



# **The Friends of St. Michael's Cyfeillion Eglwys Sant Mihangel**

**Newsletter – September 2015**

## **Barbara**



*Barbara Shorrocks Carter, pictured here with Elizabeth Kay and Jim Boughton outside St Michael's discussing early plans for restoration (North Wales Weekly News 1999)*

*It is with great sadness that we have to let you know that Barbara Carter, one of the founding members of the Friends of St Michael's and a Trustee of the St Michael's Betws-y-Coed Trust passed away in July.*

*Barbara was one of our strongest supporters, and will be greatly missed. An accomplished artist, postcards of one of Barbara's paintings of St Michael's have been sold in the church for many years to help raise funds towards restoration work.*

*The original painting, from which the postcard is printed, is very kindly being donated to the Friends by Barbara's daughter Fiona. The painting will be on display in St Michael's during our Flower Festival between Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September and at other times throughout the year when we have volunteers on duty or services.*

## **Group Visits**

*We have been delighted to welcome two groups to St Michael's recently. A group of 24 travelling with Australians Studying Abroad visited in June, and a large group from the Flintshire Historical Society visited in July.*

*We are indebted to Jillie Saunders for putting together an introductory talk for visiting groups.*

*If you know of any groups who would like to visit, please do get in touch, all we ask is a captive audience and a small donation towards running costs.*

## **Finances**

*Jillie Sanders ran a stall for St Michael's at the WI Special Effort in August and raised £150. Wow! Thank you Jillie.*

*The wall box takings and sales over the summer although looking slightly down on last year, still give a tremendous boost to our finances. So far this year, these receipts total approx. £2900 against £3300 last year over the same period (January – August). However, as we look forward to our annual Flower Festival again, we hope to maybe regain some of the lost ground.*

*We continue to work within the Sacred Doorways scheme, from which we have benefitted enormously over the last few years. The Information and Interpretation panels and the iPad are well used and commented on by many of our visitors. We intend to continue to develop a Churchyard Trail, depicting the Flora and Fauna of the churchyard, and also to pin point some of the more "famous" persons buried there, especially some of the Artists. We have already identified seven such graves, and some of these will need restoration work on them.*



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## **Events at St Michael's Old Church in 2015**

### **Open Doors – European Heritage Days**

*The church will be open on a daily basis throughout September (approx 10am – 5pm) to mark this annual event.*

### **Flower Festival**

*Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11th – 13th September 2015. The church will be open 10am – 5pm daily. The church will be transformed with an abundance of floral displays all donated by local businesses and organisations. Entrance is free but donations large or small are always appreciated.*

### **St Michael's Day Service**

*Tuesday 29th September, 6pm Holy Eucharist. Light refreshments will be served after the service. Celebrant Rev Stuart Elliott – Vicar of Betws-y-Coed*

### **Candle-Light Carol Service**

*The Annual Candle-Light Carol Service will be held in St. Michael's Old Church on Wednesday 30th December at 6pm. All villagers and visitors are welcome to come along for a service of readings and carols. It has been called "The Alternative Carol Service" and has proved very popular over the years, featuring readings of both seasonal secular and biblical tone. Seasonal refreshments are served after the service.*

## **E-posting**

*If there are any members who would be happy to receive future newsletters and correspondence by e-mail, please send me a message confirming this to [kathy.laws@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kathy.laws@hotmail.co.uk) from the address you would like to receive mailings to.*

*This will save us a little on postage and stationery. We will of course continue to send out newsletters by post for those who prefer it.*

## **Contacts**

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*Renew your membership, download a standing order form or catch up on the latest news*

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