



# St Woolos Quarterly

## The Newsletter of Newport Cathedral Newyddion Cadeirlan

Christmas / Nadolig 2018

### Christmas present time again

By the time you see this, Newport will be about to say goodbye to a part of its landscape since 1874. *Wildings* department store will close before Christmas and its civilised little footprint on Commercial Street will be no more. I haven't been able to resist popping in to do some Christmas shopping there for the last time. Shopping in places like *Wildings* was always meant to be a pleasure and a leisurely affair: browsing and considering rather than the *smash-and-grab* which is certainly the usual stuff of my Christmas shopping. I always leave at least too much of it so that it becomes a chore of sometimes nightmarish proportions – depending on just how late I have left it.

time, the expense and the bling represent our giving ourselves.

How do you go about the business of *receiving* gifts, large and small, from your nearest and dearest and from



colleagues and acquaintances? Why not, this year, take a little extra care to receive them well and fulsomely, for what they represent? You, too, are worthy of being recognised and honoured for what you are in this life: beloved of the God who has given you as a gift to others, to be celebrated and made a fuss of, perhaps even with a little additional *bling*. I can't

*But why do we put ourselves through all this, year after year?*

take issue with the idea that 'it is more blessed to give than to receive' but learning to receive and to acknowledge who you are to the giver is a lesson worth learning. God gave us himself in Jesus to demonstrate – beyond all question – what we are to him: loved into life, through every moment of it, and beyond it. And remember: God doesn't do 'temporary'.

It isn't just that the giving echoes God's giving to us of his Son, born like one of us at the first Christ-mas. It isn't, either, just that the very gifts we give and receive are tokens of the gift of Jesus Christ himself. Both of these are true, of course. We acknowledge that God's limitless love is given to us in the form of Jesus, both as an example of how God is and also as an example of how we are designed to be. (That's enough for one Christmas sermon.)

It is worth mourning the passing of *Wildings*, like the passing of any old acquaintance or good neighbour. It will be that bit more difficult to do my shopping in the spirit of Christmas next year. But perhaps its passing might at least remind me to aim for that leisurely, considered way of shopping and giving *by starting a little earlier than usual, in future!* If I can learn to do that, perhaps, it will have been my best acquisition from the *Wildings* closing sale.

How do you go about the business of *giving* gifts? We aim to give gifts as our expressions of love and care for one another, to show that we are formed in the image of a God like that. We *give* in that Spirit: put ourselves out by the labour of and spending on shopping for gifts and preparing them with care and perhaps a touch of *bling*. The fuss, the

Lister Tonge  
Dean of Newport

#### Cathedral News:

- Over the next few months we expect to see some spectacular additions to the interior - including a new altar, currently being constructed for us by a firm in Leeds - and a Rood, in the form of a wire-frame Crucified Christ which will be suspended high above the chancel. This has been commissioned from an artist in Singapore.
- The South Aisle floor, recently found to have dry rot, has been stripped and will be rebuilt in the New Year.



### Worship at St Woolos Gwasanaethau yn y Gadeirlan

Regular service times are below: on special occasions these may change  
Amseroedd Arferol y Gwasanaethau; gall y rhain newid ar achlysuron arbennig

|                                     |                     |  |                      |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--|----------------------|
| <b>Sunday Sul</b>                   | 8.00 Holy Eucharist | 10.30 Sung Eucharist (& Sunday School) | 5.00 Choral Evensong |
| <b>Monday, Tuesday Llun, Mawrth</b> | 8.00 Morning Prayer | 8.15 Holy Eucharist                    | 5.00 Evening Prayer  |
| <b>Wednesday Mercher</b>            | 8.00 Morning Prayer | 8.15 Holy Eucharist                    | 6.30 Choral Evensong |
| <b>Thursday Iau</b>                 | 8.00 Morning Prayer | 8.15 & 10.30 Holy Eucharist            | 5.00 Evening Prayer  |
| <b>Friday Gwener</b>                | 8.00 Morning Prayer | 8.15 Holy Eucharist                    | 5.00 Evening Prayer  |

### Residential course at Lampeter University and summer tour

In August 2018 I was invited to partake in the National Youth Choir residential course at Lampeter University for ten days. This was organised by the National Youth Arts of Wales. Tim Rhys-Evans MBE of Only Men Aloud fame was the choir conductor. This was the first time that the orchestra and choir would perform together. Maestro Carlo Rizzi conducted the combined choir and orchestra.

During the ten days we rehearsed Leonard Bernstein's Chichester psalms along with other music from composers ranging from Eric Whitacre to Stevie Wonder. I sang the part of bottom bass in the choir which made a change from singing treble in the cathedral choir. I was awarded a certificate for best bass newcomer.

After five challenging days learning songs in French, Welsh, Hebrew, and Latin we started our national tour visiting the beautiful Hereford cathedral as part of The Three Choirs Festival. Next we travelled to St David's Cathedral and Fishguard in West Wales followed by a concert in the Dora Stoutzker Concert Hall in Cardiff where we received standing ovation. We finished the tour with a combined performance with the youth orchestra in St David's Hall, Cardiff. In all this was a tremendous experience where I expanded my musical knowledge and made some great new friends. I would like to thank Carol Williams of Gwent Youth Choir and Newport cathedral for all their support with this tour.



Alex Web - Head Chorister of Newport Cathedral  
Gwent Youth Choir National Youth Choir of Wales

The Cathedral has recently appointed an Organ Scholar, Agnes Miles. As well as studying Music in Cardiff, she will be singing with our choir or accompanying them when required. More details about Agnes in our next edition.

### Upcoming events at St Woolos Cathedral : Digwyddiadau nesaf y Gadeirlan

\*\*\* Please check our website for details of these and other concerts and events \*\*\*

[www.newportcathedral.org.uk](http://www.newportcathedral.org.uk)

(Enquiries re concerts and recitals at St Woolos, to: [brian.a.cox@sky.com](mailto:brian.a.cox@sky.com))

\*\*\*\*2018\*\*\*\*

- Advent Carol Service** - Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 5pm
- Concert** - Tenovus Lovelight Service - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm
- Concert** - Cantorion Sanctaidd - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon
- Concert** - MIND - Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm
- Concert / Performance:** The Snowman Newport Orchestra, Cathedral Choristers, St Woolos Primary School Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm
- CHRISTMAS SERVICES** - a list of Services will be available in printed form, or please see our website

\*\*\*\*2019\*\*\*\*

- Recital** - RWCMD Guitar Ensemble - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 12 noon
- Recital** - RWCMD students (details TBA) - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 12 noon
- Recital** - James McDowell-Scott (Organ) - Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm

**Restaurant**



**Station Approach, Bassaleg**

Junction 28 is a tastefully decorated converted railway station, with the lower part of the restaurant decked out to represent an old-fashioned railway carriage. The restaurant is tucked away in a quiet corner of picturesque Bassaleg, on the outskirts of Newport, overlooking the River Ebbw. We aim to give you an excellent dining experience.

**Reservations 01633 891891**  
[www.junction28.com](http://www.junction28.com) [enquiries@junction28.com](mailto:enquiries@junction28.com)



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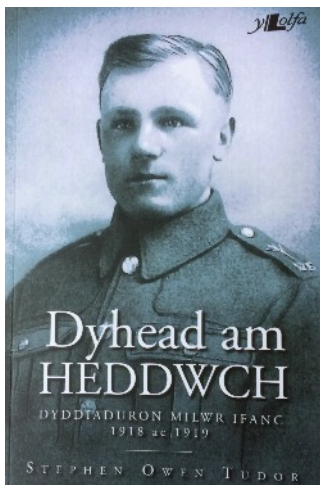
### Who's Who at St Woolos

|   |                            |              |   |
|---|----------------------------|--------------|---|
| The Dean Y Deon   | The Very Revd Lister Tonge | 01633 259627 | deanofnewport@churchinwales.org.uk      |
| Precentor & Archdeacon of Newport<br>Prif Gantor ac Archddiacon Casnewydd<br>Residentiary Canon | The Ven. Jonathan Williams | 01633 215206 | archdeacon.newport@churchinwales.org.uk |
|   | Revd Canon Dr Mark Dimond  | 01633 376977 | markdimond@churchinwales.org.uk         |
| Associate Priest & Dir. of Ordinands<br>Offeiriad a Chyfarwyddwr Ymgeiswyr am Urddau            | Revd Dr Paul Thompson      | 01633 252046 | revpaulthompson@btinternet.com          |
|   | Canon David Neale          | 07912 104902 | revdneale@googlemail.com                |

### DYHEAD AM HEDDWCH / PEACE ON EARTH

With the Remembrance celebrations and events still fresh in our minds, Ruth Willis tells how her Grandfather's diaries give an evocative glimpse into the lives of the men from the Welsh Guards during that final year of the First World War.

My grandfather, Stephen Owen Tudor's diaries for 1918-1919 have just been published under the title **DYHEAD AM HEDDWCH** – A Yearning for Peace. His home was a farm called Nantyrhafod in Staylitle, Montgomeryshire. His occupation was recorded as shepherd. He was conscripted into the Welsh Guards and called to active service as a signaller at the age of 24. He wrote usually in Welsh but occasionally in English.

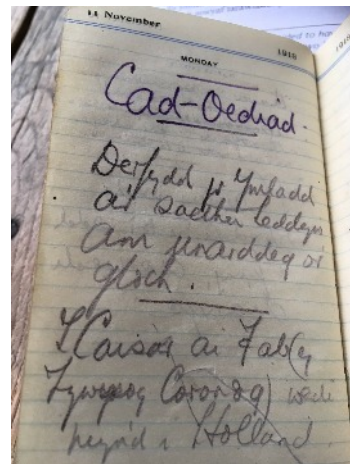


**In France on 23 February 1918 he wrote in Welsh:**

*"Last night I was in the trenches again. Carrying barbed wire to the front trenches, and setting it up by the grey light of the moon. The enemy was sending light into the sky so that everything was visible and there were bullets whistling past and death hovering in the air – and the field was lonely and deadly disheartening. I will go there again tonight with a load on my back and a cross on my heart."*

And on 10 March, again in Welsh:

*Oh! I hope for deliverance soon. But deliverance will never come through fighting. How can such a thing be legitimised and justified? The other night I was on watch in the depths of the night, with a gun and a bayonet – but this is what was on my mind throughout the time; "Gentle Jesus: meek and mild."*



Following the Armistice, the Welsh Guards were ordered on a Victory March – a journey of 150 miles - arriving in Cologne on 20 December. He was finally demobilised and released from the army on 18 March 1919. Like many returning soldiers he never spoke about his experiences but his son, Huw Tudor, recalled that his father never liked him and his brother to play with toy guns or allowed them to own them.

You can buy this book:

**Tudor, Stephen Owen** *Dyhead am Heddwch - Dyddiaduron Milwr Ifanc 1918 a 1919.* Talybont: Y Lolfa, 2018.

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**The Cathedral Shop** is open :

Mon - Fri 2pm - 4pm, Saturdays 10am - 12 noon  
Sundays - before & after services

The shop sells a wide range of greetings cards for all occasions, gifts and jewellery as well as a children's corner.

*'We have signed the Fair Trade Pledge'*



## The Cathedral is open to visitors:

Monday to Thursday 8am until 5pm

Friday 8am until 8pm

Saturday 9am until 4pm

Sunday 10am until 8pm

## *Greetings to all at Newport Cathedral from Highveld Anglican Board of Social Responsibility*

Monmouth Diocese has, for some time, had strong links with the Diocese of the Highveld in South Africa. We have received a wonderful and illustrated report from the HABSR. Here we bring you some highlights from the report (which will be available in full on our website):

Our early childhood development centre, 'Bambanani Little Angels' in Dukathole, which caters for children between 3 and 5 years has been moved to their new site and blessed by Bishop Charles in August. They now have a food garden, and a grassed play area with jungle gym equipment donated by Rotary. We are grateful for the money raised by Newport Cathedral, to buy pencil cases for the children.

In October we held a fundraising dinner and auctioned off



art work that the children from the Safe Parks had done. The proceeds of this auction were given to the children themselves. Money raised from this event will go to feed our children in the Safe Parks. Guilds and parishes from all over the diocese took part. In total 216 people attended the evening.

St Dunstan's College has offered our children from Wattville, who are in grade 10-12, to attend Saturday school to help improve Maths, Science and Accounting. There is a charge of R700.00 per child to cover costs. Not many of our children can afford this cost and so we need to fundraise for these children to be able to attend. This offer from the school will help so many children from the safe park struggling with their final year exams.

In October HABSR visited Mayflower, with a view to finalising the building process that the Monmouth Lent Appeal will achieve. There will be three phases for the completion of the buildings: the



irrigation systems, the completion of the building, and finally the kitchen, toilets and floor of the hall. This is set to commence early in the New Year.

Our food bank is up and running well now, and we are able to supply food parcels to our children and parents from the Safe Parks, ECD centres and soup kitchens. Many of our children will have no access to food over the Christmas holidays and now we have the ability to give them a



month's supply of the basic food stuff to last them through the holidays.

Food was donated by parishes, as well as the various guilds who attended the Women's Day celebration in August.

Please feel free to send us items of interest that relate to the Cathedral - its past, current activities, or news. Articles should be kept short (300 words or less, as a rule) - they may need to be edited prior to publication.

Contact: Brian or Siân King - [contact@newportcathedral.org.uk](mailto:contact@newportcathedral.org.uk)

Deadline for the Easter 2019 edition - February 20th

The Cathedral Church of St Woolos Newport is a Registered Charity No. 1133935