

# Rhosgoch Gossip

Volume 25 Issue 3

Jan / Feb 2020

£1

## Y.F.C. NEWS

Back in November, it was time for the Rhosgoch YFC annual hedging match taking place at the Bank Farm by kind permission of the Gore family. Eight teams braved the cold to have a go. Congratulations to everyone who competed and thank you to Afan Jones for organising the day and all who supported.

Another event in November was the Radnor YFC public speaking weekend. Harri Bird, Tom Davies and Huw Kramer stepped up to take part in the Would I Lie To You competition. After some practice, involving most of the club, the boys travelled up to the Royal Welsh show ground and came 4<sup>th</sup> overall! This was a fantastic achievement, well done!



Between then and Christmas members took part in a poker evening, involving plenty of chocolate coins and a lot of reckless shouting 'all in!'. As well as this, members took part in an acting workshop lead by Ralph Bolland from Mid Powys Youth Theatre. This involved many members having to dive deep and embody many different characters including a power ranger, a chicken and of course, an egg. The workshop was a lot of fun and a great way to start preparing for the upcoming drama competition.



Next, it was time for the Radnor YFC pool and darts competition. Many members took part, including myself who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the darts but the real triumphs of the evening were in the pool competition. Both Charlie East and Bethany Price won each of the singles competitions! Well done!

As Christmas was around the corner, it was time for a trip to see Cinderella at Hereford Courtyard. Many members and parents attended the show to see whether Cinderella will ever stop leaving her shoes lying around. It was a good show and enjoyed by all.



Finally, to finish off the year it was time to warm up our voices not only for the carol singing but also to perform at the Painscastle Hall Christmas party. Braving the cold around Painscastle and Rhosgoch with mostly tuneful renditions of our favourite carols such as O Come All Ye Faithful, we managed to raise a fantastic £360 for Myeloma UK and the Wales Air Ambulance. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Santa called by Painscastle Hall on Sunday December 15th



## Incredible India, delightful Bangladesh

How to sum up two weeks spent touring the Indian Golden Triangle, followed by five days in rural Bangladesh? Rather than giving a blow-by-blow account of where we went and what we saw, I want to describe just a few of the most memorable features of our holiday.



1. 'Freestyle' driving – as our guide in India explained the rules of the road in Delhi. Bikes, mopeds (often carrying whole families including babes in arms), and bicycle rickshaws as well as cars, buses, pedestrians and a variety of livestock all vie for road space, with horns blaring incessantly and vehicles buzzing around like insects to fill every available inch. Travelling by open 'tuk-tuk' taxi is quite literally more exhilarating than a fairground ride!

2. Contrasts – majestic public buildings, many from the time of the Moghul emperors or British Raj, tower above modern bungalows standing in their own lush gardens, in turn bordered by much humbler homes which are often no more than three concrete walls with a corrugated iron roof, or even a tarpaulin slung between poles.



3. Rubbish – in Delhi and other Indian cities swathes of rubbish at the side of every road are simply part of life. There is a public campaign for 'Clean India' which uses as its logo (even printed on banknotes) the easily recognisable spectacles of Mahatma Gandhi. Plastic carrier bags were banned some years ago in favour of woven ones. But the rubbish remains.

4. Livestock – it is well-known that for Hindus the cow is a sacred animal, but even so I did not expect to see so many of them wandering freely in the streets, rooting for food among the rubbish, or lying down for a rest around a traffic roundabout! Add in the stray dogs, sheep, goats and small bristly pigs which inhabit the highway right in the middle of the capital city... Who would have thought?



5. Shops and businesses – begging is a profession in its own right, though our guide advised us not to engage with it. On the tourist trail street hawkers are everywhere, and of course

haggling is expected. In markets and smaller shops the same things applies; the price of a souvenir can come down from 800 to 100 rupees (about £1) in seconds. Markets are wonderfully colourful, while in the small shopping streets artisan tailors, carpenters and mechanics ply their trades side by side with sellers of snacks and kitchenware. Cobblers, barbers and sales people all use the roadside as a legitimate place to conduct their businesses.



6. Traditional forms of art - we were taken to visit (and encouraged to spend money in!) several co-operative workshops where we watched craftspeople using the skills of past generations to produce mosaics, paintings and hand-woven rugs of the highest



quality. We also attended two dance performances: one of Bollywood-style dance and music, and the other demonstrating a range of folk dance traditions. Great fun!



FLOWER POWER  
FROM  
TROFLORA

Tel:  
01497  
851646

Flowers for all occasions  
(Caroline Meredith Dip Floristry)

**T R EAST**

### PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS

Systems available for all types of event:- Shows, fetes, races etc. Also Indoor systems

### TWO WAY RADIO HIRE

Keep in touch on the move, efficient communication for Show-fields, building sites or mountain sides.

Daily or weekly hire available **Tel No: 01497 851255**

### **BRICKLAYER / GENERAL BUILDER VIC DAVIES**

For all your building requirements:-

New builds, Renovations, Extensions, Roofing, Patios, Stonework etc

TY'R SAIS,  
NEWCHUCH,  
KINGTON, HR5 3QW  
Phone: **01544 370708**  
**07818 022323**

**catherine hughes**

### **WEDDING SINGER**



To hear me sing, visit  
[catherinethesinger.co.uk](http://catherinethesinger.co.uk)

**07815 103855**

Telling the world since 1989

### **MALLU LLOYD (LUNDY)**

For your local Mini Digger Work (3T)  
Fast, Reliable & Tidy **07854 846261**

### **LLOYD'S FIRE SPRINKLERS 07854 846261**

All new builds in Wales have to be fitted with a fire suppression system.  
For a free quote on a fire sprinkler system to suit your needs ring Mallu.

7. Wildlife – in an Indian national park, we were lucky enough to see a tigress close-up. Memorable indeed! But everywhere we went there were parrots, deer and buffalo, and monkeys are as numerous as squirrels are in our own part of the world.



8. Rural life – in India we saw many people hard at work making bricks out of natural clay, which were stacked to dry in the sun before being fired. In Bangladesh rice in the paddy fields was being cut with sickles, spread out in great yards to dry, and turned at regular inter-



vals with wooden shovels and rakes. Women pick tea by hand in the traditional way, and carry the sacks back on their heads to be weighed.

9. Schools - primary and secondary children are given smart uniforms which they wear with pride. Free meals are provided for the poorest pupils as a way of enticing them into class. In Bangladesh we were welcomed to a village school where the nursery children played in a classroom not so very different from the one at Rhosgoch School. I would have been happy to think that my pupils were as well-behaved as the junior pupils in the adjacent class, quietly working unsupervised while their teacher talked to us.



10. Welcome – India is pretty ‘full-on’ and our cheerful interactions with Indian people were what you would expect them to be on any tourist trail. But in Bangladesh – where we saw only two other white people during the whole of our five-day visit – not only were we the subject of much curiosity, but also the teenage boys and others who asked us for selfies did so with such open smiles and courtesy that it would have been churlish to refuse. Our guide invited us to lunch with his lovely family, who could not have done more to make us feel at home.



We have many memories of our time on the Indian sub-continent (and nearly 700 photos to support them!). Who could forget the Taj Mahal, the temples, forts and palaces, the Pink City of Jaipur by night, the tiger, the tea plantation... But for me it was the unexpected sights and sounds, the colour, and most of all

seeing how Indian and Bangladeshi people live their daily lives, that made the holiday really special.



Pam Banks

[www.welshfruitstocks.co.uk](http://www.welshfruitstocks.co.uk)

Order in advance & collect from  
Grug Farm, Bryngwyn between November & March

**Top Quality Soft Fruit Plants**

Strawberry Plants, Raspberry Canes, Fruit Bushes inc  
Chuckleberry Bushes  
**01497 851209**



**Llewetrog Free Range Eggs**

Available from  
Painscastle Hall & Llandeilo Graban

Contact John for details  
**07779 164810**

**LES BOWEN**

Upper Llanshiver Farm, Whitney-on-Wye  
HR3 6HN

For all your fencing/hedging requirements  
Please contact Les on

**01497 851254**

**M Farmer**

**Agricultural Contractor**

**01497 851316**

**07970 040158**



**T. D. LLOYD Plastering, Plasterboarding, Rendering etc.**

**07974-680049**

**Call Tref**

## FARM FOCUS

### Change in Farming

British farmers have always worked hard to produce the best quality products for the public and for export, whilst making a living. The proposal by the Labour party for a four-day week would, at best, only create amusement within the members of a family farm. Small to medium sized family farms typically work 7 days a week for 40 or 50 hours. At peak times of harvest or lambing, work can be all day and half the night. This level of commitment is even greater for the tenant farmer who will need to get income from outside the farm to allow his business to stay afloat.

The typical man on the street's time frame for finance and planning varies between weeks and several years. This is quite different in the farming industry with family farm plans running from generation to generation with the need, therefore, for some certainty of the future.

Standards for the agricultural industry in Britain are the highest in the world and that comes at a cost. These costs arise from using the best animal feeds and stock health management, such as the control of medicines, with correct application and withdrawal periods, and medicine records to demonstrate adherence to high standards. Compare this with the lower standards, for example, of beef produced in South America and it is not surprising that the overseas meat can be produced more cheaply than that farmed in Britain.

A recent BBC documentary made the case that red meat is a big threat to the planet, highlighting intensive beef production in South America. Compare this with the equivalent in Mid Wales, where cattle are raised on grass and silage, both of which capture carbon with a positive impact on the planet.

Since the Second World War, the government has financially supported farmers, initially to promote increased production and subsequently govern the direction of progress and development in agriculture. Policies developed by the various governments have swayed this way and that, to the point where later strategies have contradicted some policies introduced decades earlier. In fact, in the latest consultation document, **Sustainable Farming and our Land**, they strongly criticise many of the previous farming support applications. It is not a huge leap of faith to guess that they will be similarly criticising this latest proposal in years to come.

The Welsh Government, led by socialist politicians, dictates the development of policies for Welsh farmers. At the present traumatic time of "political Armageddon", the Welsh Government has decided they can throw all the balls in the air and solve farmers' problems and the climate crisis in one new policy. Given the Welsh Government's mediocre track record, I think this could be a train wreck with the farmers' livelihoods being the meat in the grinder.

The Welsh Government has recently closed a consultation which outlines policies to improve sustainability, to increase carbon capture, to reduce flooding, to improve air quality, to protect Welsh culture and to sustain farming. This is highly aspirational but it does seem as though the Welsh Government is racing farmers towards a cliff edge and history shows that they have been off target many times before. Farmers must not stand in the way of meaningful progress, but a considered pace of change will allow them the chance to adjust to the new system, to the benefit of both the farmers themselves and the public in general.



Llwynpenfaen a typical Radnorshire hill farm

I hope the people in power can deliver at least half of their promises.

David Price

## POWYS PODS

Camping, but without the tent



Stay in one of 3 camping pods on our working farm, and enjoy the great views and modern facilities

Also, something a bit different for kids' parties and sleepovers

[www.powyspods.co.uk](http://www.powyspods.co.uk)  
Bryngwyn (near Rhosgoch)

## GARDENING CLUB PROGRAMME

Thr Jan 23rd Dinner at Rhosgoch Golf Club 7pm  
Thr Feb 13th TBA

All meetings at Rhosgoch Golf Club at 7.30pm. Details from Edwina Griffiths 01497-851284 or Pat Harley 01497-851632

## Pilates Emma



Pilates lengthens and strengthens the body whilst improving your flexibility, balance, posture and core.

### Class times

Monday 9.30am - Booth's Bookshop Studio, Hay  
Monday 2.00pm - St Peter's Centre, Peterchurch  
Tuesday 9.30am - Eardisley Village Hall  
Tuesday 6.15pm - Booth's Bookshop Studio, Hay  
Wednesday 9.30am - Painscastle Village Hall  
Wednesday 6.15pm - Clifford Community Centre  
Friday 9.15am - Booth's Bookshop Studio, Hay

My classes last for one hour, are suitable for all ages and fitness levels and are charged on a pay as you go basis. If you are interested in any of the above classes please call me on 07702 241725 or [emma@pilatesemma.co.uk](mailto:emma@pilatesemma.co.uk) [www.pilatesemma.co.uk](http://www.pilatesemma.co.uk)

## PEST CONTROL

need to get rid of MOLES, RATS, WASPS AND SQUIRRELS?

CALL - WYNN  
MOB - 0778 654 2697

## PAINSCASTLE & RHOSGOCH CRAFT CLUB QUIZ

1. Into which sea does the Nile flow?
2. One and a half litres of champagne is known as what?
3. What is the correct name for the Northern Lights?
4. Who had his first hit with Wichita Linesman?
5. What Italian word for "scratched drawing" can be found on walls all over the world?
6. Which fantasy kingdom was found at the back of a wardrobe?
7. How many sides does an icosagon have?
8. What is the name of the actress who played Hilda Ogden in Coronation Street?
9. Hepatitis affects which organ of the body?
10. Sarah Palin was the first female governor of which state?
11. To what country does the island of Elba belong?
12. Where were the BeeGees born?
13. Which English city was the first to adopt the postcode system?
14. Kingston Black, Yarlinton Mill and Foxwhelp are varieties of what?
15. What do you call the study of trees?
16. What is a puli?
17. What is the name of the traditional Welsh soup made with lamb, potatoes and leeks?
18. In which year did Richard Booth declare independence for Hay-on-Wye?
19. What is the term for the white needlework technique that incorporates embroidery, cut work and/or needle lace?
20. What is the capacity of the Principality Stadium in Cardiff?
21. True or False? It is illegal to dress up as a witch on Halloween in the US state of Alabama.
22. Jaguar/Landover has its headquarters in which British city?
23. Which political leader was elected President of S. Africa in 1994?
24. Which British king abdicated after falling in love with Wallis Simpson?
25. What is the name of Ebenezer Scrooge's partner from A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens?

The quiz was sold locally in November and the winner announced at the Craft Club dinner in December. And the winner was Jo Bagley. Congratulations.

For the answers please see page 13



## Heart Healing

[www.juliegoodridge.com](http://www.juliegoodridge.com)

01497 851764

07749 391714

### General Carpentry & Maintenance

Also Restoration & Repair Work

**No Job too small** Please phone Daren on

**01544 350 602** or Mobile **07929 824 560**

## THE GARDEN

The first sightings of snowdrops and crocus; the silvery calls of dunnocks; if we're lucky, skylarks, curlews; lighter evenings: a magical time of year.

In the garden, much of the interest can come from the winter flowering shrubs. Many of these are scented rather than showy, their pollinators being mostly flies and smaller insects. *Viburnum x Bodnantense* is reliable and long in flower. 'Dawn' is a good pink variety. I rate *Mahonia Japonica* as the best mahonia, many of the named varieties having little or no scent. It can be in flower from November to April, its elegant yellow racemes having a fresh lily of the valley fragrance. *Lonicera x Purpusii* 'Winter Beauty' has the usual honeysuckle scent for many weeks. I've always found it to be somewhat scruffy, and perhaps needs a corner in which to do its own thing untidily. The *Wintersweet*, *Chimonanthus Praecox* can make a large shrub with elegant dark green leaves. It might take a season or three to get going, but the gloriously fragrant tiny yellow flowers are well worth waiting for, and will scent a room when cut.

All these are fully hardy. The *Daphnes* are perhaps borderline. *Daphne Odora Aureomarginata* is a small shrub, its pink flowers emerging in late winter. The remarkable *Daphne Bholua* *Jacqueline Postill* is rather larger, and, for me, bursts into flower in January, and continues for many weeks. The scent of both is magnificent. I would suggest that both of these are at their most vulnerable to frost when young. If they've been raised in polytunnels or in the south of the country before being offered for sale (and this applies to many plants), then they will need cossetting initially. Plant in a sheltered spot, give them the protection of fleece (horticultural!) for the first couple of winters, and you could be lucky.

In the veg patch, I can recommend the (much missed) Geoff Hamilton method of getting early 'taters. In January/February draw up a ridge and cover tightly with clear polythene. In mid March, or as early as you dare, draw back the polythene, plant the tubers in the ridge and re-cover. As soon as shoots emerge, take the cover off, and cover with a double layer of fleece if frost threatens. New spuds in May (hopefully)! May the weather be with you.

John the Gardener

### *R M Drew Developments Ltd*

Rosemoor Felinfach Brecon, LD3 0UE

**Brick and Blockwork, Home Improvements,  
Plumbing, Kitchen and bathroom fitting,  
Tiling, Plastering**

For free estimates contact Richard:

**TEL: 07792912434**

**EMAIL: [richarddrew\\_28@hotmail.com](mailto:richarddrew_28@hotmail.com)**



### The Roast Ox Inn

B & B available Tel: 01497-851398  
Email: [theroastox@gmail.com](mailto:theroastox@gmail.com)

#### Opening Hours:

Food served 12 - 2.00 Wednesday to Saturday

6 - 9 pm Wednesday to Saturday

Sunday:- 12.30 - 2.30 no food Sunday evening

**Pub is closed Monday & Tuesday all day**

HOME COOKED SUNDAY LUNCH

12.30 - 2.30pm £12.95

## CLYRO & HAY NEWS

### CUSOP HISTORY GROUP

Our meeting in the New Year will be on **Friday January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Cusop Village Hall**, when we are excited to present the **Herefordshire Life Through a Lens Film "Carousel"**. Following audience favourites 'Stories from the Hop Yards' & 'Chewing the Cud', this new Catcher Media film delves deep into the vast Derek Evans photographic archive from the 1950s-1970s. 'Carousel' is a visual social history of Herefordshire life, revealing for the first time some of the stories behind Derek's images, from the May Fair to Hereford United, from the Fownhope Heart of Oak walk to jazz, from childhood, to politics and more. Not to be missed. £3 for members, £5 non-members.

On Friday February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at Cusop Village Hall, Jane Weaver will be giving an illustrated talk about the Cusop Graveyard project sharing some of the fascinating details of her photography over the past few years.

Membership is only £5 a year, which helps towards our speakers and research projects.

If you would like to be involved in research or would like to help the group with information, photos or enthusiasm, please contact us. Visit our website at <http://cusophistory.wix.com/cusop> to see the latest information, including the research and our photos of historical Cusop. Email us at [cusophistory@gmail.com](mailto:cusophistory@gmail.com) or call Sue on 01497 822523.

### Hay Adult Theatre Studies (HATS)

We meet on Thursday evenings 7.45 to 9.45 at **Clyro Village Hall** in term time. No experience is needed. Come along and learn performance skills, make new friends and increase your confidence. £7 per session. For details call Janine on 07733 055430 or email [haytheatre@gmail.co.uk](mailto:haytheatre@gmail.co.uk) For more information check our website [www.haytheatre.co.uk](http://www.haytheatre.co.uk)

**Hay Youth Theatre meets on Saturdays during term time at Cusop Village Hall at 10.30 until 12.30 for Juniors aged 7-11 and 1pm until 3 pm for Seniors aged 12-16.** New members are always welcome. No experience is needed and it is wonderful to see everyone learn performance skills, make new friends and increase their confidence. Only £7. For details call Janine on 07733 055430 or email [haytheatre@gmail.co.uk](mailto:haytheatre@gmail.co.uk)

For more information check our website [www.haytheatre.co.uk](http://www.haytheatre.co.uk)

### HayDay Cafés

Many thanks to our volunteers and all who came along and enjoyed the **Good Old Variety Show** with the Hay Theatre players on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November at Clyro Village Hall.

We enjoyed songs, comedy and sketches ranging from Lili Marlene to Laurel and Hardy, Favourite Things to Let's Go Fly a Kite when all the audience had kites made by HayDay Café visitors.

Our next HayDay Café Clyro will be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January when we have a creative activity making biscuits with Talgarth Mill, following a light lunch, 12.30-3pm.

*The HayDay Cafés on the first Monday and last Wednesday of the month provide a great opportunity for people on their own and particularly those living with dementia or memory loss, to enjoy each other's company and have some fun in a relaxed, friendly creative environment.* If you would like to come along or know someone with memory loss who would like to try it, please contact Sue Hodgetts on 01497 822523. Transport can be arranged with a volunteer or Dial-A-Ride.

## HAY MUSIC - DIARY DATES

More details of all our concerts at [www.haymusic.org](http://www.haymusic.org)  
Tickets from Richard Booth's Bookshop, Hay-on-Wye, on line at [www.boothbooks.co.uk](http://www.boothbooks.co.uk) or at the door if available.

Saturday, 18 January at 7.30 pm

### LAURA SNOWDEN – GUITAR

Music by Villa Lobos, Laura Snowden  
Agustin Barrios, Lennox Berkeley and Giulio Regondi  
Richard Booth's Bookshop, Hay-on-Wye  
Tickets £12.50 (students £6.00 / under 18s free)

Friday, 14 February at 7.00 pm

### ENSEMBLEBASH – PERCUSSION QUARTET

Arrangements of traditional Ghanaian Siwe Bell Music and music by Colin Riley, Nick Hayes, Sarah Angliss, Simon Limbrick and Keith Tippett  
Hay Primary School, Hay-on-Wye  
Tickets £10.00 (students £5.00 / under 18s free)

Thursday, 5 March at 7.00 pm

### THE SOLEM STRING QUARTET

Music by Beethoven, John Luther Adams and Brahms  
St Mary's Church, Hay-on-Wye  
Tickets £12.50 (students £6.00 / under 18s free)

Friday, 3 April at 7.30 pm

### LORE LIXENBURG (mezzo-soprano) and BARTOSZ GLOWACKI (accordion)

Music by Bach, Purcell, Eccles, John Cage and Acqyaviva  
Richard Booth's Bookshop, Hay-on-Wye  
Tickets £12.50 (students £6.00 / under 18s free)

Sunday, 14 June at 3.00 pm

### THE ODORA TRIO

Music for piano trio by Haydn, Schumann, Herbert Sumson and Shostakovich  
Dorstone House, Dorstone HR3 6AW  
Tickets £15.00 (students £7.50)

Sunday, 26 July at 3.00 pm

### PIANO RECITAL BY LLÿR WILLIAMS

Music by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and Grieg  
Dorstone House, Dorstone HR3 6AW  
Tickets £15.00 (students £7.50)

GJM  
CARPENTRY CONTRACTOR  
& BUILDING SERVICES

**GETHIN MEREDITH  
CARPENTER,**

PEN-Y-CAE BUNGALOW  
CLYRO

01497821338  
GETHINTYFEDW@HOTMAIL.CO.UK  
07817777248

### Rebecca Lewis Jewellery

- ◆ Full collection of hand-made silver and gold jewellery
  - ◆ Engagement rings & wedding bands
  - ◆ Commissions undertaken **07968 040309**
  - ◆ Repairs & ring re-sizing **www.rebecca-lewis.co.uk**
  - ◆ Pearl & bead re-stringing
- Call to make an appointment...



## PAINSCASTLE RECYCLING & RUBBISH COLLECTION

Recycling every Monday, and the next rubbish collection dates are: **Jan 20th Feb 10th March 2nd March 23rd**  
Garden waste is collected every fortnight on Tuesdays from March to November for an annual fee: **March 3rd March 17th March 31st**

## CULINARY COLUMN

### The Cripple Creek Inn, Raglan.

Christmas in the countryside is very different from Christmas growing up in the town. For me the highlights here are the rural traditions, such as candlelit Christingle services, carol singing around the village, and scouring the hedgerows for greenery for fresh wreaths. Living in the countryside far from family, however, means a lot of travelling at Christmas, and we think little of jumping in the car and driving for hours to catch up with relatives. We have jollied many times back from the Severn Bridge and found ourselves stuck between a MacDonald's or an Abergavenny Chinese for an evening meal. The discovery of the Cripple Creek Inn has, however, left us no longer in a quandary. Its positioning at Raglan makes it great to nip off the A40 and in ten minutes you are tucked away in a cosy nook at this charming country pub.

The popularity of the Cripple Creek speaks for itself as every table was filled, but the atmosphere is vibrant not hectic as there are plenty of unflappable attentive waitresses keeping everything moving smoothly. The menu is varied and has an impressive selection of fresh fish dishes, as well as traditional locally sourced main courses and steaks.

To start with I had crispy duck spring rolls which came with a chilli glaze and a little salad, and were incredibly moreish. My Gentleman Friend had bruschetta which were brilliantly sharable and were soon demolished. Often with meals out I would quite like a little bit of a few different things, but rarely is this on offer with fish. However, the Cripple Creek has hit the jackpot with its selection of grilled fresh seafood. With a creamy white wine sauce on the side, sautéed potatoes and fresh vegetables, it is probably the most perfect main course I have ever had. My Gentleman Friend luckily had the same thing otherwise I would have had to have shared some of mine- or not- and the evening would have soured! Our family dining companions were very happy with their steaks which were served with mushrooms and onions, and potatoes and vegetables on the side. The vegetables were all piping hot and very generous, and no one was left feeling peckish.

The Cripple Creek is not a cheap place for a meal but I think as a treat it is well worth it. The friendly and welcoming atmosphere is worth a lot in itself, and the delicious honest food lives up to expectation. I am afraid that Magor Service Station has just lost a customer; we just won't be able to venture over the Severn Bridge too often now!

Food \*\*\*\*\* Service \*\*\*\*\* Value \*\*\* Atmosphere \*\*\*\*\*

The Cripple Creek Inn, Old Abergavenny Road, Bryngwyn, Raglan NP15 2JP. Telephone Number: 01291 690256.



### Rhosgoch Golf & Leisure Club

Room available for Weddings, Parties, Dinners, Binges, Quizzes, Meetings etc  
Indoor bouncy castle & room hire

**SUNDAY CARVERY** 1pm to 2.30pm  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL 2 courses £15

**FRIDAY NIGHT**  
Pie & a pint £9.50

Afternoon Teas: Jan - Mar  
Thurs/Fri/Sat £15.95  
Please book. Vouchers available

Lunch Club 3rd Wed of  
the month 1pm

Email: [rhosgochgolf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rhosgochgolf@yahoo.co.uk) check out our facebook page

**TRACEY JONES D.O. & SIMON GUINANE D.O.**

Registered Osteopaths **01497-847020**

### Omelette vegetable rolls

Seeing as it is January we had better embrace some New Year austerity! These are a healthier version of Chinese spring rolls, and involve no deep fat frying. You can pep them up with added crispy duck or some chilli.

#### Ingredients

1 tbsp sunflower oil  
1 carrot thinly shredded  
120g pack shiitake mushrooms, stems removed and thinly sliced  
100g bag beansprouts  
3 spring onions thinly sliced  
knob of ginger peeled and finely grated  
1 garlic clove, chopped or grated  
soy sauce  
3 eggs beaten with 1 tsp sunflower oil

#### Method

Heat the oil in a wok and stir-fry the carrot and mushrooms for 2 mins until just starting to soften.  
Add the beansprouts, onions, ginger and garlic and stir-fry for another 1-2 mins or until the beansprouts are starting to turn transparent.  
Season with the soy sauce and set aside. Can be made up to 4 hrs ahead.  
Heat a medium frying pan, add a little oil, then tip out the excess.  
Pour in a little of the egg and swirl around the pan to make a thin, even layer.  
Fry for 30 secs or until the edges turn golden, then flip over with a palette knife for another 10 secs. Slide out onto greaseproof paper and repeat until you have made six pancakes. Can be made up to a day ahead

### PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

I inadvertently left this out of the last issue, and it was something I had not heard before. Rather than keep it for November 2020, by which time I may have lost it, I thought I would include it now. We all know the red poppy is a memorial to soldiers lost at war, and that it was adopted after the horrors of WW1. Poppies grew on the battlefields of Flanders, but there is more background which was not aware of.

The poppy should be worn on the left side (over the heart); the red represents the blood of all those who gave their lives, the black represents the mourning of those who didn't have their loved ones return home, and the green leaf represents the grass and crops growing and future prosperity after the war destroyed so much. The leaf should be positioned at 11 o'clock to represent the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the time that World War One formally ended.



**N.D.  
PROTHEROE**

**Water Well Drilling  
Pump Supplier and Installer**

Tel : (01497) 851276 Mob : 07800 753341

### CHARITY COLLECTIONS

*Thanks so much for all your donations in the bus shelter and please continue to support the Bracken Trust by donating any stamps or bras.*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun Jan 19th Monthly quiz at Rhosgoch Golf Club 7.30pm  
Thr - Sat Feb 20-22 Treasure Island by Kington Operatic  
Society at Lady Hawkins, Kington 7.30pm  
Sun Feb 16th Monthly quiz at Rhosgoch Golf Club 7.30pm  
Wed Feb 19th Puppet Show at Rhosgoch Golf Club  
(Rhosgoch Tots)  
Sun Mar 15th Monthly quiz at Rhosgoch Golf Club 7.30pm

### HERMON CHAPEL RHOSGOCH

ALL SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT 2.30pm  
Sunday School every Sunday morning 10 – 11 am

### MORIAH BAPTIST CHAPEL, LLANDEILO GRABAN

Jan 19th Rev Ifor Williams communion  
Feb 16th Rev Brian Reardon communion  
Mar 15th Rev Andrew Wyton communion  
Apr 5th Joint service church with us Rev Robert  
Thomas  
Apr 10th Good Friday Sankey Evening  
Apr 12th Rev Gordon Bingham communion  
Services Sundays at 2.30pm

### EBENEZER CHAPEL NEWCHURCH

Sun Jan 12th 3pm Led by Rev. Royston Bevan  
Sun Feb 9th 3pm Led by Rev. Brian Reardon  
Sun Mar 8th 3pm Led by Rev. Brian Reardon  
A warm welcome extended to all

### LOCAL LIBRARY TIMES

**Hay on Wye Library** Monday 10am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 3pm.  
Tuesday & Wednesday closed.  
Thursday 10am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 3pm.  
Friday 1.30pm – 6pm. Saturday 10am – 12.30pm.  
**Brecon Library** Monday 9.30am – 5pm.  
Tuesday 9.30am – 6.30pm. Wednesday closed  
Thursday / Friday 9.30am – 5pm. Saturday 10am – 1pm.  
**Builth Library** Monday / Tuesday 10am - 1pm & 2pm – 5pm  
Wednesday Closed. Thursday 9.45am – 1pm & 2pm – 5.45pm  
Friday 10am – 1pm. Saturday 10am – 12.30pm  
**Llandrindod Wells**  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am – 5pm.  
Thursday 9am – 6.30pm. Friday 9am – 5pm.  
Saturday 9.30am – 1pm  
**Talgarth** Monday closed. Tuesday 3.30 – 6pm  
Wednesday 9am – 11am. Thursday closed  
Friday 2pm – 5pm. Saturday 11am – 1pm  
**Mobile Library bus comes on third Tuesday of the month**

Established 1975



HACKING LESSONS ACCOMMODATION  
www.ridinginwales.com  
01497 851 669  
Cwm Farm, Bryngwyn, Newchurch,  
Kington, Herefordshire HR5 3QN

## J T DAVIES

Monumental Stonemason

Tel: 01874 754 733 Mob: 07500 938 149  
E-mail: j.t.davies@hotmail.co.uk

We produce a wide range of memorials in all types  
of Stone & Marble. Also House names, Pet memorials &  
Commemorative plaques.

(for a brochure please contact Josh)

23 Beeches Park, Boughrood, Brecon LD3 0YJ

### ERWOOD & PAINSCASTLE CHURCHES

Dear All,

A very Happy New Year to you all!

Hopefully, your Christmas was a time of rejoicing to the full with family, friends and community. We know, of course, that the season is often also a time of emotion, nostalgia and sadness. This is part of the beauty of the story of Emmanuel – ‘God with us’. It is also *our* story; he unites heaven and earth in a bond never to be broken for all eternity; a bond in which he is born to die, to know human suffering and, after his Ascension, he sends us God’s Holy Spirit so he may live within us. Because of Christmas we may always have faith that God is in the centre of all our struggles as well as our joys.

**The Feast of the Epiphany** on the 6<sup>th</sup> January emphasis that Jesus and all that his Incarnation brings is God’s gift to us. The Magi bring gifts that are elemental symbols of the earth presented to Our Lord to complement his divinity as he comes to live among us and through whom we are given a glimpse of eternity. Gold is a symbol of the richness of the earth - for him who shall rule our world. Frankincense and Myrrh are both strong healing plants. The former when used as incense has the quality of enhancing the depth and purity of prayer. This shows that our Lord’s strength is through being the most divine and pure of all men, like incense he will carry our prayers to heaven. The salve of Myrrh has the quality to banish decay and infection, thus symbolically this gift will preserve the babe in body and soul. The Magi have interpreted from the stars that the Christ will die but will live forever, thus they match their gifts accordingly. The scene is already set for the fulfilment of the Passion some thirty years later.

The Christmas season carries on until the **Presentation of Christ** (‘Candlemas’)

on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February, which may be seen as a closing of the glorious festival of light that is the Christmas and Epiphany Season. Jesus is presented in the Temple and dedicated to God at his tender age of forty days. This celebration also includes an acknowledgement of the visit of Mary to the Temple to be purified after childbirth in accordance with Jewish custom.

February then is month of transition. Ash Wednesday falls on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February and so, during the remaining days of February following Candlemas, we turn our attention toward the reflective days of Lent in preparation for the Easter Passion of our Lord. The story never ends. In this time between the two emotional periods of Christmas/ Epiphany and Lent/ Easter, it is well to recognise that the two events of the birth and passion of the life of Jesus are united elements in the single event that is the Incarnation of our Lord God. He has come to show us the glories of eternal life and assure us that we need never be afraid.

*All love and blessings for 2020.*

*Father Paul. XX*

### C. C. JAMES

**Funeral Director**

Hengardd, Pontithel, Three Cocks, Brecon

**Complete Funeral Service**

Pre-paid Funeral Plans

**Tel: 01497-847410 Mob: 07831 346430**

### PAUL MEREDITH

**ELECTRICIAN & DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS**

Rhos Mawr, Glasbury On Wye, Hereford  
HR3 5ND

**Tel: 01497 847943**

<b>Sunday 12th January</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>
9.30am	Crickadarn Morning Prayer
9.30am	Aberedw Eucharist
11.00am	Llanbedr Eucharist
<b>Sunday 19th January</b>	<b>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</b>
9.30am	Llandeilo Graban Eucharist
11.00am	Gwenddwr Eucharist
2.30pm	Llandewi Fach Eucharist
<b>Sunday 26th January</b>	<b>3rd Sunday after Epiphany</b>
9.30am	Bryngwyn Eucharist
9.30am	Crickadarn Eucharist
11.00am	Aberedw Eucharist
<b>Sunday 2nd February</b>	<b>Candlemas</b>
9.30am	Gwenddwr Eucharist
11.00am	Llandeilo Graban Morning Prayer
11.00am	Newchurch Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 9th February</b>	<b>3rd Sunday before Lent</b>
9.30am	Crickadarn Morning Prayer
9.30am	Aberedw Eucharist
11.00am	Llanbedr Eucharist
<b>Sunday 16th February</b>	<b>2nd Sunday before Lent</b>
9.30am	Llandeilo Graban Eucharist
11.00am	Gwenddwr Eucharist
2.30pm	Llandewi Fach Eucharist
<b>Sunday 23rd February</b>	<b>Sunday before Lent</b>
9.30am	Bryngwyn Eucharist
9.30am	Crickadarn Eucharist
11.00am	Aberedw Eucharist
<b>Wednesday 26th February</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
7.00pm	Llandeilo Graban Eucharist/Imposition of Ashes
<b>Sunday 1st March</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30am	Llanbadarn-y-garreg Morning Prayer
9.30am	Gwenddwr Eucharist
11.00am	Llandeilo Graban Eucharist
11.00am	Newchurch Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 8th March</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30am	Crickadarn Morning Prayer
9.30am	Aberedw Eucharist
11.00am	Llanbedr Eucharist
<b>Sunday 15th March</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30am	Llandeilo Graban Lambing Service
11.00am	Gwenddwr Eucharist
2.30pm	Llandewi Fach Eucharist
<b>Sunday 22nd March</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)</b>
9.30am	Llanbedr Eucharist
11.00am	Gwenddwr Eucharist

Autumn Competitions  
 Saturday 17th October 2020  
 Theme: Seaside  
 Winter Schedule

Open

1. Jar of Chutney
2. 5 Pieces of Homemade Fudge
3. A Sea Creature Any Medium
4. Handmade Birthday Card Any Medium
5. Photograph of the Seaside with a caption
6. A Seaside Postcard
7. A Picture depicting 'The Seaside' Any Medium
8. My Favourite Souvenir from the Seaside
9. One A4 side short story title "A day at the Seaside"

Grandparents

1. Jar of Jam
2. An item using sea shells
3. My Favourite Fridge Magnet
4. A Ball Any Medium

Men Section

1. Coastal Photograph
2. An Item made from String or Rope
3. A Piece of Drift Wood

**OUTREACH POST OFFICES**

Tuesday morning 10 am to 12 noon Clyro Village Hall

Wednesday afternoon 3pm to 4 pm Gladestry Village Hall

Thursday morning 9 am to 10 am Gladestry Village Hall

**LLANDRINDOD WELLS MOBILE POST OFFICE**

Monday	Erwood	09.00-10.00
	Boughrood	10.15-11.45
	Llandefaelog Fach	12.45-13.30
	Merthyr Cynog	13.45-14.30
Tuesday	Howey	15.15-16.30
	Howey	09.00-11.15
Wednesday	Erwood	11.45-12.45
	Boughrood	13.30-16.00
	Boughrood	09.00-11.30
Friday	Erwood	11.45-12.45
	Howey	13.30-15.30
	Boughrood	09.00-11.30
	Howey	12.00-13.00

**OTHER POST OFFICES:-**

**HAY ON WYE** Open Weekdays 9am to 5pm Closed Tuesday afternoon. Saturday 9am—12 noon.

**TALGARTH** (In Co-op) Mon—Fri 9am to 5.30pm  
 Saturday 9—12.30pm

**CARROT & WINE STORES**, Whitney, incl post office  
 Mon - Sat 9am to 5.30pm Sun 10am to 4pm

**LOCAL BANKING**

NatWest Bank has a community Banker who visits Built Wells on Tuesdays 10.30am to 2.30pm and Hay-on-Wye on Fridays 10.30am to 2.30pm.

They aim to help and support with:

- \* staying safe and secure online
- \* making you aware of all the alternative ways to bank
- \* supporting you with community educational events to help make you financially fitter

For more information get in touch with Greg Couch 07748-624582

On Fridays NatWest Bank Van also visits Built Wells from 10.30—11.30am and Hay-on-Wye from 12.15—1pm.

**EDITOR'S NOTES**

I hope you enjoy this edition of the 'Gossip'. Thanks to everyone who has contributed in any way to this issue. Please continue to send articles, news and events, all comments are gratefully received. Deadline for next issue [Mar/April 2020] - 29th February 2020.

[mlloyd@outlook.com or 01497-851609]. (ML)

The Rhosgoch Gossip is available at Clyro Filling Station & Painscastle Farmers Buying Group. It is available by annual subscription (due in Sept), £6 for delivery in Rhosgoch, Painscastle and adjoining areas, £12 posted.

'The Rhosgoch Gossip' is not responsible for the contents in this issue. Articles are the opinion of the respective writers. All errors and omissions excepted (E&OE).

Old issues are put on the community website [www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk](http://www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk)

The community website continues to reflect the local area. However, there are still gaps with some local groups not represented. If anyone would like to contribute in any way please get in touch either directly to the webmaster or to me at [mlloyd@outlook.com](mailto:mlloyd@outlook.com)

## POWYS PRATTLES

by County Councillor James Gibson-Watt

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda, Happy New Year one and all!

2020 promises to be quite a year, what with Brexit now certainly going to happen, bringing about the biggest change in the UK's place in the world since, well, we joined the EC/EU over 47 years ago. But up in good old Powys County Hall I suspect the record will sound very much the same as before. Despite local government in Wales set to receive a much better than normal 'settlement' (the annual Welsh Government grant) I don't expect to hear any less from finance officers and the council's Cabinet about the need to make millions of pounds of 'savings' across all services. Nor do I expect a lower-than-expected 2020/21 Council Tax (CT) rise to be proposed. Despite the fact that Powys County Council is set to receive an extra 4.2% in its grant (last year saw only a very slight increase), well above the rate of inflation, I fully expect to see another well-above-the-rate-of-inflation CT increase proposed again

Local Government finance is a mysterious thing, extraordinarily complicated and fully understood by only very few, clever finance officers and Chief Executives and even fewer elected councillors. County Councils deliver or fund the delivery of a bewildering array of essential services and the way their finances work is equally bewildering to ordinary mortals like me. Even a medium-sized (in population terms) Welsh county council like Powys has a huge turnover of about £500 million. One of those select few councillors who did have a comprehensive grasp of the system was my old friend, the late Cllr Mike Shaw, who represented Knighton on Powys County Council with great distinction for many years. He actually knew at least as much as the council's finance officers. One of a rare breed indeed. As a result council members by and large have to accept what finance officers tell them at face value, which makes proposing alternative budget proposals to those produced by the council's Cabinet and Chief Finance Officer that much more difficult to do. Alternative proposals tend to get shot down in flames by officers on one ground or another. It is a thankless business, but one thing I will predict is that if the Cabinet proposes a CT rise similar to 2019/20 (over 9%) that will get shot down in flames by the whole council.

Thus far winter has been relatively benign, but there is a long way to go. The salt bins appear quite full and salt in the highways depots plentiful. However, as we all know, in our area our many narrow lanes, in which water often sits, can become very icy. Please do not hesitate to contact me if salt bins run low or a stretch of road urgently needs intensive treatment. This is the time when our most vulnerable residents need the most support and keeping the roads clear is an essential part of that.

Please contact me anytime on 01497 820434 or 07971048737 or at [cllrjgw@powys.gov.uk](mailto:cllrjgw@powys.gov.uk) James

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman, David Nicholls, Castlefield Close  
Vice-chairman, Sian Powell, Lletycoed  
Jenny Smith, Penrhiw  
Becky Miles, The Cwm  
Iris Lloyd, Caemawr  
Andrew Ritchie, Castle Brook  
Bruce Evans, Lower Pentre

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month.  
Agendas and minutes for meetings are posted on the notice boards in Painscastle, Rhosgoch and Llandeilo Graban.  
Clerk: Marion Hughes, Waun y Pentre 01497 851628  
Minutes are also on the Painscastle-Rhosgoch website:  
[www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk](http://www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk)

## ASSEMBLY NEWS

There is no doubt that politics can be a frustrating business. It is however worth all the time and hard work to see a policy that you have backed and supported make it into legislation that will really improve people's lives. Back in 2016, the National Assembly of Wales passed my Private Members Bill that introduced minimum nurse staffing levels on acute adult wards. This was a first for the UK, but I was always determined that the law should be extended to cover other aspects of nursing.

The Nurse Staffing Levels (Wales) Act 2016 placed a duty on NHS organisations in Wales that, wherever they provide nursing services, they must provide "sufficient nurses to allow time to care for patients sensitively". This Bill has been so important to me because we know that the number and skill level of the nursing team has a huge impact on patient safety and the quality of care. Our hard working nurses must be given the time they need to do their jobs as they want to.

I was delighted that at the start of December it was confirmed that the provisions of my law would be extended to cover children's wards, with the view that it will be enacted by April 2021. I really hope that community services and mental health wards won't be too far behind and that Wales continues to make progress in this most important of issues

Additionally in December the Welsh Government announced the indicative budget settlement to Powys County Council for 2020/21. I, alongside my Welsh Liberal Democrat Council colleagues, will be calling on the Council to use the 4.2% increase in grant money that they will receive to ensure much-needed improvements to services within the County.

Finally, it was obviously a huge disappointment for myself and the Welsh Liberal Democrats that my colleague Jane Dodds was not re-elected in the General Election. Jane was a fantastic MP and I am really pleased that she has committed to continuing her work in Brecon & Radnorshire.

If I can be of any assistance at any point please do not hesitate to contact me at [Kirsty.williams@assembly.wales](mailto:Kirsty.williams@assembly.wales)

## WALES

From the mountain tops to the valleys below  
This is the Wales we all love and know  
Snowdonia is the highest mountain we boast  
But don't forget we have the fabulous coast.  
The National Parks have mountains grand  
High in the skyline they seem to stand  
Fields are dotted with thousands of sheep  
And our farming life we must strive to keep.  
The Elan Valley dams and the Royal Welsh Show  
Are two of Wales best loved places to go.  
Mae Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau is our national hymn  
Right through the land it makes people sing,  
The Welsh Assembly building down at Cardiff Bay  
Is a place to visit and spend a lovely day.  
The Millenium stadium just comes alive  
When passionate rugby supporters arrive.  
Our coal mining industry is history of the past  
Solar and Wind turbines are moving in fast.  
The old ways of living is for everyone to see,  
When you visit St Fagans it holds our treasury.  
The Welsh dragon's our emblem, the Daffodil and the Leek  
We have our own language which we are all proud to speak.  
Whichever way you travel, the hills will be your guide  
Because Wales is set in lovely country side.

Edwina Griffith's hand written poem, winner in the Autumn Competitions, October 2019

### Three Words that could save your life?

After quite a few years using various types of computer and the Internet, I tend to consider myself fairly well-informed about technology issues and new developments, even though I might choose to keep much social networking at arm's length. Despite my wife's protests, I also use smartphones because of the great choice of applications ("apps") they can offer, rather than because they mean I can be contacted anywhere – well, anywhere apart from most of Painscastle and Rhosgoch, of course – so I was quite surprised recently to read an article about a new global positioning app called What3Words. You can read all about it on their website at <https://what3words.com/> and I don't intend to repeat most of that here, but I thought I would use this opportunity to highlight it and briefly discuss some of the other options we have for letting people know where to find us. This might be necessary in a real emergency. I promise that this article will not be very technical.

Most of you will know that postcodes are not a reliable way of pinpointing your location with much accuracy and I know that we share our own postcode – LD2 3JL – with most of Painscastle, so it would not always bring an ambulance straight to our door unless we were very lucky. Leaving aside the various old-fashioned map references some of us learned about at school or in the Scouts (don't worry, we'll return to those in a minute), in 2013 some clever folks at What3Words calculated that you could divide the entire World into 57 trillion squares, each measuring 3 metres by 3 metres, and then identify each individual square by allocating it a unique, but randomly assigned address formed of three separate words. For example, according to this system the three words that signify the location of our front door are `///tucked.petal.scans` – you can find these combinations by looking at the interactive map on the What3Words website. Apparently, the system only needs to use 40000 different words worldwide.

The company claims that it has been such a success that Mongolia uses it for its postal service and that as many as 35 English and Welsh emergency services have signed up to the system as well. They also suggest that it can eliminate any ambiguity and is easier to use than the alternatives, such as quoting the various series of numbers that are commonly used for latitude and longitude, for example. The system is certainly easy to use whether you have the app on your smartphone or on your PC, so by all means give it a try to see what the excitement is about. It is free, but you are required to register.

However, the system does have its detractors and it might not necessarily be as easy to use as the company claims. For example, although I can fairly confidently state that our front door is at `///tucked.petal.scans`, while I write this article in my study upstairs my smartphone is telling me that I am at `///taxi.skate.juggler`, which is actually immediately adjacent to the first 3m by 3m square, yet doesn't seem to bear any logical relationship to it. Yes, the ambulance might still find me, but what if I or a companion had misread one of the words – for example, `///ticker.petal.scans` is in Canada and `///trucker.petal.scans` is in Colombia (I think!). Extreme examples maybe, but you can see how mistakes could occur. Incidentally, the three forward slashes form part of the addressing system.

It is worth pointing out that your smartphone does not need a mobile signal to work out the three-word combination, as this is done by your 'phone's location service (GPS), but someone would still have to use another telephone to transmit the combination.

Other reservations about the system include the problem that the service is proprietary – it belongs to the company and they are very protective about their rights and profits, so you can't access their algorithms or source code and tinker with them to suit your requirements – you can't find your own or other people's locations without asking What3Words for permission, in other words.

Furthermore, while it may not be a real problem here in the UK yet, apparently Australia is moving about so much because of tectonic activity that GPS services cannot easily keep up and therefore your original 3-word combination might actually change after the next earth tremor!

Also, each country using What3Words has its own word list in its own language, rather than English, so you can't just translate your own combination easily, whereas numeric map references are immediately understood anywhere, as long as you understand the principles...

...Which takes me neatly back to the subject of old-fashioned map references, as promised earlier. Without wishing to confuse everybody technically, I can tell you by looking at my smartphone that I am currently writing this at reference SO 16742 46166; this is an Ordnance Survey (OS) 10-figure grid reference that is nominally accurate to one metre, depending on the accuracy of my GPS device and/or signal. It is probably fair to say that most people using maps in this country will recognise this combination of digits and what they represent on a physical map. However, it may not be the case that emergency services throughout the UK will have systems based on OS references, as they may use systems based on Latitude and Longitude, or GB National Grid Eastings/Northings. No problem, as I can quickly input my OS reference into a coordinate converter on my PC or smartphone such as Nearby - <http://www.nearby.org.uk> – which instantly translates my original reference to (decimal) Latitude 52.107532N Longitude 3.217081W (WGS84), or even more scarily as (degrees/minutes/seconds) 52°06'27.1"N 3°13'01.5"W (ouch!), or on the GB National Grid as Eastings 316743 Northings 246166.

Thanks to the ease with which smartphones can now work out these very complicated figures, and not knowing which you might remember from your schooldays or the Scout hut, I am not going to suggest which you should use or prefer. On the contrary, I would strongly suggest that you seriously consider using all of them to first work out exactly where your own home is located and then to type all of these references out onto a piece of paper that you can keep by your telephone in case you need to call for help in a hurry; you never really know when it will be important and it will mean that you can pass any relevant information on efficiently and in the fullest confidence, even at a time of high stress. It might also be needed by a guest while you are out. So, please don't forget to write out:

**Address (yes, including the good old post code)**

**Telephone number**

**OS grid reference (ten figures plus prefix)**

**Latitude/Longitude (you never know)**

**What3Words reference**

**Any special instructions for finding the property**

Here are some suggested apps for finding various numeric references:

**Grid Reference Finder** (for OS references)

**UK Grid – Free** (all numeric references)

**Map Coordinates** (Google Maps and all numeric references combined)

**Latitude/Longitude** (restricted to these references only, but has other functionality)

These are all available free for Android from the Google Play Store, but there will also be plenty of alternatives for Apple devices. Keep safe!

## NIGHTFALL DISCO & KARAOKE

Music from 50s to present

Wedding, birthday party or any function that requires music.  
If you require party food, catering service also available

DAVID PRICE 01497 851243

## PAINSCASTLE AND RHOSGOCH - PHOTO-GRAPHIC COMPETITION 2020

We would like to encourage more local residents of all ages to contribute photographs for possible publication on the village website – <http://www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk> - in order to raise awareness of our area and to show why this is such a beautiful and interesting place in which to live. To this end we are going to hold a competition that will open on the date of publication of this issue of the Gossip and that will close on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020**. The theme of the competition will be **“Radnorshire Life”** and entries will be judged on their artistic and technical merits.

The winner will be offered one year’s free membership of Hay Camera Club (normally £55.00) with effect from May 2020. The Club usually meets on Tuesday evenings between 1930 and 2130 at the Masonic Hall, 19 Brecon Road, Hay on Wye HR3 5DY (just opposite the Bowling Club car park). Should the winner be unable to take up the offer of membership for any reason, then he or she will be offered a printed, mounted and framed copy of their winning image as an alternative prize. Current members of Hay Camera Club will not be permitted to enter the competition, which will be judged by a senior and experienced officer of the Club.

Entrants **must** be resident within the area administered by Painscastle and Rhosgoch Community Council. A **maximum of three images** may be submitted by each entrant and these **must all be in JPG/JPEG format**. Images may be colour or monochrome. We are unable to accept printed images. Please ensure that entries are given an appropriate title and that they are accompanied by your name and address. Entries should be emailed to [webmaster@painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk). We shall acknowledge each successful submission, so if you don’t hear back from us please get in touch!

All entries will be recorded and anonymised before being sent to the judge, who will review all images together at the beginning of May 2020. The winner will be announced as soon as possible afterwards. We reserve the right to publish any entries on the village website, although copyright will remain with the individual photographer and all images used will be correctly attributed. Please let us know at the time of entry if you do not wish your name to be published. Images must be entirely the work of the entrant.



Shepherding – Radnorshire style

## LOCAL PAINSCASTLE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

We are about to print a new local telephone directory if you know someone who is not listed and would like to be included please let me know. Also any numbers which have changed, people moved etc. ML ([mlloydlyndy@outlook.com](mailto:mlloydlyndy@outlook.com))

## Hay Camera Club

The Club was founded in the 1940s with the aim of improving the photographic art and technique of its members. At its regular weekly meetings Club members exchange ideas and advice on everything photographic from cameras and lenses to composition and editing. Around four in-house competitions are held a year, as well as about four external inter-club “battles”, when an independent judge is invited to comment on members’ work and provide encouragement. We also enter some national competitions. Members enjoy regular workshops and presentations by both visiting professional and amateur speakers and also from their fellow members. During the summer months they frequently organise photo shoots and trips to interesting locations. The Club is affiliated to the Welsh Photographic Federation and the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain and also has links with other local clubs in the Welsh Marches, and even with one as far afield as New Zealand!

The membership includes all levels of ability from the very experienced to the complete novice and is wholly representative of the local community. They are a very friendly and sociable group of people and organise regular social events. New members are always most welcome. Please note that persons under the age of 18 or any persons deemed to be vulnerable adults must be accompanied to Club meetings or events by a responsible adult or guardian.

Please see <https://www.haycameraclub.co.uk/> for more details.

## PAINSCASTLE MOTHERS’ UNION NEWS

21st February – Wave of Prayer, Llanbedr Church 12.15pm

You are always very welcome to join us for our meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Painscastle Village Hall

Fran Shaw 01982 560480

## LOCAL INTEREST GROUP

- Thr Jan 30th Glanyrafon & Noyadd Gristley Scheme & backstories from the early 1800s Cherry Williams
- Thr Feb 27th Rob Dingle - Offa’s Dyke Path National Trail
- Thr Mar 26th Helen Whitear - ABC mapping
- Painscastle Local Interest Group meet on the last Thursday of the month in the Adullam Hall, Painscastle at 7.30pm.
- During the summer months (May-August) we meet outside Painscastle Village Hall at 7pm to car share for our outside visits. Everyone is very welcome to attend any of our meetings. For more information please see the local website [www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk](http://www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk)

## CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Adam Jones, and Effie Howard-Jones on the birth of a baby girl Wynter Rose Jones on 31st December 2019.

Apologies - one I missed - A boy Albie Gwyn Jones born 5th September 2017 to Liam Jones and Allegra Boyle.

These two are grandchildren for Jackie Jones who lives at Felbrook, Gladestry.

Brothers Adam & Liam played for Rhosgoch Football Club, and the family are from Llanyfelin, Gladestry.

Best wishes to all the family.



### Vacancies on the Board of Trustees

Applications are invited for Trustees/Directors posts for our local community transport charity, which covers Hay and the surrounding areas.

These voluntary roles will participate in the strategic direction and compliance of the scheme.

We are looking for a **Treasurer** a **current service user** people with **financial and fundraising expertise**

All appointments are made subject to a range of checks and declarations.



For an application pack or an informal chat please call 821616

Registered Charity: 1152682  
Company Number: 00413914



**Accounts and Auditing**  
**Personal & Corporate Tax Advice**  
**IHT planning**  
**Strategic Tax planning**  
**Trusts and Estates**  
**Business Advice**

**Acre Accountancy Limited**  
**Certified Accountants**  
Unit 2 Foley Works  
Foley Trading Estate  
Hereford HR1 2SF  
**Tel: 01432 266270**  
[www.acreaccountancy.co.uk](http://www.acreaccountancy.co.uk)

ANSWERS to quiz on Page 5

1. Mediterranean 2. Magnum 3. Aurora Borealis
4. Glen Campbell 5. Graffiti 6. Narnia 7. 20
8. Jean Alexander 9. Liver 10. Alaska 11. Italy
12. Isle of Man 13. Norwich 14. Cider Apples
15. Dendrology 16. Breed of dog 17. Cawl
18. 1977 19. Broderie Anglais 20. 74500 21. False
22. Coventry 23. Nelson Mandela 24. Edward VIII
25. Jacob Marley

The winner was Jo Bagley with 24½ points out of 25(half a mark deducted for question 14, Jo had written Apples but the answer wanted was Cider Apples.)

Craft Club is very grateful to everyone who took part - we raised over £100 towards the cost of running the Autumn Competitions next year.

Hosted by Painscastle and Rhosgoch Tots Group  
Sea Legs Puppet Theatre Presents...

## LITTLE BO PEEP

Wednesday 19th February 2020 at 11.00am  
Rhosgoch Golf Club

To book tickets please contact Sarah Emmerson  
07931701840

Or through our Facebook event: search "Little Bo Peep Rhosgoch"



Little Bo Peep has lost her sheep and doesn't know where to find them. Her friend Little Boy Blue is doing his best to help find the woolly runaways but he keeps falling asleep.

Meanwhile, The Nursery Rhyme Man is in his kitchen baking a surprise cake for Little Bo Peep's birthday. As he works, a naughty mouse keeps stealing the ingredients.

Sing along to your favourite nursery rhymes: Ten Green Bottles, Hickory Dickory Dock, The Grand Old Duke of York and many, many more. Watch them come to life before your eyes in Sea Legs Puppet Theatre's fabulous Tenth Anniversary show. Featuring magnificent puppets, fantastic scenery and, of course, lots of music and singing in a show especially created for children ages 2 - 7.

Recommended ages - families/ children age 2 - 7  
Running time - 45 minutes + 15 minutes "Meet the Puppets"



### Herdman Coaches

"The Hom", Clyro Hereford. HR3 5JL

Tel: 01497 847100 Or 851616 (evenings)

### GLADESTRY POP IN CAFE

Come along to the Pop in Cafe at Gladestry Village Hall every Monday morning 10 - 11 o'clock

Enjoy tea/coffee and friendly company.

All welcome. Entry £2. All proceeds to local charities.

## K.J.S CARPENTRY

Structural carassing  
1st fix carpentry work  
2nd fix carpentry work  
Fencing



Mobile: 07765477262

E-mail: [kieran.shelley@btinternet.com](mailto:kieran.shelley@btinternet.com)

### DREW ROOFING, LEADWORK AND BUILDING LTD.

ALL ROOF and CHIMNEY CARE  
Free Quotations



MOB: 07525 437083

Email: [info@roofandchimneycare.co.uk](mailto:info@roofandchimneycare.co.uk)  
[www.roofandchimneycare.co.uk](http://www.roofandchimneycare.co.uk)

## W MADDY

Carpentry Joinery & Building



- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Bespoke Joinery
- 1st & 2nd Fix
- Flooring
- & Tiling
- Renovation

Mob: 07870 586778

[waynemaddy6@gmail.com](mailto:waynemaddy6@gmail.com)



### SHEPPARD'S

PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES

Boiler installation | Boiler replacements | Boiler servicing & repairs | Central heating installations | Gas safety inspections | Landlord safety certificates | Powerflushing | Solar Heating | Heat Pumps | Fire Sprinkler systems.

Going the extra mile for all your Plumbing & Heating needs.

Worcester Gold Accredited, to give you piece of mind.

Please call 01874 712372 for further information.



### SHINE MOBILE HAIRDRESSING

All Aspects of Ladies Hairdressing - Just for You

Call Jane on  
07974 779363



## LIFE AT LUNDY

**Joe:** In the autumn I had to go to work at Lindsey and Darren's place, near Bleddfa as they don't have proper dogs. They only have a very grumpy little old brown and white terrier called Winny and a lively, always getting in the way, white



terrier called Lottie. So they called for my help to bring their sheep from the fields to be sorted for sale. I thought Lundy had some uphill but they have grown some very steep hills up there. It is alright for Darren and Ken they ride on the quad but it is hard work for me. Sometimes if Mo comes as well Gyp comes to help me, she also thinks the hills are far too steep, so she tries to get a ride on the quad. You would think someone could flatten the hills out a bit to make things easier. One day when it was just me working I got my back leg caught in one of the gates as I was jumping through. Of course humans are never around when you want them! I sang out as it was very painful and Ken did eventually come to try and rescue me but by that time I had got myself loose! I hurt my paw, it was very sore so I have had to carry on working on three legs most of the time. Of course I can't stop working, as Lundy would never continue without me! Mo says me and Ken are the same, she used a long word – think we are indispensable, I just know I am the best at working sheep! I was rather like a sheep for a while, as most of them seem to walk on three legs! It has gradually got better and I am now fine again with four good feet and as usual just raring to go.

**Gyp:** One day Mo took me in the car for a ride.

It was a very foggy day and we went to Darren's place at Llanbister Road. I had never been there before, in fact I had never had a ride in the car before so I



was quite excited by the time I got there. Mo wanted me to round up Darren's sheep to bring them into the shed to give them some medicine. However it was so foggy I couldn't even see where the fields were, let alone try and find some sheep. Mo was very disappointed with me and in the end she got a lead out of her pocket and we went together around the fields. We did eventually find the sheep, they were in several different fields so it was not easy. They were not very co-operative and I did secretly wish we had brought Joe along with us, but I don't think there would have been room for the two of us in Mo's car. I think Darren should do a bit of training with his sheep so that at least they stay together in one field not wander about all over the place. He also should have organised the weather much better, it was bad enough that everywhere was so wet and that I got covered in mud, but when you can't see where you are going, and you have never been there before, it is not much fun!

**Gaynor's Catering**

AFTERNOON TEAS AND BUFFETS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Facebook gaynors catering  
gaynorscatering@btinternet.com  
**01497 851 243**  
Nant Helygen, Rhosgoch  
Near Hay on Wye

### BRYNGWYN WI PROGRAMME

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Mon Feb 3rd | My travels in Korea - Dawn Richards                          |
| Mon Mar 2nd | A workshop with willow - Cherry Williams                     |
| Mon Apr 6th | An evening of magic food with Sue Ievers at The Hall, Cusop. |
| Mon May 4th | Open Meeting - My life in the movies - Judy Bunn             |

Meetings are held in Painscastle Village Hall, at 7.00pm, unless otherwise stated. Please contact Mollie Moore (851296) or Edwina Griffiths (851824) for more details.

### TREASURE ISLAND

Kington & District Operatic Society  
At Lady Hawkins School, Kington  
February 20th - 22nd  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday 7.30pm  
matinee on Saturday 2.30pm.

As the WI feature large in this production, KADOS is offering all local WIs a group discount; for ten people or more in a group the adult price would be £5 instead of £7.

**MERVYN THOMAS**

Unit 6A The Old Sawmills, Eardisley, Hereford, HR5 6NS  
Tel: 01432 827170 or 7735 600001  
www.mtm@outlook.com

**Zetor** **SUNWARD**

Along with a range of new Zetor tractors in stock at Eardisley we also have Sunward Excavators. Our Zetor H5X 140 available for Demo or Hire from December please book up now.

*Ex Demo Sunward Excavator SWE08B 1 tonne with canopy, Special Price!!*

We also carry a large stock of 30 year life and creosote stakes and posts, fencing materials (netting, wire etc), oils, trailer flooring sheets and parts for new and old Zetors.

Available for sale or hire for storage, curtainsider trailers ex own fleet, ideal for fert storage.

**We have a vacancy for a person to work in our shop based in Eardisley, hours to be agreed.**



**SJ Building Maintenance**  
The Old Smithy, Llandeilo Graban

**For a free quote please contact Sylvan Jones**  
Tel. 01982 560562 Mob 07850 065531

Email: [sj.building@outlook.com](mailto:sj.building@outlook.com)

- \* All types of home maintenance undertaken
- \* Kitchens & Bathrooms
- \* UPVC windows & doors



More pictures from Painscastle District Hall Christmas celebrations



**RHOSGOCH CHAPEL**

Christmas is always a busy time at the Chapel, no more so than for our carol service. This year the ladies did a great job beautifying the chapel with exquisite floral displays and seasonal decorations. Thanks to Carol, Ruth, Doreen, Maureen, Brenda and Val. Of course the highlight of the actual service is the contribution made by the children and we had some special numbers this time, sung by a perfectly dressed choir.

As Christmas seems to get more and more commercialised, the true meaning can easily disappear under the weight of advertising. At Rhosgoch Chapel, the joy of Jesus's birth is celebrated in the right way.



**Whitney Garden Machinery**

**Your Local Independent Mobile Machinery Specialist**

Our Mobile Mechanics bring their Skills to you  
On-site Servicing & Repairs for Lawnmowers, Strimmers, Ride-on Mowers, Hedgetrimmers, Brushcutters, Chainsaws & Blow-Vacs.

Chain & Tool Sharpening Stockist of Quality Oils, Chains & Strimmer Line

Sales of New & Reconditioned Garden Machinery

**Terry Smith Tel: 07870 212358** (for diagnostics!)

**Nicky Smith Tel: 07387 882349** (for bookings & orders)

email:- [wgm.2004@outlook.com](mailto:wgm.2004@outlook.com)

**Carry on Campers**



Hire one of our classic VW campervans & enjoy a more relaxed style of holiday



email: [Jackie@carryoncampers.net](mailto:Jackie@carryoncampers.net)

Tel: 01982 560 363

Website: [www.carryoncampers.net](http://www.carryoncampers.net)

**CARTREF CARE HOME**

On the 1st and 3rd Friday every month, from 3.30pm until 4.30pm, Cartref Care Home, Brecon Road, Hay on Wye, has tea and chat afternoons. All welcome.

On the 3rd Friday of every month there is a short informal service 3pm to 3.30pm which is led by the Pastor and friends from Bethesda Evangelical Church in Hay. Everyone (all ages) is very welcome.

For further details Tel: 01497-820621

**Food for Thought – Number 2**

More quotes from my Great Grandfather James Nunn's notebook.

- Seek til you find and you'll not lose your labour.
- He that travels fair knows much.
- No-one is a fool always, everyone sometimes.
- He who seeketh trouble never misseth it.
- No-one knows the weight of another's burden.
- A good pilot is not known when the sea is calm or the weather fair.
- For what thou cannot do thyself, rely not on another.
- This rule in gardening never forget, sow dry and set wet.
- Better ask twice than lose your way once.

To be continued.....

Cherry Williams

## RHOSGOCH AND PAINSCASTLE TOTS GROUP

Happy New Year! Christmas suddenly seems so long ago, however we would like to share with you some of the exciting things that the boys and girls got up to in second half of the Autumn term and the lead up to the Christmas festivities.

It was lovely to celebrate Alys Lloyd's fourth birthday at toddler group in November. Alys kindly shared a beautiful rainbow cake with her friends and all of the children enjoyed tucking in and singing happy birthday to her.

Each week at tots there is a craft activity for busy, creative fingers. In the run up to Christmas the children worked hard to prepare a Christmassy display board to coincide with Santa's teatime visit on the 13<sup>th</sup> December organized by Painscastle Hall Committee. The children created a 'messy play' snowy backdrop, hand shaped Christmas trees, a gingerbread house, paper plate snowmen and reindeers and handprint penguins. The children enjoyed building the scene week by week and were proud of their efforts. I'm sure Santa loved it too!

The final session of the year was party time at Rhosgoch Golf Club. The children thoroughly enjoyed Buzzbee soft play, meeting Father Christmas and eating a delicious lunch cooked by Betty and Phyllis. Thank you to the Golf Club for letting us use the room and making us feel so welcome.

A big thank you to James Lloyd and his team of helpers for preparing the base and putting up our new shed. Having a larger space to store our toys will make setting up and tidying away so much easier for our committee members who volunteer their time very generously.

Please come along and join us on Tuesdays in term time from 9.30 – 11.30am in Painscastle Village Hall. For £2 (£1 for siblings), your child can have lots of fun playing, crafting and singing as well as having a healthy snack. The kettle is always on along with a warm welcome.

Caz Phillips

Contact Sarah Emmerson 07931701840

Facebook - Rhosgoch and Painscastle Toddler Group

