



Penrallt Baptist Church

Newsletter for July 2012

You may have missed a report on the BBC local news a couple of months ago which expressed deep concern over the low levels of water in our North Wales rivers. In hushed and worried tones it expanded on the devastating effect the lack of rain was having on our drying waterways, the possible decimation of the wildlife, and worst of all, the spectre of a hosepipe ban allegedly hanging over us. I kid you not, it was apocalyptic stuff. With hindsight, though, I think I was justified in laughing like a drain as I watched it. I guess if it's a slow news week you have to invent something to worry the long-suffering population of our green and pleasant land. No wonder people are cynical when you warn them of more likely scenarios of damage and destruction.

It was hardly a slow news week building up to the first Good Friday. The young reporter, however, was determined to get her item into the 6pm bulletin. As she explained to her over-stressed producer,

"Look everywhere's on high terrorist alert, right? Pilgrims piling into Jerusalem like a swarm of locusts. And he stood up and predicted that the temple and all the buildings around it will be knocked down flat. I heard him say it. That's fighting talk. That's terrorist threat. That's headline news."

"Who said it?"

"Jesus of Nazareth. That prophetic bloke."

"Oh him. We covered him a few months ago. Didn't he wreck a funeral somewhere?"

"That's the one. The bookies have given 100-1 that he's really the Messiah in disguise."

"Well, don't put our syndicate's money on that instead of the lottery, will you, darling? So he said that he'd personally knock it all down?"

"No. Not him personally, he said that it will get knocked down some time."

"It did get flattened once before. Alright, 600 years ago, but even so, it could happen again, couldn't it?"

"You're missing the point. This is inflammatory rebel-rousing. They should put a stop to it."

"Who should?"

"The authorities."

"Don't encourage them, darling. They pulled the plug on three of our reports last month."

"Come on, Abe, you've got to show my report." I'm there in the middle of the crowds, the sun showing up my highlights, the dust and heat rising from the crowds, the temple in the background. It's good visual stuff."

Minister: Revd Peter J. Cousins, 135 Penchwintan Road, Bangor LL57 2YG (01248 353878)

Secretary: Neil Rymer, 20 Brynteg, Llandegfan, Menai Bridge LL59 5TY (01248 713003)

Treasurer: Stephen Burrows, 39 Cil y Graig, Llanfairpwll, LL61 5NZ (01248 714048)

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"We've got more important things on the go. The preparations for the passover. The political unrest surrounding the sentencing of Barabbas, the..."
 "Give me a break. He said the sun will go dark, an angel will sound a trumpet."
 "This place is full of freaks. Forget him."
 "They say he raised a man in Bethany from the dead last week."
 "Bethany? The whole town is dead. You mean he woke someone in Bethany up from his after dinner snooze? What else is he prophesying?"
 "That he's going to die and rise again after three days."
 "Who is?"
 "He is. Jesus of Nazareth."
 "Listen love. Shelve your report, and come back to me when Jesus of Nazareth rises from the dead. OK? In the meantime why not run something on the threat of pickpockets in the crowds?"

Jesus was controversial in his day. Some believed him. Some doubted. Some made sarcastic remarks. Some tried to silence him. He insisted that there can be no sitting on the fence. I was right to doubt the BBC report about our dangerously dry rivers, but when as a young man I looked into the claims that Jesus made about himself I chose to believe him. Forty years on I thank God I did. Where we stand on him will decide where we spend eternity. That decision is urgent for everyone. I commend Jesus to you. Read the Gospels for yourself and decide.

I wish you a dry summer, faith in Jesus and God's blessing,
Peter

SERVICES IN JULY

July 1

10.30am	Service with the Smiths		
2.15pm	Service at Bontnewydd		
7.00pm	Communion Service	<i>One World, One Authority; One World, One Saviour</i>	<i>Matthew 21:12-27</i>

July 8

10.30am	<i>"The Lord Scattered Them"</i> – People Migration and God's Plans. <i>Genesis 11:1-9</i>		
7.00pm	<i>In or Out? The Kingdom of God is like the Most Divisive Wedding Feast Ever</i> <i>Matthew 22:-14</i>		

July 15

10.30am	James Goodman	<i>Praise God: "To infinity, and beyond!"</i>	<i>Psalm 145</i>
7.00pm	Roger Borlace	<i>Tricky Questions</i>	<i>Matt.22:15-46</i>

July 22

10.30am	<i>"It Takes a Whole Church to Raise a Child"</i> <i>Luke 18:15-17</i>		
7.00pm	<i>The Word in Action</i> <i>Nehemiah 8:1-12</i>		

(In this service we will be saying goodbye temporarily to Duncan and Trudie Tough who will be leaving for training in the US with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They will

return at Christmas before we hold a service of commissioning for their work in Papua New Guinea, which we hope will begin in January 2013.)

July 29

10.30am Communion Service Geoff Birch

God's Market Garden

Hebrews 10:19-25

7.00pm

The Kingdom of Heaven is to be shared with the world, not kept as a private collector's piece.

Matthew 23:1-39

Our Preaching Team for July:

Peter Cousins is Penrallt's minister. *James Goodman* is a member of Penrallt, who works in the Office of Programme Management in Bangor University. *Geoff Birch* and *Roger Borlace* are retired ministers, members of Penrallt.

CHURCH LUNCH

We will host a church lunch on Sunday July 1st. Please bring enough buffet-style 'finger food' for yourself and one or two others. (Note that there will be no buffet lunch in August or September.)

SPECIAL DATES FOR JULY

Monday 2	7.30pm	Church members' meeting
Wednesday 4	10.30am	Men's Prayer Meeting followed by Coffee in Options.
Monday 9	2.00pm.	Pastoral Care Team Meeting.
Sunday 15	2.00pm	Cytun Praise on the Pier (far end)
Saturday 21	7.00pm	Men's Evening

NEWS OF PEOPLE

Freya Birchill will be marrying **Raj** in her home church on Saturday 28th July. We congratulate **Kristin Koller** on achieving funding for her PhD in Bangor and look forward to sharing the next three years with her. Our condolences to **Hannah Norris** and her parents on the death of her grandfather last month.

Congratulations to **Steve Collis and Katie Liber** on their engagement.

We pray God's blessing on **Daniel Jenkins**, son-in-law of Huw and Lorraine Harries, (married to Laura) on his ordination later this month into the ministry of the Apostolic Church in South Wales.

Student Coordinator

We thank **Danielle** for her hard work over the last year as Penrallt's Student Coordinator and wish her God's blessing as she finishes her Masters degree. **David McCormack** will take over from her in September.

Children's Birthdays in July

5th: Cadi Gwyn Evans; **7th**: Charis Gordon-Roberts; **19th**: Katherine Adams

WEEKDAYS

Please check with the contact people when there are meetings this month.

HG = Home Group

Day	Time	Details	Contacts
Tue	8.00pm	HG, Nilgiri	Joan Beer (353874)
Tue	7.30pm	HG, Tyddyn Isaf, Menai Bridge	Magnus Forrester-Barker (717570)
Wed	10.30am	Men's Prayer Meeting	Peter Cousins (353878)
Wed	2.00pm	Carers' Home Group	Carol Morris (208407)
Wed	7.30pm	HG, The Nomads	Jess & Seamus Adams (421185) Susan Cousins (353878)
Wed	7.30pm	HG, Bethesda	Jon & Deb Stammers (602868)
Wed	8.00pm	HG, Grŵp Cymraeg	Owen & Nia Lloyd Evans (352634)
Thu	10.30am	Post-Alpha Bible Study	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
Thu	7.30pm	HG, Llanfairpwll	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
Thu	7.45pm	HG, Talwrn	Gill & James Goodman (751074)
Fri	10.30am - noon	Cheeky Monkeys	Joan Rymer (713003)
Fri	10.30 – 12.30pm	HG, 6 Maes y Dref	Anne Collis (353173) anne@collis66.freeseve.co.uk
Sat	8.30am	Prayer Meeting	

NOTICEBOARD

➤ ***Appointment***

Older Penrallt people will be interested to hear that Rev. Dr. Ed Kaneen has been appointed as a new tutor to South Wales Baptist College in Cardiff. Ed is the grandson of Jack and Harriet Richmond, staunch members of Penrallt for many years. He is the son of Penny, who died last year.

➤ ***Men's Prayer Meeting Wednesday 4 July 10.30am***

The men will meet for prayer as usual, followed by coffee in Options.

➤ ***Walking Group Tuesday 17 July 10.30am***

Malltraeth Sands, Llanddwyn Island and Newborough Forest

Meet at the carpark on the SW side of the A4080 just north of Newborough (411 671). The walk is about 8 miles, but as it doesn't involve any climbing or difficult terrain it will only take about 4 hours. We aim to get to the end of Llanddwyn Island in time for lunch at about 12.30pm. If we stay there for half an hour we

should get back to the cars by 3pm. If anyone needs transport, ring Roger & Pat Borlace (01248 713146).

- **Men's Games Evening Saturday 21 July 7.00pm**
The Men's Evening is carrying on throughout the summer after all!

- **Christian Aid Tuesday 24 July 7.30pm**
A short meeting will be held at 7.30 at St John's Methodist church, Bangor High Street, to discuss Christian Aid Week, to try to share the workload between us and to enjoy fellowship and tea and biscuits afterwards. Mainly for church Christian Aid representatives but all are welcome.

- **Holiday Bible Club 20 – 24 August**
St John's Methodist Church are running their Holiday Bible Club for children 5 - 11+ from Monday 20th August to Friday 24th August from 9:30 to 12 noon each day using "On Your Marks!" from Scripture Union. All children are welcome. For information, publicity and booking forms please contact Deacon Stephen Roe on stephen.roe@methodist.org.uk or (01248) 717084

- **Penrallt on Facebook**
100 people are signed up to Penrallt's Facebook site. Join us.

- **Homeless in Bangor**
Last month we delivered a cheque from Penrallt for £325 to the scheme to feed the homeless in Bangor. They spend £300 a month to supply the meals, so our last cheque has supplied over a month's worth. Please do not give money directly to the homeless in Upper Bangor. We have found in the past that it has encouraged aggressive begging on the church premises by people who have a history of violence. You will find brown envelopes in the porch to put your gift in.

- **The Prayer Room...**
...is open before and after the service for quiet prayer. Penrallt is a place of prayer, so make use of this sacred space.

- **Pray for Penrallt Every Day**
Sign up to receive our prayer diary by e-mail every Monday morning by sending your request to: office@penrallt.org.
If you have some subject for prayer, either send it in by e-mail, or fill in one of the pink cards, which are available in the porch, and place it in the visitors' cards box or give it to Peter or Magnus.

- **Pastoral Help**
If you have pastoral concerns please contact Peter or one of the other members of the Pastoral Care team:
Geoff Birch 01286 870944 Pat Borlace 713146, Eunice Smith 713296,
Geoff Stammers 364394 Geoff Moore 410582

Deadline for next month's newsletter Sunday 22 July
Please send information to Gwyneth
(gwyneth@brindley-wales.com or 352682)

Mission Focus

**Trudie and Duncan Tough
Teaching English
& Flying helicopters
in Papua New Guinea
with Wycliffe Bible Translators**



We are aiming to go to PNG from early next year. Currently we are working through all the paperwork required to go abroad, and are raising the support which will enable us to do so. We hope to be at the JAARS HQ in North Carolina from late July, where we will be doing Inter-Cultural, Teaching and Aviation orientation until late November.

GIVE THANKS

- For all the people who are supporting us in any way.
- Our USA visas have come through in good time.
- Our PNG work permits have been approved.
- Lots of opportunities to talk with friends and family about what we're going to do.

PLEASE PRAY

- Developing good relationships and communication with supporters.
- The myriad of forms and tasks still requiring completion.
- Finishing well at work in the UK.
- Moving to the US and undertaking the Inter-Cultural Communications course.
- Teaching and aviation training in the USA, particularly timings.

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life.

Philippians 4:6, The Message