



Cludiant Cymunedol

Llanwrtyd Wells

Community Transport

NEWSLETTER



Rhifyn/Edition 38

Ebrill/April 2022

Helô bawb/hello everyone

I hope all is well with you and yours and you are getting ready for the Easter break. The weather has been much better if bitterly cold, so roll on the summer months when we can get out into the garden or countryside and enjoy the sun.

Here we go with our latest newsletter, and hopefully something to suit everyone. If there is anything you would particularly like included, please let me know.

As always I hope you find our latest offering interesting, and 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.dryden@lwct.org.uk. Blessings to you all

Cofion cynnes/kindest regards. Pat x

The Month of April

April being the fourth month of the year in the modern Gregorian calendar, and was known as April or Aprilis in Old English from its Latin names, Aprilis or Aperit, meaning to open. *[I wonder whether that's where aperitif comes from as that refers to the opening or beginning of a meal.]*

The Romans considered the month to be sacred to the goddess Venus and suggested that it was originally her month. In Greek the month was known as Aphro which was considered to be short for the goddess Aphrodite.

The Anglo Saxons called the month *ēastre-monap*, and the Venerable Bede (8th century) said that this month *ēastre* is the root of the word Easter. He considered that it was named after *Ēostre* or *Ōstara*, a pre Christian Germanic goddess of the dawn and spring.

Easter itself originated as a pagan festival, the hare, bunny and egg all representing spring, new life, and new beginnings etc.

Easter Sunday this year falls on April 17th. Easter and the preceding Holy Week is a moveable festival which takes place in March or April. Maundy Thursday is when the Last Supper took place, and the day priests of many churches wash the feet of members of their congregation in memorial of this happening to Jesus. This is

followed by Good Friday, the day Jesus was tortured and died on the cross at Calvary, followed by his body being wrapped in a shroud and placed in the tomb along with myrrh and other spices. Easter Sunday usually sees a Sunrise Service at 6am on the viewing area of the Epynt.

The Zodiac signs for April are Aries up to the 20th of the month, followed by Taurus.



Aries the Ram is the first sign of the Zodiac, it is a fire sign and its ruling planet is Mars. Aries is an energetic sign, bubbly, courageous, confident, and passionate. They love to be first with everything and are more than capable of multi-tasking and taking the lead, often before thinking things through properly.

On the negative side, Arians can be sulky and moody when things don't go their way. They can be impulsive, aggressive and will pal you out immediately should you challenge their judgement. They are most compatible with Libra and Leo signs.



Taurus the Bull is a fixed Earth sign and its ruler is Venus, the goddess of love. The strengths of Taureans makes them reliable, devoted, responsible and stable, however, on the negative side they can be stubborn, possessive and uncompromising. They are most compatible with Scorpio and Cancer signs. Lucky numbers for Taurus are 2, 6, 9, 12, and 24.

April's birth flowers are the daisy, which means innocence, purity and loyal love, and sweet pea which means blissful pleasure and thank you for a lovely time. The birthstone for April is the diamond which symbolizes innocence.



Hope you've found all this interesting.

Happy Easter blessings to you all. Pat x

Other April Traditions and Celebrations

April 1st, **April Fool's Day** is a day for playing pranks on unsuspecting people, but they must all be over by noon. The current tradition dates back to 16 century France when the beginning of the New Year was originally observed as April 1st.

April 5th, **John Stow Ceremony**. Every three years the Lord Mayor of London places a new quill into the hand of John Stow at the Church of St Andrews

Undershaft, Leadenhall, London. The ceremony next takes place in 2023. John Stow is celebrated for his survey of London, a unique record of the city before the Great Fire.

April 23rd, **St George's Day**, patron Saint of England.

April 23rd, **William Shakespeare Celebrations**, Stratford Upon Avon. The most famous of all English playwrights was born in 1564 and died on St George's Day 1616.

Mid-April, **Kate Kennedy Procession** has a history dating back to the middle of the 19th century when it began as a student riot. Kate was the niece of Bishop James Kennedy, Kate's name being on the bell at St Salvador's College which was cast in 1460. Other than this little is known about her.



May 1st marks the victory of spring over winter, but the night from April 30th to May 1st is also called **Walpurgis Night**. Walpurgis is the name of the woman who was born, probably in Britain around 710AD. The name suggests a Celtic, German or even Scandinavian background. She travelled to Germany and founded the Heidenheim Catholic Convent where she became Abbess. She died in 779 and was made a saint on May 1st that year. She also became associated with the pagan Viking spring fertility. It is celebrated across Europe with tolling of bells and prayers to drive out evil spirits.

***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.*

Volunteer Opportunities



There are many benefits for both volunteer and organisation in securing voluntary help. Some of the main advantages are to make new friends and get into company. It is good to have voluntary work on your CV if you're applying for employment, and is essential if you are planning to apply for a place at University. For organisations such as ours, volunteers are essential as we would not be able to provide services to members at a reduced and affordable rate, so come along and join our happy band. To find out more with absolutely no obligation, speak to Laura on 01982 552727.

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.

Admin and Social Media

We are also looking for one or two volunteers who are interested in designing and producing leaflets and posters as required, plus assistance with the monthly newsletter. We also want someone who can keep our Facebook and Twitter accounts up to date

Covid-19 Vaccinations and Boosters

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 or for their follow up booster.



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 immensely proud to have been able to help in the highly 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.

Event Recycling

We are getting busy on the event recycling front and hope to have some up and coming events. Wonderwool is booked for the end of April as is the Smallholding and Countryside Festival towards the end of May, and we hope to be successful in applying for the Welsh Kennel Club Dog Show in August and the Antiques Fairs in May and September. We are also providing bins for Presteigne carnival, as well as Man v Horse and the bog snorkelling in Llanwrtyd later in the year. It's essential for us to apply and be successful for these shows as it raises much needed income, which has been missing due to lockdowns etc.

5 Stages of a Woman's Life:

- To grow up
- To fill out
- To slim down
- To hold it in
- To hell with it



St David's Day Coffee Morning

The coffee morning took place on Saturday February 26th in the Llanwrtyd and District Heritage and Arts Centre. The morning was a success, and below are some photographs. Sincere thanks to everyone who offered support for the event.



Metal Micky

My dear friend Metal Micky is a really special mate,
Who liked to ride his motorbikes at a speed lots more than great.
But he's had a few bad injuries and now has metal parts galore,
In fact he's got more stainless steel than anyone before.

He's got plates inside his cranium to repair his fractured skull,
He's got bolts inserted in his legs that we hope will never dull.
His knees are both replacements for they could not take the strain
And his arms have metal pins in them from when he hit that train.

But he's still got his sense of humour, which is why he's still my mate,
We laugh at all his metal jokes like the head's just metal plate.
And yesterday he made me laugh when he showed me just for fun
If he walks by his Smart Meter his central heating switches on.

By kind permission of the author Clive Sanders. Clive has written his third book, Military Verse Part 3. Clive also donates a proportion of the cost of the books to Military charities, so yet another reason to offer your support.

Clever Book Titles

How to Write Big Books by Warren Peace

The Lion Attacked by Claude Yarmoff

The Art of Archery by Beau N Arrow

Songs for Children by Barbara Blacksheep

I Was a Cloakroom Attendant by Mahatma Coat

I Lost My Balance by Eileen Dover and Phil Down

Mystery in the Barnyard by Hu Flung Dung
Irish Heart Surgery by Angie O'Plasty

Desert Crossing by I Rhoda Camel

School Truancy by Marcus Absent

Positive Reinforcement by Wade Ago

Shhh! By Danielle Soloud

The Philippine Post Office by Imelda Letter

Things to Do at a Party by Bob Frapples

Stop Arguing by Xavier Breath

St David, Patron Saint of Wales

St David was born in the year 500, the grandson of Ceredig ap Cunedda, King of Ceredigion. According to legend, his mother St Non gave birth to him on a [Pembrokeshire](#) clifftop during a fierce storm. The spot is marked by the ruins of [Non's Chapel](#), and a nearby holy well is said to have healing powers.



*St Non's Chapel
Ruins, Pembrokeshire*



St David's Cathedral

St David became a renowned preacher, founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Brittany and southwest England – including, possibly, the abbey at Glastonbury. St David reputedly made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, from which he brought back a stone that now sits in an altar at St David's Cathedral, built on the site of his original monastery.

St David and his monks followed a simple, austere life. They ploughed the fields by hand, rather than using oxen, and refrained from eating meat or

drinking beer. St David himself was reputed to have consumed only leeks and water – which is perhaps why the leek became a national symbol of Wales.

The most famous miracle associated with St David took place when he was preaching to a large crowd in Llanddewi Brefi. When people at the back complained that they could not hear him, the ground on which he stood rose up to form a hill. A white dove, sent by God, settled on his shoulder.

St David died on 1 March – St David's Day - in 589. He was buried at the site of [St David's Cathedral](#), where his shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. His last words to his followers came from a sermon he gave on the previous Sunday: 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do.' The phrase 'Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd' - 'Do the little things in life' - is still a well-known maxim in Wales.



Mirror, Mirror

Mirror, mirror on the wall, it doesn't matter if I'm short or tall,

If I have skinny legs or my hips are wide,

It only matters who I am inside.

Blue eyes, brown eyes, black or green,

What makes me beautiful can't be seen.

When you look at me don't judge me by my parts.

The most beautiful thing about me is my heart.



Ukraine Disaster Appeal

For anyone wanting to support the above appeal, there are many businesses who are donating their profits, for example, Shades of Green Victorian Shop in Llanwrtyd Wells. Also raffle tickets are on sale at Llangammarch Wells Post Office at £1 per strip for a lucky



He draw which will take place in Garth Hall on Thursday April 7th at a special Bingo evening 7.30pm. Come on folks, dig deeply for this very worthy cause.

Augusta Hall, Baroness Llanover

Augusta Waddington was born 21st March 1802 and was a Welsh heiress, best known as a patron of the Welsh arts. She was born near Abergavenny, the youngest daughter of Benjamin Waddington of Ty Uchaf, Llanover and his wife, Georgina Port. She was the heiress to the Llanover estate in Monmouthshire, where she and her sisters were raised and educated by their mother.

In 1823 she married Benjamin Hall, later Baron Llanover (1802–1867). Their marriage joined the large South Wales estates of Llanover and Abercarn. Benjamin Hall was for some years Member of Parliament for Monmouth, but transferred to a London seat just prior to the Newport Rising which brought with it a turbulent time in Monmouthshire. He was created a baronet in 1838, and entered the House of Lords in 1859 under Prime Minister Palmerston as Baron Llanover. "Big Ben" at the Palace of Westminster, is said to have been named after him, as he was Commissioner of Works in 1855 when it was built.

In 1828, the couple commissioned Thomas Hopper to build Llanover Hall for them. It was designed as a kind of arts centre as well as a family home.

Lady Llanover was greatly influenced by the local bard, Thomas Price, whom she met at a local Eisteddfod in 1826. Carnhuanawc taught her the Welsh language; she took the bardic name "*Gwynynen Gwent*", ('the bee of Gwent'). She became an early member of *Cymreigyddion y Fenni* (Abergavenny Welsh Society). Her Welsh was never considered fluent but she was an extremely enthusiastic proponent of all things Welsh. She structured her household at Llanover Hall on what she considered to be Welsh traditions and gave all her staff Welsh titles and Welsh costume to wear.

Augusta Hall, Lady Llanover was responsible for creating the traditional image of Welsh costume with the hat, petticoat and bedgown. She argued in her essay for the eisteddfod in 1834 that Welsh women should wear traditional clothing. According to her, clothing from Welsh wool was more practical as it is suitable for all weathers.

Her husband shared her concern for the preservation of the heritage of Wales, and campaigned for the Welsh to be able to hear church services conducted in the Welsh language.



Y Golofn Gymraeg (The Welsh Column)

Esgair Moel

Mae gen i briodas i fynd iddi ym mis Mehefin. Mae merch un o'm ffrindiau ysgol yn priodi. Mae'n byw yn Rugby erbyn hyn ac rydw i wedi bod yn pendroni am beth i brynu'n anrheg. Penderfynais o'r diwedd ar rywbeth o felin wlân enwog Tregwynt. A dyna dechrau meddwl: sut mae'r felin hon wedi goroesi tra bod eu crynswth wedi hen ddarfod.

Yn y gyfrol Crwydro Brycheiniog, mae Alun Llywelyn-Williams yn dweud fod y ffordd o Lanwrtyd i'r Gorwydd yw 'ymwyaf sgrigar a throfaus yng Nghymru'. Ryw hanner ffordd rhwng y naill le a'r llall, ar lan afon Cledan ac yn ymyl y ffordd nadryddol hon y safai ffatri wlân enwog arall, sef ffatri Esgair Moel. Bum mlynedd wedi'i chau yn 1947, ail-godwyd y ffatri ar dir Amgueddfa Werin Cymru yn Sain Ffagan. Adeiladwyd y ffatri gyntaf tua'r flwyddyn 1760 ac fe'i hestynwyd yn ystod y 19eg ganrif. Tua 1839 gosodwyd spinning jack ynddi, o waith John Davies, Llanbryn-mair. Gwaith oes lorwerth Peate oedd creu amgueddfa fyddai'n dathlu crefft, crefftwyr a ffordd-o-fyw gwerin gwlad. Wrth ail-godi'r ffatri yn Sain Ffagan sicrhodd y byddai'r spinning jack a gweddill yr offer arbenigol yn cael eu rhoi ar waith unwaith eto. Diolch i'w weledigaeth y mae ffatri Esgair Moel yn dal i droi gwlân y mynydd a'r moelydd yn ddillad a charthenni gwbl Gymreig eu crefft a'u hansawdd.

Pinacl cynhyrchiant melinoedd gwlân Cymru oedd y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf, yn bennaf yn sgîl y galw mawr am garthenni a lifrai ar gyfer y milwyr. Ond, fel sy'n digwydd yn aml ar ddiwedd cyfnod o ryfela, wedi'r llewyrch daeth dirwasgiad. Yn ôl yr hanesydd Geraint Jenkins, fisoedd yn unig wedi'r cadoediad roedd pris gwlân wedi disgyn o bedair swllt a chwe ceiniog y pwys i namyn 9 ceiniog y pwys! Yn 1916, roedd crysau fflanel yn gwerthu am dros ddwy bunt y dwsin. Erbyn 1923 1916 yn gwerthu am goron (tua 25c) yn unig.

Yn sgîl y cwmp echrydus yn y prisie daeth cwmp echrydus yng nghyflogau'r gweithwyr. Er mwyn cynnal eu teuluoedd doedd gan ganran fawr o'r gweithwyr ddim dewis ond ymadael â chefn gwlad a cheisio gwaith mwy proffidiol yng nghymoedd y de neu yn Lloegr. Dyma ddechrau tranc y ffatrioedd gwlân – tranc a oedd yn anorfod wrth i'r gost o'u cynnal a'u cadw heb sôn am uwchraddio'r peiriannau fynd yn drech. Am gyfnod llwyddodd nifer ohonynt oroesi â help crefft a dyfeisgarwch y gof lleol.

Erbyn heddi, wrth gwrs, mae'r crefftwr hwn hefyd wedi prinhau'n ddirfawr wrth i gefn

gwlad Cymru, megis gweddill y byd gorllewinol, fabwysiadu'r arfer o brynu-a-thaflu yn hytrach na chynnal-a-chyweirio. Bellach, mae'r byd wedi dechrau wynebu pa mor ddinistriol, gwastraffus a pheryglus yw'r ffordd gyfoes hon o fyw. Ond, o gofio mai grym naturiol afon Cledan a yrrai beiriannau Esgair Moel gynt, tybed a yw'r rhod ar fin troi unwaith eto?

Carthen wreiddiol wedi'i nyddu a'i gweu â llaw o Felin Wlân Esgair Moel. Lliwiau naturiol cynnes mewn edafedd dwy haenen drom â'r streipiau'n rhedeg ar hyd y brethyn.



Diolch i www.welshblankets.co.uk am y llun

The old woollen mill at Esgair Moel on the Llanwrtyd to Gorwydd Road was moved the National Museum of History, St Fagans in 1949 and re-opened in 1952. It still produces traditional shoulder shawls and blankets (above) using the original spinning jack made by John Davies of Llanbryn-mair.

Ysgrifenydd gan/Written by Eleri Lewis

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