PENTREF BAPTIST CHAPEL

The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge

Congrats! Newbridge-on-Wye CinW School's winning wheelbarrow at RWAS.
Image by Mark Nottingham

The Newbridge-On-Wye Newsletter
Pentref Baptist Church
August 2025

Did you go to the show this year? Every year, the same familiar rhythm, with the rattle of the traffic as it begins to pick up, especially in the week before, with caravans, lorries and vans going by in a steady stream.

Perhaps you went as part of your work or to catch up and have a look around. For some, I am sure, health, finance or dog and childminding duties made it more difficult – but then there's the telly to keep you in the loop! And some find it the perfect time to go away and leave others to it…

As I watched fences and signs go up, and the whole showground and all the fields get populated with tents, marquees and lights, I was amazed at what us humans can build and organise for what is, after all, a temporary event like the Royal Welsh. And as I am writing these words, the last big tent is being taken down in sections and I am sure that up in Wrexham, they are busy putting up all that is needed for the National Eisteddfod. (One of the first things I did after moving to Wales, was steward in the Abergavenny Eisteddfod in 2016. I'm not sure I was much help!)

When big events like these are first being prepared, which show the best of what a country can create and cultivate, it is almost imperceptible: A mown field, a few cables, a covered over speed limit sign – and then, before we know it, it all kicks off in an exuberant celebration of all the best of farming life and years of effort, and of culture and creative talent.

Jesus says that what he terms the kingdom of God is like that too: At first, a little kindness, a little patience, a longing to see the world transformed by love. Pockets of care and tenderness, traces of real justice, areas and lives where all that is good sets the agenda and God rules, not injustice. Jesus says it works a bit like yeast working its way through a dough.

We see it in those moments when we reach out to others, help one another, pick litter (Thank you, Stuart!) or speak up for the vulnerable.

One day all these little moments will be all that there is everywhere. The whole world will be changed, and people will flood in from everywhere to this great celebration of all God has done in our hearts and our world. It will be a party like no other, showing off all the best life has to offer. A party to which we are all invited, and the entry ticket is simply a 'Yes please, I'll come' and putting your faith in Jesus. Following Jesus isn't always easy, but he does say that he will be with us always.

Whether you share my faith or not, I hope you will share the blessing of being part of making the world more kind, beautiful and fair. **-Misha**

SERVICES AT PENTREF

Sunday	**3rd**	**August**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Quiet Evening Service**
Sunday	**10th**	**August**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Taizé Service**
Sunday	**17th**	**August**	**10:30am**	**Mrs Ceri Ricketts w Misha**
			2:30pm	**United Service @ Franksbridge**
Sunday	**24th**	**August**	**10:30am**	**Mrs Sue Wilson**
			6:30pm	**Communion w Rev Steve Wallis**
Sunday	**31st**	**August**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Community Picnic**
Rev Steve Wallis hosts a weekly Zoom service with communion twice a month. It's on Sundays 4:30pm. Details: steveoncomputer@aol.com				
First Sunday in September				
Sunday	**7th**	**Sept**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Evening Service**

Sunday School on the 2nd and the last Sunday of the month from 10am.

THIS MONTH'S DIARY OVERVIEW

Date		Morning	Early afternoon	Late afternoon	Evening
Friday	1				
Saturday	2				
Sunday	3	Morning Service		Zoom	Quiet Service
Monday	4				
Tuesday	5				
Wednesday	6	Coffee Morning			
Thursday	7		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	8				
Saturday	9				
Sunday	10	Morning Service		Zoom	Taizé Service
Monday	11				
Tuesday	12				
Wednesday	13				Shared Meal
Thursday	14		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	15				
Saturday	16				
Sunday	17	Morning Service	Unitned Service	Zoom	No evening service
Monday	18				
Tuesday	19				
Wednesday	20				
Thursday	21		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	WI out and about
Friday	22				
Saturday	23				
Sunday	24	Morning Service		Zoom	Communion
Monday	25				
Tuesday	26				
Wednesday	27				No talk this month
Thursday	28		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	29				
Saturday	30				
Sunday	31	Morning Service		Zoom	Community Picnic

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.

VILLAGE DEFIBS

If you ever need to use the village defibrillator, it's on the side wall of the Post Office. There is another on the hill at Llysdinam, next to a gate a bit further up than Cefn y Maes. A voice will guide you through the process, so don't be afraid to use them if needed – you could save a life!

NEXT COFFEE MORNING: 6th August 10:30

August 6th 2025 10:30 am till noon. Come along and support local charities by donating your coins and chatting to friends at our coffee morning, which takes place every 1st Weds of a month from 10:30 till noon.

We always have a lovely crowd and plenty of cake, biscuits, coffee, tea etc. It'd be great to see you as we collect for local causes and make a little difference while having an enjoyable morning in the company of friends. Do pop along.

SHARED MEAL – 13th AUGUST 6PM

Come along to the chapel vestry and chapel grounds for the next shared meal on **Wednesday 13th August at 6pm** where we will enjoy lasagne and puddings together. Often, a few puddings magically appear, and we always appreciate those sweet contributions.

We really look forward to seeing you there if you can join us for a chat and a bit of food. There'll be an outside table if the weather's fine.

NEWBRIDGE CREATIVE GROUP

This group, which is open to all, is facilitated by Vanessa Wallis.

A friendly group of people meet in the chapel vestry every Thursday afternoon between 2 and 4 PM and enjoy the company of other creative men and women – and a cuppa and biscuits halfway through!

There is plenty of space for laughter, sharing and making space for the craft or art project you have been wanting to finish. Why not join? For more details, phone Vanessa on 01597 860185.

A Flavour of our WI – by Ruth Crabb

At Newbridge on Wye
There's an active WI
We're women of all ages
Abilities a range of stages

We made a display for the County
They were very impressed so…
We are off to the show
Royal Welsh, you know

At the Federation Quiz
With the questions bizarre
A doubt we'd go far
Lo and behold, we managed a GOLD!

We're involved in Campaigns
Like 'Not in my Name'
With demonstrations and speakers,
Days out for pleasure-seekers

We moan and we groan,
We laugh and we cry
We have cake, we have tea
All ending with glee

No need to be a knitter
A hooker or dress fitter
No need to bake cakes
Or even jam makes

We report and review
We learn something new
To find out some more
Please, knock the vestry door

We meet at Pentref Chapel in the Vestry every 3rd Thursday in the month at 7pm Please come along and see what we get up to!

WHAT'S UP?

We'd love for more people to use the chapel, especially the vestry, during the week, so if you are looking for a small venue (for around 20 people or so), then don't hesitate to get in touch. We have a small fee, but it should be manageable.

Also, do let us know if you have any events which you'd like published, as we are keen to ensure that everyone hears about the things that take place in the village.

ZOOM SERVICE

Stuck at home? Chapel not meeting this week? Fear not, because every Sunday at 4.30pm, a small group of people meet on Zoom to talk about a text from the Bible and to pray together and you are more than welcome to join. There is also an opportunity twice a month to take communion together. Rev Steve Wallis coordinates the group which has participants from this area and further afield. It is a service where you can share your thoughts and listen to others, but with no singing, nor a long sermon.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Steve Wallis on steveoncomputer@aol.com to be added to the list so you receive the Zoom details for the meeting. You would be very welcome.

AUGUST BREATHER

Normally, we would have our "Window on the World" talk on the last Wednesday of August, but we are having a summer break and will be back in September.

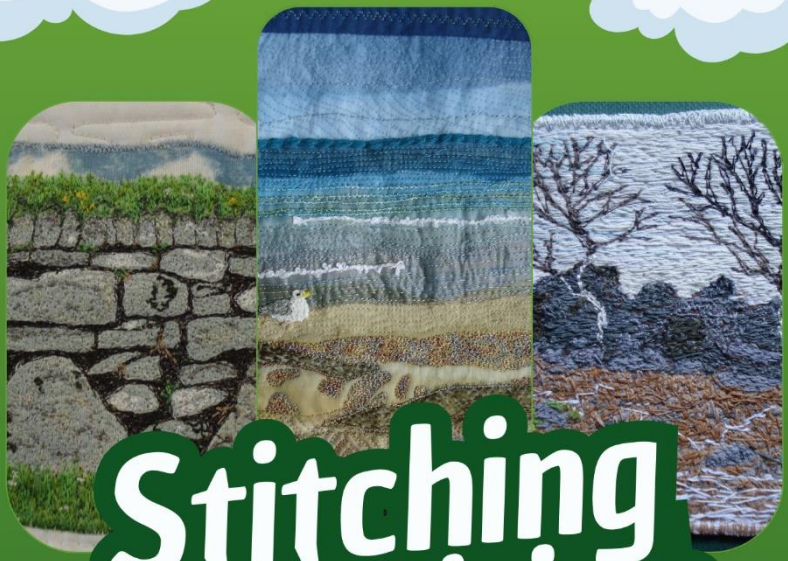
On the 17th of August, there will be no evening service at the chapel – we are visiting friends at Franksbridge that afternoon for a United Service.

"Open Doors" are also having a break in August, but they will be back in Holy Trinity, Llandrindod, on the 4th Tuesday of September at 2:30.

Baptism at the chapel:

Carol is getting baptised on the 31st of August – more details to follow so keep an eye out for more information.
Why not come and join us that day, to share in this great joy?
And if you haven't seen a baptism like this before, come and see!

Artist: Bronwen Jenkins



Stitching Exhibition

20 years of machine embroidery

17-30 August 2025

Newbridge Chapel
B4358 | LD1 6LY

Open daily
10am-4pm

Free admission. Donations welcome.

PICTURES FROM THE CHAPEL AND BEYOND

Our little Sunday School is slowly growing, and it is great to welcome more children. We talk about the week that has gone, share a story about Jesus, colour in and create. Recently, we heard about Elijah, who went to heaven in a chariot of fire.

Trevor Hughson, our 93-year old charioteer, had his scooter decorated with feathery flames to the delight of kids and minister alike.

We've had shared meals, coffee mornings, creative groups and much more happening at the chapel. We hope you will find time to visit the exhibition from 17th-30th August.

Bronwen, whom you all met in a previous issue of the newsletter, is showing her incredible skills and sharing her stitching pieces with us, mainly inspired by the natural world. There is a variety of methods and media on display and a lot of work and talent to look at!

Finally, another image from the Show – the school wheelbarrow from the other angle.

What amazing talent!

Come and join us for a community picnic in the chapel grounds on Sunday the 31st in the evening. There will be chairs and tables for those who need them, and a few games and a craft table available for any younger visitors, along with a picnic to share for those who haven't brought their own. Feel free to come and share in a relaxing time with a couple of songs thrown in.

If the weather is bad, we will introduce a brand new concept called: "Picnic in the Pews", so we can all stay dry and still enjoy each other's company. Do pop along for an hour or so.

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. A handful of children join our small biweekly group, and we really want more friends!

The next dates are **10th and 31st August at 10am in the chapel** – come in through the vestry door.

We do a lot of craft – build models, attach stickers, play with glitter and felt tip pens. We make cards, cut out, colour in and go on treasure hunts, of course. And we pray together and listen to stories.

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 will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch, using the details at the back of this newsletter. It would be great to welcome you to our little group.

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, nothing's 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

September 2025 Edition Deadline: Monday 18th August 2025
Please send to mishatheminister@yahoo.com