

Prosiect Cludiant Cymunedol Llanwrtyd



Llanwrtyd Wells Community Transport Project

NEWSLETTER

Edition 11

January 2020

Hi everyone

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas, and I wish you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

I thought I'd make mention of Dydd Santes Dwynwen (St Dwynwen's Day) which falls on January 25th. Legend has it that St Dwynwen is the Welsh patron saint of lovers. She lived in the 5th century and was purported to be the prettiest daughter of Welsh King Brychan Brycheiniog. Brychan had 24 daughters and 12 sons (although numbers vary in different reports).

Dwynwen fell in love with Maelon Dafodrill and he with her, however her father wouldn't give permission for them to marry as he had already agreed for her to marry someone else. Distraught she ran into the woods and was visited by an angel who Dwynwen asks for help to forget Maelon. The angel gave Dwynwen a sweet potion to help her forget, but this also turned Maelon into a block of ice.

Realising that Maelon couldn't help his love for her, Dwynwen prayed to God and he granted her three wishes. Her first wish was that Maelon be thawed, her second was that God makes the hopes and wishes of all true lovers come to fruition, and her third wish was that she should never marry.

God granted her the three wishes and as a thank you to Him, Dwynwen devoted the rest of her life to God by becoming a Nun. Dwynwen went to live in a convent on Llanddwyn Island, off the western coast of Ynys Mon (Anglesey), an area accessible only at low tide.

There is a smaller island too containing a fresh-water spring called Ffynnon Dwynwen (Dwynwen's Well), which became a wishing well and place of pilgrimage, particularly for lovers because of the story above. The tradition grew that the sacred fish in the well could foretell the future for lovers – ask questions and watch which

way the fish turn. All this led to her connection with animals, which eventually led to the tradition that her intercession could heal injured animals.



Dwynwen died in 465AD, but there are churches dedicated to her in Wales and Cornwall, and her well continues to be a place of pilgrimage.

Chinese New Year or Spring Festival

This celebration also falls on the same date in 2020 as St Dwynwen's Day, January 25th so begins the 'Year of the (White Metal) Rat'.

The Rat is the first of all Chinese zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order in the zodiac would be determined by the order in which they arrived at his party.

The Rat tricked the Ox into giving him a ride. Then, just as they arrived at the finish line, Rat jumped down and landed ahead of Ox, becoming first.

The Rat is associated with the midnight hours, and in the terms of yin and yang, the Rat is yang (male) and represents the beginning of a new day. In Chinese culture,



rats were seen as a sign of wealth and surplus, and because of their reproduction rate, married couples also prayed to them for children.

Rats are clever, quick thinkers; optimistic and energetic, people born in the Rat year are likable by all. They are sensitive to other's emotions but are stubborn with other's opinions. Their personality is kind, but due to weak communication skills, their words may seem impolite and rude.

On the financial side, they like saving and can be quite mean, however, their love for hoarding will sometimes cause them to waste money on unnecessary things.

Blessings to you all

Pat

Local Events

January 11th, World Mountain Bike Chariot Racing

February 1st, Lord Crawshaw Walk

Christmas Tree Festival

Well we didn't win but our tree looked wonderful as did all the trees in the festival, so I hope you managed to pop into church and take a peek.

We are going to take it down on Friday January 3rd, but I would like to say a huge big thank you to Mary, Ella and Sue for making or purchasing ornaments for the tree and for giving their time to dress the tree and make it look so lovely. I'd also like to say thank you to everyone involved for being so helpful and getting the tree for us.



Llanwrtyd Wells Volunteer Bureau

Michiel Brees from PAVO and I are going to meet with some local voluntary groups in the Heritage Centre on Tuesday January 21st to explain about the benefits of putting their volunteering opportunities onto the website.

If you are a member of a voluntary group in this area, please email me or give me a call if you would like to attend this meeting too. We are covering the whole surrounding area including Builth Wells and are not just confined to Llanwrtyd, so please consider coming along and getting more information. For further details please email Pat Dryden at llanwrtydcommunitycentre@gmail.com or phone on 01982 552727.

Michiel and I are also going along to the afternoon assembly at Builth High School to explain to the students the benefits in volunteering for their CVs and applications for places at University. Our visit is on Wednesday January 22nd and we look forward to answering student's questions and advising how we can help them to gain work experience.

Music, Music, Music

On December 6th we went to the Wyeside Theatre in Builth to see A Celtic Christmas with Calan, an internationally award winning band from Wales. They are five young people who have been playing together since 2006. They played a variety of musical instruments and sang an eclectic array of songs, some in Welsh some in English. They were extremely good and well worth listening to. They have a website and have made several albums, so worth looking up if you like traditional Welsh and Irish folk music.

On Thursday December 12th we were fortunate enough to have Mairead Matthews to play keyboard for us. We had Christmas song sheets, plus some musical instruments loaned to us by Jacquie Brown who was there with her friend Annis Jones and treated us to three lovely duets. It was great to see everyone joining in the singing, the weather was atrocious but indoors the atmosphere was cosy. We hope that the ladies will come and entertain us again later in the year



Mairead, Jacque and Annis



Steph, Christabel and Beatrice



On Saturday December 14th we went for Christmas Afternoon Tea at the Caer Beris Manor. There were 20 of us and I have to say the afternoon was excellent. There was a wonderful array of festive goodies, copious amounts of tea and coffee, the bar was open and the staff couldn't do enough for us. Builth Male Voice Choir were there and were in excellent voice as always, and once more we were invited to sing along to some Christmas carols



Mists and Spiders Webs

Moist morning mists linger in bed then rise as the sun peeps through.

Queen Anne's lace adorns the hedgerows dressed in silvery dew.

Sorrowful swallows swooping, awaiting their final farewell,

Rich red Rowans drooping under the weight of their fruitful fell.

The reaper reaps his harvest whilst silhouetted by the moon,

The fruition of this autumnal month dries up far too soon.

From 'Oh to be Irish' by Sue Lewandowska



LCT Heart of Wales Coffee Club

Just a reminder that we are open each Tuesday and Thursday between 10.30am and 1pm you can be assured of a very warm welcome. We are particularly keen to get some board games going, especially on Tuesdays, so if this appeals to you, please come on down.

On Thursday January 23rd at 11am we have a speaker. Rob Thomas, one of the trustees with the heritage centre has very kindly agreed to come along and talk to us about the Coming of the Railway. Rob is bringing a projector and screen and it should be a very interesting talk, so do put that in your diary.

The club is for all age groups and for anyone from the surrounding areas. Don't forget also that if you live within a two mile radius of the centre we can supply free transport if it's difficult for you to get to us.

For further details about the centre or red Kite Credit Union, please leave a message for **Sue Williams on 01591 610789**. To take up the offer of free transport, please call **John on 07956 091242**.

Transport

If you need to attend a medical appointment, visit the vet with a beloved pet, go on a shopping spree, or visit family and friends, then why not enquire about our volunteer driver scheme? We can also provide mini bus hire if you and a party of friends/colleagues need to go somewhere. Remember, our services are for all age groups, so make contact if you think we can help and you would like a quote.

We cannot thank our drivers enough, particularly the ones who use their own vehicles, for providing such a flexible, caring and professional service, thank you one and all.

If you would like to use the services of our volunteer drivers, or enquire about mini bus hire, please contact **Laura Burns on 01982 552727 or 07767 771489**.

If I Knew By Dawn Marie Huddleston

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep
I would tuck you in more tightly, and pray the Lord, your soul to keep.
If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door
I would give you a hug and kiss, and call you back for one more.

If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise,
I would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day.
If I knew it would be the last time I could spare an extra minute
to stop and say "I love you," instead of assuming you would know I do.

If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day,
Well I'm sure you'll have so many more so I can let just this one slip away.
For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight,
and we always get a second chance to make everything just right.

There will always be another day to say "I love you,"
And certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do?"
But just in case I might be wrong and today is all I get,
I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope we never forget.

Tomorrow is not promised to anyone young or old alike,
And today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.
So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today?
For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day,
that you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss
and you were too busy to grant someone what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today and whisper in their ear,
Tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear
Take time to say "I'm sorry", "Please forgive me", "Thank you", or "It's okay!",
and if tomorrow never comes you'll have no regrets about today.

Shoppa Bus Timetable

Builth Wells each Monday

Llandrindod Wells first Friday of each month

Llandovery second Friday of each month

Brecon third Thursday of each month

Carmarthen last Wednesday of each month

Builth Wells and Llandrindod Wells alternate Fridays (call office for details)

Current scale of charges are as follows:

Destination:	Collection from Llanwrtyd Wells:	Collection from Llangammarch Wells
Builth Wells	£7.50	£6.50
Llandrindod Wells	£8.50	£7.50
Llandovery	£6.00	£7.00
Brecon	£9.75	£9.00
Carmarthen	£11.25	£12.00

If you would like to use the Shoppa Bus service please call **John on 07956 091242**.

Events Recycling



We covered the Royal Welsh Winter Fair which on November 25th and 26th, and Laura tells me we shifted 15.01 tonnes of waste from the site. We look forward to working with other event operators during 2020, as the money raised from event recycling all goes towards subsidising our services to the community.

Don't forget we also have Shiva, the Indian Goddess who we rent out to amaze your event attendees.



If you or someone you know is involved in arranging an event, please make contact with us for a quote. Please speak with **Laura or Dave on 01982 552727/551295**.

Ring out the old, ring in the new, ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go; ring out the false, ring in the true.

Except from 'In Memoriam' by Alfred Lord Tennyson, 1809 – 1892

Items for Sale

Just a reminder that we do have items for sale down at Llanwrtyd Community Centre, that can be viewed and purchases during coffee club hours, or by arrangement.

We have homemade jam, marmalade and chutney at very reasonable prices. These have been made in our own kitchen at the station by a young chef who is doing some voluntary work with us. The chutney was made with excess produce from our Community Garden, please pop in and buy some.

We also of course have some beautiful collectables and garden furniture and ornaments for sale. Please contact us if you are at all interested with absolutely no obligation to purchase.

Meeting Rooms for Hire

Please don't forget that we have rooms to hire for meetings, seminars, training days or for family functions. This is also a good venue for job interviews being three separate rooms so a waiting area and interview room with comfy furniture. We have a fully fitted kitchen, high speed broadband and printing facilities, plenty of free parking, a small garden area and full access to the beautiful Heart of Wales Railway Line. A buffet can be arranged at extra cost to meet your needs.

If you would like any further information, to look around or to make a booking, please call **Pat Dryden on 07881 951510** or leave a message for **Sue Williams on 01591 610789** (the centre's answerphone), or email **Pat on llanwrtydcommunitycentre@gmail.com**

Managing Director:

Dave Brown

Directors:

Pat Dryden

June Parkinson

Operations Manager:

Laura Burns

Contact Details:

Llanwrtyd Community Transport and Events Recycling

The Tunnel Site

Cilmery

Builth Wells

LD2 3FL

: 01982 552727/551295

: comtrans@btconnect.com

: laura@Llanwrtydcommunitytransport.org.uk

: www.llanwrtydcommunitytransport.org.uk

Llanwrtyd Community Centre

The Old Station Buildings

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Llanwrtyd Wells

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: llanwrtydcommunitycentre@gmail.com

VAT Registration Number: 132160853

Company Registration Number: 7924691



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