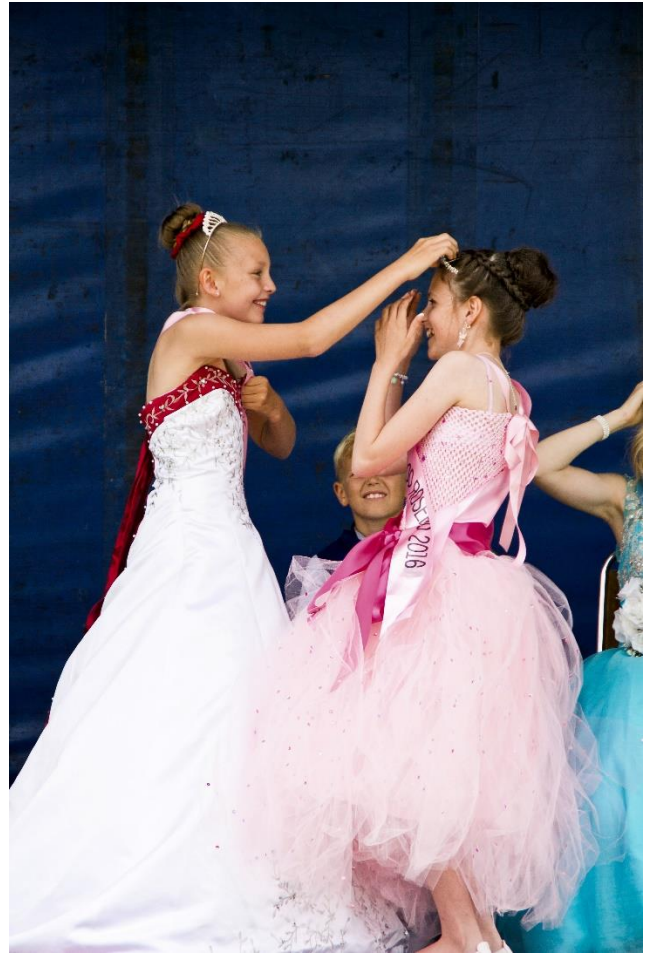


Leeswood & District News

AUGUST 2016 / ISSUE 353

FREE



EDITORIAL

So the Carnival this year, has now been and gone. Hope you enjoy the souvenir pull-out in this edition. Well done to all those that made the Carnival possible. Thank you also to all those that supported it despite the atrocious weather in the morning, making the field a little wet. I didn't manage to make it this year – having been previously booked for Abergele Carnival with the animals. But we have already been booked for next years !! School Summer holidays have arrived....and as always this can cause dilemma's for parents and grandparents (especially those looking after their grandchildren whilst their parents work). Weather can be a huge factor also. We are so fortunate in this part of the world as there is lots of places to walk (or cycle), and to check out the wildlife. If you go to wildlifetrusts.org/wildwalks they tell you how to get started in recording for yourselves what you see along your walk. You can also find nature spotting guides at: woodlandtrust.org.uk or rspb.org.uk

JUNE

Articles Notices Charity Events

and ANY OTHER ITEMS for inclusion in the LDN. Please send to:

**June Lincoln, 7 Llys Ann,
Leeswood, CH7 4RW**

**07525929522
jlincoln@btinternet.com**

Deadline for-

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PONTYBODKIN LADIES GUILD LUNCH



Leeswood Community Centre

THERE IS NO LUNCH IN AUGUST

The Ladies Guild send their apologies for previously cancelled lunches, and for no lunch in August – but unfortunately they have not had enough people to cook the meals.....

Served noon 12 – 1.30pm
Proceeds to local charities.

ALL AGES WELCOME

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Ever thought about Volunteering but you don't have the time?

What if you only had to do less than one day a month?

INTERESTED?

This paper needs a new Advertising Editor.

If you think this could be you, please contact Margaret Pitts

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Leeswood - Bethania Church – Coedllai

A warm welcome to all – Croeso cynnes i bawb

Sundays at Bethania

From the very beginning, Christians have met to worship God together on the Lord's Day, the day of Jesus' resurrection.

Morning Service

Our morning service begins at 10:15am and finishes about 11:30am.

The service is structured but fairly informal in style. We sing contemporary Christian songs and some classic hymns too. The Bible teaching seeks to be relevant to our lives and journey of faith, and should be appropriate for those who are seeking faith as well as those growing in faith. A crèche is available for younger children. After the service we have tea and coffee, and sometimes a meal together as a church family.

Conversations of Faith

On Sunday evenings we meet at 6:00pm to read the Bible and to think about what God might be saying to us through it.

We call it 'Conversations of Faith' because -

- All are able to contribute, but no one is expected to or put on the spot
- No questions are off limits
- The session is for those who are seeking faith as well as those who are growing in faith
- We believe that God is able to speak through one another, not just through the person leading

Weekdays

Bright Sparks under 4s
Friday 9:30 – 11:00

High Fives Reception – year 5
Wednesday 5:30 – 6:30

Laser 11+
Wednesday 7:15 – 9:00

[These Groups are not running during the summer and will restart in September]

Overcoming Hatred

Following the appalling massacre of innocent lives in Nice recently, I was struck by an article which spoke of an impromptu monument that had arisen on the spot where the perpetrator fell. It was simply a pile of rubbish in the street where people were coming to spit and vent their anger.

All decent people are revulsed by the total disregard of innocent human life shown by this twisted individual. Hatred of evil is a natural and appropriate response. The Apostle Paul wrote: **Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. (Romans 12:9)**

Nevertheless, hatred is a dangerous and corrosive emotion, that invariably adds to the spiral of evil. When the red mist of hatred descends, we become incapable of seeing the issues clearly and people become dehumanized.

Later in the same passage, the Apostle Paul writes:

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

In the sermon on the mount, Jesus said: **“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:44-45)**

Jesus was not saying that we should condone acts of evil. He was not saying that we should not seek to resist and defeat evil. He was, however, saying that changing an enemy is even better. We should pray for his repentance with penitence, and work towards rehabilitation and reconciliation, whilst being attentive to our own faults and failings.

Jesus was himself the object of hatred. He was seen as a subversive by some and despised as a failed revolutionary by others. He was beaten, spat upon, and subjected to an excruciating and degrading execution. The place of his death – a hill called 'Golgotha' meaning 'the place of the skull' – was itself a monument of hatred. And yet with his dying breath, Jesus broke the cycle of hatred with a prayer of forgiveness for those who had crucified him.

God bless,

Rev. James

Please phone or check our website for details, changes and special events.

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Phone Rob 01352 771607 or Rev. James 07711 034020

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CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

SERVICES AUGUST 2016

SUNDAY 7TH AUGUST: TRINITY 11

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

CELEBRANT: THE REV'D JOHN POOLMAN

SUNDAY 14TH AUGUST: TRINITY 12

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

CELEBRANT: THE REV'D CAROLE POOLMAN

6.00 P.M. EVENING PRAYER

OFFICIANT: MR BRYAN JONES

SUNDAY 21ST AUGUST: TRINITY 13

11.15 a.m. Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST: TRINITY 14

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

6.00 P.M. SONGS OF PRAISE

A LEESWOOD CHURCHES TOGETHER SERVICE

SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER: TRINITY 15

*11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER: TRINITY 16

*11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

6.00 P.M. EVENING PRAYER

OFFICIANT: MR BRYAN JONES

EVERYONE WELCOME

** These services may change as Carole will be away*

CHRIST CHURCH ... is open every day

between 10.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

So if you'd like to light a candle, or simply spend some time quietly with God do feel free to come in, you would be very welcome.

†††††

Donations of Food for the 'FOOD BANK' and clothes for 'SHARE' can be left in the Church Porch.

†††††

CHRIST CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

Rev'd Carole Poolman, Parish Priest.
The Rectory, Llanfynydd, Wrexham. LL11 5HH.

Phone: 01978 762304

Email: cc.sm@btinternet.com

The Rooks have been busy this year in Pontblyddyn, they've made lots of nests in the Christ Church Bell Tower with the result that only the largest bell can now be rung. So our builders will be returning in the next month or two to deal with the problem and put mesh up inside the tower to prevent it from happening again. But in the meantime we thought we would ask ...

Can YOU ring The Bells?

The Pontblyddyn Church bells are very special. There aren't many churches where just one person can ring a peal or play a tune on the bells. The Carillon of Tubular Bells were given to the Church by Mr and Mrs Carstairs Jones in 1927 and have been a feature of our church ever since.

Some of you will remember Mr Gomer Garston, who was our Bell Master for many years and taught a lot of people to ring the bells. Since his death we have only had one or two folk who were able to ring them, and at the moment there are times when none of those people are available. So we were wondering ...Can YOU ring the bells at Christ Church, and if so would you be prepared to help us sometimes?

If the answer to those questions is "Yes" please contact me

Carole Poolman
Vicar of Pontblyddyn

Phone: 01978 762304

Email: cc.sm@btinternet.com

"COME FOR COFFEE"

IN CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

27TH AUGUST 2016

10.30 A.M. – 12 NOON

The Vicar will be available on this occasion if you wish to speak to her on Church Business or alternatively please contact her to make an appointment.

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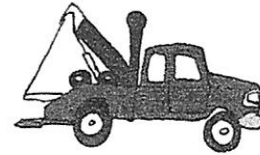
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And there we have it folks, our 2016 Carnival. Perhaps not as busy as last year's event, but deemed successful nonetheless, even if the heavens did open for most of the morning. Someone was certainly looking down on us by around 11am though as our lucky break (in the clouds) came. Thankfully, everyone stayed dry on the parade route through the village and Prince Taylor, Rosebud Bethany and Queen Dana didn't require any umbrellas being held over them. Nor did our MBE's and special guests, John Myers and Lucille Ingman, and the roof of their convertible remained well and truly down not up. Thanks to Cllr. Jayne Atkinson of Pontblyddyn who very kindly stepped in last minute to supply and drive her own car as, unfortunately, our driver for the parade was involved in a car accident with her convertible only several days before. She was unhurt, thankfully, but the car not so much.

Obviously a huge concern for us was that of the state of the field after the hammering it had taken from the rain the days before and on the morning. However, and thankfully, overall it wasn't too bad considering. People took their chances and not everyone donned their wellies. And even though it was a tad windy up on the field, people persevered, and they stayed the distance. Even the sun managed to make an appearance, making it quite a pleasant afternoon.

Admittedly though, the forecast given in the run up to the day and on the day itself appeared to have been the cause of many that decided not to attend. The streets seemed to be only half lined compared to last year. The music band cancelled, the Morris Dancers ended up in the Community Centre due to the field being too wet for them to perform on, and around twenty five stalls cancelled during the course of Friday 8th July and on the morning of the 9th, Carnival Day. So, although that left the field itself looking half empty, we are thankfully not a glass half empty kind of Committee. We are most definitely a glass half full outfit and we need to have that attitude about us year in year out if we are to continue to make this work for the village.

Talking of glasses half full, we didn't run out of beer this year within half an hour and the bar was organised and run very well and was enjoyed by many. There were no reports of any upset either, which is great. We have a lot to be thankful for, particularly to Louise and Adam Wynne. Not only did they provide us with the outside bar this year, along with the staff, but also the music for the evening disco, not to mention the photography. A massive thank you goes to them both.

For those of you who could not make the parade or the field to see for yourselves, or for those who do not have access to social media, we hope that the spread the Leeswood & District News have very kindly printed for us from Louise and Adam's photos paints you a picture of the day. After all, it's not every day you see a woman having her head shaved for charity! Ann Nicholas from Leeswood was raising money for CLIC Sargent - a cancer charity for children and young people. Most certainly a brave act by Ann, but an act of kindness towards and for those less fortunate, so well done to her from all of us here on the Committee.

There are so many to thank so bear with us (and sorry if we've left anyone out)... Thanks to Dave Wain who slept in the marquee on the Friday evening just to alleviate any problems that may have arisen. Thankfully there were none to speak of, but this was a very admirable deed considering Dave is not altogether well. What an absolute star.

Another star in our eyes is Clair Butler from Clair's Sewing Services for braving the elements on the morning to dress the stage. Not easy when you are on your own with no help and it's a different arctic flatbed lorry provided than last year so the dressings that she had made by hand in 2015 now didn't fit and it was a struggle. But she struggled nonetheless and you would never have known that those dressings were meant for a different stage. A huge, huge thanks to her and her professionalism in being able to improvise to make it look lovely. She is worth her weight in gold. And if anyone needs any sewing or alterations done, now you know who to go to!

Speaking of decor, thank you to everyone who decorated their houses in the village. Even the Morris Dancers remarked that they had never seen this before and how lovely that people would get involved that way. Village life eh!

Thank you also goes to all those stallholders who remained upbeat about the weather and came whatever to set up. We hope they had a good day too.

Thank you to Ysgol Derwenfa for the loan of chairs/use of car park on the day and for the support with things such as non-uniform day/sending home posters.

Thank you to our special guests, John Myers MBE and Lucille Ingman MBE, with John making an opening guest speech on stage for us and also writing a speech for the programme. It was nice to see him with his military medals pinned to his smart suit and Lucille, well, she looked lovely as always. We hope they both had a good day also.

Thank you to retiring Queen Estelle who represented us extremely well throughout the year and who gave a lovely speech on the day and thanks to Rosebud Teegan too. You did a great job girls.

A big thank you also goes to Christ Church, Pontblyddyn for the use of the Church for the evening with the Flint Male Voice Choir featuring young vocalist Amber Wiggins. What an enjoyable and relaxing evening. Not so relaxing for Mrs Ann Bryan who found herself in the kitchen offering her services in helping out serving tea and coffee to whet the whistles of those providing the entertainment and to those privileged enough to be listening to them. She even gave a crash course in how to use the new dishwasher! Thank you to all the gentleman of the Choir, to Amber, and to Ann for all her help. And thank you, of course, to the Rev. Carole Poolman for the use of the Church. Also, thanks goes to B. E. Davies Coaches for the kind gesture of a free bus put on to take villagers to the Church.

Another thank you goes to Don Heyward and Jane Lucy for running the bar at the Community Centre in the evening for the family disco. Thankfully the night was not as hectic as it has been with other events in the past, but this was obviously down to it being a ticket only event which worked quite well. Having security on the door also helped, although when it came to stopping the fire alarm going off due to the smoke machine from the disco, that was another thing altogether and Clive Venables had to come down and turn it off because no-one knew how to. Thanks Clive!

Thank you to Roy Nunn at the old Laura Ashley Factory who very kindly once again allowed the parade to start from there. We are grateful to him for that. And we bet everyone in the parade is most certainly grateful that the factory isn't located at the bottom of the hill eh!

Thanks to all the Volunteers who gave up their time and thanks to all those who not just donated their time but their money along the way.

Thank you to the Co-op shop in the village who have, since the beginning of our journey, hosted raffles and sold tickets for us. For the sake of 50p or a £1.00, as they say, "you've got to be in it to win it!"

Just a reminder that the purchase of a programme on the day will have meant the chance of winning £100 cash, 2 Chester Zoo tickets or a champagne basket. Third prize (the champagne basket) has in fact been claimed by Mrs Karen Robertson of Leeswood, but first and second remain unclaimed at this time.

There is a poster in this edition showing the raffle numbers and there are posters up and around the village but, just in case you miss them, here they are:-

1st Prize: £100 cash - Programme Raffle No. 1462 - UNCLAIMED

2nd Prize: 2 Chester Zoo Tickets - Programme Raffle No. 1250 - UNCLAIMED

3rd Prize: Champagne Basket - Programme Raffle No. 778 - **CLAIMED**

We aim to advertise the winning numbers for at least four weeks, so if you have either of the two remaining numbers and you have your programme to prove so, please contact any one of the Committee to make arrangements to claim your prize.

Please take a browse through the photos provided here in the News and feel free to upload your own photos you may have taken to our Facebook page.

The support throughout 2015/2016 has been invaluable as you can imagine. We are so very grateful to each and every one of you who supported us all the way through and we hope you continue to do so in 2016/2017.

Our fundraising efforts for 2017 start almost immediately. We usually kick off with a Bingo night around October but, as we know how you lovely people like a game of bingo, we might see if we can host two of these nights between now and Christmas. (I can't believe I just mentioned that word!).

Ah, my apologies, but there is one last thing actually, from me personally to my fellow Committee colleagues:- Ray, David, Leah, Stewart, Clare, Ally, Stephen, Joe and Jane, and that is the biggest THANK YOU to them for allowing me the day off on the busiest day of all to be with my family. You worked so hard all of you. And did I feel guilty? Well, perhaps just a little bit...!



Kind regards,

Louise Hoyle Fennell
Committee Member
Leeswood Carnival Committee



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Technical Corner by Joseph Caruana

It is always nice to hear that things are progressing in the right direction and that we are keeping our progress within the interest of the environment. Nature has gifted us with a sustainable form of energy which comes in several different forms, such as solar energy, wind energy and several others. However, due to an abundance of cheap fossil fuels, some industrial markets opted to use fossil fuels at the detriment of the environment, and in past years there was limited encouragement to development renewable energy or facilitate their application.

This has now started to change and some sectors of the industry are beginning to realise the benefit from renewable energy, are not only as an environmentally friendly source of energy, but also as a profitable way of doing things. However, things does not stop here because there are ways and ways of how to apply renewable energy. As an example, one might study the installation of solar panels. As a general rule solar panels are installed facing south because that is where the sun is at its peak. Nevertheless, one need to keep in mind that the sun rises in east and sets in the west, which means that it starts emitting light energy from the very moment it rises. In order to harness the full potential of the energy emitted from the sun, one would need to a devise, that would and tracks the sun from the moment it raises to the time it set. The tracking of the sun has already been applied by nature itself, and there are flowers which tracks the sun as it travels from east to west. A familiar planet which does this is the sun flower which absorbs the maximum sun energy by tracking the sun as it goes along. Human ingenuity has developed tracking devises that would facilitate solar panels to track the as it travels on its daily path, and then at night it will position itself facing east, waiting for the sun to rise again.

This is a clear indication that there is always ways to implement improvements in order to maximise the yield from our natural resources. It should be noted that every bit of solar, wind, or any other form of renewable energy which is not harnessed when it is available, it will get wasted, without any possibility of recovering it at a later date. At this stage in time, one should start thinking not only that one should use more renewable energy, but also how to use it efficiently and every bit of it that is available.

There are several solar tracking systems available, and they are considerably easy to install. Never the less, they all have one thing in common, and that is a solar eye which always move to where the sun is. The solar eye acts as a switch which sends an electric current to a motor or an actuator as soon as it detects that the sun is not directly in its path. Then the motor or the actuator will move the solar panel about its pivot to align it with the sun.

As the sun moves from east to west, it is important that the provisions are made to allow movement about a vertical axis to facilitate the solar panel to track the sun on its daily path. Now, as the sun uses a different angle of elevation as it progresses through the seasons, arrangements should be made to allow the solar panel to adjust itself as the sun gets a higher angle of elevation in the summer and a lower angle in the winter.

When we apply these techniques, we are just studying nature and utilising natures systems to create a way of life which is sustainable by nature itself. With this in mind, what could be better than using nature to protect the environment and nature itself.

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LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

WINNING PROGRAMME NUMBERS:-

SATURDAY 9TH JULY 2016

1st Prize: £100 CASH

Programme No. 1462 - UNCLAIMED

2nd Prize: 2 Chester Zoo Tickets

Programme No. 1250 - UNCLAIMED

3rd Prize: Champagne Basket

Programme No. 778 - CLAIMED

Mrs Karen Robertson, Leeswood

IF YOU HAVE EITHER OF THE TWO REMAINING WINNING PROGRAMMES,
PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMITTEE ON THE CARNIVAL FACEBOOK PAGE
OR INFORM ANY ONE OF THEM IN PERSON

YOU MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE THE WINNING PROGRAMME IN ORDER
FOR YOU TO CLAIM THE PRIZE

ANY CLAIM MADE WILL BE INSPECTED - THE COMMITTEE HAVE THE
RIGHT TO REFUSE A CLAIM SHOULD THEY BELIEVE THE RAFFLE NUMBER
HAS BEEN TAMPERED WITH

The Carnival Committee are extremely grateful for your support in 2016 - Thank You



Allotment Open Day



Saturday 20th August

Allotments open from 11am to 1pm. Village hall show open from 1 to 3pm.

Something for all the family. Visit the allotments and see the scarecrows. Produce and craft work on show. Auction of produce. Refreshments.

Evening entertainment by the Bushwackers £3 (children free)



STRAWBERRY CREAM TEA



Saturday 3rd September 2016

3 – 5 pm

Community Centre

Raffle (no stalls)

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Memories of an oilfield man first day on the job (Egypt)

This chapter continued from last month: -

.....great stuff I thought, one in the eye for Melvin.....

“Right Mohammed if you can take the bus to Cairo on Monday the company will reimburse the cost and it looks like you have yourself a job if you pass your medical” although it was took four hours on an overcrowded bus with no air conditioning he was elated, the local labour did not work the same work schedule as us I was still in camp at Ras Shukeir when he returned on the Tuesday, “Well did you get the job” I asked “No Mr Tom I told you it was no good” “Did you see Mr Henderson” No, Mr Sallah spoke to me then chased me out of the office and I had to get the bus back home again” He looked so disappointed,(Mr Sallah again) Right Mohammed I will be in Cairo this weekend for my two week field break after a month in the camp can you meet me outside the office, and I will make sure you see Mr Henderson can you meet me” He didn’t sound very confident when he replied “Yes I will be there ” I had arranged for Mahmood the taxi to meet me at the airport and take me directly to the office where Mohammed was waiting in what must have been his best clothes, I previously mentioned that IDC had taken over the late Princess Fatima’s Palace as there office block, the entrance was a huge hall in which Mr Salah used as his own office when Salah spotted Mohammed with me he asked him to leave, ”Take a seat Mohammed while I go and see Mr Henderson upstairs, and you Salah don’t forget I did not tell the boss about you not picking me up at the airport at 2am when I first arrived” leaving the two of there and went to the office for a cold bottle of horrid Stella beer with Gus, I asked him what happened when I sent Mohammed for an interview, “This is the first I have heard about it” After I explained the situation with Salah and Mohammed he picked the phone and told Salah in no uncertain terms to send Mr Mohammed up for an interview, needless to say he got the job “But what about his work permit” I asked “No problem that can be sorted out, Take Mohammed to the stores and have him fixed up with work gear and get himself back out, but you are responsible for him” great stuff I thought, hope he’s worth it, It was a little embarrassing to say the least when we kitted him out with new coveralls/boots and safety helmet, he would also receive a new work permit, “do not let me down” I said and the years we worked together he never did,

When my contract in Egypt ended he wanted to come back to England with me which was impossible obviously but his position in the company was secure but as a roustabout he was such a good worker that he was wanted for on the rig floor as a roughneck, but in my opinion he was not suited for the rig floor so I recommended him to Eric the chief mechanic to accept him as a motor man looking after the engines etc. which he did, as I mentioned years later when I was attending a seminar in Aberdeen I felt a tap on my shoulder “Are you Mr Tom” and when I turned, facing me was a Egyptian Company man who I had known when he worked and still did for GUPCO, “I have a message from Mohammed Atir Abid, he kept asking me when I come to England look for his very good friend Mr Tom, he has done very well for himself, he was later sent to America and completed a Caterpillar engine course and is now a mechanic for GUPCO and asked me to thank you for everything that I had done for him” I feel good giving him a new start, he deserved it,



Here are a couple of photos of myself and a couple of work mates as you will notice we were not followers of fashion this dress code would not be allowed today.....

Odd Job John

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See me: At one of my regular advice surgeries
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Ladies Guild

June 30th

Tonight all the ladies were welcomed by Mrs Ingham, our President, apologies had been received from various members who were not able to join us.

The evening was started by Mrs Dot Davies who read a short but apt reading. Our speaker tonight was Mrs Helen Marsh and her talk was entitled "Women and their lifestyle changes 1900 – 2016". In it she looked in detail at the famous people and events that occurred during the last century. We were reminded of lots of famous ladies and their influence on the lives and times of future generations throughout the twentieth century. It was very interesting, memory-jogging and very funny.

The tea-hostess tonight was Mrs Dot Davies, she was thanked for the lovely refreshments. The raffle prize was won by Mrs Maureen Calder and the special raffle was won by Mrs Cynthia Flitcroft.

July 14th

All ladies were welcomed to our meeting. Tonight Mrs Gwyneth Davies started our evening with very apt short reading. We had some more very sad news this week, as Mrs Joan Taylor, a very dear friend and member of our Guild, has passed away. We all stood in her memory.

Our speaker tonight was Miss Rebecca Lucy, she gave us a very interesting, illustrated talk about her visit last year to Machu Picchu in Peru: This trek was taken by her and other student colleagues to raise funds for World Wide Cancer Research. In total the group raised over £90,000. Rebecca has taken on the organisation of the next charity trek later this year and this new group of students have raised over £74,000 so far and this total is rising steadily. They have all been busy raising money for this really excellent cause.

The tea hostess tonight was Mrs Gwyneth Davies, she was thanked by Mrs Ingman for the lovely refreshments. The raffle was won by Mrs Flora Roberts and the special raffle was won by Mrs Jenny Webb.

C. Flitcroft

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YSGOL DERWENFA – LEESWOOD

On behalf of the Governing body of 'Ysgol Derwenfa' I am taking this opportunity to congratulate our Head teacher, Mr Andrew Jones for having been extended a very prestigious award by 'The Flintshire Games Association'.

This outstanding achievement award is made annually to a person in the County who has contributed to the development of Outstanding Sporting Opportunities for children in Flintshire. The award recognises the effort, time dedication and commitment that has been shown over a number of years.

Andrew Jones' contribution to 'Flintshire Primary Schools Football Association'; stems back some twenty-five years and has obviously been greatly valued by the association members especially for the enthusiasm and inspiration that he has instilled in our children.

On behalf of us all – Well Done.

Carlton Jones

[Chairman]

LEESWOOD AND DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

On behalf of the above branch I am taking this opportunity to sincerely thank our Branch Standard Bearer; Mr Terry Hughes, for his dedication and commitment in walking through the village, carrying our Branch Standard with such pride – Representing our community in remembrance of those brave soldiers; over a million killed and many seriously injured and many in their early teens, on the bloodiest day in military history, some one hundred years ago at the 'Battle of the Somme'.

LET US NEVER FORGET

Carlton Jones

[Branch Secretary]



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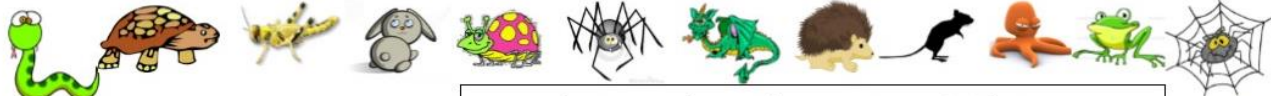
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Local Gardening

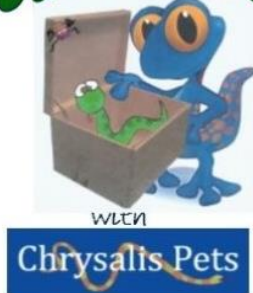
Contact Jamie Burns on: 07821613841



I am a local 17 year old who ran a gardening business last summer. Due to how well it went and the positive feedback I recieved I have decided to carry on the business for this summer with my cousin. If you have any gardening or odd jobs that need doing no matter how big or small feel free to give me a ring.



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LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED COEDLLAI A PONTBLYDDYN

THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 7th JUNE 2016.

PRESENT

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)
Councillor J. Caruana, Vice-Chairman
Councillors Terry Hughes, T. Hughes, C.E. Jones JP, J.E. Saul and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillors J. Atkinson, D.K. Crowther, R. Hughes, K. McCallum JP, J. Phoenix and D. Rule.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

WITHDRAWAL OF FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood, welcomed Mr. Gary Feather from Welsh Border Community Transport to the meeting. Mr. Feather explained that the process regarding the withdrawal of subsidised bus services had started a year ago. WBCT's first communication with Flintshire County Council about this had happened two weeks ago.

As an organisation, WBCT had started up 25 years ago and Mr Feather joined it five years ago. Many of the journeys were of a social nature, providing transport to the shops, the hairdressers, to clubs and social events. Transport is important to the well-being of older people allowing them to get out. Ambulance services were now under review and WBCT journeys that were already in existence taking people to the doctor's surgery now extended to transport to the hospital for outpatient appointments. The ambulance minibus now only took people to hospital if they were to receive treatment. These hospital journeys of which there were about 1,000 per year included Wrexham Maelor, Ysbyty Gwynedd, Gobowen Orthopaedic, Christies Manchester, Broadgreen and the Royal Liverpool. WBCT's constitution covered all of Flintshire as long as passengers met the criteria, they have to be bus pass holders.

There are eighteen volunteer drivers who use their own vehicles to transport passengers. These drivers are retired people and are aged in the 60s and 70s. Each driver could do up to ten/twelve trips per day. Pick-up times are restricted to the hours of 9am to 4pm. The office is very busy and it seems that the telephone does not stop ringing. Because of this the office is closed for a half hour each day at lunchtime.

Four years ago WBCT was financed totally by a grant from the Welsh Assembly Government, a Flintshire County Council grant and income through the fuel duty rebate. Now there is just one grant from Cardiff and every year a bid has to be put in for this. The amount received covers 80% of

the funding required to run WBCT. A cost of £1.00 per journey is charged to the passengers, this is considered to be a very reasonable charge and at the same time passengers are aware of how much they need to pay. Community Councils have the opportunity to support WBCT and letters are sent out requesting financial assistance. Nine Community Councils currently give donations. It cost £220,000 to run WBCT last year. 150,000 miles are travelled per annum. There are 3,500 registered users in Flintshire, 40 from Leeswood. For these people it is the only way they can get about, the majority of users are aged over 75.

Total bus passenger journeys in Wales are in the region of 109 million per annum and approximately 49 million of these are bus passes. The bulk of routes are non-profit making and rely heavily on subsidies. Flintshire County Council are trying to put the onus on provision of these bus journeys to Community Councils. WBCT are not in a position to replace the services that are being lost through withdrawal of bus subsidies. Community Councils, however, can run a community transport scheme in order to replace these lost services; this could be funded through their precepts as there is no restriction on the level of money they can raise through the tax payer.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood thanked Mr. Feather for attending the meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of the annual meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor R. Williams that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016 had also been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor C.E. Jones JP and seconded by Councillor R. Williams that the minutes of the monthly meeting be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

POLICE LIAISON

The Clerk reported that PCSO Poppy Hadfield-Jones had contacted her prior to this evening's meeting advising that she would try to attend but was not sure if she would be able to make it. PCSO Hadfield-Jones stated that she would send a report via e-mail, but this had not yet been received.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

This item had been omitted from the Agenda of the annual meeting. It was agreed by all Council that the current four members Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman to the Council; Councillors C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP and J.E. Saul should be re-elected en bloc.

ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS

Council were informed that a way forward with regard to the purchase of the land adjacent to the Cemetery had been found. This was confirmed in correspondence received from Nesta Davies of Messrs Llewelyn Jones.

The Clerk reported that this correspondence, which had come as an e-mail attachment, had been forwarded immediately to Mrs. Sian Jones of Legal Services, Flintshire County Council with a request that the file now be re-opened.

CEMETERY

The Clerk advised that Mr. Aled Davies had provided a price for providing top soil at the Cemetery, this is £240. She had spoken with Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman to the Cemetery Sub-Committee and it was agreed to go ahead with the purchase.

Mr. Aled Davies was trying to obtain a price for the removal of clay. Councillors were of the opinion that this could be a costly job and considered whether it would be worthwhile leaving the clay in place as it may be of use with the extension.

Comment was made that the branches at the bottom needed to be removed. All Councillors agreed that Mr. Aled Davies be asked to do this.

It was suggested that the Cemetery by-laws could be put on the Council website. The Clerk pointed out that she was unable to access the notice board at the Cemetery as she did not have a key. She also stated that the notice board was not in the best condition and perhaps there should be consideration given to replacing this.

CHANGE OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL NAME TO LEESWOOD & PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Clerk advised that an e-mail received from the Boundary Commission had this Council's name as Leeswood and Pontblyddyn Community Council. Following a telephone call to Flintshire County Council, it was confirmed that the Community Council could now officially use the new name.

NEW HSBC BANK MANDATE

The Clerk informed that she had been to HSBC Bank and enquired about changing the Community Council name on the bank accounts. It had been necessary to write in, with the letter signed by three of the bank signatories. Information from the Bank was that the change would take approximately seven to ten days and a new cheque book would be issued at that time. In the meantime, the Bank recommended that no cheques were issued in case they would be returned unpaid during the name change process, neither was the Bank mandate to be changed. The Clerk pointed out that no new cheque book had been received yet and the most recent bank statements which had come at the end of last week had been in the name of Leeswood Community Council. She had been to the Bank on Saturday last and was told that they would look into this and telephone during the week with a progress report.

MILLENNIUM CLOCK

It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should contact Smith's of Derby and request a copy of the maintenance agreement.

POND AREA ON PHOENIX PARK

No further progress had been made with this matter. Observation was made that the water was still coming from the ground and running along the pathway adjacent to the pond.

SOUTH FLINTSHIRE POLICE CONSULTATION MEETING

Information received about the South Flintshire Police Consultation meeting to be held on Tuesday 5th July 2016 at the Council Chambers, Mold Town Hall between 6pm and 7.30pm. Point was made

that this meeting clashed with the next monthly meeting of this Council. It was agreed that on this occasion, apologies for absence would be sent explaining that the Community Council held its monthly meeting on the same evening.

Other information received advised of the change in Flintshire Administrator, Karina Walker has taken redundancy and been replaced by Sarah Evans.

NEW CHAIR – FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

From Flintshire County Council, correspondence advising that the new Chair for the year 2016/2017 is Councillor Peter Curtis. His Civic Service is to be held on Sunday 10th July 2016 at St Winifride’s Church, Holywell.

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor R. Hughes was absent from the meeting but information was passed on advising that various works were still being planned with dates of start to be confirmed.

Council were reminded that if they knew of community issues that were County Council related could they please let Councillor Hughes know as soon as possible rather than wait until the Community Council meeting to bring them up.

MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

a) North Wales Prison Community Event on 1st June 2016 at the Springfield Hotel, Pentre Halkyn – Councillor J. Caruana had attended this. The new prison in Wrexham is to be a Category C prison and the largest of its kind in the UK. This will be a prison for rehabilitation and Welsh culture and language will be taught there. People employed there will be local to the area. There will be no impact on the NHS facilities as medical treatment will be provided on site.

b) Hanson Heidelberg Cement – There is no environment issue at present. More apprenticeships have been created.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) North Wales Marie Curie Fundraising Office – e-mail received requesting that the Community Council assist in promoting the upcoming ‘Blooming Great Tea Party’ season to be held 20th – 29th June 2016. This was accepted.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8.05pm.

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**FOR A FULL VERSION OF THE MINUTES AND OTHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL INFORMATION PLEASE SEE THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**WEBSITE: -**

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# Leeswood & District News



## LEESWOOD CARNIVAL 2016 SOUVENEIR





