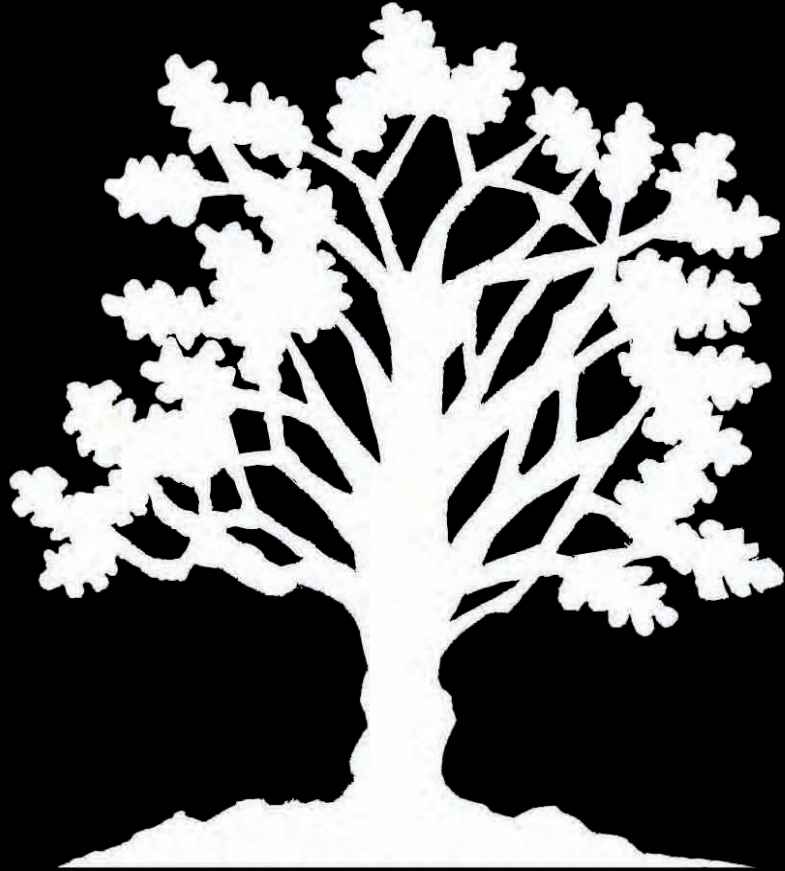


PENRHYS PILGRIMS



PERERINION PENRHYS

2008

2008 is a very special year for Penrhys and the **Penrhys Partnership** intends to celebrate it in style. This is your personal invitation to join us.

2008 is the year of the four hundred and seventieth anniversary of the destruction of the Penrhys Shrine and the confiscation and burning of the statue of the Mother and Child; as well as the fortieth birthday of the completion and occupation of the Penrhys Village. We hope you'll join us in the celebration of the survival and enduring importance of both.

Our year of commemoration will include regular **Pilgrimages** to the holy shrine of Penrhys (see details below); the launches of a series of inspiring new **Publications**; a major new touring **Exhibition** and **Film** exploring the history of Penrhys; the creation of quality items of memorabilia; and a month-long **Festival** between 30 August and 26 September 2008 to include music, poetry, drama and film events, conferences and colourful community processions. The **Penrhys Pilgrims Festival** will be launched on Saturday 30 August with an open-air *Water Event* and culminate on Friday 26 September - the anniversary of the holy statue's burning in London - with an open-air *Fire Event*. The annual **Penrhys Village Carnival** will take place on Saturday 13 September - the fortieth anniversary of the opening of the estate; and the main religious celebration on Sunday 14 September - the anniversary of the holy statue's removal by Cromwell's men in 1538.

Details of the **Pilgrimages** already planned for 2008 include:

Sunday 4 May – Union of Catholic Mothers

Monday 26 May – Cistercian Way Walk - Ecumenical Pilgrimage

Saturday 31 May – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday 6 June - Rhondda Parish Pilgrimage

Saturday 12 July – Reparation and Consecration

Sunday 14 Sept – Penrhys Pilgrims event

Penrhys has a unique story to tell, its significance as a major European spiritual centre stretching way back into the mists of time. The sixteenth century bard, Lewys Morgannwg, spoke of there being “*nine heavens in one meadow*” in Penrhys.

The **PENRHYS PILGRIMS Project** will help restore Penrhys' importance in the contemporary life of Wales through the community exploration and creative re-presentation of this place's well-hidden riches.

For more information and to check on events' details, please contact:

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