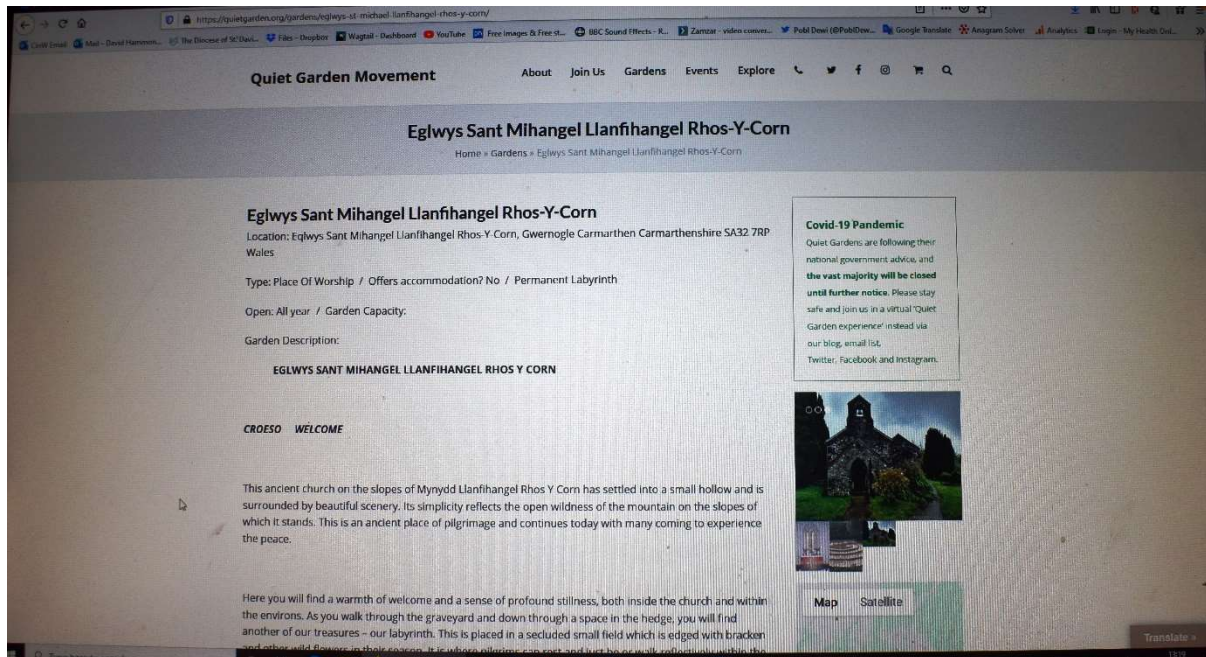


Broad cast or broadcast

Caroline Evans, Diocesan Faith Tourism Officer, muses on the results of getting your church online



It's all Beryl's fault, really. Yes, Beryl Edwards, stalwart and organist of St Michael's Church, Llanfihangel Rhos y Corn, who piped up in our church committee meeting "Why don't we apply to join the Quiet Garden Movement?"

As none of the rest of us had ever heard of it, we looked at the information she had brought and, as it didn't cost much and might direct visitors to appreciate our isolated mountain-top church, we all agreed. Beryl organised the application, I dug out some photos, and, in due course, we were approved and in.

The Quiet Garden Movement aims to nurture access to outdoor space for prayer and reflection in a variety of settings, not just churches. There are over 300 Quiet Gardens worldwide and you can see them here: <https://quietgarden.org/gardens/eglwys-st-michael-llanfihangel-rhos-y-corn/>

What happened next? Well, Beryl was contacted by Dominic Jewel, producer of BBC Radio 4's *Sunday Worship*, whose researchers had found us through the Quiet Garden website. Dominic wanted to record a segment with a reader, in our newly-renovated labyrinth, for a service to be broadcast on St David's Day with contributions from all over Wales, led by Bishop Andy of Bangor.

So, on a blustery morning, Beryl was recorded reading a prayer (ten times as the wind kept interfering!). Dominic then went on his way to record Bishop Joanna on the beach at Amroth. The programme went out as promised, and we were all very proud of our Beryl.

It could have been co-incidence, but a few weeks later we were contacted by S4C who wanted to come up to Sant Mihangel to film for *Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol*, saying they had also found us through the Quiet Garden website. They wanted two speakers so Beryl was joined by our Churchwarden, John Jones. The jolly crew and presenter, Ryland Teifi, recorded a prayer and an interview and we were told it would probably be broadcast on Palm Sunday.

Well, we waited and watched [me with sub-titles on] but, although our church was listed in the credits, there we weren't! Apparently with the lockdown and therefore no filming, the producers are eking out their filming and using archive stock to carry on with their programmes. Now we have been told that it could be on Whit Sunday, 31st May. So we shall see, but the moral of this tale is, you never know who is going to spot you online!

