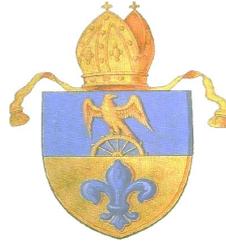


The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon



No. 88

Summer 2020



From the Editor: Chancellor Brian H. Jones

My Dear Friends,

The icon is of the Archangel Raphael one of the seven Archangels there to do the Lord's bidding. Raphael is included in the three Abrahamic traditions in Holy Scripture he stands behind the throne ready to be sent for the healing of the nations. The icon shows him holding a fish part of the narrative of the book of Tobit. Tobit is sent abroad on business for his father and is accompanied by a stranger, who completes Tobit's mission and returns home. His father is blind and so the stranger heals him with an ointment taken from the flesh of the fish. The stranger is Raphael – a modern version of the narrative as the sub-plot in Salley Vicker's novel *Miss Garnett's Angel*.

During the period of lockdown the ministry of Raphael has been emulated in the National Health Service and those who ministered on the front-line. The period of applause on a Thursday night for a period reflected the esteem that the nation holds those who care for the sick across the nation, many of whom sacrificed their own lives in the cause of healing. The ministry of the Archangel Raphael is reflected in those who over a period of time have dedicated themselves to the healing of the nation. We thank God for their ministry and their continuing efforts in wrestling with the pandemic. Some time reflecting on the icon and the ministry of Raphael identifies us with those currently involved in



the caring and healing ministry. Alongside the healing ministry of the NHS has been the ministry of Digital streaming of worship. For the past twelve weeks we have been unable to be part of the worship in church which is so central to our lives. From the start of the pandemic and the closure of churches the programme of Digital streaming has fed and nourished congregations and those who maybe are not regular members of worshipping communities. Services from a variety of traditions and locations, from cathedrals and parish churches to clergy celebrating the eucharist in their gardens or their homes - to meditations, readings and prayers published on line, distributed by e mail and by hand have kept the light of faith shining. This too has been the ministry of healing and nurturing for which we are we are very grateful.

For those who have been shielded over this period this ministry has been particularly important. Not only have they not been able to be part of their Sunday worship, but they have had the extra restriction of not being able to go out of the house and have exercise. It has been an important period for the healing ministry and for the church's ministry of pastoral care. In post pandemic lots of people will still be housebound hopefully the Digital streaming will be one of the changes that we expect to be part of the Church's ministry going forward.

With prayers and best wishes.

Brian.

Family News

We send our best wishes on their Retirement to:

- David Jones who will retire to Morryston
- Glyn Austin who retires to Newcastle Emlyn

Our best wishes and prayers to:

- David Lloyd, Margaret Howells and Mair Mosford who have recently been in hospital
- All who are shielded and have had to be isolated for the past three months and will do so for some time more.
- All whom we know who are facing difficulty and anxiety not seeing family during the lockdown.
- Sybil Coleman and her family on the death of her daughter Anne after a long illness.

In Memoriam Elsie Hunt

When St. Mary's Swansea was opened in 1959 the parish bought a Victorian villa in St. James' Crescent with three large flats which housed the curates and their families. We went to the parish in 1963 and the Hunts were already there. Three years later Ted was appointed Vicar of Glantawe and subsequently Vicar of Christ Church and Chaplain to the prison, Elsie had her own career with the Inland Revenue as a Tax Inspector and retired when Ted retired to their home in Sketty.

During their period in St. Mary's they pioneered a link with the Lutheran Church in Mannheim. The town at that time had a link with the German town and St. Mary's received a grant from the city of Mannheim in compensation for the bombing of the church during the war. For a number of years Ted and Elsie led a group of young people from the parish for a week in Mannheim and later a group of German young people with their pastor came to Swansea and stayed with parishioners. This was a very commendable activity by both of them and so soon after the war there were some raw feelings towards the Germans. Between them they learned a working knowledge of the German language.

Elsie alongside her own career was a huge support to Ted in his ministry. A happy, friendly person much loved by the parishes in which they ministered. My favourite story of Elsie's, who was not very good in the mornings. Phone calls early morning to Christ Church Vicarage Elsie's reply ' *I'm sorry the Vicar is in prison I will give him your message when he comes out.*'

We are sad at her passing and send our sympathy to John and his family, as we commend Elsie to the care and mercy of God – ***Ed.***

In Memoriam Glyndwr Jones



Glyn was brought up in Llansamlet and was one of a number of ordinands from the parish. Having left school he worked in the Swansea Vale until, like many of us, he went in to National Service. He served in the Army and went quite early on in his service time to North Korea including the infamous Hill 51.

On discharge he followed his vocation and spent three years in St. Michael's Llandaff. He was ordained Deacon (58 years ago this month) and went as curate of Morryston. During this period his wife Cynthia died. He later moved to Sketty and married Anita. Subsequently his first and only incumbency was in the Painscastle Group of parishes before he joined the Mission to Seamen (as it was then) and was Chaplain in Swansea.

He later moved to the Port of London and then became Secretary of the Mission to Seamen, during which time he travelled extensively to Mission ports around the world, and was made a Canon of Khobe Cathedral in Japan.

On retiring he and Anita made their home in Grays in Essex. Glyn spent a period of study doing a Master's degree in Celtic Studies in Lampeter. His experience in Korea formed the basis of his later ministry in the care of those who sail the oceans of the world with all the accompanying difficulties and isolation. We sent to Anita and her family our condolences and prayers and commend Glyn to the care and mercy of God. -***Ed.***

The Opening of Churches.

Churches which are able to meet strict safety measures can re-open for individuals and household groups to pray. However, all churches will remain closed for services, including weddings, funerals and baptisms.

The Church in Wales has worked with the Welsh Government on safety measures churches will have to implement in order to re-open. These include maintaining a two-metre distance between people and ensuring sufficient hygiene and cleaning protocols. Churches will also have to complete a COVID risk assessment before re-opening.

As a result not all churches will be able to re-open at this time. Precise opening hours for private prayer will vary depending on each church's capacity to open safely. A significant factor will be the availability of volunteers to monitor social distancing and ensure churches are kept clean.

While welcoming the news that churches can now re-open for private prayer, the Church's bishops say public safety must be the first consideration. In a statement, they say, "A cautious approach to re-opening, based firmly on Welsh Government guidance, is essential. What has been announced is the giving of permission. There is no requirement, from Welsh Government or the Bishops of the Church in Wales, to re-open at this time.

"Whilst we all look forward to the day that all our churches can open safely, we urge local safely within the guidelines. Match your opening arrangements to your capacity to address necessary safety measures. Our primary concern must be the health and wellbeing of our clergy, staff, volunteers and visitors." The Archbishop of Wales, John Davies added, "We are grateful for the permission which has been given to open churches for private prayer where it is both safe and practical to do so. This will bring spiritual comfort and support to many people, particularly in these tense and anxious days. While we are still unable to hold services, it is a hopeful sign that we are coming through this pandemic.

"We are very grateful to our clergy and volunteers who will now be working hard to ensure the churches that can open can do so safely by meeting our robust criteria."

While church buildings remain closed for services, people can continue to join in worship and fellowship online in the many services now being broadcast. Digital church – from live-streamed eucharists on Facebook to prayer meetings on Zoom – is available across Wales. Check out your local church's social media pages for information or find a service through the Church in Wales Guide.

The Retired Clergy Group

Like everyone else we have been in lockdown and expect to be so for some time. As soon as we are able we shall begin our monthly meetings again. In the meantime in various ways we have kept in touch, particularly with those who have been shielded and confined to their homes for some considerable time, which is scheduled to go on for a little longer. In the meantime there is opportunity to meet people in such a situation in their garden, keeping to the social distancing.

We look forward to being able to begin our meetings again, I will be glad of any suggestions for speakers. ***The Newsletter*** will continue and will be on the Diocesan website and will be e-mailed to those who have that arrangement. Anyone who would wish to have it e-mailed to them please contact the Diocesan Office. Hard copies will be resumed after the pandemic is over. ***-Ed.***

Ordinations. The summer issue of ***The Newsletter*** usually includes a list of those to be ordained so that we can include them in our prayers. This year we shall include them in the autumn issue of ***The Newsletter*** together with the list of those clergy who are celebrating special anniversaries of their ordinations, I am aware that some clergy are celebrating anniversaries around the period of St. John the Baptist and Petertide, as indeed I am. We offer them our congratulations and prayers.

For Information. One of the aims of ***The Newsletter*** is for the retired clergy and their families to keep in touch with one another and with the life of the church in the Diocese. We have done so in its present format for over ten years. For this I am totally dependent upon articles of interest, many of which are concerned with the variety of interests that people have developed during their retirement, for which I am always grateful I am also totally dependent upon people for news. There have been one or two occasions recently when I have received items of news which have not been correct I would ask people to check details of any news that is personal. This is a rare experience do keep the news coming. ***Ed.***

Memories of Morryston



The recent passing of Glyn Jones, recorded in the Church Times in April, and some discoveries in my study during lockdown-related tidying, have brought back for me memories of Morryston in the sixties and seventies. As is often the case, the death announcement for Glyn in the Church Times did not record his curacies, but he was a curate of the parish of Llangyfelach with Morryston from 1965 to 1967, and I was a curate of Llangyfelach with Morryston from 1968

to 1971, and of the newly constituted parish of Morryston from 1971 to 1973.

Hubert Hughes was Vicar of Llangyfelach with Morryston from 1958 to 1971, and of Morryston from 1971 to 1979, and during that time he had 12 curates:-

1957-60. Gordon Lee
1958-64 Arthur Howells
1959-66 Brian Evason
1961-63 Ryland Oliver
1965-67. Glyn(dwr) Jones
1966-70. Alan Morgan
1966-68 Cliff(ord) Knight
1968-73 Bill Fillery
1969-72. David Harries
1970-74. Derrick Standish
1974-78. Lionel Hopkins
1978-82. Andrew Knight

Those of us still alive will have many memories of our curacies with Hubie. He was a remarkable man, full of energy and enthusiasm. In her excellent centenary booklet about St.David's Church, Morryston, (published in 1991, by which time his last curate was now the Vicar!), Beryl Thomas had this to say about him: 'The Revd Hubert Hughes was well suited as a clergyman to respond to all this (post-war) change. He was a great innovator, and many of his innovations had a profound effect on the life of St.David's in particular.' However, before considering that assessment in detail, I thought I would expand a little on those curates who have already gone to glory:

Gordon Lee, who was already in post when Hubie was appointed, left in 1960 to spend nine years as Vicar of Llanddewi Ystradenni and Abbey Cwmhir before returning to Swansea as Vicar of Cockett from 1969 to 1998, and died in 2005. Brian Evason became Rector of Llangammarch in 1966 where he stayed until 1973, when he became Rector of Bishopston until his retirement and early death.

Glyn Jones went from Morryston to be curate of Sketty from 1967-70, and then Vicar of Bryngwyn and Newchurch from 1970 -72, before joining the Mission to Seamen, as it then was, in Swansea from 1972-6. He then remained with the Mission to Seafarers, as it became, rising to become its General Secretary. In 1990 he became Vicar of St.Michael, Paternoster Royal, in London and a Chaplain to the Queen.

Alan Morgan left St.Teilo on the Clase for Coventry in 1972, where he became Bishop's Officer for Social Responsibility, and then Archdeacon of Coventry, before being consecrated as Suffragan Bishop of Sherwood in 1989. He was awarded an OBE in 2005 and the Cross of St.Augustine by Archbishop Rowan in recognition of his untiring work with the Coalfields Regeneration Trust, and died in 2011.

Dai Harries left Llangyfelach in 1971 to become Team Vicar of Aberystwyth in charge of Penparcau from 1971-76. He was then Rector of Hubberston until 1984, when he became Vicar of Burry Port. I was very pleased to renew acquaintance with him when I came

back to Wales in 2002, but he sadly died very soon afterwards from cancer.

Derrick Standish, like Alan Morgan and Dai Harries, was a curate at the same time as me. He left Morryston in 1974 to become Vicar of Merthyr Cynog from 1974-6. He then moved to the Monmouth Diocese as Rector of Llanwenarth Ultra from 1976-83, and then Vicar of Aberdychan from 1983-89, when he took early retirement, and began writing novels. His name remained in Crockford until 2018 living in Brynmawr, but when I telephoned the number in the book I was told that he had died in 2002! The rest of us are still here to tell the tale!

The second spur for writing this was the discovery of two separate bits of Morryston related memorabilia in my study. The first was two issues of the weekly parish bulletin for St. David's Church, Morryston, dated 29th July and 5th August 1973, when Elizabeth and I and our young son James were finally leaving the parish after five very happy years. The first of these was a typical issue of the weekly bulletin, detailing the services and events for the coming week, the amounts of the collections, and the number of communicants in both churches and in the hospital, followed on the front by the Vicar's Comment. Those of you who have been retired for at least 15 years may remember an earlier article I wrote about these. Bulletins- I have three large files full of them from December 1968 to August 1973, and it's actually time I gave them to the parish, or the Local History Society, even threw them away! On the back of each issue were the write-ups of all the events of the previous week, so they are of interest socially, historically, and even theologically- the Vicar's weekly letter tackled many different issues, and he was not afraid to speak out about many controversial subjects, both ecclesiastical and political!

Looking through them again it was interesting to read the lead-up to the degrouping of the old parish of Llangyfelach with Morryston. A meeting of the PCC on 16th August 1971 unanimously endorsed a decision which had originally been floated in 1965 to create two separate parishes, Llangyfelach with Clase, and Morryston. At the Diocesan Conference on November 6th it was publicly announced that this would become official at the beginning of December, and that the Revd Haydn Moses would be inducted to the new Parish of Llangyfelach with Clase on December 10th.

At the time, I was having to produce the Llangyfelach version of the bulletin, although by then I was actually only an honorary curate, and had started my year at Swansea College of Education in Townhill to train as a teacher - another of Hubie's innovative ideas! Producing the bulletin on the duplicating machine in the Vicarage was a nightmare! Thank goodness for modern photocopying which I used for the seven years I was there producing a similar weekly bulletin. I was interested to read in my letter in November 1971 of my reaction to my first teaching practice in Glanmor Comprehensive School, although I was careful not to say which school it was at the time! 'My eyes have been

opened in more ways than one! Amongst other things I have discovered the difficulty of switching one's wavelength from backward 13 year-olds to highly articulate upper sixth formers in a matter of moments, which presumably any comprehensive school teacher has to get used to. But I have also been more than ever convinced of the value of religious education. On the school timetable as an integral part of the curriculum to combat contemporary cynicism and materialist assumptions which are evident even in school.' I wonder what it is like now 18 years after I retired from teaching after 25 years as a teacher of RE.

Canon Hubert Hughes was appointed Archdeacon of Gower in 1979, and Vicar of St.Mark's Swansea., where he remained until his death in 1983, almost exactly 10 years after I left the diocese. It was his idea in the first place that I should become what we now call a non stipendiary minister, and he was disappointed that an opportunity did not arise in the diocese to allow me to continue. As well as the old parish bulletins I also found in my study a card he gave me as we left on which he had written

Bill and Liz
Many thanks for a good "joint" ministry
and every good wish for the future.
Hubert & Blodwen Hughes.



He is buried in St.Peter's Church yard in Lampeter along with his wife Blodwen, in the same grave as his parents. I visit it from time to time with grateful thanks for his influence on me.

Bill Fillery.

(Since Bill sent me the above article on Memories of Morryston, he has added further details of Derrick Standish, the novelist. I have included that below-Ed.)

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William Wordsworth

A former parishioner of mine and his wife were offered a dream holiday. A month's residence on an unspoilt Caribbean island was theirs in return for acting as the one and only medical practitioner. As a consultant married to a midwife, it seemed to them an excellent arrangement. Thirty years ago they found themselves the only Europeans looking after a few hundred West Indians. On their first day they headed for the beach. It was picture perfect with its white sands and palm trees, but utterly deserted. It turned out that the inhabitants never went near the beach unless they were fishing or travelling. The ocean was viewed with fear and consternation. It was not viewed as the right background for leisure and pleasure. The inhabitants had retained the pre Romantic view of nature which seems foreign to the modern mind. The 250th anniversary of the birth of Wordsworth in 1770 reminds us of the revolution in attitudes it brought about and how in some ways it set the scene for the Oxford Movement. Before the Romantic movement, travellers kept the blinds down in their carriages as they crossed the Alps. Seaside towns were planned with their backs to the sea. In the late eighteenth century attitudes began to change. There began a craze for the picturesque. Wealthy tourists began to pay good money to travel down the Wye valley and view the dramatic ruins of Tintern Abbey. This abbey was of course to be the subject of one of Wordsworth's most famous poems. Nature was looked at with fresh eyes and wonder. Wordsworth and Coleridge played a leading role in giving eloquent and moving voice to these new stirrings of the human spirit. Wordsworth was to live a long and successful life and by the time of his death in 1850 his enthusiastic veneration of nature was accepted as the norm. In his old age he saw the beginnings of the Oxford Movement which might be described as a parallel movement of the Spirit. John Keble's poetry in its directness and simplicity is obviously influenced by Wordsworth. The Tractarian insight into the presence of God in creation found a strikingly modern expression in the writings of Pusey. He described nature as being stained by human

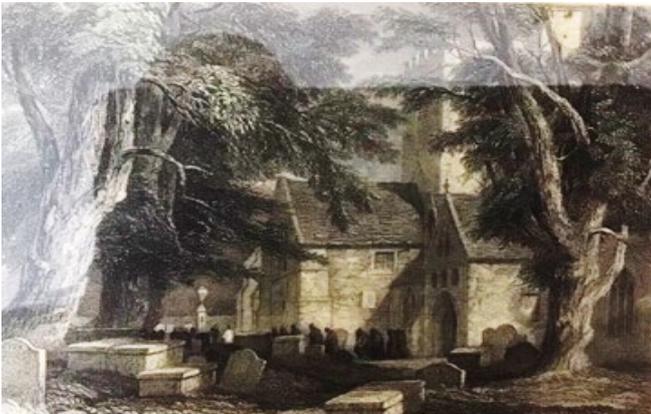
The Romantic Poets

misuse ,yet " all nature, having suffered together, shall be restored together" as "things animate and inanimate, as being the works of God bear in themselves some likeness to their Maker, and traces of his Hands" We can reflect that the influence of the Romantic Movement lives on in areas as diverse as Green politics and the church's support for environmentally sustainable patterns of human life .Conversely the vast international tourist industry which flourished before the coronavirus pandemic with its devastating effect on the environment could also be traced back to the ladies and gentlemen who sailed down the Wye two hundred years ago. Wordsworth's influence lives on

George Bennett.

Brecon and the Religious Life

Just to give you a perspective: this is a brief look at the different connections I know of between the town and various religious communities. There's no doubt that the earliest group we know about is the hermitage on Y Fan, in Merthyr Cynog. Cynog, the son of Brychan, the local king, withdrew there in the mid 5th century for the eremitical life, but was murdered out of envy by the other hermits. The church of Merthyr Cynog was founded as his shrine.



Medieval Print Prior Church St. John the Evangelist

The first community though, with any reliable records, would be the Benedictines at the Priory of St John the Evangelist, now of course our Cathedral. This was a priory, founded at the end of the 11th century by Bernard de Neufmarché, the incoming Norman conqueror of the time. He gave it to Battle Abbey, Sussex, and it seems to have had a community of about a dozen monks, on and off, for most of its existence. I read somewhere that because of its Norman foundation, Welshmen were not allowed into the community, whereas they were in Cistercian houses, which might be one of the reasons why there were more Cistercian houses in Wales.

The other mediaeval religious house in the town was the Dominican Friary of St Nicholas, founded in the mid 13th century by Queen Eleanor of Castile, and is now Christ College. Interestingly, it was built just outside

the town walls and across the river, by the side of the then ford (no bridge), possibly to avoid needing permits which might otherwise have been difficult to get because of the opposition of the Benedictines in the Priory, also possibly to avoid or lessen dues to the lords of the castle, and also to offer hospitality to benighted travellers unable to use the ford. Refounded as a school by Henry VIII after the dissolution it still continues.

Both the Priory and the Friary were dissolved of course, at the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538, and the town had to wait a couple of hundred years for more manifestations of the religious communal life. While there were refugee monks and sisters from France further west in Wales in the 18th and 19th centuries, Brecon never hosted such groups.

However, outside the town, over by Talgarth, in the 18th century, Howell Harris had set up Trefeca in 1752, a religious community of the Independents, which I suppose we could think of as Brecon's version of Little Gidding, Nicholas Ferrar's community of a century earlier, though Howell said he was influenced by the Moravian communities, especially those in London. This was a different expression of the common life, involving families and individuals alike, but with a foundation and life in faith and prayer. Howell Harris died in 1773, and the college moved from Trefeca in 1792 by which time the community had dispersed. The college which we remember was a later refounding. If I remember rightly, Howell was greatly involved with the founding of the Brecknock Agricultural Society.

In 1903, the Daughters of the Holy Spirit, a French congregation, were invited to open a convent school in Brecon. I've heard it said that this initiative came about as a result of the tours of duty of the South Wales Borderers in Ireland. While in our day and age we have become so used to the "Troubles" there, it would seem that in earlier times fraternisation between the locals and the military was not uncommon, and the result was a larger number of Roman Catholic families in Brecon than might have been expected. However, the sisters came and stayed until 1948, when the community returned to France, and the Ursulines from the Irish Congregation were asked by the Bishop of Menevia to take over. They stayed until last year, when upon the death of Sr Bonaventure the remaining sisters went back to Ireland. However, the school had been closed since the 1990s. In the meantime, in 1920 the Church in Wales had come into being, the Priory became our Cathedral, with the Close becoming again a religious community with the Deanery and Canonries, but this time more in the nature of a community of canons, "irregular" I suppose, rather than regular, that is, not being under a common rule.

There are later links as well. In 1891 the sisters of the Community of the Name of Jesus moved from London to West Cross. One of the senior sisters was a Sr Blanche, who was Blanche de Winton, from Priory Hill house, Brecon. The community disbanded after World

War II. Her brother Arthur had been a missionary in Zanzibar, and when he returned to the UK in the 1930s became one of the founding brothers of the Society of St Francis in Cerne Abbas, and was then founder Guardian of the brothers' Cambridge house. Another of the de Winton family homes, Tynycaeu, near Groesffordd, became one of the brothers' hostels for homeless men between the wars, and some of my father's cousins from the Watton Saw Mills would go and play table tennis there. We probably remember the house as a youth hostel: now it is a holiday home for 22! When I was an SSF brother in the 1970s, Miss Wilkins, again of Priory Hill House, gave me a fascinating snapshot of both Blanche and Arthur in their house garden: that photo is now in the SSF archives. Miss Wilkins herself had tried her vocation with her cousin's sisterhood. While with SSF in one of their London houses I used to visit the Sisters of the Church in their convent at Ham Common, Richmond. The first time I went, I hadn't been there more than a few minutes when a fairly formidable sister bore down on me and announced ringingly: "I'm Sr Joy: I'm a de Winton." Apparently she had grown up in Hay Vicarage, where her father had been vicar. I should hasten to add that her appearances were deceptive, and she was an absolute delight: in fact, when on holiday at the family home in Llanfrynach, she would call and see my father in his pharmacy on the Bulwark. And there's yet another link with SSF in that the younger son of Tony & Liz Elston tried his vocation with the Society in the 1980s.

In the 1980s too, there was a small house of fairly contemplative sisters in Upper Chapel, and John Lewis and I used to use their chapel for quiet days from Llanfaes, but I can't remember which congregation they were: perhaps they are still there? All this is just the coenobitic life. There have been lots of individual vocations from the town and its surroundings, chiefly I suppose as regards ordination, and also many that I don't know about. But the one vocation that seems to be generally overlooked is that of Thomas Coke, the Methodist. He really is the unsung son of Brecknock from the 18th century. In his day, he was a very much a mover and shaker, mixing on the world stage. The son of a town apothecary, quite short, priested in 1772, expelled from his living in S Petherton, he became John Wesley's right hand man, and superintendent of their north America mission. He was their first "bishop" there, much to John Wesley's dismay, but he then died in 1814 on his way to found a new mission in Ceylon. I think he deserves better renown.

And just to finish, a mention of Gwyneth Evans, from Free St, Brecon. She spent most of her years as headmistress of the Congregationalists' girls' school in Antananarivo, Madagascar. I met up with her again in my adulthood when vicar of Llangiwig in the 1990s (Ciwg was a local hermit too), as she had retired just across the river in Alltwen, and she used to coach me in my Welsh. Her reputation in Madagascar must have been tremendous, since one time the Minister for

Education from the island was in London, when asked what he would like to do, said he wanted to visit Gwyneth Evans, so the ambassadorial car duly parked outside her bungalow for the afternoon! A motley selection, but not bad form for a small country town of some 6,000 or 7,000.

David Jenkins

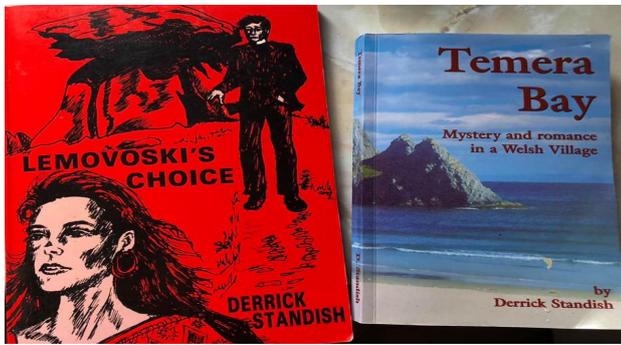
Derrick Standish, Novelist

I have recently done some research into the curates of Morryston between 1958 and 1979, du, ring the time that Hubert Hughes was the Vicar. During that time he had 12 curates, six of whom have since died. Of those, three were fellow curates with me at some point between 1968 and 1973. The last of these was Derrick Standish, who had overlapped with me at Lampeter and served his first curacy in Brynmawr.



Derrick was a bit of a loner, but he used to call on us from time to time whilst running round the parish. I knew that he had transferred to the diocese of Monmouth, and had heard that he had retired very early and was writing novels. Indeed, Crockford's for 2018 indicated that he was still alive. Being curious I telephoned the number in the directory, whereupon a helpful lady said that he had died years ago in 2001!

I then discovered on Amazon that he had indeed written two novels, which I purchased and make interesting but somewhat fantastical reading. Somehow or other, no one notified Crockford's, where his name remained until the most recent edition, which also no longer includes those who do not want to be in it, which rather defeats its purpose!



Bill Fillery

Our Contributors.

I am grateful once again to those who have contributed to this issue of *The Newsletter*. Next time we shall be concerned with Ordinations, with those to be ordained and those who celebrate anniversaries of ordination. I would also be interested to have accounts of how people have come to terms with the pandemic. There are accounts of people beginning courses of study on subjects that are new to them- I am following a simple course on The History of Art, while others are following more practical things, one a local Repair Shop.

I would also wish to thank the staff of the Diocesan Centre who have always been very helpful in the publishing of *The Newsletter*. In the present circumstances they have been equally helpful in making this issue available on line while working at home and on the Diocesan website. – *Ed.*

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Please send suggestions, comments, items of news by September 1st for the Autumn issue.

And finally.

