CHURCH Magazine

St Hilary's Church, Killay • St Martin's Church, Dunvant



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Dear Friends

Lest We Forget

'In Flanders' fields the poppies blow between the crosses, row on row, that mark our place: and in the sky the larks, still bravely singing, fly scarce heard amid the guns below.'

This is the first verse of John McCrae's poem, first published in Punch magazine in 1915. It soon came to symbolise the sacrifice of all who died in World War One. Today, the poppy remains an important symbol of all those who have sacrificed their lives in conflicts over the years. But why do we remember them?

'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.' (Micah 4:3). Writing 700 years before Christ, Micah spoke at the time when Samaria was captured due to the invasion of Assyria. However, he prophesied a future of hope, a world where nations would come together in peace rather than war. His words are fulfilled in the kingdom of God established by Jesus.

Our understanding of *peace* is more than simply the absence of conflict. It is about building relationships between people, communities and nations, founded on love and justice for all. As we remember those who have died in war, we should look practically at how we can build such relationships, beginning with our own families, colleagues and neighbours. *'We will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.'* (Micah 4:5). Let us ask God's Spirit to make us people of peace, justice and compassion for today's world.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'



St Hilary's & St Martin's - Who's Who

Priest:	Reverend Layfetta Masih The New Vicarage, 59a Victoria Road, Waunarlwydd, Swansea SA5 4SY ✆ 01792 410488 Mobile: 07414 268163 Email: LayfettaMasih@cinw.org.uk	
St Hilary's	St Hilary's Church & Church Hall 481a Gower Road, Killay, Swansea, SA2 7DZ	
Lay Worship Leaders:	Simon Davies, Mike Powell, Barbara Roberts.	
Eucharistic Assistants:	Roy Chapman, Mike Powell, Catherine Swain.	
Congregational Wardens:	Cath Swain Marian Williams	✆ 298166 ✆ 204175
Assistant Warden:	Alun Bessette	✆ 699037
Treasurer:	Diane Holohan	✆ 296272
Sacristan:	Mike Powell	✆ 208955
Church Committee Secretary:	Marian Williams	✆ 204175
Hall Booking Secretary:	Diane Holohan	✆ 07770 788465 *(texts preferred)*
Envelopes/Gift Aid Scheme:	Geraldine Rees	✆ 207916
Organist:	Chris Samuel	
St Martin's	St Martin's Church Fairwood Road, Dunvant, Swansea SA2 7PE	
Eucharistic Assistant:	Susan Dimblebee	
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St Hilary's Church, *Killay*

Sidespersons

Nov	Sue & Bob Mapp
Dec	Janet Jones, Roy Chapman

Elements

1st	Lay led
8th	Glenys & Lyndon Hall
15th	Janet Jones, Anne Llewelyn
22nd	Julie Dowzell Thomas, Spencer Thomas
29th	Joint Service at All Souls
Dec 6th	Lay led

Readers

1st	Lay led
8th	Jim Proudfoot
15th	Sue Davies
22nd	Sheila Betts
29th	Joint Service at All Souls
Dec 6th	Lay led

Intercessions

1st	Lay led
8th	Sheila Betts
15th	Marian Williams
22nd	Jan Lewis
29th	Joint Service at All Souls
Dec 6th	Lay led

Eucharist Assistants

1st	Lay led
8th	Roy Chapman
15th	Mike Powell
22nd	Cath Swain
29th	Joint Service at All Souls

Altar Flowers

1st	Pat Glasson in memory of Tony
8th	Babs Roberts in memory of Roy
15th	Sue Mapp in memory of her mother
22nd	Glenda Penzer in memory of Bryan and Eleanor Smale
29th	Advent

Coffee

1st	Angela Seaward, Sally Bowen
8th	Babs Roberts, Nansi Evans
15th	Chris Regan, Diane Holohan
22nd	Pam Davies, Gillian Hutchinson
29th	Joint Service at All Souls
Dec 6th	Sylvia Powell, Geraldine Rees

St Martin's Church, *Dunvant*

Sidespersons

1st	Gareth Dimblebee
8th	Sue Dimblebee
15th	Roger Draisey
22nd	Ian Dimblebee
29th	Joint Service at All Souls

Readers

1st	Carol Lewis
8th	Margaret Draisey
15th	Alun Bessette
22nd	Haulwen Lumsdaine
29th	Joint Service at All Souls

Altar Flowers

1st	Flower Fund
8th	Ian Dimblebee (Remembrance)
15th	Sue Dimblebee
22nd	Carol Lewis
29th	Advent

Holy Dusters Margaret & Roger

All enquiries:
Christenings, Weddings & Funerals



Please contact:
Rev'd Layfetta Masih
Mobile: 07414 268163
01792 410488
Email: layfettamasih@cinw.org.uk

News

We pray for those who are ill at home, in hospital or nursing homes.

Our thoughts are also with those who lovingly care for them by day and night.
Julie Cole, Miriam Evans, Doll Lee, Diane Lewis (Hillside Nursing Home), Olwen Nicholas, Mary Osborne (Hillside Nursing Home), Rev'd Judith Phillips, Rita Trew, Margaret Williams, Eileen Wilson and all others known to Him who need our prayers.

Thanks to church family—My sincere thanks to all my church family for your cards, flowers, visits and prayers all very much appreciated during the last couple of months. I am much brighter in myself and getting out a little, hopefully I'll be in church with you all soon. My love and gratitude to you all. Angela Reed



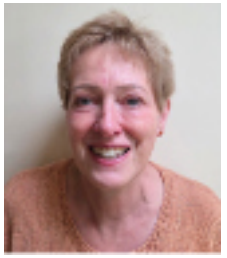
I would like to thank everyone that has contributed towards the giving of flowers throughout the year. A list will be placed at the back of the Church during December if you wish to place flowers on the Altar during 2027

Many thanks
Diolch yn Fawr
Anne

100 Club for September

The results of the September draw are as follows:

1st ball 75	Hugh Stratton, St Hilary's
2nd ball 99	Gareth Dimblebee, St Martin's



Safeguarding Contact

Ministry Area Safeguarding officer Cath Swain
07854119359

8th November - The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

CHURCH MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many thanks to our readers and all of you who make our Church Magazine possible and to all who help in delivering door to door, it is very much appreciated. It is that time of year when the annual subscriptions for the Church Magazines delivered to you are due for payment in December.

For this year ending December 2026.
Twelve monthly magazines at 50p each - £6 total

St Peter's 400th anniversary



Four hundred years ago, on 18th November 1626, St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City was completed. It is the largest church in the world (measured by its interior).

Planned at first by Pope Nicholas V in the 15th century, its construction started on 18th April 1506, under Pope Julius II. The idea was to replace a 4th century church – Old St Peter's Basilica – built by the Emperor Constantine, supposedly on the site of Peter's martyrdom and burial. The new building took 120 years to finish.

Its dome, designed by Michelangelo, rises to a height of almost 450 feet from the floor of the Basilica to the top of its external cross and is the tallest dome in the world.

The original design of the Italian Renaissance church was created by Donato Bramante, with additional features by Carlo Maderno and Gian Lorenzo Bernini.

Despite its size and prominence, St Peter's Basilica is not the Pope's official seat and does not rank first of the major basilicas of Rome. That honour goes to the Pope's Cathedral, the Archbasilica of St John Lateran, which is also seen as the mother church of all churches in communion with the Catholic Church, despite being located outside Vatican City.

Nevertheless St Peter's functions for most purposes as the Pope's principal church, because nearly all Papal liturgies and ceremonies take place there: this is because of its location within Vatican City, its size, and the convenience of being close to the Papal residence. The liturgies at which the Pope presides draw congregations of up to 80,000 people.

It also contains the ancient "Chair of Saint Peter", a gift to Pope John VIII from Holy Roman Emperor Charles the Bald in 875 which, despite its dubious pedigree, is used to symbolise the line of apostolic succession.

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WHAT'S ON IN ST HILARY'S CHURCH HALL

SUNDAY

9:30	Bubble Church (with puppets) 1st Sunday of the month	Drop In
10:15 to 12:30	Sunday School 2nd & 3rd Sunday of the month	Drop In

MONDAY

9:00 and 10:30am.	Slimming World	Sue 07813316739
9:15 to 11:00am	TOTS Group (up to school age)	Drop In (Term Time)
1:00 to 2:00pm	Welsh Story & Rhyme Time (up to 18 months)	Drop In (Term Time) Patsy
7:30pm	Music Society 2nd Monday of the month	

TUESDAY

9:45 and 11:00am	FLexercise Keep Fit for 50+	Chris 07738199666
6:00pm	4th Killay Brownies	
2:30 to 4:00pm	Mothers Union 3rd Tuesday of the month	

WEDNESDAY

9:30am	Weightwatchers	Drop In Kate kgoudge@ww.com
2:00 to 3:00	Tai Chi	Rachel Owens 07722285175 racheltaichimovements@proton.me
5:30 to 7:30	Annabel's School of Dance (Ballet for children & adults).	Annabel Jones-Gammon annabelsschoolofdance@outlook.com
10:00am	Luncheon Club 1st Wednesday of the month	Kay 01792206373

THURSDAY

9:15am	Foot Clinic (once a month by appointment)	Julie 07796173074
5:45 to 6:45pm	Dancefit	Rachel info@swanseadance.com

FRIDAY

7:00 to 10:00	Indoor Bowls Club	Drop In

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St James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'



The Rectory, St James the Least of All

On working with young people

My dear Nephew Darren

It is quite natural for you curates to enjoy working with young people in your parishes; church youth clubs were created in order to keep the newly ordained off the streets in the evenings. But be assured you will grow out of it. I consent to baptise babies and prepare teenagers for confirmation, but beyond that my contact with this alien life form is kept to an absolute minimum.

Dear Miss Thrush runs our weekly Pram Service - whose sole purpose seems to be to give young mothers an opportunity to discuss the ever-changing liaisons within the village, while their offspring shred hymn books and destroy the flower arrangements. I drop in from time to time in order to check that the more mobile haven't found where we hide the matches. An infant equipped with that knowledge can so easily become a teenage pyromaniac.

I can give you little advice on your youth group. When I was a curate, the major activity seemed to be to teach them how to wear gas masks, although today I imagine there is more concern about protecting them from other sorts of exotic chemicals. Also, I suspect you are kept busy keeping the young out of the darker corners of the churchyard as they develop their anatomical knowledge – a past-time still enthusiastically pursued by each new generation.

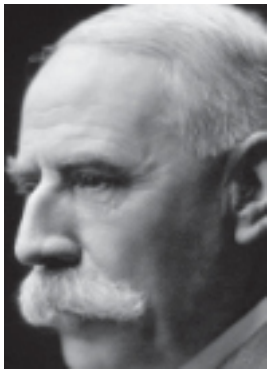
You clearly find your monthly Youth Service a deeply enriching experience. As far as I am concerned, if such a liturgy had been necessary, then Cranmer would have provided us with one. Endlessly repeated choruses accompanied by a guitar would make me warm to the Quakers. I am sure St Paul's services would have been much enriched with Hymns Ancient and Modern. The disciples in hiding in Jerusalem were not even able to sing accompanied by an organ, which must have greatly dispirited them. I also feel that our Verger would be unable to cope with organising the strobe lighting and dry ice effects. It takes him all his time to remember to light the candles on the altar.

On this matter we must differ. You must worship God in your way, and I in His.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

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DREAM OF GERONTIUS



Swansea Philharmonic Choir, with the British Sinfonietta, will present **Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius" in the Brangwyn Hall 7.30pm on Saturday 5th December.**

Tickets are available from Jan Proudfoot (299443), the Grand Theatre box office, on-line from the Brangwyn web-site, or on the door on the night.



MONTHLY HOUSE GROUPS:
Celia Hall – 2nd Tuesday
Carol Conway - 3rd Thursday
St Martin's House Group will meet at St Martin's on the last Wednesday of the month 6.00pm

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Have you got something you would like to say?
Read a good book? Seen a good film or play? Had a good holiday? Recommend a recipe? Gardening tips? Something interesting or funny happened to you? Tell us about it.
You can either hand in your contribution to Geraldine or myself or e-mail to rogerrees134@gmail.com and we will share them in the magazine.
Articles for the magazine can be submitted by the date printed in the magazine to enable publication the following month.
Thank you
Roger

A visit to the Bayeux tapestry



In October we boarded our train for a 35 minute journey from Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire to Euston to visit the British museum. From Euston we strolled through Bloomsbury taking in Tavistock Square and then a picnic lunch in Russell Square, before arriving at the museum. After hearing "horror" stories from the previous week, where visitors had experienced lengthy queues and even being turned away to allow private viewings, we had some anxiety and trepidation. You can imagine our relief when we asked a guide when we should start queuing for our 3:10pm viewing, to hear the reply of 3pm! A word of warning… our friends bought a meal-deal in the museum that cost them £13 each (sandwich, cake and a coffee).

Therefore with a couple of hours to spare, we took in the Parthenon sculptures (c.430 BC, aka Elgin Marbles); The Rosetta stone, the key that unlocked ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs and the Bust of Ramesses the Great who was an Egyptian pharaoh from c.1200 BC. We also saw the famous Holy Thorn Reliquary, a c14C masterpiece that contains a single thorn believed to come from the Crown of Thorns worn by Jesus Christ. This is part of the Rothschild collection.

Then at our allotted time we entered the Bayeux tapestry exhibition. Starting with a number of animated interpretation displays giving some background to the tapestry and a brief factual history of what is depicted, we then arrived at the start of the 70 metre (230ft) long tapestry. To minimise any deterioration to the 950 year old tapestry it is now presented lying flat in a continuous glass case.

The Bayeux Tapestry depicts the events leading up to the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, culminating in the Battle of Hastings.

Key Events

- **Harold's Journey (1064):** Earl Harold Godwinson of England travels to Normandy, meets Duke William, and is captured by Count Guy of Ponthieu before William rescues him.
- **The Oath:** Harold swears a sacred oath to Duke William on holy relics, pledging his support for William's claim to the English throne.
- **Death of Edward the Confessor (1066):** King Edward dies, and Harold Godwinson is crowned King of England, angering William who views it as a broken promise.
- **Halley's Comet:** The appearance of the celestial omen is stitched into the cloth, viewed as a bad sign for King Harold.
- **The Invasion:** William builds a massive invasion fleet, sails across the English Channel, and establishes a beachhead in England.
- **The Battle of Hastings (October 14, 1066):** Fierce combat breaks out between the Norman and Anglo-Saxon forces. The narrative ends with the rout of the Anglo-Saxon army and the death of King Harold—famously depicted with an arrow near his eye.

The tapestry is not strictly a tapestry but an embroidered linen cloth stitched with coloured wool yarns. The yarns used natural dyes found in the plants woad (blue) and madder (red). The central action is framed by top and bottom decorative borders featuring animals, scenes from Aesop's fables, agricultural labour and fallen soldiers from the battlefield. It serves as a vital historical record of 11th-century medieval architecture, longships, armour, weapons, feasting, and royal court customs.

It is understood that the tapestry was stitched by needleworkers from 7 priories around Winchester over a five year period, completed by 1077 to be displayed in the newly built cathedral at Bayeaux, Normandy. It includes over 600 people, although only 3 women; 190 horses and hundreds of other animals.

We enjoyed our seamless experience of seeing for our first time such an historic piece of art. Not surprising, after completing our viewing we emerged in to the dedicated Bayeux souvenir shop where you could buy anything from a £1.25 pencil up to a replica 1.5 metre tapestry for £485!

Nigel & Eileen Fletcher

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The deadline for articles for December 2026 magazine is Friday 27 November

Pudding Party in Memory of Beryl Harris



Our mum, Beryl, loved her family and friends, St Hilary's Church, and, perhaps most importantly, baking. So, what could be a more fitting tribute to her memory than a pudding party to raise funds for St Hilary's Church during its centenary year?

Several years ago, inspired by an idea from family in Devon, Mum organised the first St Hilary's Pudding Party. As a keen baker, renowned hostess and with much encouragement from Fr Tim, she threw herself enthusiastically into the challenge.

Unfortunately, disaster struck the night before the event when Mum was taken ill and unable to attend. She was hugely disappointed but firmly insisted that the show must go on. I stepped into her shoes and thanks to the support of Pam Davies and Sylvia Powell, it did just that, and the afternoon was a tremendous success.

A few years later, with Mum's help and encouragement, I organised another pudding party at St Hilary's in aid of Bobath Children's Therapy Centre and the Old Mill Foundation, both causes with close family connections. Once again, the event proved that a room full of puddings and good company is a winning combination.

Mum often talked about holding another pudding party, but time moved on and, sadly, her health declined. She passed away on 17 December 2025, leaving an enormous void in all our lives .

Wanting to fulfil Mum's wish and ensure she remained part of the church's 100th anniversary celebrations, Jeremy, Sarah, Colin and I decided to host a pudding party in her memory. With the help of our family, Carol Conway and Jan Lewis, a date was set for 4 October 2026, and preparations began.

Then, just when we thought we had everything under control, history decided to repeat itself. A few days before the event, I became unwell and was admitted to hospital. Not content with having one organiser out of action, fate also decided to sideline my husband Colin, my trusted right-hand man, who was left bedridden for several days. Clearly, there is some mysterious family tradition linking pudding parties and poorly organisers! Just as Mum had done years before, I had to hand over the reins. Thankfully, my daughter Rebecca stepped in, supported by Sarah, Jeremy, Carol and Jan, and took charge magnificently.

As difficult as it was to let go, they did a fantastic job, helped by our family, friends and parishioners. The result was everything Mum would have hoped for. More than 100 people attended, enjoyed an impressive array of homemade desserts, shared plenty of laughter and fond memories, and together raised over **£1,200** for St Hilary's Church.

The support shown on the day was truly overwhelming. As well as enjoying the puddings, people generously bought raffle tickets and supported Laura's food stall, where an array of her homemade treats was on offer along with Beryls much-loved Christmas puddings. Every purchase helped boost the fundraising total and added to the wonderful atmosphere of the afternoon.

As a family, we would like to thank everyone who helped, whether by baking, serving, washing up, donating raffle prizes, buying tickets or simply coming along and supporting the event. What started as a well-planned pudding party became wonderfully chaotic at times, but whenever there was a job to do, somebody was always willing to step forward and help.

The generosity, kindness and teamwork shown by so many people made all the difference and turned the afternoon into something truly special. Your support made the event such a success, and we know Mum would have been delighted to see so many people coming together in the name of friendship, church family and, of course, pudding. 🍰❤️

With our heartfelt thanks, and perhaps one last helping of pudding, Catherine, Jeremy, Sarah, Colin & family xx

St Martin's Church

St Martin's macmillan coffee morning raised £290 plus 25%gift aid £362 well done and a big thank you to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause.



Nov 11th: St Martin's film night presents

The life of our patron saint St Martin. Starting 7.00pm price £5.00 per ticket includes free popcorn. In aid of church funds.

Our harvest Eucharist festival was led by Layfetta with the church beautifully decorated so well done to team St Martin's who donated such a generous. amount and has been gratefully received by the North Gower food hub.

Wave of Prayer

This is the prayer tree we have at Saint Martin's (due to lack of space) it was our way of celebrating The Wave of Prayer in our ministry area.

Members of our congregation were invited to write a name of a loved one on the card, hang it on the tree and offer up a prayer for that person or persons who needed praying for.





11th November - Martin of Tours, pioneer of western monasticism

This winter, when you next see someone who looks both poor and cold, think of Martin of Tours (316 – 397). This monk bishop, born in Pannonia (now Hungary) became one of the most popular saints of the Middle Ages.

Martin's father was a pagan officer in the Roman Army, and Martin was intended for the army as well. But from an early age Martin wanted to be a Christian, and he felt that as a Christian he could not serve the Roman Empire. Martin was imprisoned for this early 'conscientious objection', and not released until 357, when he was nearly 40.

One day Martin met a nearly naked beggar at Amiens. He took off his cloak, cut it in half and gave the half to the beggar. Soon after this, he had a dream in which Christ appeared to him, wearing the half of the cloak which Martin had given away. Martin was the pioneer of western monasticism: he founded the first monastery in the whole of Gaul about 360. He was made bishop of Tours in 372 – by popular demand of both his clergy and his people.

As bishop, Martin continued his simple life as a monk, - and evangelist. Christianity had been largely confined to the urban centres of population, but Martin went further, and took Christianity to the *pagani* (country-men). For the next 25 years this greatly loved bishop travelled his diocese by donkey and by boat, preaching the good news of Jesus Christ, and helping his people to tear down their heathen temples and sacred trees. He was sought out for his healing prayers for the sick, and also his defence of the faith from heretics.

Martin's emblem in English art is often that of a goose, whose annual migration is about this time of year. 'St Martin's Summer' in England is a spell of fine weather that sometimes occurs around 11th November.

Parish of Killay Magazine, 50 years ago - October 1976

Services at St Martin's

Concern has been expressed among some of our members regarding the evening service at St Martin's church. Over the past two years there has been a marked decline in the number who have been attending and on some occasions there have been as few as four or five in the congregation.

On the other hand, the morning service is generally well attended and it is pleasing to see whole families together in church. This seems to indicate that our members prefer to attend church in the morning. It has been suggested that in future we hold a service EVERY Sunday morning and discontinue the evening service except on festivals and special occasions such as Christmas, Easter, Whitsun and Harvest.

A meeting will be held in St Martin's after Evensong on 14th November giving all members an opportunity to discuss this matter.

Young Wives

The annual dinner dance was held at the Irvine Club, Mumbles and proved to be an excellent evening of fellowship and fun. We are grateful to Mesdames P Rott and M Yates for their efficient organisation.

The members of the group hosted a successful coffee evening on 27th November when the Abbey Players sang various numbers from their productions. We are indebted to them for their willingness to provide the entertainment at this event.

News in Brief

We would like to acknowledge the kind gift of a wooden chest for the vicar's vestry from Paul Jeffrey.

We are most grateful to Mr W Davies for cutting the hedges around the church; Mr David Phillips for re-fitting a Church Hall window and Mr Peter Hodgens for supplying and fitting a manhole cover.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Holy Baptism:

3rd Oct	Paul Antony Arnold Cotgias, 38 Priors Way
	Catherine Gemma Leek, 16 Maes-yr-Efail
	Huw Rhys Morgan, 598B Gower Road
	Rachel Morgan, 50 Gwelfor
	Kerry Lynne Richards, 49 Pen-y-Fro

Burials:

27th Oct	Annie Allen, 447 Gower Road

Gower Walking Festival



Last Thursday, those who had planned and led walks, acted as back markers, acted as sponsors or stewards were invited to a celebration evening at Three Cliffs Coffee Shop in Southgate, which had sponsored one of the walks. This year over 9 days in September, there were 38 walks with 507 attendees. Dan Edy from the WoW project led three of the walks and Peter Lewis led another, I was just a back marker, but really enjoyed myself. I went to represent the WoW team and what a wonderful evening it was.

This event relies heavily on a small extremely willing group of volunteers and their stories were fascinating, one of the walks was poetry related and we were treated to a poem written to celebrate the festival. The photography competition proved that there are some talented photographers in Gower, who had captured the moments so perfectly. I didn't know that the coffee shop caters for buffets, but it was superb. Everything was homemade, delicious and with carefully chosen local ingredients. I had never tried laverbread, bacon and tomato dip before, but I had missed a treat, it was the best thing I had tasted for a long time. The variety was incredible and quite original, rather that the usual sandwiches and quiche etc. All the cakes and desserts were homemade and we were even given doggy bags to take home. If you are in Southgate, the coffee shop is highly recommended.

Marian Williams

Wales Air Ambulance

I spent a very interesting morning last week at the Wales Air Ambulance Airbase at Dafen in Llanelli.



This was partly a fund raiser explaining how gifts in Wills help to shape the future of the service but also a fascinating talk about the service itself. Their Airbus H145 helicopter G-WYDN and two rapid response vehicles are based there. I hadn't realised that Dafen is the Charity's Headquarters in Wales. There are only 5 teams to cover Wales, so this is a scarce and highly specialised resource, which means that each team has to travel throughout Wales to meet the demand. Approximately half of the missions they attended in 2025 were either medical incidents or trauma related which include road accidents, animal related injuries or incidents related to burns and explosions. I'm sure that many of us have seen the Air Ambulance in Dunvant Park, but I hadn't realised the huge geographical area which is covered.

A fascinating morning with delicious refreshments and a vital insight into this essential life-saving service.

Marian Williams



St Hilary's Church
481a Gower Rd, Killay
SA2 7DZ

St Martin's Church
Fairwood Rd,
Dunvant
SA2 7PE

Everyone is welcome to our services, full details of which are on the back page

The deadline for articles for the December 2026 magazine is on **Friday 27 November 2026.**

The magazine is printed and published by St Hilary and St Martin Churches in the Gower Ministry Area, Diocese of Swansea and Brecon, Church in Wales.

The views in the articles reflect the views of the individuals contributing the items and are not intended to represent the official views of the Ministry Area or the Church in Wales.

www.eastgower.org

If you have any news or photos you would care to share please contact Roger Rees

Tel: 207916

email: rogerrees134@gmail.com

Exercise Classes

Enquiries
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St Hilary's Church Hall, Killay:	**Tues**	**9:45am & 11:00am**	**Ladies**
St Paul's Parish Centre, Sketty:	**Tues**	**7:00pm**	**Ladies**
	Thurs	**10:00am**	**Ladies**



Church Hall: St Hilary's

Two large rooms with refreshment and disabled facilities available for hire ….. parties, anniversaries, meetings etc.

Phone 07770 788465 *(texts preferred)*

St Martin's Church is available for hire. It can accommodate about 35 people. If you are interested, please contact Church Wardens.

Our Vision: *A family, rooted in Christ, committed to transforming lives by: Gathering as God's people – Growing more like Jesus – Going out in the power of the Spirit.*

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Puzzle Page

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern **France** and **Flanders**. Great swathes of previously **green fields** and forests were blasted and **bombed**, leaving them **bleak** and **barren**, with seemingly every living thing **destroyed**.

But then in the **Spring** of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the **destruction**. Tens of thousands of **bright red** Flanders **poppies** began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of **mud**. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much **chaos** and destruction, because their **seeds grow** when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to **soil**.

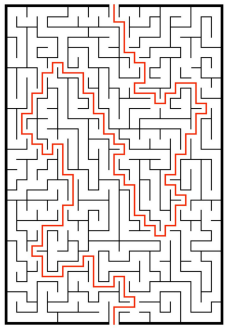
Those endless fields of **cheerful** poppies, **growing** in the midst of such **horror**, were what inspired the Canadian **doctor**, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous **poem** 'In Flanders Fields'.

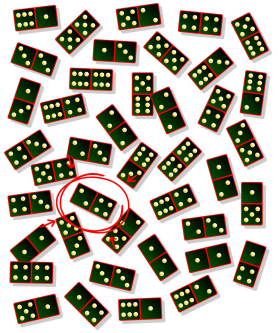
World
War
France
Flanders
Green
Fields
Bombed
Barren
Bleak
Destroyed
Spring
Destruction
Bright

Red
Poppies
Mud
Chaos
Seeds
Grow
Soil
Cheerful
Growing
Horror
Doctor
Poem

R	O	R	B	D	G	N	I	W	O	R	G
O	P	F	A	T	C	G	N	C	B	O	N
R	U	B	R	I	G	H	T	L	A	T	I
R	E	D	R	A	E	S	E	O	I	C	R
O	S	R	E	D	N	A	L	F	H	O	P
H	E	D	N	Y	K	C	G	E	P	D	S
S	E	I	P	P	O	P	E	R	O	E	W
N	O	I	T	C	U	R	T	S	E	D	A
E	G	W	H	A	F	M	T	D	M	E	R
L	R	A	W	U	U	R	S	S	R	R	N
W	O	R	L	D	B	O	M	B	E	D	O
S	W	R	S	D	O	F	I	E	L	D	S

Answers to last months puzzles







"Wait a moment, dear, this isn't a tourists'-attraction ratings guide, it's a Health and Safety warning!"

Killay Flood Alleviation Scheme

For many years Gower Road near Siloam chapel has experienced flooding during periods of heavy rain. This is due to inadequate capacity of the drainage system that takes excess rainwater to a culvert behind Killay library.

From 16th November major works will commence to install large pipes under the road to eliminate the risk of flooding in the future.

One major traffic disruption will be that Goetre Fawr Road from the Siloam roundabout to the Ridgeway roundabout will be one-way Dunvant bound.

This means that no traffic will be able to drive eastbound on Goetre Fawr Road towards Killay past the medical centre.

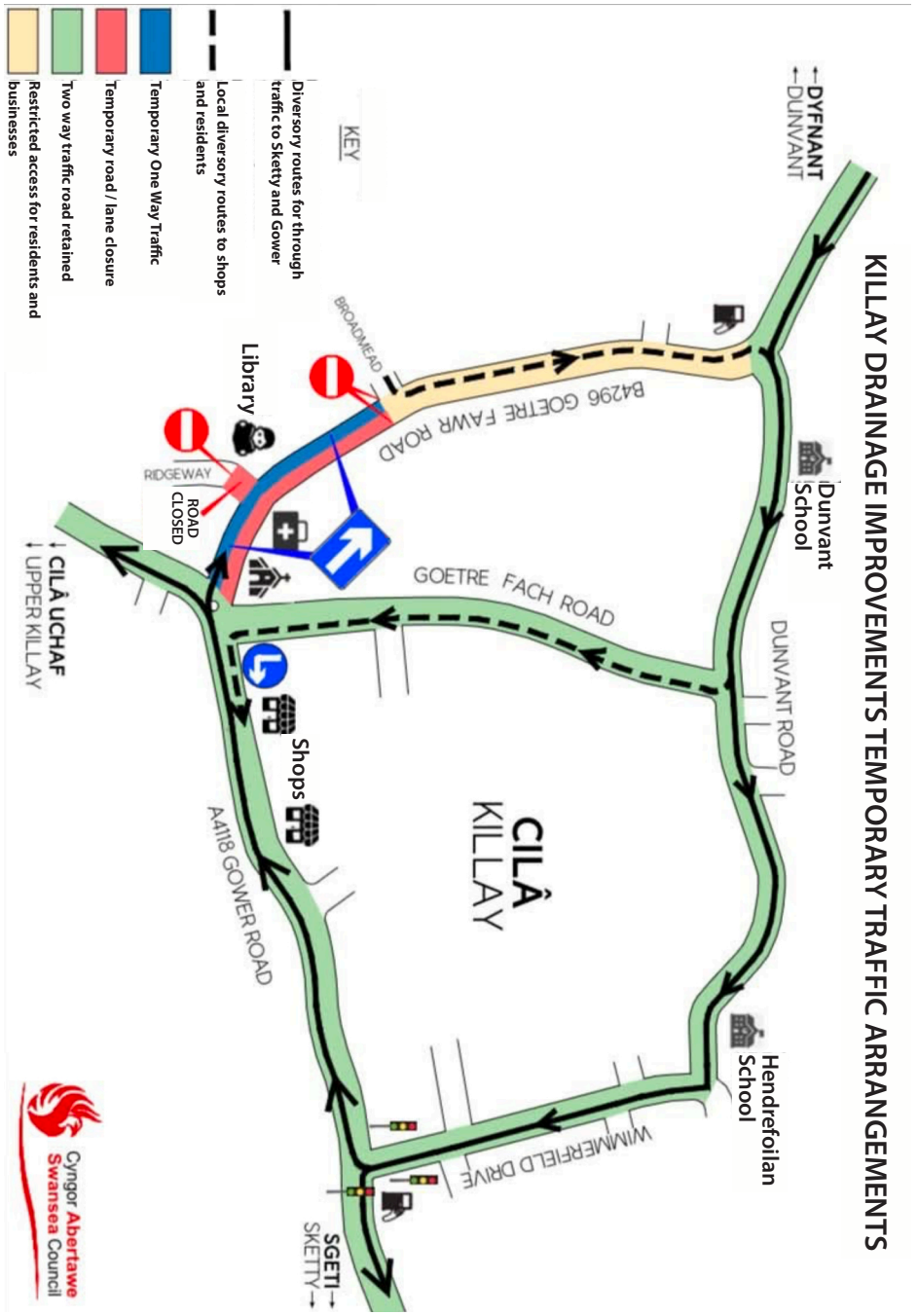
During the first phase of the works the Goetre Fawr Road end of Ridgeway will also be closed to traffic, meaning that vehicle access to the library will be via Broadmead and the Ridgeway.

Killay Medical Centre will be accessible at all times.

For further details contact the City Council and local City Councillors

website link: https://www.swansea.gov.uk/killayflooding





Church Services: *St Hilary's & St Martin's*

NOVEMBER	ST HILARY'S KILLAY	ST MARTIN'S DUNVANT
1 **All Saints**	9.30am Bubble Church 11.00am Morning Praise *Followed by coffee*	11.00am Eucharist
5 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
8 **Remembrance Sunday**	**10.55am** Eucharist *Followed by coffee*	10.00am Family Worship
12 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
15 **Third Sunday** *of* **The Kingdom**	11.00am Eucharist *Followed by coffee*	9.00am Eucharist
19 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
22 **Christ the King -** **Fourth Sunday** *of* **The Kingdom**	11.00am Eucharist *Followed by coffee*	11.00am Eucharist *Followed by coffee*
26 Thursday	11.00am Eucharist	
29 **The First Sunday** *of* **Advent**	9.30am Joint Eucharist *at* All Souls, Tycoch	9.30am Joint Eucharist *at* All Souls, Tycoch

The magazine of St Hilary & St Martin churches
in the Gower Ministry Area, Diocese of Swansea and Brecon.

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