



Read all about us!!

Celebrating 20 years
continuous service to
the local community

20

ANNIVERSARY



Llanwrtyd Wells Community Transport Ltd:
and Events Recycling



August 2022



Llanwrtyd Wells Community Transport (LWCT)Ltd: and Events Recycling

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of this voluntary 'not for profit' organisation, we thought it might be useful for you to learn something about the services we provide and how we've changed over the years to be the successful group we are today

We provide the collection and delivery of shopping, prescriptions, and pre ordered take away food for vulnerable members of our local communities thanks to our wonderful Volunteer Drivers. We also provide a service to residents needing to attend medical appointments both near and far, and currently some of our journeys can be provided free of charge due to some grants we have received and are extremely grateful for. We have a wheelchair accessible vehicle for members who cannot access an ordinary vehicle.

We have a Shopping Bus Service where members email or phone in their order and we can collect several people's order at the same time, using local supermarkets and local shops. The driver and assistant then sort and deliver the goods to individuals.

We provide mini bus hire, with or without a driver, so if you are taking a party somewhere please enquire about prices for hire.

We arrange outings to somewhere of interest during the summer months, and most recently have visited Myddfai Farmers Market, Ystrad Nurseries and the Alpacas, The Thomas Shop at Pennybont, Three Cocks Garden Centre etc.



To become self-funding, the company branched out and registered as a professional dealer/broker of controlled waste. It has been responsible for providing waste management and recycling at most of the events at the Royal Welsh Showground including Wonderwool, Smallholding Festival and the Winter Fair to name but a few, also smaller local events and celebrations. We can provide this service for your local carnival, street party or fête.



We work closely with Powys County Council to provide some of the transport for students to attend school including students with special needs. These are essential roles as they help to subsidise our other transport services.

The initial aim of the project, that became operational in 2002, was to provide transport for all age groups, because public transport is somewhat limited in this area.



In mid-2020 we had the opportunity of renting the Lion Yard in Builth Wells. These are super premises big enough to house our vehicles, provide garage space for repairs and maintenance, a place to store all our recycling bins, and office space.

Coupled with the beginning of the Covid-19 virus and the restrictions on movement that were operational at that time, as you might imagine, the move was a mammoth task, but well worth it.

Our Management Group

I thought it might be nice to introduce you to our management group. We don't feel the necessity for a Managing Director; we are quite able to make decisions by discussion and majority agreement. Contact details for us all are on the back page, so if you have any suggestions, complaints or compliments please make contact with one of us and we'll be pleased to speak to you about whatever it is and hopefully change things for the better.

If you aren't a member of LWCT already, why not consider joining us. All it involves is completing a form with your contact details. I promise you won't be pestered for anything, but it will have benefits like regular outings during the summer months, and of course shopping and medical appointments, so please come along and join us.

Laura Burns – General Manager

I am currently General Manager of the organisation and oversee the day to day running of the transport side and I also deal with the event recycling arm of the organisation. I work closely with the board of directors to ensure the organisation is compliant, efficient and carries out its core purposes in the community'. I also deal with the finances and grant applications along with Stephen.

'After 15 years working with a breakdown and recovery firm, I started with LWCT as a driver/escort for an ALN school run in October 2011. I started doing some part-time admin

work for the organisation and eventually left the school run to do this full time. I passed my Transport Managers CPC in April 2014 and passed ILM Level 2 Leadership and Management in December 2017.

Pat Dryden – Company Director, HR and Newsletter Editor

I first became involved with LWCT in February 2019 when I offered to do some voluntary admin work for the company. I became a Company Director in August of that year, and I am now responsible for writing the monthly newsletter, some HR issues and many other things along with my fellow directors.



Before moving from South Yorkshire where my two sons still live, I worked for 20 years as Day Care Services Manager for Age Concern where I managed 400 day care places a week and line managed around 40 paid and voluntary staff. I am also interested in holistic therapies and have a diploma with credits in Anatomy, Physiology and Massage, 2nd degree Reiki Healing, qualifications in Indian Head Massage and Stress Management, plus several CAT points in Aromatherapy.

Since coming to Wales I have been Senior After-school Club Leader at Ysgol Dôlafon, Town Clerk to Llanwrtyd Wells TC, HR Advisor for Powys Teaching Health Board, Admin Person to Llanwrtyd and District Heritage and Arts Centre.

I am extremely grateful and feel very humble by the way I have been welcomed by local people, and it is my pleasure to give back as much as I can to the area.



Stephen Hawkes – Company Director and Compliance Officer

Most of this time (32 years), I was a Local Government Internal Auditor, and for the last 6 years of my working life, I was an Asset Compliance Manager.

My extended family includes members who live in the UK – Worcester, Cardiff & Rugby – whilst some live as far away as Bali and Thailand.



Originally a volunteer support worker for Llanwrtyd Wells Community Transport (almost since its inception), I am now a

member of staff, undertaking bookkeeping duties and reviewing business activities as the company's Compliance Officer.

I was invited to become a Company Director in May 2020. I was employed in the public service sector, all my working life, firstly, in my native Suffolk, where I lived until I was 27. In 1978 my family moved to Llandrindod Wells, where I still live

Outside of work, I am keen on DIY, fishing and sailing. As a registered first-aider, I also enjoy supporting many of the “unusual” off-road, competitive & sporting events, for which Mid-Wales is famous. Along with first aid colleagues, I also enjoy supporting Community Shows, Fairs and Family Fun Days.

David Harrison – Company Director and Webmaster

I first volunteered at LWCT in December 2019 and have put my information technology skills to good use in ‘improving’ the organisation’s website. In November 2020 I totally redesigned the website on the new domain LWCT.org.uk which is much shorter and easier than the old one. I was asked to become a Company Director, a position I was pleased to accept. I believe the services provided by LWCT are so essential in this area and the organisation does its job

well. I am currently helping to develop a Welsh-language Action Plan.

I have moved around the UK, being born in Yorkshire, lived in Buckinghamshire, Kent, Leicestershire, and finally moving to Llanwrtyd Wells for the peace and the beauty. Fortunately, I was able to retire early, although I still run my own business partnership part-time. In my career I have worked for two very large, multi-national companies, starting out as a “Data Scientist”, in 1985, before many people were familiar with that job title. My career was in managing data, supporting complex mission-critical IT systems, and managing teams. Something that you may not expect: I have two pilots licences (fixed-wing and helicopter) – I don’t think LWCT will be establishing an air-transport offering, just yet, it would be great though?

Lee Shurey – Company Director

I had quite a long journey to joining LWCT in early 2021 having previously lived and worked in the Middle East and Far East for the past 20 plus years.



The majority of my career was spent in the Employee Group Benefits arena, initially as Regional Director of a well-known Bank, which is how I came to the area in the mid-1990s, before my career took me overseas. Prior to returning to the UK in 2019 I held various senior management positions including: CEO of a publicly listed health-insurance company in Saudi Arabia, CEO of a Qatar health-insurance company, and Insurance Executive of a major Qatari bank.

My family has accompanied me on this journey and consequently I believe the life lessons learnt from living and working amongst so many cultures are just as valuable as the business lessons. It is this combination of experiences that I hope will help me bring some benefit to LWCT.

Kathryn Brooks – Company Director

I have lived in many parts of the UK before settling in Beulah in 2020, drawn by the beautiful countryside and with a desire to become part of the local community. I have also worked in a number of areas, and with my professional training as a social worker have worked as a practitioner, manager and senior leader in a number of settings.

I am currently Chair of Trustees for a homeless charity in Birmingham and significantly involved with two other charities; Accessibility Powys (a local disabled persons’ organisation) and Hope and Aid Direct (who collect and deliver humanitarian aid).



We decorated, re-carpeted, built an office area within the building and generally made the building 'ours' and somewhere we can welcome callers. Working to this end has made us as an organisation much stronger and we are extremely proud that we were able to sustain the project despite all the adversity.

We would like to thank all our Members and Volunteers for their support, and would like to assure people that if we can assist in any way at all they just need to let us know.

For further details or to arrange to use any of our services, please make contact with Laura Burns, General Manager on 01982 552727 or at office@lwct.org.uk or for shopping please call John McMahon on 07956 091242. Why not take a look at our website which is packed with information, not only about our services, but local scam warnings, monthly newsletters etc. at www.lwct.org.uk

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