



**Cludiant Cymunedol**

**Llanwrtyd Wells**

**Community Transport**

# NEWSLETTER



**Rhifyn/Edition 29**

**Gorffennaf/July 2021**

Helô bawb/hello everyone

Here we are half way through the year and into July. Apologies if you receive this somewhat late, I've been in hospital so getting to do the newsletter this month has been a challenge to say the least. If you think you would be interested in getting involved writing the newsletter, even if it's only a page or two, please let me know.

As the lockdown lifts we're able to get about and see family and friends that we may not have seen for a long while, let's hope this continues. The lockdowns have been catastrophic for the hospitality industry and small local businesses, so please give them your business and support. Most hostelrys and cafes are still supplying takeaway food even though customers can now eat in, a show of how we can all work together and support each other through difficult times.

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](mailto:pat@lwct.org.uk). Blessings to you all

Cofion cynnes/kindest regards. Pat x

## The Month of July

July is named after Roman dictator Julius Caesar (100 B.C.– 44 B.C.). Caesar developed the precursor to the Gregorian calendar we use today.

Interestingly, July seems to be the month dedicated to freedom, independence, and celebrations of country and culture.

**July 1** is Canada Day, a Canadian federal holiday that celebrates the creation of the Dominion of Canada in 1867.

**July 4** is Independence Day (U.S.). On the fourth of July, we celebrate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

**July 14** is Bastille Day, which commemorates the storming of the Bastille and the start of the French Revolution.

On July 14 each year, people in France, parts of North America, and elsewhere celebrate La Fête Nationale or Le Quatorze (14th) Juillet. Known as Bastille Day

outside of France, the holiday commemorates the storming of the Bastille, which ignited the French Revolution.

Built in the late 1300s, the Bastille was a fortress that protected Paris, France, from attack. By the late 1700s, during the reign of King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette, the fortress had become infamous for holding political prisoners. To the common people, who were suffering from a food shortage and the burden of high taxes, it also had become a symbol of the monarchy's oppression.

**Cancer** ♋ is the fourth astrological sign in the Zodiac, originating from the constellation of Cancer. In astrology, Cancer is the cardinal sign of the Water trignon, which is made up of Cancer, Pisces, and Scorpio and its ruling planet is the Moon. Though some depictions of Cancer feature a lobster or crayfish,<sup>[2]</sup> the sign is most often represented by the crab, based on the Karkinos.

In Dante Alighieri's *Paradiso*, he makes reference to Cancer, writing::

Thereafterward a light among them brightened,  
So that, if Cancer one such crystal had,  
Winter would have a month of one sole day.

— Dante Alighieri, *Paradiso*<sup>[18]</sup>

**July 3** brings the start of the hot and sultry **Dog Days of Summer!**

Ne'er trust a July sky.

If ant hills are high in July, the coming winter will be hard.

As July, so next January.

No tempest, good July,  
Lest the corn look ruefully.

Whatever July and August do not boil,  
September cannot fry.

**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 and/or your friends

July's birth flowers are the **larkspur** and **water lily**.

The larkspur, especially white forms, generally indicates lightheartedness; pink, fickleness; purple, first love.



### Tuoula

Tuloula was a special girl and she was popular with the troops.  
She could dance so sexy while siding through small hoops.  
She had a gorgeous body that she would let the soldiers see  
And I enjoyed it very much when she was holding tight to me.

Tuloula stood just five feet tall in her thigh high sexy boots.  
She'd got lovely ginger hair but it was black around the roots.  
The soldiers loved to dance with her ad they'd pester her for dates,  
Then go back to their Barracks where they'd boast to all their mates.

We never saw Tuloula cry until one tragic night,  
The Second Battalion Rifles were engaged in one bad fight.  
Tuloula cried her heart out and her tears we could not stem,  
For she loved the Second Battalion, and was engaged to most of them.

**By kind permission of the author Clive Sanders**

## Volunteer Opportunities



### Volunteer Drivers Needed Locally and in Llandrindod Wells

Over the last 18 months, and certainly more recently with the roll 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](mailto: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.

### **More Company Director's Needed**

Despite having recruited one new Company Director, we are still looking to recruit a couple more. There are currently four directors, one female and three male, all over 55, and we'd like to broaden the range of ages and skills represented. Could you join us in decision-making and planning future services?

At the moment all meetings are held online via Zoom video calls, they are held every few weeks and generally last around 90 minutes. Ideally you'd be living in our catchment area, Llanwrtyd, Llangammarch, Abergwesyn, Cefn Gorwydd, Tirabad, Beulah, Cilmerly, or Garth, and perhaps have some business skills to share with other Company Directors. **For an informal chat with no commitment, please phone or email any of the current Directors, we'd love to hear from you.**

### **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 for a Covid-19 Vaccination.

Despite the age group eligible for vaccine in Powys reaching the over 18s in recent weeks, we are still getting a number of requests for transport. Some of these are for first vaccines, although many are for second vaccines. In April, we made a further 10 vaccine journeys, covering 289 miles, bringing the total mileage for vaccine transport up to 2065 miles. We have transported people to the Royal Welsh show site at Llanellwedd, Builth GP surgery, Llandrindod GP surgery, Bronllys vaccine centre, Carmarthen vaccine centre and now we can add Newtown vaccine centre to the list too!



We are incredibly grateful to all the staff and volunteers working at the vaccine centres, they have all been so helpful and accommodating with our drivers when

taking people in for vaccines. We are also very proud to have been able to help in the very successful roll out of the vaccine programme within Powys.

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](mailto: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.**

### **High Sherriff of Powys**

On behalf of LWCT we'd like to offer our hearty congratulations to Peter James MBE who has recently been sworn in as High Sherriff of Powys. Peter has worked hard for local people as a town councilor here in Llanwrtyd, where he was Mayor for several years. Congratulations and very well done Peter.

### **WW11 Aeroplane Crashes near Llanwrtyd Wells**

During World war two there were three military crash sites near Llanwrtyd. The biggest being Avro Lancaster bomber from the Pathfinder squadron which took off from RAF Warboys in Cambridgeshire on the April 10th 1944. It was on a training flight with a crew of eight. At about 5.00pm the pilot lost control and the plane broke up in the air and crashed between Llanwrtyd and Llangammarch sadly with the loss of all on board. The wreck was removed and there is no evidence at the site today.

On October 4<sup>th</sup> 1942 two Miles Masters's training aircraft left RAF High Ercall in Shropshire. They both had a crew of two and were heading south west on a cross-country formation training exercise. After flying for over an hour with the ground covered in thick cloud the navigator decided they had cleared the Welsh coast and started their decent. They were in fact over the Cambrian Mountains over

Abergwesyn. The first aircraft struck the ground and caught fire killing the two crew members. Almost immediately the second aircraft struck the ground but luckily it turned over and the two crewmembers miraculously survived.

Another crash in the area took place on June 4th 1944. The crash involved an American Republic P-47D it was a fighter plane of the 78<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group flown by the highly decorated American pilot Captain James Wilkinson. Distinguished Service Cross, Distinguished Flying Cross with 4 Oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, Silver Star. He was asked to lead a flight from his base in East Anglia to Wales to practice strafing trains on the Mid Wales line near Cynghordy. The day before he was due to bring the practice flight he decided to come over and carry out a reconnaissance of the area. He chose a bad day with heavy rain and low cloud and unfortunately he struck the summit of a ridge between Tirabad and the Sugar Loaf hill lacking clearance by only three feet. He was killed instantly. Some of the wreckage is on display at the American Air Museum in RAF Duxford.

As you can see these were all training flights but never the less these were no doubt very brave men training for a very dangerous role in their part of World War Two.



### **Lest we forget.**

Written and kindly contributed by James Davies and Tony Egan

### **Outing**

With the further lifting of coronavirus restrictions, we would like to put on a day trip. This will be limited numbers and done on a first come first served basis. If it proves popular, we may look to run more trips in the coming months.

Our first trip will be on Wednesday 25th August and will run to the Old Railway Line Garden Centre at Three Cocks. The cost of the trip will be £12 per person. This trip will of course be dependent on COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time, and may be cancelled at short notice. Masks will be required to be worn on the bus unless you are exempt. **Call Laura on 01982 552727 to book your place,**

### **Ken's Sausages**

Ken was famous for his sausages and folks came from miles around.  
They would buy them by the dozen made from the finest meat well ground.  
The label showed Combe Saint Nicholas, with its lovely village church  
Where tourists parked their vehicles as for Ken's sausages they'd search.

The butchers in the village sold Ken's sausages each day.  
Ken would drop a bundle round and they'd be snapped up straight away.  
Tourists came from Taunton just for these sausages to buy  
Ken was proud to offer tasters for new customers to try.

But if children came up to him and gave him a little smile  
Ken would give them sausages to keep them going for a while  
And Ruth would smile down at them as she offered them her hand  
To give the children little treats exactly as she'd planned.

By courtesy of the author Clive Sanders

### **Two Little Lost Boys**

This is the tragic story of two five-year-old boys Tommy Jones and Willie Llewellyn who became lost and died on the mountains.

#### **Tommy Jones**

On 4 August 1900 a miner from Maerdy, at the head of the Rhondda Fach valley, decided to take his son Tommy to visit his grandparents who still farmed near Brecon. They'd travelled by train and planned to walk the four miles to Cwmlwlch, the farmhouse in the valley just below Pen y Fan.

By 8pm they'd reached the Login - now in ruins - where soldiers were encamped for training at the rifle range further up the valley at Cwm Gwdi. The father and son had stopped for refreshment when they met Tommy's grandfather and cousin William,

who was 13. William was asked to go back to the farm and tell his grandmother to expect Tommy and his dad, and Tommy ran off up the valley with him.

When the two boys were halfway, Tommy became frightened by the dark or barking dogs perhaps and started to cry and return to his father at the Login. So the two boys parted. William completed his errand and returned to the Login within a quarter of an hour – but Tommy hadn't returned.

His father and grandfather started the search immediately, joined by soldiers from the camp. The search was halted at midnight and resumed at 3pm the following day. The search continued for weeks. Every day, parties of police, soldiers, farmers and other volunteers systematically combed the area with no luck.

After reading accounts of the search, a gardener's wife living just north of Brecon is said to have dreamed of the very spot where Tommy was found. She had a few restless days before persuading her husband to borrow a pony and trap on Sunday 2 September to take her and some relatives to Brecon Beacons, which they'd never climbed before.

They reached the ridge below Pen y Fan and were making their way towards the summit over open ground when Mr Hammer, who was a few yards in front, started back with an exclamation of horror. He had found the body of little Tommy Jones.

No one could explain how the five-year-old had managed to reach the spot where his body was found. He'd climbed 1,300ft from the Login. Today the spot where Tommy's body was found is marked with an obelisk. The jurors at the inquest donated their fees after determining that he had died from exhaustion and exposure.

On the family headstone in Ferndale Cemetery, little Tommy's epitaph reads:

*'O'r Bannau yn Brycheiniog, Aeth Tommy bach i'r nef;  
Aeth adref at yr Iesu, Lle byth ni chollir ef.'*  
*'In the Beacons in Breconshire  
Little Tommy went to heaven;  
He went home to Jesus,  
Where he will never be lost.'*



Obelisk designed by a local sculptor George Hay

It was more than 60 years later when the first Mountain Rescue team was set up in the Brecon Beacons.

Source: A summary from the Brecon Beacons National Park leaflet 'Victim of the Beacons', and <http://daibach-welldigger.blogspot.com/2020/08/the-little-lost-boys-1-tommy-jones.html>.

### Willie Llewellyn

Amazingly, just eighteen months or so after the Tommy Jones was lost in the Brecon Beacons, twenty miles away in the mountains at the Heads of the Valleys, another little boy who was also just five years old went missing.

His name was Willie Llewellyn, and he lived in Heolgerrig near Merthyr Tydfil. Willie went missing after going with his mother on a shopping visit to Aberaman in Cwm Cynon, three miles away over the mountain from their home. Perhaps some lessons had been learned from the search for Tommy Jones, for it took half the amount of time for Willie to be found, though the outcome was equally as sad.

As with Tommy Jones, a memorial stone marks the spot where he was found, though this one is less well-known than the obelisk that stands just below the top of Corn Du,

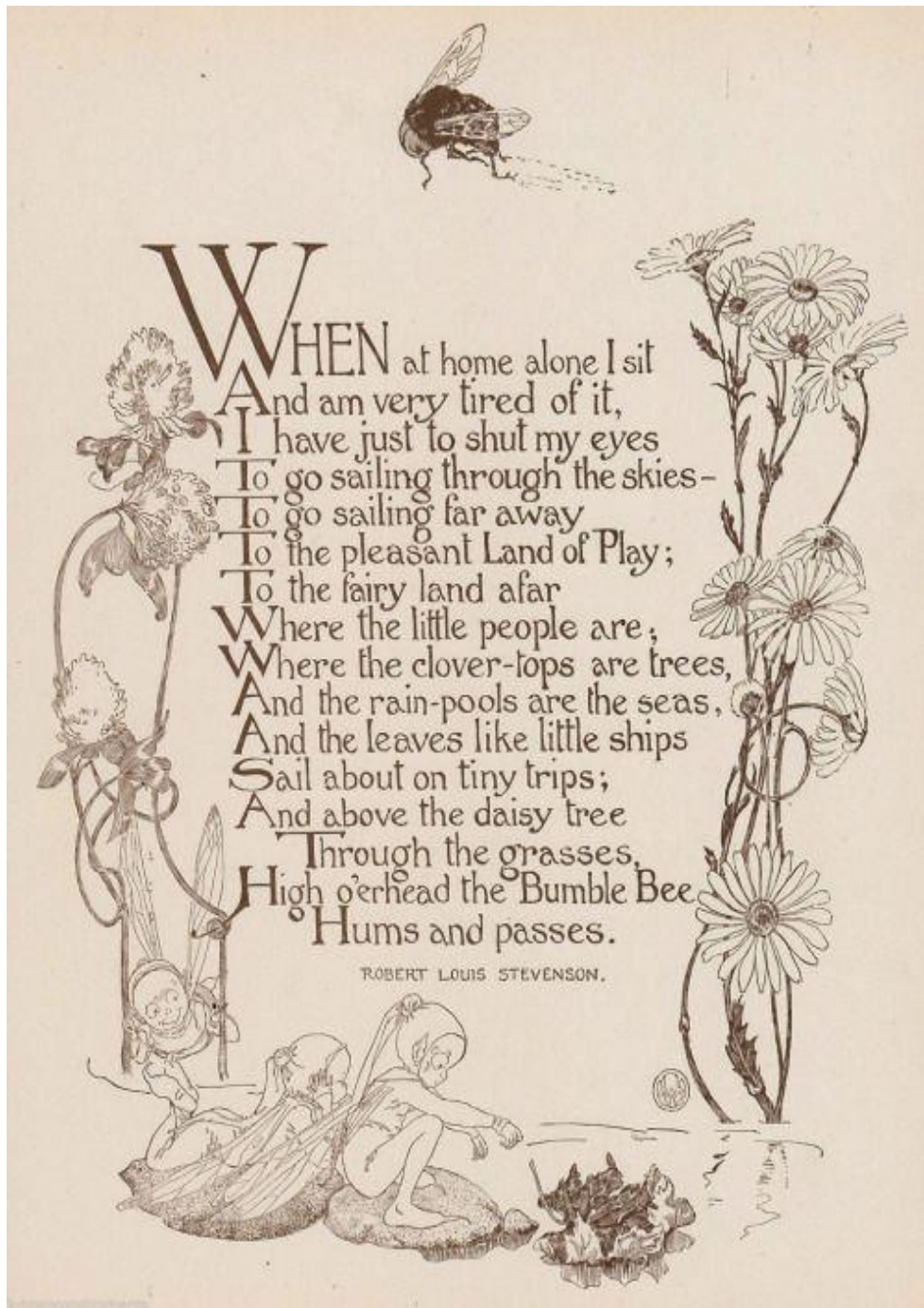
Willie had gone on a shopping spree with his mother, mainly to the Co-operative store who supplied a vehicle to take customers to buy their supplies. Willie and his mum visited a couple of shops before going into the Co-op where she got chatting to someone and when she looked round Willie wasn't there. She looked around the store and retraced her steps to the other shops she'd been in but he was nowhere to be seen. With a heavy heart she returned home and alerted her husband and a search party was set up.

In fact Willie had gone into a shop across from the Co-op for some sweets and when he came out his mother and the transport were gone. I guess the lad decided to try and walk home but became lost on the mountain. A sad end to two little boys.

Information from <http://daibach-welldigger.blogspot.com/2020/08/the-little-lost-boys-2-willie-llewellyn.html>



The Willie Llewellyn memorial on the Rhigos moorland.



## WARNING!!

Words women use.....

**FINE** - This is the word women use to end an argument when they are right and you need to shut up.

**FIVE MINUTES** - If she is getting dressed, this is half an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes if you have just been given 5 more minutes to watch the game before helping around the house.

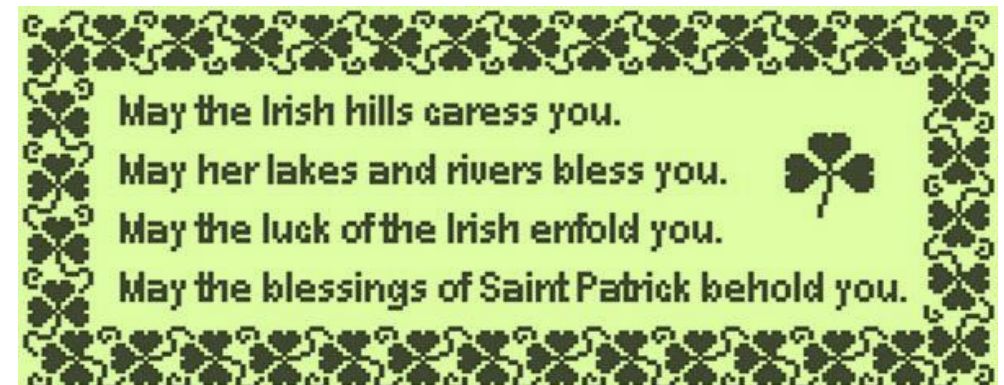
**NOTHING** - This is the calm before the storm. This means "something," and you should be on your toes. Arguments that begin with 'Nothing' usually end in "Fine."

**GO AHEAD** - This is a dare, not permission. Don't do it.

**LOUD SIGH** - This is not actually a word, but is a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A "Loud Sigh" means she thinks you are an idiot and wonders why she is wasting her time standing here and arguing with you over "Nothing."

**THAT'S OKAY** - This is one of the most dangerous statements that a woman can make to a man. "That's Okay" means that she wants to think long and hard before deciding how and when you will pay for your mistake.

**THANKS** - A woman is thanking you. Do not question it or faint. Just say you're welcome.



## Y Golofn Gymraeg (The Welsh Column)

### Y WHIBONOG OLAF

Ychydig o hanes Joni Bryn, Cefn Gorwydd

Gan John Davies, Llanwrtyd

Mae yn y tŷ yma lun o John Jones, bardd gwlad o ardal Cefn Gorwydd. Dyw e ddim yn llun da iawn, ond mae e'n dangos y dyn fel rwyf i'n ei gofio; dillad trwsiadus, tei, mwstach bach cwta a gwallt hir a thywyll fel y frân. Un tro fe ofynnodd i'm tad dorri ei wallt â'r gwelle. "Ond John bach" meddai 'Nhad, "fe gei di annwyd a hithe bron yn aea'." Mynnu wnaeth e serch hynny. Rwy'n cofio bod gyda fe dipyn o gefn crwca hefyd, ond dyw hwnnw ddim i'w weld yn y llun.

Ganwyd John Jones ym 1880. Roedd ei dad yn hanu o Sir Aberteifi a'i fam o Fyddfai, Sir Gâr. Daeth y teulu i fyw i fferm Tir Bach yn ymyl Tir Abad yn Llangamarch. Ac o Dir Bach symudon nhw i'r Bryn, fferm o tua 80 acer. Mae'r Bryn, neu Bryn Cadwgan a rhoi ei enw'n llawn, ryw filltir o bentre Cefn Gorwydd. Felly y cafodd ei enw – Joni Bryn – ar lafar gwlad.

Bu drwy ddiwygiad nerthol 1904. Yr oedd yn flaenor yng Nghapel Gosen, y Gorwydd. Ie - cwrdd gweddi a seiet yn yr wythnos, Ysgol Sul a phregethau di-ri ar y Sul – pethau hollol ddieithr i ni yn oes oleuedig Facebook a Twitter a Phobol y Cwm a llwybrau'r ysbryd yn wyrdd gan esgeulustod.

Bu farw ar yr 2il o Ragfyr, 1956 yn 76 mlwydd oed. Ar ei garreg fedd ym mynwent Gosen mae un llinell yn unig o englyn enwog Robert ap Gwilym Ddu. "Ddoe i neb ddaw yn ôl". Ac wrth sefyll ar ffald y Bryn, mae rhyw dristwch mawr yn dod o feddwl fod y rhan fwyaf o waith Joni Bryn – y bardd gwlad olaf yn yr ardal – wedi mynd yn angof llwyr. A beth am y cadeiriau a enillodd? Rwy'n gwybod iddo ennill cadair yn Eisteddfod Llanyrnymddyfri.

Dyma droi nawr at y gwaith sydd wedi aros: dau englyn ac ambell i bennill. Yn gyntaf, englyn fu'n fuddugol yn Eisteddfod Cefn Gorwydd ym 1935 ar y testun "Y Dderwen".

Am oesau yn wyrth mesen – urddasol,

A gwerdd iesin goeden,

Mawr ei bri, digymar bren

Ar ddôl yw'r ddurol dderwen.

Nid wyf yn hoffi'r gais "iesin" (hardd / tlws). Rwy'n tybied iddo ei lusgo i mewn oherwydd y gynghanedd. A dweud y gwir, heblaw'r drydedd linell, mae ôl straen mawr ar yr englyn. Llauer, llauer gwell yn fy meddwl i yw'r ail englyn i'r Gylfinir, neu'r Whibonog, fel y byddwn ni'n dweud:

Ymwelwr llwyd y moelydd – a'i foliant

Yn ogoniant gweunydd;

Ei chwiban mwyn yn swyn sydd

Uwch mawnog iach y mynydd.

Dyna englyn sy'n disgrifio'r aderyn i'r dim.

Mae ei liw a'i lun yn y llinell gyntaf, mae'n herald melys y gwanwyn yn yr ail, ac yn y drydedd (i fi, hon yw'r orau) rŷ' ni bron â chlywed ei sŵn cwynfannus. Wedyn ei drigfan yn y llinell glo: lle mynyddig, corsiog.

Mae'n englyn teilwng iawn o John Jones y bardd, ac efallai'n wir fod rhyw arwyddocâd pellach iddo erbyn hyn. Mae'r whibonog wedi diflannu o ardal Cefn Gorwydd, fwy neu lai. Ac mae rhywbeth llauer mwy trist yn digwydd hefyd. Pan oeddwn ni'n blant roedd y Gorwydd yn Gymreigedd hollol. Erbyn heddiw, rwy'n credu taw fy chwaer yw'r unig frodor â'r Gymraeg yn iaith gyntaf ar ei gwefusau.

#### **The Last Curlew**

*In this article, John Davies, Llanwrtyd – a native of Cefn Gorwydd - is anxious to keep alive the memory of John Jones, a 'bardd gwlad' (country poet) he remembers from his childhood. Known as Joni Bryn (after Bryn Cadwgan, the family farm) the poet's best surviving work is his 'englyn' (a richly descriptive but extremely concise, strict-metre poem) to the curlew – a bird that has all but disappeared now from its old Epynt habitat. To unlock the beauty of Joni Bryn's song to the curlew is as good a reason as any to learn Welsh and access the indigenous culture.*





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