



Faith at the Crossroads

Remembering....

Our memories are very important to us: they help to make us who we are. Some memories are important because they are special to us individually, for example, an early memory from nursery school. Other memories are important because they are shared. Many groups, such as a family, school, church or nation are connected by shared history.

When family members attend a funeral, they are united in shared memories of a loved one. Recently, Wales has had great success in rugby and football; Whitchurch High School teachers and pupils have shared this success with pride as former pupils led both teams. Throughout history, nations have lived with shared memories; of battles won or lost; of lives lost, regardless of which side was victorious.

Each year, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, people throughout our schools, shops, offices and other public places, stop whatever they are doing to join in 2 minutes silence as an act of remembrance. This tradition began in 1919 when King George V launched the first official Armistice Day Remembrance on the grounds of Buckingham Palace.

Poppies are used as a symbol of remembrance in many countries around the world. The idea originated in the USA at the end of World War One when a humanitarian called Moina Michael was inspired by the poem 'In Flanders Field the Poppies Blow' by John McCrae. She wore and distributed poppies in honour of fallen soldiers. The practice spread to France, the UK and many commonwealth countries. The Royal British Legion adopted the poppy symbol in 1921 and each

year, over £40million is raised to assist retired and injured soldiers.

You may also have noticed that some people choose to wear a white poppy. The idea of wearing white poppies started in 1933 when members of the Women's Co-operative Guild wanted to show that they were against war and for non-violence. White poppies are now sold by the Peace Pledge Union, who say: 'war cannot create peace'.

After World War Two, the United Nations was established, hopeful of a new era of peace. However, year after year, wars have continued and children are consistently among the victims; they are often among the civilian casualties but are also seen participating as part of the fighting forces. This, despite the fact that, according to the convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 38 (War and armed conflicts):

'Governments must do everything they can to protect and care for children affected by war. Children under 15 should not be forced or recruited to take part in a war or join the armed forces'.

Children are also the first to suffer from malnutrition or disease during conflict as their immature bodies need a steady supply of nutrients to flourish and fight disease.

We found that discussing topics such as these can sometimes be difficult. Within the group, we used Haiku poetry as a way of expressing our key thoughts, and the poems are included in Crossroads - we hope you enjoy reading them,

**Beulah Junior Church
Seniors Group**

BEULAH CROSSROADS

**November
2016**



The
monthly newsletter of
Beulah URC

CHURCH NOTES

The nights are drawing in and it's time to look out the winter woollies and scarves. It's now hard to believe that only three weeks ago Huw and I were picnicking on a Cornwall beach and enjoying a splashy paddle in the waves! It's also the time of year when church life seems at its busiest as we go from Harvest to Remembrance to Advent in quick succession, with plans for Christmas already underway - the Three Choirs and Beulah Players have started their rehearsals, and the Bazaar and Christmas Festival will also be taking place within a few weeks. I am also delighted that Graffiti Jesus will return to us this Advent, and am grateful to Jo Jones for her ideas in making this happen.

We continue to enjoy a variety of services, all of which encourage us to think more deeply about our faith and what it means in our lives. On October 13th, James Hall and a group looking into renewable energy challenged us in a series of prophetic, personal and political reflections to consider our relationship with the earth and its future. Thinking about our reliance on fossil fuels and the human cost of this was particularly poignant coming at the beginning of the week of the 50th Anniversary of the disaster of Aberfan. Amongst all the media coverage of this, one comment that has stood out for me was that of the journalist John Humphrys, who said that we should never allow authority to go unchallenged - perhaps a reminder that the prophetic,

the political and the personal are always connected. In December Gill Edwards's time with us will come to an end. We will be marking this with a Family Party on November 19th when we will have the chance to thank Gill for all the work she has done with our children and young people over the past three years. Gill has worked tirelessly and energetically throughout this time and provided our children with so much to remember and cherish. We are grateful for the way she has become so much part of Beulah's life, and pray for God's blessing on her future work.

FAMILY NEWS

It was with sadness that we learned of the death of Mildred Clift on October 6 following several years of deteriorating health. A celebration of Mildred's life was held in Beulah, attended by family, friends, neighbours and carers - a moving tribute to a lovely lady. Our condolences and prayers are with Barbara, and her sister, Brenda, and the wider family at this difficult time.

We are also saddened to learn in the past few days of the death of Sue Jones, again after many years of illness. We send the prayers and thoughts of the Beulah family to Haydn and his children and grandchildren, as well as to Alun and Marg.

Our sympathies are also extended to Marg and Alun on the deaths of Marg's sister-in-law, Jean Jenkins, and Alun's 'best man', Derek Randell. A number of members and friends have been receiving

treatment or have been unwell, and our good wishes go to Dorothy Jones, Robert Owen, Barbara Clargo, Peter Larcombe and Anne Williams. To all these, and others who are worrying over their own health, or that of family members, we send our thoughts and prayers.

It has been a delight on several recent Sundays to welcome Gwynne Rees back to church and are pleased that she feels well enough to come more often.

I have recently heard that Jean and Duncan Yardley celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary a few weeks ago, and that Olive Corp celebrated a significant birthday - congratulations to them all on these special events.

Many congratulations to Beverley Clay, one of our talented flower arrangers, who has passed the NAFAS (National Association of Flower Arranging Societies) test in flower arranging which qualifies her to be an Area Flower Demonstrator. We thank Beverley, Karen and all the Beulah flower arrangers for their work through the year in arranging the flowers in church so beautifully, and also Ann Grimes, who along with Elaine Edwards and Gill Grivas, ensures that they are distributed to members of the church family. If you know of anyone who could do with cheering up with a bunch of flowers, please let Ann know.

*Blessings,
Louise*

Church Secretary:

Mrs Louise Morgan
Tel: 07773648730

Church Treasurer:

Mrs Barbara Rhys,
Tel: 029 2062 4574

Visit us at..... <http://www.beulahurc.org.uk/>

KIN

Together we care and together we share

GLORIA!

A community performance of Vivaldi's Gloria and other works including

Handel: Musick for the Royal Fireworks
Beulah United Reformed Church
Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF14 6LX

SATURDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2016 at 7.30 pm

Soloists: Alison Shone, Naomi Sarah Williams, Mali Thomas

Directed by: John Cheer

With: Beulah Baroque Ensemble

All welcome as singers or audience

Main rehearsal 4 pm: phone 07742 129454 for information

Fireworks and hot dogs will follow the music
Retiring collection for Home-Start BGR

Home-Start provides an essential support service to vulnerable families in Butetown, Grangetown and Riverside

BEULAH BAZAAR

Saturday 26th November 10.00 am - 1.00 pm in the Canolfan

Christmas Tree Festival

We would like to have the Church and Canolfan window sills decorated again this year with either **Crib Scenes or Christmas Trees**. Please email Barbara Rhys (barb.johnrhys@tiscali.co.uk) by Saturday 12th November, so that windows can be allocated on Sunday 13th November.

Stalls

Charity Christmas Cards

KIN Cakes

Christmas Decorations and Gifts

Toys and Games

Jewellery and Scarves

Bathroom Gifts

Refreshments

We would welcome donations of good children's toys, bathroom gifts, Christmas decorations, gift bags etc., jewellery and scarves. Please bring your items for the stalls to the Studio (upstairs in the Canolfan) on any Sunday during November, or on Friday 25th November from 6.30 pm.

Cakes can be brought to the Canolfan on the morning of the Bazaar from 9.00 am. There will be a list in the church porch nearer the time to sign if you can help on the day.

Money raised will be divided between local charities.

Thank you.

Dates for your diary

Christmas Festival, Rhiwbina Village Saturday 3rd December
 (Shelter Box)

Christmas Coffee Morning Saturday 17th December
 (CLIC Sargent)

Carol Singing around Rhiwbina 20th - 24th December
 (Save the Children)

Thank you, Eileen



Haiku Poems - (Poppies and Peace)

The young people of the Senior Department have written a number of Haiku poems, which are included in this edition of Crossroads. Haiku poetry is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. Haiku poems consist of 3 lines. The first and last lines of a Haiku have 5 syllables and the middle line has 7 syllables.

Follow us on Facebook.....



Join "**Beulah Friends**" and see up-to-date news and activities from around the Church.

Poppies remember
 The extreme of
 November



May peace stay within

Please send your Junior Crossroads contributions to Andrew Glanfield:
glanfieldar@cardiff.ac.uk

Thanks to Joan Ridley, for this 1972 press cutting giving an insight into Beulah's history:

BEULAH CHAPEL

Saturday the 20th May 1972 saw the opening of the new Assembly Rooms at Beulah Chapel. Prior to this, work had been done modernising the Chapel building. How many people worshipping and giving thanks knew that the new school room was on the site of a small house, formerly a smithy. The house was rented for £4 a year for worship in 1848.

Those who worshipped in this roadside cottage and who formed the nucleus of the first church were Edward and Mary David of Cornely-Waun Farm, Wauntreoda, William and Ann Brown, William and Mary Roberts of Bethlehem, Gwaelod y garth, Edward Roberts of Watford and William and Martha David of Peterston-Super-Ely.

The pulpit in the cottage deserves some mention. It was a kind of armchair in which sat the 'blaenor' or chief deacon to keep it steady for the preacher who

stood on the platform at the back. He had another function however and that was to ensure that the sermons were in accordance with the theological principles and theories then favoured by the denomination. For this reason he was called 'Ceidwad yr Athrawiaeth' (The Guardian of the Doctrine).

In this little house which was named Beulah, in the early days a Sunday School was held in the morning. Welsh preaching services or prayer meetings were held in the afternoon and evening and on certain week nights. The first sermon was preached on Christmas Day 1848 by Rev. John Jones of Bethlehem and Rudry. In 1849 he became the first Pastor.

When the little house became too small, money was raised by various means to build a new Chapel adjoining the cottage. On Whit Tuesday 1851 the new Chapel was opened. The cost of the building was £138. The land for the building was leased from a William Powell, a labourer, for 999 years at the annual ground rent of £1

per annum.

In 1875 the Church was again improved and a new pulpit put in at the cost of £100. It became increasingly evident that more room was needed and so negotiations were made for a lease of land across the road for the building of new Chapel. It was originally intended to pull down the old Chapel, and use the materials for the new one. Fortunately this was decided against. The work was done by Messrs. Longford & Evans, carpenter and stone mason. The final switch-over from Welsh to English was made in Oct. 1898.

The first Church of Beulah which was always referred to as Nant-Rhyd-Walla in the early days was surrounded by fields and linked by lanes to Pantbach and Ty'n-y-parc and other hamlets. Today it has traffic whizzing by and the area has now become a large Cardiff Suburb. The same good work is carried on now as by those first pioneers who would indeed be proud to see what has now happened to their first little Chapel.



Space4U

Providing friendship and support for people seeking asylum and refugees in Cardiff



A big thank you from Space4U for the boxers and socks as well as the food donated at Harvest time. Not the traditional harvest donation I know but very useful indeed! When people seeking asylum arrive in Cardiff they do not have any cash for maybe up to two months. It is therefore difficult to acquire more personal items such as underwear during this period. So the items were very much appreciated.

We always need primarily young men's warm and waterproof clothing, shoes and trainers as well as boxers and socks. These can be left in the Whittaker Lounge or given directly to Eileen Newington or myself.

Our work at Space4U continues in the Trinity Centre on Newport Road every Monday and Thursday afternoon with approximately 180 people crossing the threshold every time we open. As well as the clothing store we have a food store for the destitute, we run English classes and provide signposting and help with reading letters and filling in forms. In addition we provide refreshments throughout the day and a hot meal in the afternoon. There is also a separate Mums and Toddlers Group which meets twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday.

Can I also take this opportunity to thank Beulah who, through KIN, continue to provide financial support for our work on a regular basis. Without regular donations such as this and grant aid funding wherever we can find it, our work could not continue.

If you would like more information about Space4U, please have a look at our web-site – www.space4ucardiff.co.uk or speak to myself or Eileen Newington.

Again, thank you for your support.

Jenny McDowell

Concerts at the Crossroads

Wednesday Lunchtime Recitals, Autumn 2016

Wednesday 30th November at 1.05pm

Sioned Gwen Davies - mezzo – soprano
Caradog Williams – piano

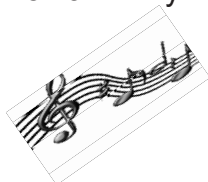
In May this year Sioned was the most worthy winner of the Welsh Singer Competition held in St David's Hall. This is the feeder competition which chooses Wales's entry to the Cardiff Singer of the World Competition 2017. It occurred to me that she would give a beautiful recital and so I decided to ask her if she would come to Beulah for our lunchtime series. She immediately accepted and so she comes on the 30th November with her friend Caradog Williams accompanying her.

She has chosen a theme of "gypsy music" - of which there is plenty for the warm mezzo voice. This promises to be a beautiful recital.

Another enticement, should you need one, is the traditional free coffee and mince pie afterwards in the Canolfan!

Tickets £5 on the door as usual.

Next lunchtime recital is 25th January with Opera students from the RWCMD



All are welcome!

Croeso i Bawb!

'Tea for Two' or more Districts

This is the second year that the Elders have facilitated a 'District Tea' for all the Beulah family members and adherents within their Church groups. It is an opportunity for two or more Districts memberships, to come together on a Saturday afternoon, to enjoy some food and tea. A marvellous occasion to talk with one another, whilst enjoying some entertainment. So far the afternoons have involved entertainment by flutists, guitarists and ukulele players, magicians and quizzes.

What could be next?

They have proved to be really popular and most 'District Tea' sessions have seen an increase in the numbers attending. The feedback we have received, so far, suggests that people enjoy the opportunity to come together to get to know people they often see in church, but do not know very well. It really is a marvellous opportunity to speak and share with each other in so many ways. There are still some 'District Tea' sessions to take place and we do hope you will continue to support, experience and enjoy these worthwhile events.

We should like to thank all our friends in Beulah for their kindness following the death of Gavin's mother Sheelagh. We were so grateful to Rev Ken Graham for leading the service for us. Also thank you to the 'book club' girls for organising the refreshments.

With love Gavin, Ruth, Michael and Nia (Williams)

White and red poppies
Each one symbolising
peace

Remembering
brave men



Mildred Clift

Barbara, Brenda and the rest of Mildred's family would like to thank the many people who have visited, sent flowers, brought cakes and sent cards, all of which has helped enormously. We have felt surrounded by love and support from the Beulah family.

We would like, particularly, to thank those who helped to make Mum's Thanksgiving Service such a lovely occasion: Roger for his prayers at that service and for leading the private family service at the crematorium earlier that day; Alun for the wonderful music which meant so much to Mum (and Dad); Karen for the beautiful floral arrangements; Barbara Rees and Pat Cazenave for putting on a wonderful spread (greatly praised by those who attended!); Louise for organising the church and stewards, and all who attended to support us and give thanks for Mum's life. Despite our sadness we have been truly blessed by you all.

BEULAH PLAYERS PRESENTS

"THE GOOD OLD DAYS"

A MARVELLOUSLY MELODIC MIX OF
MUSIC, MONOLOGUES AND MELODRAMA



WEDNESDAY 7TH - FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER -

AT CANOLFAN BEULAH

PERFORMANCE - 7-30PM (DOORS OPEN - 7PM)

ADULTS £8 / CONCESSIONS £7

(PRICE INCLUDES INTERVAL REFRESHMENTS)

PLEASE JOIN IN THE FUN -

**PRIZE FOR THE SINGLE BEST VICTORIAN / EDWARDIAN COSTUME
AND THE BEST-DRESSED COUPLE**

BOX OFFICE - TELEPHONE 02920 691196

Sine Nomine Lunchtime Concert **Wednesday 14th December at 1.0 5pm**



Dick Jenkins will be leading the Sine Nomine Singers in another return visit to Beulah this Christmas with a lunchtime concert of Christmas music.

Admission is free, but there will be a retiring collection for The Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Peter Ferdinando

Poppies remember
The war of mass
destruction

We never forget



Memories of war
The war that will
end all wars

Never forgetting



AUTUMN MEETING OF THE SYNOD OF WALES: October 15, 2016 at Carno

I attended this meeting as Beulah's representative along with Richard and Sarah Edwards. There was a full and varied agenda, which is available on request, but this is a brief report of some of the items of the day.

- Synod Council recommended that the Regional Pastoral Committees document be considered at the Meeting. There was some discussion about concerns over the effects of another layer in the Synod structure, as well as concerns over safe-guarding and composition of the committees. The resolution was passed by consensus.
- It was reported that an advertisement for a Special Category Transitional Ministry post has been placed in 'Reform', with interviews expected in late October.
- The Budget for 2017 was unanimously passed following some discussion about Church contributions to Wales Synod towards its running costs.
- Synod Day and the Yellow Bags: some encouraging stories were shared from several churches, and it was lovely to meet the Secretaries of the church whose Yellow Bag we received, and the one who received ours. The next Synod Day will be in 2019, it having been decided to hold these every three years from now on.
- Feasts and Festivals: a presentation was given about 'Feasts and Festivals: a Year of Celebration'. THE URC is encouraging local churches to join in the celebration of several significant events in 2017, including 500 years since the Lutheran Reformation, 100 years since the ordination of Constance Coltman, the first woman to enter Congregational ministry and 45 years since the formation of the URC. This is also the theme for the Prayer Handbook, and many resources will be made available. There will also be nationwide events for adults and children.
- Engaging with mental health issues: there were two very

moving and informative presentations from one person who suffers from a mental health problem, and another giving the perspective of a parent living with a child with mental health issues.

- Aberfan: the final session of the day served as a tribute to the children and families of those lost in the disaster, which was 50 years ago this month. The two speakers were retired URC ministers who had close association with the people of Aberfan, one at the time of the disaster, and one who worked there a few years later. These were profoundly personal and moving accounts, and showed the deep and long-lasting effects of this terrible time in the history of South Wales.

Louise

Poppies white and red
Remind of horrors
ago
The Great War ends
all



Book Launch: 'Our Holy Ground- the Welsh Christian Experience'

The launch of this book, written by two former URC Synod of Wales Moderators, John Morgans and Peter Noble, will be on Wednesday 9th November at Tabernacl, the Hayes, Cardiff, at 7.00pm. The book *'places the Welsh Christian experience within its wider historical context. In text and image the book begins with the origins of a people and the shaping of a Christian people in the post-Roman era. The story ends with the challenges and potential of the twenty-first century.....it is a journey through Welsh history and a pilgrimage through contemporary Wales.'*

Dewi's book about the start of Christian Aid's work in Wales was launched at Beulah in July:

The Nance Leaver Lounge was the perfect venue for the launch of Beginnings: Christian Aid Cymru the story of a pioneering generation on July 22. With all the attractive facilities from fully equipped kitchen to comfortable chairs to tables to lighting, warmth and welcome greeted the full house that turned up for a very remarkable event. Additionally, when we arrived well ahead of schedule, volunteers had put together a most eye-catching sight. The comfortable seats very soon had occupants, refreshments that truly refreshed were plentiful, Christian Aid publicity gave added sense of space above; the book itself was most at ease being admired along the whole length of the beautiful Lounge.

Then there was the absorbing, humorous and gifted presentations by John Prosser and Hefin Jones. A busy session of signature by the author was as welcome as it was assured. I am pleased to report what seasoned 'launchers' said - they had not attended such a happy one like that before.

It has pleased me, the whole family and others that church members, as they unfailingly do, so kindly made that excellent venue available for what proved to be a memorable and precious day in my extended connection with Christian Aid as well as with Beulah. The book seems to be making more friends all the time! Thanks be to God.

Thank you all for a special occasion.

Dewi

The Literati Book Club
Book Review by Diane
Burton

A Year of Marvellous
Ways – by Sarah
Winman

This book was my choice as I had read it previously. Every birthday and every Christmas I am blessed to receive a book from my grandson Matthew, but it is usually his mother Ann's choice as she knows the type of books I enjoy. So I received this book [and in hardback – what a delight - and with a beautiful silk-like soft cover] last Christmas.

The inside cover resume states, "Marvellous Ways is eighty nine years old and has lived alone in a remote Cornish creek for nearly all her life. Lately she's taken to spending her days sitting by the river with a telescope. She's waiting for something – she's not sure what, but she'll know it when she sees it.

Drake is a young soldier left reeling by the Second World War. When his promise to fulfil a dying man's wish sees him wash up in Marvellous' creek, broken in body and spirit, the old woman comes to his aid.

A Year of Marvellous Ways is a glorious life-affirming story about the magic in everyday life and the pull of the sea, the healing powers of storytelling and sloe gin, love and death and how we carry on when grief comes snapping at our heels."

This resume certainly whetted my literary appetite. I realized that Marvellous Ways is a character, rather than an abstract noun. Then the verse from T.S Eliot's Little Gidding which appeared on the first page confirmed that I was in for a moving story....

"We die with the dying,
See, they depart, and we go with them.

We are born with the dead:
See, they return, and bring us with them."

Anyone who has lost a loved one will relate to the first two lines. Anyone with a faith in the afterlife will understand the last two.

When beginning to read a book for the first time, I find that if

the first page grabs me, if the first paragraph grabs me and, particularly, if the first sentence grabs me – then I'm onto a winner. This was the case with Marvellous Ways:

"SO HERE SHE WAS, OLD NOW, STANDING BY THE ROADSIDE waiting." Even the capital letters seemed dramatic. There is suspense from the first sentence: "What is she waiting for?" I asked myself. There is so much I could write about this book – there is enough material to write a few thousand words – but don't worry, I won't!

So, where to continue? With the structure, I think. The book has five sections, as follows:

Part 1 – Marvellous

Part 11 – Drake except for chapter 13 – Marvellous. It is here that we are reminded that she is waiting for something..... "Something was beginning..... The end was beginning." The suspense is increasing and we are driven to read on.

Part 11, Chapters 14 to 36 concern both main characters. In chapter 35 Marvellous experiences a dream, a nightmare and realizes that it is the key to Drake's past. Marvellous realizes, "It was a dark fear, male. It wasn't hers." The nightmare concerns a playing card – the nine of diamonds. When Marvellous gives Drake the card, tears stream down his face and in Chapter 36 he relates to Marvellous the incident of the card game.

Part 1V concerns the narratives of several minor characters but, more importantly, the past loves in Marvellous' long life and a revelation for Drake.

The final part - Part V - brings the strands of the narrative of both Marvellous and Drake to a conclusion and it is then that we fully appreciate the skill of the author in having given suspenseful clues throughout the book.

Some novels are driven by a fast-moving series of events – not so this one. It is driven by the two main characters and we learn about their personalities bit by bit. So how can we describe Marvellous? This is a woman who has lived close to nature for

most of her life. She swims in the cold water of the creek daily, summer and winter. She has had several sensual encounters and has loved passionately. One of the minor characters says of Marvellous, "They said she was the most beautiful woman they had ever seen. Even the waves drew back to look at her." She tells Drake that she may be old now, but she was young once! As a very young woman she learned the secrets of life and death: She has been a midwife and has sat with the terminally ill and has laid them out in death. She is a "sage femme" indeed – this is the French term for a midwife – a "wise woman." We feel that she really is a wise woman and this wisdom is linked to many of the themes of the novel:

Marvellous on love: "Love. It's the only thing to have faith in..... something that turns up every day when you can't the moon the sun anything."

We know that Marvellous lights the candle in the church across the creek every night, but it is only later that we are told why - she does this to remind herself what some men can do to women. So it seems that betrayal or abandonment are another theme. Marvellous is superstitious – she believes in rumour catchers and dream catchers. She says that her mother was a mermaid and the cleansing powers of water are recurrent in the novel. She hears the saints crying out so there is a hint of religion here too.

In book club we agreed that Marvellous can be described in various ways – marvellous ways indeed – Is she mystical? spiritual? Does she have "second sight?" Is she a witch? We didn't think she was actually a witch, but we suspected that she might have been burned at the stake in previous centuries. There is certainly an "other world-ness" about her and a sensitivity to other people's emotions.

It is undoubtedly Marvellous who is the most important character of the book – hence the title. But on what level should we think of it? Is this a fairy story?

....cont. p9

MONDAYS IN THE WHITTAKER LOUNGE

Thank you to those who have been able to come along on Monday mornings to the Lounge to support Miss Tilley's Community Café. Each Monday the room is full of people enjoying coffee and cake served by Laura, Claire and helpers who have included Lisa, Sian and Matthew. Ages range from babies to our own Ninja knitters who are currently knitting for the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child which Elaine will be collecting in shortly.

Claire and Laura are extremely grateful to Beulah for allowing them the space to do this, and it has been such a pleasure to see the room full to capacity with lots of chatter and much laughter.

However, we say thank you to Laura and Claire for enabling the church family for enabling us to share this work opportunity for Laura and to help raise funds for the Downs Syndrome Association.

Dear Barbara,

211

A huge, huge Thank you to you for everything you have done to support our Miss Tilley's Community Café. It is so fantastic to be able to open up in such a lovely café environment and with such a central location. Thank you so much to everyone at Beulah for supporting us and for making us feel so welcome. It is very much appreciated.

With love and best wishes,

Claire and Laura (The Miss Tilley's team)
X X X X

SCHOOL VISITS

A couple of weeks ago Elaine and I were privileged to welcome teachers and schoolchildren from Rhiwbeina Junior School to the Church. They had been learning about the Second World War in the school. They had travelled on the train from London (Coryton) to Rhiwbina and arrived at the church (the collecting point) where adults were waiting to choose children to take to their homes (the Whittaker Lounge). Those that were chosen were taken out and those that were left were asked how they felt about not being chosen. Those who were chosen were asked how they felt and spent a short time with their new 'parents' as they learnt a little about each other. On their return, a number of adults were kind enough to share some of their experiences of the war and answer questions from the

children. It was altogether a joy and a privilege to take part in this and our thanks to the school for allowing them to come.

We had a total of 3 visits and I would like to thank those who shared their stories across the visits: Elinor Ludlow, Rubina Lewis, Bronwen James, Ray Nash, Janet Richards, Dewi Lewis, Elaine Hickman, Barbara Collins and Frank Kinsey. Thank you all.

Thank you too to the school who very kindly gave a donation to the Church following the visits.

Barbara

Red, white,
purple, green
Poppies that you've
always seen
Wearing always peace



from p.8

Could we really take the story at face value and imagine anyone living as Marvellous does? Mmm.....

And what of Drake? He is the kind of young man whom any mother would be proud to have as a son. Having never known his father and his mother having died young, having loved and lost love, undoubtedly having suffered Post Traumatic Stress Disorder during the war, he has promised to deliver a letter from a dying soldier whom he met very briefly in France, to his father in Cornwall. And it is his determination to keep his word that brings him to Marvellous Ways. It is through the careful and detailed interweaving of their histories that we finally see the whole picture. And what a wonderfully moving picture it is.

The style of the novel is rich, lyrical, full of imagery of nature, of the sea, almost poetic. I found I would re-read a paragraph just to drink in the beautiful language.

Are there any downsides to the novel?

I must say that, after the first page, I found it difficult to "get into" it. However, I take responsibility for this as, due to constraints of time, I was reading it in small chunks. If you read this book, I advise you to do so when you can give it your undivided attention – maybe on holiday. Drink and enjoy this beautiful book like a fine wine.

I would add that I found the mention of numerous minor characters rather daunting, especially in the early chapters. I found it helpful to make brief notes of who was who.

Part 1V contained the narrative of several of these minor characters and I didn't feel that this enhanced the novel. Perhaps it was included to give a more general picture of what life and culture were like in a post-war Cornish seaside town.

I have read this book three times and I am certain that I will read it more than once in future. Something new seems to come to light with each reading. I think it is a "Marvellous" book.

Church Calendar

NOVEMBER

Weds 2nd:	10.30am: Mid- Week Meeting Point 10.30am: Church Office 7.30pm: House Group (Beulah Alive) at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Sat 5 th :	7.30pm: Community 'Gloria'
Sunday, 6 th :	10.30am: Dr Alun Jones Junior Church in Canolfan – Graffiti Jesus Art Workshop <i>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</i> 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship
Monday 7 th :	2.00pm: Women's Fellowship 7.30pm: Church Meeting
Wednesday 9 th :	10.30am: Mid- Week Meeting Point 10.30pm: Church Office
Friday 11 th :	3.15pm: Youth Drop-In
Saturday 12 th :	10.00am-12.00: KIN Cake Stall
Sunday 13 th :	10.30am: Revd. Roger Bidnell: Remembrance Junior Church <i>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</i> 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship
Monday 14 th :	2.00 pm: Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 16 th :	10.30am: Mid- Week Meeting Point 10.30 am: Church Office 7.30 pm: House Group - Fellowship meal at 7, Clas Ty'n y Cae
Saturday 19 th :	6.00pm: Family Party for Gill Edwards
Sunday 20 th :	10.30 am: Worship Team with Communion Junior Church <i>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</i> 6.00pm: Evening Worship - Richard & Sarah Edwards 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship
Monday 21 st :	2.00pm: Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 23 rd :	10.30am: Mid- Week Meeting Point 10.30 am: Church Office 7.45pm: Pastoral Meeting, MWL
Thursday 24 th :	3.15pm: Youth Drop-In
Friday 25 th :	10.15am: WRB Prayers Together: St Mary's, Whitchurch
Saturday 26 th :	10.00am-1.00pm: Beulah Bazaar
Sunday 27 th :	10.30am: Revd. Martin Wheadon: Advent Sunday Junior Church <i>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</i> 6.00pm: United Choirs Service for Advent at Beulah 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship
Monday 28 ^h :	2.00pm: Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 30 th :	10.30am: Mid- Week Meeting Point 10.30 am: Church Office 1.05pm: Concert at the Crossroads: Sioned Gwen Davies (mezzo) and Caradog Williams (Piano)

DECEMBER

Saturday 3 rd :	4.00pm-6.30pm: Rhiwbina Christmas Festival
Sunday 4 th :	10.30am: Worship Team - Cradle Roll Service Junior Church <i>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</i> 6.15pm: Towards the End of the Day 7.15pm: Youth Fellowship
Monday 5 th :	2.00pm: Women's Fellowship
Wednesday 7 th :	10.30am: Mid- Week Meeting Point 10.30 am: Church Office 7.30 pm: Beulah Players: The Good Old Days
Thursday 8 th :	7.30 pm: Beulah Players: The Good Old Days
Friday 9 th :	3.15pm: Youth Drop-In 7.30 pm: Beulah Players: The Good Old Days
Sunday 11 th :	10.30am: Dr. Alun Jones, with Communion Junior Church <i>Coffee served in Canolfan after service</i> 6.00pm: 'Light for our Loss' – Revd. Roger Bidnell

ALL SAINTS/ BETHANY/BEULAH

Following a meeting with Revd Peter Mortimer, All Saints, and Revd Phil Dunning, Bethany Baptist, we are delighted to say that we have found a number of opportunities for us to continue to share together over the coming months.

Firstly, we shall all be sharing in our usual Carol Singing in and around the village – 20th-24th December inclusive. More details nearer the time.

We shall continue to share our normal monthly services on the first Sunday evening of the month in 2017, although, because of other commitments we will not be holding joint services in November and December. However, we will be holding our Joint Choirs Advent service on Sunday 27th November in Beulah and some from Bethany and All Saints hope to join us for the Vivaldi 'Gloria' on 5th November.

On the 7th May next year the whole church family is invited to join Bethany Baptist Church for their morning service which will 'launch' Christian Aid week. The three churches will work together on street collections thus helping each other in this important task. On Sunday 21st May we will hold a celebration/thank you service at 6.00 p.m. in Beulah which will be preceded by an afternoon tea in the Canolfan at 4.00 p.m.

We very much look forward to our continued work together and there will be information about other services etc at the appropriate times. We hope you will be able to join in as many as you are able.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Fair Trade Christmas Cards will be for sale on the following dates:

- Sunday 13 November 2016 upstairs in Canolfan (after morning service)
- Sunday 20 November 2016 upstairs in Canolfan (after morning service)
- Saturday 26 November 2016 at the Bazaar

(the closing date for Scout Post is 5 December 2016)

Traidcraft Catalogues.... are available in the MWL (on the shelves) for anyone which wishes to place orders. These could either be done direct to the Fair Dos shop in Canton or passed to us no later than 20 November 2016 and we will place the order. Cash/cheque (payable to "Fair Dos") with order please.

Christine & Duncan

REPORT FROM THE ELDERS' MEETING 10 October 2016

Miss Tilley's Pop-up Café has been a great success with a buzzing Whittaker Lounge on a Monday Morning.

Synod Transitional Ministry Resource Team (SRT):

The Synod has now set up a team for transitional ministry consisting of Revd. Stephen Best, Revd. Sue Fender and the three Synod Elders, and work is under way in all the Cardiff churches. Beulah will build on the work that has already taken place on the future of Ministry and all members of the church will invited to contribute. A Transitional Team (TT) is being set up to begin this work, and Stephen Best and Patrick Hickey will work with us from the SRT.

Ecumenical Events in Rhiwbina

Barbara Rhys met with Phil Dunning (Bethany) and Peter Mortimer (All Saints) and they proposed a full and supportive programme of joint events for the rest of 2016 and 2017. The fellowship and commitment of our fellow churches is a reminder of the continuation of the outreach of Beulah. Events include:

- The 3 choirs service for

Advent led by Dr Alun Jones in Beulah.

- The 3 churches joining together for Carol singing
- A Summer Festival service held at Bethany.
- The three churches to join together in Christian Aid week.
- Both Rev Phil Dunning and Rev Peter Mortimer are keen to support Beulah in their period of vacancy.

Purchase of a defibrillator

This purchase has been made possible by a bequest in the will of Evelyn Rees, mother of Gaynor Rees for which Beulah is very grateful. It is proposed that it will be placed on the outside wall of Canolfan and will be made available for community use.

Communications, Meetings and Leadership:

Following the decision to set up a small group (Task and Finish), Andrew Glanfield produced a paper with suggestions for how this will run, and a number of people have been approached to undertake this work. Due to time-constraints it will report to Elders in January.

(Thanks to Anne James for her work in producing this report)

Who's Doing What and When

	Mini-Bus Driver	Duty Elder	Stewards	Pulpit Reader
November				
6th	am Huw Morgan	Anne Wilkes	Elinor Ludlow & John Prosser	Andy Wales
13th	am Colin Grimes	Andrew Glanfield	Chris Phelps & Kaye Mundy	Huw Morgan
20th	am Keith Jones	Tony Webb	Helen Harries	Heather Bishop
	pm		<i>Worship in MWL</i>	
27th	am Tony Webb	Ann Brown	Denise Dickman & Pam Penny	Pat Agland
	pm	Ann Brown	<i>Advent Music -Beulah</i>	
December				
4th	am Harley Jones	Richard Edwards	Christine & Duncan Pugh	Anne Thomas
	pm		<i>"Towards the end of the day"</i>	
11th	am Ian Budding	Viv Jones	Elaine Edwards & Kate Stanbury	Louise Morgan
	pm	Viv Jones	<i>"Light for our loss"</i>	
18th	am Mike Warsop	Audrey Budding	Mary Prosser & Mary Edwards	Vera Ruddock
	pm	Audrey Budding		
24th	11.30 pm	Ian McDowell	Jill & Peter Ferdinando	
		Christmas Eve Communion		
25th	am Keith Jones	Phillip Edwards	Janet & Dennis Richards	Audrey Budding



Flower Rota

November

6th Mary & Phil Edwards
 13th Nesta & Alan Thomas
 20th Eleri John
 27th Alan Wilson

December

4th Barbara Clargo
 11th Ann Brown
 18th Tanya & Nick Hampson
 25th Mary & Lesley Richards



Editors' Note

The deadline for articles for the
 December edition of
 Crossroads is
 Sunday, 20th November, and
 Colin will be editing.

Colin Grimes, Huw Morgan,
 e-mail: crossroads@hotmail.co.uk



GLORIA!

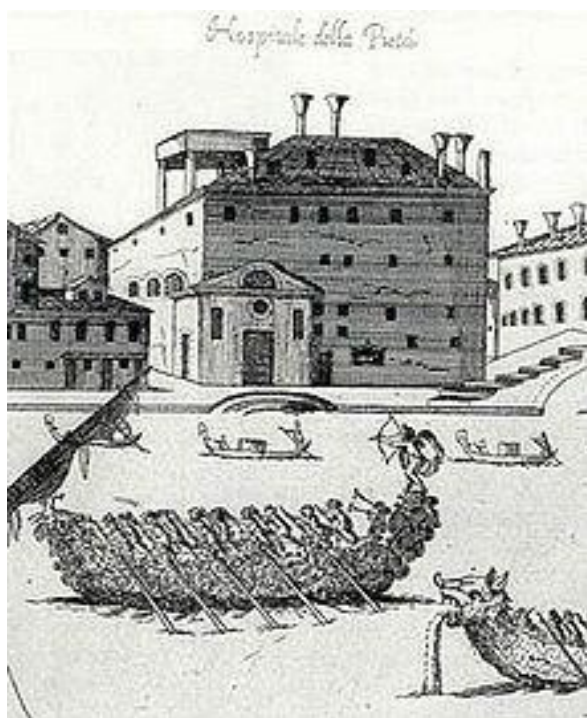
A COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE OF VIVALDI'S GLORIA AND OTHER WORKS INCLUDING

HANDEL: MUSIC FOR THE ROYAL FIREWORKS

Beulah United Reformed Church

Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF14 6LX

SATURDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2016 at 7.30 pm



SOLOISTS: Alison Shone,
Naomi Sarah Williams, Mali Thomas

Directed by: John Cheer

With: Beulah Baroque Ensemble

All welcome as singers or audience
Main rehearsal 4 pm:
phone 07742 129454 for information

FIREWORKS AND HOT DOGS WILL FOLLOW THE MUSIC

Retiring collection for Home-Start BGR

Home-Start provides an essential support service to vulnerable families in Butetown, Grangetown and Riverside