

The PCC

CLERGY

Nick Taylor - Trellech Church 01600 860662
revnjt@btinternet.com

Rose Mary Dagger - Penallt Old Church 01594 530700
maryrosedagger@btinternet.com

The PCC nominated and elected at the Annual Vestry meeting

Tim McCord Vicar's Warden Fabric
Tel 01600 860058 email: timmccord@hotmail.co.uk

Anna Gilbey People's Warden Sacristan St Nicholas
Tel. 01291 689487 email: annagilbey38@icloud.com

George Lancaster Treasurer and Finance
Tel. 01600 716584 email: gands2@outlook.com

Dick Coates Sexton St Nicholas, Deanery Rep &
Churches Together - 01600 860100 dickcoates@aol.com

Karen Lowe Chair Friends of Trellech Church & Churchyard
Tel. 01600 860122 email: phil.d.lowe@btinternet.com

Lyn Harper Sacristan Old Church - Lay Reader
Tel. 01600-713528 email: muderma@googlemail.com

Sarah Haeffner Sexton Old Church - Flowers at Old Church
Tel. 01600 712349

Stevie Coutts Gift Aid Secretary
Tel. 01600 715386 email: stephaniecoutts@btinternet.com

Jean Rogers Trustee FTCC and Flowers at St Nicholas
Tel. 01600 860275 email: e.rogers565@btinternet.com

Chris Swayne Parish News Editor see below

Bell Ringing Peter Mossman Captain – Tel 869 186

Website links: trellechandpenallt.church

Parish Facebook Page – Fiona Wilton for more information please
contact me via Facebook or email: fionawilton@btopenworld.com

Editors Chris Swayne 01600 860562 – coolbreezgy@hotmail.com

Printing : Janice Baldwin - janicebaldwin17@gmail.com

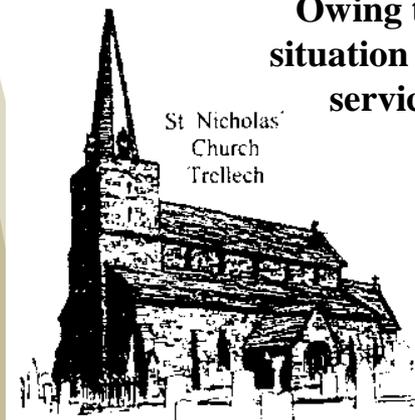
The Parish News

Trellech and Penallt

MAY - JUNE 2020

**If you love me you will do as I command.
Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit
who will help you & always be with you
John 14. 15-16 CEV**

**Owing to the present lock down
situation the church is not open for
services until further notice**



WELCOME TO THE REV KAREN AND TIM DACK PHOTO ON PAGE 4

We now have two new occupants of the Penallt Vicarage. They arrived recently from New Zealand and have already made their mark on our community by posting services for Palm Sunday and over the Easter Festival.

They have not been able to hold services in the churches they cover but have been very active on line. We look forward to meeting them in person and are pleased that Rev Nick Taylor and Rose-Mary Dagger have such enthusiastic backing in their work.



Hello, my name is Karen, I was born in Northern Ireland and moved to Scotland with my family when aged 16. I was brought up attending Church whenever the doors were open and became Youth President of my local church at the age of 21. I then went on to train for the Ministry, completed a 3-year Diploma in Theology in Manchester, which is also where I met my husband Tim. We have 4 post-school children.

Whilst bringing up our family I was always very involved in Church life and have run women's groups, youth groups, Sunday School, have taught Bible in schools, set up mentoring teams, pastoral teams, you name it and I have done it 😊

I was ordained in 2008 by Archbishop David Moxon in New Zealand where I served in Tirau Parish Church for a number of years serving among the Maori and Pakeha of New Zealand. In 2012 I was given a scholarship to study at St John's College, Auckland and I obtained my Master's in Ministry Degree.

My role is as Vicar of the Monmouth Rural Group and alongside Tim as Co-Ministry Area Leaders of the Monmouth Deanery Ministry Area. I am looking forward to serving in and supporting and helping to grow our local rural Church communities and with Tim build stronger links between the Churches.

It is a strange time at the moment and I look forward to meeting you all soon and seeing the church go from strength to strength as we work together to celebrate the love of God in the communities, we have all been called upon to serve.

Rev'd Karen

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St Nicholas Tower Problems

You may be aware that as we finished decorating St Nicholas and completing the project work, we were made aware of very serious leaks in the Spire and Church Tower. The Stonework, beams and internal walls and floors were all very water damaged.

With permission from the church authorities we set about emergency repairs and these have now been completed.

- The major work was to completely renovate the parapet floor around the tower- removing the perished surfaces, filling large holes and reapplying a waterproof covering which has been completed.
- All the woodwork within the tower has been treated with preservative to kill woodworm and harden the beams
- Repointing around the Louvre windows and tower windows has been completed.

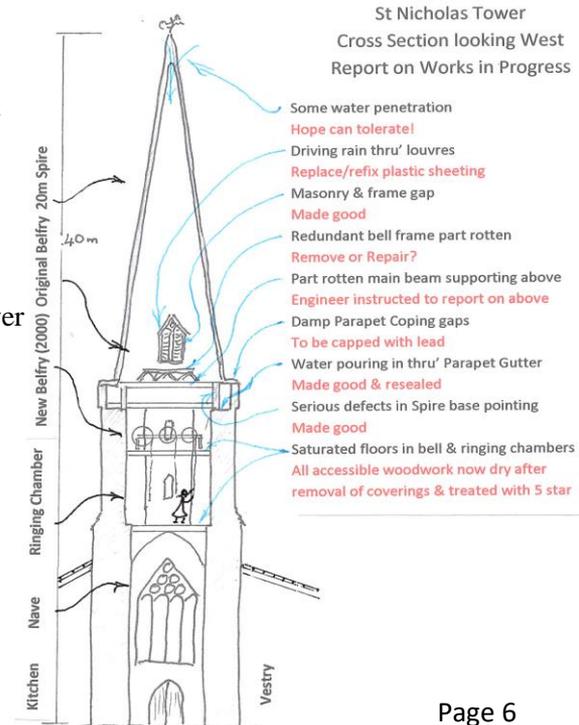
I can report that so far (with limited rain) these measures seem to have worked and the whole structure is drying out.

What next ?

We have commissioned a structural engineer to visit (date unknown) to advise on the structural integrity of the main beams in the Old bell frame, examine the steeple and report on other elements of the Tower

The challenge

These repairs and structural engineer's visit has now emptied the Trellech Fabric fund. This means that there is now no more money to do any further work until we raise more funds see page 5



GIFT DIRECT

We have received information about the Gift Direct scheme from the Diocese. In this time of crisis many churches are struggling because they are not receiving offerings. With the Gift Direct Scheme, you can pay to your Church directly and the information is below.

If anyone missed the link in the Finance Communication to the Gift Direct scheme, please see below



Gift Direct is the way The Church in Wales manage Gift Aid Donations and they have now put the scheme online.

Please click [here](#) to find out more

Alternatively if you would like to discuss alternative methods of giving to your church during the Covid-19 crisis please contact Bethan Davies bethandavies@churchinwales.org.uk 01633 267490

SUNDAY SERVICES

The Rev. Karen Anne Dack is posting a Sunday Service on the internet every Sunday if you want it copied to you please email her or one of the PCC to get on the circulation list.

Thank you Karen for this much appreciated work Editor

PARISH COFFEE MORNINGS

As you will be aware most of the forthcoming coffee mornings and fetes have been cancelled. However Lyn and Sarah's plant sale in Penallt will go ahead from 8th May with a difference.

Plants will be left at the end of the drive with an honesty box – there plenty of geraniums and vegetable plants. Please be sure to stop and buy – Lyn's house is opposite the New vicarage.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

As we know, the church cannot raise money as it usually does. No Sunday Collections, no Fetes, no coffee mornings etc.,. And we have ongoing costs including mending the tower of St Nicholas It has been suggested that we all put our usual weekly offering into an envelope until we are eventually able to go to church again?

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CARING & SHARING FOR THE NEXT GENERATIONS

The Government imposed closure and Lock down on 23rd March meant that we could no longer hold our Easter Vestry . This has been postponed indefinitely and the Bishop has agreed that all members of the PCC can maintain their role until the Vestry. Your electoral roll forms have been collated and will form the basis of our 2020 roll. If anybody has not received their's, any member of the PCC can supply one.

It is also a reminder of the precarious state of our 2 churches with so few people trying to keep them going. Our financial situation is unsustainable and our regular giving needs to double. Preferably by "Direct Debit" as explained. This is without the cost of the proposed new kitchen, toilets and drainage schemes at St Nicholas, & window restoration at Old Church. *Anna Gilbey Peoples' Warden*

CHURCH TOWER FUNDS

As stated on page 6 the repairs and structural engineers visit has now emptied the Trellech Fabric fund. This means that there is now no more money to do any further work and so we need to raise funds –

- Through the parishioners giving
- Obtaining public donations
- or grants from whateve sources.

If you can help please see regular giving details above or alternatively one off donations can be made.

If you wish to donate please contact Tim McCord or any of the PCC (timccord@hotmail.co.uk) Many thanks

The Lion Inn Trellech

As you all should be aware Pubs have been shut due to the virus situation. The Lion is no exception. We will reopen as soon as we are allowed to and look forward to that day. In the mean time please say healthy ,

Page 2

Easter Message from the Rev Karen Dack

Alleluia Christ is Risen! One of the common themes we find in the Gospels is that no one was expecting the resurrection; it is clear that the disciples did not understand, even though Jesus had spoken to them of his death and of his rising from death. On the first Easter morning no one was praising God in anticipation that Jesus would be raised, there were no celebrations, no hopes of a happy ending. Instead, on that first Easter morning the women went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' dead body. They were expecting him to be dead and still in the tomb.

In this current climate we can feel the same. Is there any reason for hope? We are cut off from friends, families and neighbours. We are cut off from our church. There will be no Alleluia's sounding out from our churches this Sunday.

But we are not a people without hope. Romans 5:1-5 'Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.'

This Easter let us live as people who have hope and let our Alleluia's sound out wherever we are!

Have a Blessed Easter.

Photos wanted!

We still need photos for News Sheet and for our website (www.trellechandpenallt.church) is being updated and we are very short of good images. We need a steady supply in order to keep the site fresh and seasonally relevant.

If you are out and about please take a camera/phone with you ! We particularly need images of the two churches and surrounding exterior shots and other relevant outside views.

Also don't forget Our Springtime 2020 Photo Competition as per page 1 March- April Newsletter which will be displayed whenever we have our Fete.

PENALLT VICARAGE

The new vicars arrived in April but their furniture and effects are on the high seas from New Zealand and will not arrive until June or July. As they were due to live in the Penallt vicarage which is, or was, unfurnished. So parishioners were asked to lend any spare furniture and equipment so that they could move in.

New white goods were purchased for the kitchen and China, Chairs Tables etc were collected from various people and they are now happily living there

