

Rhosgoch Gossip

Volume 27 Issue 6

July / Aug 2022

£1

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Jubilee Celebrations - 2nd June 2022

We would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone from the village who worked so hard to make the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Painscastle such a huge success. The weather helped, of course, the sun really did shine for us and helped all of the outside events enormously.

Well done to all those who took part in the evening show, what a treat, especially for us 'older ones' who remembered all the decades!

A big thank you to everyone involved in the teas and the barbie – you all worked very hard and the food was enjoyed by all.

The lighting of the beacon and the fireworks completed a very memorable day.

Again a well-earned thank you.

Pat Horne, Sarah and Jimmy Shelley



LLANDEILO GRABAN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Dilys Jones ready to cut the cake made by Anne Pugh

02/06/2022



Tea laid out in the barn

GLADESTRY JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Gladestry's beacon on Hergest Hill



Jubilee sing along at Gladestry Hall

JUBILEE PICTURES contd



Painscastle Hall ready for tea



Rhosgoch with Jubilee crown



Painscastle Sports



Painscastle mug presentations



Painscastle Wheelbarrow race



Bar and burgers



Painscastle 70 years of Entertainment



Off to the beacon



Llandeilo Graban mug presentations

02/06/20



Planting of the tree and "time capsule" at Moriah Chapel under the direction of Rev. Ifor Williams.



Llandeilo Graban singalong with Margaret Evans on the keyboard

Rhosgoch YFC News

Following on from our quiz night in February, we held a pottery evening with the company 'crackpots' where we painted many different items from mugs to cars. We then had an archery afternoon with the company 'Really Rural Co' where we tested our skills with lots of different games, trying to hit targets and balloons. Good fun was had at both of these events and it was nice to see members getting back to normality after winter. Thanks must go to the Radnor YFC for getting us the money for these events through the Powys Winter Well-being grant.

It was then on to the fun ride. After weeks of preparations, we had a great day. 102 horses turned out to roam around our beautiful countryside, starting at Painscastle Hall, going onto Painscastle Hill, across to Upper Pengarth Farm, back onto the hill to head back to the Hall. We made an amazing £1354.78 profit for the club. Thank you to the Bagley family for hosting and for all their hard work. Thank you to all the land owners for letting us use their land and to all to helpers on the day.

Now it was time to focus on the annual rally. Pre-rally stock judging involved Welsh ponies section B, Hereford cattle and North Country Cheviots (park type) sheep. Well done to the members who took part in these. Special mention must go to Thomas Davies who came first in the under 16 and under 18 sheep judging, he also came away with the Jonathan Ruell Memorial Cup for the highest mark attained by a male member in either Pre-rally stock judging or the stock judging on rally day. Thomas Lloyd also came 2nd in the under 28 pre-rally sheep judging. Rally day soon came around and everyone gave it their all, picking up some great individual results. Kate Davies 2nd in the wool wrapping; Katie Coombs 2nd in the junior flower arranging; Richard Meredith 2nd in pitch an agricultural item for alternative use; and our on the spot skills challenge team came 2nd to name a few. Well done all!

As always we are looking for new members so if you are between the ages 10-28 get in touch via 'Rhosgoch YFC' on Facebook to find out more and when our next meetings are.

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IN YOUR GARDEN

The birds have quietened, tree colour has softened, growth (including weeds!) has slowed down, with many plants having finished their vegetative growth and moving into their flowering stage. Perhaps this time of the year belongs to the insects: bees, butterflies, wasps, hornets, dragonflies, damselflies... With so much research showing a drastic decline in insect populations, it's more vital than ever that us gardeners should



provide habitats for them. Areas, verges, no matter how small, left wild, and flowers that provide nectar and pollen – single ones with open centres: all these collectively help. Insect pollination is vital for so many food crops. And then there are the moths. There are around 2500 species in Britain. Whilst a few have the vivid colouration of butterflies, many repay close examination of their intricate patterning, and have wonderful names. How about the Sebaceous Hebrew Character, or the Coxcomb Prominent? Of course, many are nocturnal, and are often attracted to scented flowers. The night brings out the fragrance of a range of blooms. The most wonderful is undoubtedly the otherwise insignificant, easily grown annual, *Matthiola longipetala* or night scented stock. A few seeds sown in vacant patches around the border provide an unforgettable experience on a summer evening.

Border phlox retains its scent into the night, although it is a more complex, not sweet fragrance. D.H. Lawrence, in a typically overheated passage in "Sons and Lovers", describes his character, Mrs Morel, walking through her garden at night, seeing the moths 'ricocheting' over the phlox, whilst its 'raw, strong scent invigorated her.' (OK, I'll stop being pretentiously literary right there!)

Phlox are easy, reliable, and long-lived members of the herbaceous border, and rarely need staking. They come in a wide range of colours. Mount Fuji is a particularly beautiful variety, with its conical, pure white inflorescences. It is, however, remarkably tenacious, and difficult to eradicate if you move it. So make sure you plant it in its permanent place!

Keep an eye out for blight on taters, keep those courgettes and beans picked, sow salad leaves and oriental veg for continuity. And there's still time to sow a quick cropping variety of carrot, thus missing the first outbreak of carrot fly. Home grown carrots taste amazing compared to those bought in supermarkets.

May the Netted Pug be with you (it's a moth).

John the Gardener

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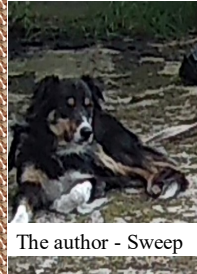
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LIFE AT LUNDY



The author - Sweep

I thought I would give you an update on things at the Lundy. There does seem to be lots going on, with the humans coming and going, they never seem to stay in the same place for long. The big excitement in June, after the fire on the top of the hill to celebrate something called the Jubilee, was

Ken's birthday. Again I don't know of many dogs who have birthdays but humans are always using birthdays as an excuse to have a jolly time. Apparently this was a special birthday, so special that all the big humans went away for the weekend, they left the little 'pups' behind. Abbie, Paige and Conor were in charge of their Irish Gran and Uncle Andrew, so they could tell them what to do, ie how to feed us dogs. The big humans went to Epsom to the Derby, which is a very important race apparently; they were all dressed up - I saw the dress rehearsal. I thought they looked funnier than normal, with special top hats and tails for the boys and glamour dresses for the girls.

Once that was over it was back to farming making silage, where they ride around the fields for a few days on the tractors and machines, just like Conor does with his pedal tractor in the house. It is mostly Ken that likes driving around in circles in the fields, I suppose he probably has more time than anyone else. The next big job was shearing, I can help with that as our sheep did not want to understand that they were meant to go up on to the shearing trailer for the shearers to take their coats off. There was a lot of explaining and persuading going on, with me and Gyp the main dogs helping to get them in the pens and move them on. Joe doesn't like that job, he says he is too old to bother with grumpy sheep that don't want to do what they are told, so he usually sits under the bike to make sure no-one goes for a joy-ride without him.



Rex on the lookout for some shoes

Mo says we will soon have to start training Rex as he is 6 months old and should be able to do something by now. To be fair he does do some things, like he gathers all the boots and shoes he can find in the house or garden and takes them out for an airing. There is usually quite a lot of shouting of "where's my shoe", "that bliming dog," etc with people hopping around looking for missing footwear.

Until next time, have a good holiday.

Sweep

MACMILLANS LONGEST DAY.

On Saturday 11th June, eight golfers at Rhosgoch Golf Club took on the challenge to complete the Longest Day Golf Challenge of 72 holes of golf in one day. They attempted this challenge to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.



In order to take this on they would need to complete 8 laps of Rhosgoch's 9 hole golf course, a challenge that would see them walking up to 20 miles. They had their fingers crossed for hitting a straight ball.

The team to take on this task were eight members split into two teams of four. Team 1 consisted of Darryl Davies, Charlie East, James Evans and Shaun Meredith. The second team was made up by Colin Bufton, Aaron Bagley, Gareth Pugh and Gags Williams.



The golfers started their day early with the first tee off at 6.30am. They kicked off their day well with their first 18 holes completed within 2 1/2 hours. The weather was on their side as the heat held off and there was only a quick shower of rain, not enough to dampen their spirits.



They continued throughout the day with their golf challenge and after lunch there were many blisters to be seen. Although their pace began to slow, they managed to



complete their challenge by 6.30pm to earn themselves a well deserved pint.

All this golf was done in memory of many loved ones and those who are still living with cancer. Their great effort seen them raise a whopping £3813 for Macmillan.



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I will continue to offer pre-recorded classes via email or private Facebook group as well as a weekly timetabled Zoom class. No classes in August they begin again in September.

For further details including booking

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www.pilatesemma.co.uk www.facebook.com/pilatesemma

A Big Thank You from Hereford

I am writing this contribution on behalf of Mary and Ken Watkins. Mary (my husband's cousin) and Ken were both born locally but have lived in Hereford since 1967. A couple of years ago they were on one of their frequent jaunts over their old stomping ground when they stopped at Painscastle bus shelter. Whilst looking at the books, Mary came across a couple of back copies of The Gossip. They both enjoyed them so much that Mary contacted Mo and they have been subscribers ever since.

Readers, particularly from Llandeilo Graban, will remember the large Watkins family. Ken was born at New Gardens and the family moved to several places in the area i.e. Luck House, Church House and possibly others, until finally settling at The Holmes, Erwood. He is the youngest and sole survivor of 11 children born, with 10 surviving into adulthood. Mary was born in Llowes Village and also lived for a few of her early years at Old Forest, Clyro, before moving to Whitehall, Llandefalle. These are the ties and memories of those times that bring them back every few weeks to our local area.

At some point, Mo had asked if they would like to write something for The Gossip. After much thought Ken decided that they could share a poem written by his late sister Florrie. It appears that Florrie did not start writing poetry until she was in her 80s and within a few years amassed quite a collection. This particular poem was written for Mary and Ken's fire-fighter son Rob. Enjoy.

Brave Fire-Fighter (written by Florrie Davies)

You go back to bed, you try to sleep,
How long will it be before that bleep?
You sometimes rush down in the night,
Not knowing what will be in sight.
You grab your clothes; you grab your shoes,
There isn't a moment of time to lose.
You do the job you're trained to do;
Someone's life depends on you.
You hurry; you see flames up high,
Thick black smoke fills the sky.
You risk your lives, some are lost,
This is the price, this is the cost.
Some of you can go to sleep,
You don't have to wait to hear that bleep.
But the fire-fighters have lives to save;
These are the ones that I call brave.

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COFFEE BREAK TIME

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

'Celia. What did you do with the chicken nibbly bits, and ice.... we need plenty of ice this weather. Phew it's gonna be another scorcher.'

Ron appeared in the doorway, grinning like a child in a sweetie shop, his tousled grey hair standing on end and his face flushed with the exertion of hauling the barbecue around the patio, 'just so it's in the right position for serving.' He loved barbecues and couldn't wait to sport his new 'barbecue outfit' comprising hat, apron and barbecue gloves...all in old gold and black, a nod to his footie team.

We'd been living here for a month and were having a barbecue for our new neighbours, who'd been really welcoming and helpful. I'd been dreading it, not because our new neighbours weren't nice, but they were so much more accomplished and better educated than me that I always felt inadequate in their company. Ron says I'm fantastic and they couldn't hold a candle to me but, as my husband, he would say that wouldn't he and as a successful Marketing Manager for a large IT company, he's one of them I thought forlornly, clever and accomplished, done something with his life. I'd just been a secretary, nothing as exciting as a doctor or dentist or magazine editor (to name but a few of the professional occupations to be represented at today's gathering). Sometimes I regretted not continuing my education, but I couldn't change anything now.

For Ron's sake, I pasted on my best smile, sporting my new BBQ outfit, a rather snazzy pair of white leggings with a blue tunic topdotted with sequins... (I'm a sucker for a bit o' bling). This WAS going to be a success, for Ron's sake. He could mix with anybody, and usually found something to talk about, especially if the subject of sport could be edged into the conversation.

Socialising was in full swing when the phone rang; Ron answered it on his way to the kitchen for more supplies.

'It's for you C, the Refuge.' Quizzical looks passed amongst our guests as I hurried to take the call.

I replaced the receiver and eventually managed to prise Ron away from his beef burgers to tell him that there was a problem at the Refuge.

'I need to go straight away, there's only one person on duty and something awful has happened, though I couldn't get out of Molly what it was. She was in a right state. I'm sorry love but I must go.'

I'd been helping at the Women's Refuge Centre for some time, just as a supporter, another pair of hands really and seeing what I saw there made me so grateful for my husband and family.

Understanding as always, my lovely husband said of course I must go but to be careful and not take any risks. I promised and kissed him, hastily shouting my apologies to our guests.

On reaching the Refuge, mayhem awaited. Elaine, the only manager on duty, lay on the floor, covered in blood. Frightened, hysterical women and sobbing children surrounded her.

'What happened?' I shouted, kneeling beside Elaine. The group of women quickly filled me in a visit from a knife wielding drunken partner seeking revenge. 'Es run off, the coward,' explained Molly, one of the guests, who'd already called an ambulance.

I did my best to stop the bleeding to the wound but I needed something to stem the flow. There was nothing for it, quickly removing my beautiful top, I placed it gently on the wound, making sure the sequins were facing away from it. I was relieved when the blood flow began to slow down and I spoke reassuringly to the now barely conscious Elaine. What a sight greeted the paramedics, a woman clad only in bra and leggings administering first aid to a knife victim.

Borrowing a top from one of our guests, I travelled

behind the ambulance, having called Elaine's husband who said he would meet us at the hospital.

Promising to phone later, I quickly gave my details to a young lady constable, confirming I would visit the police station tomorrow to give my statement.

Our neighbours were now aware of where I'd been and what had happened (I'd phoned Ron to appraise him of the circumstances and assure him I was ok).

Everyone stood gaping as I made my entrance. 'It's a borrowed top,' I said, breaking the silence. 'I'm afraid my own was used as a bandage,' I explained thinking they were horrified at the sartorial inelegance of my current attire. Then I realised that my beautiful white leggings were covered with smatterings and patches of blood.

'Oh. I'm so sorry, I hadn't noticed..' I wavered, swallowing hard. Suddenly strong arms engulfed me as Ron gave me a bear-like hug and kissing my hair said, 'I am so very, very proud of you' and all at once everyone started clapping with a chorus of 'so are we' and 'well done' ... and.... I cried.

Rhosgoch and Painscastle Book Group

Rhosgoch and Painscastle now have our own book group. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.00 pm in a member's house, and we discuss a book, and chat, and choose the next one. Very friendly and informal. If you would like to join please send an email to James Martin, jamesofhay@gmail.com

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POWYS GARDENS NEWS AND OPENINGS FOR CHARITY

Enjoyed the celebrations over the Jubilee weekend? Then why not get involved with our Great British Garden Party? The official dates are Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th July,

but choose when suits you best. For ideas, recipes, styling tips, even how to make a flower crown go to ngs.org.uk/gardenparty Then invite your guests to help raise funds for some of the best-loved nursing and health charities in the UK. And for somewhere to visit:

Sun 10th July

1:30pm-5:30pm Tynrhos, Newbridge-On-Wye, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6ND Admission: £5. Teas

Wed 13th July

6pm-8pm Tranquility Haven, 7 Lords Land, Whitton, Knighton LD2 3HU Admission £4.50

Sat 23rd & Sun 24th July

2pm-5:30pm Church House, Llandefalle, Brecon LD3 0ND Admission: £5. Teas

11am-5:30pm Brookside, Llanbister, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6TW Admission: £5. Teas

Sun 24th July

2pm-5pm Glanoer, Bettws, Hundred House, Llandrindod Wells LD1 5RP Admission: £5. Teas. Picnics welcome

Sat 30th & Sun 31st July

11am-5pm Evancoyd Court, Evancoyd, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2PA Admission: £6. Teas

Sun 31st July

11:30am-5pm Monaughty Mill, Monaughty, Knighton LD7 1SH Admission £4.50. Teas

Fri 5th August

Pre-booking essential Welsh Lavender, Maesmynis, Builth Wells, LD2 3HU Admission: £5. Teas

Friday 12th August

Pre-booking essential Welsh Lavender, Maesmynis, Builth Wells, LD2 3HU Admission: £5. Teas

Wed 17th August

6pm-8pm Tranquility Haven, 7 Lords Land, Whitton, Knighton LD2 3HU Admission £4.50

Fri 19th August

Pre-booking essential Welsh Lavender, Maesmynis, Builth Wells, LD2 3HU Admission: £5. Teas

Sun 21st August

2pm-5:30pm Tyn y Cwm, Beulah, Llanwrtyd Wells LD5 4TS Admission: £5. Teas

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LOCAL INTEREST GROUP

Our May meeting was held at Newchurch where a substantial crowd gathered, despite the rain, to investigate the history of the village. We toured the village, beginning at the church where Ann Dean read an excerpt from Kilvert's Diary relating to the area. We moved on to Great House where Norman Lloyd told us of the renovations he had made to this historic property. Vicky Lykke-Dahn then told us about the history of her cottage. We walked to the other end of the village where Steve Halliwell showed us the quarry and the site of the old village well. Dennis Moore, a long-time resident of the village, told a few stories of times gone by and Joan Hughes added her reminiscences. We saw where the road had been changed in the twentieth century, then we returned to the chapel where we enjoyed refreshments provided by Ian Ball, Debbie Lloyd and Rachel Jones while watching a film show of old photographs taken by Ian's mum in the 1970s. There are folders of the history that we have unearthed for the meeting and these are in both the church and the chapel at Newchurch.



The blacksmith's house which was demolished to widen the road

For our June meeting we visited Lower Pengarth by the invitation of Lucy Trench and Robert Collingwood and family. Since buying the farm in August 2019, they have made considerable changes, planting hedgerows, renewing old hedges and planting trees. They have also established heritage leys, wild-flower meadows, and created a pond. It was very interesting to see how much work had been put in, in so short a time. Of course many of the projects will take several years to complete but it was lovely to share in the family's enthusiasm for their little bit of the local environment and perhaps we will go back to see the developments in the next few years. Again we enjoyed some lovely refreshments while viewing a very interesting house.

All our meetings are open to everyone. We meet on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm in summer and 7.30 for the winter meetings in Painscastle Village Hall. If you have an interest in our locality or would like to lead a visit or have a project in mind, we are always interested in hearing about things of interest in the district.
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SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat July 23rd 10am at Clyro Village Hall stalls with cakes, plants, craft etc in aid of Air Ambulances
 Sun July 24th Kilvert Pilgrimage Newchurch 10am
 Thr July 28th Local Interest Group visit Llanshiver 7pm
 Sun July 31st Open Garden at Lower Gaer, Huntington 2-5pm
 Sun Aug 7th Car Boot Sale at Clyro Court 8am - 12noon
 Thr Aug 11th Rhosgoch Gardening Club Show at Rhosgoch Golf Club
 Sat Aug 20th Plant Sale at Butter Market, Hay 9am-3pm
 Thr Aug 25th Local Interest Group visit Huntington 7pm
 Sat Aug 27th Summer Festival at Rhosgoch Golf Club 2pm
 Sun Sept 4th Car Boot Sale at Clyro Court 8am - 12noon
 Sun Sept 25th Clyro Court Re-union afternoon tea
 Sat Oct 15th Autumn Competitions at Painscastle Village Hall

HERMON CHAPEL RHOSGOCH

No service on Sunday July 10th
 SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT 2.30pm

PAINSCASTLE BAPTIST CHAPEL

Next services:-
 A United Service on Sunday July 31st at 2.30pm with Rev Janet Russell.
 Anniversary Service on August 14th at 6.30pm.

MORIAH BAPTIST CHAPEL, LLANDEILO GRABAN

July 10th Anniversary 6pm
 July 31st Painscastle Joint Service
 Aug 21st Communion Rev Brian Reardon
 Aug 28th Penny Robinson
 Sept 11th Bailey Heulog Harvest
 Services at 2.30pm

EBENEZER CHAPEL, NEWCHURCH

Sunday July 10th 3pm Mr Malcolm Jones
 Sunday July 31st United service Painscastle 2.30pm
 Sunday Aug 14th 3pm Rev Royston Bevan
 A warm welcome extended to all at any of these services.

Tablet Foil Recycling

There are now several options for the recycling of Tablet foils. You can drop off your bags of foils at:

- Hay on Wye Library:
Monday- 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-6pm
Thursday- 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-6pm
Friday- 1.30pm-6pm
Saturday- 10am-12.30pm
- Clyro Church porch
- Llangorse Church porch
- Squirrels Nest Rhosgoch - 5th to 8th August & 2nd to 5th September

PAINSCASTLE RECYCLING & RUBBISH COLLECTION

Recycling is collected every Monday, rubbish collection is every three weeks and the next dates for rubbish are:

July 11th Aug 1st Aug 22nd Sept 12th

Garden waste is collected every fortnight on Tuesdays from March to November for an annual fee:

July 19th Aug 2nd Aug 16th Aug 30th

ERWOOD & PAINSCASTLE CHURCHES SERVICES

Sun July 10th 4th after Trinity
 10.30am Llandeilo Graban Morning Prayer
 Sun July 17th 5th after Trinity
 10.30am Llanbedr Eucharist
 10.30am Crickadarn Morning Prayer
 Sun July 24th 6th after Trinity (Kilvert Pilgrimage)
 9.30am Bryngwyn Eucharist
 10.30am Gwenddwr Eucharist
 Sun July 31st 7th after Trinity
 10.30am Newchurch Holy Communion
 2.30pm Llanbadarn y Garreg Eucharist
 Sun Aug 7th 8th after Trinity
 10.30am Aberedw Eucharist
 2.30pm Llandewi Fach Eucharist
 Sun Aug 14th 9th after Trinity
 10.30am Llandeilo Graban Eucharist
 Sun Aug 21st 10th after Trinity
 10.30am Bryngwyn Eucharist
 Sun Aug 28th 11th after Trinity
 10.30am Gwenddwr Eucharist
 10.30am Llanbedr Eucharist
 Sun Sept 4th 12th after Trinity
 10.30am Aberedw Eucharist
 2.30pm Llandewi Fach Harvest Eucharist
 Sun Sept 11th 13th after Trinity
 10.30am Llandeilo Graban Eucharist
 Sun Sept 18th 14th after Trinity
 10.30am Bryngwyn Harvest Eucharist
 10.30am Crickadarn Harvest Eucharist
 Sun Sept 25th 15th after Trinity
 10.30am Llanbedr Harvest Eucharist
 6.30pm Gwenddwr Harvest Eucharist

*God bless you and those you love.
 Paul and Carolyn XX*

SUNDAY 24TH JULY 2022

23RD ANNUAL KILVERT PILGRIMAGE

9.30 - 10am Bryngwyn Communion Service
 Transport to Newchurch
 10 - 10.40am Newchurch Assemble for start of walk.
 Readings and laying of flowers at Emeline's grave
 12 - 1pm Bryngwyn Readings and Musical Recital by
 TIM EDWARDS, Classical Guitar.
 BYO Picnic. Tea/Squash provided
 3pm Ireland short rest
 4 - 5pm Llanbedr Afternoon tea (provided) and laying
 of flowers at the graves of John Price and
 Aylmer Alexander
 6- 6.30pm Llandewi Fach Readings, Closing Prayer
 and Disperse.
 Transport back to Newchurch
 and intermediate points.

More details, if needed, from
 chambers2444@yahoo.co.uk or 01497 821414

Total Distance about 9 miles

JOIN OR LEAVE AT ANY STAGE

MOBILE POST OFFICE

Monday	Erwood 9.15 to 10am Boughrood 10.15 to 11.45am
Tuesday	Boughrood 10.30 to 11.45 Erwood 12 to 12.45 Painscastle 1 to 2pm
Wednesday	Boughrood 10.15 to 11.45 Erwood 12 to 12.45 Gladestry 3.00 to 3.45pm
Friday	Boughrood 10.15 to 11.30

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Fresh bread daily, newspapers, (including the 'Gossip')
Fruit & veg, Lotto etc.
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GLADESTRY NEWS

GLADESTRY SHOP & PUB

The shop is open at the Royal Oak, from Tuesday to Saturday 11.30am to 2.30pm The pub is open:-
Tuesday to Friday 11.30am - 2.30pm & 5.30pm to close
Saturday 12noon to close
Sunday 12noon to 5pm Tel: 01544-370586 for bookings
First Saturday of every month - brunch 11.30am to 1pm
Wed Jul 13th Cribb Night
Thr Jul 14th Pizza Night
Wed Jul 27th Quiz Night

POP IN CAFÉ at Gladestry Village Hall every Monday 10.30am to 11.30am. No longer need to bring your own drink, tea and coffee will be served inside.

MOBILE POST OFFICE Every Wednesday 3 - 3.45 pm

GLADESTRY PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

runs at Gladestry Village Hall on a Friday morning between 9.30 - 11.30. Parents and Grandparents with pre-school aged children are welcome to join us to play, craft and socialise with others from the local community.

The group typically runs between 09.30 and 11.30 on a Friday morning, follow us on facebook to keep up to date with events or cancelled sessions <https://www.facebook.com/Gladestryparentandtoddlergroup>

Your 1st session is free and £1 per child for subsequent visits.

Tea and coffee is provided for grown ups, we break for snack at around 10.30 so bring a snack for your child with you.

Job Opportunities at Gladestry Church in Wales School

Due to the retirement of our long-standing post holder, we have vacancies for a cleaner and a mid-day supervisor from 1st September 2022.

A cleaner is required for 2 hrs per day during term time plus 40 hrs for recess cleaning (times to be agreed). The mid-day supervisor position is for 1.25 hrs per school day to cover the lunch break. Both positions are being advertised on Powys County Council's website where you will also find more information and online application forms - <https://recruitment.powys.gov.uk>

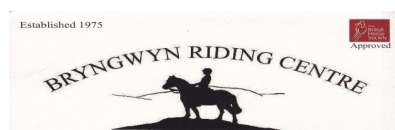
If you are interested in either position and require more information please contact the headteacher, Mrs Beck, at school; telephone - 01544 370207; email - office@gladestry.powys.sch.uk

W.I.

June's meeting involved a most enjoyable and interesting visit to the newly renovated Hay Castle, in fact we were privileged to be the castle's first tour (not related to the Festival). Mari Fforde gave us an introduction to the work that had been completed and then Peter Ford took us on a most informative tour of the building. We learned all about the previous occupiers, from Matilda, the castle's probable "builder" in the 12th century, right up to the legendary Richard Booth, self-styled King of Hay. (His crown, sceptre and orb are on display, along with his desk, on the top floor.) The castle has had a fascinating history and has survived two disastrous fires in the 20th century. In 2011, it was sold to the Hay Castle Trust who have restored the building most sympathetically. We had a great time, and one of the highlights was the delicious tea and cakes in the café after the tour.

July's meeting will be a picnic lunch in the garden of member Tracey (in the Village Hall if wet).

In August Mo Lloyd has volunteered to lead a visit to Newchurch for a tour of the village and information on some of the properties. Tea in the church will complete the afternoon.



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EDITOR'S NOTES

I hope you enjoy this edition of the 'Gossip'. Thanks to the many people who have sent contributions in. Special thanks for all the photos.

There are a few events happening and most of the local groups and clubs are now up and running so please support them if you can. We continue with the Kington Writing Group coffee break item; I hope you enjoy it. We are always looking for pieces large or small to make this a good local read. Thank you to everyone who has sent in articles, news and especially the photographs from the various Jubilee celebrations.

I would like to thank our delivery team for their outstanding efforts. Deadline for next issue [Sept/Oct 2022] is 31st August 2022. [mlloydldundy@outlook.com or 01497-851609].

Subscriptions will soon be due, they run from September each year and are £6 for local delivery, £12 if posted, or pick up a copy from Clyro Filling Station, Boughrood Shop or Gladestry pub. Adverts also need renewal £10 per annum.

Articles are the opinion of the respective writers. All errors and omissions excepted (E&OE).

NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER

A huge thank you to the organisers of the Jubilee weekend in Painscastle. It was an absolutely memorable weekend. I think I attended 7 events in all, and ate way too much cake! For over 70 years, Her Majesty has been the most special symbol of our Nation – an enduring reminder of service, devotion and selflessness. It was wonderful to see so many communities involved and thank you to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure celebrations ran smoothly, from decorating and baking to building the magnificent Beacons which lit up the sky.

I attended the recent meeting in Henderson Hall, Talybont, regarding the purchase of Gilestone Farm, with James Evans. We have been inundated with letters from the surrounding community and farmers concerned about the disappearance of yet more farmland. At a time when food production is critical, I am troubled that the farm tenancy should be offered to an events company – albeit a world class one. There are a number of young farmers in the local area who would jump at the chance to farm that land and build themselves a future. I am surprised the Welsh Government appears not to have offered any of them that opportunity.

I remain concerned about the recent demands on Powys Health Board and the alarming reports from under pressure A&Es across Wales. Without an A&E in Powys, we are asked to travel to The Prince of Wales, Merthyr, The Grange, Newport or Hereford Hospital. It is important for patients that Health Boards communicate with each other at critical times, so that constituents are aware of any developments or changes.

Congratulations to everyone who took part in Radnor YFC Rally Day, it was a joy to see so many people back together. We have so much talent amongst our young people and you all deserve an extra mention. A welcome announcement from the Post Office is the new big red van outside the Roast Ox on a Tuesday, from 1-2pm. Please support if you can. In the mean-time, if I can help at all please get in touch.

Do drop me a line if there is anything I can help you with. I can be reached on Office 029 2233 8545 Mob 07515-034124 or Email Fay.Jones.MP@parliament.uk

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman, Sian Davies, Lletycoed: 07747 402200
Vice-chairman, Bruce Evans, Lower Pentre: 01497 851259
David Nicholls, Castlefield Close: 01497 851331
Jenny Smith, Penrhiw: 01982 560289
Becky Miles, The Cwm: 01497 851263
Iris Lloyd, Caemawr: 01497 851639
Ollie Price, Pen-y-felin, Rhosgoch: 01497 851608
Russell Bowkett, The Fferm: 01497 851233
Clerk: Marion Hughes, Waun y Pentre 01497 851628
Minutes are on the Painscastle-Rhosgoch website:
www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk
Meetings are held on third Monday of every month.

CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Jay Heir-Jones and Nathan Heir on the birth of a baby boy, Elwyn William Keith Heir-Jones, on 25th May 2022, a first grandchild for Richard and the late Julie Jones from Castle Meadow, Painscastle.

Also best wishes to Rhys and Lauren Price (nee Poulton) on the birth of a baby boy, Arthur Ivor Price, on 14th June 2022, a first grandchild for Jeff & Wendy Poulton, Pen Llwyn, Llandewi Fach, also a first grandchild for Mark & Lowri Price, Quarry Cottage.

NEWS FROM WELSH ASSEMBLY

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! and what a day it was at the Jubilee Celebrations for Her Majesty the Queen in Painscastle. It was great to be back on home turf for the celebrations and taking an active role in the celebrations. It was fantastic to have a great member of our community, Ruby Bagley, taking on the role of HM the Queen, a role which I am sure most will agree she did extremely well!

The day was one of great enjoyment for many with the sports, cakes, the Spice Girls and the run to the top of the hill to light the Jubilee beacon as the pinnacle of the day and much fun was had after at the Hall talking with friends who many have not seen for 2 years due to the pandemic. The team who organised the day did a fantastic job and I can't wait for the next event.

It was not long after the Jubilee when a few of us came together to raise money to support MacMillan Cancer research with the 72 hole challenge up the Golf Club. It was a great day organised by my team captain Daryl with Shaun, Charlie and me along with the other team of Buffy, Aaron, Geggs and Pughy all taking part to raise money for a very worthwhile charity! I wanted to say a big thanks to the Golf Club and Betty for keeping us all fed and watered throughout the day!

It was good to meet with local farmers from the area with the NFU to discuss the current issues facing the agricultural industry in Wales; a robust conversation was had with some good information that I can use when the Welsh Government is shaping future policies for rural communities.

Down in Cardiff, it has been an interesting couple of months with plenty of Welsh Government policies coming forward which will have a significant impact on our community with regards to holiday lets, second homes, more politicians and the new agricultural policy.

So plenty for me to be getting on with and, as ever, if anyone wants any help with anything please do not hesitate to contact me. My details are on my website www.jamesevans.wales or on 01874793142.

Best wishes to all,

James Evans MS

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NEWS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL

As this is my first update as your County Councillor I intend to keep it quite brief.

Firstly, I would like to thank you for electing me as the Councillor for the Llanelwedd Ward which, from May, has been extended to include the area covered by the Painscastle Community Council Area.

I am honoured that you have placed your trust in me to represent you and your views in the work I undertake with the Council and I hope that I can meet your expectations.

I would like to thank Cllr Maureen MacKenzie for her work as the previous member for the old Llanelwedd Ward and I look forward to working alongside Cllr James Gibson-Watt in his new challenge as the council leader and to thank him for representing the Painscastle CC area for many years.

For those of you that don't know me, I have lived in Radnorshire all my life, the first 26 years in Gladestry (Llanlyfelin), 5 years in Llandrindod and the last 29 years in Aberedw. I worked for the County Council for 38 years and now work part time as a Mentor to apprentices undertaking their Level 7 Accountancy qualification.

Since being elected on 5th May, I have joined one of the two independent member groups and undertaken a number of induction training courses for the new members. In discussion with the other members of my group, I have been appointed to the Health and Care Scrutiny Committee and attended my first meeting of the Committee on 29th June. I am also a member of the Planning Committee and attended my first meeting on 16th June, together with the working group that will be develop the new Local Development Plan alongside officers for the period commencing in 2025-26.

Since being elected, I have worked on a number of specific issues raised by individual members of the ward, some of which I have dealt with and some of which are ongoing, and I continue to discuss these with the relevant officers and services.

The main concerns that were raised with me during both the election period and in the last 6 – 7 weeks are issues with the conditions of the roads in the ward and I intend to discuss these issues with officers at a meeting on 12th July.

If you wish to raise or discuss an issue with me, you can contact me on my mobile (07464) 166262 or via my two emails Teddyllyanfelin@me.com and Cllr.Gareth.Jones1@pows.gov.uk

NEWS FROM GWERNYFED COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Many will recognise the new Gwernyfed councillor: William Lloyd was brought up in Painscastle and went to Rhosgoch School from 1987 to 1994. His mother Grace is one of the main contributors to 'the Gossip'

Local residents will be aware of the overall results in the recent County Council elections. The new Administration, that follows from the votes cast on 5th May, is led by Cllr James Gibson-Watt, who represents the Glasbury ward, as Executive Leader.

The Cabinet is a partnership between the Welsh Liberal Democrats and Welsh Labour, including broader support from the Green Party and a number of non-aligned, independent members.

The recently announced Cabinet consists of seven Welsh Liberal Democrats and four Welsh Labour members after a 'progressive partnership' agreement was reached by both parties.

Cllr Gareth Ratcliffe, who represents Hay-on-Wye, has been appointed Chairman of Council and Cllr Beverley Baynham, who represents Presteigne, was elected as Vice-Chair.

There might be one face on the Powys County Council Website that the residents of Painscastle and Rhosgoch will recognise as one of their own, Cllr William Lloyd who represents the Welsh Liberal Democrats in the Gwernyfed Ward.

Since being successful, I have been focusing my efforts on community action, which I'd built through The Co-op and the Talgarth and District Regeneration Group:

I called the Hay and Talgarth Locality together to discuss the plans for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

I've been supporting the rise of the Three Cocks Matters Action Group who have started to improve their community for their residents.

I actively encouraged residents to vote in the first Llanigon Community Council election since 1979 and became a Community Councillor of Llanigon and Gwernyfed Community Councils

I've supported the Llanigon Greenspace Working Group to deliver a petition to the Leader of the Council asking for Llanigon School to be kept as a community green space for residents from the surrounding area.

I've secured a grant for a comprehensive feasibility study of greenspace, which includes a three centre local play sufficiency assessment including Gwernyfed Avenue, Gwernyfed Park, Llanigon and Woodlands Avenue in Talgarth.

I've supported the locality raise money for the Disasters Emergency Committee, who support the Ukrainian Humanitarian Crisis, and also events that raise money for Mind.

My role as a County Councillor is to work closely with fellow Councillors and groups to improve forgotten community areas, listen to local people, support and signpost people who need a helping hand and be visible all year round to deal with local issues.

William Lloyd County Councillor Gwernyfed Ward.



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**Hay & District Dial-a-Ride
May Parish Magazines Editorial
2022**

MINIBUS BACK IN ACTION

You may have heard that on the night of Monday May 23rd, our minibus was drilled into overnight causing an oil spill in the Co-op carpark and damage to the vehicle. Since then, it has been off the road while we were waiting for its repair. However, we are now happy to announce it has been mended and is back in action. We are grateful for everyone's support and patience during this time. Thank you and see you on the road!

SAVE THE DATE

Please join us on Saturday August 20th for a plant sale taking place in Hay-on-Wye Buttermarket, with all proceeds going to Dial-a-Ride. The event will also be an opportunity to find out more about the service offered by Dial-a-Ride. If you've been thinking about becoming a member or giving some of your time to volunteering with us why not come down for a chat to find out more information. We'd love to see you there; your support is always much appreciated and allows us to keep doing what we do.

NEW DRIVERS WANTED

We are still looking for new volunteer drivers for our minibuses and community cars. The role is highly flexible and can fit around you; you only need to commit to one weekday per month. No experience in minibus driving is needed and we offer all training. All appointments are subject to references and DBS checks. You can find application forms on our website or pop into the office for a chat if you'd like to find out more. Dial-a-Ride relies on the kindness of others and your time will help us to keep delivering this vital service to those who need it most. Thank you.

Hay Dial-a-Ride:

website: <https://www.haydialaride.com>

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phone: 01497 821616

You can also find us on Facebook.



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**COFFEE BREAK TIME the KINGTON SCRIBBLERS
THE QUEEN**

A few years ago I had the unsettling task of clearing my Mum and late Dad's home prior to selling to fund Mum's care. I suspect a number of us are familiar with that horrid situation. It felt so intrusive going through their possessions of a lifetime, assessing which needed to go to auction as part of her assets, which few pieces had little commercial but maybe sentimental value to get the solicitors' permission to offer to their friends and grandchildren as keepsakes, and which were for charity bags or the tip – after half a century of being cherished there.

One comparatively straightforward job was to go through their photo collection. Unlikely to be any commercial value there.

There were thousands and thousands, boxes, bags, drawers. Oof. Hundreds of 8mm films to watch; yes the projector Dad had made was still there and working, sort of. The automatic slide projector was not so obliging. Fortunately a little single slide viewer did deign to show me Dad's slides, which is the early days he had catalogued meticulously in their boxes. The old pantry had always been a bit damp, which had eaten away Dad's beautiful but minuscule writing. Nothing for it, I would have to view all his slides one by one to be sure there was nothing vital. There were so many of them, I very nearly didn't do a thorough job, but am so very glad I did. Two family shots never seen before by my lot, and a few of my and friend Ginny's graduation showing us in gowns and mortar boards, as well as our parents eating strawberries and cream. Neither Ginny nor I had any photos at all of that time. So now we've had them printed our children and grandchildren can see what we two friends looked like in 1968 – young and horribly smug !

The last photos were the prints. Much easier to view of course and again many thousands to flick through. None were worth saving till I got to the last cardboard box – isn't it always the way? There in all its black and white glory was a charabanc from the early 1900s with a Cardiff GWR works outing, my Gran and Grandad in front and a small boy Dad between them, and also a set of black and white prints I had taken as a junior school child on visits to Blenheim Palace, pigeons in Trafalgar Square, and The Queen in headscarf up on a cart pointing enthusiastically at a Badminton Horse Trials cross country jump, a very young Prince Charles and even smaller Princess Anne peering over the cart edge. I remember sidling closer to see the jump Her Majesty was pointing at. And quaking as the horse pounded over it and the ground shook as it thundered past. It was terrifying. I adored donkeys on the beach and Dartmoor ponies, but these huge powerful beasts at Badminton were of a different order entirely. I decided then and there jumping wasn't for me. Admire from afar, ride along gently lanes, trek on the flat, even the occasional gymkhana race when someone needed me to ride a pony; yes all those I was lucky enough to do later on. But when it came to jumping I was absolutely right. I was hopeless. Poor ponies.

Princess Anne on the other hand grew up to take on those powerful beasts. One of my favourite photos re-seen in the Platinum Jubilee displays was of The Queen back in 1971 presenting a cup and European Gold Medal to her daughter. Our royal ladies really do have nerves of steel !



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Booking essential

GARDENING CLUB NEWS

During the summer months we try to arrange Garden Visits for our members, and following a talk by a representative from the National Garden Scheme earlier this year, we decided to take a group along to the New Radnor Open Gardens on Saturday 26 June.

We were very lucky to have a dry (though windy) afternoon, and some of us managed to see all seven gardens. There were lots of beautiful roses on show in the cottage-style gardens, and at least one



garden featured some espaliered apple trees. There were also some more unusual plants, like a stunning red Tea Tree and an Abutilon (Indian Mallow). We ended our walk around the gardens with tea and cake in the old school and I would thoroughly recommend putting this in your diary for next year if you haven't been before. In the words of one of our members, "it was



an enjoyable afternoon, and provided plenty of gardening inspiration."

And if you fancy a trip even sooner, The New Radnor Gardening Club holds an annual show on the first Saturday in September - no animals, but bakes, flowers, veg and art and crafts.



Next Meetings

14 July - Garden Visit to Tommy's Garden, 6pm at Upper Llanshiver

11 August - Annual Show

September - Garden Visit TBA

Lower Gaer Open Garden
Huntington, HR5 3QB
Sunday 31st July 2022
2:00 - 5:00pm
(Admission: £5.00 per adult (children free))

Lower Gaer is the far end of Huntington, towards Macclesfield on A59. Our aim will bring you straight to the property. Parking in nearby field.

2 acre garden created over the past 10 years including: pond, trees, shrubs, pergola & rose arch. Perennial borders, orchards and vegetable plot. Scenic views overlooking Herdset Ridge and the gently rolling Huntington hills

Tea, coffee, cakes & plant stall

Disabled Access: The majority of the garden is laid in a slightly sloping terrain, but the courtyard is gravelled and there are steps to the courtyard gardens.

Please Note: There will be no table football available. It has been removed as it is not suitable for the garden.

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Offa's Dyke 15 Race in Numbers

The OD-15 running race from Hay to Kington was held again in its original format on Saturday 11 June, the first time since 2019.

The first ever Offa's Dyke 15 was held 45 years ago, and was part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations. It was so successful that it was subsequently held every year until the Foot and Mouth Outbreak in 2001 brought its 23 year history to an end – or so we thought.

After a 14 year gap, Stratford based Tempo Events decided to resurrect the race and they held it from 2015 to 2019 when it was then halted by an outbreak of a different kind.

In 2021 Tempo held a Covid-rules-compliant version of the race, but this year they were back to the race proper, with over 200 entrants, and 193 completing the course.



The route of the race follows the Offa's Dyke Footpath as much as possible.

In order to make the course obstacle-free for the runners we rely on the goodwill of landowners and land users to move livestock so that gates can be opened for the duration of the race. This year a section marshal arranged for a fallen tree to be cleared which had fallen across the footpath, thus ensuring no delays and no injuries either.

For the race this year 36 gates had to be opened, and many farmers not only moved livestock out of their fields, but one

farmer even took out the kissing gate on the edge of his field to keep the runners moving swiftly.

There are 52 marshal points along the route, each covered by one or two marshals, and this year we had 78 marshals. If you then add the Tempo Events team, the Deputy Mayor of Hay who started the race, medical and support staff, coach drivers taking runners into Hay for the start or back to Hay at the end, Lady Hawkins' School staff and the catering team, nearly 100 people were involved in making sure the race went as smoothly as possible.

The feedback from the runners was incredibly positive – tough race, fantastic views, lovely marshals, can't wait for next year.

Thanks to all who helped in any way, from giving permission to use your land or putting out signs, from spread-



ing the word and turning out to cheer on the runners.

If you'd like to be involved in the race next year, either marshalling or running, please contact Allison Joyce for more information.

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CHRISTIANITY IN ACTION

There was a time not so long ago when the Chapel was the centre of a community and belief in God was commonplace. People would assemble every Sunday to meet and talk about their lives and problems. In that way members of a community found support and comfort in times of stress and sadness. Also, there was a general sense of well-being stemming from being together with others who shared similar lifestyles and beliefs, in times of happiness as in times of sadness and grief.

The core of this relationship was a profound belief in God as the creator of all life. Generally all believed that God was at the centre of their lives, and was vital to it's comfort. All of that has gone now, replaced by a more pragmatic approach to life where money is at the centre. Instead of a certainty that life was ruled by God, belief is now that life is ruled by money and the possessions that money will buy. That is not to say that love and affection are subservient to economics, but financial well-being dominates in the widest sense.

Along with the loss of belief in God is a loss of belief in goodness as a means to earn a life in paradise after death. Worse still, religious belief is often the subject of humour, fit only to be the butt of poor jokes. Programmes mocking religion are frequent visitors to the TV schedules. Sadly, it seems that Christianity, with its essential gentleness and tendency to forgive, is the most targeted of all the beliefs. Apparently, during a comedy turn in a club, the jokester took time to parody Christianity. At the end of the show, two people went up to him and said, "We are Christians and we feel very insulted." The merry prankster replied, "Well forgive me then!"

But it wasn't always so and in our community, shared belief was very strong and very binding. You may have noticed the recent news about Maesyronnen Chapel near Glasbury. They have just celebrated 325 years of worship – which continues to this day. That's not far off our own Chapel in Rhosgoch.

Now a member of the Welsh Congregational Federation, Hermon Chapel, named after a mountain which was the scene of the Transfiguration of Jesus and was considered a refuge, was built in 1849 by a local farmer John Griffiths of Portway on a former cock-fighting site, part of Great House Farm. The stable attached to the Chapel is probably where the current kitchen is now; the mounting block is still in situ. It cost £88.7s.4d to build and included a stable sufficient for six horses. Three services were held on the opening day at 10:30 am, 2:30 pm. and 6:00 pm. each with a pair of different preachers. From the very beginning the Chapel was well attended. It appears in Kilvert's Diary that when the Reverend visited Rhosgoch in 1870 he noted that full congregations were usual and that 200 was not unknown. (*I'm indebted to John Price for the historical data.*)

That is not true today – even though we still have a service every Sunday at 2.30pm. Though our congregations have reached over 30 that is not the norm any more, except for funerals. A great shame as a house of worship is the one place anyone can go and be received in a friendly way by all present. To our thinking all are welcome and if they are in need of comfort then it's a privilege to help. As Christians, we see that as God's wish – just like the old days.

God is always there no matter how unfashionable. He helps us get through our lives, giving us something infinitely kinder than the search for money. And He will be there when we die with a place in heaven.

Mike Head, Deacon at Hermon Chapel



Commemorative cross raised at Maesyronnen Chapel celebration (courtesy of Janet Russell)

MORE JUBILEE PICTURES



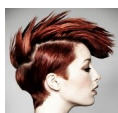
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PAINSCASTLE AND RHOSGOCH PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

With much excitement and enthusiasm, toddler group started back up after the Whitsun half-term holiday. We thank all of the families who have returned to the group after the unforeseen break and are grateful for their support and patience. My son Gruff has made a great recovery, and although still under the renal paediatricians at Birmingham Children's Hospital, he seems to be doing well and, with luck on our side, will continue to do so.

Since our return, the weather has been glorious, so the children have enjoyed playing outside and have especially loved having the water tray out. Many cups of tea and soup were served to the grown-ups on that particular day! The craft activities over the half-term have been focused towards messy play and have included making tyre tracks by rolling vehicles through paint and washing the muddy animals ready for the show. The children have really enjoyed the sensory aspect of these activities

We have now reached the end of the summer term and we would like to wish our gorgeous Toddler Group graduates: Paige Lloyd, Ffion Herdman and Shan Bowkett, Henry and Bertie Goddard, the very best of luck as they start their new journeys in primary school in September. You will be amazing!

The Craft Club Autumn Competition returns in October and there is a Preschool section so why not fill some time over the holidays making or collecting things for the following entries: Paper plate sea creature, miniature seaside on a tray and a junk-model jellyfish.

Toddler group will return in September, so keep an eye on the Painscastle and Rhosgoch Parent and Toddler Group Facebook page for updates.

Have a fabulous summer!

Caz Phillips

