



Penrallt Baptist Church

Newsletter for June 2012

It was never my intention to get involved in the Olympics. My strategy was to ignore them completely, while smiling and nodding generously whenever they were mentioned in my presence. If I were to end up looking like that dog in the insurance advert, so be it. Small price to pay for my non-engagement with the sporting mega-event. Then my daughter bought me a ticket for a football quarter final in the Millennium Stadium and my resistance began to crack like an Antarctic glacier.

I can only put it down to a cruel joke by someone high in our nation's administration that the route of the Olympic Torch was then designated to pass right in front of Penrallt. My 'ignore-it-and-it-will-go-away ploy' was beginning to unravel big time.

And finally (you will note that major defeats always come in threes) at one Churches Together meeting the subject of the 'Prayer Baton' was raised. I immediately classified it as one of those ideas that someone, somewhere, dreams up and then insists that the rest of us have an obligation to join even if we were not consulted in the first place. Governments, of course, work that way, but sadly so do Christian para-church organizations. Anyway the meeting ground to a halt in embarrassed silence as all present looked at their shoes. In the end, anxious to get home in reasonable time, I found myself putting my name forward to look into the matter, in the vague hope that I would explore the subject and declare it to be beyond our means. I fulfilled my promise, examined it, and then discovered it to be a rather good idea. A very good idea in fact..

So, I have found myself in the position of "prayer baton" bearer on Tuesday 29th May. Don't get it wrong. Not the 'Olympic Torch Bearer'. They wouldn't let me near that thing. The prayer baton will arrive in Penrallt at 12 noon on Monday 28th of this month from Aberystwyth, born by Christians from that town. It will be stuffed with prayer requests, scriptures and words of encouragement and we will pray for each other and our respective towns. Then on the Tuesday I will be taking the prayer baton forward to Chester to meet with Christians of that great city at 12 noon to pray for each other. This has turned out to be my big moment!

On the first Sunday in June I will be exploring the theme 'building God's church'. This event has reminded us that we are not isolated from other Christians. We all belong to God's family and are here to encourage each other.

We have an obligation to "carry the Christian torch" in our turn, so may I draw your attention to our search for new deacons and members of the Sunday School team. Our children's work is expanding and God is calling new people into positions of responsibility. Make sure that you are listening for his call.

God bless you, **Peter**

(PS: Please remember that from Sunday June 3rd for three months our evening services will begin at **7.00pm**. This is to allow you to spend the afternoon at the beach, or walking the hills or just sleeping in your hammock in the shade. Don't waste the summer. Enjoy God's sabbath in beautiful North Wales and then come to church at 7pm to give him thanks and praise.)

SERVICES IN JUNE

June 3

10.30am ***Growing and Building: Mustard Seed Faith*** *Ephesians 4:1-16*
2.15pm Service in Bontnewydd
7.00pm Communion Service. ***"It was not meant to be like this in the beginning" – Jesus and divorce.*** *Matthew 19:1-12.*

June 10

10.30am ***It's OK to doubt. To be honest, doubt may be good for you.***
Psalm 73
7.00pm ***When God says "Go", go!*** *Matthew 19:16-30*

June 17

10.30am Fathers' Day. ***Qualities that God expects in Fathers (and in all of us).*** *Psalm 40*
7.00pm ***Outrageous Grace. God does much better than being fair.*** *Matthew 20: 1-16*

June 24

10.30am Communion Service Speaker: Revd. Clive Alder
7.00pm Speaker: Michael Straker

Our Preaching Team for June:

Peter Cousins is Penrallt's minister. *Revd. Clive Alder* is the minister of the Holyhead Baptist Church (New Park Street Baptist Church). He was a Physics teacher before going into the Baptist ministry in Scotland with his wife Kathleen. *Michael Straker* is a Bangor graduate, just finishing his year's volunteer work as a Relay Worker in North Wales with the University and Colleges Christian Fellowship. After marrying Naomi in the summer he is going on to do a PGCE in Chester.

NO CHURCH LUNCH

We will not host a church lunch on Sunday June 3rd because of the extended Jubilee bank holiday .

SPECIAL DATES FOR JUNE

Friday 1		Pastoral Care Team
Wednesday 6	10:30am	Men's Prayer Meeting.
Saturday 9		Bangor Carnival. All help will be appreciated
Monday 11		HGV meeting
Wednesday 13	7:30pm	Cytun committee meeting at in Berea Newydd
Friday and Saturday 15 & 16		All Wales Baptist Assembly in Carmarthen
Monday 18	7:30pm	Deacons' Meeting
Tuesday 19	10.30am	Penrallt Walking Group (see 'Noticeboard')
Saturday 30	7.30pm	Worship Team Saturday Session

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 (716953)
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	

NEWS OF PEOPLE

Our condolences to **Nancy Jones** and family on the death of her brother at the end of last month. **Jane Hodgson** has now left and is settling in Warrington. We wish her God's blessing. This is the time to say goodbye to all our leaving students. Thank you for sharing your life with us. We wish you God's blessing and ask you to always hold Wales in your hearts.

Children's Birthdays in June

20th: Bradley Jones

NOTICEBOARD

- ***Men's Prayer Meeting*** ***Wednesday 6 June*** ***10.30am***
The men will meet for prayer as usual, followed by coffee in Options.
- ***Walking Group*** ***Tuesday 19 June*** ***10.30am***
We will meet at the paddling pool on Llandudno prom and will walk around Little Orme and Penrhyn Bay (about 4 hours). Contact Freda on 371316 if you want further details.
- ***Men's Games Evening***
The men are taking a break from their games evenings and will reconvene in September.
- ***Worship Teams*** ***Saturday 30 June*** ***7.30pm***
All singers, instrumentalists, worship leaders, sound and projection team members are welcome. Contact Deb Stammers for more details (jonanddeborah@btinternet.com).
- ***Students***
We would like to begin a students/young adults home group in Bangor from the start of the next academic year. If you are interested in leading/hosting it, please speak to Peter or Danielle.
- ***Penrallt on Facebook***
100 people are signed up to Penrallt's Facebook site. Join us.
- ***Homeless in Bangor***
We do not recommend giving money to the homeless. Instead, £5 in one of the brown envelopes from the table in the porch of the church (placed in the offering) will buy a hot meal for them through the St. Mary's Hostel scheme. So far Penrallt has contributed £3665 to the fund.

➤ ***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,
Judy Stammers 364394 Geoff Moore 410582

Holiday: Peter will be on holiday from Friday 20th to Thursday 28th June. If you have any pastoral concerns this week please contact one of the members of the Pastoral Care Team.

Deadline for next month's newsletter Sunday 17 June

Please send information to Gwyneth
(gwyneth@brindley-wales.com or 352682)