

# Penarth & District Cytûn — Churches Together NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2012

This is a special issue focussing on two vital activities

Firstly

**THE  
EASTER  
SMALL  
GROUPS**

That will take place between Easter and Pentecost

Secondly

**THE  
BIG  
GOD  
TENT**

That will take place on 6th –8th July

We need to have your responses to both a.s.a.p.

Also included Reports to Council on Pages 2-3

## From the Chairman Captain Steve Mayo



I'm sure that for the vast majority of us, Health and Safety has raised its head at some point or another in our lives; whether that is fire safety, electrical safety or the safe use and storage of cleaning chemicals. One of the key things that comes out of Health and Safety training is the phrase; *'Health and Safety... it's everybody's responsibility.'*

This is an interesting point and can be incorporated into each of our lives when it comes to Christian mission;

*'Mission... it's everybody's responsibility!'* You may be asking at this point; *"What's my mission?"* Your Christian mission is the same as the mission of *all* Christians past and present, it's to spread the good news of the gospel. Jesus says in Matthew 28: 18-20; *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* [NIV] He didn't say; I have a special

message which is just for a select few; His command is for *everyone*; regardless of denomination or status. Basically He said; *'Mission... it's everybody's responsibility!'*

After reading that, you may now be asking; *"Well, where's my mission-field; and how, and where do I do it?"* Well, later this year we have all been given a wonderful opportunity to do mission with the B.G.T. (Big God Tent). Over that weekend there will be numerous opportunities for each of us to engage in mission, whether that's on an individual basis, or in a group event. We can *all* be involved in one way or another. In this newsletter is a form outlining opportunities for mission in many different forms. Tick any areas you feel you would like to be involved in; sign up for this wonderful mission opportunity.

Let us not let this event slip by without us having engaged with those who don't yet know Christ. After all;

***'Mission—  
it's everybody's responsibility!'***

## The Easter Small Groups are back for 2012

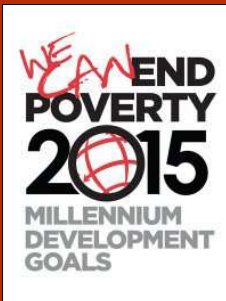
**The Easter to Pentecost Groups** will be held for a second year and will once again run for six weeks. They will be held in people's homes all over our District and will be made up of people from different churches and congregations.

**The Theme in this Olympic year will be "Going for Gold"** and will emphasise different aspects of our discipleship. The studies will be prepared by local church leaders.

**The Purpose of the groups** is to facilitate Christians from different backgrounds and traditions meeting together to worship, fellowship, pray, study the Bible and plan for mission. Please do sign up by providing the information to your church representative or by returning the slip on page 4.

## The Big God Tent is also coming back!

**Please put the date in your diary now 6th—8th July 2012.** We will be at the Cliff walk by Cioni's Bistro and will provide a wonderful opportunity to engage in Mission together. Prayerfully think how you can serve and complete the form with the Newsletter.



## Reports from Associated Groups

### Christian Aid Report to Cytûn Council

We are changing the dates of the Street collection and the one outside Tesco's as in 2011 these were too close together. I am pleased to say that all those involved were cooperative and we have been able to do this. The street collection will be on the first Saturday in Penarth Festival week, which is July 14th, and hopefully this should increase the amount collected. We have permission to collect outside Tesco's for 8 hours on each of 2 days in February. I am writing this before the collection has happened but will report again on how it went and the amount collected at the meeting.

**The Lent Lunches will be in Trinity Hall again this year.** They will be from 12.00 to 1.30 each Friday in Lent, cost £3.50 and start on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Please do encourage people to attend these and posters are available for each church if you collect from Snell's and sign for them. **The Service during Christian Aid week will be on May 13<sup>th</sup>** and we are hoping to arrange this at Elfed Avenue United Church.

### Report by PENARTH AND DISTRICT LESOTHO TRUST (PADLT)

The news of the moment is that Nigel is no more. He has been killed and eaten. Nigel is one of Godfrey's pigs and was much appreciated and enjoyed by the pupils of TY Junior Academy.

PADLT has been awarded a £10,000 grant by the British Humane Association to train medical staff in Lesotho and this should kick-start TYPDWT into opening a bank account. This will make it easier and more accountable with regard to the use of funding. Several shops now have goblets into which 5p bag money can be put. Lesley has been working hard to put an Anniversary Book together and this will shortly be available to mark the first 10 years of our work in Lesotho.

CCCO are performed a concert in All Saints on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 8.0 pm and our AGM was on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb., also in All Saints at 7.30 pm. Another concert with singers from the WNO is planned for May, plus our Fun Run and Plant Sale.

Lesley is taking a group of 11 to Lesotho in March and Sara is going with a Stanwell Youth team in August. Trustees continue to advertise the work of the Trust and we have a number of appointments to speak in schools. PADLT continues to be grateful to the members of Cytûn for their encouragement and support and believes that the quality of life of our 2 communities has been enhanced by this work and the forging of lasting relationships.

**P.S. Late news. Godfrey hopes to visit Wales in June.**

### **Social Justice Committee**

Several churches carried on with the Amnesty International Campaign of Cards at Christmas to Prisoners of Conscience.

**There will be a public meeting in March 2012 re United Nations**

**Millennium objectives when the Rev'd Dr John Weaver will be the speaker.**

**The final date is yet to be confirmed**

**Fair Trade Chocolate and Wine Event on 28th February 7-9 pm at St. Augustine's Church Hall** organised by Penarth Fair Trade Forum to celebrate Fair Trade Fortnight 27th – 11th March 2012. A Cotton Producer will share their story and there will be an opportunity to design your own Fair Trade Cotton Tee shirt as well as free samples of Fair Trade wine and chocolate. Several stalls selling a range of Fair Trade Produce will also be at this event. Admission is FREE.



## Reports from Associated Groups

### Gwyrddio Penarth Greening (GPG) Report for November 2011 – January 2012

#### Overview:

Those of us closely involved with GPG regularly remind ourselves that our main aim is to raise awareness about climate change and peak oil, and in doing so help prepare people locally for the changes that lie ahead. We try not to be diverted by various other 'green avenues' down which we are sometimes attracted. We could all too easily become involved in international campaigns, or engage in scientific debates and economic arguments. But, we are too thin on the ground for such excitements, and know that we must concentrate on where we believe we are beginning to make some progress – here in Penarth with our projects and awareness-raising meetings and events. These issues cross my mind as I come to the end of three years of chairing GPG and I wonder, in the urgency of a changing climate, if our small efforts are worthwhile. On balance, I think that all individual action, however small, is vitally important in helping us become more responsible about the way we use the earth's precious resources. Individual and community action is empowering, and can replace that sense of fear and helplessness that many feel in the face of forces that are unimaginable. It is my hope that GPG will continue to work quietly and persuasively within this community to help it move towards a more sustainable and self-reliant future. And now to what GPG has been doing over the last three months.

**Awareness Raising:** Two meetings – one on public transport and cycling for all, and one at which we watched 'The Power of Community', an interesting account of how Cuba survived after losing access to Soviet oil in the 1990s. Both meetings were well attended and created a lot of discussion and interest. We had a small presence at the Christmas Tree light switching on ceremony in December, to highlight the use of 'green' decorations and renewable energy. GPG had a simple tree in the Christmas Tree Festival and Shop in Penarth also had a tree.

**GPG Local Food Festival:** Date: **Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> July 11am – 4pm in the Kymin.** Plans are underway for a repeat of last year's event, but with more emphasis on the 'local'. Many people commented last year on the fact that this was a 'real Penarth event of the old kind'! It was also an opportunity to make the connection between supporting local production, air miles, the local economy etc. – so worth the effort, talking of which...if anyone has a few hours to spare that day, do let us know!

**Community Gardens:** After months of patient behind the scenes work & negotiation, real progress has been made on all three of the proposed sites. Bute Lane Nursery is now at the planning stage and a grant application will be submitted over the next few weeks. Arriva Trains have agreed to GPG creating raised beds on part of the platform and working on part of the bank alongside the station. A full report on Wordsworth Park was submitted to the Vale of Glamorgan Council before Christmas and a summary of the proposals will be put forward for consideration by councillors shortly. Rome, and community gardens weren't built in a day – or even a year!

**Shop in Penarth (SiP):** After a lot of input from local artists, copywriters, computer experts etc., SiP was re-launched with a brand new leaflet (with an interesting map) and a new voucher scheme. SiP remains one of our flagship projects as it not only supports the local economy and encourages people to shop locally, it is also a very useful vehicle through which to promote environmental issues. NB – do remember that at the beginning of every month 5 £10 vouchers are out in SiP shops to be won – if your card is the first to be produced.

**Orchard:** Anthony and his faithful band of enthusiasts planted 5 new trees during January, just before the hard weather set in. The orchard in Cosmeston Park is becoming well-established, and we hope to get a sign up soon indicating what it is.

**The future... AGM on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm in the Windsor Arms, followed by an 'Any Questions on the Environment'.** So far we have 3 Assembly members of different parties taking part and hope to have a further 2. This is yet another way for us to not only voice our concerns about the environment and climate change, but also to hear the views of our politicians, and hopefully influence at least some of them. Do come along.

We are beginning to plan for the Car Free Day in September, and also hope to have another event around the general issues of recycling (possibly in April), with particular reference to the proposed incineration system. Again, our thanks to all the Churches who so helpfully put up our posters and support us in various ways.

#### Tricia Griffiths (Chair)

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Please pray for  
the Officers  
and these  
future events

**FUTURE  
EVENTS**

**2011/12 List of Officers of the Council**

**Chairman: Capt Steve Mayo,**  
Tele. 029 20701916 email: Stephen.mayo@salvationarmy.org.uk  
**Former Chairman: Rev'd John James**  
Telephone 029 20707220 email: jjames43@btopenworld.com  
**Chairman Elect: Mr Steve Brind**  
Telephone 07765 898945 email: thebrindle@sky.com  
**Secretary: Mrs Jan Cullen,**  
Telephone 029 20704926 email: jan.cullen@ntlworld.com  
**Treasurer: Mr Derek Day**  
Telephone 029 20708136 email: derekday286@btinternet.com  
**Exec Member: Ms Elizabeth Lowder**  
Telephone 029 20702880 email: elowder@talktalk.net  
**Exec Member: Mr Graham Niblett**  
Telephone 029 20700203 email: g.j.niblett@btinternet.com  
**Exec Member: Mr Quentin Phillips**  
Telephone 029 20700808 email: quentinandjoanna@yahoo.com

17 February 7.45 pm	Talk by Phil Kingston St Joseph's Hall
6 March 6.15 pm	Cytûn worship led by Stanwell Baptist
8 March 6 pm	GPG AGM Windsor Arms
13 or 14 March (to be finalised)	Social Justice Public Meeting speaker Dr John Weaver
3 April 6.15 pm	Cytûn worship led by Llandough Baptist
6 April 10 am	United March of Witness
8 April 6.00 am	Sonrise Service
1 May 6.15 pm	Cytûn worship led by Cosmeston Fellowship

## Response Slip for Easter Groups

Name.....Church.....

Address.....Telephone.....

Email Address.....

I would like to join the Easter Groups and would prefer to meet:

On\* .....

\*State time and day preferred Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday or Friday

Morning, Afternoon, Evening

Return to Mrs Ann Niblett, 26 Robinswood Close, Penarth, CF64 3JG

or email to aen43@btopenworld.com