

CRONICL DYFFRYN CLWYD

YOUR FREE MAGAZINE *Dcember. 2020*

FOR GRAIGFECHAN, LLANELIDAN, LLANFAIR, PENTRECELYN AND PWLLGLAS



Llanfair School
Advent calendar
competition
winners



Coed Cilygroeslwyd

Des James (member of the Llanfair-Fwy group)

This unique Wildlife Trust reserve near Pwllglas has seen a lot of activity this year by volunteers and staff. Earlier in the year several areas of the wood were coppiced. This entails cutting trees down to near their base and might seem destructive if you do not understand the reasons. Opening up areas of the wood to let sunlight in, promotes the growth of woodland flowers such as Welsh Daffodils and Butterfly Orchids. The trees will regenerate in time until the process is repeated in 10 to 15 years.



The glade which was the old limestone quarry was trimmed, using traditional scythes. This method was used because it is an area where the rare Limestone Woundwort grows, and mechanical trimming is less selective. The footpath was rerouted to avoid the area where these plants grow. It also provides a safer route for walkers as the limestone is slippery when wet and the area becomes very boggy.



New information boards have been erected at each of the entrances to the reserve. These give a description of the plants and wildlife that may be seen in the woods.

A start has been made to uncover the Lime Kiln that has lain buried for some time at the corner of the limestone quarry. This is no mean task as the site is overgrown with mature ivy, but the edges showing cut stone are becoming visible. We are hoping to make this a feature of the reserve with information panels to explain the significance.



Please come and enjoy this special woodland, but do read the notices and keep to the rules.

EDITORIAL

Keith Mouldsdales

Here we are approaching Christmas and still having to be really careful where we go, what we do, who we meet, how we meet and how many. I really do hope you are keeping safe, sane and well. Please don't forget that help is only a telephone call away and that most people are only too happy to help if we can. Nobody needs to feel helpless, lonely or forgotten. Just make that call. I am certain that we have all felt down sometime in the last few months. I certainly have. I must admit reluctantly that Facebook, Whatsapp, Facetime, Zoom, and some others that I have forgotten, have been a boon for me over the past months

We have stopped clapping for the NHS and they are still working miracles in really difficult circumstances. I have recently spoken to a friend whose husband had worked continuous 27 hours on the Covid ward in Wrexham. I can't imagine how difficult that must be even without all the PPE kit making it ten times worse. We must find some way of rewarding these magnificent human beings when we get this situation under control. A recent problem in Ruthin sorting office highlighted how much we rely on the Postman. I hate to think what problems we would have if the dustmen (or waste collectors as they are now known) had similar problems and couldn't work. How we do take for granted these wonderful people who keep our world ticking over

On a sad note from me we have decided to cease our distribution of the Chronicle in Pwllglas for various reasons, including funding, lack of distribution volunteers and lack of articles. However, there will be some copies available at Pwllglas shop and it will always be available on line at www.llanfairdc.co.uk. The next edition will be distributed at the end of March 2021 and let's hope our lives are somewhere near normal by then. Articles in word as an attachment to an email is great.

The deadline for the March edition is March 13th

Email is editor@llanfairdc.co.uk or tel. 01824707506 or 07950673985

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A different kind of Christmas celebration

Richard Carter

We are all having to adjust to a very different kind of Christmas this year, on top of having supported one another through what has been a very challenging time throughout the year. Last year I missed Llanfair's Christmas Eve Nativity in church because I was spending more time at Clocaenog; where we walked in a procession of lights from the playground up to the church to sing carols.

A number of people asked me in the new year why I had not been at Llanfair on Christmas Eve and said that although they had enjoyed the Nativity Service, they had expected to see me there and missed me. This was all very flattering for me, and it is nice to feel wanted. I made a mental note to ensure that I made it to this year's nativity in Llanfair. Well, like all of us I can say that things have not been going to plan. Whatever plans have gone awry for you and whatever challenges you are facing as we come to the close of this year, I wish you many Christmas blessings.

Our blessing is not always in getting what we want, or in having plenty, safety or security; and I hope that you will receive the blessing of knowing what Christmas really means for you this year. This is a poem of blessing for travelling in the dark:

A Blessing for Travelling in the Dark by Jan Richardson

*Go slow if you can. Slower. More slowly still.
Friendly dark or fearsome, this is no place to break
your neck by rushing, by running, by crashing into
what you cannot see.*

*We are all having
to adjust to a very
different kind of
Christmas this year*

*Whatever plans have
gone awry for you and
whatever challenges
you are facing as we
come to the close
of this year, I wish
you many Christmas
blessings.*

Then again, it is true: different darks have different tasks, and if you have arrived here unawares, if you have come in peril or in pain, this might be no place you should dawdle.

I do not know what these shadows ask of you, what they might hold that means you good or ill. It is not for me to reckon whether you should linger or you should leave.

But this is what I can ask for you:

That in the darkness there be a blessing. That in the shadows there be a welcome. That in the night you be encompassed by the Love that knows your name.

(Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons. Florida: Wanton Gospeller Press, 2015.)

Look out for the outdoor traveling nativity coming to:

- S Foddyd's, Clocaenog 4-6 Sunday 13 December
- S Cynfarch & S Mary's, Llanfair 5-7 pm Monday 14 December
- S Micahel & All Angels', Efenectyd 4-6 pm Friday 18 December
- S Mary's, Cyffylliog 4-6 pm Sunday 20 December

Richard Carter reverendcarter@gmail.com



Christmas Appeal for “Save the Family”



For several years the collection from St Cynfarch & St Mary’s Church Family Christmas Eve Carol Service has been donated to “Save the Family”, a charity helping families in crisis in North Wales and Cheshire. This year we will not be able to have our usual service with a packed church but the needs of “Save the Family” are greater than ever. In the past we have regularly raised over £300 each year from this service.

The story of “Save the Family”

Save the Family was founded in 1976 by Edna and George Speed. Edna was a head teacher in a nursery school on the Lache housing estate in Chester. It was here that she helped secure a minibus to help pupils travel to the school on a daily basis. She also set up a subsidised annual holiday for local families in need. However, meeting some of the families who lived on the estate, and working with them on a daily basis, she realised that a residential centre was necessary.

Plas Bellin in North Wales was identified as a possible site. It was initially leased from the National Coal Board in 1985 with an option to buy. At the same time, the organisation was granted charitable status for the first time.

In 2007, the charity took a major step forward when planning permission was granted in order to renovate a disused farm in rural Cheshire. After 4 years, in 2011, it was opened, with the aim of replicating the years of work at Plas Bellin. Today, Cotton Hall is the main site of Save the Family. It has 26 self-contained units ranging from one bedroomed studio apartments to 4 bedroomed accommodation. All are available to house a number of families who are referred from across the UK, but who primarily come from the local areas of North Wales, Cheshire and the North West.

Sharon' Story

Save the Family also provide outreach support for people who continue to need us after they have settled back into community. This is an essential part of the successful rehabilitation of families. Sharon's case shows how we are able to support families even when they are back in the community again.

Sharon stayed at Save The Family last year from January to April after a relationship breakdown and becoming homeless. "I was desperate, I had three children and my Mum was really poorly at the time and I had nowhere to go". She felt vulnerable and needed somewhere to stay, some advice and emotional support to help get her through a difficult period in her life. "When I arrived my confidence was very low and I needed someone to talk to and help with keeping my kids safe and happy. I felt like I was letting them down." Sharon received support in getting housing, accessing the correct benefits and registering with a local GP service. "They did everything for me, it was amazing to be able to hand it all over to someone. At the time I couldn't have done that." Sharon soon got her confidence and self-esteem back and was ready to move on. Save The family helped her set up her home when leaving Plas Bellin. "They helped me move, helped me get the water on and get a TV licence. They also gave me some furniture and curtains. They did the sort of thing your family would do if they could." Sharon has settled back into the community and is coping well. She was still in contact with staff at Save The Family and tended to call them for any help she needed. "I spoke to them recently about some child care issues I had and they still help. It's been wonderful."

(names and identities have been changed to protect families' privacy.)

2020 Christmas Appeal

This year we are asking you to support Save the Family once again by placing your donation in an envelope and popping it through the letterbox at Ficardy Vicarage, next door to the new school building in Llanfair DC. Please mark the envelope "Christmas Appeal". If you are unable to do this but would like to make a donation please contact Martin King (01824 702196) or Mark Randall (01824 702594) to discuss alternative ways of making your donation. We would appreciate your donations by 20th December.

Please give as generously this year as you have in the past. Very many thanks on behalf of Save the Family.

A COUNTRY WINTER (Part 1)

Eryl Jones

The village could have been one of many in that part of the world. Clusters of squat cottages, all topped by plum-coloured roofs, surrounded a timeless pub and an ancient church. Rolling meadows and tracts of deciduous woodland, punctuated by the occasional farmhouse with its attendant stock-sheds and barns, formed the rural backdrop to the setting. This was marginal country. Though not mountain or moorland, it was still too high for corn growing and not lush enough for dairy cows, so nursery rhyme sheep and heavy beef cows grazed the undulating acres.

It had been an exceptionally mild autumn; a Mediterranean August had become a shirtsleeve September which in turn had melted into a mellow October. While the chestnut and field maple had donned the multi-shaded russet and ochre mantle of autumn, the leaves on the oak and ash had barely lightened a couple of shades from the rich, Lincoln green of high summer.

Erratic flying bats and snuffling hedgehogs could still be seen at dusk as could kaleidoscopic Peacock and ornate Red Admiral butterflies during the day, all without a thought for hibernation. Enough insects were still abroad to persuade a few swallows to delay the long-haul flight back to their African wintering grounds and only the rapidly shortening day length gave any clue to the season.

The last Saturday in October dawned like every other day, with a shallow, feathery mist floating over the dew-sodden fields. An insipid sun reflected off the crimson hedgerow fruits, and the expectation was for another Indian summer day. But by mid-afternoon, there was a perceptible change. The benevolent light grey clouds gave way to a steely blue coldness and the setting sun tinged the western sky with ribbons of pink. Darting wrens and chattering blackbirds sought more sheltered roosting spots. Several wrens clustered together for mutual warmth in an old great tit nest, deep in the masonry of an ancient garden wall. Half a dozen blackbirds, searching for a warm, safe haven for the night, burrowed deep into the shiny, dark green ivy that smothered the same wall. The temperature dropped to three degrees overnight and although open fields were drenched with heavy dew,

sheltered tufts under the hedges bore tell-tale signs of the first frost of the autumn, while on car roofs, ponderous water droplets had been replaced by a shimmer of white.

By Guy Fawkes Day, the village awoke every morning to a chilly, white-washed world. Grass crunched underfoot and slivers of wafer thin ice sealed roadside puddles. The week had been too much for reptiles. Grass snakes slithered under garden sheds and woodpiles to escape the cold and spend the winter in their cold-blooded torpor. Bats returned for the last time to roost in the capacious church tower, there to hang upside down until the spring warmth stirred them. The switch back to G.M.T. meant that dusk fell at 5pm and by the time complete darkness shrouded the land, the thermometer already read minus one.

High in a huge, sombre sycamore tree, a tawny owl surveyed the scene. He hooted his ownership of this particular piece of real estate, and when he received no hoot in reply challenging his claim, he flew off on silent wings in search of a careless rodent.

As November progressed, in places where the sun's feeble rays failed to reach, the frost remained throughout the foreshortened day. Shallow pools became ice throughout and icicles hung like silver spears from over-hanging willow branches that drooped over the stream. Sheep crowded around the hayracks, tugging at the fodder to satisfy their ever-growing need for extra food. All the cattle were now housed in their winter quarters and they waited patiently in the dawn chill for their morning feed, exhaling great clouds of breath like a row of shunting steam engines.

But the end of the month brought a week of milder weather and with it came lashing rain and ferocious winds. Even the most stubborn leaves on beech hedges were ripped away. The stream took on the hue of oxtail soup, its flooded torrents bearing rafts of woodland debris, harvested by the wind that had turned every tree into a wooden skeleton. The sodden sheep stood like melancholic dishcloths in the lea of hedges, while above them overwintering redwings and fieldfares and resident thrushes gorged themselves on the berries of holly, dog rose and hawthorn.

December began with the same low-pressure area centered off the Hebrides. It had been feeding in the northwesterly wind that had

Continued on page 10

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brought the storms and dissipated the frost. But now it began to track southeastwards and as it did so the isobars opened out, killing the strong winds and introducing dryer, colder air from Scandinavia and the return of sub-zero night temperatures. The low-pressure area continued to drift towards France and as it did so, it began to draw in winds from a more northerly direction and by mid-month, a bitter northeasterly airflow almost shivered the country to a standstill. Daytime temperatures struggled to reach zero and at night the mercury dropped to minus eight. Cars refused to start and garden taps froze solid and even the slower moving eddies of the stream began to ice over.

There was a full moon in the week leading to Christmas and the whole world glistened as the soft lunar light picked out the reflections of a billion frost crystals. A dog fox sat on his haunches on a bank above the village and surveyed his home range. The bone hard earth prevented him supplementing his diet with grubs and earthworms, so his hunting skills had to be more successful in other areas. He was not particularly hungry, as he had just dined on a road-casualty pheasant. He stood up and let out an eerie yelp to see if any eligible vixens had entered his territory, for this was the mating season. His ears pricked, as from the beech wood half a mile away, his radar-sharp hearing detected a faint reply, the source of which was definitely female. He emitted another high-pitched scream and at an easy lope set off for the beech wood

That same night, a new low-pressure area was making its way towards the English Channel. In its wake, mild south-westerly winds picked up evaporation from the Atlantic, producing a swirling weather front that wrapped itself around the low and by the next day it was raining steadily in Southern Ireland. But the weather system over Britain was a stubborn anti-cyclone centred over the Low Countries, drawing in arctic air straight from Siberia - and it had no intention of giving way. Rain fell in Cornwall too, but as the moisture-laden clouds came up against the wall of freezing air, the rain turned readily to sleet in low-lying areas of Devon and wet snow over the moors. The further the front moved in land, so the nature of the snow changed. It began as giant wet flakes like tumbling goose feathers, but by the time it fell on the village that evening it had become dry and powdery and settled easily on the frozen ground.

A ghostly barn owl circled methodically in hushed flight, hunting for voles and wood mice, but she soon realised her search was going to be fruitless and so headed for a nearby grain store. Here, the rats that had managed to avoid poisoned bait and the farm cat, feasted on the barley. The snowflakes were so dry and cold, they just rolled off her wings as she flew.

The village awoke to an alpine scene. Evergreen boughs groaned precariously under the burden of fresh snow while sheep bleated mournfully in the blanketed fields. Some scraped half-heartedly at the ground to try and reach the buried sward but it was a futile exercise and they never wandered far from the hayracks. For the next twelve hours, the snow-laden sky continued to gently discharge its wintry burden, each perfect flake with its own unique symmetry. By midnight, the cobalt black sky was a pincushion of astral light, joining the three-quarter moon in illuminating the Dickensian winter scene.

Although no further snow fell in December, the temperature continued to fall. In several places, the stream was bridged by encroaching ice from the banks, meeting in mid-stream. Greenfinches, bluetits, siskins and a myriad of other garden birds bickered and squabbled over peanuts and beef fat on a cottage bird table. The weather was too inclement even for sheep and the cumbersome ewes, heavy in lamb, were moved to covered yards until after lambing in March.



DIG WITH DI

Di Mouldsale

Season's greetings fellow gardeners. It's the time of year when I persuade family and friends that it's the ideal time to prune their berry-bearing holly, ivy and laurel, which I kindly offer to dispose of so that I can transform the clippings into wreaths or Christmas arrangements.

it's the ideal time to prune their berry-bearing holly, ivy and laurel . . .

There are lots of ideas floating around for Christmas presents for us gardeners. Last year I read an article recommending a Japanese razor hoe. So I bought myself one. It is an amazing tool and I wish I'd known about it years ago. It slices through the weeds with ease (it will also decapitate bulbs just under the soil if you're not careful) and the point makes short work of dandelion and dock roots. It can be bought with a short or long handle. I've put red tape on the handle of mine as I'm always putting it down and losing it.



There are lots of beautiful plants in the garden centre and supermarkets and very reasonable prices that make lovely gifts. I used to plant hyacinths in September but I find they are remarkably cheap to buy already grown.

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A couple of weeks ago I noticed in a shady corner a splash of bright pink. When I investigated I found it was a cyclamen which I had dug in sometime in the past and forgotten about. This shows that even in winter there is still colour in our gardens and an added joy are the birds that visit us. By now most of us will have put our gardens to bed for the winter. I noticed daffodils

creeping through around the trees such a lovely sight, a sure sign of spring.

Pick the sprouts and other veggies for the Christmas dinner

As the dark nights are here it's time to reflect on our successes and failures and start to plan for the next season. Pick the sprouts and other veggies for the Christmas dinner. They haven't been sitting on a supermarket shelf or travelled miles and you don't have to queue to buy them.

Check on those you think might be on their own even if it's just a phone call

A very peaceful Christmas to everyone. It is likely to be very different from Christmases past. Check on those you think might be on their own even if it's just a phone call or a small gift. In these difficult times we all need to watch out for each other.

I hope 2021 brings health to you all and that we are able to slowly regain the things we have missed during the recent months.

For anyone considering connection to the gas in Llanfair

Qualifying Benefits List

If you claiming any of the benefits on the gas connection grant benefits list you may qualify for a grant towards a new gas connection.

- Pension Guarantee Credit
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Working Tax Credit (an upper earnings limit applies)
- Child Tax Credit (an upper earnings limit applies)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Universal Credit
- Council Tax Reduction

<https://www.warmwales.org.uk/gas-connection-grants>

Coleg Cambria Llysfasi

Community Hub

Have you travelled past Llysfasi recently? I'm sure you noticed our new building with the Community Hub sign on it? This is an exciting new project for us here at Llysfasi and I am delighted to be involved. As you know, Llysfasi is an important location for land-based education, and the courses in agriculture, forestry and the environment, animal management and agricultural engineering attract learners throughout north and mid Wales. The hostel is busy again this year, and I am delighted to note that Llysfasi is offering opportunities for students to socialise and network with peers in the midst of the current pandemic.

We very much look forward to welcoming people to the new Community Hub. It has four classrooms, a foyer and a kitchen as well as a gallery for assembly or reception. Two of the rooms on the first floor can be combined to form a cozy meeting room, and there is seating and tables outside for a cuppa or a chat during the day. We will run classes and courses for the local area, including a wide range of employability skills development courses to short courses and Welsh for Adults courses. There will also be an opportunity for associations, organisations and businesses to hire the building for various activities.

Although the building itself is finished, we hope that the furnishing and the installation of technology will be finished before the end of November, and by the new year we hope that the Covid situation will allow us to hire the building and receive visitors to the Hub. Currently, external visitors do not gain access to the site to protect students and college staff from Covid. However, we will work hard to release event details as soon as possible in a virtual opening, including hire terms.

I look forward to welcoming you here to Llysfasi and to a beautiful, purpose-built community building.

Elin Roberts

Assistant Principal and Llysfasi site lead



Hwb Cymunedol

Ydach chi wedi teithio heibio Llysfasi yn ddiweddar? Dwi'n siwr i chi sylwi ar ein hadeilad newydd â'r arwydd Hwb Cymunedol arno? Mae hwn yn brosiect newydd a chyffrous i ni yma



yn Llysfasi a dwi'n falch iawn o gael bod yn rhan ohono. Fel y gwyddoch, mae Llysfasi yn leoliad pwysig ar gyfer addysg cyrsiau'r tir, ac mae'r cyrsiau amaeth, coedwigaeth a'r amgylchedd, rheolaeth anifeiliaid a pheirianeg amaethyddol yn denu dysgwyr led-led gogledd a chanolbarth Cymru. Mae'r hostel yn brysur eleni eto, ac rydwi'n falch iawn o nodi bod Llysfasi yn cynnig cyfleon i fyfyrwyr gymdeithasu a rhwydweithio gyda chyfoedion yng nghanol y pandemig sydd ohoni.

Edrychwn ymlaen yn fawr iawn at gael croesawu pobl i'r Hwb Cymunedol newydd. Mae yno bedair stsafell ddosbarth, cyntedd a chegin yn ogystal â galeri ar gyfer ymgynnull neu gynnal derbyniad. Gellir uno dwy o'r stafelloedd ar y llawr cyntaf i greu stafell gyfarfod glyd, ac mae seddau a byrddau y tu allan ar gyfer paned neu sgwrs yn ystod y dydd. Byddwn yn cynnal dosbarthiadau a chysiau ar gyfer yr ardal leol, yn cynnwys arlwy eang o gyrsiau datblygu sgiliau cyflogadwyedd i gyrsiau byrion a chysiau Cymraeg i Oedolion. Bydd cyfle hefyd i gymdeithasau, sefydliadau a busnesau logi'r adeilad ar gyfer gweithgareddau amrywiol.

Er bod yr adeilad ei hun wedi ei orffen, gobeithiwn bydd y dodrefnu a'r mewnosod technoleg wedi ei orffen cyn ddiwedd Tachwedd, ac erbyn y flwyddyn newydd mawr obeithiwn y bydd sefyllfa'r Cofid yn caniatâu i ni logi'r adeilad a derbyn ymwelwyr i'r Hwb. Ar hyn o bryd, nid yw ymwelwyr allanol yn cael mynediad i'r safle er mwyn gwarchod myfyrwyr a staff y coleg rhag y Cofid. Ond, byddwn yn gweithio'n galed i rhyddhau manylion digwyddiadau cyn gynted â phosib mewn agoriad rhithiol, gan gynnwys telerau llogi.

Edrychaf ymlaen at eich croesawu yma i Llysfasi ac i adeilad pwrpasol, hyfryd ar gyfer y gymuned.

Elin Roberts

Pennaeth Cynorthwyol â chyfrifoldeb dros safle Llysfasi

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU



Llanfair Community Council would like to extend a warm welcome to all newcomers to the area and a very Merry Christmas to all residents. The last few months has certainly highlighted how much we depend on each other and how much the immediate environment affects our wellbeing. With that in mind, community-minded individuals or groups are needed to maintain and develop some projects in our area.

Llanfair Community Council has had a request to develop a community garden and a play area in Graigfechan, but volunteers are needed to come forward before any definite plans can be instigated.

In Llanfair, volunteers are needed to maintain the shrubs on the green in front of Bron y Clwyd, which have been provided by the Housing Department of Denbighshire County Council.

On a larger scale, most of you will know by now that Llanfair Community Council has been investigating uses for the old school and the associated playing field. Whilst the school is a complicated project needing funding, the playing field is planned to be an area for use by the whole community in the area and as such, will need many volunteers to set it up as YOU would like it to be. A community steering group is being formed to look at ideas and take them forward - see the website for details.

This is your chance to improve the environment in which you live. Even if you cannot contribute physically, a little encouragement and maybe a cake and a cuppa can go a long way.

For more information about the community council, please visit www.llanfaircommunitycouncil.co.uk For information about the projects above, please contact the editor 01824 707506, your local councillor (details on website) or the clerk, Eirwen Godden clerk.llanfairdc@gmail.com

MAE EIN CYMUNED EICH ANGEN CHI



Dymuna Cyngor Cymuned Llanfair estyn croeso cynnes i'r holl newydd-ddyfodiaid i'r ardal a Nadolig Llawn i'r holl drigolion. Mae'r misoedd diwethaf wedi dangos faint rydym ni'n ddibynnu ar ein gilydd a faint mae'r amgylchedd o'n cwmpas yn effeithio ar ein llesiant. O gofio hynny, mae angen unigolion neu grwpiau o anian cymunedol i gynnal a datblygu rhai prosiectau yn ein hardal.

Cafodd Cyngor Cymuned Llanfair gais i ddatblygu gardd gymunedol a maes chwarae yng Nghraigfechan, ond mae angen gwirfoddolwyr cyn y bo modd dechrau ar unrhyw gynlluniau pendant.

Yn Llanfair mae angen gwirfoddolwyr i gynnal y llwyni ar y llecyn gwyrdd o flaen Bron y Clwyd, a ddarparwyd gan Adran Tai Cyngor Sir Ddinbych.

Ar raddfa ehangach bydd y rhan fwyaf ohonoch chi'n gwybod erbyn hyn fod Cyngor Cymuned Llanfair wedi bod yn ymchwilio i sut y gellir defnyddio'r hen ysgol a'r cae chwarae cysylltiedig. Tra bo'r ysgol yn brosiect cymhleth fydd angen cyllid, bwriedir i'r cae chwarae fod yn ardal i'w defnyddio gan y gymuned gyfan a bydd angen llawer o wirfoddolwyr i'w sefydlu fel rydych CHI'N ddymuno. Mae grŵp llywio cymunedol yn cael ei ffurfio i edrych ar syniadau a'u bwrw ymlaen – gweler y wefan am fanylion.

Dyma eich cyfle chi i wella'r amgylchedd rydych chi'n byw ynddo. Hyd yn oed os na fedrwyd chi gyfrannu'n gorfforol, gall ychydig o anogaeth - a phaned a chacen efallai – fynd ymhell iawn.

Os hoffech chi gael rhagor o wybodaeth am y Cyngor Cymuned edrychwch ar www.llanfaircommunitycouncil.co.uk Os hoffech chi gael rhagor o wybodaeth am y prosiectau uchod, cysylltwch gyda'r golygydd ar 01824 707506, eich cynghorydd lleol (manylion ar y wefan) neu'r Clerc, Eirwen Godden - clerk.llanfairdc@gmail.com os gwelwch yn dda.

Llanelidan Community Council



Well, it has certainly been a strange year! We hope that you have all stayed safe.

As a Council we have managed to continue with our meetings electronically, initially using telephone conferencing and then moving on to using Star Leaf software. We have been able to deal with all legislative business and are in the process of procuring a

new village sign for Rhydymeudwy, to replace the stolen, damaged sign.

This year we said farewell to John Brookes, a much respected, valued Councillor with many years' experience, and welcomed Sarah Merlin to the Council.

If you wish to contact the Council please see our website <http://llanelidanc.wales/> for our contact details

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



GOODBYES and THANK YOU

by Pat Sumner

For me, November has been a month of goodbyes.

Sadly, one of our homeless guests at the Wrexham Church and Community Cold Weather Shelter died this autumn. My daughter Ana and I, along with many other volunteers, cared for him last winter, and he was so appreciative of all that we did. We were terribly upset to hear of his death. He had a special place in our hearts and we were proud to call him our friend. It's tragic that the coronavirus pandemic has halted so many things – even much-needed support and care for our most vulnerable citizens. But we must also consider the well-being of our health and support workers and keep them safe, if we can, during this devastating time. We couldn't attend our friend's funeral in November to pay our last respects, due to the COVID restrictions, but you can be sure that we were there with him in spirit, and we trust he is now finally at peace.

In November, I also made the difficult decision, due to health reasons, to stand down as a coordinator/member of the Church Committee at St Elidan's Church. Some of you will know that I was churchwarden at Llanelidan Church for many years, and I have lots of happy memories to cherish – from our musical concerts and flower festivals, to fetes and medieval fairs, but mostly just being in that beautiful and sacred place among friends. I'm very fond of the small congregation at St Elidan's Church; I wish them all well.

From now on, if you have any queries about the church, please contact Rev Richard Carter on: 01824 703867 or reverendcarter@gmail.com.

I'd like to thank my friends at the church, Rev Carter and family, and everyone in Llanelidan and beyond – including the Leyland Arms, Nantclwyd Hall, the Cricket Club and the Community Council – for their wholehearted support of the church, and their kindness and friendship over many years. Most of all, I'd like to thank Andrew for his constant hard work and commitment to St Elidan's Church. He's still determined to complete the ongoing work to the church building so that it can achieve full 'pilgrim church' status. Please support him in his endeavours.

As I will have less contact with Llanelidan now, please get in touch with Keith Mouldsdales, the editor of this newsletter, if you can write an article about Llanelidan or the surrounding area from time to time. I'm sure he'd be very pleased to hear from you.

I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas, and a much healthier and more carefree 2021.

SOME QUOTATIONS

John Glenn: As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind -- that every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.

Desmond Tutu: When the white missionaries came to Africa, they had the Bible, and we had the land. The missionaries said, "Let us pray." So, we closed our eyes. When we opened them, we had the Bible, and they had the land.

David Letterman: America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real, but that the moon landing was faked.

Old Italian proverb: After the game, the king and the pawn go into the same box.

Prince Philip: When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.

Harrison Ford: Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.

Spike Milligan: The best cure for sea sickness is to sit under a tree.

Jean Rostand: Kill one man, and you're a murderer. Kill a million, and you're a conqueror.

Johnny Carson: If life were fair, Elvis would still be alive today, and all the impersonators would be dead.

Doug Hanwell: America is so advanced that even the chairs are electric.

George Roberts: The first piece of luggage on the carousel never belongs to anyone.

Children in Need

Thank you very much for your generous contributions we managed to raise £410 for this very worthy cause. Despite not being able to have their normal afternoon of fun and games the children enjoyed coming to school in their own clothes and having a disco in our brand new school hall.

Plant Mewn Angen

Diolch yn fawr iawn am eich cyfraniadau hael fe lwyddon ni i godi £ 410 at yr achos teilwng hwn. Er gwaethaf methu â chael eu prynhawn arferol o hwyl a gemau, mwynhaodd y plant ddod i'r ysgol yn eu dillad eu hunain a chael disgo yn neuadd ein hysgol newydd sbon.

Remembrance Service

On the 11th of the 11th at 11 am we had a very moving service at the front of the school. A big thank you to Rev Carter for officiating and to Llion for playing The Last Post on his trombone so beautifully. Year six then walked to the cenotaph to lay a wreath and crosses.

Gwasanaeth Coffa

Ar yr 11eg o'r 11eg am 11 y bore cawsom wasanaeth teimladwy iawn ym mlaen yr ysgol. Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r Parch Carter am weinyddu ac i Llion am chwarae The Last Post ar ei trombôn mor hyfryd. Yna cerddodd blwyddyn chwech i'r senotaff i osod torch a chroesau.

Halloween

Due to the restrictions and not being able to organise a live event, the PTA arranged for some fun activities over the half term holidays. We had lots of entries for the different classes and I know the children had a lot of fun on participating in the various competitions including an autumnal treasure hunt and baking. A big thank you to the PTA for organising the event and to all those that supported.

Calan Gaeaf

Oherwydd y cyfyngiadau a methu â threfnu digwyddiad byw, trefnodd y CRhA rhai gweithgareddau hwyliog dros y gwyliau hanner tymor. Cawsom lawer o gynigion ar gyfer y gwahanol ddsbarthiadau a gwn fod y plant wedi cael llawer o hwyl yn cymryd rhan yn y gwahanol gystadlaethau gan gynnwys helpa drysor hydrefol a phobi. Diolch yn fawr i'r CRhA am drefnu'r digwyddiad ac i bawb a gefnogodd

Appeal for resources

We have settled really well into our new home and are now looking to develop the outside areas into creative learning spaces for the children. An appeal went out to parents asking for items such as pallets, drain pipes, guttering, milk crates amongst other things and we are extremely grateful for all the donations we have already received. If you have anything that you think may be of use to us or for a more comprehensive list please contact the school.

Apelio am adnoddau

Rydym wedi ymgartrefu'n dda iawn yn ein cartref newydd ac yn awr yn edrych i ddatblygu'r ardaloedd allanol yn fannau dysgu creadigol i'r plant. Aeth apêl allan i rieni yn gofyn am eitemau fel paledi, pibellau draenio, cwteri, cratiau llaeth ymysg pethau eraill ac rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar am yr holl roddion a gawsom eisoes. Os oes gennych chi unrhyw beth a allai fod o ddefnydd i ni neu i gael rhestr fwy cynhwysfawr, cysylltwch â'r ysgol os gwelwch yn dda.

Hoffai disgyblion, staff a Llywodraethwyr Ysgol Llanfair dymuno Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda I chi gyd.

The pupils, staff and Governors of Ysgol Llanfair would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Rhestr o enillwyr/ List of winners (see photos)



Zora – helpa drysor hydrefol / autumnal treasure hunt



Halam – darn o waith celf orau Cyfnod Sylfaen / winner of the art competition Foundation Phase



Cerys - darn o waith celf orau Cyfnod Allweddol 2 / winner of the art competition Key Stage 2



Gethin – Gwisg ffansi orau / best fancy dress



Gracie – Pwmpen orau / Best pumpkin

Eyarth Station

Just four years ago, Michelle, Jim and Austin became the latest proprietors of the historic Eyarth Station in Llanfair D.C. Over the next number of issues of the Dyffryn Clwyd Chronicle we hope to outline our time at the Station and how we propose to develop the site over the next few years.



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