

Rhosgoch Gossip

Volume 29 Issue 1

Sep / Oct 2023

£1

Lewis Ball ex pupil of Rhosgoch School



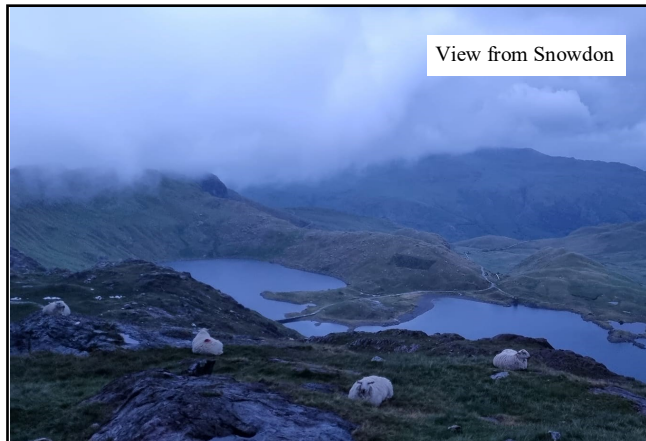
Huge congratulations to Lewis who graduated from Cambridge University this summer with a 2:1 in Law. We also wish him luck with his Barristers' course: Inns of Court College of Advocacy Bar training course, which he starts on Monday. We are all very proud of him.

Needless to say for those in the know from Gossips 15 years ago, we had to wait quite a while on the day his results were released because he had to consume a VERY very nice large breakfast before opening them!!

Pauline Gill

For those with a long memory of the 'Gossip', Lewis could always be relied upon to write something for every issue. He was not one from whom we had to extract every word with patience and persuasion! I particularly remember his article on Christmas, the first instalment covering up to breakfast time, the following instalments could keep us going until the summer. If he becomes the next Rumpole of the Bailey, I think the Rhosgoch Gossip should claim some credit! - ML Editor then as now!

THE THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE



OUR THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE:

We raised just over £10000. I can't believe it!

It is going to Ty Illtyd (local mental health), Brake (charity for road traffic accident victims) and MacMillan.

We are so grateful for everyone's support.

We set off at 3.30am and headed up Snowdon with our headtorches on. Then it was on to Cadair Idris which we were all dreading a little, but it was surprisingly good and the views just after we summited Cadair were incredible. Then it was the long drive down to Penylan, where we were met by so many family and friends who accompanied us up to the top. This made for quite an emotional moment for us all. We of course had to celebrate with a Prosecco on Penylan. KR

Well done all of you, a wonderful achievement in memory of Sophie Strickland.

RHOSGOCH GOLF CLUB SUMMER FESTIVAL

On Sunday, August 27th, Rhosgoch Golf Club was the local entertainment centre when it played host to their first summer festival. Tents were pitched close to the action for those who wanted the authentic festival experience. Activities began at 2pm with stalls, food and drink, including the ice-cream van. There was a bouncy castle, pony rides, etc, which added to a truly festival atmosphere.



At 4pm 'Rhosgoch's Got Talent' showed once again some of the would-be artists that live in the area: from toddlers who could barely walk, to the finale of Charlie East and Gareth Pugh with their unique double act!



There was tug of war on the lower field and then, as the children made way for the adults, the music started - the beginning of a long night of pure Rhosgoch enjoyment.



Gradually people made their way to their homes or to their tents to round off a super successful day. It was a day to remember, especially perhaps for the ones whose tent collapsed at 3am, when it really was abandon ship, as water collected on the roof, and gravity ensured soaking wet children, who vowed never to go camping again!



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GARDENING CLUB NEWS

July - Walking with History, Mo Lloyd

We welcomed our very own Mo Lloyd in July who gave us a very interesting talk focusing on some of the places she has walked: some very local, some a bit further afield; some on her own and some with friends, relations and other interested parties. We heard about Twm Tobacco's Grave, strange-shaped stones that might have been the playthings of giants, local boundary markers, and John Price the Solitary. She reminded us about the Colva Legend (which has featured in The Gossip) and finished off with a lovely story about "her well". When she was growing up her family knew about a healing well on the open hill of the Brecon Beacons, and their neighbour used to visit the well to help with his rheumatics. She left that area in 1978 but a few years ago Mo decided to try and find it. And of course she did! Thanks to Mo and some helpers it has been cleared and now stands proud on the side of a hill, and its location is recorded with the Royal Commission for posterity. Mo's passion for our local area and her love of history shone throughout her presentation. Her great achievement this year has been to raise over £3000 for the MSA Trust. This is a very rare disease called Multiple System Atrophy, which very sadly one of our members is suffering from. Mo completed 100 miles of walks during January to raise awareness of this debilitating disorder and to contribute much needed funds for the support of sufferers in Britain.

August – the 19th Annual Show

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the Show and for making it such a success. Despite the difficult growing conditions again this year, we had a wide range of produce in the vegetable sections, and the standard across all the classes was - as ever - very high.

Our winners were - Overall Winner of the Isa Lloyd Trophy, Gaynor Price; Runner Up (by just one point) Gwyneth Gore; Best in Class Floral - Sylvia Illingsworth; Best in Class Veg - Neville Harley; Best in Class Cookery - Allison Joyce; Best in Class Handicraft - Edwina Griffiths.

Thank you too to our judges, Alan Griffiths and Cherry Williams, who did a fantastic job. Further thanks to Betty at the Golf Club for hosting and providing a lovely buffet, and to Grace for her photos.



Back row - left to right, Allison Joyce, Sylvia Illingsworth, Edwina Griffiths, Gaynor Price, Gwyneth Gore, Neville Harley; Front row – Allan Griffiths and Cherry Williams

Our next meeting will be at the Golf Club on Thursday 14 September. Our speaker will be Justin Jones, a Landscape Gardener, talking about Practical Landscaping. The Room Competition is "An Arrangement of Leaves and Grasses". Doors open from 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Our meeting on 12 October will feature Robert Hall, the Reserves Officer from Radnorshire Wildlife Trust.

POWYS GARDENS NEWS AND OPENINGS FOR CHARITY



Could your garden, a garden you know or a group of gardens in a village open for the NGS next year? Our volunteer team is on the lookout for new gardens to open in Powys in 2024 onwards and would welcome suggestions. Please contact Susan Paynton on 01686 650531 or email susan.paynton@ngs.org.uk and she will help make it happen. Openings this month are **Garthmyl Hall & Garden**, Garthmyl, Montgomery SY15 6RS on **Sunday 10th September** between noon and 5pm. The Grade II listed Georgian manor house (not open) is surrounded by 5 acres of grounds. 100 metre herbaceous borders, newly restored 1 acre walled garden with gazebo, circular flowerbeds, lavender beds, wildflower meadow, pond, two fire pits and gravel paths. Fountain, three magnificent Cedar of Lebanon and giant redwood.

In the autumn the displays of reds and golds as the acers come to the fore at **Tranquility Haven**, 7 Lords Land, Whitton, Knighton LD7 1NJ. Open **Wednesday 13 September** between 6 and 8pm.

Many of our gardens open by arrangement for groups. To see how long they are open for, their location and photos visit ngs.org.uk. To arrange a visit click on the right tab below the garden information named "owner info" and the owner will be happy to answer questions and arrange. Among the September openings, (what size groups they accommodate are in brackets,) if stated, are: Willowbrook, Presteigne - 20 September (up to 25); The Hymns, Walton, Presteigne - 23 September; Dugood Bach, Mallwyd, Machynlleth - 29 September (5-15); Maesfron Hall and Gardens, Trewern, Welshpool 30 September (10+); The Neuadd, Llanbedr, Crickhowell 30 September (12 max); Plas Dinam, Llandinam 1 November (10+); Tranquility Haven, Whitton, Knighton 10 December (30 max); Llys dinam, Newbridge-on-Wye all year (all size groups).

Sat 7 & Sun 8 Oct 9-5pm Adm £3.50
Dingle Nurseries & Garden, Welshpool SY21 9JD

Sat 14 & Sun 15 Oct 10-4pm Adm by donation
Gregynog Hall & Garden, Gregynog, Tregynon, Newtown SY16 3PL



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IN YOUR GARDEN

It's hard to pin down the evocative feel and subtle delights of September. The plaintive song of the robin, the gentle sounds of pigeons and doves, and the wild mewing of buzzards: all add to the effect. Sunlight can take on golden tones, with the heavy dew on the grass and on spiders' webs in the hedgerow, giving a wonderful sparkle to the mornings.



It's been a poor butterfly year overall, although red admirals seem to have done well, and continue to feast on windfall fruit. Swallows and martins have also had a good summer, and will gradually take off to foreign parts.

Whilst there are plenty of flowers in full bloom, such as dahlias, Michaelmas daisies, chrysanthus, and much bedding, the foliage of September can often be somewhat drab. Leaves can be weather damaged and past their best, and it's a time to appreciate foliage colour and texture. Vertical leaves will help to punctuate a border; Iris sibirica, whilst not in flower for long, will remain as a well-behaved clump for the rest of the season.

For drama, dark leaf colour excels. Not many of us have room for a copper beech, unless it's in hedging. Some Japanese acers have an intense hue. These can be slow to get going, but are worth waiting for; Hergest Croft has a good selection. Cotinus are splendid shrubs, easy and trouble free. Perhaps best of them is the widely available Cotinus coggygria Royal Purple. It maintains its dark purple colour all summer, and is decorated with fluffy, long-lasting sprays of flowers, giving it the name 'smoke tree'. As a bonus it assumes beautiful scarlet tones in the autumn. If it has a fault, it can be rather strong growing when happy, and needs judicious pruning in winter.

Cut the tops off maincrop taters a few days before digging to help the skins firm up. Keep a lookout for caterpillars on brassicas. Those of the large white are easier to see than the green ones of the small white that will hide and munch away at the growing points, particularly of cabbage. Keep the beans well picked, likewise courgettes. Continue to sow salad leaves, pak choi, winter radish, and other oriental stuff. A couple of sowings of rocket in September can, given reasonably clement weather, supply you with leaves at Christmas. Keep the greenhouse well aired to prevent rots taking hold. May the robins be with you.

John the Gardener



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LIFE AT LUNDY



The author - Sweep

Last time I told you that we had taken the coats off the sheep, well off most of them. However we had a special day of shearing at the Lundy, when we took the coats off the alpacas. There are two alpacas. They don't seem to like me. If they see a dog they make a very funny noise, so we were not sure how successful it would be to get them shorn. As usual, Matthew found someone who was willing to have a go at de-coating them. This was Mark Gwynne, who wanted to extend his CV by adding alpacas to his repertoire. After considerable consultation of Google all was ready. They have to lie down on the floor with their legs tied. Mo said she couldn't believe how quiet they were, they didn't try to kick, they just lay there and let Mark take their wool. They were much quieter than our sheep.



Since then Matthew has been on holiday, well first Pam, Abbie, Paige and Conor went over the sea to Ireland. Then a couple of weeks later Matthew disappeared, apparently he joined them and then they all flew to America for a couple of weeks catching up with Pam's American uncles, aunts and cousins. It was nice and quiet, we only had Ken to shout at us! They are now back just in time for school.

I think I explained to you a while ago that I was the 'yard' dog, I think that really meant that no one trusted me if I left the yard, but I have now been promoted. I am Ken's main working dog. The reason is that Joe is very old and so Ken likes young legs to keep up with the quad. Gyp is really Mo's dog so unless she is in a very good mood she doesn't really bother to go with Ken. No-one is really sure where Rex fits into the picture, maybe he could be described as sheepdog in waiting. Or he is the apprentice, the only problem is I am not sure who is teaching him.

Last week we had two visitors when Lindsey's dogs came for a holiday. That was because Lindsey's gang went on holiday to the seaside. Tess, who is my sister, and Lottie, who is miniature dog who never seems to grow, are quite used to coming to Lundy for their holidays. I quite enjoy their company as we usually go on nice relaxed walks, which don't usually involve a lot of shouting. Although this time on one of the walks we took Bowie who is a Patterdale (whatever that is) the two small girls (Lottie & Bowie) had a fight with a visiting dog. It wasn't serious, but it just goes to show you can never trust these girls, especially if they are little!



Sweep

A SPECIAL PLACE

My name is Judith. I live in Boughrood but am originally from Rhosgoch. I have suffered with M.E. for many years. It has had a big impact on my life and my world has got much smaller. God has blessed me, however, in that I find great pleasure in the smaller things that are often ignored in the hustle and bustle of life.

I would like to tell you about my field. You're probably thinking what is so special about a field? Well, twenty years ago it was just that, nothing special, just permanent pasture grazed by horses and sheep. However, with help, over time, I have gradually turned it into something that closely resembles a traditional hay meadow. No fertilizer, or sprays of any kind are used and it is cut ideally in late July and then grazed by sheep from September to Candlemas on February 2nd; the results are quite spectacular.

As well as the usual buttercups, plantain, common sorrel, knapweed, oxeye daisies and bird's foot trefoil, there is yellow rattle, catsear, wild carrot, several orchids and many other flowers and grasses.

Also, in May this year this year Pignut arrived for the first time in the meadow. There are many different spiders and insects including bees and grasshoppers, butterflies, moths and damselflies, as well as hedgehogs and toads.

As the weather warms up in Spring the meadow wakes up—for me it is a small oasis in a chaotic world.

Judith Bryan

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CARDIFF HALF MARATHON

Sam Lloyd having just completed the Cardiff 10K race on Sunday, has set his sights on the Cardiff Half Marathon on 1st October 2023. He is hoping to raise money for dementia which has affected his family. His Nanny Phyl who we all remember as an essen-



tial member of Rhosgoch Golf Club staff, sadly suffers from the disease. Sam has set up a Justgiving page:- <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/samuel-lloyd3?> If you would like to contribute, it will help him achieve his goal. He does have a good support crew as you can see with daughter Tilly and son Jake urging him on.



501 REASONS

A Local Fundraising Group Aiming to Help Individuals and Small Groups

Anyone ever feel that things are a bit rubbish and it would be nice to do something about it?

501 Reasons is a fundraising concept devoted to making the world a better place. Our aim is to get 501 people each donating £1/week. Each week, anyone from the group can nominate a good cause to be the beneficiary of £501. It might be a local library that's in danger of closing, a lady by you who's raising money for blankets for the homeless this Christmas or a family desperately raising funds for their child to have a life or death operation.

We can cut through the nonsense, bureaucracy and red tape and come together to actually do something meaningful every week. No pretentious nonsense. Just a bunch of nice people putting their money where their mouth is to do a tiny bit to make the world a nicer place.

If you feel this endeavour is something that would interest you please email us at reasons501@gmail.com to see how you can get involved

Find Us on



<https://501-reasons.webnode.page/>

“Helping one person may not change the world, but it could change the world for one person”

From - Top o' Lane.....to.....Behind the Iron Curtain

On September 22nd 2022 author Bridget Ashton returned to Painscastle to talk about her book, "Hay Before the Bookshops or the Beeman's Family." As I have said before, Bridget and her family lived at Top O' Lane in the late 1940s and she started her school life in Painscastle in the autumn of 1948, aged 4. Despite the fact that 70 plus years had passed since then, it

was a memorable evening for Bridget and one she will never forget. Bridget and I are still in touch and on May 4th, the day of King Charles's

Coronation, I

received a surprise package which contained a complimentary copy of Bridget's latest book, "Cold War, Warm Hearts." Published by The Book Guild this March, it was featured in the Mail on Sunday on April 23rd and also the Brecon & Radnor Express on May 17th.

After leaving Painscastle in 1950, the family lived in Hay-on-Wye until Bridget was 11 years old when the family moved to Northumberland. After leaving school, Bridget came to the girls-only Hereford College of Education (Teacher Training College in Hereford) and on completion of her training in 1966 her latest book begins. It is a memoir of her intrepid adventure as she travelled alone, on foot, behind the Iron Curtain with next to no money. During her adventures, Bridget wrote extensive diaries and to raise funds also wrote articles for the Newcastle Journal. The whole book is a most amazing story and I give Bridget my utmost respect for such bravery, nerve and stamina.

I will set the scene: Bridget had completed her training and whilst her friends were planning their futures in teaching, possible marriage and settling down, Bridget had other ideas. A chance meeting with a Polish American young man in a café in Hereford triggered the desire to travel to Poland. She and her college friends were used to hitch-hiking and during their college years had hitch-hiked throughout Britain and into some European countries, so travel would not be a problem. So, with passport, visa for Poland, a little money, youth hostel handbook, Union Jack and rucksack she is off.

Her travels see her wandering the highways and byways, crossing borders and, over the next year or so, hitch-hiking alone behind the Iron Curtain passing through East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria. Bridget met many students from many countries along the way and often arranged to meet again in later locations. She wrote letters to her family and friends who would send their replies to her next expected hostel stop. Between hostels she found overnight stays where she could, sometimes in barns or she was given food and a bed in the homes of local village inhabitants. Such was the hospitality of



strangers despite language barriers. There were worrying times and periods of homesickness but on she bravely went seeing beautiful scenery and meeting wonderful people. And then, by chance, in Munich in May 1967 something that even Bridget could not have foreseen when she left the UK in 1966, that being that she would meet her future husband. And, I can tell you that she did marry this handsome American and, as in all good love stories, they did live happily ever after.

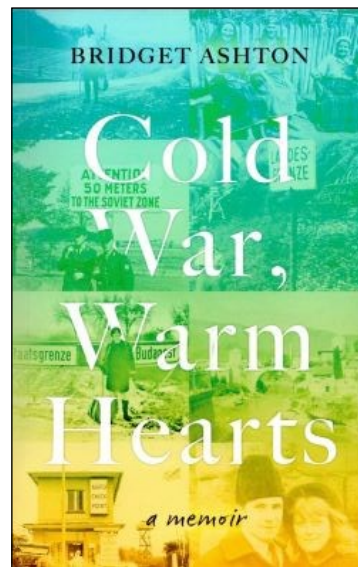
It is a wonderful, interesting read and I really don't want to say too much more and spoil the story for those who choose to read it. As I read the book I found myself constantly dipping into my atlas and following Bridget to places mentioned whilst remembering that this was all during the time of the Cold War. All in all quite staggering and sobering. I do hope you get to read this book and enjoy it as much as I did. If you do choose to buy the book it is available in bookshops in Hay on Wye and as ever on Amazon at £10.99. The e-book is just £5.99.

When in Painscastle School well over 70 plus years ago the Headmaster Mr R Gwillim wrote on Bridget's school report, "She is a very plucky girl to travel the distance she does

at the age of 4 years." Well, I think you will agree that that plucky young girl became a very plucky young woman with travel running through her veins.

PS: The author Bridget Ashton will be guest speaker at the next Painscastle Local Interest Group meeting on September 28th. She was a Painscastle girl for a short period of her life and has lived quite an adventurous life ever since. Do come along, bring your friends and as usual Painscastle LIG is free to all.

Cherry Williams



Rhosgoch and Painscastle

Autumn Competitions

Saturday 21st October 2023

Painscastle Village Hall

Open for Entries

9:30am until 10:30am

Open to the Public at 2:30pm

Entry for Competitions Free

Prize Money

1st £3, 2nd £1.50, 3rd 50p

Competition Theme- 'In your Garden'

Schedules available from Gaynor Price on 01497851243

DON'T FORGET THERE IS A SCARECROW COMPETITION

Needs to be free Standing

Entries can be entered by one person or a group/organisation So come along WI, Gardening Club, YFC, Golf Club, Farmers Group, Local History Group, Play Group, Churches etc. Special Prize for the winner.

Let's make this an outstanding show!



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COFFEE BREAK TIME KINGTON SCRIBBLERS

“Eccentric character in my past” - Sister Jago

I first encountered Sister Jago at Blake Maternity home when I started a new post as a Staff Midwife after newly qualifying. She was a formidable, striking Austrian lady who had come over to become a nurse and midwife in the 50's. She was a senior midwife in the midwife led unit along with another Scottish lady Sister Robertson. They were both very experienced but had totally different personalities and did not get on well with each other. Everyone would check the rota to see if you were on when they both overlapped shifts and then you could plan your escape route, usually the sluice or linen cupboard. The language between them was loud and unforgiving.

As much as the other staff disliked Sr Jago's stern outward approach and manner she was a wonderful midwife and very understanding to the women in labour despite being a spinster. She would quote “Maggie Myles” (our bible) to the student midwives and gave them a tough time but they all benefited from her experience. She was generous with her knowledge and shared it freely with all, doctors included, as not all GPs had a lot of midwifery experience.

We used to have lunch in the nurses' quarters, cooked on the premises by a lovely cook who made wholesome, plain meals for the staff and patients. Sr Jago took a variety of vitamin tablets at mealtimes along with a jar of sauerkraut that she offered to share with all staff members except Sr Robertson. I never got to know what they were all for but she looked good for her age and her skin was blemish free. She also made homemade wines and would collect blackberries, plums, damsons, pears, apples, elderflowers, rose petals and figs from the trees and bushes in the grounds of the beautiful Victorian hospital. She was often to be found rummaging in the bushes after a late shift and filling bags to take home.

Each week we had a consultant clinic in the antenatal clinic housed in a building opposite the hospital. Mr Keele was our consultant who came over from Portsmouth. Sr Jago treated him like a God, everything had to be just so and if you had been assigned to do clinic that week you had to be on your toes or else! I have to add that he was a brilliant obstetrician, I had seen him do some miracles and was very grateful 7 yrs later that he was the consultant on duty when our daughter was admitted with an abdominal mass. He was wonderful and I have nothing but gratitude for his care and expertise on saving one of our daughters ovaries. The sight of his enormous hands laid on her tummy made me weep as I was overwhelmed with relief that he was going to perform the removal of the dermoid cyst that had attached itself to her left ovary.

Sr Jago was not all severe, she had a soft side and a very generous, kind nature which she showed to me often.

I was married in the August of 1979 and she presented Mark and I with a beautiful bottle of her homemade sparkling elderflower wine which was better than any Moët Chandon champagne and a lovely figure of a Georgian lady in blue and white porcelain which I still have to this day. When I became pregnant in the Nov of the same year she was like a mother hen and made sure I had all the right things to eat and was properly looked after. She insisted that I had fish at each lunch time when I was on duty and the cook had to do a special dish in butter sauce just for me with lots of green veg. I felt very special and privileged but also guilty as a lot of my colleagues were getting the other side of her personality.

I remember my last delivery before I left on maternity leave, Sr Jago hovered outside making sure I was not overtired. The lady in labour was an old naval nursing colleague of mine having her 2nd baby and came in such a rush she did not even have time to take her socks off before her baby was delivered. We laughed many times about that day afterwards.

Sr Jago was labelled ‘odd’, ‘eccentric’, severe’ and ‘quirky’ but as members of staff really got to know her she was an amazing fellow midwife and a good team player when the chips were down.

I knew her all the time up to her retirement and beyond, my husband and I visited her many times and he always mentions the rubber plant in her front room that grew over the ceiling and down the wall on the other side of the room all from one plant pot! She had exceptional green fingers.

She will always have a place in my heart and memory.

Nancy Wheatland

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Hay & District Dial-a-Ride

FUNDRAISING NEWS

This summer has been a successful one in terms of our fundraising events. Our vintage afternoon tea at Cusop Hall raised £115.50 and was a lovely opportunity for attendees to enjoy delicious food and time together. Special thanks to Barbara Travers for organising everything so superbly. Our plant sale was another success, raising £250. We would like to thank everyone who donated plants and came down to support on the day.

CCS DRIVERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for more volunteer community car drivers to join our team. The role is highly flexible and all mileage is reimbursed at a rate of £0.45 per mile. If this is something that you feel might be for you, pop into the office for a chat or download an application form from our website. All appointments are subject to references, DBS and other checks.

HAY TUESDAY SHOPPERS

Another reminder of our Tuesday shopping service launched to help our members with the on-going cost of living crisis. This is a free door-to-door transport service to Hay on Tuesdays to get you to the shops, post office or Co-op. Thanks to funding from the Lindenleaf Trust, this service will be running until the end of March 2024. Booking is essential.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER EVENTS

Friday 1st September- Brecon Bank Bus
Wednesday 13th September- Old Railway Line Garden Centre, Three Cocks
Friday 22nd September- Llandrindod Lake and Café
Friday 6th October- Brecon Bank Bus
Wednesday 11th October- Old Railway Line Garden Centre, Three Cocks
Friday 20th October- trip to Hereford Cathedral and shops
All our trips are free of charge thanks to funding from the Lindenleaf Trust.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 10th September- Glasbury Fete in aid of Dial-a-Ride
Hay Dial-a-Ride:
website: <https://www.haydialaride.com>
email: haydialaride@gmail.com
phone: 01497 821616

You can also find us on Facebook.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat Sept 9th	Kington Show
Fri Sep 15th	Pre-screening talk making "On the Black Hill" Clyro Village Hall 6.30pm Screening On the Black Hill 7.30pm
Sat Sept 16th	Murder Mystery Evening Erwood Market Hall at 7pm
Mon Sep 18th	Gladestry MacMillan Coffee Morning in Gladestry Village Hall 10.30am
Thr Sep 21st	Huntington Hall Film Night
Fri-Sun Sep 29-Oct 1	Red Dragon Horse Endurance Festival
Sat Sep 30th	MacMillan Coffee Morning at Painscastle Village Hall 10.00-12.30
Sat Sept 30th	Llandeilo Graban Open Church with Afternoon tea. 2pm
Thr Oct 5th	Brilley Flicks in the Sticks:- Where the Crawdads sing 7pm - online booking
Sat Oct 21st	Rhosgoch and Painscastle Autumn Competitions Painscastle Village Hall
Thr Nov 2nd	Brilley Flicks in the Sticks:- The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry - book online
Sat/Sun Nov 18/19	Variety Concert at Erwood Market Hall
Thr Dec 7th	Brilley Flicks in the Sticks:- Belle

HERMON CHAPEL RHOSGOCH

SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT 2.30pm
 September 17th Sankey Service
 October 5th Harvest Service

PAINSCASTLE BAPTIST CHAPEL

Harvest Festival—Wednesday September 20th at 6.30pm.
 Preacher is Rev Misha Pedersen, Newbridge on Wye.

MORIAH BAPTIST CHAPEL

Services at 2.30 pm

Sun Sept 17th	HARVEST Rev Andrew Wyton
Sun Sept 24th	RAMAH HARVEST
Sun Oct 16th	Penny Robinson
Sun Oct 29th	Joint Chapel service Rev Robert Thomas
Sun Nov 12th	Joint Church & Chapel Rev Ifor Williams

EBENEZER CHAPEL, NEWCHURCH

A warm welcome extended to all, at any of these services.
 Sun Sept 10th 3pm
 Sun Oct 15th 3pm HARVEST FESTIVAL led by Rev Malcolm Jones
 Tues Oct 17th 7pm Continuation Service led by Rev Gordon Bingham Soloist: Holly Richards



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ERWOOD & PAINSCASTLE CHURCH SERVICES

Sun Sept 10th	14th after Trinity	
10.30am	Llandeilo Graban	Morning Prayer
Sun Sept 17th	15th after Trinity	
9.30am	Bryngwyn	Eucharist
11.00am	Crickadarn	Eucharist
Sun Sept 24th	16th after Trinity	
9.30am	Llanbedr	Eucharist
11.00am	Gwenddwr	Eucharist
6.00pm	Aberedw	Harvest Eucharist
Sun Oct 1st	17th after Trinity	
10.30am	Aberedw	Eucharist
Sun Oct 8th	18th after Trinity	
10.30am	Llandeilo Graban	Harvest Eucharist
7.00pm	Gwenddwr	Harvest Eucharist
Sun Oct 15th	19th after Trinity	
9.30am	Bryngwyn	Harvest Eucharist
11.00am	Crickadarn	Eucharist
Sun Oct 22nd	20th after Trinity	
9.30am	Llanbedr	Harvest Eucharist
Sun Oct 29th	Last after Trinity	
9.30am	Llanbadarn	Harvest Eucharist
11.00am	Newchurch	Harvest Eucharist
6.00pm	Aberedw	Evensong

God bless you and those you love.

Paul and Carolyn XX

Father Paul Keown. 01982 560823 frpaulkeown@mac.com

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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. We are always looking for pieces large or small to make this a good local read.

I would like to thank our delivery team for their outstanding efforts. Deadline for next issue [Nov/Dec 2023] is 31st October 2023. [mlloyd@outlook.com or 01497-851609].

Subscriptions are £6 from September each year for local delivery, £13 if posted, or pick up a copy from Clyro Filling Station, Boughrood Shop, or Erwood Station Gallery. Payment can be by cash to your local delivery agent or direct to me, or cheque made payable to Rhosgoch Gossip or BACS. For more details please email me mlloyd@outlook.com.

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

U3A HAY

Next meeting **Tuesday 19th September at 10.30am**

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<https://u3asites.org.uk/hay/home>

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Sunday 12 noon to close

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Further details: <http://gladestry.org.uk/>

Gladestry Pop in Café Coffee Morning

Gladestry Pop in Café are hosting a coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Support appeal.

Monday 18th September 10.30am in Gladestry Village Hall.

Tea, Coffee and yummy cakes. All donations very welcome.

Please support this worthy cause!

For more information please contact Marlene 01544370646



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PAINSCASTLE RECYCLING & RUBBISH COLLECTION

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

Sept 25th Oct 16th Nov 6th Nov 27th

Bulky Waste Collections are available on a **Tuesday**. To pay, see Powys County Council website.

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

Clyro Village Hall

HayDay Creative Café at Clyro Village Hall

HayDay Creative Café meets at Clyro Village Hall on the last Wednesday of the month at 12.30 until 3pm. This is open to anyone, with or without carers, who would like to come and have a light lunch, a good chat over a cuppa, some entertainment/activity and a sing-song. This is FREE although donations are always welcome. Transport can usually be arranged with Dial-A-Ride.

See our website <https://haydaycusop.wixsite.com/hayday>, email us on haydaycusop@gmail.com or call Sue Hodgetts on 01497 822523 if you or someone you know would benefit.

The Spirit of Clyro Café is also open every Wednesday in Clyro Village Hall from 11-3 for tea/coffee and cake in a warm friendly environment (except for the last Wednesday of the month when HayDay Café takes place) along with the Post Office from 12-2.30pm.

The Spirit of Clyro Pop-up Pub is now a regular monthly occasion on the last Friday of the month from 6.30-11pm at Clyro Village Hall

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Monday 11am Booths Studio Hay on Wye

Tuesday 9.30am Booths Studio Hay on Wye plus Zoom connection

Tuesday 6pm Booths Studio Hay on Wye

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Wednesday 6pm Clifford Community Centre

Friday 9am Booths Studio Hay on Wye

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NEWS FROM WESTMINSTER

The end of this summer recess is upon us and what a recess it has been.

So many shows, in fact the weekend just gone has seen me attend three in one day! And last time I counted I had attended 13 this month! These shows are great fun but my attendance does serve an important purpose. They are wonderful additional opportunities to touch base with constituents and discuss any problems they are facing, from poor road surfaces through to access to welfare, and how I might be able to help.

These, in addition to the four well-attended surgeries I hosted this month in various pubs and the two cost of living fairs - in Llandrindod Wells and Ystradgynlais - I co-hosted with James Evans, do often feed into the casework I and my team work on, and I know that we have concluded 51 pieces of casework this month, hopefully making a real difference in those cases which is what my job is fundamentally all about at the end of the day.

Of these local issues, we know that internet connectivity is, of course, a big one, and here in Brecon and Radnorshire we know people are all too often frustrated at the lack of it, and it is, therefore, a constant mission to hold internet providers accountable in establishing and maintaining the secure connections that people so often need to rely upon for everything from their banking to their work, which is why I have met with the Steering Group on the Broadway Partners Collapse, as well as Openreach. The devil will of course be in the detail, but it was good to hear that Building Digital UK have launched a cross-regional procurement which will result in 4,000 B&R premises receiving gigabit-capable internet.

As you might have heard.. Possibly, we had leader of the House of Commons and Lord President of the Council, the Rt Penny Mordaunt, with us in B&R for a wonderful event with the Brecon, Radnor and Cwm-Tawe Conservatives, who of course made her feel very welcome indeed!

Fay.Jones.MP@parliament.uk or 02922 338545

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman, Bruce Evans, Lower Pentre: 01497 851259
Vice-chairman, Becky Miles, The Cwm: 01497 851263
Sian Davies, Lletycoed: 07747 402200
David Nicholls, Castlefield Close: 01497 851331
Jenny Smith, Penrhiw: 01982 560289
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.

PAINSCASTLE BUS SHELTER

Donations for the Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells, welcomed:- used postage stamps, old currency, coins and notes, both British and Foreign, as well as old bras.

PAINSCASTLE VILLAGE WELL

We are in the process of replacing the sign by the Painscastle Well. It will soon be time to do some more tidying up around the well, so if you feel you can spare an hour or so, it will be gratefully appreciated. If anyone has spare perennial plants that are suitable, there are a few bald patches to be filled.

NEWS FROM WELSH ASSEMBLY

It's good to be writing again for the avid readers of the Rhosgoch Gossip. The summer show season in Brecon & Radnorshire continues to be a huge success and a testament to the constituency of Brecon & Radnorshire. Emma and I are looking forward to the Rhosgoch Summer Festival at the Golf Club and I'm sure it will be a good night!

Things have been busy during the recess with many announcements coming forward from Welsh Government around the blanket 20mph roll out, the tourism levy and the new Agriculture Act becoming law in the Senedd. Leaving the EU has given Wales the opportunity to have its own purpose made agricultural policy that will benefit the farmers of Wales. As we move to the next stage and the implementation of the new Sustainable Farming Scheme, I continue to be concerned around the tree planting / biodiversity elements, and I will continue to work constructively with the Welsh Government to try and bring about the changes we need to see to protect our food production and our family farms.

On a local front, we were fortunate this summer to welcome His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen to Brecon in July, as they undertook their first Royal visit to Wales since the coronation. Both their Majesties were warmly welcomed by the community, including local schools. His Majesty the King demonstrated how his close and personal relationship with Wales hasn't been lost and that his commitment to Wales remains strong as his son, the Prince of Wales, Prince William, takes over from the role he once held.

More than anything else, summer recess has given me the opportunity to meet with residents, and spend time with friends and family around the summer shows and local events.

I always count myself extremely lucky to represent my home in the Senedd. It's always an honour and a privilege to represent the place you were born and raised.

James Evans MS

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NEWS FROM POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

July and August have been quiet in respect to the number of meetings that I have attended with both the County Council and the Community Council. Work continues with the main issues affecting our local area,

20mph Speed Scheme

The County Council continues with the preparation for the introduction of the 20 mph speed limit for the urban areas of Wales, together with the removal of some local speed limits, with the new speed limits coming into force on Sunday 17th September.

The proposals for the Painscastle Community Council area are:-

To revoke the 20mph speed limit by the old school in Rhosgoch and make it the same 40mph limit as in the rest of the village.

That part of the 30mph speed limit on the road leading into Painscastle from Clyro is retained with a 30mph limit and that the 20mph limit starts around the top of the pitch, 10m before the unclassified road meets the road on the right.

These proposals were subject to a three week consultation that ended on the 21st July.

Broadband Scheme

Following "Broadway Partners", who were implementing the Broadband Scheme for the area, going into administration, the administrators advertised the business as a going concern and are now very close to finalising the deal with a yet unknown company.

It is still unclear how all the areas Broadway were working with in Powys will be affected, but I am still hopeful that the planned scheme, in the Painscastle area will be taken forward, although it may be subject to some changes.

Leisure Services Review

The council has had a very good response to the consultation process that has recently closed and I hope that members of the review group will have the summary of the comments made at our next meeting later in the month.

Can I thank everyone from the area for taking part in the consultation.

Car Parking Charges

Following the decision to increase the car parking charges from April, the two independent groups have worked together to persuade the Council's Cabinet to undertake a review of the current charges in the County, although we are very disappointed in the current lack of progress in this review.

County Councils - Chief Executive

Following a period of ill Health, Dr Caroline Turner has left the post of Chief Executive of the County Council and Mr Jack Straw has been appointed as the interim Chief Executive while the County Council appoints a new chief Executive and he / she takes up the post, which I expect to be sometime in the early part of 2024

Cllr Gareth E Jones. 07464 166262
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BROADBAND UPDATE

Talks on the sale of Broadway Partners continue. The administrator hopes it will be completed by the end of this week and the name of the new owner will be released then. The administrator cautions though that such sales are complex so we shouldn't be concerned if it takes longer than another week.

Meanwhile, liaison with our politicians continues. The seven villages group aims to develop options should either the sale of Broadway fail, or for situations where the new owners offer a service only to easy to reach properties. Fay Jones MP has offered to facilitate a meeting with BDUK. We have been concerned over BDUK's decision to make the whole of mid Wales a category C zone. This gives OpenReach a virtual monopoly in the area but only obliges them to service 80% of properties.

Finally, Fay Jones wishes to investigate the possibility of the UK government claiming control over Welsh Government's £70 million broadband fund on the grounds that broadband is not a devolved issue. Whether this is possible in the limited days remaining to the UK government or whether that would provide any real benefit to us is open to question.

Please follow the Connected Painscastle and Rhosgoch Facebook page for further updates.

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‘Get Offa McLeod!’

When nine ageing singing stars converge on the internationally famous Erwood Arena concert venue to take part in an awards ceremony arranged by impresario Ifor B’Gego, it doesn’t take a genius to guess that trouble will follow – in fact, it will be murder!

Following their triumphant pre-pandemic production of ‘Who killed the Vicar?’, Erwood Players are proud once again to present a Murder Mystery Supper, on Saturday 16 September, at 7pm in Erwood Market Hall. For **just £12**, audience members can enjoy an excellent meal while watching the story as it unfolds, at the same time helping world-famous detective Offa McLeod to puzzle out ‘whodunnit’.

Come with friends or come on your own – you can find a team on the night if you wish. There will be prizes! Tickets (which for catering purposes **must be bought in advance**) can be ordered by phoning 01982 560675 or emailing pame-

BRYNGWYN AND DISTRICT WI

Bryngwyn and District WI have had two excellent trips out this summer. In July we went to the Weir Garden. The mature old trees there are amazing, we enjoyed the herbaceous borders in the walled garden and the Gardener let us try some dark purple tomatoes which were delicious despite their rather off-putting appearance. In August we had a sunny walk beside the Wye at Llanstephan and then adjourned to Erwood Station Gallery at Erwood Bridge for tea and cake.

Our indoor programme resumed in September with an open meeting. The Powys representative of Blood Bikes Wales came and told us all about the organisation, what they do and how it is organised. As a charity and a purely voluntary organisation, they save the NHS very large sums of money by transporting samples and similar as one-offs or out of normal hours. Because there are no large hospitals in Powys, it is, in fact, very rare for them to transport blood. One of their most important roles is the collection of human breast milk (vital for premature babies) from the homes of the donors and then delivering it to the processing site. This is often done using a relay system, meeting with bikes from other areas where long distances are required. Powys has two motor bikes for use by the volunteers; they do not use their own bikes although this is allowed in some areas in England. Committed volunteers usually do about one shift a week. If they are bike riders they have to have an advanced driving qualification, pass a driving test with the organisation and are retested every three years to ensure maximum safety.

The evening finished with a fabulous buffet. People were very generous, and our speaker left with a good contribution to the running costs of the organisation.

At our next meeting we will be trying our hands at curling, followed in November by a trip to the Powys Archives. If anyone would like to join us come along to a meeting at 7pm in Painscastle and District Hall on the first Monday of the month or give Helen a call on 01982 560492.

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PAINSCASTLE LOCAL INTEREST GROUP

Local Interest Group was formed to help discover and record both ancient and modern items of interest. As part of this, we try to encourage people to take an interest in their local area, so our summer meetings take the form of local visits. In July we visited Colva where we met outside Colva Farm which used to be the Sun Inn. Ros Tarrant, Jill Fieldhouse and Jasmine Grassie then told us about the history of Colva including the pub, the Church, and the aeroplane that made an emergency landing in 1912 before achieving the first successful flight from Britain to Ireland.



Colva Church

Our last summer visit was to Llandeilo Graban. We met at the church where Mike Prosser and others told us the story of the church and the area. We moved on to Church House which has been sympathetically renovated and restored. Over time it has been a drovers' pub, a local place for entertainment as well as providing a home for two families, before downgrading to farm use and eventually dereliction during the twentieth century.



Church House before renovation



Next LIG meeting Painscastle Village Hall, Thursday September 28th 7pm.



THE SYLVAN WYE

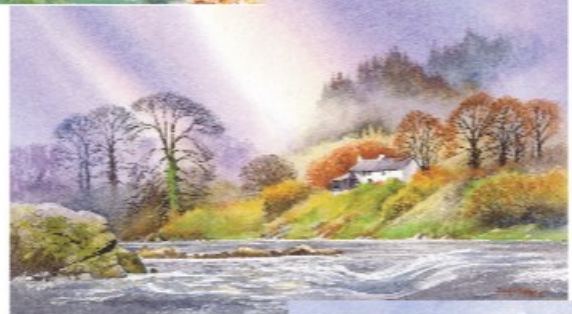


an exhibition of paintings by David Bellamy

Saturday 23rd September to Sunday 15th October
at Erwood Station Gallery & Craft Centre



The exhibition covers a variety of scenes on the upper Wye, one of the most beautiful stretches of the river, yet perhaps the least known, even though well represented in the work of the 18th-century Welsh artist, Thomas Jones who lived nearby at Pencerrig, and a contemporary of JMW Turner. Currently the Wye is under severe threats from pollution and developments which the exhibition is aimed at highlighting.



David has paintings in the collections of mountaineer Sir Chris Bonington, the Jordanian Royal Family, broadcaster Sir David Attenborough and the author Bill Bryson, among others. He has written twenty-two books illustrated by his paintings.



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Meeting my New Zealand Cousin

Back in 2021 I wrote a couple of stories for Rhosgoch Gossip about my Lloyd ancestors who, in the 1800s, went to Australia in search of gold. A while later I made contact with a Johanna Lloyd living in Hamilton, New Zealand, who is a direct descendant of those Lloyds. In April this year she messaged me to say that her elder sister, who lives in Gisborne, was coming to the UK in August with her work and was there a possibility to “connect.” Exciting or what?

Johanna’s sister, Tawera, was coming here to visit Edinburgh, Liverpool Tate, Cardiff University and Welsh Arts Council as a Senior Advisor, Indigenous Exchange CNZ (Creative New Zealand). She is an Artist, Sculptor, Practising Visual and Performing Artist, Educator, mother and grandmother and has produced a prolific amount of work during her career. She has a very active calendar both nationally and internationally and both she and her husband have had residencies in the Evergreen State University, Washington State, USA. In 2016 she was selected and inducted, becoming the first international board representative and Maori voice for the US based indigenous organisation, Seventh Generation Fund – dedicated to promoting and maintaining the sovereignty and uniqueness of indigenous people, its proverb being “Be a Good Ancestor.” It is this particular hat that will make her visit here to the land of her ancestors so special and spiritual.

On August 19th we met at Hereford Train station and a whirlwind 5 days followed. She was born a Lloyd and is Welsh/Maori, fluent in her language and steeped in her culture. Almost immediately we felt that we had so much in common and both felt that we had known each other forever. She proudly wears Ta Moko on her lips and chin (Kauae) as a sign of cultural identity and making commitment to it. It also means “Leadership” and she definitely is a leader.

During Tawera’s stay, I was able to take her to St Dubricius’ Church, Gwenddwr, to “connect” with her great x 3 grandparents who are buried there and to St Cynllo’s Church, Nantmel, where her great x 4 grandparents lie at rest. Visits to both churches were so emotional for her and at each she sang a beautiful Maori song to say thanks and give reverence to her forebears. These were such touching beautiful moments that will be treasured always. Nantmel Church also happened to be where both great x 3 and great x 4 grandparents were married and so, unable to resist the acoustics in the church, she sang “Pie Jesu” – which was so, so beautiful.



We had a fantastic visit to Cwmgwenddwr Farm, Gwenddwr, where we were welcomed by Diane & John Powell and son Rob. There Tawera tasted her first ever Welsh cake. It was from Cwmgwenddwr that James Lloyd left to go to Australia in 1872. Fascinated by all around her, we took many photographs even recreating some from the Lloyd time there. She stood in the Gwenddwr brook – both water and rock having strong cultural meanings and significance. I cannot thank the Powell family enough for their welcome and hospitality.

That day we also called at Erwood station as I think that is where James Lloyd would have left from in 1872 to begin his journey to Liverpool docks before sailing to Australia.

We also visited Gelynen Farm, Nantmel, which was the Lloyd family home until moving to Cwmgwenddwr in 1860. I knew that Gelynen farmhouse had long gone but on our visit John Drew (present owner) was able to show Tawera the exact spot and even some old flagstones that were still on the ground. I can’t tell you how thrilled she was to stand on that very earth.

We managed to fit in a bit of a social, local family gath-

ering in Painscastle Hall - much enjoyed by everyone. As you can imagine - lots of talking, refreshments and then spontaneous singing by Tawera and my daughter Caz. They sang, in beautiful harmony, a traditional Maori song/prayer about love, hope and peace for us all, entitled “Te Aroha” - a song that was sung at Caz’s wedding. Not sure if Caz has forgiven me for putting her on the spot!

It was all over too quickly but it was a super few days and I have learned so much. I have learned some Maori words and the correct pronunciation, but more than that it was a pleasure to share my family history with my new cousin and ultimately her wider family in New Zealand. “Connecting” with the ancestors is an important part of Maori culture and Tawera left me with this quote:

“WE ARE OUR ANCESTORS’ WILDEST DREAMS.”

Cherry Williams

“MORE TEA, VICAR?”

In the last edition of the Gossip, I told some funny stories about funerals. This one made me laugh afterwards, but it wasn’t funny at the time.

Previous to the ministry I’d had a completely different career, milking cows. I was one of three herdsmen on a large farm with three separate dairy herds, each herdsman responsible for 100 cows. The farm was serviced by a family veterinary practice, comprising a grizzled old vet called David, and his son John, who had just qualified from veterinary college. Both of them were characters, and there was a definite family resemblance, in that each one had a very prominent and bulbous nose. During my time there, David passed away and John took over the practice.

Fast forward ten years, and I was now a minister looking after a church about thirty miles away. One of my old herdsmen colleagues passed away, and being a family friend I was asked to take the funeral at the crematorium. Having led the coffin and the family into the crematorium, I was standing at the lectern as the large crowd of mourners filed in to take their seats. I recognised a number of faces from my previous life, and as the last of the mourners came in, there was John the vet. And alongside him was his father David, both with the very distinctive family nose. Of course, David was dead and I’d been to his funeral, but I didn’t have time to think about that because everyone was looking at me, and I needed to get on with today’s funeral.

I discovered that day, that it’s possible to be preaching about one thing, and at the same time be thinking about something completely different. As I was speaking about my herdsman friend, I was feverishly thinking about the funeral I’d been to some years before, and the dead man who was standing at the back of the crematorium. Had I got mixed up with a different vet? Was it actually someone else’s funeral I’d been to all those years ago? But it couldn’t be, because I remembered visiting John at the time, and what a shock it had been to him when his father had died so suddenly. My mind was in turmoil, and I couldn’t believe what I was seeing.

Somehow I got through the service, and I stood outside, shaking hands with the mourners as they came out. John and David were getting closer all the time, and my head was spinning. John shook my hand and I said, “Hello John. Long time no see. How are you keeping?” John replied, and then said, “I don’t think you’ve met Uncle Jim, Dad’s twin brother. They were identical twins.”

They were IDENTICAL twins. Identical in every way. Except that one was very dead, and the other was very much alive! I was dreading being introduced to the man whose funeral I’d already attended, but very relieved to meet his identical twin!

Rev Ifor Williams

ADULLAM CHAPEL, PAINSCASTLE

A full congregation joined together for the Chapel Anniversary recently, with Mrs Jenny Smith presiding in her usual happy and cheerful manner. The evening wouldn't be the same without our dependable and loyal soloists Mike Labbett, Barry James and Glasnant Morgan entertaining us in their usual jovial way. Annie Lewis, Alys Lloyd and friend Phoebi sang 'One more step along the way we go'. All were ably accompanied on the piano by Mrs Margaret Evans.

Doreen James' poem 'Time' by Joyce Grenfall was enjoyed so much that Doreen was asked to do a repeat performance.

The highlight of the evening was the solos sung so beautifully by Holly Richards from Rhosgoch. We are so lucky to have such talent in the area.

Several old favourite hymns were sung during the service with Annie and Griff taking the collection.

Edwina thanked everyone for taking part and especially Jenny and Margaret for their contribution. Then she invited everyone into the hall for delicious refreshments with as always lots of chatter and catching up.



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HERMON CHAPEL, RHOSGOCH

Ira David Sankey (August 28, 1840 – August 13, 1908) was an American gospel singer and composer, known for his long association with Dwight L. Moody in a series of religious revival campaigns in America and Britain during the closing decades of the 19th century. Sankey was a pioneer in the introduction of a musical style that influenced church services and evangelical campaigns for generations, and the hymns that he wrote or popularized continued to be sung well into the 21st century.

Generally rousing in nature, a Sankey hymn stirs the spirit as it reminds us just what it is we believe in and why we are joined together in worship.

The trio of Sarah Butterfill, with Annis and John Jones from Builth Wells, have been ministering in song for many years and are always an asset to worship. Organised by Rhosgoch Chapel congregational members Enid Edwards and Margaret Whittle, the Sankey concerts have proved to be very popular over the years.



From left: Enid, Sarah, Margaret, Annis and John. In the early days, we were lucky to be accompanied by Chapel organist John Meredith, who loved the rousing thump of a Sankey rhythm but sadly John has gone to God and so is with us only in spirit.

Heads Marketing

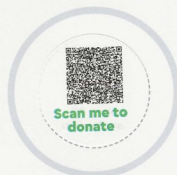
It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

Place: Painscastle Village Hall
Date: Saturday 30 September 2023
Time: 10.00 - 12.30
Contact: Meg Lloyd

01497 851247

Simply scan this QR code with your phone to donate to your host's Coffee Morning. It's easy, quick and secure. Thank you.



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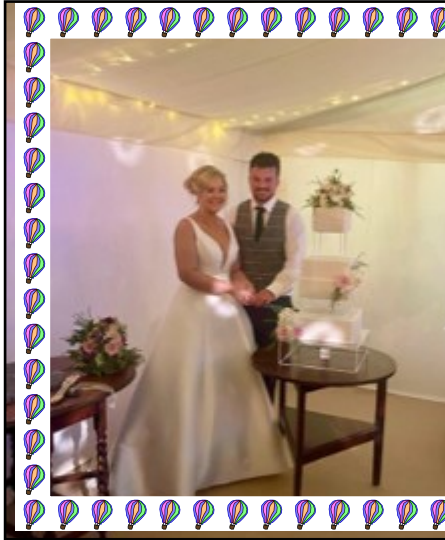
**RHOSGOCH CHAPEL
17 SEPT AT 2.30 PM**

A celebration of song featuring
Annis, John and Sarah

ALL ARE WELCOME

PAINSCASTLE AND RHOSGOCH TODDLER GROUP

Greetings to all the members of our community! I'd like to introduce myself, I'm Sophia Roberts, I live up at Bryngwyn and I'm a proud mother of two energetic young boys. With the help of Jess Bailey, together we will be the new stewards of our beloved local tots group. I'm excited to embark on this journey of nurturing creativity and fostering friendships within our community. My aim is to create a safe, stimulating, and joyous space where our little ones can learn, laugh and thrive and parents/guardians can chat and have a nice cup of tea! I want to send a big thank you to Caz and Pam for keeping the group going for so long! I'm looking forward to meeting each of you and collaborating to make this playgroup a wonderful experience for our children.



Congratulations to Gethin and Vanessa Morgan (nee Gore) who were married on 1st September 2023 at St Michael's Church, Bryngwyn.

My Summer Holiday, By Abbie Lloyd

My mum, Conor, Paige, and I travelled to Ireland by ferry for the first part of our summer holidays. We went to Fossett's Circus, it's been going since 1888. Paige and Conor went to a Sunflower farm, and I went shopping with Grandad. We had lots of fun going to the seaside and seeing my cousins.

Dad joined us to go on our next adventure, we flew to America. We went to Boston first, to see my cousin Emma get Christened and then to Franklin Park Zoo (my cousin Olivia and I went there when we were 2years old and so took the same photo again at 9years old in the same spot!). We also went to the Boston Children's Museum and we took a trip to Cape Cod. Cape Cod is a small island, we walked to the beach everyday, went Rock Wall climbing, hit baseballs in the batting cages and went on bumper boats.

Our next trip was the long drive to New York City, this was also on the day of my birthday, but I didn't mind, I had 2 birthday cakes! We stayed at my great Uncle and Aunt's house on Long Island, they have a big pool in their back garden, and I STAYED in it every day and night!

We got a train and the subway to Manhattan, the buildings were so big and we went on a man-made island on the Hudson River called Little Island. Paige found her own stage, and sang to some local New Yorkers who all clapped for her after her song finished. Time Square has so many lights, we got our picture taken with Mickey, Minnie Mouse, and a few others. We then went to the Disney store.

I had the best time, but I really missed Lundy Farm, it was good to get home.

