

# Rhosgoch Gossip

Volume 20 Issue 5

May/June 2015

70p



Playgroup meeting every Tuesday at Painscastle Hall. More news & pictures on Page 8 & 9

Picking up the defibrillators from the 'Friends of Healthcare in Builth Wells & District' at a special meeting in April. More on Page 11.

## COMMUNITY WEBSITE

For some time a few of us have thought that it was about time that our community had its own web site. Those of us who live in Painscastle and Rhosgoch know that this beautiful area has a lot to offer the rest of the World and we should therefore have a digital window in which to offer some of these delights to the wider online community. The current Facebook page has generally been quite well used for the exchange of news and information, but it does not serve as a proper, more permanent place in which we can provide accurate and timely information about our history and also our current activities. In these difficult times we need to do what we can to attract more visitors and investment and we believe that an attractive and accurate web site is now absolutely vital.

Fortunately, some dedicated Welsh Assembly Government funding was recently made available via Powys Council to our local Community Council to enable a basic web site to be created and hosted for the next few years. Although this funding was approved to meet with the requirements of the Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act of 2013, please note that the new site is not just about our local Council – it is much more focussed on the community. Therefore, although part of the web site will offer useful and timely information about local government issues, the greater part is there for all of us to use and contribute to.

Your contribution is absolutely essential to the success or failure of the new web site. In the same way that many of you have sent in excellent copy to the Gossip over the last year, we now need interesting and appropriate material to publish to the rest of the World. Please take a look at the new site at <http://www.painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk>. We know that there aren't many pages there at the moment, but we shall do our best to fill it up over time, with your help.



Under the Community section we would like to offer every local society and group a page of their own, with your own, dedicated email address. You will be free to edit your own page and access your own emails privately, subject to any reasonable constraints, and we hope that you will list details of your activities and forthcoming events. This should help you to find and recruit many new members.

We would like to feature as many links to local web sites as possible too, so could those of you with your own sites please get in touch so that we can agree an exchange. Also, we would like to feature as many local tourism businesses or craft enterprises as we can, even if you don't have your own web site, so just let us have your details and we'll do what we can. In time we may be able to provide a complete gazetteer of all of our local farms and their speciality produce. The opportunities are endless.

We would like to provide a visible presentation of the beautiful landscape that we all enjoy and the many local attractions that we can offer, so if you would like to provide

*Contd overleaf*

## EDITOR'S NOTES

In this issue you will find a variety of articles from various sources. We continue with our popular Farm Focus [P2] and Culinary Column [P3]. There are features on the new community website[P1&2] - thanks to Jess Fromant and Dainis Ozols for initial set up and design, WW1 memorials [P4&5], local news and events, letters from the 1950s, Free Ads [P8], Tots [P8&9], and Mikey won't be left out[P13]. We welcome all correspondence, letters, articles, local news, comments, etc. For further details 01497-851609 OR [m.lloyd1@btconnect.com](mailto:m.lloyd1@btconnect.com). {ML}

some of your photographs for publication please get in touch. We shall credit your work. Please contact the editorial team by navigating to the Contact page on the site or by emailing us direct at [webmaster@painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@painscastle-rhosgoch.co.uk).

Lastly, we would really like to see more young people become involved in the management and editing of the new site, as this is really part of your future and not just the past, so please do contact us if you would like to get involved. It does not need to take up much of your time and we think you will enjoy the experience. Please note that we are all unpaid volunteers!

## FARM FOCUS

The weather today is dismal and drizzly; the weather man said it was going to be dry and warm. But do they get it right? I suppose they did say we would have some sunshine, odd showers and maybe frost at night - that seems to cover it all.

Today started with me going to feed my 2 toddlers. (These are lambs that are fed on the bottle because either they haven't got a mum or she doesn't have enough milk - which it is in this case.)

Al soon arrives with the quad bike and snacker with sheep cake in to feed the older ewes with their lambs. The grass is not growing much at least not with us, as it is still too cold up in these hills, so they need a bit extra to keep them and their lambs growing.

This bunch of ewes are mostly Welsh mule with their Charolais lambs. We have sold most of this group



now in Hereford market as couples (one ewe and her lamb/s) and the only ones left are those who seemed to have one big lamb and one smaller. When we sell them we like the lambs to be similar in size, it's just the way we like to do it. So we tip the bags of pellets into the creep for the lambs and then drop cake out of the snacker, on the ground for the ewes. These lambs were born at the beginning of March so will be weaned at the end of next

week and the cull (mostly older) ewes will be taken to Talgarth market and the younger ewes shorn and put to the hill. The lambs will continue to have lamb pellets until they reach 34-40kg in weight and then will be taken to Talgarth market and sold as fat lambs.

The rest of our lambs (Suffolk/Welsh and mules) that are on the younger ewes are sold later in the year from September onwards.

Then it's on to give the cows some cake, as the grass is not growing fast enough on the other side of the electric fence, so they have a bit of spoiling which they like. We strip graze one of our fields for the cattle as we have now turned off the majority of the other fields and fertilized ready for harvesting in July. Our cows are mostly Welsh Black or Hereford crosses with Charolais calves. We always calf at the same time as lambing, as we find it easier as we are already going out in the night to see the ewes so we see the cows as well, so all our calving and lambing are now finished. Last ewe lambed a couple of days ago to what was supposed to be a barren ewe and all well, so a bonus as we say.



The lambing sheds have now been cleaned out ready for bringing the ewes in for shearing. We are hoping to shear the young ewes before the end of May and put to the hill for the Summer. These fields will be then fertilized ready to harvest in July.

It's nearly the end of the month so this afternoon I intend spending it on paperwork, preparing for my VAT return and, as Secretary for Painscastle Group, I will also be catching up with the paperwork, writing up minutes and booking speakers for the next few months.

For those of you who do not know what the Painscastle Group is, we are a group of 45 farmers that farm from Llandeilo Graban to Gladestry and adjoining areas, who meet every 2 weeks to talk about and buy products for the farm.

The Group was set up in 1992 by 3 people and I have been Secretary from the beginning, with the idea to group up quantities to give us strength to demand better prices for us all. The small farms would be paying the same price as the larger farms for their goods. We have rules and guidelines to adhere to, the main one being what goes on in the room, including prices, is kept within the group. On average we have at least 30 members attend each meeting, which speaks for itself. The idea is not to buy on price but to get quality products at low prices. We are a good social bunch and are always sharing ideas/problems - as they say, a problem shared is a problem halved. We have lots of good speakers throughout the year.

This year we intend to do our bit for the Breast Cancer Campaign awareness by each buying a pack of pink silage wrap. If anyone out there is interested in joining the group please get in touch. [Treena.davis@btconnect.com](mailto:Treena.davis@btconnect.com)

**ERWOOD STATION**

Erwood Station opened in 1864, and tucked in its beautiful sheltered nook above the River Wye it has seen many changes. Nan and her mother used to take the pony and trap to Aberedw, and would then take the steam train along to Builth to do the shopping. It was a great treat for the children once or twice a holiday, and a week's good behaviour was required beforehand or 'you won't go to Builth on Monday'. This gentle chapter of the valley's railway history ended in 1962 when the line closed as part of many branch closures across the country. In 1984 the Cunningham family started a restoration programme, and the station took on a newly successful identity as a craft centre. In March 2015 the station was taken over to become a sister gallery to Lion Street Gallery in Hay, recently rated as one of the best galleries in Wales. Once the start of the journey, now the station is the destination itself. The stylish gallery showcases contemporary crafts and applied arts from Wales and the Borders, and the beautifully restored railway carriages lend themselves perfectly to exhibition spaces. The artwork is varied from ingenious outdoor wind sculptures, to canvasses of warm summer's day views through sleepy meadows. The friendly, unpretentious staff are happy to talk about the art, and there is no pressure to buy anything. This means you can feel free to browse the intriguing work, and as there are four seasonal exhibitions a year it will be interesting to return to see the next collection.

The gallery also has a tearoom where you can treat yourself to refreshments seated in one of the atmospheric old railway carriages. There is less hubbub here than on Nan's childhood market trips, and the carriages are a lovely restful place for a cup of tea amongst the interesting artwork. 'Love at First Bake' from Builth supplies the delicious cakes and biscuits, and there is a wide variety of hot and cold drinks. Shepherding small children round an art gallery certainly works up an appetite, and everything looked very tempting. We eventually selected a peanut chocolate brownie, a strawberry cheesecake muffin, and a slice of coconut and lemon layer cake. The muffin was one of those creations where you can't quite understand how it was baked, with a surprising cool creamy cheesecake filling tucked inside a light spongy cake. The peanut chocolate brownie was deliciously contrasting in the dark chocolate chunks and crunchy peanut - an unfortunate hit with the children as I thought I would get most of that one! The star of the selection was, however, the coconut and lemon layer cake, which caused a scrum of little fingers over the rich cream cheese frosting and gooey lemon curd. This is a great treat which feels more cultured and different from just afternoon tea, and is only 10 minutes from Painscastle. The lambing is over, the bluebells are vibrant in every wooded spot, and the cakes are tempting. Erwood Station is well worth a bumble over the hill.

Food \*\*\*\* Service \*\*\*\* Value \*\*\* Atmosphere \*\*\*\*  
 Erwood Station, Llandeilo Graban, Builth Wells, LD2 3SJ. Telephone number: 01982 560 674

**Victorian Sponge**

- Eggs
- Sugar
- Margarine
- Self Raising Flour
- Baking powder
- Butter
- Icing sugar
- Jam
- Caster sugar

This method is endorsed by the WI and is the method I always use with equal weights of all the main ingredients. It may cause debate about the merits of butter over margarine but I find margarine makes a lighter sponge. Weigh the eggs in their shells to calculate the weights needed of the sugar, margarine and sieved self raising flour. Put all the ingredients in a mixing bowl and add about 1 teaspoon of baking powder per 3 eggs used. Use an electric whisk to combine the ingredients really thoroughly, and mix until really light and fluffy before pouring into 2 lined sandwich tins. Bake at 180 C until risen and golden. Combine butter and icing sugar to make butter icing, using a little milk or double cream to achieve the right consistency. Sandwich the 2 cakes together when cool using the butter icing and jam. Dust with caster sugar.

**NIGHTFALL DISCO & KARAOKE**

Music from 50s to present

Wedding, birthday party or any function that requires music.

If you require party food, catering service also available

**DAVID PRICE 01497 851243**

**LES BOWEN**

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

For all your fencing and  
 hedging  
 requirements -

Please contact Les on  
 01497 851254

Also firewood usually  
 available - can deliver



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

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

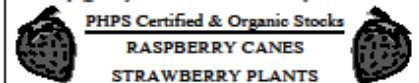


**Llewetrog Free  
 Range Eggs**

Available from  
 Painscastle Hall &  
 Llandeilo Graban  
 Contact John for  
 details 07779  
 164810

**SOFT FRUIT PLANTS**

*Direct from Specialist Grower*  
*Top Quality Plants Grown in Healthy Isolation*



**PHPS Certified & Organic Stocks**  
**RASPBERRY CANES**  
**STRAWBERRY PLANTS**  
**BUSHES: BLACKCURRANT, GOOSEBERRY,**  
**RED/WHITE CURRANT and**  
**CHUCKLEBERRY BUSHES - NEW!**

*- Sold in memory of Shân, with a % cancer charity donation -*

**WELSH FRUIT STOCKS, BRYNGWYN,**  
**(PAINSCASTLE), via KINGTON, HR5 3QN**

*Bare root plants available November until March/April*  
*Collection of plants available, by prior arrangement*  
 www.welshfruitstocks.co.uk

01497851209 [johnjess@welshfruitstocks.co.uk](mailto:johnjess@welshfruitstocks.co.uk)

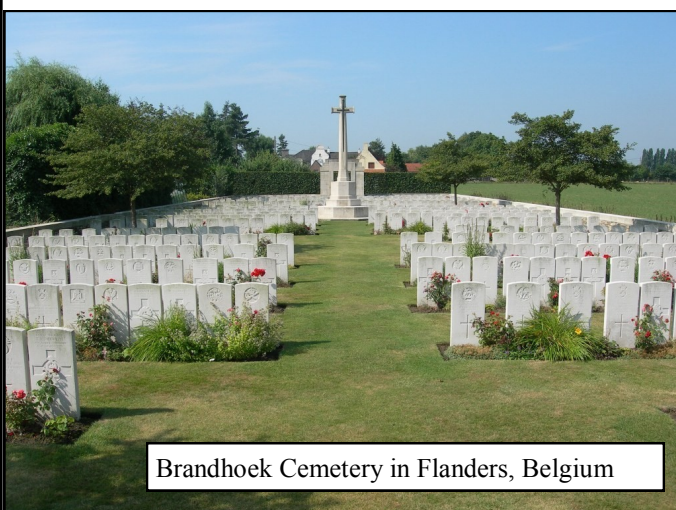
## INVESTIGATION OF LOCAL WAR MEMORIALS

As part of ongoing research into a number of historical projects and also to coincide with nationwide commemorations of the centenary of the Great War, members of the Local Interest Group have so far collected about one hundred names of former servicemen from rolls of honour and other memorials to be found at various local churches and chapels, including Bryngwyn, Hermon, Newchurch, Aberedw, Crickadarn, Erwood, Llandeilo Graban and Gwenddwr.

Of the one hundred or so soldiers, sailors and airmen, ten are known to have been killed in the Great War or to have subsequently died of their injuries and another three in the Second World War. The memorial at Crickadarn lists five men, all of whom died, so we can only assume that many more men from that area enlisted and survived, but were not commemorated. Their five names are also duplicated at Erwood Market Hall, where a sixth individual, John Phillips, is also listed as having been killed in action in the First World War.

Almost all of the names listed on the Bryngwyn memorial are duplicated on the memorial at Hermon Chapel, with only two names (H. Lloyd and Howard Richards) exclusively appearing on the Hermon roll of honour. One soldier – Stewart Jones, who died in 1945 - is listed on the Bryngwyn, Hermon and Newchurch memorials and only one other man – Graham Lloyd, who was killed in 1944 - is listed exclusively on the Newchurch memorial. Stewart Jones is buried in Becklingen Cemetery in Lower Saxony, Germany. It is believed that he was actually taken prisoner in Italy and that he died while on an enforced march to a prisoner-of-war camp in Germany.

Of the twenty names listed at Bryngwyn and Hermon only one, thankfully, is recorded as having been killed during the Great War. This is Gunner David Watkins of the Royal Field Artillery, who lived at High Park. There is also a separate memorial in his name at Bryngwyn “erected by friends”. He is buried at Brandhoek Cemetery in Flanders, Belgium.



Brandhoek Cemetery in Flanders, Belgium

Of the seven names listed at Gwenddwr, one – James Smith – is recorded as having been killed in 1940 and is actually buried in Gwenddwr churchyard. This is an official war grave. However, we have not yet been able to fully identify all of the Gwenddwr names, so there may have been more fatalities.

Of the twenty-seven men commemorated at Llandeilo Graban, three were killed in the Great War – John Chetwynd, George Grubb and John Williams-Vaughan, of The Skreen. It is worth mentioning that three of John Chetwynd’s brothers also served on the front, but happily survived. Their father

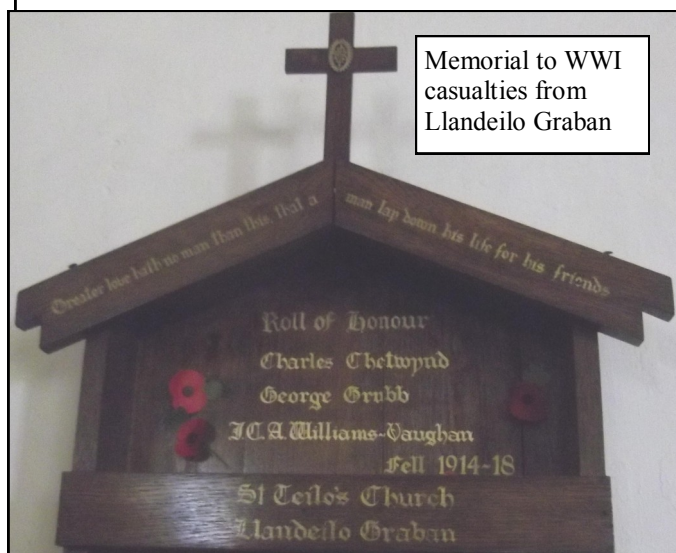
Edward was the schoolmaster at Llandeilo Graban and was temporarily transferred to Boughrood School when the headmaster there was called up. He had previously travelled and worked throughout Britain, his four sons being born in four different counties.

We don’t know very much about George Grubb, such as where he lived, but he may have been born near Weobley in 1894. A man of that name also married a lady called Margaret Jones in Hay in 1916. Grubb was killed in March 1918.

From patient research we know a little more about John Christopher Arthur Williams-Vaughan. Born in 1891 in Llandefalle into a well-placed local family he was educated at Eton and Oxford. He enlisted in the South Wales Borderers in 1914 as a Second Lieutenant and was subsequently transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. He was killed at the Battle of the Somme on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

His sister, known locally as Nessa (later Mrs Lionel Trafford) instigated the purchase of the German Field Gun, which was eventually placed on Twyn-y-garth overlooking Erwood village to commemorate the ending of the war, in memory of her elder brother and other local men killed in action. Her younger brother Francis also served, initially as a Midshipman in the Royal Navy, although by 1929 he was a Lieutenant Commander and he lived until 1977.

We still haven’t identified all of the individuals listed on the Llandeilo roll of honour, but in general we would like to try and find out more about all of the men who served and returned safely, especially as their descendants may now be living amongst us.



Memorial to WWI casualties from Llandeilo Graban

Of the twenty-nine names listed at Aberedw, we think that all returned safely, although we still have a lot of work to do in identifying them fully.

Some names remain impossible to trace and there may be several reasons for this – the Census is only held every ten years and it is possible that some enlisted men

## JOSH DAVIES

Monumental Mason

New memorials Additional inscriptions  
Renovations and cleaning Skilful craftsmanship

Free brochure and price list Commemorative plaques

Mobile: 07500 938149 Tel: 01497-847410

Hengardd, Pontithel, Three Cocks, Brecon

may have only just moved into the area after the Census of 1911, which is the last one that we can currently access. It is also possible that many more recruits may have been servants (farm workers or domestic staff employed on local farms) and that they originated elsewhere, so will have no local family members. Others may have emigrated and there are at least two names on our lists shown as fighting with the Canadian Armed Forces, Rhys Davies from Crickadarn and Evan Davies from Aberedw.

Some histories are tricky to work out. For example, there is the case of Captain Ralph Jennings Roberts, born in either 1880 or 1881 in St Columb, Cornwall, whose parents remained in Newquay. At the time of the 1911 Census Roberts was living at a boarding house in Tenby, where he was working as an articled solicitor's clerk. When the Great War started he served initially with the Hussars then with the 179th Company of the Machine Gun Corps and was killed in Palestine/Israel, where he is buried at the Beersheba War Cemetery. So why is he commemorated at Crickadarn?

Perhaps one of the saddest stories of all is that of the two brothers John and Douglas White from Gwenddwr, both sons of the local police constable. Both were killed in France within just one month of each other in August and September 1918, shortly before the end of the war. The brothers are buried at different cemeteries in France.

There are still lots of gaps and question marks in our knowledge and some of the military units listed on the memorials are unrecognisable too, so your help in identifying many of these would be most welcome. We would especially like to know who the descendants of the listed men are, as they may have much more information to offer. Please let us know if you believe that your ancestors served in the Great War while they were living in this area. We also appear to be missing any details of enlisted men from the central Painscastle area, so if you can throw any light on why that should be, or if you can offer any more information about the following servicemen, please get in touch with Maureen Lloyd at Lower Lundy on 01497 851609 or by email to [mlloyd1@btconnect.com](mailto:mlloyd1@btconnect.com) :

## GREAT WAR

**David Watkins** Born 1885/1886 Killed in action 07.08.1917 in Flanders Formerly of High Park

**Meredith R. Bevan** Born 1885 in Crickadarn Killed in action in September 1916 on the Somme Formerly of Crickadarn

**Rhys Owen Davies** Born 1887 in Crickadarn Killed in action 31.08.1917 in France Formerly of Trericket Mill, Crickadarn, then emigrated to Canada

**Ralph Jennings Roberts** Born 1880/1881 in St. Columb, Cornwall Killed in action in Palestine 31.10.1917 Unknown link with Crickadarn

**John Henry White** Born 1889 in Crickhowell Killed in action 21.08.1918 in France Formerly of Gwenddwr

**Douglas L. White** Born 1891/1892 in Brecknock Killed in action 18.09.1918 in France Formerly of Gwenddwr

**John P. Phillips** Born 1896 in Llandefalle Killed in action 08.09.1918 in Flanders Formerly of Wernos Farm, Llandefalle

**John Charles Chetwynd** Born 1891 in Llangedwn, Denbighshire

Killed in action 08.05.1915 in Flanders Formerly of Llandeilo Graban

**George Grubb** Born 1894 in Alton Cross, Herefordshire Killed in action on 24.03.1918 on the Somme Unknown link with Llandeilo Graban

**John Christopher Arthur Williams-Vaughan** Born 1891 in Llandefalle Killed in action 15.07.1916 on the Somme Formerly of The Skreen, Erwood

## SECOND WORLD WAR

**James Jeffery Smith**

No date/place of birth Killed in action 17.11.1940 Buried at Gwenddwr Husband of Hilda Jane Smith, Ponsticil

**Graham Hugh Lloyd**

Born 1920? In Cardiff Killed in action 01.07.1944 in Normandy

Son of Hugh and Frances Edith Lloyd of Newchurch

**Stewart Goodwin Owen Jones**

Born 1924 in Kington Died in captivity in Germany 26.03.1945

Son of William and Susanah Jones, Caerleon

## T R EAST

### PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS

Systems available for all types of event:

Shows, fetes, races etc.

Indoor systems also available

Daily or weekly hire available

**Tel No: 01497 851255**

### TWO WAY RADIO HIRE

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

## Rebecca Lewis Jewellery

- Full collection of hand-made silver and gold jewellery
- Engagement rings & wedding bands
- Commissions undertaken
- Repairs & ring re-sizing
- Pearl & bead re-stringing



Call to make an appointment...

07968040309

[www.rebecca-lewis.co.uk](http://www.rebecca-lewis.co.uk)

## PAUL MEREDITH

ELECTRICIAN & DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Rhos Mawr

Glasbury On Wye

Hereford HR3 5ND

**Tel: 01497 847943 / 847308**

## C. C. JAMES Funeral Director

Hengardd, Pontithel, Three Cocks, Brecon

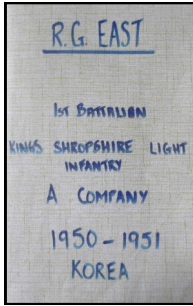
**Complete Funeral Service**

Pre-paid Funeral Plans

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

Extracts from letters written by the late Richard East to his future wife when doing his 'National Service' and pictures sent home at the time.

Many thanks to the East family for publication. This is the first part from April 1950 to April 1951, and it will be concluded in the next issue of the Gossip. The Korean War began in June 1950.



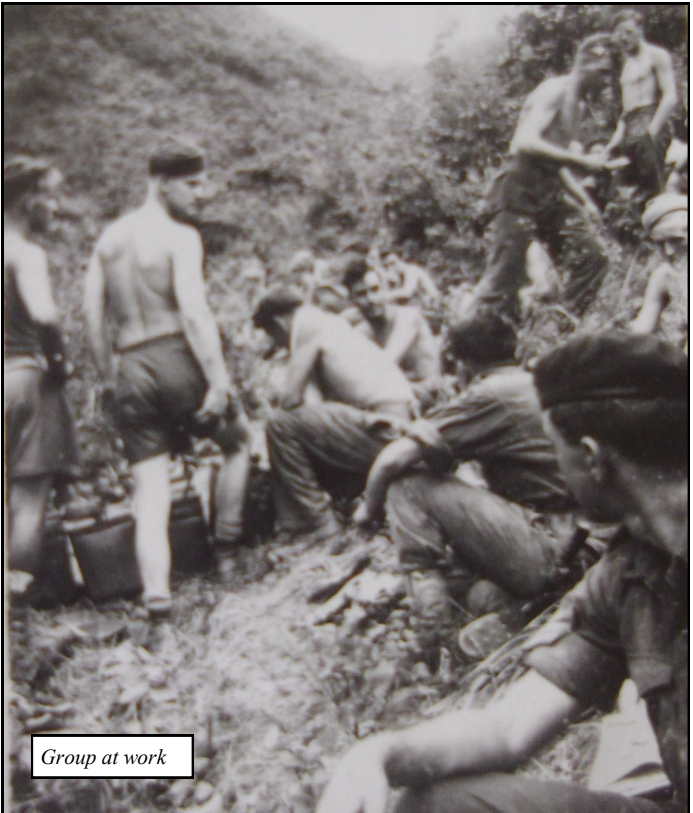
12/09 /1950	Colombo	We docked at Colombo, went ashore 8am got back on board 4pm. The big shops and stores had plenty to sell. Everywhere very clean, we hadn't much money to spend.. Had a photo taken with a snake charmer. Our transport was a Rickshaw pulled by an ox.
13/09 /1950	Bay of Bengal	We are now in the Bay of Bengal, we stop in Singapore on Sunday and get to Hong Kong on Thursday
14/09 /1950	Hong Kong	I have been in the army for 5 months
17/09 /1950	Empire Orwell	On the Empire Orwell out to Hong Kong, went ashore in Singapore, we will get more pay out in Hong Kong so I will put £1 away for Mother to put in the post office for me

Date	City	Notes
	Opening Notes	<i>Joined the King's Shropshire Light Infantry April 13th 1950, national service for 18months, then the time was lengthened to 2 years because of the Korean War. The Korean War was called "The Forgotten War". These are extracts from</i>
13/04 /1950	Bordon	Bordon, Hampshire - To Join the army
20/04 /1950	Bordon	Went on a route march, 7miles at regimental pace, 180 steps to the minute - nearly killed me
30/04 /1950	Bordon	Many jabs, one for malaria, discharge note for October 12th 1951



23/09 /1950	Hong Kong	Arrived in Hong Kong, up to the New Territories about 30 miles from Hong Kong. Nearest town is Kowloon, our camp is out in the wilds. The border is just the other side of the top of the hills. Met Willie Newman, we have 18 months to do out here.
03/10 /1950	Hong Kong	Tomorrow we have to go to the hills to make a new road.

04/09 /1950	Empire Orwell	On board the Empire Orwell, 400 miles from Aden, saw about 20 sharks, deadly looking things.
10/09 /1950	Empire Orwell	On board troop ship. Sea sick again. Stopped at Aden had a nice time ashore.



<b>11/10 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	Up at 5:30am working in the cook house. Finish at 8pm. We go up in the hills for 3 weeks, we patrol along the top of the hills to keep a look out for the Chinese looting and smuggling opium.
<b>14/10 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	In November we go to the governor's house on regimental guard duty. Weather here very hot, bitten all over by Mosquitos. Dinner today, peas, fried cheese and fried onions.
<b>28/10 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	Working all day in the cook house, busy this week climbing the hills and digging all day. Next we go on guard in Hong Kong and Kowloon. We are about 2miles from the communist border



Chinese woman ploughing

<b>01/11 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	Some old Chinese women are busy ploughing with the wooden plough and a bullock. When we were having dinner by the roadside a crowd of Chinese begged some food. We gave them a pan full of kippers, they even gave little babies a whole kipper to eat.
<b>22/11 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	On duty up in the hills (the New Territories)
<b>22/11 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	We are going up to the hills for three weeks. The sky is our roof and the ground is our bed. Roughing it just a bit. Most of the trees here are like conifers only smaller. The valleys are all paddy fields, sugar cane and some cabbages. They still plough using a wooden plough and a bullock. We bury some tins in a hole, by night time the Chinese had dug them up and scraped them clean. They were starving.



Up in the mountains

<b>15/12 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	Been out on a scheme, last four days have been bad. About 8 hours sleep in 4 days.
<b>20/12 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	I am in charge of company stores. Rest of the lads on a firing course. Rain most of the day, we decorated our barracks with streamers. It doesn't feel much like Christmas.
<b>25/12 /1950</b>	Hong Kong	Good dinner, Boxing Day had to sleep in our clothes with our rifles in bed with us. The sergeant brought us a cup of tea in bed in the morning.



Christmas in Hong Kong 'RE' second from right in front row

<b>07/01 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	Border patrols to stop the Chinese stealing petrol, food etc.
<b>14/01 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	News in Korea not too good. Yanks have got in a plight. We are up in the hills tomorrow (the New Territories). Tea today, spam, cheese and a rock cake
<b>18/01 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	Today I was pay escort to Kowloon, there has to be two armed escorts for the officer that collects the pay.
<b>23/01 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	Out yesterday am - marched 5miles, did a battle course, marched 2.5miles at light infantry pace, my feet just about dropped off. Today did a lot of hill climbing.
<b>03/02 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	Tuesday is the Chinese New Year, they do no work for 3 days, get drunk on Saki (Rice Wine), the monsoons start in March, then for some rain.
<b>11/02 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	March 20 miles uphill, through rice fields, in the pouring rain. We had to have rum in our tea and straight to bed.
<b>20/02 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	Weather boiling hot, we are on ambush drill
<b>23/02 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	We are miles up the hills, living in tents, very cold and wet. I haven't had my clothes off since Saturday.
<b>15/04 /1951</b>	Hong Kong	Our battalion is moving to Korea. Some more needles to have, I take over as company store man, so will not be in the main of it all. We only get paid once a month in Korea

#### KINGTON MUSEUM EXHIBITION

There is an exhibition on the 1950s at Kington Museum including the Korean War. The museum is open until 3rd October 2015 Tuesday to Friday 10.0 - 4.00 Saturday 10.30 - 1.00

**FREE ADS**

**WANTED**

If anyone has a small electric organ no longer needed, Moriah chapel would be interested. Please contact either 01982560618/289



**Erwood Station Gallery**

Grand Opening and ribbon cutting!  
**Saturday 4th April - 5 till 7pm**

We're very excited! In addition to The Lion Street Gallery, We now have two thousand square feet of exhibition space housed within a railway station and vintage carriages, showcasing contemporary craft and applied arts

Join us for drinks and a bit of a 'do'!

Llandeilo Graban Builth Wells Powys Wales LD2 3SJ  
Tel: 01982 560674 Email: [erwoodstationgallery@gmail.com](mailto:erwoodstationgallery@gmail.com)



Open 10.30 am to 4.30 pm all week except Tuesdays  
For more details visit our website: [www.erwoodstation.com](http://www.erwoodstation.com)

Rhosgoch Golf  
&  
Leisure Club



01497 851 251  
[rhosgochgolf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rhosgochgolf@yahoo.co.uk)  
[www.rhosgochgolf.co.uk](http://www.rhosgochgolf.co.uk)

Room available for  
Weddings, Parties, Dinners, Binges,  
Quizzes, Meetings & more  
SUNDAY CARVERY  
EVERY SUNDAY 12.45 TO 2pm  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Pie & Pint  
Friday Night  
£8



**Rob Hughes Steel  
Fabrication &  
Fixing Ltd**

No 2 Sunnybank, Llandeilo Graban,  
Builth Wells. LD2 3SJ  
Tel: 01982 560 681 (evenings)  
07803 400 351  
Vat Registration 656 1674 17  
Company Registration No: 4854459

**PILATES - EMMA**

**Monday 9.30am - Hay Parish Hall**  
**Tuesday 9.30am - Eardisley Hall**  
**Tuesday 6.15pm - Booth's Brook St Studio, Hay**  
**Wednesday 9.30am - Painscastle Hall**  
**Wednesday 6.15pm - Clifford Community Centre**  
**Friday 9.30am - Hay Parish Hall**

There will not be any classes for the week commencing 25th May .

For full class timetable please visit: [www.pilatesemma.co.uk](http://www.pilatesemma.co.uk)  
07702 241725 or  
[emma@pilatesemma.co.uk](mailto:emma@pilatesemma.co.uk) .[pilatesemma.co.uk](http://pilatesemma.co.uk)

**SPORTY CARAVAN SITE**



A new sport is currently sweeping the country called 'Foot Golf'. This has now been introduced on the Golf Course at Dolau Caravan Site at Rhosgoch. Much safer than 'real' Golf, the idea is to kick the Football into the hole. However, this young lady, Nia Price, does not tend to follow the rules very well, preferring instead to play 'Rugby Golf!'

**THUMB PRINT BISCUITS**

Here is a lovely and very simple biscuit recipe we use at tots. It is perfect for making thumb print biscuits filled with jam. Yummy!

4oz butter 2oz sugar Cream together  
Add 6oz flour to make a paste  
Knead together and rest in fridge.

Roll dough into small balls and press a thumb print in the centre. Then put a spoonful of jam in this dent. Place in the oven at 180° C for 10 mins, or until baked a golden colour.

So simple but delicious

Dough is also great for rolling and using cutters with.

**MOTHERS & TODDLERS' TIMETABLE**

2.06.15 Hay bales for display board  
9.06.15 Big tractor for display board  
16.06.15 Horses using threading for display board / fathers' day cards  
23.06.15 Chickens for display board  
30.06.15 Soft play week baking pizzas  
7.07.15 Tulip and straw printing for display board  
14.07.15 Fencing for display

**CONGRATULATIONS**

William & Zoe Lloyd on the birth of a baby boy, on April 24th, Alex Vincent Lloyd brother for Oliver (Ollie) who is nearly 3.



Mothers & Toddlers:- We have been very busy this half term...



Painting our favourite things



Making & eating thumb print biscuits



And, of course, playing!



We have also had a fantastic time aboard the library bus, who now call for us once a month.



### COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Chairman, Mr Richard Ball, 2 Hermon Villa  
Vice-chairman, Philip Lewis, Llandeviron  
Robert Tyler, Lower Pentrecaeu  
Monty Graham, 2 Castle Meadow  
Treena Davies, Lettypiad  
Deri Jones, Portway  
David Nicholls, Castlefield Close  
Mrs Jenny Smith, Penrhiw  
Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month.  
Agendas and minutes for meetings are available on the website and posted on the notice boards in Painscastle, Rhosgoch and Llandeilo Graban.  
Clerk: Richard Price, Trewylod 01497-851244

### RECYCLING – YOUR HALL NEEDS YOU!

It is with much sadness that, since the council introduced the new coloured boxes for kerbside collection, we are seeing a significant downturn in the use of the recycling bins behind Painscastle Village Hall. This in turn is resulting in a big reduction in the revenue that the hall gets from Powys Council for material put in these bins.

In the quarter to 3<sup>rd</sup> March this year the hall received just £21.85, a significant 46% down on the same period last year. With the new Site Agreement we have with the council (in which they pay us a bit less than under the previous agreement) and the introduction of the kerbside collection, we will struggle to keep these valuable funds coming in.

So PLEASE - as much as you may like the ease of the coloured boxes, for those of you who used to use the recycle bins behind the hall - and those of you who didn't - come and use the bins and ignore the boxes! The revenue we get is valuable to us and shows us how much you support your local community facility, for which we are grateful.

The bins are there for all of us and the hall gets valuable revenue from them - if you use the coloured boxes, we get nothing - and neither do you!

Thank you and keep your recycle stuff coming for us!

Painscastle Village Hall Committee

### Whitney Garden Machinery

Your Local Independent Mobile Machinery Specialist

Our Mobile Mechanics bring their skills to you

On-site Servicing & Repairs to

Lawnmowers, Strimmers, Ride-on Mowers,  
Hedgetrimmers, Brushcutters, Chainsaws & Blow-Vacs

Chain & Tool Sharpening Service

Sales of New Garden Machinery from a  
wide choice of Quality Brands with full

Parts & Warranty Back-up

Sales of Reconditioned & Ex-Demo Machines

**Terry & Nicky Smith 01497 831040 / 07870 212358**  
email: [terry@smithyew.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:terry@smithyew.fsnet.co.uk)

### M.Drew

ALL ROOF and CHIMNEY CARE

Free Quotations

**MOB: 07525 437083 HOME: 01874 712264**

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



### COUNCIL CATCH UP

I am afraid there is no news from Chris Davies in either his role as local councillor or as our new MP.

### THE THOMAS' DYNASTY

#### PROUD GRANDPARENTS - MERVYN & JANET THOMAS

The Gossip is trying to catch up on Mervyn and Janet's grandchildren, best wishes to them all.

Congratulations Mark & Emma (who now live in Newchurch) on the birth of their first child a baby boy Wyn Arthur born 25th January 2015.

Best wishes to Rose nee Thomas and Stuart Power on the birth of a baby boy Benjamin Thomas on 11th November 2014, a brother for Josephine now aged two and a half.

Congratulation to Lee and Debbie on the birth of their first child a little girl Sophie Claire Thomas 28th November 2013.

Youngest child John, no children but has returned to live at Newchurch.

Also congratulations to Mervyn on his 60th birthday recently. Hopefully that completes the family's news.

### MOBILE LIBRARY NEWS

The new mobile library service will be in Painscastle once a month on a Tuesday; the route is as follows:

■ Llowes	9.30 am
■ Clyro Castle Estate	9.50 am
■ Post Office	10.15 am
■ Painscastle Hall	10.45 am
■ Roast Ox	11.15 am
■ Rhosgoch Castlefield	11.35 am
■ Newchurch kiosk	12.40 pm
■ Gladestry	1.10 pm
■ Dolyhir village	1.55 pm
■ Old Radnor Church Hse	2.25 pm
■ Bronydd	3.20 pm
■ 2015 dates:- June 16th, July 21st, Aug 18th, Sept 15th, Oct 20th, Nov 17th, Dec 15th. Please support this service.	

### Kay Davies BHSAI REGISTERED FREELANCE RIDING INSTRUCTOR

One-to-one riding or horse-care tuition,  
in your own environment, teaching all ages and abilities.

Covering Hereford/Powys area  
07789518869

[klousedavies@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:klousedavies@yahoo.co.uk)



Heart  
Healing

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

01497 851764

07749 391714

### PAINSCASTLE HALL NEWS

The past few months have been fairly quiet for the Hall Committee as attentions of the Committee have mainly been focused on lambing!

One significant development is that we have now received the defibrillator from The Friends of Healthcare in Builth Wells and District. This fantastic, life-saving piece of equipment is now ready for use at the Roast Ox Inn where it will shortly be mounted in an open access box so that it can be accessed at any time of night or day for those who need it. Hopefully, it will never be needed but it is there now if it is.

What's more, thanks to the generosity of people who supported the Tour of Britain fundraiser last Autumn, we were also able to put some of the money raised towards providing a defibrillator at the Golf Club in Rhosgoch which similarly will be available for anyone to use, kept safely on the outside of the building in an open access box. None of this would have been possible though without The Friends of Healthcare in Builth Wells and District who have invested substantial funds, time and effort into helping local communities get these defibrillators, so a big thank you to them.

The Expression of Interest for the Welsh Government Grant to update the Village Hall has been sent to Powys Community Council to check before it is sent in so hopefully there will be some progress here soon, though undoubtedly this will be a long-term project! In the meantime, there are fantastic events being held at the Hall every day so please come along to one if you can, or if you would like to book the Hall for your own event just call Mrs Rose on 01497 851345.



### The Roast Ox Inn

B & B available  
Tel: 01497-851398  
Email: theroastox@yahoo.co.uk

#### From April 1st:

#### Summer opening hours:- Open 7 days a week

Food served 12 - 2.30 and 6 - 9 pm with the exception of Sundays:- 12.30 - 3.30 and 6 - 8 pm

Bar open 11am until close

HOME COOKED SUNDAY LUNCH  
£8.95 Booking essential

### MALTHOUSE event bars

Aimee Lloyd (07792 668967)

&

Jordan Curran (07817 225487)

We offer a fully licensed mobile bar service tailored to your needs

malthousebars@gmail.co.uk

www.malthousebars.co.uk

### Richard. M. Drew

Rosemoor Felinifach Brecon, Powys,  
LD3 0UE

**Brick and Blockwork ,  
Home Improvements,  
Plumbing,**

**Kitchen and bathroom fitting,  
Tiling, Plastering**

**For free estimates contact:  
TEL: 07792912434**

### T. D. LLOYD

**Plastering,  
Plasterboarding,  
Rendering etc.**

**07974-680049**

**Call Tref**



## Stitched Up Cards

Handmade By Kath Jackson

Creating Beautiful Hand-Stitched  
Cards For Every Occasion

All cards can be personalised to make  
A truly unique gift  
Wedding Stationery, Birthdays, New Home, Christening  
Cards and Invitations, Baby Welcome Cards...

Contact me at:

kathjackson@hotmail.co.uk

www.etsy.com/uk/shop/StitchedUpCards

07479 264528

### MERVYN THOMAS RADNORSHIRE



#### FARM-TO-FARM SERVICES

- For all your UK transport and storage needs
- Curtain trailers with 10ft side access
- Flat trailers from 24ft up to 60ft extenders
- Lorry and drag service for your straw movements
- Moffet mountry trailer mounted fork lift trucks
- Low loaders

We operate a groupage service for all your on line or private machinery purchases. Our aim collect week one deliver week two covering the UK mainland

#### FENCING STAKES & POSTS

*We can offer at competitive prices*

- PINE
- KILN dried
- Pressure treated to British Standard use CLASS 4 or
- Pressure treated with CREOSOTE
- Minimum order size apply to these products

#### HAY & STRAW

• We buy/sell and haul big bales please contact us with your requirements

**01544 327177** [mervynthomas@btconnect.com](mailto:mervynthomas@btconnect.com)

### MERVYN THOMAS LTD



#### EARDISLEY TRAINING CENTRE DRIVER CPC TRAINING

1. Driver Essentials & Walk Round Checks
2. Safe Loading & Health and Safety
3. Road Hazards
4. Safe Driver Part 1
5. Safe Driver Part 2



#### LGV TRAINING

- C - Rigid Vehicle
- C + E - Artic / Rigid & Trailer
- B + E - Car / Landrover & Trailer



#### FORKLIFT TRAINING

- Counter balance
- Moffet Mountry



All training by

RTITB Registered Qualified Instructors

Please contact us on: 01544 327177

[mervynthomas@btconnect.com](mailto:mervynthomas@btconnect.com)

### MERVYN THOMAS LTD



#### BE SAFE

#### LIVESTOCK TRAILERS / FLAT TRAILERS

Maintenance, servicing and repairs  
From a safety check to a full overhaul  
Lights *Bulbs* or renew with LED  
Brakes *Most Axle sets in stock and ready to fit*  
Body *Aluminium welding*  
Hitch *Over run equipment supplied*

Work carried out at our Eardisley Workshop

Please contact us on: 01544 327177

[mervynthomas@btconnect.com](mailto:mervynthomas@btconnect.com)

**BRONZE AGE BEGWNS**

The Begwns is a landscape rich in archaeological history, both recent and the distant past, especially from the Bronze Age. There are five Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), four of which date from the Bronze Age. This scheduling is primarily to protect them from damage and destruction and gives them added status. SAMs such as these have the potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric burial, ritual and funeral practices.

The most obvious to see is the excellent Begwns Standing Stone (pictured), a large split block, 1.2metres high. The dark band you might make out is caused by sheep rubbing themselves on the stone!

Near to this is the Begwns Round Cairn which is the remains of a burial cairn which was 11m in diameter and 1m high. It is not so obvious to spot in the undulating landscape of the Begwns!

Fairly obvious is the Bailey Bedw Ring Cairn, a burial cairn set within a banked ring cairn. It was 20m in diameter and defined by a prominent stony bank up to 3m wide and 1m high. The cairn within this was 7m in diameter with a stone curb around its perimeter. The stony bank, although not as prominent now, is clearly visible.

Near to the lake, and obvious when you know what you are looking for, is the Maesgwyn Round Barrow, a grass covered barrow burial mound 20m in diameter and over a metre high. It's an obvious feature but like most archaeological features can be hard to spot!

The more recent SAM is Pentre Jack medieval village. This was once an extensive rural settlement occupied during the medieval period. The large number of structures suggests a long period of occupation. In a recent survey, 7 flat earth platforms were found, with two supporting stone foundations of long rectangular huts. There are further large enclosures defined by earth banks.

I recently gave a talk to the Rhosgoch Gardening Club and there was lots of interest in the archaeology. So I am planning to lead a short guided walk to look at the five SAMs. Let me know if you are interested in joining me. Until next time, Enjoy the Great Outdoors!  
Ben Mullen, National Trust, 01874 625515  
benjamin.mullen@nationaltrust.org.uk



FLOWER POWER  
FROM  
TROFLORA

Tel:  
**01497  
851646**

Flowers for all occasions  
(Caroline Meredith Dip Floristry)

**GAYNOR'S  
OUTSIDE CATERING**

ANY SPECIAL OCCASIONS NEEDING  
TEAS OR BUFFETS

**ALL CAKES ARE HOMEMADE**

Also Selling Homemade CAKES and LOCAL HONEY

Contact: Gaynor Price Rhosgoch  
Tel: 01497 851 243

**TRACEY JONES D.O.**

&

**SIMON GUINANE D.O.**

Registered Osteopaths

**01497-847020**

**General Carpentry & Maintenance**

Also Restoration & Repair Work  
*No Job too small* Please phone

Daren

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

**K.J.S CARPENTRY**

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



Mobile: 07765477262  
E-mail: kieran.shelley@btinternet.com

**MALLU LLOYD  
(LUNDY)**

For your local  
**Mini Digger Work (3T)**

**Fast, Reliable & Tidy**

**01497 851609**



**07854 846261**

Established 1975

**BRYNGWYN RIDING CENTRE**



HACKING LESSONS ACCOMMODATION

**www.ridinginwales.com**  
**01497 851 669**

Cwm Farm, Bryngwyn, Newchurch,  
Kington, Herefordshire HR53QN

**N.D. PROTHEROE**

Water Well Drilling  
Pump Supplier and Installer

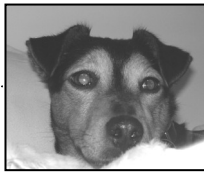
Tel : (01497) 851276  
Mob : 07800 753341

**M Farmer  
Agricultural Contractor**

**01497 851316**  
**07970 040158**



## MIKEY'S DIARY



I don't know about you but I find it is quite cold lately so I am glad when Mo lights the wood-burner for me to have a little sleep in front of it. Of course if she is watching telly I have to sit on her lap to keep her warm, or if she is on the computer I help her with that as well.

Lambing is now officially over, we still go and see the tiddlers and give them some food and water but they don't have milk anymore, so I don't get to lick out the buckets, which is a shame as it tastes pretty good.

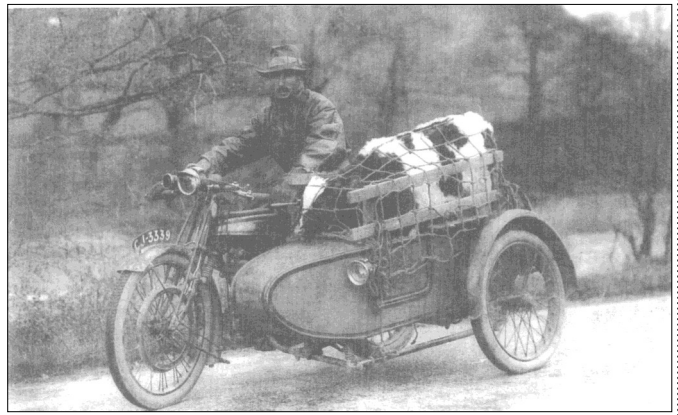
Mo has been doing a bit of gardening, although I feel she is not very dedicated to it, not like those people you see on the telly. In fact the same can be said for the cooking at Lower Lundy, it does happen, but I don't think Mo is going to apply to go on Master Chef, Ready, Steady, Cook or any of the other cookery programmes. In fact the boys say that she doesn't cook things, she burns them, but I am not sure if that is altogether fair, but then who am I to judge, she can't do much damage to my food as she buys it ready for me to eat.

As you probably know I like a little trip down to the village, however I am finding that a lot of people are telling tales on me. The other morning I got up early and went for a wander down to Painscastle to see who was about; it was pretty quiet, I suppose it was because it was 7.30 am. I had just got there when this blue van came down the hill road and stopped. TD got out, told me off, put me in his van and took me back home. I didn't argue with TD as I knew it was no good, but sometimes it is Wendy, Den or Jason, and I can easily give them the slip. But often they ring Mo to come and rescue me. But by the time she arrives I have usually disappeared, I have often started to make my own way home, so she has to give up, she doesn't know the little nooks and crannies as well as me!

I am most disappointed with Callum, he is Jade's friend and I thought he was a friend of mine. However the other day I was down in the village and was a bit tired, so I thought it would be good to have a lift back up to the Lundy. I wandered along to the pub to see if there was anyone there I recognised. Callum came by in his car and just drove on by, even though it was patently obvious that I was looking for a lift! When challenged later he said he wasn't sure it was me! Does he need glasses, or what?

It is funny how human children don't walk straight away, in fact they seem to be quite a bit of bother. A lot more work than my babies ever were! Although of course I left their initial rearing to their mothers. Ozzie was the only one who benefited from my fatherly influence, and I am proud of his football and frisby skills. There is a lot of fuss with human babies, feeding them and carrying them around. Now Mo and Ken's granddaughters move around on their hands and knees, a bit like me, but not nearly so fast. Since Erin and Abbie are crawling, whenever they come over, someone rushes to pick up my water bowl. I have said that I am not a jealous dog and I don't mind sharing my water with Erin or Abbie, but they don't seem to understand. Erin and Abbie can't understand it either as they think it would be great fun to play in the water. "None so queer as folks!"  
Mikey

## HAULAGE EARLY 20th CENTURY STYLE



This is a photograph, possibly of a Mr Arthur Arrowsmith, giving a calf a lift with his motorcycle and sidecar. If anyone has further details, or other stories of unusual transport, please let me know. Photograph kindly supplied by M Herdman, Hom

## CRAFTY BIRTHDAYS



At craft club recently three birthday 'girls' celebrated another year to their statistics and shared wine and cake. Grace and Val are both 70th while Bethany is 19. Earlier in the week Grace was given a surprise party by her family and friends, this was a complete success; Grace having no idea until she arrived in Gwernyfed Rugby Club.

## BRICKLAYER / GENERAL BUILDER

### VIC DAVIES

For all your building requirements:-

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

### TY'R SAIS

NEWCHUCH,  
KINGTON,  
HEREFORDSHIRE  
HR5 3QW

Phone: **01544 370708**  
**07818 022323**

## Herdman Coaches



"The Hom", Clyro Hereford. HR3 5JL  
Tel: 01497 847100 Or 851616 (evenings)

**RINGING THE BELLS**

Round about the beginning of May, the Government made a request to the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers that church bells be rung to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. Probably because of all the election brouhaha, the Anniversary of VE Day seemed to take rather a back seat. However, one of our eagle-eyed Churchwardens, Mrs. Herdman, spotted a request in the paper for churches to ring their bells on May 9<sup>th</sup>, if at all possible. Several members of Llanbedr Church were enthusiastic about doing this, and the Vicar promised to come as well. Unfortunately I missed the information about the fact that we were having a short service beforehand and bounded into Church on the 9<sup>th</sup>



at 10.45 am - only to find everyone on their knees in prayer. Was my face red? However the bells were duly rung for a quarter of an hour and we all

enjoyed it immensely. How many sets of bells did you hear ringing that day?

**YFC NEWS**

Last month, we organised a Fun Ride to raise money for the club. Riders got to enjoy the beautiful views from the Begwyns and a challenging course of 40 jumps across country, built at the Poulton's farm, courtesy of DJ Civil Engineering and Becky Miles, which resulted in many thrills and spills but which everyone enjoyed! This is the third year we have run this event but with the weather luckily on our side we managed to raise approximately £2000.00, which will be an enormous help to the club as we're currently preparing for our annual rally. We also donated £50.00 for Riding for the Disabled. The club would like to give a special thanks to Lauren Poulton and her family who once again worked tirelessly to make this day such a huge success.

Eight of our members travelled down to Torquay this year for the national AGM. Although the weather was cold we kept our spirits up and had a fantastic weekend. We all dressed up as difference decades, as you can see from the picture attached of some of the boys. A group of us also managed to get our picture in the Farmers Weekly. Aberedw YFC who represented Radnor in the Panto competition came runners-up, an excellent result and our congratulations go to them.

Next up is our annual rally which is being held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at Hendre Farm, Felindre, Knighton, with pre-rally competitions already under way.



**CHINESE AUCTION:**

A huge thank you to everybody who organised and supported our successful Chinese Auction at Painscastle on May 4th which raised over £600 for Church funds. Thank you all!!

**MESSY CHURCH:**

Another very successful and thoroughly enjoyable Messy Church was held in Painscastle on 22nd May, when we focussed on the theme of Pentecost and finished with an excellent meal of sausages and chips and ice cream. Grateful thanks to everybody who helped to run and organise it and all those who came along to have fun and get messy. There'll be another Messy Church on 10th July so please look out for the signs. Everybody is as always welcome to join us!! We'll see you there!!

**RHOSGOCH RANGERS FOOTBALL**

Our first season at the highest level that Rhosgoch Football Club have ever played at is over. And what a fine achievement it was, finishing 6th amongst some illustrious peers is something we can all be very proud of. Unfortunately we couldn't cap the season off with a successful defence of our Otway Cup title, going down 1-0 to local rivals Hay, but overall a great season. The dinner was a huge success as normal, and we now all look forward to a nice 2 month break before we head back for pre season training and friendlies. We will need to strengthen again for what is shaping up to be an even stronger league next term, but I'm sure we'll be competitive, as we always are. Thank you to anyone who came to support us this season, and hope to see you down at Crow Lane in 2015/2016.

Liam Jones

**Bryngwyn WI 2015 Programme**

- Jun 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandra Skinner Hay2Timbuktu: Our Work in Mali
- Jul 7<sup>th</sup> Sylvia Bigglestone A Crafty Life
- Aug 4<sup>th</sup> A Visit to Brobury Gardens
- Sep 1<sup>st</sup> Graham Bailey Brecon Mountain Rescue
- Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Jim Saunders Hay-on-Wye
- Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> AGM
- Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Jeanette Cruse Yule Log Decoration

Meetings are held in Rhosgoch Chapel at 7.00pm. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Please contact Mollie Moore (851296) or Tracey Martin (851711) for more details.

**GARDENING CLUB**

All meetings at Rhosgoch Golf Club at 7.30pm

- Wed Jun 17th Visit Spaceguard Centre, Knighton
- Wed July 15th Visit to Nantybedd Gardens
- Wed Aug 12th Flower & vegetable show at Rhosgoch Golf Club

Monthly meetings (Wednesdays) at Rhosgoch Golf Club. For further details contact Edwina 01497-851284 or Pat 01497-851632

## 17th ANNUAL KILVERT'S PILGRIMAGE

This year taking place on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July**, (the Sunday following the Royal Welsh Show) this event draws people from far & wide. You do not have to be a Kilvert fan, or a pilgrim, to enjoy the walk in the Radnor Hills, the beautiful views along the way, and the wonderful welcome awaiting you in the various churches en route.

For those of you who do not know, Rev. Francis Kilvert was curate at Clyro for seven years from 1865, living in Ashbrook House (next door to Clyro Post Office). He walked among the farms and villages of our area, and his Diaries (which he began in 1870) detail this happiest and most productive time of his life. His descriptions of places and people give us, today, a vision of life here so many years ago. What is most surprising is how very little many places have changed!

The Pilgrimage starts at 9am with Holy Communion at St. Michael's Church, Bryngwyn (HR5 3QL), & then we drive to St. Mary's Church, Newchurch (HR5 2QF) for a welcome & tea/coffee from 9.30 am, followed at 10am with Morning Service and the laying of flowers on the grave of 'little Emmeline', a schoolgirl of whom Kilvert was very fond and who he mentions in his diaries. (Bring a posy if you can).

We then walk over Newchurch Hill to St. Michael's church, Bryngwyn, for a celebration with readings (from the Diaries, & others) and live music from 12 noon. Tea/coffee & soft drinks are given here by the parishioners to augment the picnic lunch which you bring for yourselves.

The longest section of the Pilgrimage follows, over the hills above Rhosgoch and Painscastle to St. Peter's church, Llanbedr. (LD2 3JH) No service here, but a wonderful tea is laid on by the ladies of the parish at 4pm. There are some people who come on the walk just for this tea, or so they say!

At around 3pm we stop for a rest & a hymn at Ireland, on the moor.

The final section leads over the Bach Howey valley to little St. David's, Llandewifach. (LD2 3JN) Here we finish the day with a service of Evensong (6 pm), always a moving occasion. This church, lit by candles, is only accessible on foot, and can seat a maximum of 45 people. We squash in! Transport back to Newchurch to collect your cars is provided.

It is not necessary to walk all the way – many people do one or two sections, or if unable to walk far go from place to place by car.

## 2015 KILVERT PILGRIMAGE

**SUNDAY 26TH JULY** 8 ½ Miles over the hills  
**Newchurch - Bryngwyn - Llanbedr - Llandewi Fach**

9am Pre-Pilgrimage Eucharist at Bryngwyn  
09.30 Welcome and Refreshments at Newchurch  
10am Morning Service at Newchurch  
10.40 Laying of flowers at Emmeline's Grave  
12.00 Readings/Music Recital at Bryngwyn Church,  
1.00 Picnic Lunch (bring your own)  
4.00 Tea at Llanbedr Church (provided)  
6-7 Evening Service at St David's Llandewi Fach  
Transport back to Newchurch

**ALL WELCOME**

Please feel free to join us at any stage  
More details: from Adrian Chambers 01497 821414 or  
chambers2444@yahoo.co.uk. Or visit  
www.gladestry.org.uk or Rev. Ben Griffith (01982 560615  
or e-mail [benedictgriffith@sky.com](mailto:benedictgriffith@sky.com)).

## CONFIRMATION: July 12<sup>th</sup> at Aberedw

This year we are hosting a joint Confirmation Service for our local churches. Confirmation classes will begin in June at The Rectory. If you or anybody you know would like to consider being confirmed, please speak to Ben as soon as possible, no definite commitment is needed as yet.

### Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> May: Trinity Sunday

9.30am: Erwood Group Eucharist: Aberedw  
11.00am: Painscastle Group Eucharist: Llanbedr

### JUNE 2015

#### Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June: Trinity I/Pentecost II

9.00am: Holy Eucharist: Newchurch  
9.30am: Holy Eucharist: Llanbadarn y Garreg  
9.30am: Morning Praise: Llandeilo Graban  
10.30am: Mattins: Newchurch  
*(followed by refreshments at Rose Cottage)*

#### Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June: Trinity II/Pentecost III

9.30am: Holy Eucharist: Aberedw  
11.00am: Holy Eucharist: Llanbedr  
11.00am: Morning Praise: Crickadarn

#### Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> June: Trinity III/Pentecost IV

9.30am: Holy Eucharist: Llandeilo Graban  
11.00am: Morning Praise: Gwenddwr  
3.00pm: Holy Eucharist: Llandewi Fach

#### Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> June: Trinity IV/ Eve of St. Peter

9.00am: Holy Eucharist: Bryngwyn  
11.00am: Holy Eucharist: Crickadarn  
3.00pm: SONGS of PRAISE: Aberedw  
6.00pm: PATRONAL FESTIVAL EVENSONG: Llanbedr

### JULY 2015

#### Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July: Trinity V/Pentecost VI

9.00am: Holy Eucharist: Newchurch  
9.30am: Holy Eucharist: Llanbadarn y Garreg  
9.30am: Morning Praise: Llandeilo Graban  
10.30am: Mattins: Newchurch  
*(followed by refreshments at Rose Cottage)*

#### Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July: Trinity VI/Pentecost VII

**10.00am: JOINT EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATIONS:  
ABEREDW**

We welcome Bp. John & friends from the BUILT & COLWYN Groups

#### Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> July: Trinity VII/Pentecost VIII

9.30am: Holy Eucharist: Llandeilo Graban  
11.00am: Morning Praise: Gwenddwr  
11.00am: Holy Eucharist: Llanbedr  
3.00pm: Holy Eucharist: Llandewi Fach

#### Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> July: Trinity VIII/Pentecost IX

A warm welcome to the Kilvert Pilgrims today

9.00am: Holy Eucharist (1662): Bryngwyn  
9.30am: Morning Praise: Aberedw  
10.00am: Mattins: Newchurch  
11.00am: Holy Eucharist: Crickadarn  
12.00pm: Readings & Music: Bryngwyn  
4.00pm: Tea: Llanbedr  
6.00pm: Evensong: Llandewi Fach

#### Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Trinity IX/Pentecost X

9.00am: Holy Eucharist: Newchurch  
9.30am: Holy Eucharist: Llanbadarn  
y Garreg  
9.30am: Morning Praise: Llandeilo  
Graban  
10.30am: Mattins: Newchurch  
*(followed by refreshments at Rose Cottage)*  
11.00am: Holy Eucharist: Gwenddwr

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat Jun 6th Breconshire YFC Rally at Felindre, Brecs  
Sat Jun 13th Radnorshire YFC Rally at Felindre, Rads.  
Wed Jun 17th Wednesday Lunch Club at Rhosgoch Golf Club  
Fri Jul 10th Messy Church at Painscastle Hall 3.45 to 5.15 pm  
Wed Jul 15th Wednesday Lunch Club at Rhosgoch Golf Club  
Wed Aug 19th Wednesday Lunch Club at Rhosgoch Golf Club  
Sun Aug 30th Painscastle Show & Fete at Painscastle Hall

### HERMON CHAPEL RHOSGOCH

Sun Jun 7th Anniversary Service 2.30 pm.  
Sun Jun 14th United Service at Newchurch 3 pm.  
Sun July 26th United Service Painscastle 2.30 pm  
ALL SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY AT 2.30PM  
Sunday School every Sunday morning 10 – 11 am

### ADULLAM BAPTIST CHAPEL, PAINSCASTLE

Sun June 21st Painscastle Anniversary 6.30 pm  
Sun July 26th United Service 2.30 pm

### MORIAH BAPTIST CHAPEL, LLANDEILO GRABAN

Services Sundays at 2.30pm  
Sun Jun 7th Crickadarn Special Service  
Sun Jun 21st Brian Reardon  
Sun July 5th Geoff Cable  
Sun July 12th Anniversary 6.30 pm  
Sun July 26th Joint Service Painscastle

### Erwood & Painscastle Group of parishes

*Dear Friends,*

What is the Church and what is it for?

I'm reasonably confident that if you asked most people in our contemporary society what the church is, most of them would refer in their answer to the church building nearest to the place where they themselves lived. It's worth acknowledging when we talk about changing the church or its structures that for the majority of our fellow countrymen and women there is a fundamental misunderstanding about what we're actually talking about. For many the church is entirely synonymous with a large and rather unusually furnished building that should be at the heart of their community but, sadly too often, is actually on the periphery of it most of the time. To these the larger percentage of the population, the church is a place that they probably think about not more than once or twice a year. Once being at Christmas and the other being if they themselves were to attend a wedding or a funeral, or if they'd undergone some particularly traumatic experience and had nowhere else to turn. It leads me to conclude that for most people the Church provides little more than an insurance policy for when life becomes unduly difficult or traumatic. The only drawback to that analysis is that any insurance policy is only valid if you continue to pay the premiums; wouldn't that have the most dramatic influence upon the payment of parish share if everybody treated it like paying the premiums on their car, home or holiday insurance!!

I'm sure that for many practising Christians too the church for them is at its most real and authentic when it's the church building in their locality. And yet, of course, this is entirely different from God's understanding of what the church both is and should be!! Surely the whole foundational premise upon which Christianity exists is about a community of faithful

followers of Jesus Christ who, as St. Paul tells us, make up the "Body of Christ" and that surely is what faithful Christians are called to be by God not through some arcane ritual but rather through the overflowing and overpowering work of the Holy Spirit changes lives, hearts and identities for the better.

As you read this, we'll have just celebrated the Feast of Pentecost or Whitsunday, the moment when Jesus' first apostles stepped out of the comfortable seclusion of their hideaway in the Upper Room and began the process of changing the world for the better through the good news of Jesus Christ. For them the Church was never the building where they gathered for worship it was nothing more than the redeemed followers of Jesus Christ and what was true then is and should be still true for us now; the Church is not about people or buildings or lines drawn on a map, it's about human being loved into existence by God, redeemed into undreamt of possibilities by God and inspired, guided and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. As Christ told the apostles at the end of St. Matthew's Gospel, "go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." (Matt. 28: 18-20)

That remains as much the purpose and calling of the Church today here and now as it did on a Galilean hillside and in the streets of Jerusalem so long ago. The vocation which we in common with all of our brothers and sisters in Christ have today is to do that as effectively as we can. Sometimes that will be achieved by being faithful to the traditions and practices that we have inherited from former generations but there are and will be occasions when we have to try new things in new ways, not change for the sake of change but to ensure that our message and our preaching is relevant and accessible to and for the communities which we are called to serve. I'm reminded as I always am by some words of St. Francis of Assisi: "preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary use words."

As we embark upon the season after Trinity and indeed as the changes brought about in the life and witness of the Church through the introduction of Ministry Areas, we can do a great deal worse than follow this advice.

With my love and prayers to you all as always  
*Ben.*

### JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

#### SUNDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE: ABEREDW FEAST:

We've decided this year to re-establish the old custom of the Aberedw Feast to celebrate the Church's patron St. Cewydd. The Feast this year will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> June and will begin with a barbecue in the Church grounds at 1.00pm. This will be followed by a Songs of Praise in Church at 3.00pm. There will be a list at the back of church from the beginning of June. Please do write down your favourite hymn and we'll include as many as we can during the service; any that can't be included will be sung during services in the next few months.

#### SUNDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE: FESTIVAL EVENSONG & DEDICATION OF NEW KNEELERS AT LLANBEDR CHURCH

The very talented ladies at St. Peter's Llanbedr have been hard at work over the past months, designing and making a new set of hassocks (that's kneelers to most of us!!) to go in front of the altar at Llanbedr Church. These will be dedicated during a festival Evensong on 28<sup>th</sup> June, the eve of St. Peter's Day. The service and dedication will be followed by a "Llanbedr tea", and you all know how good that is, don't you?