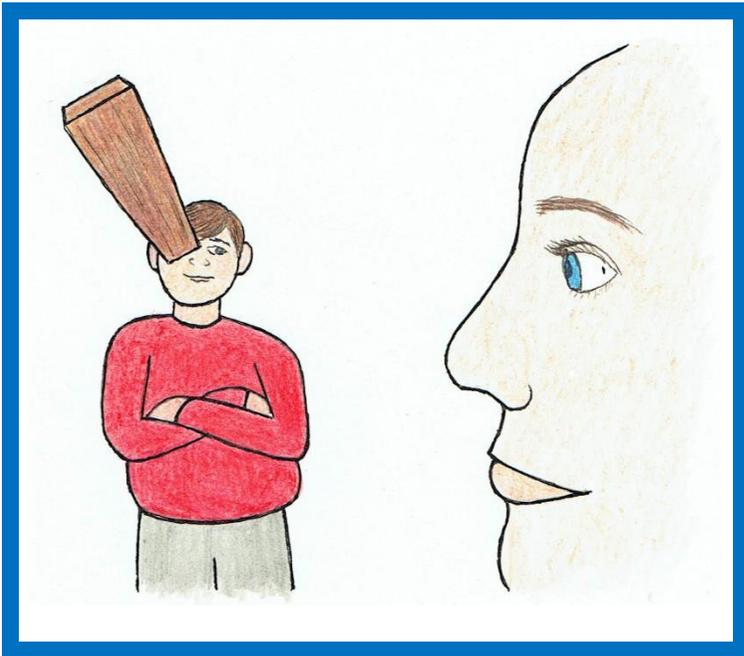


*PENTREF  
BAPTIST  
CHAPEL*



The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge



Why, then,  
do you look  
at the  
speck in  
your  
brother's  
eye and  
pay no  
attention to  
the plank in  
your own  
eye?  
Matthew 7:3

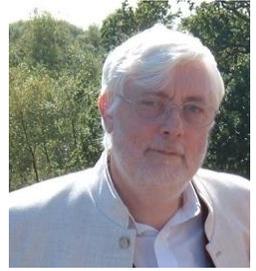
**The Newsletter  
Of Newbridge-On-Wye Baptist Church  
February 2022**

## FROM THE MINISTER

*“Judge not, that you be not judged.”* According to one website that I looked at this is one of the four most misused Bible verses.

To see why, it would be best to read it in context:

*“Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove the speck from your eye’; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”*



Although this verse starts with the words *“Judge not”* the context shows that Jesus was saying just the opposite of that – the verse is really about making ‘right judgements’.

By the use of exaggeration and hyperbole Jesus is painting a comic picture (see front cover) of one person trying to correct another – he paints the comic picture in order to make a serious point. It may be a serious point, but it is also a simple one. Before we can judge anyone else, we must first look at ourselves.

In the present clamour about the breaking of lockdown rules we would do well to take the words of Jesus to heart. Before we try to remove the speck (although in this case it does seem to be a rather big speck) from someone else’s eye, we need first to examine ourselves.

The problem of applying this verse to the present chaotic political situation is that when most of us examine ourselves, we find that, in an attempt to *“love our neighbour, as yourself”* (to quote another saying of Jesus), we have tried our best to keep to the rules and have found ourselves sorry when we have inadvertently broken them.

Having examined ourselves and removed *“the plank”* we can now see clearly and are able to help someone else to remove the speck from their eye.

The Prime Minister has apologised. As I am someone who has said the prayer that Jesus taught *“forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us”* many times, I have no problem with the idea of forgiving those who apologise.

But the question is: Is an apology enough? Yes, it is enough to be forgiven. No, it is not enough for someone who has shown such colossal misjudgement to have my confidence to go on governing the country.

The words of Jesus are not just there for those who preach them on a Sunday or for that matter those who come and hear them on a Sunday. The words of Jesus have something serious to say in nearly every situation in which we find ourselves.

Steve

# SERVICES AT PENTREF



Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	10:30am	Rev Steve Wallis (Communion)
	5:00pm	Service on Zoom
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	10:30am	Rev Steve Wallis
	5:00pm	Service on Zoom
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	10:30am	Heather Jones
	5:00pm	Service on Zoom
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	10:00am	Rev Steve Wallis
	5:00pm	Service on Zoom (Communion)

To get a link to join the Zoom Meetings please email the secretary at:  
[Elsa.harflett@hotmail.com](mailto:Elsa.harflett@hotmail.com)

**PRAYER & BIBLE REFLECTION**  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2:30PM on Zoom



## Green Connections Powys

Llanyre Community Council are pleased to report that in partnership with Radnor Wildlife Trust a wildflower area will be created on the small grassed area in Beulah Road at its junction with the slip-road from Anvic Carpets.

A site meeting will take place at 2pm on Tuesday 15th March 2022. If you would be willing to offer your assistance as volunteer or would like to find out more about the project please attend the site meeting or contact one of the named Radnor Wildlife Trust officers or the Llanyre Community Council Clerk Vanessa Garwood 01597 851800 [llanyreclerk@gmail.com](mailto:llanyreclerk@gmail.com)

This project has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

Green Connections Powys Green Connections Powys is a collaborative Wildlife Trusts project across Powys that will be working with community groups, small businesses, landowners and statutory organisations to take local action to address climate change and biodiversity loss and create a nature recovery network across the county.

Together we will be surveying and mapping wildlife, advising on habitat management and nature-based solutions, helping people encourage more wildlife into their communities and offering opportunities for upskilling and volunteering.

The project is funded through the Welsh Government's ENRaW scheme. It will run from April 2021 to March 2023 with Radnorshire Wildlife Trust as the project lead partner. We see this project as a springboard to help landowners and communities begin to take action, develop projects and seek funding for future activity.

If you would like to know more, please contact:

[janice@rwtwales.org](mailto:janice@rwtwales.org) Community Wildlife Officer

[sarah@rwtwales.org](mailto:sarah@rwtwales.org) Conservation Officer



# POPPY APPEAL VOLUNTEER

For many years Tony Pryn has been the local representative for running the poppy appeal. He is now in his eighties and suffering with mobility problems and is looking for someone to take over. He normally gives out poppies, collection boxes and tins to local businesses, and then collects them and returns the proceeds to Wales Poppy Appeal.

Tony is hoping someone will now relieve him of what has become a physical burden. His contact number is 01982 552296. If you are interested in knowing more and possibly taking over from him, please give him a call.

I think we would all like to thank Tony for all the work he has done in the past to support the Poppy appeal.

---



## USED POSTAGE STAMPS

Pentref Chapel collects used postage stamps which are sold to support the work of the Leprosy Mission. The Leprosy mission works in countries all over the world bringing support to those who are suffering from leprosy. If you have any used stamps, please drop them into

the chapel or give them to someone you know who goes to the chapel. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Stamps of all descriptions, GB and foreign (even the very common ones) (please leave approx 5mm of the envelope around the stamp)

Postcards (GB and foreign, posted or unused)

Coins and bank notes

Cigarette cards

Old matchboxes

Medals



**Newbridge carnival is back on  
Put the 25th June 2022 in your diary.**

**There will be  
events like  
a magician,  
bubbleologist,  
facepainting,  
kids rides  
to name a few.**

**All free.**

**Look out for fundraising events  
And opportunities to help**

Open Doors UK, serving Persecuted Christians around the world

February Prayer Afternoon

St Frances Centre, Holy Trinity Church  
Tuesday February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2.30-4pm

We hope to serve a cuppa, and will maintain the appropriate covid rules concerning hygiene, seat spacing and mask wearing that may still apply.

Bae (nae changed for security reasons), of North Korea, was sentenced to a life-time of back-breaking labour and starvation rations-just for having a Bible. She managed to escape and received help in a safe house in China but then decided to return with food, medicines and a Bible to share with her underground group of believers

Amazingly, She was able to get a letter to an Open Doors partner, thanking Open Doors and supporters like you for their prayers and gifts. We can't tell you how she got it to us – doing so would put Bae in incredible danger. Please pray for Bae as you read her extraordinary message. (The image is from a reconstruction of Bae's story.)



Dear friends,

We are well and peaceful with Father's grace and your concern.

We give thanks to the Father who is doing almighty works. I am so overwhelmed to write you this letter; we received the greatest love and concern which cannot be returned back.

We live firmly in the suffering march, as always.

Whenever I open my eyes in the morning, I feel the presence of our Father. Right now, we only receive materials from you—but we expect the day to come when we can return those back in God.

From the perspective of other people, our life of suffering must seem like a cursed life; however, this suffering is a blessing from our Father who allowed it in our life because it is a shortcut to the Father. He knows our suffering and listens to our prayers. We thank our Father who has done such great things to prepare life for us.

We, who receive His amazing grace, keenly realise and understand His words: "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the Father." That means any life that follows His words is blessed. The thing I give thanks for the most is that Father God uses me to work as his servant. I desire to dedicate my life, until death, to glorify Him.

Brother, I have one request. Please send our gratitude and appreciation to those who sent these support materials to us. I bow to them with a thankful heart.

Let's stay healthy and fight strongly for a gospelised North Korea.

Take care,

Bae, your sister in Christ

More details, and ways in which you may send a donation if you wish, can be found on [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org)

There are so many such stories to be heard, so why not come along on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb!

Louise Tarling (822615)

# PRAYER



Each month at various times people from the Chapel get together to pray. If you have any prayer requests you can email them to me at [steveoncomputer@aol.com](mailto:steveoncomputer@aol.com) putting 'Prayer Requests' in the subject bar. Alternatively put them in an envelope marked 'Prayer Requests' and put it through my letter box. 'Cartref' (On the main road opposite the mile post.)

This newsletter is aimed to let the whole village know what is happening at the Baptist Church.

We intend to continue putting this newsletter out monthly to every home in the village.

We would like the newsletter to be a service to the village and will happily publicise events organised by other groups. If you would like to include an event in future issues, please contact either Steve or Elsa.

[Steveoncomputer@aol.com](mailto:Steveoncomputer@aol.com) 01597 860185

[Elsa.harflett@hotmail.com](mailto:Elsa.harflett@hotmail.com)

You can also find us on the internet at:

[www.newbridgebaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.newbridgebaptistchurch.co.uk)

or on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/Pentref-Baptist-Chapel](http://www.facebook.com/Pentref-Baptist-Chapel)

**The deadline for the March Edition is Thu 24<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Please send to [steveoncomputer@aol.com](mailto:steveoncomputer@aol.com)**