Christ Church News FEBRUARY 2019 EDITION 10/2019

Welcome to Christ Church News

Last month was like the quiet after the storm. So much happens during the Christmas season that January has to be a time of calm and coming back down to earth.

ALPHA The Alpha course has now started and we welcome around 20 people each week. The film series we watch was filmed in many countries, and is really engaging in helping us to understand our faith more clearly. The food organized by Justine is great, it's almost like an agape meal each time we meet. If you're wondering what it's all about there is still time to join.

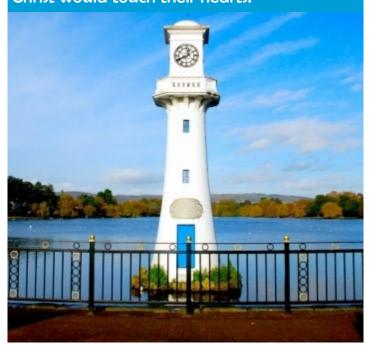
NEW CHURCH HALL Inside you will find an update on our church hall project which has now obtained planning permission which will enable us to start to build later in the year.

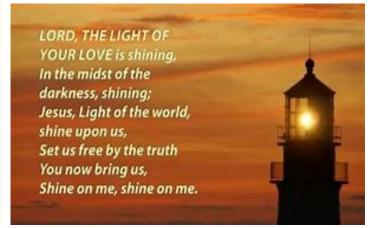
TRYSTAN It's been good to see our Vicar Trystan back in church, although he is still working through a *phased return* as his back heals from the damage sustained last year. Keep praying for him and the family.

CHATTERBOX Chatterbox is going really strong with around 25 children each week. "We cater for the babies and children, but in doing so we have become a haven for the parents and grandparents." says Ann Francis

BREXIT We enclose Dr John Sentamu's Brexit Prayer Linda Alexander (Editor)

We are fortunate to have this wonderful lighthouse in our Parish. Perhaps we might consider praying for those we pass in the park this coming yearthat the light of Christ would touch their hearts.





CHATTERBOX NOT JUST FOR THE CHILDREN



Ann & Colin Francis: Chatterbox leaders



An interview with Ann Francis by our Staff
Reporter

"When Chatterbox started we all thought it would be a nice place for mothers and toddlers to get together and have fun. In many ways we were right, but we have found that it is far more

Bev & Oscar

than that for many of the parents and grandparents who come week by week."

"We have on average 25 children attending plus their carers. Someone from church walked in one day and

thought it was a children's party. They had no idea of the numbers we cater for and what we do."

"It has become quite a large group, and much of this is because the carers find that not only is it a place for children and babies to interact, but also a place for adults to make friends, ask questions, and to feel they belong."

"Yes, Chatterbox is a place of belonging for mums, dads and grandparents who might feel a little on the edge of friendship groups. People have been known to say that it's the first place where they really feel they fit in, which has to be a great big PLUS."

Ann explained that she used to be a health visitor and midwife. Her experience is crucial in helping new mums with questions and worries, and she thinks that her example has helped

the group become a support group for each other.



Bea, Rhys & Dylan

"Yes, Chatterbox is a place of belonging"

"Recently one member of the group had a terrible experience at home and the group clubbed together to help her financially."

"They really are a family" said Ann, "and Bea (in the picture) was sad that her son was going to nursery, and she wouldn't be able to come to Chatterbox any more. Then she got pregnant again and is able to continue with her new baby!" (not a good reason to get pregnant) Ed.

Ann really appreciates the help given by Mary Hayles, Gill Barker and others who help make the family a family of love, empathy, compassion and care.

The Archbishop of York, John Sentamu's Brexit prayer:

God of eternal love and power, Save our Parliamentary Democracy;

Protect our High Court of Parliament and all its members
From partiality and prejudice;

That they may walk the path of kindness, justice and mercy.

Give them wisdom, insight and a concern for the common good The weight of their calling is too much to bear in their own strength, Therefore we pray earnestly, Father, send them help from your Holy Place, and be their tower of strength. Lord, graciously hear us. Amen



Meet the Webbs



Rosemary has been a regular member of Christ Church since moving to Cardiff from Neath about 18 months ago to be near her son Neil and daughter in law Carol. She is now a

resident of Cartref on Lake Road East. She also has a daughter Judy living in York.

Rosemary has been welcomed into the Christ Church community and is a regular and enthusiastic attendee at Good Companions, always looking forward to her Tuesday afternoons.

Rosemary lived in Neath for over 50 years and was a committed member of St. Peter and St. Paul in Cimla. She enjoyed all church activities

including the Mothers' Union, and was chair of Neath Townswomen's Guild. Rosemary was also a leading light in the Neath Little Theatre playing many leading roles - and her acting talent remains to this day - if she could only remember her lines!

You may not know that Rosemary has been a regular visitor to Christ Church on her many visits to Cardiff over the years

and has never missed a Christmas service.

We welcome Rosemary, Neil and Carol to our church family

Neil and Carol met in Cardiff University (a long time ago!) and live by the lake. Carol is from the Rhondda Valley and is a lawyer. In a former life she was a music teacher and still enjoys music and choral singing. Neil is an accountant – he has recently taken up bowls and jogs slowly around the lake – occasionally spotting Christ Church members on the way!

As with Rosemary, they have been warmly welcomed by the Christ Church community and have enjoyed making many new friends.

Our New Church Hall Update



AT LAST we've got planning permission to

build our hall. We would love to start building tomorrow, but there are a few points which have to be ironed out before we can start. There has been new legislation regarding drainage, and so we are in the process of putting together a drainage scheme which will satisfy the council. We will also have to show our

bat plans and get a certificate from the council before we can start

"It is starting to become a reality"

building. There are other matters which have to be put in place before we can build, but the great news is that we have our planning permission and also outline planning permission for the land which we propose to sell. We have around £70,000 in our fund from your kindness in fund raising and we expect to raise around £250,000 from the sale of the land. We will be going to sealed bids once we are ready to proceed.

SO HOW MUCH WILL IT COST? Its likely to cost more than we currently have in the bank, and the more we work on our project the more we realise how many experts we will need to employ. Soon we will be getting an outline estimate of the building costs, which will give us a better idea of projected costs.

OUR DESIGN This was done by Ed Green of the Pentan Parnership but Ed is now unable to continue to work with us. We are grateful that Alan Lock, the director of Pentan, has now taken us on and is likely to see us through to completion.

OUR HELPERS We are grateful to Andrew Bates of GJ Planning who has diligently overseen our planning application and fought our corner with the council. Alex Glanville, head of property services for the Church in Wales, is giving us advice and we look forward to his ongoing help.

SO WHEN WILL IT HAPPEN? To be realistic, we will probably start to build towards the end of the summer 2019. It is starting to become a reality.... As least in the minds of your planning committee!

PLEASE PRAY Please pray for us as we make many decisions, especially finding the right builder to do the work.

Please pray that we will be able to raise the funds needed to cover the full costs.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT. IDEAS FOR FUND RAISING WELCOME. Linda Alexander, chair

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Curate: Rev. Dr Jordan Hillebert Tel: 07936 288330 Lay Reader Dominic DeSaulles

Parish Secretary Denise Searle: at Parish Office Parish Office/Hall Enquiries Tel: 029 20763151

Church Wardens

Haydn Hopkins Tel: 029 20621280 Colin Francis Tel: 029 20751773

PCC Secretary: Judith Hill 029 20758080

Treasurer: John Hodgson 029 20764485

Gift Aid Secretary: Gerald Bradnum 029 20751177

Electoral Roll Officer: David Alexander 029 20759704

Sacristan: Len Bowker 029 20758493 Roy Dowell 029 2048265

Flowers: The Flower Group Contact Mary Payne

07813551152

IT support: Richard Hill 029 20758080

Christ Church News Editor: Linda Alexander 07814759559

email: linda@familyalexander.co.uk

Choir and Youth Choir: Contact Sue Hurrell: 029 20485171

Music at Christ Church is coordinated by Sue Hurrell & Jane
Roberts [Youth choir and main choir rehearse separately once a
month: youth choir on Tuesday evenings and main choir after
the 10am Sunday service]. We'd be delighted to welcome new
musicians and choir members.

email: hurrell.sue@gmail.com

Church Society (Talk & Buffet)

As advertised, on various Wednesdays in the Hall. Open to all, family and friends. Contact: Howard Kilvington 029 20 317301

Ladies Keep Fit Light exercise. Mondays 7:30pm
Contact: Gill Kilvington 029 20 317301

CHILDRENS & YOUTH WORK

Chatterbox: Parents & Toddlers – every Thursday

1:30pm - 3:00pm in the hall.

Contact: Ann Francis Tel 029 20751773

FUNKY Church age up to 11 meets each Sunday during the service except for Family service.

Contact: Val Jones Tel: 029 20747021 Sandra Hughes Tel: 029 20758588

Messy Church

Contact: Linda Alexander Tel: 07814759559

Youth Club J Walkers age 11-18

Sandra Hughes 029 20758588

Child Protection Officer

Contact: Colin Francis Tel: 02920 751773

Rainbows in the church hall

Tuesdays 5:00pm

Contact: Emma Lane Tel 02920 750675

ConneXion Groups......

Meet monthly at various times and in various houses. Contact the Parish office for more information.

Good Companions Tuesdays 2:00pm– 4.00pm Contact: Val Jones, Alison Peters or Julia Matthews

Val Jones 029 20747021 Alison Peters 029 20761277 Julia Matthews 029 21157213

SCOUTS

Beavers

Thursday 5:30pm

Cubs

Wednesday 6:15pm Scouts - 84th Cardiff

Wednesdays 7:30pm

ALL INFORMATION FROM

Geoff Payne

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