



Cludiant Cymunedol

Llanwrtyd Wells

Community Transport



NEWSLETTER

Rhifyn/Edition 27

Mai/May 2021

Helô bawb/hello everyone

It's good that the weather has picked up somewhat, although it was somewhat mixed early in April. It's good however to see so many spring lambs gamboling about, they are such sweet little things. Lots of lovely flowers too, we've been fortunate and the pansies from last year are flourishing plus lots of daffodils, primroses and grape hyacinths.

Hoping you find our latest offering interesting, and as always we would love to hear your views, publicize any local event, or if you would like a monthly copy emailing to you personally, please let me have your details on pat@lwct.org.uk. Blessings to you all

Cofion cynnes/kindest regards. Pat x

Beltane

Beltane is a Gaelic Pagan Festival celebrated on May 1st so shares this occasion with May Day which has a different meaning. It is a Celtic word which means 'fires of Bel', Bel was a Celtic deity. Beltane or Beltain is the Gaelic May Day festival. Most commonly it is held on 1 May, and historically, it was widely observed throughout Ireland, Scotland, and the Isle of Man, and is similar to the Welsh Calan Mai.

It is a fire festival that celebrates the of the coming of summer and the fertility of the coming year. The largest Beltane celebrations in the UK are held in Edinburgh. Fires are lit at night and festivities carry on until dawn. All around the UK fires are lit and private celebrations are held amongst covens and groves (groups of Pagans) to mark the start of the summer.

Making a Wish Box Charm

Beltane is a good time for bringing hopes, dreams and aspirations to life, and here is a truly beautiful charm to help you bring these into manifestation.

You will need:

A small shallow cardboard box. Shoe boxes are good.

Rose petals

Sunflower seeds and/or poppy seeds

Paper

A piece of willow bark or piece of willow, an acorn or oak leaf

Something that represents your wish (see below)



Take a piece of paper and write your wish on it while visualizing your wish coming to life and growing. You can do this alone, with friends, or as a family. If you want to, decorate the lid of the box, with a triple moon, pentacle, heart, or any symbol of your choice. Poke a few holes in the lid - this will help your wish/plants, to grow. Take your box and sprinkle some earth into it. Put in your paper wishes, wish symbol (see below), and seeds/bark/acorn. Cover with another layer of earth. Mix the rose petals with the seeds and scatter them on top. Cover with a final layer of earth and place the lid on top, leaving enough of the rose petal/seed mixture to scatter on top of the box when you are planting it.

Planting Your Wish Box

The best time for planting your Wish Box is just after a fresh cleansing rainfall as this gives you a bright new start, but if the season is dry just give the earth a good watering the night before. Dig a hole two inches deeper than your wish box and lower it into the earth carefully while concentrating on your chosen wish, visualizing it coming to fruition. Imagine your wish growing with the flowers reaching skyward. As you cover the box with earth say:

**"Dream that lies within the earth awaken now. Hope that sleeps awaken now.
The stars await as so do I. Grow true, grow strong, toward the sky."**

If you don't have a garden you can make a mini wish pot that can live on a window ledge and it works just as well. Just replace the box with a terracotta pot - one wish and one symbol per pot following exactly the same instructions as above. Remember that wishes are only to be used for positive motives.

Suggested Symbols For Your Wish Box:

Love and Marriage - gingerbread
New Job - copper coin
Abundance - silver coin
Difficult Task - glove
Hearth and Home - thimble
Seeking the Truth - sprig of rosemary
Health, Healing, Renewed Strength - blue & green ribbon entwined
Happiness, Good Luck - cinnamon stick
Seeking Knowledge - apple
To Find A Lost Item - feather
Protection - key (an old iron key is best if you have one)

The above information from <https://www.goddessandgreenman.co.uk/beltane/>

May Day

What we now refer to as May Day is actually **International Labour Day**, and is an official public holiday all over the world in various countries. It is observed every year to pay tribute to the contribution of workers across the world.

During the era of industrialisation, US industrialists exploited the working class by making them work 15 hours a day. It was only on May 1, 1886, that the labour class came together and revolted against this unjust system and asked for paid leave, good wages and proper breaks. This is the reason why May Day is celebrated every year.

In Scotland, the Early May Bank holiday has been observed on the first Monday in May since the 1800's, but was only introduced in the rest of the United Kingdom in 1978.

Whitsuntide

Can you remember the Whitsuntide holidays? It was a bank holiday and children had the week off school. I remember it well because we always had a new outfit for Whit Sunday and I



think it was on the Monday that there were parades through the high street with floats and people with buckets collecting money. Other customs were Morris dancing and dancing round the Maypole amongst other activities.

Whitsuntide was actually a celebration of Pentecost, and while it may not be as widely known or celebrated as Christmas and Easter, Pentecost is one of the most significant dates of the Christian calendar. The festival, which this year (2021) falls on Sunday 23rd May, commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples following the death of Jesus Christ.

Whitsuntide was a moveable festival, Whit Sunday being celebrated the seventh Sunday after Easter, but this was (unfortunately in my opinion) replaced in 1972 with Spring Bank Holiday which is fixed to the last Sunday in May, this year falling on Sunday May 30th. Here are the lyrics to a song about Whitsuntide:

Whitsuntide Clothes

Down cobbled streets round Brightside Lane we'd walk hand in hand
All silk and lace we'd take our place behind the marching band
No hand me downs today but new from head to toe,
We're dressed in our Whitsuntide clothes

The old tin bath from the night before is dried and put away
All scrubbed up in frills and tucks we're ready for the day
From hair bound in rags see how the ringlets flow
We're dressed in our Whitsuntide clothes

Old ones and young ones get together once again
The children are every mother's pride
Brothers and sisters meet with family and friends
All gather round at Whitsuntide

Mam's done her best with Provident Cheques to turn us out so fine
She'll be paying them off at a shilling a week from now to Christmas time
She never seemed to mind, so proud and it showed
When we dressed in our Whitsuntide clothes.

From every back to back appear small faces shiny bright
In starched white collars patent shoes and dresses laced up tight
We get pennies on the walk from everyone we know
'Cause we're dressed in our Whitsuntide clothes

Old ones and young ones get together once again
The children are every mother's pride
Brothers and sisters meet with family and friends
All gather round at Whitsuntide

Each Whitsuntide just once a year proud children display
'Neath silken banners Sunday schools parade along the way
At the bandstand in the park we'd sing and we'd pose
Dressed in our Whitsuntide clothes.

By Cherrington and Ward

Volunteer Drivers Needed Locally and in Llandrindod Wells

Over the last 18 months, and certainly more recently with the role out of the Covid-19 vaccine program, we have seen a big increase of requests for transport covering the Llandrindod Wells area.



Over recent years, Llandrindod Wells has been without a community car scheme, and LWCT have stepped in to help out with transport where we can. With these recent requests becoming more frequent, we have decided to "adopt" Llandrindod Wells into LWCT. While we are doing this on a relatively small scale, we would like to recruit a few volunteer drivers in the Llandrindod area to make this a more affordable and sustainable project and may look to expand this over the coming months if it proves popular.

Having a dedicated team of volunteer drivers in the area that will be supported by our existing volunteers and office staff, will enable us to have a bespoke service which we hope will become as popular as our current services in the Llanwrtyd Wells areas. Similar to the scheme in Llanwrtyd Wells, the Llandrindod Wells division will be offering one to one car journeys for those needing to access medical appointments, shopping and any other essential and social journeys.

If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in joining our team as a volunteer driver, in either Llandrindod Wells, Llanwrtyd Wells or any of the surrounding areas, please get in touch! We can be contacted on the landline 01982 552727, email office@lwct.org.uk or speak to Laura directly on her mobile 07767 771489

You would need a clean driving licence which we would need to see, and if you are willing to use your own vehicle, we would need sight of your insurance cover. We would provide all PPE like masks, gloves, sanitiser for you and your passengers, and you could bring your vehicle to the Lion Garage each week where we could use the fogging machine, which only takes about 15 minutes, so you can feel confident that your vehicle is safe for family use too. We do have a couple of company cars that you may be able to use if you prefer not to use your own vehicle. If you are interested in becoming a part of the team, please get in touch, even if you can only offer 1 hour a month, every minute of time is appreciated and means so much to those people that you help. Volunteer drivers get a mileage reimbursement in line with government guidelines.

Covid-19 Vaccinations

Just to remind you we are able to supply transport free of charge for anyone in our local area with an appointment at the GP Practice or Royal Welsh Showground for a Covid-19 Vaccination.



This is a busy part of our service and there is much demand for it, so please contact us as soon as you are able if you would like us to help you. Incidentally we do have a wheelchair friendly vehicle for those who cannot access an ordinary car. This service is for our own local community, however please contact us and if you are out of our catchment area we will try and point you in the right direction for other transport services.

To book a journey or find out more, please contact us at office@lwct.org.uk or on 01982 552727. If there is no answer, please leave your name and contact number and we will get back to you.

Door of the Tylwyth Teg (Fairy folk)

Legend tells of an invisible island situated at the centre of *Llyn Cwm Llŵch*, which is a small Welsh lake that is situated in the Brecon Beacons.

The lake was the abode of the Tylwyth Teg, who had a garden on an invisible island in the lake. On May Day every year, it was said that a doorway would appear in a rock by the lakeside. Those humans who were bold enough could pass through it



into a passage, which would take them into an enchanted garden situated on the island in the lake. Although visitors to the island could clearly see the shores of the lake, the island and the garden were not visible from the lake's shore.

Those intrepid souls who ventured through the door and down the passage entered into a paradise, with gorgeous flowers of the most wonderful colours and intoxicating scents. These were visited by brightly-coloured butterflies and dragonflies, and songbirds sang happy songs of peace as they flitted from tree to tree. In this marvellous setting, the Tylwyth Teg treated their guests by providing food and drink the likes of which could not be found on Earth. They then entertained them with songs, music, and wonderful stories to give them an unforgettable experience that would stay with them for the rest of their lives. All the Tylwyth Teg asked of their guests was one thing and one thing only, and it was so simple and reasonable that it had always been readily complied with for years untold. Because

of the magical nature of the place, they requested that all who visited should not take with them a single item from the island or garden when they returned through the door.

Now it is a fact that humans have short memories, and the Tylwyth Teg never forget. Ever since they had opened the door to accept visitors to their garden, there had never been a single transgression of this rule. But unfortunately, there came a time when one irresponsible and ungrateful guest decided he wanted something more than just a memory of his wonderful time upon the island. He had noticed that no one was being searched or checked to enforce this rule and so, looking around to make sure no-one saw him, he picked a beautiful flower which did not grow on Earth and hid it in the inside of his jacket pocket. Then, he walked back down the passage and passed through the door. The second he stepped out of the door and placed his foot on earth, all of his senses left him. He fell to walking round backwards in circles and talking nonsense, and lost all ability to reason. He remained in this terrible state until the day he died, which mercifully for him came quickly.

The Tylwyth Teg appeared to ignore the betrayal and took no notice of the man, taking leave of their guests with their usual good manners and courtesy. However, the following May Day the door never appeared. Nor did it appear in the years that followed. To this day, the door to the enchanted garden on the island of the Tylwyth Teg has never been seen again.

Information above from www.folklorethursday.com

Company Directors

We are looking to recruit a couple of new Company Directors to join us in decision making and planning future services. Is this something you might be interested in? At the moment all meetings are held using online zoom facilities due to Covid-19. They are held every few weeks and generally last around 90 minutes.

We would be looking for someone who lives preferably in our catchment area, Llanwrtyd, Llangammarch, Abergwesyn, Cefn Gorwydd, Tirabad or Beulah, and perhaps has some business skills to share with other Company Directors.

If you would like to know more, please make contact with us for further information and a no obligation chat at pat@lwct.org.uk or on 07881 951510, or at office@lwct.org.uk or on 01982 552727, we'd love to hear from you.

The Little Man Who Wasn't There

Yesterday, upon the stair, I met a man who wasn't there.
He wasn't there again today, I wish, I wish he'd go away...

When I came home last night at three, the man was waiting there for me
But when I looked around the hall, I couldn't see him there at all!

Go away, go away, don't you come back anymore!
Go away, go away, and please don't slam the door...

Last night I saw upon the stair, a little man who wasn't there,
He wasn't there again today oh, how I wish he'd go away...

Written in 1899 by American educator and poet William Hughes Mearns this poem is also called "Antigonish". It was inspired by reports of a ghost roaming the stairs of a house in Antigonish, Nova Scotia.

Red Kite Credit Union

Unfortunately all **RKCU** service points are on hold for the foreseeable future due to Covid-19. That is not to say you cannot access the service, because although all local service points are closed, you are still able to deposit, withdraw or join the scheme via their [website at this link](#) or by making **contact via telephone 01597 824000, 01982 570287, 07979 577395 or 07419 295420** or via their email address at info@redkitecreditunion.co.uk.

Y Golofn Gymraeg (The Welsh Column) is at the end of the newsletter. Please let us know if this is something you find useful for you or your friends.

New Volunteers

Eleri Lewis is one of our two new Welsh speaking volunteers. She was born and raised in a small hamlet near Goodwick, Pembrokeshire. Since 2019, Eleri has been working as a freelance translator and a community engagement co-ordinator. She has previously worked for the National Eisteddfod, Ceredigion County Council and Tinopolis as a researcher on the Prynawn Da and Heno programmes. Latterly, she was employed as an Account Manager with Antur Teifi, a social enterprise based in Newcastle Emlyn, supporting new and existing businesses. In 2018 Eleri was appointed Clerk to her local Community Council.



Eleri is married to Euros, the son of a former minister of Bethesda Chapel, Llanwrtyd. They have one son Rhodri who lives in Cardiff with his wife Branwen and 8 month old son, Gwyddno.

Will Feakes



Will is our second new Welsh speaking volunteer, he and Eleri are working together on translating documents and formulating a Welsh Language Scheme.

Rae Belfield

Rae is our latest volunteer Driver, and we are always grateful for new drivers both locally and in the Llandrindod area.

Update on LWCT

Things are still difficult due to the virus, but we are still able to collect and deliver prescriptions, shopping and pre-ordered take away food, courtesy of our wonderful volunteer drivers, and are also still taking people to medical appointments, either locally or further afield like Hereford, Cardiff and other places (don't forget that we do have a wheelchair friendly vehicle for if you're unable to get into an ordinary car).

We are also able to supply some services, especially taking people for Covid vaccines, to people from the Llandrindod area. Between 1st January 2021 and 31st March 2021, we have undertaken 71 journeys enabling local people and people from Llandrindod to get to Covid-19 vaccination appointments. We have taken people to doctor's surgeries in Llandrindod Wells and Builth Wells, as well as to the mass vaccination centres in Bronllys, Royal Welsh Show site in Llanellwedd and also to Carmarthen. These journeys mean we have covered 1,776 miles for vaccine appointments in just 3 months, an average of 25 miles per person.

We take PPE very seriously, so we ask you to wear a face covering whilst in the vehicle. We supply hand sanitizer and can offer face masks if you forget yours. As you know, we have purchased a Fogging Machine, so our vehicles are perfectly safe for drivers and passengers alike.

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 new shopping bus, or think we can help in any way, please contact Laura Burns on 01982 552727 or at office@lwct.org.uk.

We have a new venture that of a book exchange. There is a bookcase outside our offices at the Lion Garage where you can exchange books you have already read for ones you'd like to try. We hope this will be a popular venture for local people.

Daft Jokes

Did you hear about the actor who fell through the floorboards?
He was just going through a stage.

Why don't scientists trust atoms?
Because they make everything up.

What sits at the bottom of the sea and twitches?
A nervous wreck.

What kind of exercise do lazy people do?
Diddly squats.

Why do we tell actors to 'break a leg'?
Because all plays have a cast.

Irish Blessing

*May your troubles be less, and your blessings be more
And nothing but happiness comes through your door.*



Y Golofn Gymraeg (The Welsh Column)

BRENHINOEDD BOB MAN

Brenin yr offerynnau. Dyna'r teitl anrhydeddus a roddir i offeryn nid anghyffredin ei bresenoldeb drwy Gymru benbaladr - yr Organ Bib. Mae hanes sut y daeth Brenin yr Offerynnau i Lanwrtyd yn engreiffiol o'r uchelgais a fu.

Yn dilyn tyfiant Llanwrtyd yn ganolfan gwyliau i lowyr y de a'u teuluoedd yn ogystal a sgil-effaith Diwygiad 1904/05 roedd yr Hen Dŷ Cwrdd – er yn gapel sylweddol - yn

rhy fach. Yn ôl y cof llafar, yn yr haf mi fydde cyn gymaint yn gwrandu y tu fas i'r ffenestri agored ag yr oedd o fewn yr hen waliau.

Comisiynwyd gynlluniau ar gyfer dyblu maint y capel. Amcangyfrif y gost oedd £2,480.00 (dros gwarter miliwn erbyn heddi).

Roedd yna garfan gref o blaid – yn enwedig yr aelodau ifancaf. Ond roedd yna garfan nid ansylweddol yn erbyn. Doedde' nhw ddim am weld yr eglwys yn crogi'i hunan mewn dyled. Trefnwyd Cwrdd Eglwys yn 1906 a'r nod oedd dod i benderfyniad – penderfyniad yr oedd y gweinidog, y Parchedig Rees Evans, yn awyddus i fynd o blaid ymestyn.

Sicrhaodd ei fuddugoliaeth wrth droi'r Cwrdd Eglwys yn Gwrdd Addewidion. Gan wahodd pawb i roi nid ceiniog yn fwy – na'n llai – na fedrent fforddio, aeth drwy'r capel orlawn gôr wrth gôr â llyfr cownt yn ei law. Erbyn rowndio yn ei ôl i'r sêd fawr roedd y nod – goeliwch chi - wedi'i gyrraedd.

Postfeistr y dre oedd John Thomas, Alwyn Humphreys ei ddydd o ran cymanfaoedd canu cymanfaoedd y de a

chefn gwlad y gorllewin (ac awdur anthemau ac emyn-donau poblogaidd). Gyda'r fath *superstar* â gofal caniaadaeth Bethesda, roedd yna unfrydwch nad oedd yr hen harmoniw (druan) yn offeryn addas ar gyfer yr adeilad newydd helaeth a hardd irfeddu.

Tra'r oedd yr ail-adeiladu ar waith roedd gan Rees Evans gyhoeddiad yng nghapel Jewin, Llundain. Ymysg y blaenoriaid yno roedd William Price – brodor o Lanwrtyd oedd, megis gymaint o'i gymdogion o Geredigion, wedi gwneud llwyddiant mawr o'r wâc la'th yn Llundain. Ymhen amser mi fydde'n gael ei urddo'n Syr William – yn bennaf am ei waith yn ffurfio a llywio twf United Dairies.



Sicrhaodd Rees Evans mai yng nghartre'r entrepreneur mawr ei hun y byddai'n cael ei luniaeth rhwng cwrdd y bore a chwrdd y nos. Dros ginio adroddodd hanes llwyddiant y Cwrdd Eglwys a mentergarwch gymdeithasol-grefyddol ei gynulleidfa – gan awgrymu'n gynnil gymaint o drueni oedd hi nad oedd cweit digon o fodd ganddynt i sicrhau offeryn o'r un radd â'r adeiladwaith ysblennydd newydd.

Ddaeth yn ddiwetydd, ac i'r lolfa foethus dyma'r te-cyn-cwrdd yn cyrraedd. Pan gododd y gweinidog ei gwpan o'r soser, gwelodd fod yno amlen a'i enw arni. Ynddi roedd siec am £500 – swm oedd yn cyfateb yn union â'r amcan-gost a gafwyd gan gwmni enwog Norman & Beard (Norwich a Llundain). Archebwyd yr organ a'i gosod yn ei chartref pwrpasol, uwchben y pwlpud. Ac yno y bu, yn gyfeiliant cwbl gydnaws i addoliad, gorfoledd a galar dros ganrif o fywyd Llanwrtyd a'r Fro – yn wir, nes dadgorffori'r eglwys nos Wener, 4 Tachwedd, 2016.



Compiled by Eleri Lewis

The Chapel Story

King of instruments. That's the prestigious title given to a not-so-rare instrument found throughout Wales - the Pipe Organ.

The story of how the King of Instruments came to Llanwrtyd Wells is an example of the ambition held by the members of Bethesda Chapel to raise funds to house the growing congregation which eventually led to the purchase of the King of Instruments.

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