**

Revd Ian Hodges  
The Rectory  
60 Coychurch Road  
Pencoed  
Bridgend CF35 5NA

**Auditor / Independent Examiner:**

Busy Office Solutions (St David's)  
Brian Barham (St Paul's)

**Bankers:**

National Westminster Bank, 10 Hendre Road, Pencoed

**Architect:**

Davies Sutton Architects  
Penhevad Studios  
Penhevad Street  
Grangetown  
Cardiff  
CF1 1 7LU

**PCC Members:**

Norman Davies, Jayne Jenkins, Christine Phillips, Judy McCarthy

**Churchwardens:**

Albert Phillips, Rick Gratton, Eileen Thomas (outgoing),

**Reader:**

Bill Nicholas

**Treasurers:**

Clive Grabham (Outgoing) Rick Gratton (in coming)  
Diane Easterbrook

Annual Vestry Meeting of the Parish of Pencoed & Heol-Y-Cyw Tuesday 17th  
April 2018 at 7p.m. in St David's Church

**AGENDA**

- 1 Prayers
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Chairman's welcome
  
- 4 To receive and confirm the minutes of the last meeting
  
- 5 To receive and discuss the Parish Report  
(Including the Accounts)
  
- 6 To receive and discuss other reports:
  - a. Area Deanery Conference
  - b. Diocesan Conference
  
- 7 Elections:
  - a. The People's Warden
  - b. Parochial Church Councilors
  - c. Sides men/women
  
- 8 Representatives for Conferences to check those elected are still serving
  - a. Diocesan Conference (1)
  - b. Area Deanery Conference (5 + 2 supplemental)
  
- 9 To appoint the Auditor
  
- 10 To set the Date & Time for the First PCC Meeting
  
- 11 Any other business (for which notice has been given to the secretary  
and to which the meeting consents).
  
- 12 Closing Prayers

## **St David`s and St Pauls Annual Vestry Meeting**

Held at St David`s Church on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Present** Revd Ian Hodges, Rick Gratton, Norman Davies, Clive Grabham, Judy McCarthy, Chris Philips, Albert Philips, Jayne Jenkins, Diane Easterbrook.

Apologies received from Eileen Thomas.

### **Chairman`s Welcome**

The meeting was opened with prayer.

Revd Ian welcomed those present and thanked them for their work and support throughout the previous year. He noted that it was now 6 years since he had taken the post of Rector and reflected on the previous 5 years and noted some of his highlights during this time.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the 2016 Annual vestry meeting were read and accepted as a true record

Proposed by Norman

Seconded by Chris

### **Parish Report**

Revd Ian read his annual report to the meeting. The other reports were reflected on and the Annual accounts were confirmed.

In addition Revd Ian acknowledged that now under new leadership the Mothers Union appeared "on fire" .

### **Elections**

Albert Philips accepted re-appointment as Rectors Warden.

Rick Gratton accepted re-election as peoples Warden.

The following people were elected to the PCC.

Chris Philips, Judy McCarthy, Jayne Jenkins, Clive Grabham (treasurer), Norman Davies, Diane Easterbrook, Lee Ann Davies.

It was decided that the duties of Sidemen/women would be carried out on a rota basis.

### **Nominations for conference**

After a brief discussion the following nominations were made:

Diocesan Conference;

Norman Davies

Area Deanery Conference;

Jayne Jenkins, Chris Philips, Albert Philips, Rick Gratton, Judy McCarthy.

### **Appointment of Auditor of accounts**

It was decided that Busy Office Solutions would continue to be the auditor of our accounts.

### **Date of next PCC Meeting**

Immediately following this meeting.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 7.50pm with prayer.

## **Parish Report 2018**

### **Thank You**

As ever I want to begin this report with a huge thank you.

Thank you to my family for being behind me and keeping me sane whilst also being content to be considered public property such as my role requires me to be.

Thank you to everybody who has a hand in the day to day running of the three worship centres we have here in Llanilid, Pencoed and Heol-Y-Cyw. That does not just mean those who you see up the front but those who are quietly working away unseen, oiling the wheels and making sure that year on year the Church continues on.

Thank you as well to all who come here to worship and month by month faithfully give to keep the mission of the church going. It's your giving at our times of regular worship that means we can use every opportunity we have to tell people about Jesus.

Let's look back across 2017 using the following headings: *Links to the Outside, Going On Inside, Deanery Things, Diocesan Things* and *Anything Else*.

### **Links to the Outside**

What did we get up to that makes links with those who are for whatever reason outside the Anglican Church here in the locality.

Well one of the main things we do is work together very well with all the other Christians from all the other denominations that are represented in the local area. We are continuing to meet monthly to have a bible study together, which is always so interesting. We are continuing to have regular services throughout the year at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and of course there is the huge tent we have in the Bridgend Show where we simply say 'hello' to those who pop in for a cup of tea. Over the years more and more of our friends from the other denominations have become part of the Open the Book team.

It is now the 10<sup>th</sup> year that Open the Book scheme has been operating in this area by us. Pretty much every Monday that we are invited we go to the two local primary schools, and sometimes the one in Brynna, to tell the timeless bible stories to this generation. It means that every child that is now in the local comprehensive school, who has been through the local primary school system, will have regularly heard us sharing the Bible with them (though we have yet to be invited there to do regular assemblies.)

We have had a few school visits where the children came to the church buildings to experience the atmosphere and symbols and artifacts that we have in our worship centres. Sometimes they come to do a mock wedding or baptism and sometimes it is just to explore. The local Welsh Nursery are also coming 3 times a year to ponder Christmas and Easter and Harvest with us and always give us wonderful renditions of songs they have been learning.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year I have been involved with Croesty Primary school with the construction of their electric car kit. I go along every week or two to help the children build the kit and it works both ways. I get to teach them engineering and they get to see that Christians do know one end of a spanner from the other.

I continue to be the Air Training Core Chaplain which means I go monthly to visit the squadron to talk with the cadets about life the universe and everything, and they still continue to come monthly without fail and help us to run our Messy Church. There are a few times in 2017 when sadly we would have been absolutely sunk if they had not come to our aid.

We are still working with the Foodbank to be a distribution point. It's a pity society needs them but it means people do not have to travel to another town if they are in need.

We are having two trips a year 'just for the fun of it.' One usually in the summer to a beach or seaside resort and the other to a Christmas market later in the year.

And for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running we ran with our Lent Lunches on a Wednesday with a 'bring what you can to share with others' attitude and it has really flourished.

### **Going On Inside**

What did we get up to that mainly involved those who are regular attenders?

We have continued in St David's to have quarterly leaving collections to fulfill the Christian ethic of tithing and giving away a bit of what God has given us. Some of the recipients have been quite surprised in a positive way at the amount of money we give each time.

We have continued with our joint PCC meetings twice a year to make sure that we are stronger and better informed of what is going on throughout the two parishes.

We have continued with our Messy Church experiment. It has just got busier and busier and many people now have Messy Church as their regular place of worship and join in other parish events too. Many parishes slot Messy into a gap in their weekly schedule on a Sunday or use it to get people into 'real' church whereas we let it be its own thing. We have now over 300 people on the books and have from 25 to 50 (usually closer to the latter) people a time come along to worship in a way that is more appropriate to this 24/7 internet media saturated world we now live in. We have been going so long that we are beginning to hear people say 'we've not done that before' when trying new things!

The Mothers Union which looked like faltering not that long ago has a new leader who has breathed new life into the group.

We have made links with Sarah the Mental Health Chaplain and run a Mental Health awareness course in the parish to try and break down some of those incorrect stereotypes. The truth is we all have good and bad periods of mental health in our lives it's not a case of 'I'm not ga-ga, you are.'

### **Deanery Things**

We were looking to make stronger links with the parish of Llanharan and Brynna rather than get sucked into one of the large Ministry areas that are forming in Bridgend or Talbot Green by doing 'Pulpit Swaps' in 2017 but that has been left on the back burner for one reason or another.

I have continued on as the Deanery Chapter clerk and as a parish we have been involved in the events and conferences put on by the deanery. Many of us went to Caerau when our new Bishop came to the Deanery to explore and met and talked with her 1<sup>st</sup> hand.

### **Diocesan Things**

We have a new Diocesan Bishop as of the summer. Bishop June comes to us from Salisbury with a wealth of experience and a new set of eyes both physical and spiritual. I send her a present of adult colouring books and pencils on behalf of the parish as I imagined she would be on the telephone a lot in her first few months and may be needing something to doodle on during her telephone time.

The Diocese decided to remove the restriction of confirmation from entry to communion. The biblical view is really that all the baptised represent the church and if children are coming to church with their parents then from any age they should not be denied the sacrament. We talked this through with the PCCs and decided there was no good reason not to allow this diocesan change to happen here too.

### **Anything Else**

I was granted Sabbatical Leave to have an extended time studying and reflecting which I put to good use exploring the Messy Church scene in the South Wales area. It was most enlightening and encouraging and saddening in equal measures. I have a report I have compiled which anybody can receive if they want more information about my findings.

It appears the parish is still growing (it's one of the 3 in the Diocese that is) and the latest figure suggest that over the last period from 2016 into 2017 there was 5% growth.

It was also during 2017 that Rick the Church Warden heard that the call on his life that the Church in Wales was examining had proved to indeed be a call to the ordained ministry. To be honest there was no real surprise there. If you know Rick you will have recognised the pull of God to the priesthood on his life from a mile away. It was discerned to be a call to the Non Stipendiary Ministry which means that Rick would continue on his day job fixing aeroplanes but be fully ordained too. That was not that much of a surprise either as that often happens these days too. What was surprising was that the panel felt that, unconventionally, Rick should stay in

the parish DURING his training and then stay in the parish AFTER his training. This was really unexpected and can be taken as a thumbs up from God about the amount of work being done in Jesus name here and the requirement for more assistance being granted.

Finally as is so often the case we also had to say a sad farewell to some of our friends. Grace Philips, Margaret Anstee, Beryl Adey, Fran Amos, Judith Richie, Gerald Holdcroft and Betty Tombleson. 2017 was their time to go home.

### **The Future**

In the end its all down to God really and up to us to make sure we walk well the tightrope of bringing from the past the timeless truths of God and the Good News of his son Jesus but making sure we are able to present it to people who have fallen away from God or the people of all ages who have never know him.

Again let us see what God will do here

*Ian*



## **Diocesan Conference**

The 2017 Diocesan Conference was the first to be presided over by our new Bishop, June Osborne. She had arranged the worship and business of the day so that the whole session formed a single act, within the context of the Eucharist.

As part of her getting to know her diocese she asked each of the Deaneries to describe themselves in three words, and these were generated by means of Deanery break-out groups.

Bishop June spoke of her desire to generate in her mind a map of the diocese, and to that end would be spending a day in each of the Deaneries by the beginning of 2018.

In addition to the discussions and Presidential Address, the usual necessary business of reporting also took place.

Finally, there was a period of hustings for those members seeking election to some of the Provincial bodies.

## **Deanery Conferences**

In line with recent custom the Deanery Conference met on multiple occasions during the year.

At its February meeting a presentation was given by a representative of *Citizens Cymru* about how some Welsh communities had responded to the Syrian refugee crisis. Conference split into groups to consider whether some of these responses were ones that could be imitated in the Bridgend area.

In addition, we began to discuss ideas for how and why we might apply for funding for Deanery projects. These ideas were collated for further consideration by the Deanery Executive, and a Prayer Breakfast planned for May when Conference members could come together and seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in regard to a future Deanery-wide project.

At our June meeting we welcomed our Archdeacon, Peggy Jackson, who was present to swear in Churchwardens for 2017-18.

Feedback from the Prayer Breakfast regarding a possible Deanery Project was given and discussed, though there was no clear outcome.

The possibility of presenting a Motion to Diocesan Conference regarding clergy remuneration was discussed, and the principle agreed.

Reports were given on the development of Ministry Areas in the Deanery.

Most of the October meeting was given over to Bishop June, who had spent the day in the Deanery as part of her tour of the diocese. She had a very warm reception from the Conference, spoke about herself, and invited questions from the floor.

The Conference formally approved a request by the parish of Ewenny and St Brides Major to transfer from the Deanery of Bridgend to the Deanery of the Vale of Glamorgan as from 1 January 2018.

*Canon Mike Komor Area Dean*

### **Rectors Wardens Report**

Thank you again to everyone who helps to keep the church running so successfully. So much has happened this year and everyone has played their part. Thank you to Clive for his stirring work as church treasurer. We wish him well in his semi-retirement but we know he'll always be ready to give a helping hand.

Messy Church is going strong with morning and afternoon sessions and we regularly welcome new faces and old friends and many consider it their regular church attendance.

Open the Book continues to thrive and we are welcoming new members.

It's amazing what a difference paint and cement can make. Our church looks fresh and clean and outside work, talked about for so long is now complete.

We wish Rick well on his journey to ordination. I thank him for his help and support and look forward to calling him REV. in a few years' time.

The Foodbank continues to support the need of Pencoed and the contributions left in the church porch are gratefully received.

Lent Lunches have been well attended again this year. Thank you to all who attended and who helped provide soup, desserts, bread, cheese butter etc. and those who got stuck in, in the kitchen and helped clear up after. It was good to welcome friends from other churches. Donations will be given to the food bank.

Our website has been sparking interest, we've had several people coming to look around the churches. One lady came from Swansea, in a camper van.

Sadly this year we lost Rev. Bill Thomas, a dear friend who will be sorely missed.

Having reached 75 I will have to stand down this year as Rector's warden. Thank you all for your support, I wish my successor well and offer them any help I can

*Albert Philips*

### **Church Warden Report**

The past 12 months have been busy for me both personally and in the life of the church. Having now completed the Church in Wales discernment process I have been officially selected for training towards Ordination so I would like to thank everyone for the support I have received over the past few years through the selection process and I am sure going forward into the future into 2018

### **Church and Church hall maintenance**

The past year has seen our biggest investment into the structure and buildings. At a cost approaching £25,000 partially funded by grants we have had the exterior brick work repointed where necessary but maybe more obvious to see is the internal decoration which was completely revamped over the summer months, which has brought a fresh clean feeling to the interior. In church hall we have introduced recycling boxes and rubbish bins that have helped us to become greener with our waste disposal. Going forward into 2018 we are looking to replace the existing carpet which has started to show signs of many years of wear.

### **Social Events**

This year's trips included our now annual trip to the seaside. This year we went to Tenby, which was well attended, and everyone commented on a great day out. As Christmas approached we arranged a trip to the Worcester Christmas market and visit to the Cathedral. Again, a very full bus travelled, and it was great to see members of St David`s, St Paul`s, Llanilid and our Messy church congregation all coming together for these days out. Further summer and Christmas trips planned for 2018.

### **Charitable Giving**

Again, this year we have continued to support different charities with our quarterly leaving collections. In particular we responded magnificently when we collected for charities supporting the victims of the Grenfell Fire in early 2017. Going forward into 2018 please make us aware of any charities both local and worldwide that you would like to nominate as our quarterly chosen charity.

### **Messy Church**

Again, this year Messy church continues to grow, and we now appear to have a "Messy congregation" that participate keenly and attend regularly the Messy church worship. I look forward to seeing how Messy Church will develop further in 2018.

### **Treasurer Report (from Jan 2018)**

A thankyou to Clive Grabham for all his work as treasurer over the previous years and my own appreciation for the work since January in handing over to me. I inherit a healthy fund thanks to his efforts in particular in obtaining grants and gift aid payments over the past 12 months. I look forward to continuing the work to enable us to continue to invest in the church structure as well as helping local charity needs as well as worldwide ones. We have also invested in new accounting software which hopefully will make mine and future treasurers jobs a little easier.

*Rick Gratton*

### **St. Paul's Report**

We continue to keep our heads above water, and are fortunate that our numbers are keeping constant. We have held several fund raising events during the year, which has helped our finances considerably. We are very grateful to all who have supported us on these occasions.

Our services are unchanged, with Ian coming on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays for a Communion Service, and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> a lay led service. Rick has kindly come and taken some of these.

Once again we were able to have an Open Day and serve teas on the lawn. We were again blessed with a beautiful day. It is hoped to have a Summer Fete in August 2018.

## **Whist**

Our Whist Drives are still held twice a month at the Heol y Cyw Rugby Club. We are very indebted to them for the use of their facilities. We are a small group, but have had several new members lately which is encouraging. However there is always room for more!

## **Mothers Union**

Once again we have enjoyed the fellowship of the Mothers Union. We have attended the various Deanery Events, besides having a few interesting speakers.

*Eileen Thomas*

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The balances shown at the end of 2017 are relatively good, but are less than those at the end of 2016 which is due in part, to the costs of the works carried out in the year. Generally we still need to take stock of the coming year as there has, taking out the Grant and VAT refunds received, also been a drop in income. We must, should this trend continue, consider what effect this will have on our accounts.

We have seen drops in Receipts income in most headings (Giving Envelopes and Loose Collections, Mission, Fees for Weddings and Funerals). If it had not been for the receipt of the Grant and VAT Refunds, our end of year Loss would have been considerably higher. The Church Hall has covered its costs, giving a surplus in income for the year, and shows that with more use it could make a significant contribution to funds.

Payment expenditure increased considerably over that of Income in 2017 and is due to the cost of the Refurbishment/ Redecoration works carried out in the year and which required the transfer of funds from the Reserve Account. This shows in the end of year balances. There are other works being planned for the coming year, and although not to the same scale as the last financial year, the costs could/will affect our Reserves should we not be able to find/get grant assistance to help towards the costs of the work planned.

At the year-end, there was an outstanding claim of approximately £980.00 for VAT paid against the balance of the works carried out in 2017 which, when received, will show in the 2018 accounts. Gift aid and GASADS receipts are a significant part of our funding and the effect of non-receipt on our accounts, if legislation changes, should not be underestimated.

It should be noted that our accounts do not show the support that is given to some organisations or items. These do not appear on a list, such as that for Donations, but should be borne in mind when we consider/look at our overall giving/expenditure for the coming year.

*Clive Grabham*

## **St David's Mothers 'Union**

In Feb 2017 I was appointed Branch Leader with Kath Owen as treasurer and Angelia Thomas as Secretary. We have had an enjoyable and successful year with various speakers, services and activities. We made donations to many MU projects both overseas and home. The highlight of our year was the Easter Tea where we raised £700 for the AFIA Caravan in Trecco Bay. At present we are preparing for the 2018 Rainbow Fair and Easter Tea. We have been delighted this year to welcome 6 new members and are looking forward to another successful year .Thanks to all the wonderful members for their support.



We have 28 members for 2018

25 full members and 3 indoor members

Our indoor members now are Marg Swansbury Margaret Evans Jean Davies

Welcome back to Marion Holdcroft and Pam White.

Welcome to our new members, Hilary Stokes, Sue Williams, Pam McCall and Margaret Windsor .In September we will have a Eucharist Service .I would like to incorporate service to welcome new members and leaders.

Sadly two long-serving and faithful members died this year.

Grace Phillips Betty Tombleson

We remember them both with great affection.

2017 Meetings

**Jan 4th** Frances resigned as Branch Leader but continued as Deanery Leader

**Feb 1<sup>st</sup>** Elections

Leader Joan Sheldon

Treasurer Kath Owen

Secretary Angelia Thomas

**Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>** Welsh afternoon

**April 4th** Planning Easter Tea

**April 19<sup>th</sup>** Easter Afternoon Tea in aid of AFIA

**April 24<sup>th</sup>** Deanery Committee Meeting Southerndown

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>** Deanery Festival Llanharan

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** Lowrie Washington presented cheque for £700

**May 6<sup>th</sup>** Tea Stall Plant Sale

**June 7<sup>th</sup>** David Owen Travel Ancient civilizations

**July 5<sup>th</sup>** Communion cancelled .Rector unavailable.

**July 12<sup>th</sup>** Kath and Joan visited new caravan.

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** Deanery Committee Meeting Wyndham

**July 27<sup>th</sup>** Joined trip to Tenby

**Sept 6<sup>th</sup>** Doug John History of Pencoed

**Sept 11<sup>th</sup>** Eucharist in Llandaff Arch Deaconry

**September** Beetle Drive Wyndham

**October 4<sup>th</sup>** Raye Saunders Mothers Union Memories and memorabilia

**Oct 11<sup>th</sup> Llandaff Diocese M U** AGM Jurys Hotel

**Nov 1<sup>st</sup>** planning meeting  
**Nov 25<sup>th</sup>** Stalls and Tea Christmas Fair  
**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** Worcester Trip  
**Dec 4<sup>th</sup>** Advent Service Llangeinor  
**Dec 6<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Lunch Vic in Sigingstone

*Joan Sheldon*

### **Open The Book**

Have you ever thought that children in school might be missing out on what the Bible has to show them? They could go through their entire school life without ever learning about Adam & Eve, Noah, Samson, David, Jonah or even the life of Jesus and the stories of the New Testament.

The aim of Open The Book is to enable every child to hear the story of the bible, at school, in their Primary years. We hope to open their eyes, open their hearts and open their minds every time we go into school and Open The Book.

Open The Book offers a programme of themed and dramatized Bible Stories, each around 10-15 minutes long that fit completely into assembly times in schools. There are 105 stories in a complete three year rolling programme, which gives an overview of the Bible from Genesis to the Gospels.

Open The Book began in Pencoed in 2008 with four groups of two. What a success it has been. Now in 2018 we still have four groups but have 21 volunteer storytellers who are helped by Ian and the Rev Rachel. We visit 3 schools, Croesty Primary, Pencoed Primary and once a month Brynna Primary. We take Open The Book into these schools on a Monday morning during term time, where we use drama, props, costume and even the children themselves to present Bible stories in ways that are lively, engaging, informative and great fun for everyone involved!

With God's help, Open The Book continues to go from strength to strength, but we may never know how much impact it is having on our children and on our community.

*Angelia Thomas*

### **FAIRTRADE**

A big thank you to everyone who has supported Fair trade last year. Our sales were down for several reasons

- 1) We have lost our display window in church.
- 2) Our present display is behind the porch door and not very visible.

But this will still be remedied when we have a new display cabinet in the church porch.

The Fair trade shop (Fairdos) in Canton where we get our sale and return goods is currently having to make difficult decisions whether to keep its presence as a much loved shop in Canton or to move to different premises and concentrate on sale/return and event sales. So pray for them and for fair trade sales generally.

## **CHRISTIAN AID**

Thank you to everyone who has supported Christian Aid this year. We sent £1140 after our street collections and collection in Sainsbury's and despite our carol singing being hampered by bad weather and poor attendance we were able to send £115 to Christian Aid. Please support out 2018 events.

*Chris Phillips*

## **Magazine**

First of all, many thanks to the regular contributors to the magazine, and to those who distribute and deliver them – you're doing a great job. We're always pleased to hear from anyone with an article to contribute – you don't have to be a 'regular'! However, there is still a slight problem with late submission of articles. Because Llanilid has services fortnightly, the magazine has to be printed in time for the fourth Sunday in the month – otherwise our brothers and sisters in Llanilid don't get their copies until nearly mid-month.

Imagine my frustration when, having trawled the internet for filler articles (and sometimes these are very good, and apt!) or even burned the midnight oil to produce something of my own, I get an article that just has to go in this month's edition, and one or more 'fillers' have to be dropped. So please, make every effort to get articles to your editor in good time. The deadline will appear in the newsletter; but allow extra time if you are submitting a hard copy – I need to type these in!

Above all, keep those great articles coming. You'd be surprised where the magazine turns up – and we get 'hits' from all over the world for the webzine.

*Judy*