

# St. Mary's Church Newsletter

Newsletter

Date: 1<sup>st</sup>. March 2010



## March 2010 Newsletter

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2010.

During 2009 the Friends of St. Mary's Church group held or attended various events in the community. These included; the St. David's Day Inspection in March, the Tidy Up and Learn event, in May, The Spring Watch Event at Glyn Derw High School in June, Father Jones' visit in August and the Junior Group Launch in December.

The events this year begin as usual with the St. David's Day Inspection at the site on Saturday morning, March 6<sup>th</sup> 2010.

More events will be taking place over the coming year and will be well publicised. To find out what is happening you can either log on to the Friends website (see below), or join the Friends facebook group.



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## Friends of St. Mary's Church website

Lot's more information about the history of the site can be found on the Friends of St. Mary's Church website. A full account of Father Jones visit can be found on the site along with a whole gallery of photographs taken at the various events we have held.

Checking out the web pages will also keep you up-to-date on activities the Friends are planning or those that have taken place.

<http://www.stmaryscaerau.org/>

There is also a 'facebook' group - Friends of St. Mary's Church - that you could join to keep in touch with what is going on to preserve the site. A link to the facebook group can be found on the Friends of St. Mary's Church website

## Protecting the church and the adjoining site



Please remember, because the history of the site is very important it has been protected by law. The church is **Grade II listed** and the adjoining fields have been made a **Scheduled Ancient Monument**. This means they are protected by CADW. CADW is a service provided by the Welsh Assembly Government who try to protect sites like ours, working with the people who own them to keep them safe for everyone to go on enjoying.

If you visit please always treat the area with respect. It's a beautiful site and we need to keep it safe for generations to come.

Always remember to take care of your own safety at the site. Because the grave stones are very old and some are big and heavy it's really important to be very careful when walking around the churchyard. Cardiff Council Bereavement Services advises us to keep away from the graves, particularly to the right of the church, due to a risk of collapse.

## Junior Group - The Time Travellers



The Junior Group was launched very successfully with a medieval Christmas event held at Glyn Derw High School in December. This was a brilliant event and really well attended by the young people from our community who dressed in medieval costume and really got into the spirit of things.

We were lucky enough to have Cath Little, a storyteller, with us for the morning. Cath held young people and older adults alike spellbound in her telling of stories. One of our group also told her very first story and did it so beautifully. The young people made a delicious soup which they served with bread and shared with everyone who attended.

Huge thanks go to Theresa Condick at Glyn Derw High School for allowing us to use the learning centre and for everything she has done for us in working with the Time Travellers Group.

## Local myth's and stories



All of you who have been to our events will know Dave Horton of the Ely/Caerau Communities First Programme. Dave has been an amazing support to all our events, whether at the church or at the school.

Dave has suggested that we may like to have our own little book of Caerau myths. This would be all the stories everyone has about the church - either their own stories or perhaps things that family members have told them.

If you would like to help out and have something you think you could contribute then please get in touch. This could be something you have heard or maybe, if we are really lucky, something you have written yourself. Short stories or poems would be brilliant. Sue Brooke will be at the St. David's Day Inspection on March 6<sup>th</sup>. and would be happy to talk to you about this. Sue can be contacted via email on [susan.brooke5@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.brooke5@btinternet.com)

If you'd like to know more about anything that appears in this newsletter please feel free to contact Dave Horton, Ely/Caerau Communities First Community Development Officer on the number below who will pass on your enquiries to the Friends of St. Mary's Church Group.

If you have any ideas for future events, anything you would like to include in the next newsletter or would like to become more involved then please let us know. We really would love to hear from you.

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