



# CYTÛN LLANDUDNO

## Llandudno Churches Together

Newsletter No 34 June 2005

### *Llythyr y Llywydd*

Mae'n ddeuddeng mlynedd ers i mi cael fy sefydlu gyntaf fel Llywydd Cytûn, Llandudno - efallai fod y cof wedi pallu ac mai dyma pam rydych yn fodlon gofyn i mi unwaith eto! Ond o ddifrif, rwy'n gwerthfawrogi'r fraint rydych wedi'i roi i mi am yr ail dro. Yn anochel, rwyf wedi bod yn hel meddyliau am y blynyddoedd sydd wedi mynd heibio ers i mi ddal y swydd hon diwethaf.

Yn y dyddiau hynny, roeddwn yn addoli gyda'r Gyfeillach Gristnogol Llandudno ble bum yn gwasanaethau fel Cyd Weinidog am nifer o flynyddoedd. Caodd y Gyfeillach ei drysau am y tro olaf ar ddiwedd 1999. Dilynodd gyfnod o siomedigaeth wirioneddol. Doedd ein cynlluniau ddim wedi dwyn ffrwyth ac roedd raid i ni i gyd wynebu dyfodol cwbl newydd.

Gwnaed yr holl sefyllfa'n fater o weddi. Yn y diwedd, teimlodd tri ohonom ein bod yn cael ein harwain at addoli yn yr Eglwys yng Nghymru. I mi, roedd hynny'n golygu dychwelyd at fy ngwreiddiau Anglicanaidd. Ar ôl peth amser roeddwn yn gwybod fod Duw yn fy ngalw i gynnig fy hunan i'r offeiriadaeth. Profwyd fy ngalwad a'i gadarnhau. Dilynwyd hynny gan ddwy flynedd bellach o astudio ar Gwrs Hyfforddiant Gweinidogaethol Esgobaethol Llanelwy a lleoliad hyfforddi gyda'r Parch Christine Owen ym mhlwyfi Llansanffraid ac Eglwys Bach yn Nyffryn Conwy.

Cefais fy ordeinio yn Eglwys Gadeiriol Llanelwy ar 21ain Mehefin 2003 a'm trwyddedu i wasanaethu fel Curad Di-dâl ym Mhlwyf Llanrhos, gyda'r Parchedig Ganon Robert Griffiths yn Ficer.

Rwy'n edrych ymlaen yn arw at eich gwasanaethu yn ystod y flwyddyn sydd i ddod. Rwy'n gweddïo y bydd Ein Harglwydd yn parhau i ddenu cynulleidfaoedd yn agosach at ei gilydd ym mhob un o'r Eglwysi sy'n gwneud Cytûn Llandudno a gofynnaf i chi ymuno gyda mi mewn gweddi i wireddu hyn.

### *The President's letter:*

It's twelve years since I was first inducted as President of Cytûn, Llandudno – perhaps the memory has grown faint, so you've felt safe in asking me again! Seriously, I do appreciate the honour which you have given me for a second time. Inevitably, I've been reviewing the years that have passed since I last held this office.

In those days I worshipped with The Llandudno Christian Fellowship, where I served as a Joint Minister for a number of years. Llandudno Christian Fellowship finally closed its doors at the end of 1999. There followed a period of real disappointment, when the plans we had made did not work out, and we all had to face a completely new future.

The whole prospect was made a matter of prayer. Finally, three of us felt led to Worship with the Church-in-Wales. For me, this was a return to my Anglican roots. After a time I knew God was calling me to offer myself for ordination. My call was tested and affirmed, this was followed by a further two years study on the St Asaph Diocesan Ministerial Training Course, and a training placement with the Reverend Christine Owen in the Parishes of Llansanffraid and Eglwys Bach, in the Conwy Valley.

I was ordained in St Asaph Cathedral on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2003 and licensed to serve as Non Stipendiary Curate in the Parish of Llanrhos, where the Reverend Canon Robert Griffiths is my Vicar.

I am really looking forward to serving you all during the coming year, and I am praying that Our Lord will continue to draw the congregations, at each of the Churches that make up Cytûn Llandudno, ever closer to each other, and I would ask you to join with me in prayer to this end.

*Every Blessing, Pam Wright*

*Pob Bendith, Pam Wright*

## **Cytûn Hustings Meeting – Sunday 24 April**

So, we have all had our say and Betty Williams is back as our representative in the House of Commons. She has certainly been a very conscientious constituency MP these last eight years. We wish her well and she will need our continued support, encouragement and prayers.

It has become a tradition in recent years that Cytûn invites all the parliamentary candidates to a Hustings meeting. We are very grateful to Emmanuel Christian Centre for again providing the venue for this event and to Mr David Hay for agreeing to be our Chairman for the second time. Churches and individuals submitted in advance many excellent questions and these were condensed to ten. However the fact that there were eight candidates meant that there was only time for them all to tackle three of the questions. In the last resort their answers were of less significance than the fact that we were all able to sum the candidates up as individuals and see how they interacted with each other. The four main party candidates were all from backgrounds of Faith and spoke with genuine conviction. They were remarkably supportive of each other, which was a welcome change from the national scene.

Thanks again to Cytûn, Emmanuel, David Hay and the 100 or so people of all ages, who attended.

*Patrick Rohde*

## **The Cytûn AGM on May 17th**

The Revd Nick Sissons, retiring President opened the meeting with devotions on the theme: “To set the mind on the spirit is life and peace”. In this, with his guitar, he led the members in the singing of the Taize chorus: “Holy Spirit Come to us”, and he reminded us that it was fitting at the first meeting after the feast of the Ascension to recall that God can work through Committees, as when the eleven chose a new disciple.

Looking back over his year in office, he referred to the highlights, which were the Lenten Series, the Epiphany service, the November Conference with the Revd Barbara Glasson and her team from the

“Somewhere Else” church in Liverpool, and also his visit to the Conwy County Borough Council with the Revd Jane Allen to discuss the safety problems with regard to gravestones in the Great Orme Cemetery.

Nick spoke of the friendly and welcoming nature of Llandudno Cytûn and said that preaching in other churches during his year of office had been a delight. He was also well aware that the involvement of the clergy of the town in areas such as the hospice, the hospital, Ysgol Gogarth, and the Asda Chaplaincy was part of our shared life together. Nick felt there was great truth in the words of the Revd Andrew Sully, Cytûn Regional Ecumenical Officer, on his recent visit, that we should focus on local issues, do a few things and do them well.

Later he mentioned the voucher scheme – to feed the homeless, which had been a very important focus of this year’s work and had proved too successful in that it was now costing £300 per month, which we really could not afford. A small sub-committee had met to consider the problem and they proposed that for the summer months, starting on June 1st, sandwiches be provided instead of vouchers. The proposals were outlined by Janet Hughes and are reported below.

The president referred to the pre-election hustings meeting and announced that he had asked Bishop Gerard to prepare a report on his impressions of the hustings meeting. He now had the report, for which he thanked Bishop Gerard and it would need to be carefully studied before the next elections were held.

[It is noted that the report contains a series of detailed recommendations that will need to be considered in order to allow time for more questions to be asked and answered. The report also advocates that the questions be more carefully vetted and prioritised by Cytûn members prior to the hustings meeting].

On another matter, he looked forward to the time when the local Coptic Christians would join Cytûn, as observers in the first instance.

[Towards this end, Father Bishoy, priest in charge of the newly established Coptic Orthodox Congregation, which is now worshipping in the former Ebenezer Methodist Church in Trinity Avenue, has recently accepted an invitation to attend a fraternal luncheon].

## Retirement of Patrick Rohde

The President said that he could not let the occasion pass without paying a special tribute to the work, much of it behind the scenes, of Patrick Rohde, who, after five dedicated years, has stepped down as Secretary of Cytûn.

We owe him a great debt of gratitude for all that he has done and extend to him every good wish for the future. The Council has voted unanimously for him to become a life member.

## Regional Cytûn for Conwy County

Conversations have begun with other local Cytûn organisations in the County Borough of Conwy to investigate the feasibility of establishing a regional Cytûn for the County Borough, which would act as a 'Forum' of Churches for contact and consultation with the CCBC authority and the various Community Partnerships in the Borough.

## Retirement of Brian and Pauline

Brian and Pauline Stewart, the Directors and genial hosts at the Stella Maris Parish and Diocesan Conference Centre are retiring to live in Fakenham near Walsingham in North Norfolk, so as to be near their family. At the AGM, the President expressed the deep appreciation of Cytûn members for the warm and friendly way in which they had prepared for our meetings, welcomed everyone, provided lunch for the fraternal gatherings and attended all our events. They will be very much missed.

On **Wednesday, July 7th**, there will be an ongoing party at Stella Maris from 6pm to 10pm during which you are all invited to drop in, and, over a glass of wine and a nibble of cheese, say your goodbyes.

## Reports

AGM reports were received from the Treasurer, and from The Bible Society by The Revd Peter Plunkett, from Christian Aid by Mary Moxham, and from The Mission House by The Revd Pam Wright.

*[Thanks to Arline Griffiths, for permission to quote extensively from the draft AGM minutes, and other Cytûn sources, Noel Walley]*

## Election of Cytûn Officers

Finally, to conclude, the following were elected:

President:	The Revd Pam Wright
Vice-President:	Father Andrew Franklin
Secretary:	Mrs Arline Griffiths
Treasurer:	Mrs Margaret Baker
Auditor:	Mr Chris Griffiths
Press & Publicity:	Mrs Pat Hillman & Mr Noel Walley

Pam Wright, the new President took the chair and closed the AGM with a sharing of the Grace.

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## Feeding Llandudno's Homeless People

The Voucher Scheme has proved to be a victim of its own success, in that we really cannot, at the moment, afford the £300 per month cost of the vouchers we have been distributing. For the summer months, therefore, and hopefully as an interim measure, we are providing sandwiches instead. (Father Andrew tells us that applicants are always given a cup of tea.)

The sandwiches are being made on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons in the kitchen of St. John's Methodist Church, Mostyn Street, starting at 12:30 p.m., and Janet Hughes has drawn up a rota for all churches to be involved. It is so important that we all own and are involved in this project if it is to succeed. If you would like to help, the Cytûn Representative in your church will be delighted to hear from you.

The sandwiches are then transferred to the fridge at the Presbytery of Our Lady Star of the Sea, from where they are distributed at the usual time.

This does not mean, however, that contributions of money are no longer needed. On the contrary, apart from funding the sandwiches, we need to bear in mind that sandwiches will not be enough in the winter and also that our long term aim is to provide some sort of day shelter.

*Arline Griffiths & Janet Hughes*

## Penrhynside Mission House Report

We continue to thank God for His goodness to us. The transition of young people's activities to 'The Garage' (Gloddaeth United Church annexe) is complete – Let's Go, 11-14s, on Monday evenings; 15+ on Sunday evenings; BITE (Bible TEaching) on Saturdays evenings once a month.

We have now affiliated to ENERGISE+, part of Crusaders, a national Christian youth organisation. This gives us access to a brilliant website for teaching and activity resources of a most creative and practical nature. We are part of their Public Liability insurance scheme, and also they handle all Child Protection issues, including doing Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau disclosures for us, and keeping us up-to-date on all legislative matters related to young people's work, so important these days. ENERGISE+ gives us leadership training and the share expertise of the area representative Andy Hughes of Rhyl. There is also national 'hotline' for advice; all this for £20 a month.

Sam has finished his six months as link worker. We are grateful for his help. He hopes to find employment in this area and continue his support. Darren is leaving Mission House for London after four year's involvement in our young people's activities. We wish him well and give thanks for his contribution to Mission House.

D.V. there will be our third Lets Go activity week at St David's College in August, 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. This will be led by Sarah and Natalie, both 'home grown' leaders, now training to be teachers. They will be out in Uganda in July helping a St. David's College team working with Rwandan refugees.

Last Monday at Lets Go, I watched 17 young people enthusiastically going off for a game of rounders. They were from five churches. This is what's Lets Go is all about, bringing together smaller groups of young people and individuals for fun, teaching and fellowship, without detracting from their own church involvement. Sam, Serge and Jessica were baptised on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Praise the Lord!

*Peter Marshall*

## Induction of Cytûn President

The Revd Pam Wright was welcomed and inducted as our new President, at a special service attended by a good number of Cytûn members on Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup> in the beautiful church of All Saints, Deganwy. Let us pray for her and her ministry among us.

## Retirement of Methodist Minister

The Revd Peter Shilling, Circuit Superintendent and minister of St John's Methodist Church, Llandudno is taking early retirement this summer because of his health. His last service at St. John's will take place on Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 pm.

## Pope Benedict XVI and Christian Unity

The new Pope made his first Official Visit outside Rome on Sunday May 29<sup>th</sup> when he flew by Italian Military helicopter to Bari in Southern Italy to celebrate Mass with 150,000 people at a gathering of Italian Bishops, Priests and Laity. In his sermon he asked "How can we communicate with the Lord if we don't communicate among ourselves?" He repeated the pledge, which he made at his election, to devote himself to healing the rifts between Roman Catholics and other Christian Churches that had separated from Rome during the past millennium.

## Dates for your Diary

**Cytûn Monthly Prayers** – Second Saturday every month – **now starting at 8:30 am.**

**Cytûn Council** – July 12<sup>th</sup> – Stella Maris – 7 pm.

**CYTÛN Wales** will provide a united witness in a single marquee at the **National Eisteddfod**, to be held in **Bangor** from **July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Bible Society** – Coffee Morning – Gloddaeth United Church – **Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>.**

*Please let me have dates and reports etc for the next Newsletter by September 1st, latest*

*– Noel Walley*