



# YOURS FAITHFULLY

July 2023

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## Vicar

The Rev'd Maggie Thorne  
Leader,  
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Sunday Schedule  
09:30, 11:00 & 6:30pm

Wednesday Schedule  
Please see detailed  
service schedule

Morning & Evening  
Prayer at  
8am & 7pm Monday to  
Thursday via Zoom

Please see detailed  
service schedule for  
dates, times and  
Churches

Please email, phone or  
request Zoom meetings  
and chats as you wish,  
but please note that my  
day off is Friday.

Rev'd Maggie Thorne

Please send any  
information for the July  
newsletter in to  
[mapenybontinfo@gmail.com](mailto:mapenybontinfo@gmail.com)  
by 15 July 2023.

Dear friends

My continued thanks to all of you who ask after our granddaughter. Please don't allow me to get carried away with the photos as I realise that after one or two, you've seen enough! It's amazing how fast she's growing and I notice it more when I look back at the photos. It's quite normal, of course, for a baby to grow rapidly, if fed well and they get plenty of rest with lots of cwtching in between!



We're now in the season of Ordinary Time, which extends from Trinity Sunday until November, sandwiched between Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas. In these long summer weeks we're supposed to do some reflecting on our faith and ease off the gas a bit, and so grow spiritually during this time. Babies do not thrive if they're not fed and don't have sleep and aren't shown love and affection. Similarly, our souls will not thrive if we're not spiritually fed, don't have rest and aren't aware of the great love that our Heavenly Father has for us. July is a good time to start taking things easy and the sun and warmth helps us to do that without too much trouble. But ..... we mustn't forget to keep taking our spiritual food as well. We still need bread and wine for our journey, we still need to read our Bibles and we still need to pray, no matter what time of year it is.

It's not too late to book into the Festival of Prayer (8th July at St Teilo's School, Cardiff) if you're interested in being nurtured and challenged in that way, and you can always ask me for help with reading the Bible and/or your personal spiritual journey if you wish.

I pray that you'll take this season as an opportunity to rest and relax, and also to reflect on your journey so far and where you might go next.

*Love and every blessing  
Maggie.*

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## Services Schedule

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	9:30am	Brackla	Café Church	Pete
		Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Edward
		Merthyr Mawr	Non-Eucharist	Penny
	11:00am	Coychurch	Family Service	Pete
		Nolton	Eucharist	Maggie
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Edward
		Pen-y-fai	Non-Eucharist	Penny
6:30pm	Zoom	Evensong (no sermon)	Maggie/Pete	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am	Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Stephen
	11:00am	Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	9:30am	Brackla	Eucharist	Maggie
		Coity	Eucharist	Edward
		Laleston	Eucharist	Mike
		Merthyr Mawr	Non-Eucharist	Penny or Val
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Newcastle	Non-Eucharist	Penny or Val
		Nolton	Eucharist	Edward
		Pen-y-fai	Eucharist	Mike
6:30pm	Coity	Taizé Service – Live in Coity Church	Maggie	
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am	Laleston	Eucharist	Graham
		Nolton	Eucharist	Maggie
	11:00am	Newcastle	Eucharist	Graham

## Services Schedule cont...

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	9:30am	Brackla	Café Church	Pete
		Coity	Eucharist	Tim
		Laleston	Eucharist	Maggie
		Merthyr Mawr	Eucharist	Mike
	11:00am	Coychurch	Family Service	Pete
		Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
		Nolton	Eucharist	Tim
		Pen-y-fai	Eucharist	Mike
6:30pm	Zoom	Evensong	Maggie / Pete	
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am	Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
	11:00am	Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	9:30am	Brackla	Eucharist	Edward
		Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
		Merthyr Mawr	Non-Eucharist	Penny or Val
	11:00am	Coychurch	Eucharist	Maggie
		Newcastle	Non-Eucharist	Penny or Val
		Nolton	Eucharist	Edward
		Pen-y-fai	Eucharist	Roger
6:30pm	Zoom	Evensong	Maggie	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am	Laleston	Eucharist	Maggie
		Nolton	Eucharist	Roger
	11:00am	Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie

## Services Schedule cont...

Date	Time	Church	Service	Vicar
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b> (8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	11:00am	Nolton	Eucharist – MA Joint Service	Maggie / Roger
	<b>Please note that there will be NO evening service on the 30<sup>th</sup> July</b>			
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	9:30am	Coity	Eucharist	Maggie
		Laleston	Eucharist	Roger
	11:00am	Newcastle	Eucharist	Maggie
Morning and Evening Prayer at 8am and 7pm, Monday to Thursday via Zoom <b>Please contact Rev'd Maggie Thorne</b> for the Zoom links you need.				
Sunday clubs run at <span style="color: orange;">Brackla</span> , <span style="color: red;">Coity</span> and <span style="color: blue;">Pen-y-fai</span> . <b>Please contact Rev'd Maggie Thorne</b> for details.				
Please note that the August rota will take into consideration clergy holidays.				

## Collects and the Sunday readings for the month

Date	Collects	Readings	
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not the things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	<i>Continuous:</i> Genesis 22. 1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6. 12-23 Matthew 10. 40-42	<i>or Related:</i> Jeremiah 28. 5-9 Psalm 89. 1-4, 15-18 or 89. 8-18 Romans 6. 12-23 Matthew 10. 40-42
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	<i>Continuous:</i> Genesis 24. 34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45. 10-17 <i>or Canticle:</i> Song of Solomon 2. 8-13 Romans 7. 15-25a Matthew 11. 16-19, 25-30	<i>or Related:</i> Zechariah 9. 9-12 Psalm 145. 8-14 Romans 7. 15-25a Matthew 11. 16-19, 25-30
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	<i>Continuous:</i> Genesis 25. 19-34 Psalm 119. 105-112 Romans 8. 1-11 Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23	<i>or Related:</i> Isaiah 55. 10-13 Psalm 65. [1-8,] 9-13 Romans 8. 1-11 Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)	Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	<i>Continuous:</i> Genesis 28. 10-19a Psalm 139. 1-12, [23, 24] Romans 8. 12-25 Matthew 13. 24-30, 36-43	<i>or Related:</i> Wisdom 12. 13, 16-19 or Isaiah 44. 6-8 Psalm 86. 11-17 Romans 8. 12-25 Matthew 13. 24-30, 36-43

## Collects and the Sunday readings for the month cont...

Date	Collects	Readings	
<p><b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July</b> (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)</p>	<p>Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern us in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p>	<p><i>Continuous:</i> Genesis 29. 15-28 Psalm 105. 1-11, [45b]; or Psalm 128 Romans 8. 26-39 Matthew 13. 31- 33, 44-52</p>	<p><i>or Related</i> 1 Kings 3. 5-12 Psalm 119. 129-136 Romans 8. 26- 39 Matthew 13. 31-33, 44-52</p>

## For your Prayers

### Please pray for:

Don Keir  
Clive Smith

and all those who are sick whether in body,  
mind or spirit.

### Baptisms

Please pray for those who are preparing for baptism, including:

Charlie Davies  
Alfi Carvell-White



### Weddings

Please pray for those who are preparing for their wedding, including:

Shareefa Al Harasi and Kurt Dent  
Jordan Townsend and Jessica Purton



### Please continue to pray for Ukraine

God of all people and author of peace,  
we pray for all who are involved in the current confrontation in and surrounding Ukraine.  
May the nations of the world, their governments and leaders  
base their decisions upon your wisdom in all that makes for peace.  
Loving God, we recognise that conflict brings tragic loss for all involved,  
and so we pray that eyes and hearts may be opened to those things that unite  
us in our common humanity.

At this time of fear and tension, we pray for your beloved children;  
that they may know a de-escalation of fear and threat,  
which would enable them to live in peace and dignity.

We pray for a longed-for restoration of tranquillity in Ukraine.

Lord, we recognise that prayer is a privilege and the responsibility of each one of us; and so we hold in our hearts this  
situation, its context, and the future,  
secure in the love shown for all people through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



### Ministry Area Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the opportunity to work together as a Ministry Area. May we engage with each other  
with faith and encouragement and manage each situation with wisdom and mutual respect. May we serve with integrity,  
creativity and purpose and speak with openness and gentleness. May we offer our gifts, time and finances with generosity  
and face each challenge with courage and the desire to grow through it. May we all be drawn deeper into our relationship  
with you and be known as your disciples. Help us to tell our joyful stories, increase our capacity for good and extend your  
kingdom in this place. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### RIP:

Gill Boyce  
Les Dodd  
John Evans  
Mary Foreman  
Joan ('Sis') Hawkins

Patricia Jones  
Tracy Mason  
Joan Smith  
Julie Willis



May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory.

Amen.

**Forest Church**  
**Holiday Theme**  
**Coychurch Church**  
**Saturday 15th July, 3:30pm**

**\*Outdoor worship with forest church will be a small walk—Part of the Nant Brynglas walk for all ability and ages, singing, prayer and fun activity**

Call Rev Maggie –01656 652247 or Philippa—07553 928088 for more details

### A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips

#### June

Taste the benefits of seasonal and local food. Make plans to source locally grown foods that you can add to your diet / shopping list throughout the seasons.

Produce grown locally is picked at the peak of its ripeness and will be full of flavour, tasting better than the produce that has been imported and travelled thousands of miles.

#### July

Help hedgehogs in hot weather. Hedgehogs particularly need help in a heatwave, as their usual prey of slugs, snails and worms are often unavailable. Leaving out a juicy snack, such as mealworms or canned dog food, can help in sustained warm weather. If you have a garden pond, ensure there's always a way for hedgehogs (and other small mammals) to climb out if they fall in.

#### August

Help birds in hot weather. Keeping your bird bath topped up with fresh water in warmer weather can be a life saver for our feathered friends. Get your garden birds through a heatwave when natural supplies, like worms, become scarce, by putting out supplementary food - black sunflower seeds, pinhead oatmeal, soaked sultanas, raisins and currants, mealworms, waxworms and good seed mixture.

For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email at:

[arochoa.org.uk/wild-christian](mailto:arochoa.org.uk/wild-christian)





The second round of negotiations on the UN global plastics treaty drew to a close on Friday (2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023) . Tearfund staff and campaigners were at the talks in Paris, ensuring that justice for those living in poverty – who are often the people most impacted by plastic pollution – was included in the discussions.

Throughout the week, we saw strong resistance from those who wanted to block progress, but with God's help there were still many successes and answers to prayer. Here are some of the highlights:

- Campaigners and waste pickers dressed up as lifeguards and **issued a warning to governments that 218 million people across the world are at risk** of flooding made worse by plastic pollution.
- We helped organise a panel event with the International Alliance of Waste Pickers, which was **attended by many government delegates who heard directly from waste pickers** about their experience with plastic pollution and how the treaty can support a just transition.
- Tearfund campaigner Dr Tiwonge Mzumara-Gawa had **lots of opportunities to speak to the media** and share her experience of plastic pollution in Malawi.
- Our recent plastics and **flooding research opened new conversations** with governments and was even referred to in the main negotiations.
- After a slow start, **we saw growing momentum for justice to be included in the treaty** and an agreement to develop the first draft of the treaty text! But, it's clear there is a long way to go to get a strong treaty. Reflecting on the week, Dr Mzumara-Gawa said: *'There are some who profit from this plastic crisis and want to keep ambition as low as possible. But citizens around the world are demanding change and many governments are listening, recognising that justice for those most affected must be a core part of this treaty.'*

The third round of negotiations will take place in November, with lots for us to influence governments about in the meantime. Please continue to pray that governments keep those most impacted by the plastic crisis at the heart of the talks. Poverty is not God's plan and we believe every person should have an opportunity to live a full life, free of all this rubbish.

You can also play your part by [signing our petition](#) if you haven't already done so. Or visit our [Rubbish Campaign](#) page for more ways to get your church involved, and look out for an exciting new way to take action with us in the coming weeks. Every blessing,

Naomi Witherick  
Tearfund Action

### Eco Church & Forest Church news

#### Green Quiz – Part 3

As mentioned in the last couple of newsletters, we are running the A Rocha green quiz. There are a total of 5 rounds with Round 4 this month. Answers to Round 3 can be found on the next page, with the answers to this month's round published in next month's newsletter. Good luck – no prizes on offer but we hope this tests your knowledge of all God's creatures great and small.

#### Round 4 – Bugs, bees and mammals

1. True or false, bees cannot see the colour red
2. Since the 1980's the population of UK butterflies has declined considerably. By how much?  
a) 66%      b) 76%      c) 86%
3. True or false, dragonflies and damselflies have teeth?
4. Dung beetles are found on every continent except one. Which continent does not have the dung beetle in residence?
5. The name 'Gardeners Friend' is given to this animal because it can munch up to 200g of insects in a night. What animal is it?
6. Hedgehogs usually hibernate between November and April in a nest of leaves or logs. What is the name given to the nest they hibernate in?
7. Bats are nocturnal and navigate by sending out waves of sound from their mouths or noses which bounce off their surroundings, to help build up a picture of what surrounds them. What is the process in which bats use to navigate in the dark?
8. Neomys fodiens is a small mammal which lives in wetlands. It has a venomous bite that can cause pain in humans, but is fatal to other small mammals. What is it more commonly known as?

## Green News cont...

### Eco Church & Forest Church news

Answers to last months A Rocha quiz – Round 3



1. House Sparrow	2. Goldfinch	3. Collard dove
4. Song thrush	5. Marsh tit	6. Wren
7. Lapwing	8. Oyster catcher	9. Skylark



## St Teilo's Poppy Cascade Challenge 2023



A big thank you to everyone who has been crafting



So far, we have:

- 1219 red knitted poppies
- 32 white knitted poppies
- 20 purple knitted poppies
- 7 black knitted poppies
- 34 big felt poppies
- 76 small felt poppies
- 57 poppies with pins
- 5 key ring poppies

So, we have a total of 1,381 poppies to sew onto a cascade so far. This is fantastic – thank you so much for all of your support. I know also that some of you have poppies that you are going to hand in at the end. We may also have, thanks to Megan, access to some of the curtain of poppies from Wonderwool which some of you knitted previously.

There will be another get together for tea/coffee cake on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 10:30am** at St Teilo's church Merthyr Mawr – **all are welcome.**



### Public Information Days

We have been refining our plans and developing our proposals for Y Bryn onshore windfarm, north east of Port Talbot. Following two phases of initial informal engagement, we are now presenting our final proposed plans.

All information about the proposals will be posted on our project website, as well as presented at the events detailed below.

**Bryn Community Centre**  
Maesteg Road, Bryn, Neath Port Talbot, SA13 2RY  
Monday 12 June  
2pm-7pm

**Talbach Community Centre**  
Duke Street, Talbach, Neath Port Talbot, SA13 1NA  
Tuesday 13 June  
2pm-7pm

**Cefn Cribwr Athletic Club**  
Cae Gof, Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend, CF32 0BA  
Wednesday 14 June  
2pm-7pm

**Maesteg Sports Centre**  
Old Forge Site,  
Nant-y-Crymwydd, Maesteg  
CF34 9EB  
Friday 16 June  
2pm-7pm

**Cwmafan Community Centre**  
Depot Road, Cwmafan, SA12 9BA  
(for Sat Nav, please use SA12 9DF)  
Saturday 17 June  
2pm-7pm

The deadline for comment is **Monday 17 July 2023**

Y dyddiad cau ar gyfer sylwadau yw **dydd Llun 17 Gorffennaf 2023**



### Diwrnodau Gwybodaeth Cyhoeddus

Rydym wedi bod yn mireinio ein cynlluniau ac rydym yn datblygu ein cynnig ar gyfer fferm wynt ar y tir Y Bryn, f'r gogledd-ddwyrain o Bort Talbot. Yn dilyn dau gam o ymgynghoriad anffurfiol cychwynnol, rydym nawr yn cyflwyno ein cynlluniau arfaethedig terfynol.

Bydd yr holl wybodaeth yn cael ei phostio ar wefan ein prosiect, a bydd hefyd yn cael ei chyflwyno yn y digwyddiadau a nodir isod.

**Canolfan Cymunedol Bryn**  
Maesteg Road, Bryn,  
Castell Nedd Port Talbot, SA13 2RY  
Dydd Llun 12 Mehefin, 2yp i 7yn

**Canolfan Gymunedol Talbach**  
Duke Street, Talbach,  
Port Talbot, SA13 1NA  
Dydd Mawrth 13 Mehefin, 2yp i 7yn

**Clwb Athletau Cefn Cribwr**  
Cae Gof, Heol Cefn,  
Cefn Cribwr, Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr, CF32 0BA  
Dydd Mercher 14 Mehefin, 2yp i 7yn

**Canolfan Hamdden Maesteg**  
Old Forge Site,  
Nant-y-Crymwydd, Maesteg, CF34 9DS  
Dydd Gwener 16 Mehefin, 2yp i 7yn

**Canolfan Gymunedol Cwmafan**  
Depot Road, Cwmafan, Port Talbot SA12 9BA  
(ar gyfer Sat Nav, defnyddiwch SA12 9DF)  
Dydd Sadwrn 17 Mehefin, 2yp i 7yn

View our virtual information event and get in touch:

Email/Ebost: [info@ybryn-windfarm.cymru](mailto:info@ybryn-windfarm.cymru) Call/Galw: 0800 699 0081 [www.ybryn-windfarm.cymru](http://www.ybryn-windfarm.cymru)

### Ministry Area news

I am very pleased to confirm that we have been able to resolve the issues surrounding the appointment of a caretaker to Nolton Hall. Consequently, Kevin Morgan took up duties earlier in June which means the hall manager, Alli Rogers, can return to full time managing. Good news for all of us. The main area of concern was the formulating of an employment policy document which addressed all the issues highlighted in employment law and the requirements of the Charities Commission. Work is now well in hand in producing formal policy documents for implementation by all Ministry Area members. All final documents will be presented to the Mac in due course, but positive progress has been made.

Our newly appointed councillors were able to take up their duties at the last Ministry Area Council meeting held in June, this being the first full meeting since the Annual Vestry Meeting. A formal welcome was extended to Hollie Evans, Hilary Markwell and Simon Buckley. We also welcomed Val Turner who joins the council as Lay Reader as we also look forward to Roger Pitman taking his place in the coming weeks. We trust everyone will find the role of Councillor interesting and rewarding.

The notion of forming a Ministry Area events committee was discussed at this Council meeting. This followed requests by several members to reintroduce what has been a very successful committee over the years. The basic idea is for each church to be able to support each other with manpower and general help in any way possible without restricting the activities of individual churches. Any thoughts on the idea? Please pass them on to your Church Rep.

So, whatever you do this summer, at home or away, relax and enjoy all that the season has to offer.

Best Wishes Andrew Dix, Lay Chair.

## Brackla are getting Messy !

By Joy Fry

As part of their growth programme and with the help of the Diocese Growth Enablers, St Mary's Brackla have set up and run Messy Coffee Mornings for Archdeacon John Lewis Primary School for pupils and their parents.



The events have been timetabled for each year group on a different Friday morning and run for approx. 2hrs and combine the Messy Church elements of a story, messy activities and singing with drinks, cakes and the opportunity to chat with parents.

Themes so far this term have been Creation and Trinity, we will also do Pilgrimage before the summer holidays.

The themes for the next academic year will be considered soon.

If you would like to come along and get involved, please contact a member of the Brackla congregation or Revd Maggie.



**St Crallo's Church Summer Social**  
**Saturday 15th July 2023**  
**2:30 - 4:30pm At The Memorial Hall**  
**Contact Rachel To Book Your Cream Tea**  
**£5 Adults, £3 Children**  
**Drop In And Visit Our Stalls**



Rachel: Phone - 07446126626 Email - gaucirm@gmail.com

### DAY VISIT

to

**Chavenage House, Tetbury, Gloucestershire  
Thursday July 6th 2023**

**Chavenage House** in Tetbury, Gloucester, is a very beautiful manor house with a history dating back to medieval times. It has been the location for many films and television productions.

#### Our trip is planned as follows:

- Leave Bridgend (location to be confirmed) by Pencoed Travel coach at 9am on July 6th 2023.
- Arrive at Tetbury before 11am for coffee and a little wander around.
- Arrive at Chavenage House for a 12.30pm lunch.
- Embark upon a 2pm afternoon tour of Chavenage House.
- Tea or coffee will be served prior to a 4pm departure.
- Arrive at Bridgend by 5.30pm.

\*\*\* All times are approximate.\*\*\*

#### Lunch choices:

- Thai poached salmon with ginger, lime and coriander.
- Chicken breasts wrapped in bacon, stuffed with cream cheese and served with watercress sauce.

\*\*All served with bread, potatoes, seasonal vegetables or salad.\*\*

Plus – a choice of desserts, at an extra cost of £6, if desired.

#### Costs:

- Coach - £15
- Driver tip - £1
- Tour of Chavenage House - £10
- Lunch - £12
- Tea or coffee - £2
- Total cost- £40

All are welcome. To book a place, please ring Jenny on 07595762885 or email her at [jennifermorgan@live.co.uk](mailto:jennifermorgan@live.co.uk)



**Pop up Teas**  
St Teilo's, Merthyr Mawr  
Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
10.00am – 4pm



#### Giving:

For details on how to give, please contact Sandra Arnott (Treasurer to the Ministry Area) [sandra.arnott49@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.arnott49@gmail.com) or 862211.

Also, here is the link to our easy-to-use online Campaign Page: [MA Penybont ar Ogrw Donation Page](#) or scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet.

For your interest, there's also a card reader in church, allowing you to donate via debit/credit cards.

Those in CNB who are used to giving through the envelope system will find envelopes in Coity Church.

Please contact Karen Phillips on 651338 or 07944 627519 if you'd like to be included in this scheme.

**Please be as generous as you possibly can in your giving as we are very worried that with escalating fuel costs, the Church might be affected detrimentally yet again.**



### **Bridgend County Borough Council News**

Council's five-year plan calls on local people to 'deliver together'

Residents and businesses throughout Bridgend County Borough are being encouraged to read the local council's new Corporate Plan for 2023-28 and find out how the authority intends to provide essential services and work alongside local people and partners.

Called 'Delivering Together,' the plan has been specifically designed to be more accessible and easier for people to engage with. It has been produced using feedback from residents of all ages and backgrounds, users and providers of council services, elected members, partner organisations, other local authorities and more.

The Leader, Cllr Huw David said: "The corporate plan outlines what functions a local council provides, how we are funded and intend to invest resources, and what our aims and objectives will be over the next five-year period.

"We have presented all of this in an easy-to-follow style as we want people and partners to work closely with us. Because we want as many people as possible to have a say in the shape and direction of council services over the next five years, we have called the plan 'Delivering Together'.

"We all have a part to play in the success of Bridgend County Borough - this plan sets out how we can work together to achieve that, and build a better future for us all."

Chief Executive Mark Shephard said: "To achieve and deliver a new corporate plan capable of guiding us up to 2028, we have carried out a great deal of consultation and research. The new Corporate Plan for 2023-28 provides us with a clear, well-informed and relevant basis for delivering essential services, and for meeting whatever challenges stand before us."

To view the plan online, visit the [Corporate Plan](#) page at the council's website, [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)





### Bridgend County Borough Council News

#### Green Energy Hybont Plant - Council clarifies its position on proposed green energy Hybont plant.

A senior councillor at Bridgend County Borough Council has issued a statement clarifying the local authority's position over a planning application for a proposed green energy plant at Brynmenyn Industrial Estate.

Speaking ahead of an independent public meeting where the application will be discussed by local residents, Cllr John Spanswick, Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment, said: *"The proposals for establishing a new green energy Hybont plant at Brynmenyn Industrial Estate have gathered a lot of attention and interest. They have understandably generated a number of questions and concerns from residents, but unfortunately, a great deal of misinformation has been circulating too. While the council is keen to address this and offer greater clarification, we also have to remain impartial as we are the relevant planning authority and a planning application has now been formally submitted – hence why we cannot attend the independently organised public meeting in person. What I would stress, therefore, is the absolute importance of ensuring that all opinions and views have been based upon the science and facts behind these proposals, and not on misinformation or rumour."*

*"It has been widely recognised at all levels that the reliance on fossil fuels cannot go on, and that new, cleaner types of energy and fuel must be developed. As an organisation, Bridgend County Borough Council is fully committed towards the Net Zero 2030 target set by Welsh Government. We have launched the Bridgend 2030 Net Zero Carbon Strategy which outlines what we will do to meet this commitment, and have formally recognised the climate emergency with our own Climate Emergency Response programme."*

*"Faced with the ongoing Cost of Living Crisis and huge increases in the costs of fuel, energy and basic resources, it is more important than ever for public services to develop and implement cheaper, greener sources of energy in order to offer value for money, and to ensure that our own resources are invested wisely and for maximum benefit. It is also important to acknowledge that safe, hydrogen-based technology is already in use across the UK and Europe where it forms part of a growing move towards tackling climate change by increasing the availability of clean renewable energy, and decarbonising vehicles. Green hydrogen is produced through the electrolysis of water using renewable energy sources like solar or wind power, making it a clean and emissions-free alternative to traditional hydrogen produced using fossil fuels."*

*"For the council, if such a facility were to go ahead, it would represent a £31m investment into sustainable energy and an opportunity for upgrading our fleet of service vehicles such as recycling and waste collection trucks and local public transport vehicles, such as buses. It would also help us to invest our resources more effectively, and to make significant progress on our environmental objectives. Throughout all of this, I can assure you that public safety remains a top priority, and Bridgend County Borough Council would neither approve nor commit to any scheme if we genuinely believed it posed a risk to the wider community. Like many of the existing businesses and industries that are already based at Brynmenyn, hydrogen plants are specifically designed with safety in mind. Pipe work is buried below ground, fire walls are built around key parts of the plant, and vehicular access is strictly controlled and devised so that refuelling takes place well away from plant storage and machinery."*

*"Such technology is already safely in use across the UK. In London, 22 new hydrogen buses have been introduced which is the equivalent of removing 836 petrol cars from the road. In Aberdeen, 15 hydrogen buses have already jointly travelled more than a million miles while saving 1,700 tonnes of emissions."*

*"The site at Brynmenyn Industrial Estate has been put forward mainly because of its proximity to an existing bus depot, the fact that hot water generated as a by-product can be used to heat local facilities in the wider community, and because of the potential for locating and linking to a solar farm nearby. The proposed new plant would be based alongside existing industries within Brynmenyn Industrial Estate. If successful, it would occupy a small, extensively landscaped site, and the only by-products would be oxygen and water."*

*"The council is currently in the process of analysing all feedback received on the planning application submitted by Marubeni, and the results will be reported back to a future meeting of the Development Control committee."*

*"In the meantime, Marubeni has established a website which offers a wealth of reliable, accurate data on the Hybont proposal, including a fact sheet, sets of answers to frequently asked questions, artist impressions for how an approved, finished project would look, and more. I strongly urge anyone who has an interest in this issue to view the information directly by visiting [www.hybont.co.uk](http://www.hybont.co.uk). You can also view the planning application and accompanying documentation by visiting the planning pages of [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)."*





Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, is the gift of Christ, the Lord