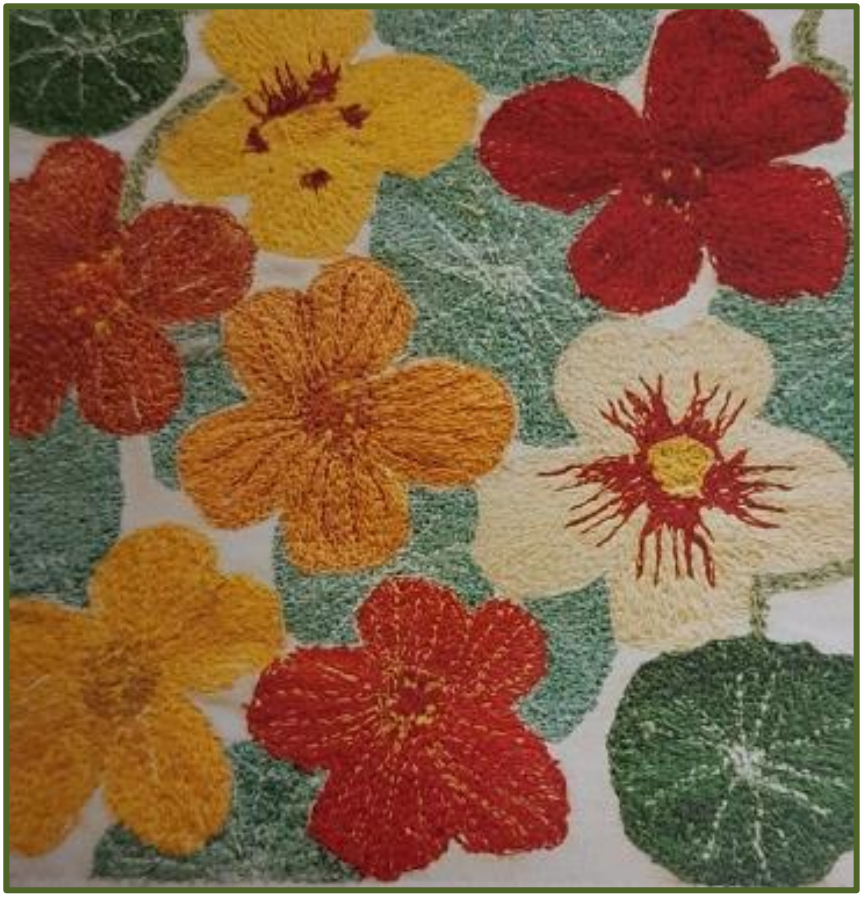
PENTREF BAPTIST CHAPEL

The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge



Nasturtiums – Stitched by Bronwen Jenkins

The Newbridge-On-Wye Newsletter
Pentref Baptist Church
June 2024

Just last week, I was in Denmark, visiting my family on the West Coast of Jutland. My parents still live in the Fenland-flat sand dune landscape where I grew up, and on one of the first days I was here, we went to watch the sunset in a nearby harbour town. We'd just been at the quay looking at the ships and saw the lifeboat head out. A few minutes later, as we were taking photos from the beach (my Mum is a great Instagrammer), we noticed something on the horizon, towards which the lifeboat seemed to be heading. Slowly before our eyes, we witnessed how one fishing vessel had towed another towards land, and then, for the last bit of the journey, was handing over to the bigger lifeboat and the small B-class which had gone out with it. It took a while but then everything began moving slowly.

As they came closer to the harbour mouth, we drove back onto the quay where we watched the most amazing manoeuvring, first to get the fishing vessel into the harbour itself, and then not only to moor it safely, but to turn it 180 degrees in a fairly small harbour basin while the children of the fishermen on board were watching and shouting excited hellos from land. Expert seamanship and teamwork between the two lifeboats towing and braking meant that the large ship with no engine power floated with a gentle drift coming to a halt in a perfect position while the colleague, sailing under the Union Jack we gathered from ShippingRadar, unloaded their catch near the auction house behind the ice works, where my Dad had done the same when I was a little girl all those many years ago.

I was very impressed with the precision with which they could manoeuvre such a large ship in such a small space and at just how much spray was created by the B-class as it pulled to act as a brake at just the right moment. I am sure the RNLI are equally skilled and greatly appreciated, especially in those coastal places where people's lives depend on them.

The incredible teamwork between the three vessels – the along-sider, the large lifeboat and the small B-class – reminded me of how the three persons of the Trinity work in perfect coordination to steer us all into a safe harbour. Sometimes we help, sometimes I think we can be more like deadweight wanting to drift off to the side, but we are in good hands with the God who loves us and really wants us to be safe and thriving.

Pentecost has just been commemorated in chapels and churches, celebrating that God continues to work in this world and to empower followers of Jesus to bring good news of God's love and welcome to all. We are all different, but just like the three persons that make up one God, so we too play unique roles in God's project. You can see another 'parable' of that on the pages about the stitching exhibition inside. **-Misha**

SERVICES AT PENTREF

Sunday	**2nd**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen (Communion)**
			6:30pm	**Taizé Service**
Sunday	**9th**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**No Service (**Penuel Sankey**)**
Sunday	**16th**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Steve Wallis**
			6:30pm	**Bring and Share Service**
Sunday	**23rd**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Andrew Wyton**
			6:30pm	**Communion Service**
Sunday	**30th**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:00pm	**"Whole, healed and held"**
Every Sunday afternoon, there is a Zoom service at 4:30. For details please contact Rev Steve Wallis via steveoncomputer@aol.com				
First Sunday in July				
Sunday	**7th**	**July**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Evening Service**

Everyone is very welcome to join any of these services. If you have any questions, please contact the secretary: elsa.harflett.eh@gmail.com.

It'd be great to see you!

What's on at Pentref?					
Date		Morning	Early afternoon	Late afternoon	Evening
Saturday	1		*Association Listening Day*		
Sunday	2	Morning Service		Zoom	Taizé Service
Monday	3				
Tuesday	4				
Wednesday	5	Coffee Morning			
Thursday	6		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	7				
Saturday	8				
Sunday	9	Morning Service		Zoom	No service
Monday	10				
Tuesday	11				
Wednesday	12				Shared Meal
Thursday	13		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	14				
Saturday	15				
Sunday	16	Morning Service		Zoom	Bring and Share
Monday	17		BUW in vestry		
Tuesday	18				
Wednesday	19				
Thursday	20		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	WI in vestry
Friday	21				
Saturday	22				
Sunday	23	Morning Service		Zoom	Communion Service
Monday	24				
Tuesday	25				
Wednesday	26				Window o-t World
Thursday	27		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	28				
Saturday	29				
Sunday	30	Morning Service		Zoom	"Whole"

The exact times of these events can be found in the newsletter. If you would like more details or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the minister or the church secretary.
You can find our details on the back of this newsletter.

It's always lovely to see everyone who comes to help make these events what they are.

NEXT COFFEE MORNING: 5th JUNE 10:30

The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday **June 5th 10:30 am till noon** in the chapel vestry, where we will finish our collection for The Friends of Newbridge-on-Wye School and begin collecting for our next local good cause. Do let us know if you have any local charities in mind for future coffee mornings as the list is updated every few months.

The Coffee Mornings always take place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, and they provide a nice opportunity to catch up with friends and the latest news and of course, to try the various cakes and biscuits on offer.

There's normally somewhere between 20 and 30 people present, some of whom have come from Llandrindod, Llanafan and Builth to support local charities and enjoy pleasant company. It would be lovely to see you too, if you are free.

At All Saints:

At All Saints, there is a service on the 1st Sunday of the month at 11am, and you would be very welcome to join the next one on 2nd June.

You can get more details from Rev'd Lance Sharpe (9 Cae Nant) whose mobile number is 07938 762570.

DEFIB – DO YOU KNOW?

The village defibrillator is on the side wall of the Post Office. Another is on the hill at Llysdinam, next to a gate a bit further up than Cefn y Maes. If you ever need to use them, a voice will guide you through the process, so you have the best chance of making a huge different in an emergency.

The defib now has someone looking after it again, so that pads and other items will be checked and replaced. Thank you.

ARE YOU READY?

The 2024 Newbridge-on-Wye Carnival will be upon us soon, and I am sure many preparations are being made around the village already. Suddenly, it will all be happening. I understand that the school is creating their own float this year, and hopefully having a great time learning and preparing. See you all on the 29th of June for a great day for all the community.

NEWBRIDGE-ON-WYE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Newbridge WI enjoyed a very successful day at the County show Knighton this month and brought home three trophies for the craft and cookery competitions, including the Highest marks for a WI with fourteen members or less. Well done!

Lyn Davies writes: Our next meeting will be at Pentref chapel on Thursday 20th June at 7pm. If you would like to come and meet us (with no obligation to join, cook or sew!), our speaker for next month will be Mr Bob Burson, a very experienced and entertaining mountaineer.

20th June	Bob Burson: The man who would marry a mountain
18th July	Garden Party
15th August	Brecon Canal boat trip
19th Sept	Ray Rand: Blood Bikes
17th October	*Dawn Gill "Cruising Holidays"*

SHARED MEAL 12th JUNE

The most recent Shared Meal was a bring and share supper, which could have easily fed the 5000! So many lovely dishes, from lasagne over quiches to some stunning puddings.

The next opportunity to join this community event will be on **Wednesday the 12th of June at 6PM**, where hopefully, the weather will allow us to have a barbecue in the grounds. We will update you on Facebook etc once we see the forecast. Do join us. We always have a good time, not least due to the folk who attend, and it would be even better if you came too, whether you are 2 or 92, from Newbridge or from further afield.

AT THE NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS

One of the chapel members, Bronwen Jenkins, is part of a stitching group of very creative people who have met at the National Botanic Gardens of Wales for 10 years, creating nature-inspired art pieces which have recently been on display at the Gardens. A group of us went together to see the exhibition and ended up having a very lovely day in bright sunlight, enjoying lunch together and seeing the bluebells in the woods – some of us on the visitor buggy which is free for all to ride on and very handy if one's legs are not the best.

There were multiple areas around the Gardens where different themes were explored, often created by smaller groups of stitchers collaborating in person or remotely, each with a distinct style and approach. I kept thinking it was a bit like how God creates the church!

Vegetables, plants used for dye, medicinal plants, plants visited by bees all ordered according to the findings of a PhD project looking at the DNA present in honey at different times of the year, and much more. Hugely fascinating insights delivered in a compelling way.

Many of us found the "Rivers" project particularly stunning – the image above is from that part of the exhibition. The following images also show some the diversity in the exhibition working together to form a whole, such as this detail from one of the panels of plants used for dye, one of them by Bronwen, who also created this month's frontpage image.

More details from the Stitching Exhibition...

Newbridge on Wye
Carnival Night Entertainment
6pm @ New Inn

9pm @ Golden Lion
Universal Translators

God says: "I will rejoice over you with loud singing."

Each Sunday a small group of people from across the country meet on Zoom for a service. We share communion twice a month.

The service is slightly different from a traditional service in a chapel. We aim to get to know one-another and to share with and pray for each other.

WHAT WE DO

* We pray together.
* We read the Bible together.
* We discuss together – trying to hear what God might be saying to us through the passage.

WHAT WE DON'T DO

* There is no singing of hymns.
* There is no music.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN US

This service may be particularly helpful if you are stuck at home for any reason or if your chapel only meets occasionally.

Golden Lion Tippit Tournament

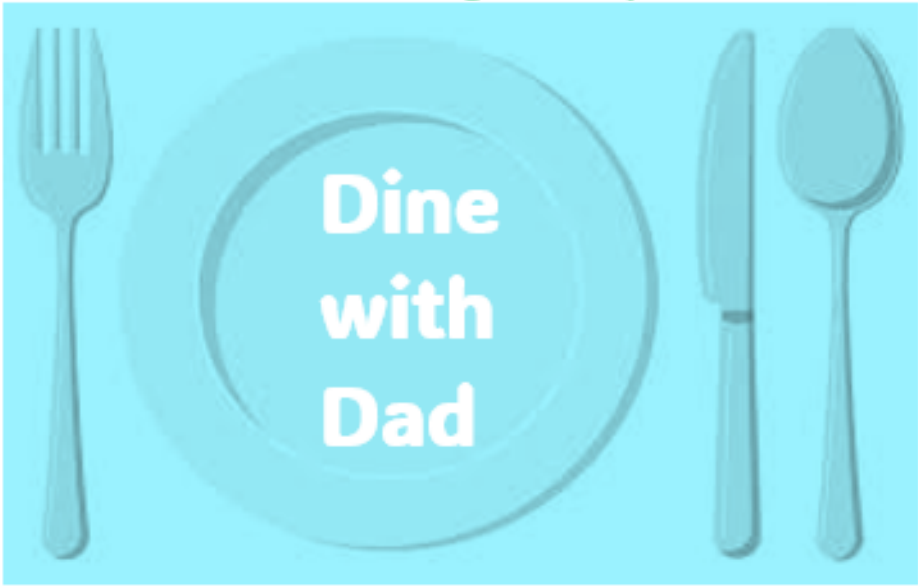
Saturday 1st June

4pm

Entry £6 a Team

Golden Lion Inn

Newbridge on Wye



Father's Day Carvery

Sunday 16th June 2024

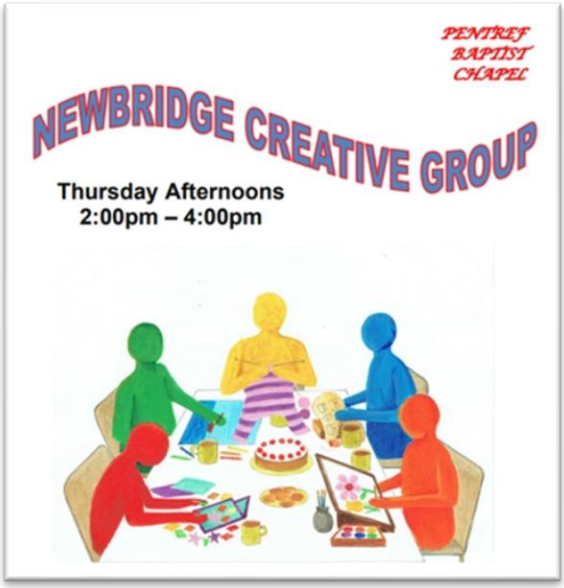
Book your table now &
Dad gets FREE Drink or Dessert.

Jesus says: "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."

OPEN DOORS PRAYER GROUP 25th June 2:30

There is a meeting of the “Open Doors” prayer group on the 25th of June at 2:30pm in the St Francis Centre at Holy Trinity with refreshments to follow.

In India, elections have increased pressure on Christians. Pastor Laxman, whose name has been changed for security reasons, has been imprisoned and beaten for his faith. He converted to Christianity after his wife was healed of a serious illness after church goers prayed for her. Laxman was given a vision of a place where he was to build a church, which quickly grew from 3 people to several hundred, and many healings took place, including of an epileptic man who had seizures several times a day. Unfortunately, rapid church growth also attracts the attention of extremists, who use the anti-conversion laws passed in some parts of India to target and sometimes falsely accuse followers of Jesus of other crimes and making them sign blank sheets of paper where statements were later added. But pastor Laxman cannot give up the vision God gave him.



CREATIVE GROUP

Bring your own creative project to the chapel vestry on a Thursday afternoon and enjoy the company of other creative and crafty men and women – and a cuppa halfway through!

The group, which is open to all, is facilitated by Vanessa Wallis who can be contacted on 07802 803652 if you have any questions.

SPOTLIGHT

Sunday School
but not Sunday School

Fun and playful 'Sunday School' at 10am normally on the 2nd and last Sundays of the month. All children welcome to join us.

We want things to be fun, engaging, and practical, so we colour in, sing, act, create things and sometimes go outside. We really hope your child or grandchild would want to join us. We currently have 3-4 children joining our small group and we really want more friends!

The next dates are: **9th June, 30th June and 14th July at 10am in the chapel** – come in through the vestry door.

9th June: Jesus says that all those who believe in him can be part of his family. What a huge big family that is! Maybe we will do a family tree together – maybe we can do one for the church, too?

30th June: Jesus heals a woman who has been very ill for a long time. He also brings a girl back to life who had died way too young. Jesus is pretty amazing, and he cares about all of us.

14th July: Do you dance? King David once danced, and his wife thought he was being silly, but David was just really happy because he knew God and so had a public praise party!

If you know of a primary school aged child who would like to come, please bring them along so they can see whether they like it. Children need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." John 8:12.

Hello there! I'm Misha, the minister at Pentref Baptist Chapel. Please get in touch if I can be of help in any way. Life as well as faith, humdrum or crisis, there isn't anything too big or small.

If you'd like a chat or need support, please don't hesitate to contact me and we can arrange a visit to your home or a meeting in a neutral location if that suits you better.

I'm happy to pray for you, your family, or any concerns you might have – simply send a message, give me a ring, or drop a note in. Likewise, if you would like us to pray together, that'd be lovely.

If you or a relative are going into hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please let me know and we can arrange that, or where it is not possible, I can help liaise with my chaplain colleagues in the NHS to make sure you have the support you need.

Please do not hesitate to drop a note through the letterbox at The Manse (next to the chapel) or to send an email, text, or WhatsApp message if we can help. All messages will be treated with discretion.

Tel: 07432 530983 or 01597 821581
Email: mishatheminister@yahoo.com

If you would like to include an event in future issues, please contact either Misha (minister) or Elsa (church secretary).
mishatheminister@yahoo.com
elsa.harflett.eh@gmail.com

You can also find us on the internet at:
www.newbridgebaptistchurch.co.uk
or on Facebook at:
www.facebook.com/pentrefnewbridge

July 2024 Edition Deadline: Monday 17th June 2024
Please send to mishatheminister@yahoo.com