

Prosiect Cludiant Cymunedol Llanwrtyd



Llanwrtyd Wells Community Transport Project



NEWSLETTER

Edition 15

May 2020

Hi everyone

Well, here we are in May which is reputedly the beginning of summer, and I do hope the weather continues to be good, because we had so much rain earlier in the year and I think we badly need the lovely sunshine to warm us.

The pagan festival of Beltane takes place from sunset April 30th until sunset May 1st, the day we traditionally call May Day. Earth energies are at their strongest and most active and bursting with potent fertility, hence trees and flowers springing into life, new life in the shape of baby birds and other wild creatures.

Beltane is a Gaelic Festival which was widely observed throughout Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man, plus Wales where it is known as Calan Mai. The May Queen, Maia, also called the Goddess of Spring or the May Bride has reached her fullness and the Green Man, also known as Jack in the Green or the Young Oak King falls in love with her. Their union is consummated and she is with child, this makes them the symbol of the Sacred Marriage (Heiros Gamos), the union of Earth and Sky.

Beltane traditions include the lighting of bonfires on May Day eve, Handsfasting, a pagan wedding involving the exchange of vows and rings, jumping the broomstick which is literally jumping over a broomstick laid on the floor, which symbolizes exchanging the old



single life to one of being together but often without the vows and rings. Couples of all ages went A-Maying, spending May Day eve in the woods and fields, made love and brought back armfuls of the first May or hawthorn blossoms to decorate their homes. Young women gathered the dew to wash their faces, made Flower Crowns and May Baskets to give as gifts. There is also dancing round the maypole,



which I remember well from my younger days.



Happy Beltane (May Day) Poem

Between the twilight of spring and summer
The hunter has come for the May Queen
In fields of gold and beds of flowers
He plows her land so fertile and green.

Erect the maypole so we may dance
The hunter has come, God is here!
His crown the golden disc of sun
Reigning in summer yet another year.

By Metal Gaia

Of course the May Day bank holiday this year has been changed from Monday May 4th to Friday May 8th because of the 75th Anniversary of VE Day celebrations, which unfortunately we can't celebrate as we planned because of the Coronavirus, but we can still think of the day, and perhaps raise a glass in our own homes by way of celebration and thanks to everyone who made it possible.

Along with this newsletter there is a booklet I've compiled as a souvenir, so I am attaching this too if you are receiving this by email, and will try and leave some printed copies at venues that are still open.

Blessings to you all

Pat

Frontline Workers

I'd just like to make mention of our wonderful frontline workers during this difficult time with the virus, and say a great big Thank You one and all. Rather than name groups, because I'm certain to leave someone out, I think suffice to say 'Thank You' to everyone who is helping to keep us safe and ensuring we have all we need. 'Thank You' for risking your lives and that of your own families to care for us and to ensure we have food for our tables. I'd also like to say a Very Big Thank You to our own volunteer drivers and other volunteers locally who are shopping and prescription delivering for local people, you are very generous and it is much appreciated at this extremely difficult time.

Please continue to only leave home if you absolutely must, the sooner that message gets across to everyone the sooner this will be over and we can all get back to normal. Please stay safe everyone.

Update on LWCT

Laura and Dave are both working from home and we are trying to keep all our staff and volunteers safe. As I mentioned in the previous edition, the school runs, shoppa buses and coffee club are all on hold until we get the all clear from the government. Our wonderful volunteer drivers are still taking people to medical appointments, whether it be local or further afield like Hereford and Cardiff. If we have shopping orders, the drivers will attempt to do that whilst the client is having their appointment. We are also helping out some members of our wonderful farming community, one in particular who is self-isolating.

We are able to collect shopping orders locally and prescriptions, for which there would be no charge, but we hope you understand that we have our overheads to cover, e.g. rent and rates on the buildings we use, volunteer expenses, insurance, salaries, the list is endless to be honest, and regardless of the virus, the bills still need paying. We hope to still be here to provide a much needed service to members of the whole community once this nightmare is over so we are working very hard on getting our heads around all the new legislation and government guidelines that keep coming out.



Meanwhile we would like to remind you that we are here to support every one of you if you think there is absolutely anyway we can help during this difficult time, this includes all age groups, businesses and the self-employed.

Sincere thanks to all our lovely volunteers and supporters, we can and will get through this together.

If you would like to use the services of our volunteer drivers, or enquire about mini bus hire, please contact Laura Burns on 07767 771489.

Quarantine

No one can come to our house except the doctor man.
We can't go anywhere until he says we can.
We cannot write a letter or send an order out
We can't pay a darned old bill, one vantage point - no doubt.

Nobody wants our money or anything we've got.
We're all by our lonely, so tears this page should blot.
This really should be very sad, but then – now, still and by
It really hasn't been so bad, and I will tell you why.

We can sleep late in the morning; we've naught to wake up for,
No work to do, but in the house, no lunches to pack anymore.
We can work on jigsaw puzzles and let the dishes go,
No one can stop in here to call so nobody will know.

This poem was written in 1942 about the Scarlet Fever Epidemic. It was written by **Helen Amy Beck-Gray**, who was born in the early 1900s and died in 1993. She had 11 children and was widowed sometime after her last child was born, so raised the children on her own.

This lovely lady is the Great Grandmother of Troy Coin who lives in Springfield, Missouri, and I am indebted to him for allowing me to share this poem with you all

GRANDMA'S WAR TIME ORANGE DROP COOKIES

From the [Lovefoodies](#) website (for email recipients, follow the link for more recipes)

'Oh my goodness! Grandma's War Time Orange Drop Cookies are an old family favourite dating back to the Second World War when rationing was in force. It's certainly an old recipe, and the only history I have is that my Welsh grandmother, who was born in the late 1800s, was mother to 10 children and a lot of grandchildren! Grandma always came up with a great cookie for everyone to enjoy.'

Ingredients:

2 tbsp. orange rind, grated
1/2 tsp orange flavouring
Juice of half an orange
170 g butter, softened
425 g honey
1 egg, beaten
310 g self-raising flour, sifted
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt

Prep Time: 15 Minutes

Cook Time: 10 Minutes

Serves: 4 Dozen

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 F or 180 C
2. Mix together the butter and honey.
3. Sift the flour, baking powder, and salt, then add to the honey mixture and fold in beaten egg, grated orange rind and orange juice.
4. Place in refrigerator for 30 minutes.
5. Drop the batter in teaspoonsful and bake for about 8 – 10 minutes.
6. When done, leave on baking tray for 5 minutes then place on a cooling rack until cool. Enjoy with a nice glass of cold milk or a cup of coffee!



His Beret

He still has his old Army beret, and many's the tale it could tell.
He wore it for years while in service, with pride it would make his heart swell.
He wore it in rain and in sunshine; he wore it perched high on his head,
He touched it to honour his sovereign, and clutched it to stand over the dead.

He threw it to show celebration, he sat on it if seats were all wet.
It polished his windscreen when dirty; he drank through it to settle a bet.
His cap badge was something he'd fight for surrounded by friends he could trust,
That cap badge was something he'd die for, for honour was always a must.

It now stands on top of his wardrobe its cap badge polished to a high sheen,
He smiles as he glances up to it and nods when he sees it's still clean.
It reminds him of days spent together with comrades who he thought the best
And it still makes his heart swell with honour, and with medals worn proud on his chest.

By kind permission of the author, Clive Sanders.

Landed Festival

As you might know, the Landed Festival usually takes place in July/August each year, however there might well have to be changes this year because of the current situation.

The organisers have put out an announcement that if the festival can't take place between July 31st and August 2nd, it will be rescheduled to take place between October 2nd and 4th. If by any chance it can't take place then either, it will be held over until next year when it will take place between July 30th and August 1st 2021.

The Landed Festival has its own website and Facebook page, and if you have a look on there, lots of the musicians who intend to take part in the festival have recorded music for you to have a listen to and watch them play. It should be very good and just make you think that you'd like to go along and join in the fun. Happy listening.

Eye Test Joke

A foreign immigrant went to the DVLA to apply for a driver's license.

First, of course, he had to take an eye sight test.

The optician showed him a card with the letters.

On the bottom row were these letters:

C Z W I X N O S T A C Z.'

'Can you read this?' the optician asked.

'Read it?' the foreign guy replied - 'I know the fellow.'

Wales

This land of ours is a land we share
It's a place of beauty, a dragon's lair.
Where rivers run free from mountain to sea
From the Usk and the Taff to the Dovey and Dee.



A coastline so diverse, golden beaches with sand
Mud flats on the levels to cliffs oh so grand.
There are mountains to climb and valleys to walk
Differing voices to hear, and a language to talk.

We have castles with history and stories to tell
There are songs that we sing, famous poets as well.
An industrial heritage, we once dug out black gold
And to the world it would go, to the world it was sold.

We are a nation unique, a country so proud
And standing together we all shout out loud.
For we are from Wales a most beautiful place
The friendliest of people, a most passionate race.

Red Kite Credit Union

Just a reminder that although Llanwrtyd Community Centre is closed at the moment, if you want to make any enquiries about **Red Kite Credit Union** please let us know. You can do this by emailing comtrans@btconnect.com. If you prefer you can call me (Pat) on my mobile and I'll get a message to Sue Williams who can offer you some information and advice. My number is 07881 951510.

Volunteer Drivers Required

We are looking for volunteer drivers to use their own vehicles to take people to medical appointment and shopping in particular. You would be paid mileage from your home, and it would be an opportunity to meet new people and perhaps visit new places.

Especially at this time when some of our older and more vulnerable members of the community are self isolating or unable to mix with others, we are helping them by delivering prescriptions, groceries and take away food where needed.

If you are at all interested, have a clean driving license, and would like to get involved in helping your local community, then please make contact.

Just to reassure you that you would be provided with gloves, face mask and hand sanitiser, and anyone using our service would be asked to sign an agreement to take the necessary precaution of washing hands thoroughly before entering the car and hand sanitiser once inside.

For more information or to apply, please contact Laura on 07767 771489 or email laura@llanwrtydcommunitytransport.org.uk

Silly book titles:

The Dogs' Dinner by Nora Bone
French Windows by Pattie O'Dors
Olympic Games by Arthur Letics
Easy Money by Robyn Banks
Long Walk by Miss D. Buss

The Cliff Tragedy by Eileen Dover
Forestry by Teresa Green
How to Make Honey by B. Keeper
Gunfire by R. Tillery

Articles for Sale

Just a reminder that you might well be thinking of making changes in the garden and getting it spruced up for the summer months. If this is so, please bear us in mind as we have lots of lovely garden ornaments for sale which we make ourselves using concrete or resin and some of the recycled glass we have. We have pedestals, planters and benches as well as gnomes, birds, animals and of course the Welsh dragon.

We have sharp free glass culet which can be used in aquariums and reptile cages, but is also good for landscaping, or using on the top of planters to suppress weeds and slugs and hold moisture in the soil or compost. All you need is some permeable membrane on top of the potting medium and then the culet can go on the top, it looks lovely and sparkly in the sunshine and will help to keep your plants safe from predators.

We also of course have an array of collectable items for sale; many are Royal Doulton figurines which have been bequeathed to us.

If you would like to know more please have a look on our website where you will find a [Catalogue of Garden and Home items](#), information about colours and prices of the [Glass Culet](#) and a [Catalogue of the Collectable items](#) for sale (if you are receiving this newsletter by email, the links are above in blue)..

For advice and information please see the email address and phone numbers on the back of this newsletter, please give us a call if you want to know more. We can arrange for you to pay via PayPal, direct bank transfer or COD, and we can deliver locally and leave by your house without contact once a payment is made and delivery date and time agreed.

Rainbow Thank You/Wishing Tree



I know throughout the UK that many people are standing on their balconies or in their gardens on Thursdays at 8pm clapping for our frontline workers, but I think the above is a lovely idea.

It is outside Garth Village Hall and residents are invited to tie a ribbon to the tree and make a wish. You can take your own ribbon if you have any however there are some ribbons under the tree for anyone who doesn't. Perhaps this is something other village communities could look at doing, what do you think?

Attitudes.

Attitudes are contagious, are yours worth catching?

Managing Director:

Dave Brown

Directors:

Pat Dryden

June Parkinson

Operations Manager:

Laura Burns

Contact Details:


Llanwrtyd Community Transport and Events Recycling

The Tunnel Site

Cilmery

Builth Wells

LD2 3FL

: 01982 552727/551295

: comtrans@btconnect.com

: laura@Llanwrtydcommunitytransport.org.uk

: www.llanwrtydcommunitytransport.org.uk

Llanwrtyd Community Centre

The Old Station Buildings

Station Road

Llanwrtyd Wells

LD5 4RP

: 01591 610789

: llanwrtydcommunitycentre@gmail.com

VAT Registration Number: 132160853

Company Registration Number: 7924691



Social Enterprise UK
Certified Member