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NEWSLETTER



Rhifyn/Edition 30

Awst/August 2021

Helô bawb/hello everyone

Could I start off this newsletter with an ask of you all please? Pat, who normally does our newsletter, has been facing some health problems and has been too poorly to be able to complete the August newsletter this month. So, firstly, my apologies if this isn't up to Pat's normal standard! Pat puts in a lot of time researching content for the newsletter, and has already put a lot of stuff together for me. Secondly, could you all keep Pat in your thoughts and wish her well, we all hope Pat can overcome her illness and make a good recovery!

Usually Llanwrtyd Wells would be hosting a series of weird and wonderful events throughout August, but due to current restrictions still in place, these have been cancelled for a second year in a row. Despite this, Llanwrtyd still has many wonderful places to see and visit, so head into the town and support the local businesses where possible!

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. Laura x

The Month of August

August is named after the first Roman emperor (and great nephew of Julius Caesar) Augustus Caesar (63B.C. – A.D.14) Augustus is a Latin word meaning Vulnerable, noble, and majestic.

August 8 is International Cat Day. Many of us have a feline friend that is a huge part of our lives, so this is a day to celebrate them being part of the family.

August 13 is National Prosecco Day! This is a new one on me, but if you need an excuse to have a glass of bubbly Prosecco, then here it is!

August 15 is VJ Day, Victory in Japan. Despite the war in Europe ending some 3 months earlier, the fighting in Japan raged on, at a heavy cost to both sides. The Allied forces told Japan to surrender on 26 July 1945, but the deadline passed and

Calon Lan - Rough Translation

Nid wy'n gofyn bywyd moethus, Aur y byd na'i berlau mân: Gofyn wyf am galon hapus, Calon onest, calon lân.

(Chorus)
Calon lân yn llawn daioni,
Tecach yw na'r lili dlos:
Dim ond calon lân all ganu
Canu'r dydd a chanu'r nos.

Pe dymunwn olud bydol, Hedyn buan ganddo sydd; Golud calon lân, rinweddol, Yn dwyn bythol elw fydd.

(Chorus)

Hwyr a bore fy nymuniad Gwyd i'r nef ar adain cân Ar i Dduw, er mwyn fy Ngheidwad, Roddi i mi galon lân.

(Chorus)

I don't ask for a luxurious life, the world's gold or its fine pearls, I ask for a happy heart, an honest heart, a pure heart.

(Chorus)

A pure heart full of goodness
Is fairer than the pretty lily,
None but a pure heart can sing,
Sing in the day and sing in the night.

If I wished for worldly wealth,
It would swiftly go to seed;
The riches of a virtuous, pure heart
Will bear eternal profit.

(Chorus)

Evening and morning, my wish
Rising to heaven on the wing of song
For God, for the sake of my Saviour,
To give me a pure heart.

(Chorus)

"Calon Lân" is a Welsh song, the words of which were written in the 1890s by Daniel James and sung to a tune by John Hughes. The song was originally written as a hymn, but has become firmly established as a rugby anthem, associated with the Welsh rugby union, being sung before almost every Test match involving the Welsh national team – though more likely to be heard sung at matches involving the Welsh football team in recent years. In 2007 the song was one of the traditional Welsh songs to make it to the screen in an S4C television series Codi Canu, an attempt to bring traditional four-part harmony choral singing back to the Welsh rugby terraces.

go iawn - Crug Du, Bryn y Garn, Drum Ddu a Chefn Trum yr Hwch ac ati - yno hefyd. Ond, i'w canfod, mae angen pwyll ac amynedd a phâr o lygaid da - ffordd y fyddin o gadarnhau eu statws o bŵer a pherchnogaeth.

Ond am ba hyd, tybed? Cyfres o farciau ar bapur yn unig yw eu map hwy. Er ein colled a'n galar, mae gennym ni fap amgenach. Map yr enwau. Map byw. Map sy'n cynnal hadau'r eirfa. Hadau sydd i'w hau eto, ryw ddydd.

IN THIS ARTICLE...

On the last day of June 1940, a Welsh-speaking community of 220 people living in 52 farmsteads was cleared off Epynt to make way for the British Army's training range. Predominant on the current area OS map are the army's made-up names, such as Gallows Hill, Larks Hill and Callibration Hill. But a closer inspection reveals the faint imprint of many of Epynt's indigenous names, such as Brynmelyn, Berthddu, Aberebwll, Gilfach-yr-Haidd, Gwybedog and very many more. What is striking about these names is how descriptive - indeed, poetically descriptive - they are of the landscape of which they were (and are) an inherent part. They are names that allow us to 'visit' and 'see' and 'hear' Epynt in all its natural diversity, even though access to the mountain is now so very limited. The names also live on in the memory of descendants of the evicted families - a memory that is surely a source of hope for a future not based on killing but discussion, co-operation, and collaborative endeavour - a return, that is, to the dynamic of community that was Epynt.



the fighting raged on. The end of the conflict came when U.S. forces dropped two atomic bombs. The Japanese city of Hiroshima was bombed on 6 August and the city of Nagasaki just 3 days later on 9 August. Around 214,000 people were killed in the bombings.

August 30 is the last bank holiday Monday before the Christmas period.

Leo - Leo is the fifth sign of the zodiac. These folks are impossible to miss since they love being centre stage. Making an impression is Job #1 for Leos, and when you consider their personal magnetism, you see the job is quite easy. Leos are an ambitious lot, and their strength of purpose allows them to accomplish a great deal. The fact that this horoscope sign is also creative makes their endeavours fun for them and everyone else.

It's quite common to see a Leo on stage or in Hollywood since these folks never shy away from the limelight. They are also supremely talented and have a flair for the dramatic. Warmth and enthusiasm seem to seep from every Leo pore, making these folks a pleasure to be around. They do love pleasure and being the centre of attention!

The Leo zodiac symbol is the Lion, named for the stellar constellation this sign corresponded to by the astrologers of the old world. The astrological symbol of the Lion goes back to Greek mythology, when it was associated with the Lion that



Heracles overcame in a heroic mythological battle. Since then, it is a symbol of victory, pride, and courage.

The constellation of Leo contains many bright stars, one of which is called Regulus, which means "the little king" and lends some of the magical and regal connotations to the Lion's sign. In Latin, Leo means

"lion", becoming the official name for this sign in western astrology through translations of ancient astrological texts.

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

Mum

I don't know that I've told you Mum,
How much I really care.
You've always said you loved me,
And I knew you would be there,
If I was ever feeling down,
Or needed extra love,
I know that I could count on you,
You were my gentle dove.

I will soon be moving forward,
But I'll be with my best mates.
They are the best of soldiers,
Once we step outside the gates.
They may no be the nicest men,
But I know they'll keep me safe.
They treat me like a little boy,
Their youngest half -trained waif.

So you don't need to worry Mum,
I'll be back before you know.
I promise I will write to you,
Or at least I'll have a go.
I will tell you how much I love you,
And how much I love our Dad.
Then I'll tell you how today has gone,
And the fun that we've all had.

By courtesy of the author Clive Sanders

Ond, fel y byddai lorwerth yn barod iawn i gyfaddef, yr oedd hyfywedd ei gof yn ddibynnol ar un elfen arall o'r gymdogaeth-a-fu na lwyddodd y fyddin ei lwyr ddileu, sef yr enwau. Nid na fu iddynt wneud eu gorau i'w gwaredu. Ben bore, 1 Orffennaf, 1940 dechreuodd y gynnau mawr danio. Roedd gan hyfforddwyr y fyddin ddigonedd o dargedau parod, sef yr holl ffermydd a thyddynod gwag. Chwalwyd crynswth y ffermdai yn llwyr ac yn hollol a'r cerrig yn cael eu defnyddio'n sail i'r ffyrdd a phontydd newydd a godwyd er cludo'r milwyr a'u tanciau i faes yr ymarfer lladd.

Ond rywsut, mae'r enwau wedi sefyll – rhai yn disgrifio'u statws (e.e. Neuadd Fach, Tir-bach, Tir-cyd, Croffte a Ma'rdy), rhai yn cadw cof am gymeriadau a fu (e.e. Ffynnon Dafydd Bifan a Beili Richard) ond y mwyafrif llethol yn dynodi eu perthynas organig â'r dirwedd.

Dewch. Gadewch i enwau'r mynydd ein tywys o gwmpas ei diroedd eang - ei drumiau a'i ddyffrynnoedd. Dewch. Ehedwn. Gwelwn...

Brynmelyn, Berth-ddu, Bwlch-gwyn, Cefn-bryn, Cefncyrnog, Ffrwd-wen, Rhyd-y-maen, Cefn-gwyn, Ynys-hir, Y Bwllfa, Abercyrnog, Abercriban, Aberysgir, Drain-duon, Dderw Fawr, Waun-fawr, Waun-lwyd, Brynmeheryn, Cwm-car, Glan-fraith, Blaentalar, Blaenegnant, Sychnant, Aberebwll, Llwyn-teg, Llwyn-coll, Llwyn-onn, Carllwyn, Hirllwyn, Graig, Carnau, Cefn-coch, Gelli-gaeth, Gythane, Llawrdolau, Ddôl-fawr, Pantmawr, Glan-dŵr, Ffos-yr-hwyaid, Gilfach-yr-haidd, Cefnioli, Gwybedog.

Dyma enwau byw y gymdogaeth goll.

Ar y map OS sydd â'r *Sennybridge Training Area* yn ganolbwynt iddo mae'r llinellau coch a glas yn dynodi'n glir iawn gymaint o ogledd sir Frycheiniog Gymraeg ei hiaith a ddygwyd oddi wrthym, bedwar ugain mlynedd yn ôl.

Tynodd yr athronydd Derrida ein sylw at y twyll a all ddigwydd wrth gyfosod geiriau megis 'gwyn' a 'du', 'dyn' a 'dynes'. Awgrymodd mai'r hyn a ddylwn sgwennu yw '**GWYN**' a 'du', '**DYN**' a 'dynes' am mai dyna sy'n cynrychioli statws gwirioneddol y naill a'r llall. Ar fap y fyddin, mae'r enwau *Gallows Hill, Larks Hill, Concrete Hill* a *Calibration Hill* ac ati wedi'u hargraffu mewn print trwchus, du. Mae llawer o'r enwau

Y Golofn Gymraeg (The Welsh Column)

Yr Epynt – Cymdogaeth farw. Enwau byw

Yn anad dim arall y mae iaith, medd y gwybodusion, yn storfa gwybodaeth arbenigol. Mae'n drysorfa ffordd-o-fyw a'i geirfa'n gasgliad o'r pethau mae pobl o'r un diwylliant yn sôn amdanynt.

Ar ddiwrnod olaf mis Mehefin, 1940, dinistriwyd y berthynas sylfaenol honno rhwng pobl yr Epynt, eu hiaith a'u ffordd o fyw. Y Chwalfa yw enw teuluoedd yr Epynt – y bobl a ddiwreiddiwyd - am ddinistr yr haf hwnnw – enw a ddaeth o galon y profiad catastroffig ei hunan.

A beth a chwalwyd? Cymdogaeth Gymraeg fyw. Cymdogaeth gref ag iddi 54 o ffermydd a 220 o drigolion. Bro'r 'cyd' os buodd un erioed. Cymdogaeth y cydweithio. Cyd-gynaeafu. Cyd-wnïo. Cyd-gneifo. Cyd-ladd-mochyn. Cydeisteddfota. Cyd-fwyta. Cyd-yfed. Cyd-addoli. Cyd-gwestiynu. Cyd-ddadlau. Cyddyheu. Ac, wrth gwrs, Cydymdeimlo a Chyd-lawenhau. Dyma rai o eiriau allweddol yr eirfa syml ond cyfoethog a ddiddymwyd a'r holl wybodaeth arbenigol – ganrifoedd ohono – a gollwyd pan chwalwyd diwylliant neilltuol Epynt.

Ond nid gallu absoliwt yw grym y Fyddin Brydeinig. Iorwerth Davies oedd yr ifancaf o saith o blant a fagwyd ar ffarm Gwybedog, nid nepell o Dirabad. Crwtyn ifanc, rhyw 15 oed, oedd e pan drowyd y teulu o'u cartref a'u bywoliaeth. 'Mae 'na un peth â nhw fyth oddi wrtho'i' medde fe yn ei henaint am y fyddin. 'Â nhw byth a'r cof am ga' Dan Tŷ, Gwybedog pan o'n ni'n blant. Byth.'

Person hael oedd Iorwerth a'i haelioni pennaf oedd rhannu'n rhad ac yn rhwydd o helaethrwydd ei gof. Yn ben storïwr roedd wrth ei fodd yn 'arwain' plant a phobl o bob oed ar daith o gyd-ddychymyg ar hyd y pymtheg milltir o ucheldir – y 30,000 erw sgwâr - a elwir yn Fynydd Epynt a Mynydd Bwlch-y-Groes. Ag yntau dros ei ddeg a phedwar ugain mlwydd oed fyddai ei gynulleidfaoedd yn dal i synnu a rhyfeddu ar rym ei gof – grym a brofodd yn drech na grym dinistriol y fyddin.

Llanwrtyd's History

"Llanwrtyd Wells grew from a tiny hamlet which was called Pont-rhyd-y-Fferau, translated as Bridge Over The Ankle Deep Ford. The hamlet was centred on the bridge which spanned the River Irfon.

Fame came to Llanwrtyd Wells in an unusual way with the discovery of the mineral waters in 1732. The then Vicar of St. David's church discovered the Wells at the Dol-Y-Coed Park, and seeing that a frog was alive and seemingly no worse for wear in the smelly waters, he decided to try the waters himself with the view of them helping his' scurvy'.

His condition improved so dramatically that he wrote an article on the healing properties of the Wells. Thus the popularity of the Wells grew, together with the development of the town where buildings and recreational facilities were built to cater for the increasing numbers of visitors to the Wells. It was at this time also that Pont-rhyd-y-Fferau changed its name to Llanwrtyd Wells.

There are many buildings which have historical interest within the town. The station was built c1868 when the trains began to run through Llanwrtyd Wells. Before this, the method of travel was a stage-coach route using the now A483.

The houses that were built were in the main three or four storeys high proving that they were purpose built for the Spa visitors. One shop in particular has claims to fame - Britannia - as it was here that Sosban Fach, the very famous rugby song was jointly composed by two visitors to the town, namely, Talog Williams and the Rev. D.M. Davies.

Victoria Wells was opened to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. It was the centre of numerous cultural events that took place in a large wooden hall in the grounds, this was erected by Penry Lloyd and his generosity was awarded with a fine monument in his memory following his death in 1913.

The Abernant Lake Hotel was built on the grounds of an old farm. The name was derived from the Welsh words mouth of the stream. The vast grounds include a lake which was created by damming of an ox-bow lake of the Irfon in 1903. The hotel still

was, and indeed still is self sufficient within their entertainment programme, and draws visitors from many parts of the globe.

Droving played an extremely important role in the people of Wales life from the 14th up to the 19th century. There was no direct route through Llanwrtyd Wells but many people were employed from the town and surrounding areas in the industry. The Drovers Walk is now one of the Green Events that take place each year in the Town.

Local Heroes

The town and surrounding area has had links with many famous names during its history. One such name was William Williams, who became Curate of Llanwrtyd and Abergwesyn under Theophilus Evans c1740. He became a convert to Methodism which brought some opposition and resulted in his expulsion from the church. He then followed a life of a travelling preacher and became one of the most famous hymn writers of his era, with his hymns still widely sung today.

John Penry was another famous Welshman. He caused much outrage following his criticisms of the state of religion in Wales in this period and was eventually executed in 1593. His home became a pilgrimage after his death and numerous poems were written in his memory." Written by Gordon Green from Llanwrtyd Wells.



The Burglar

The burglar went around the house,
Then found a window insecure.
He climbed in through the window,
And landed gently on the floor.
He looked around the living room,
That his small torch barely lit,
And he noticed lots of photographs,
Of a soldier fighting fit.

The burglar found some silverware,
And slipped it in his bag.
He found a row of medals,
Which he added to his swag.
He saw a few more photographs,
Of a soldier with a straight back,
Then he felt his head explode,
But he never heard the whack.

He woke up on a stretcher,
With a paramedic close at hand,
A policeman was talking to a man,
Whose back was straight and grand.
The policeman smiled as he took notes,
From the man with sun-tanned skin,
For the man still held his baseball bat,
And on his face a sardonic grin.

By kind permission of the author Clive Sanders

Bringing ultrafast broadband to Llanwrtyd Wells town and surrounding communities.

Working with Broadway Partners, an alternative fibre network provider, Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council has announced their support of a Community Project to bring full fibre broadband to the town and surrounding rural communities.

Making use of the UK Government's Rural Gigabit Voucher Scheme, the project will upgrade and future-proof internet connectivity in the town, bringing broadband speeds of up to 1000Mbps to hundreds of homes and businesses across the area.

Broadway Partners Wales Manager, Steve Ellis, says "We are proud to be working with Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council as we begin this essential project, to upgrade and future-proof the connectivity of communities across Powys. The digital divide has never been so stark as over the past eighteen months, and our commitment to reaching the 'final 5%' has only increased."

Jim Davies, Mayor and Chair of Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council, says: "Parts of Llanwrtyd, and especially the outlying districts, have a really poor Broadband service. Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council is very pleased to support this scheme. It would bring many benefits to residents, businesses and visitors to our area."

Tim Van-Rees, Powys County Councillor for Llanwrtyd Wells, says: "This initiative has my full support. Bringing good quality broadband to our rural communities is important not only for farms and other businesses, but also for anyone with schoolage children, anyone trying to work at home and anyone trying to keep in touch with friends and families who don't live nearby."

This project is currently in the initial planning stages, so there is no commitment at this point. However, in order to assess viability, residents are encouraged to register their interest by visiting broadwaybroadband.co.uk, or contact the Llanwrtyd Wells Town Council for further information.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Drivers Needed Locally and in Llandrindod Wells

Over recent years, Llandrindod Wells has been without a community car scheme, and LWCT have stepped in to help 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 need 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. Like 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 full 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. 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 for a Covid-19 Vaccination.

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 or on 01982 552727. If there is no answer, please leave your name and contact number and we will get back to you.

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**

