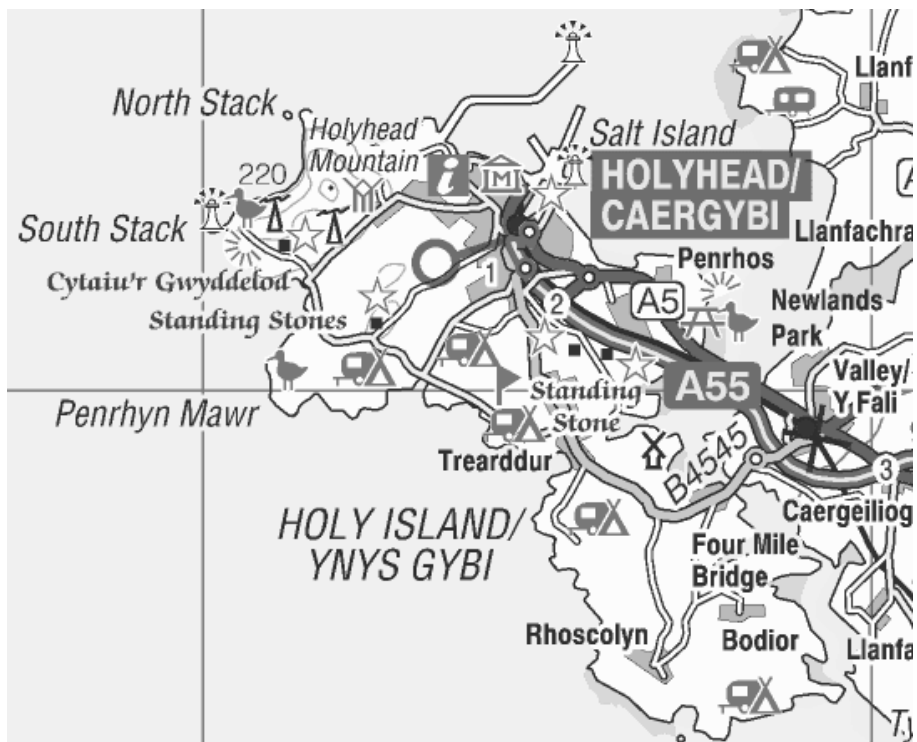


Holy Island (Bro Cybi) Ministry Area



Foreword

Last year was to be a time of preparation, as we worked together towards the appointment of our new incumbent and the reshaping of the Rectorial Benefice of Holyhead into the Ministry Area of Bro Cybi (Holy Island). Strong foundations were laid down in 2013 which I trust will help us to administer our Ministry Area more effectively and work together in many different ways as part of a team, each contributing our own special gifts to this our community of faith. The time and effort generously given in 2013 will enable us to realign our focus in 2014 (and beyond) from internal concerns outwards in mission towards the people of Holy Island, especially those seeking faith but who may have no tradition of church-going. On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your help and encouragement during the past 2 years of Interregnum. Now, we must look forward, not back, and with the appointment of our new Vicar, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Ellis (better known as Rev Kev) we can look towards an exciting and rewarding future in the faith.

With love and blessings

Jane

The Rectorial Benefice of Holyhead was in the Area Deanery of Llifon and Talybolion and the Diocese of Bangor in the Church in Wales.

The four churches of the Parish are: St Cybi, Holyhead, St David, Morawelon, St Ffraid, Trearddur Bay and St Gwenfaen, Rhoscolyn

Incumbent: Vacant

Independent Examiner: Mr C Bell

Principal Bankers: HSBC, Williams Street, Holyhead LL65 1RL

Architect: (St Cybi, Mr Adam Voelcker, Pant Glas Uchaf, Garndolbenmaen LL51 9DQ)

Architect: (St David, Rob Chambers, of Purcell, of Peniel Chapel Vestry, Ffordd Cae Forys, Tal y Cafn, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, LL28 5SB)

Architect: (St Ffraid, Mr Geoff Stott, (Paterson, Macaulay and Owens) 9 Earl Road, Mold CH7 1AJ)

Architect: (St Gwenfaen, Elinor Gray Williams of Donald Insall Associates, Conwy)

The Parochial Church Council

The Bro Cybi (Holy Island) Ministry Area, formerly the Rectorial Benefice of Holyhead, is part of the Diocese of Bangor in the Church in Wales. The Church in Wales is an autonomous Province of the Anglican Communion. The principal function of the PCC is "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical."

The PCC is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedure and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales, as amended from time to time by the Governing Body, set up under Section 13 (1) of the Welsh Church Acts 1914. Elections are held at an Annual Vestry meeting which must take place before 30th April. All persons whose names are entered on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote and stand for election. Before assuming office, every member of the Council must sign a declaration that he or she will be bound by the Constitution.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds the land and property of the Church in Wales including the Ministry Area's church buildings, their contents and churchyards. The Representative Body is an Exempt Charity and was set up under Section 13 (2) of the Welsh Churches Acts 1914. It acts on behalf of the Province in paying the stipends of full time clergy.

The PCC is responsible inter alia for promoting the mission of the Church, setting the parochial budget, and all expenditure under that, the care and maintenance of the church fabric and of the church yards, and for action on any other matter referred to it in accordance with the Constitution. The Council also is the normal channel of communication between parishioners and the Bishop of Bangor.

Church Attendance

Christmas attendance was 192 (with the majority being communicants) and Easter 259 (again with the majority being communicants). 98 were at the services on the Third Sunday after Trinity, which is taken to be a normal Sunday.

The average numbers on a Sunday across the four churches are

St Cybi	45
St David	18
St Gwenfaen	15
St Ffraid	27

This suggests that 102 attend Anglican worship Sunday by Sunday across the Ministry Area of Holy Island. We will note later that there are 233 listed on the Electoral Roll.

Membership of the PCC

The following served as members of the PCC from the Easter Vestry 2013.
Vicar: The Revd Jane Bailey, St Seriol's House, 25 Gors Avenue, Holyhead

Parish Wardens:

Mrs Carys Griffith of 19 Min y Mor Road, Holyhead and Mr Raymond Worthington of 9 Seabourne Road, Holyhead

Readers: Mrs Janet Waddington, Glenbank, Four Mile Bridge
Mr Richard Parry, 27 Tan-y-bryn Road, Holyhead
Mr Les Sheppard, Ty Bugail, Lon Clogwyn, Penrallt Road, Trearddur Bay, Holyhead, LL65 2UG

Subwardens: (St Cybi) Mr R Worthington
(St David) Mrs G Jepson and Mrs C Evans
(St Ffraid) Mrs Meg Davies and Mr R Thomas
(St Gwenfaen) Mrs E Aldred and Mrs S Hanbury

Elected Members: Mrs C Brook, Mr M Brook, Mrs A Cuthbertson, Mr C Evans, Mrs B Francis, Mrs E Griffiths, Mrs S Hayter, Miss F Iliff, Mrs S Jones, Mrs A Hambley Jones, Mr C Medley, Mr E Owen, Mrs H Owen, Mrs V C Thomas, Mrs A Worthington

Secretary: Mr R Parry Treasurer: Mr C Medley

Committees: The Parochial Church Council operates through a number of committees: including the Standing Committee, Finance, Fabric and Outreach.

St Cybi's, Caergybi

The year 2013 has been an unusual one as it was not possible to take bookings for weddings and baptisms for the year. This was due to the need for work to

begin on repairs to the bell tower, which required internal scaffolding. With no definite date for commencement of work it was decided early on not to accept bookings. However, we were fortunate to be able to conduct funerals during this time as usual.

Our Lady Eleanor Organ was given a very detailed overhaul early in the year and returned to its former glory. We held our successful Flower Festival and Christmas Tree festival one again, which gave much pleasure to parishioners and visitors alike.

In November our All Soul's Service once again brought comfort to those whose loved ones had passed away during the year. We continued to host concerts by the Male Voice Choir put on for the various cruise ship visitors to the town. All these were able to take place while the repairs to the tower took place from early Spring to late Autumn. We take this opportunity to thank Chris Medley for all the time given over to the project, which finished to schedule and under-budget.

November also saw the British Legion open a Field of Remembrance prior to Remembrance Sunday in the Churchyard. The event was well attended by various organisations in the town. It is hope that this will become a permanent feature in the Churchyard

Carys Griffith and Raymond Worthington

St David, Morawelon

The highlight of the year was the formal signing of the agreement between the St David's, Morawelon and the English Methodist Congregation to use the hall and look towards working and worshipping together when the right occasions occur.

St David's Committee has also looked at the need to renovate the Church building, and is beginning to talk to members of the congregation, our Methodist partners and the wider community about what might be possible.

St David's continues to be used by a variety of community groups and is home to the increasingly popular Bible Study, led by the Revd Jane Bailey.

Kath Evans and Gill Jepson

St Ffraid's, Trearddur Bay

The recent storm weather damaged the cross on the East Window gable end of the Church. It is on the grass, pro tem, while we consider insurance claims and await visit by the assessor. No further leakage of water and roofers have examined the gable end apex and report no immediate work is necessary. The West end base of the bell housing requires further examination of lead and slates to prevent water ingress. The chimney and the Vestry also need attention.

A new modern gas boiler system is being considered for the Church and costs estimates are due soon. The present boiler is 45 years old and has been condemned.

We received the pop up posters from Sarah Douglas of Red Kite Gloucester in time for the first Ministry Area Service on Sun 23rd February. A display was set up in the Hall for the occasion.

We welcomed Rev Dr Kevin Ellis and look forward to working with him in the future.

The rear entrance to the church grounds was widened in the Autumn and a new gate made by Valley Forge.

We have delayed painting inside the church until we are sure that the drying out after recent roof repairs, is complete.

The Health and Safety Questionnaire and Copyright pro forma were completed in the autumn.

We have received a Copy of the Parish Accounts Year to Dec 2013, also the Collection Plate totals for all the churches for the four quarters Jan to Dec 2013. We thank Chris Medley, Richard Parry and Audrey Hughes for their work in this matter.

We will pay all our costs this year 2014. Gas, Electric, Water etc.

The Insurance Company Ecclesiastical Group Papers, Policy No04XPG9081029, are now retained in St Ffraid's.

Richard Thomas and Meg Davies, Wardens

St Gwenfaen's, Rhoscolyn

It is now two years since our church re-opened (April 2012) following its restoration. The work on the church seemed to breath new life into it and we are all pleased to hold our regular services in it. Easter and Christmas are always especially memorable.

We were pleased to have Rev Jane Allen (a retired cleric from Llandudno) with us for Holy Eucharist on Easter Day and the church looked lovely decorated with lots of daffodils provided by the Bodior Estate.

Christmas, with all the candles lit for our traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols, provided a magical setting for our service which was very well attended. Children from Ysgol Rhoscolyn came to sing for us which everyone enjoyed. The children are always intrigued when cakes and nibbles appear from the pulpit – where they are hidden during the service.

We were pleased to welcome the Revd Canon Catrin Nia Williams, Canon Missioner at Bangor Cathedral, for our Holy Eucharist service on Christmas Day itself. The service was well attended with locals and lots of visitors to the area.

We have been very grateful to our vicar Jane and the Readers from Llanfaelog and Holyhead who supported us during the Interregnum with our earlier 9.15 am service time. We are also very grateful to Cynthia our organist. Serving coffee/tea and biscuits after our regular Sunday morning service has worked well.

The restoration was completed during 2013 and a report from Stephen Knight is attached. The Quinquennial Report is now overdue as we have been waiting for our architect to return to work from maternity leave. We hope to have it completed in January 2014. We have applied for a Faculty to build a ramp at our church to make access easier. Full details of our services are shown on our Church notice board and on our website.

Fundraising

We held two Coffee Mornings, a Table Top Sale, Barn Dance and an Open Garden/Afternoon Tea as fundraising events for the hall and church. An excellent Craft Fair was also organised by Alison Wearne over the August Bank Holiday weekend. We launched the Access for All appeal with a 'Sing for St Gwenfaen's' event organised by Teresa Verney and Alison, which was very successful.

St Gwenfaen's Hall

The hall was also hired for lots of private parties and a regular weekly session of Pilates is held on Monday afternoons. It is used as the official Polling Station by the council, for Rhoscolyn/Four Mile Bridge and it is where the Community Council hold their meetings. A group of ladies from Yorkshire also hired the hall for a weekend of Egyptian Dancing.

During 2012/13, the hall has been completely self-supporting requiring no funds from the Church or the Parish. In addition to this, the hall also made a donation to the Restoration Fund of St Gwenfaen's and to Parish Funds.

If anyone has new ideas for fund raising for our church, hall or parish funds do please let us know. Please contact Edna in the first instance: 01407 861388, Mobile: 0776388088

Edna Aldred and Susan Hanbury, Wardens

Report from the Parochial Church Council

I submit a brief report of the business of the Parochial Church Council for year 2013.

The PCC resolved some time ago that minutes of its meetings must be displayed on a church notice board, or retained in a loose leaf binder in church so that any member of the congregation can read about its activities.

Volunteers were requested to help with the recently established 'Food bank' established at Elim Church.

Mrs Edna Aldred has computerized the Electoral Roll and copies will be displayed in all churches. Wardens to regularly update the Electoral Roll with additions and deletions.

A sculptured marker to show the start of the Anglesey Coastal walk initially intended for siting in St Cybi's churchyard was eventually sited in Menai Bridge.

Home Communion and Visiting teams were approved by the PCC and two new Home Communion sets were anonymously gifted to St Cybi's and St Ffraid's.

All church notice boards must display a copy of the Parish Child Protection Policy and all churches must ensure they have their own CCL licence.

A faculty application was approved for a new ramp and improved steps access to the churchyard of St Gwenfaen's to ensure 'Access for all'.

The Archdeacon attended a PCC meeting on 18th September to outline the advertising arrangements for a new Vicar for the Holy Island 'Bro Cybi' Ministry Area. The PCC resolved that the Rectorial Benefice of Holyhead be disbanded.

The Archdeacon praised Rev Jane Bailey for the work she had undertaken during a somewhat lengthy interregnum.

On the 22nd September the Ecumenical Vision Statement and Declaration of Intent between the English Methodist congregation at St David's church and our own congregation was signed by both parties.

A Field of Remembrance was established in the upper churchyard of St Cybi's and a Remembrance Day service was conducted on 3rd November

Regular reports were received regarding the schemes for renovation work at St Gwenfaen and St Cybi.

Richard Parry

Electoral Roll Report

The annual revision of the Electoral Roll has been completed. At the 2013 Easter Vestry there were 227 on the Roll. This number included one duplicated record so 226 is the accurate figure.

During the period up to 14 April 2014:

6 people have died.

1 has moved away.

14 names have been added

The total on the Roll on 5 April 2014 is 233

We are required to make an annual revision of the Electoral Roll and every five years to completely revise it. 2015 is the year we are required to have a new Electoral Roll. This means that everyone will need to complete a form of registration, whether they have previously been on the roll or not.

If you have any queries please contact Edna Aldred Tel: 01407 861388 or email ednaaldred@gmail.com

Edna Aldred

Treasurer's Report

The accounts for 2013 show an increase in our income compared with 2012, however this is more than accounted for by our reclaiming tax refunds for gift aid in previous years and, in reality, our giving (through envelopes and plate collections) was down compared with 2012.

We paid £40,000.00 towards the Quota.

St Gwenfaen's paid the final amount due for the restoration of the church.

Work was both started and completed on restoration work for St Cybi's, mainly work on the tower. This involved various movements of funds to ensure the works were paid for, however in the end the majority of the costs were covered by grants from Heritage Lottery Fund, Cadw and Isle of Anglesey County Council and we are very grateful to all three grant providers for their support. At the end of 2013 we still await payment of some of these funds and still need to apply to recover from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme VAT on the labour costs.

Through the Finances and General Purposes Committee we are continuing to examine our income and expenditure.

We are looking for ways to increase our income. Progress has been made with more parishioners making their offerings through gift aid and I would encourage any church member who is paying tax on their income to sign up for gift aid if they have not already done so. This increases the church income with no cost to the parishioner. We are also looking at ways to reduce our overheads and with this in mind we have changed our gas and electricity suppliers, taking advantage of the Parish Purchasing Scheme to maximise the discount we can claim.

It is hoped that the continuing work of the Finance and General Purposes Committee will help us to identify other savings which we can make to reduce our overheads, however unless we can find ways to increase our income we will continue to see a decline in our assets. On 1st January 2012 our assets (including Restricted Assets, but excluding shares held on behalf of the Parish by the Common Investment Fund) totalled £127,663, by 1st January 2013 this had reduced to £116,399 and on 1st January 2014 was down to £111,780. Against this our arrears of Quota had increased from £134,793 at the end of 2011 to £180,006 at the end of 2013. So our assets are down by nearly £16,000 whilst our liability is up by £45,000. Clearly we remain financially challenged!

Chris Medley, Parish Treasurer

Report from the Finance Committee

The Finance committee was established on the 27th June, 2012 and immediately identified two areas that it had to deal with. The first was the recovery of Gift Aid tax from HMRC, and the second was to try to answer the often asked question by members of church congregations 'How much does it cost to run my church?'.

Mrs Audrey Hughes was appointed Gift Aid secretary and Mrs Edna Aldred deputy and they are registered with the HMRC. Gift Aid explanation letters and forms were prepared and the committee approached members of the congregations to sign up for 'Gift Aid' (53 participants to date) or 'Gift Direct'(13 participants to date). The committee thank those who have already signed up, and they urge any taxpayer who has not yet signed up to please do so.

Tax has to date been recovered for years 2008/9/10/11 and this money will be used to clear the £20,000 arrears of Diocesan quota for year 2013.

In dealing with the second area the committee initially had to use and divide up historic information, and to apportion the quota on the basis of an individual church's average attendance. This exercise has been much refined over the past eighteen months, and now church committee's have a much clearer answer to the question posed. They also have year 2013 information on the amount of Direct Giving and the amount of reclaimed tax on Gift Aid and Gift Direct by members of their congregation.

Individual churches from 2014 will be paying their own utility costs and insurance (rather than the Ministry Area) and this will ensure that their accounts better reflect the income and expenditure of their church.

Mrs Edna Aldred has computerized the Electoral Roll and the finance committee distributed the Free Will Offering envelopes.

The committee is grateful and thanks members of the 'Duplex' committee. It thanks the Wardens who deal with and record service collections, and those who have raised funds to support the Church and God's work in this place.

Richard Parry

Report from the Fabric Report

1. The last year has been a busy one for the Fabric Committee the highlights being the introduction of revised energy supplier and payment arrangements across Bro Cybi, the start of planning for the Renovation of St David's, the start of work to examine how to manage St Seiriol's Cemetery sustainably for the future and Health & Safety Inspections.
2. Revised Energy Arrangements. Our Energy (both Gas and Electric) is now arranged through the Church of England Purchasing Basket to ensure that we get, and continue to get, the best deals. This has involved quite a bit of work by each Church

to change or set-up their payment arrangements. For the most part, energy bills were paid previously by the central Parish Account but under the revised arrangements, each Church has been asked to complete Direct Debits for their Energy Accounts. There have been teething troubles with these new arrangements, most recently trying to get Energy Firms to understand that there is a difference between a Property Address and a Billing Address. But as we move forward the new arrangements should settle down although future changes of Energy Supplier is likely to occur again as the Church of England continues to search for the best deals.

3. **St David's.** Renovation of St David's was considered to be a top priority given its Ecumenical usage (and the potential such an arrangement offers) whilst there is considered to be tremendous potential for Mission. Consequently the Fabric Committee was asked to initiate the process of putting a plan together for the renovation of St David's. Following a detailed examination of the Church by the Fabric Committee, examination of the July 2013 Quinquennial Report, discussion with the Wardens and discussions with the both the Anglican and Joint Committees, a proposed outline list of work needed at St David's has been developed. It is envisaged that the work will be undertaken in stages but the first priority (Phase 1) is to undertake the urgent exterior work highlighted in the Quinquennial Report to ensure the structure continues to be weather proof. Effort to develop the various specifications of Phase 1 work to enable contract quotations to be obtained is currently underway.

4. **St Seiriol's.** Mr Tommy Williams and others have magnificently kept the Churchyard going since the demise of St Seiriol's Church. There has been a tremendous amount of fund raising over the years to pay for maintenance of the cemetery and which currently costs some £2000 per annum for grass cutting alone. Additionally, since Tommy has asked that he might give up responsibility for managing St Seiriol's, the Fabric Committee has been asked to take this on whilst Mr Richard Parry has offered to maintain the Accounts; it is anticipated that these revised arrangements will be formalised at Easter Vestry. Accordingly, the Fabric Committee and Mr Tommy Williams met on-site on 28 January 2014 to review and formulate what needs to be done going forward. The headlines from this review were a need for a detailed Health & Safety Inspection; Install an Informative Notice Board inside the Cemetery and Trip Hazard Warning Notices on the gates; Need to develop a cost effective solution for the grass cutting bill (perhaps by developing a nature reserve in part of the area), whilst a plan for the future management of the area would be developed.

5. **Health and Safety.** Inspections on all Churches and Church Halls were conducted during 2013 and remedial action taken as necessary. Health and Safety documentation should be kept by each church secretary in a loose leaf binder with all other important documents.

Stewart Hayter
Chair Fabric Committee

Mothers Union and CAMEO

I would like to thank especially Gill, Glenys, Lorna, Committee Members & all the Members for their support & encouragement over the past year.

We are an active group, supporting all Mothers` Union projects, members volunteer in the Child Contact Centre, which enables the absent parent to meet their child/children in pleasant & neutral surroundings.

Members have been busy knitting matinee coats, hats & blankets for the premature baby unit in Ysbyty Gwynedd & they have also knitted items to send via The Sisters of Le Bon Sauveur, Holyhead. To the poorest of poor in Madagascar. Over the past year, we have received photo`s & letters of thanks.

We`ve continued to collect items for the hospital bags. The bags contain toiletry items given to patients who are admitted into Ysbyty Gwynedd as a result of an emergency.

We donated approx £350.00 to Mothers Union overseas projects.

On our annual trip last year we visited Llangollen, which included a Horsedrawn Boat Trip, the trip was arranged by two of our members Val Thomas & Barbara Williams; this year on June 26th a trip has been arranged on the Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland Railway (arranged by Stewart Hayter & Val Thomas) plus another trip is planned in August to the Hidden Gardens, Plas Cadnant, and also, hopefully, another to Betws y Coed & Tweedmill in November of this year.

We held a `Bring & Share` Lunch, when the Parish Drama group provided hilarious entertainment.

Our Branch Meetings are **very lively!!** We have very interesting speakers & of course a `cuppa & chat!!

Both Mothers` Union & C.A.M.E.O. meet every month, the afternoon group meet on the fourth Thursday of each month & C.A. M.E.O. on fourth Wednesday evening in St David`s Church.

New Members are always very welcome.

Ann Worthington, Holyhead Branch Leader

Report from the Walsingham Cell

After many months of preparing 24 pilgrims went to Walsingham in July 2013. It is a very spiritual time and we all looked forward to 2014. Bishop Andrew came with us and said He really enjoyed it.

On the second Saturday of each month we attend a Walsingham Eucharist, which other members from the diocese attend if they wish.

We have been to Llandudno to have a Eucharist in Trinity Church to join in with other pilgrims from the Diocese. After the Eucharist we had lunch together then had a meeting preparing for the pilgrimage for this year.

The pilgrimage will be from the 14th to the 18th July. There are 20 attending this year. We are having an extra day this year, as it is a long journey and it has enabled others to come having three whole days there before the return journey.

There are plenty of opportunities for worship and quiet time while we are there also time to go out socially, in which we can spend time together.

Post Script

It has been a real pleasure to have come and join in with what you are doing in Holy Island. I am positive about the future.

Three immediate challenges face us as four congregations.

One: the need to be more confident in our faith. I look forward to looking at what resources we can use to increase our understanding of our faith and how we might equip ourselves to better at sharing the good news with those around us.

Two: making good use of the opportunities that we already have to share our faith: baptisms and funerals, links with the local schools and community organisations. This might see the further development of Messy Church amongst other things. I genuinely believe churches can grow numerically. It happens elsewhere.

Three: a serious look at how much it costs to be Church together within our Ministry Area, rather than looking at how much an individual church costs or how much the centre costs. Good work has been done already by the treasurers of the four churches and by Chris Medley, Richard Parry and the Finance team. Once we know how much it costs, we will have to be gracious and courageous as we then decide how to budget and prioritise. The Parish Share though should not be regarded as something that is negotiable. £60K is a lot per annum, but with two stipendiary clergy, the Diocese of Bangor heavily subsidises our Ministry Area, and it is challenge that we need to meet as we learn afresh what it means to be Church on this Holy Island.

Kevin Ellis, Ficer, Ynys Cybi