

Leeswood & District News

February 2017

www.leeswood-district.news

Issue 358

LEESWOOD & DISTRICT NEWS LAUNCHES NEW LAYOUT

We're going to make some changes to the Leeswood & District news over the coming months. As we are well into the age of digital opportunities, we can choose to stay the same, or look forward to lead our local community paper into a resource for all. Our existing loyal readers, but also look to gaining a new audience, new generations, and we can only do that with a fresh outlook, and fresh contributions.

Let's all get together and remember the Leeswood & District News' original purpose, original principles, and original values. To do this; we need involvement from everyone. Let's all stand strong, together. We need everyone local to contribute, whether it's your editing skills, your time as a committee member, help with delivery, or even some help with content, and ideas. Over the coming months we'll be rolling out new advertising formats, new articles, new 'article series', and building on our new website. Check it out, get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

<https://www.leeswood-district.news/>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sarah McMillan celebrates her 18th Birthday this month:



CONGRATULATIONS to
SARAH McMILLAN on your
18th Birthday
6TH February 2017

Best Wishes
Love from:
Mum, Dad and Robert

happy
Birthday



Leeswood & District News

Highlights in this new edition...

An update from the Pontybodkin Ladies Guild	Page 5
2x upcoming Carnival fundraising Events	Page 7
News from the churches	Pages 8, 13 & 18
Carnival News	Pages 10 & 11
Words by Brian Hughes	Pages 16 & 17
Technical Corner	Page 21
Allotments News	Page 23
February in the Garden	Page 24

Your Contributions

Do you have an idea for a great article?

Are you aware of any local events or important notices that need to appear within this publication?

Please send, or drop it in, to:

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

07525929522

58junelincoln@gmail.com

Deadline for next edition: Sat, 18th February 2017

Help Needed

Do you have a couple of hours a month you can spare for this community paper?

Are you aware of any local events or important notices that need to appear within this publication?

Please send, or drop it in, to:

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

07525929522—58junelincoln@gmail.com



[More on this on page 3](#)

Recent Local Events



1st Ranger Guides and Rangers

1st Leeswood Guides and Rangers, led by Guide Leader: Gayle Brand, enjoyed a visit to the Pantomime, Aladdin at Theatre Clwyd, Mold on Tuesday 10th January. The group had a “Shout-out” from the Pantomime cast!

Carnival Bingo Night

The carnival-fundraising Bingo night in the Leeswood community centre on the 7th December was a “full house” big success! Read more info on this, and on other carnival news on page 10.



Leeswood & District News

We're looking at bringing a breath of fresh air to this paper



Do you have a couple of hours you can spare a month?
If so, why not help out the team on the Leeswood and District News?
PLEASE HELP US TO GET THIS NEWSLETTER TO THOSE THAT RELY ON IT.....

We are looking to fill the following positions:

- 1) New Editor to replace June Lincoln. - We are looking to simplify this role in the next few Months as we have the help of John Davies (Adverts Editor), who is a qualified IT guy.
- 2) Committee Members - To join the committee and bring in new ideas and a breath of fresh air.
- 3) Help with delivery - Even if you could just volunteer to deliver in your own road. It would help the people who presently deliver (many who have delivered for around 20 years!)

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Community News

By Gill Burton

PONTYBODKYN LADIES GUILD - At the meeting on the 24th November 2016 our speaker was the Rev. Carol Ferrer who came to explain all about Fair Trade. It was most interesting to hear how Fair Trade helps so many people, to help themselves, in so many different ways. We were also lucky enough to sample Fair Trade chocolate which was delicious. Rev. Carol asked that when doing our shopping to consider looking out for Fair Trade items.



Refreshments were served by Mrs. Iola Griffiths. The raffle was drawn and Iola was the lucky winner, Mrs. Jane

Lucy won the special raffle.

The Guild Carol Service was held on the 8th December 2016 and as this was the evening to dress trees for the Festival in the English Methodist Chapel, where our service is usually held, it was decided to have a Come and Sing Carols at the Community Centre. It turned out to be a lovely evening with our favourite Carols and Guild members served refreshments afterwards.

It was decided this year instead of having a Christmas meal out in the evening to try lunchtime and so our party met at Glasfryn in Mold on the 21st December. We had a lovely lunch and had a chance to meet with friends who we don't see now that the monthly lunch has stopped.

After all the excitement of Christmas it tends to go a little flat, so to put a little cheer into January a trip to see the Pantomime at Theatre Clwyd was arranged.

Pontybodkin Ladies Guild, led by their Foundational President of 49 years: Mrs Lucille Ingman, M.B.E. had a very enjoyable visit to the Pantomime: Aladdin at the Theatre Clwyd on the evening of Thursday 12th January. The Pantomime Dame paid tribute to Mrs Ingman's achievement in being awarded the M.B.E. in 2016, for her services to charity in Leeswood.

Anniversary

The Pontybodkyn Ladies Guild will be celebrating their 50TH ANNIVERSARY in April 2017 – **Congratulations to all.**

Future Meetings

Thursday 9th February 2017

Talk and teaching on Origami by Maureen Calder

Thursday 23rd February 2017

Talk by Debbie Barton about Wrexham Nightingale Hospice

Thursday 9th March 2017

Speaker will be talking about the 'Women's Air Transport Auxiliary during World War II'. We particularly invite any ladies who were involved with, or had relatives/friends involved with the movement of Aircraft by female Pilots.

Thursday 23rd March 2017

-

Thursday 13th April 2017

1st Leeswood Guiding team about 'Guiding today'.

Welcome!

All ladies from the surrounding areas (Leeswood, Pontblyddyn, Treuddyn, Nercwys, Pontybodkin etc) are cordially invited to our meetings. We generally meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, except August (next few meeting dates above). At the Leeswood Community Centre starting at 7.30 pm. Light refreshments and tea/coffee are provided. You will be very welcome.



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Leeswood & District News

Carnival Fundraising



LEESWOOD CARNIVAL
COMMITTEE

invite the community to a

QUIZ NIGHT

at

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY
CENTRE

on

FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2017

Doors open 7.00pm

Bar open

Raffle Prizes



Limit to 6 per group - £2 per group + £1 per person
40 questions to test your knowledge
Mini kids quiz during the break
Tie-breaker teaser (if required)

IS YOUR CAR DIRTY AND IN NEED OF A LITTLE "TLC"?
NO TIME TO WASH IT?

LEESWOOD CARNIVAL
COMMITTEE

are holding a

CAR WASH

£5.00 per vehicle

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY
CENTRE

SATURDAY 25TH MARCH 2017



9.00am to 5.00pm

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US
AND WE'LL KEEP BRINGING YOU THE CARNIVAL



Leeswood & District News

Church News



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 to Year 6

Wednesday 5:45 – 6:45

Lasers – Year 6 and over

Wednesday 7:15 – 9:00

Welcome, New Year

We actually saw in the new year twice this year. My eldest daughter, who lives in Denmark, was here with us, together with her boyfriend. For the benefit of the Danes, at 11.00pm we found Danish Television on the internet and watched live the new year celebrations from the town hall in the heart of Copenhagen. Following the chimes of the town hall clock and the fireworks, a choir sang three songs: the Danish royal anthem, the national anthem and a hymn. It is tradition that these three are sung every year.

The hymn, written in 1849 by the highly influential Danish pastor and theologian N.F.S. Grundtvig, is, *Vær velkommen, Herrens år (Welcome to the Lord's new year)*. The hymn welcomes in the new year by reminding us that the year and the future belong to the Lord. It reminds us in turn that the Lord is the God of truth, the God of grace, the God of peace, and our Father God.

For me, listening to this beautiful Danish hymn struck the perfect note as we entered 2017, and its words and melody have been on my mind ever since. In the face of uncertainty, both globally and in our personal lives, it is good to be reminded that the new year is the Lord's year. It is a great comfort and assurance to me to know that, whatever challenges I may face in 2017, the Lord who loves me, and each one of us, walks alongside me and ahead of me.

An English hymn by D.W. Whittle with a similar message based on the words of the Apostle Paul, puts it like this:

I know not what of good or ill

May be reserved for me,

Of weary ways or golden days,

Before His face I see.

But "I know Whom I have believed,

And am persuaded that He is able

To keep that which I've committed

Unto Him against that day."

In other words, we do not know what the future holds, but we know the One who holds the future. And the One who holds the future is holding us. The new year is the Lord's year.

God bless,

Rev. James

A warm welcome to all – Croeso cynnes i bawb

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

**Website – www.bethanialeeswood.org
Phone Rob 01352 771607 or Rev. James 07711 034020**

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Leeswood & District News

Carnival News

By Louise Hoyle Fennell

Hello everyone. Happy New Year to you all. It seems a little funny when you are still uttering those three little words to people that you have not had chance to see and say them to, yet January has quickly faded out and we have already moved into and onto the expensive romance of February. Nevertheless, we hope you all had an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas with your family and friends and, if you did make any diet resolutions for example, that you are at least trying to stick to them. My bet however is that you are still unwrapping chocolates and those exercise DVD's are in fact still in their wrapping but, as long as the thought is there, that is exercise enough I reckon!

Before I continue with the write-up, the Committee would like to convey their deepest sympathies to Stewart Williams (our Treasurer) on the loss of his dear mum Sylvia, who of course many of you from the village would have known. We like to think of ourselves as not just colleagues on this Committee, but as friends, and that Stewart is in the knowledge that we will support him in any way, however small, through this very difficult period. Our thoughts are very much with him and we hope that his continued involvement in the Carnival will give him, in time, a lot to look forward to.

Our AGM went ahead as scheduled (without our Treasurer) on Tuesday 10th January 2017 at the Community Centre. Unfortunately, the turn out on this occasion was on the relatively low side. Lower than last year's in fact. But, regardless, this does not deter us. We soldier on.



The AGM is a chance for people to come along and see what has been done through the year and what kind of financial lay outs there have been and/or profits made. You have to “speculate to accumulate” as they say. A profit is a profit however large or small and every penny helps in order to run a venture as big as this, year after year. We focus on the good points and try not to reflect on anything other than those. We are just grateful that people have the confidence in us to make anything we newly introduce, anything we do, work, even if it does not always work correctly!

For those who could not attend the AGM, please see a copy of the Chairperson's Report for the year published in this edition and, if anyone wishes to view the accounts, then perhaps you would like to attend the next AGM.

Our Christmas Bingo night on Wednesday 7th December 2016, being one of our last fundraisers of the year, was a big success. We had ourselves a “full house” in fact. (It's getting a bit tiring that joke now eh!). Some fantastic prizes were donated which made the trip out for some very worthwhile indeed. We raised a very healthy £680 on the night and this gave us a huge boost. A massive thank you goes to all those who attended to support us. (continued...)



The event at Leeswood Community Centre

Leeswood & District News

Carnival News

By Louise Hoyle Fennell (continued)

We look forward to seeing you all at our Easter Bingo (date to be confirmed in the next edition) where there will be, once again, some great prizes to be won. Please note however, for the future, that there will be no refreshments served half way through. Although we have taken pleasure in doing this on each Bingo night, after some discussion, we have decided to “knock it on the head” so to speak as people are getting home much later than usual due to us having that long break in between. We are sorry for this decision, but we do feel it is the right one.

Our final fundraiser of the year was the much anticipated visit from Father Christmas on Sunday 18th December 2016 on his sleigh. It was certainly one to be remembered. For everyone I can assure you! The Committee men worked excessively hard to have the sleigh ready for the 4.30pm start and, minutes before set off, just as the generator was fired up and lights switched on, tragedy struck. The lights had blown. All of them! We tried in vain to get them working again but, alas, it appeared that Father Christmas was destined to ride into the night with only the 4x4's headlamps! Improvisation was needed. And fast! Thankfully, Committee Member Ceri had one or two of his own lights to hand for use, although they gave out in the end as well near towards the end of the visit.



Santa Sleigh at Leeswood Christmas 2016



Regardless of this hiccup and late start, we have had nothing but good feedback about this event and it will be one to look forward to each Christmas (provided everyone has been good and Father Christmas is not too busy of course!).

Thank you to everyone who came out to support this event. I know some had been standing around for the best part of two hours before getting to see him but we think he was well worth the wait. We raised a total of £475.81 from this and, after the lay out in having the reindeers and sleigh made and painted and lights etc, we made a profit of £108.38. We are so grateful to those who donated at such an expensive time of year and long may this visit continue to spread that bit of festive cheer to all.

We are very much now looking forward to the coming months and it will be full steam ahead with the fundraising and the organising. Here are just a couple of dates we want you to watch out for and the rest will feature in next month's edition:-

Quiz Night - Friday 17th February 2017 (please see poster advertised for full details)

Car Wash - Saturday 25th March 2017 (please see poster advertised for full details)

Kind regards, Louise Hoyle Fennell

Committee Member, **LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE**



Santa Sleigh at Leeswood Christmas 2016

Leeswood & District News

Sponsors

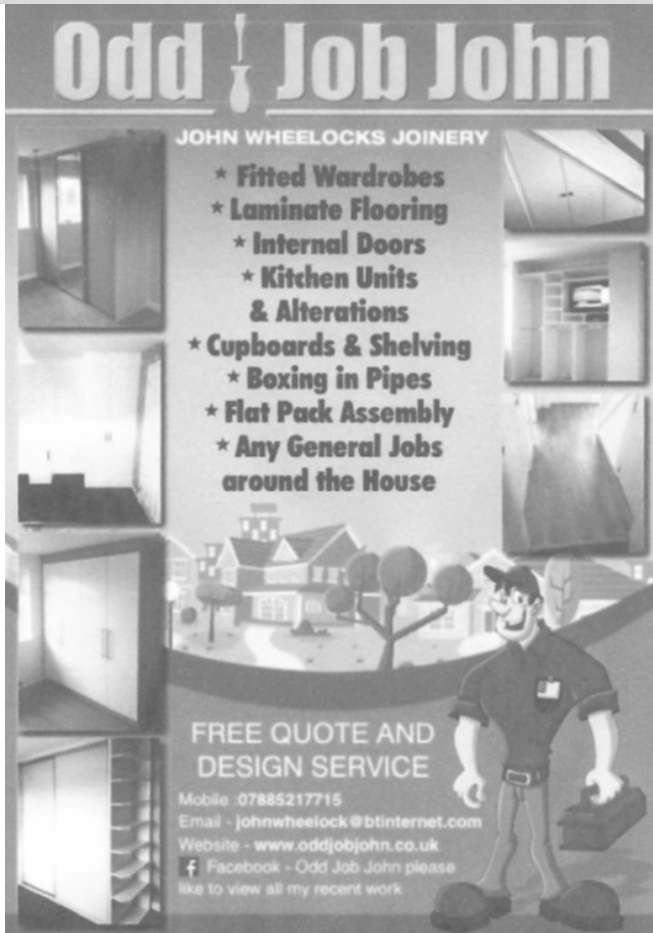
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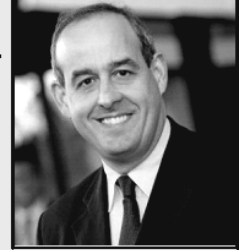
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DAVID HANSON MP FOR DELYN

SEVEN WAYS TO CONTACT

DAVID



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HANSON MP

Write to me: 64 Chester Street,
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CH6 5DH
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Phone me: 01352 763159

See me: At one of my regular advice surgeries
(contact my office for details)

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Leeswood & District News

Church News

Pontblyddyn

Christ Church

Sunday 5th February: Candlemass

Upcoming Services

4.00 p.m. Christingle Service
Officiant: Rev Carol Poolman
A service for All the Family
with the Choir of Ysgol Derwenfa
The service will be followed
by refreshments

Sunday 12th February: 3rd before Lent

11.15 a.m. Holy Communion
Celebrant: Rev Carole Poolman
4.00 p.m. Evening
Officiant: Mr Bryan Jones

Sunday 19th February: 2nd before Lent

11.15 a.m. Morning Prayer
Officiant: Miss Marie Reynolds

Sunday 26th February: Next before Lent

11.15 a.m. Holy Communion
Celebrant: Rev Carole Poolman

+++++

Wednesday 1st March: Ash Wednesday

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion with
Imposition of Ashes in Treuddyn Church

17.00 p.m.. Holy Communion with
Imposition of Ashes in Pontblyddyn Church

+++++

Sunday 5th March: Lent I

11.15 a.m. Holy Communion
Celebrant: Rev John Poolman

Contact Information

Rev'd Carole Poolman, Parish Priest.

The Rectory, Llanfynydd,
Wrexham. LL11 5HH.

Phone: 01978 762304

Email: cc.sm@btinternet.com

Events

25th February & 25th March

"Come for Coffee"

& "Vicar's Surgery"

10.30 a.m. – 12 noon

in Christ Church, Pontblyddyn

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Leeswood & District News

Carnival News

Chairperson Report

LEESWOOD CARNIVAL AGM JANUARY 10th 2017

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to our AGM and thank you for attending. Your support is much appreciated.

Once again the community of Leeswood has not let us down. They have supported our fundraising events such as bingos, quiz night and talent night.

They also showed great support our Queens night even the boys had a chance to join in as we introduced our first Prince to the carnival which was a great success.

Even though the weather seemed very much against us on carnival day we still received fantastic support from the community who stuck with us through the rain though we were very lucky it cleared in time for the parade.

I would like to thank the committee for their continued hard work and dedication through the year to ensure the carnival continues.

We also introduced our very own Santa sleigh back to the village this year which received huge support and nothing but positive feedback. Though the outlay expenses were higher than we thought they would be we now have the equipment and decoration to continue to do this event each year at no further costs.

We are also very thankful to our volunteers especially on carnival day who give their time to work alongside the committee.

In accordance with the carnival constitution we are a committee of 12 people who meet once a month through the year to plan fundraisers and discuss other issues that may arise. However we are asking for volunteers to help us continue our work who are willing to be part of a volunteer sub-committee who are also willing to meet with main committee at various times through the year. Your support and help is much appreciated however small it may be.

If you are willing to do so please speak to a committee member.

Sponsor

Leeswood, Treuddyn & District Local Cancer Committee

WORLD CANCER DAY



Coffee Morning



Saturday 4th February at 10am

Unity Bands at £2 each will be available to mark this special event

HAFAN DEG, TREUDDYN

Sponsor

LEESWOOD HOSPICE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

ST. DAVIDS DAY



Coffee Morning



Wednesday 1st March

10 am—12 am

Come and listen to the children of
Ysgol Derwenfa

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE



A One off Plan is not Enough.....

Financial planning is a long term measure, something that requires attention and adaptation. For example, we cannot put a plan in place for retirement during our 30s, and expect for it to relate perfectly for the next 30+ years. Circumstances and desires change, as well as the financial markets and tax rules. What we can do, is put a plan in place now, and then ensure we remain on track, by reviewing it regularly alongside our changing circumstances.

What might need changing?

Using the example of retirement planning again, investment risk would be an important area to review on an on going basis. This becomes of more crucial importance as you approach retirement, and may wish to lock in the growth you have obtained. At retirement, de-risking your portfolio can help to prevent seeing severe fluctuations at such a crucial time. De-risking is only one example of the many important planning measures we use with our clients.

How do my changing circumstances affect my financial planning?

Anything can affect your financial planning; a job loss, the birth of a child or even something such as an unexpected bill. Your long term, retirement saving goals for example, could be temporarily affected by saving to send a child to university. Throughout the term of any financial plan, you need to be prepared to make a number to changes to reflect your personal, on going circumstances.

It is also important to note that financial goals are not always investment based, and may relate to protecting your family with life insurance for example. Budgeting for this could change as your family expands, and over the long term, could influence the amount you have available to save in other areas. No plan remains constant.


How can Clickery Financial help?

We endeavour to work closely with our clients to help them reach their financial goals and objectives. We strive to ensure that their plans remain as closely on track as possible, and that their tolerance for investment risk is managed. We can also help clients to take advantage of things such as tax allowances, to make the most of their hard earned money.


The key is in the planning, quality independent financial advice and an on going trust worthy relationship. A plan is a good starting point, but our support and on going guidance, can help you make it a reality. Everyone's circumstances are different; for a no obligation, 'financial health check,' on pensions, insurance, investments or mortgages, please get in touch.

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Leeswood & District News

Can you remember when..?

Brian Hughes / C. Flitcroft

I recently met a Gentleman who has just celebrated his 80th birthday. We were talking about the memories a person of such good age could recall: His recollections of very vivid events in his childhood are written in his own words here. He lived in Weaverham (Near Northwich) and the happenings there make excellent reading and he has given permission to share his words with you:

“The outbreak of war on 3 Sept 1939 didn’t seem to change village life. Nothing very exciting happened in our very rural village, until the authorities in charge of public safety, decided that it was such an out of the way place, it would be an ideal location for children (evacuees) from Liverpool. The children were allocated to local families who had spare rooms in their homes. A Government payment was made to the families for any expenses that were incurred: beds and bedding were provided where necessary by the department responsible for the evacuation of the children. Many of the children had nothing, they only had the clothes they were wearing. The dreaded gas mask in a cardboard box slung over their shoulder, and a label pinned to the coat that they were wearing. This label had their name and the name of the school that they had attended. The gas masks had been issued by the authorities to every person in the land, at the beginning of the war, to be used in protection by individuals in the event of a gas attack by the German enemy. The children were coming from the very poor dock areas of the Dingle and Bootle, in the Port of Liverpool (about 30 miles to the west of Weaverham), to avoid the expected bombing raid by the German enemy on the Port. For a long period of time in those first weeks, three schools; Weaverham,(Forest Street), Wellington Road school from the Dingle area of Liverpool and St.Pauls School from the Bootle are of Liverpool, shared the Forest Street school buildings.

Weaverham children and their teachers attended in the morning, the Liverpool children and their teachers attended in the afternoon, then the following week it was reversed.

This rotation went on until the authorities got themselves organised. They decided to use other buildings situated within the village:- The Village Institute, the Chapel Room, the Church Hall, the 1st Weaverham, and the 1st Owley wood Scout huts. When these buildings were used, it enabled the schools to operate to a normal timetable.

Both the Dingle and Bootle area of Liverpool suffered extensive bomb and fire damage during the war. It was possibly a good thing that some of the children of those areas were in the relatively safer place of Weaverham, until the night of 28th November 1940.

On that night, I was at home with my mother and my brother Stanley, my Dad was a shift worker on his night shift, at his place of employment. Stanley had been out with the local team of volunteer fire watchers and had returned home to ensure we were ok. He informed us that an exceptionally heavy air raid was taking place over Liverpool. Looking to the West in the Direction of Liverpool, from where we lived at 13 West Road, we could see the explosions and fires. The sky was lit up, by the glow of the fires, that had been started by the bombs being dropped and illumination from the many parachute flares that had been dropped by the German aircraft. The activity started to move closer and explosions were heard, that sounded close and phosphorus incendiary bombs were falling close to home; we had one at the back of the house, one across the road and another all the way over the field towards the railway. The one at the back of the house burned out causing no damage. The one at the front of the house was on the other side of the road from number 13. It had landed on the road and then rolled into the pathway and became wedged underneath the closed wooded gates at the entrance of the drive was leading to Rose Cottage. Stanley got the coal shovel from outside our back door where it was kept for such an emergency, he got a shovelful of soil from the garden, came through the house with it and out through the front door and across the road to try and extinguish the flames. The Air Raid Warden had now arrived, and stopped him saying “don’t go near it, the thing might explode”. The flames were eventually extinguished by more shovelfuls of earth, but not before they had done burn damage to the wooden gates at Rose Cottage. The incendiary bombs in the field were allowed to burn themselves out, doing no damage. (continued...)

Leeswood & District News

Can you remember when..?

Brian Hughes / C. Flitcroft (continued...)

There were a few more close explosions, which made the house shake and then there was one very loud explosion. The back door, and the front door burst open, without anyone operating the door handles. I remember the four walls of the living room seemed to bulge inwards and then outwards and then back to normal as the whole house shook. The fire in the fireplace was covered with soot from the chimney, there was a terrible smell of soot. My mother grabbed hold of me and tried to push me under the stairs, which was reputed to be the strongest part of the building. The electricity failed and we were in complete darkness. The Budgerigar was out of its cage flying around in the darkness adding to the confusion. Mum was trying to find the candles and matches that she had in a convenient place for such an occasion. Not so this time – it was complete panic, but soon she had things under control and was helping to comfort our elderly neighbours, who like us were very frightened, not knowing what was going to happen next. We were very fortunate no one had been injured. The doors and the bedroom window were the only damage suffered at number 13 that night. I didn't get much sleep that night so my mother kept me off school the next day and many other mothers did the same thing with their children. After all they didn't know where the bombs had fallen.

The next day we found out that the large explosion had been caused by a device called a Land Mine, dropped from a German Bomber. The device was a container packed with 1,000 pounds (45,360 Kilograms) of high explosive: it had been dropped suspended under a parachute. The container with the explosives could not be aimed, because it would drift in the wind. It was just designed to do the maximum amount of damage on impact with the ground or buildings. On this occasion one landed on Nook Farm entrance gate. The gate was on the side of the road and closed off the entrance to the farm yard, farm buildings and Farm house about 20 metres from the road.

The entrance was also situated about 100 metres from the bridge that carried the A49 road over the very busy North/South L.M.S. Railway lines, and about 500 metres south of number 13, West Road. There was no damage to the bridge, railway or the road, which was a piece of good fortune, as the A49 was one of the main arterial roads and an enormous amount of Army traffic used it in the movement of troops to the South West of England. The railway line also played a big part, carrying large numbers of troops, large quantities of equipment and war material later in the war, in the preparation for 'D' day and the invasion of France.

Unfortunately, Nook Farm was completely destroyed and was just a cluster of broken down farm buildings. People were injured but no one was killed. Eventually the village got back to a reasonable state or normality, the air raids still went on over Liverpool and Merseyside. The rubble of Nook Farm remained, a reminder to the people of a sleepy little village like Weaverham, that there was a war going on. Other bombs had fallen that night, one about 800 metres south of Nook Farm and another adjacent to the Blacksmith forge at Brynn Smithy, about 1,00 metres to the south of Nook farm, which had caused structural damage to the smithy building but no residents. Other bombs were dropped around the area on that night, landing in the open fields to the south and west of the village doing no damage, just a couple of craters in the fields."

Written by Brian Hughes

I was very moved to read this account of events that I had no first-hand experience of in my life: Perhaps there are some other people with such evocative memories that they would like to share and tell us about in future editions? You don't have to write them down – just contact me and I will be pleased to write them for you.

C. Flitcroft

Leeswood & District News

Church News

Leeswood
Methodist Church

Contact Information

Rev Pat Christopher
Phone: 01352 730313
Email: patchristopher139@yahoo.com

Upcoming Services

5th February Worship 9.30 am
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Led by Rev Pat Christopher

12th February Worship 10 45 am
Led by Martin Thorne

19th February Worship 10 45 am
Led by Rev Rosemarie Clarke

26th February Worship 10 45 am
Led by Church Members

Dear Friends

I would like to offer my thanks to all who supported our Christmas Tree Festival and made it such a great success and I also wish everyone a very Peaceful New Year.

We will continue our fundraising events in March in order to improve facilities in the Church and to give to the Circuit's Appeal, raising money to buy pigs and chickens to enable women in India to start their own small businesses.

On February 26th all Methodist churches in the Buckley and Deeside Circuit begin a seven week study course entitled 'Fruitfulness on the Frontline' and our service messages will be around those themes.

Why not come along and join us through Lent?

Yours in Christ,
Rev Pat

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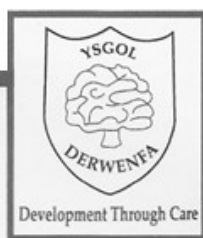
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Leeswood & District News

Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

Prosperity has in many cases been linked to a successful manufacturing industry, especially if the goods manufactured are exported and are bringing revenue into the country and into the area where they are manufactured. I very frequently hear people talking about this subject, and the older generation often says that we use to manufacture allot more products than we manufacture at the present time. When I served my engineering apprenticeship, this country manufactured everything one could imagine, and a university professor during one of his classroom lectures said that one third of the diesel engines that existed worldwide, at the time, were made in this country.

Different people may have different opinion as to why things have changed, the truth is that they have changed, and one of the reason that we have lost our manufacturing base is that we have opted to importing goods made in the far east especially cheep goods from China. It is therefore imperative to stem the tide of what has and still is eroding our manufacturing base. Young industrialists need encouragement and incentives to research new ways of how we can revive such a great industrial tradition.

People like Brunel can inspire our new generation of industrialist, but for the young industrialists to be inspired, they need to be made aware of these great industrial icons who worked relentlessly to create wealth, not just for themselves but for those around them. They earned respect within the industrial community of the time, and strived for pride in what they did. They were honest, sincere, and precise in their method of how they conducted themselves. They worked with raw materials which were available for them, and researched innovative practices on how they can utilise them with maximum efficiency.

I remember my father saying to me that need is the mother of invention, and how right he was. On many subsequent occasions I have been doing something or observing a process, when all-of-a-sudden I realise that it could be done better, quicker, more efficient, safer, more profitable, and possibly more environmentally friendly. This embodies what is needed to develop a lean way of doing things, where there is no waste neither in raw-materials, nor man-hours. Professionalism should be exercised at all levels within an organisation, and interdepartmental liaison should be applied in a manner that everybody understands.

Employees could be encouraged to seek the most operator friendly and safe working systems, because at the end of the day “a relaxed operator is an efficient operator”.

As technologies are becoming more accessible to everybody around the globe, there is fierce competition from manufacturers based in countries, where fifty or sixty years ago did not have a technological base, or access to any technological knowhow. These days, with the help of fast communications, all countries can access technologies and execute effective manufacturing processes that can produce world-class goods. Nevertheless, for a country to prosper, it needs to sell its products abroad. Manufactured goods are marketed on a balance between quality and price, and these two are directly inversely to one-an-other, therefore, the finer this balance is, the more competitive the products are. In order to fine-tune the saleability of a product, one need to study the market, gather intelligence, evaluate the intelligence, see if there is a market vacuum and flood that vacuum with manufactured goods before someone else does. To this end, it can be said, that any country trying to market manufactured goods beyond its borders, needs to offer products which are not already produced there, or products, which although not produced there, are affordable by the population of that country. This brings to show, that market research and intelligence gathering, are of paramount importance, to a successful export strategy.

Council Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: 01/11/2016

Present:

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair), Councillor J. Caruana, Vice-Chairman, Councillors D.K. Crowther, R. Hughes, Terry Hughes, T. Hughes, C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP, D. Rule, J.E. Saul and R. Williams.
Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

Apologies:

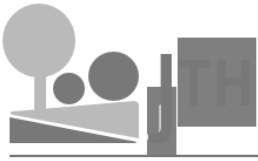
Received from Councillors J. Atkinson and J. Phoenix.

A copy of the minutes from this meeting and other future meetings are available on the Leeswood & District News website, at:

<https://www.leeswood-district.news/minutes>

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Leeswood Allotments

Joseph Caruana

The allotments are much quieter at this time of year, both the ground and the allotment holders are taking a rest. That is not to say that nothing is going on, there is still some preparation in readiness for the new planting/sowing season.

The large pile of manure, kindly donated, has gradually dwindled having been spread over the plots to replenish the nutrients in the soil. Now the worms and various other mini-beasties can do their work. Some allotment holders, already thinking about their summer crops, have prepared a well manured patch for their runner beans.



The photographs here show that there are still a few winter crops to be found on the plots. You'll see greens, sprouts and some root vegetables. My



own effort to acquire some horseradish resulted in a broken fork as you can see. The roots of this plant are long and thick but make a very

tasty addition to a roast dinner. Thankfully, now that friends and family know that I have an allotment, I do tend to get gardening related gifts for birthdays and Christmas. This year my Christmas vouchers came in handy in replacing the above mentioned fork.



Another great gift I was given this year was a gardener's diary. Now, on cold, wet, miserable days at least I can plan and dream of the months ahead.

If there is anyone out there reading this who has made a new year's resolution to be more active and eat healthier then you might consider taking on an allotment. They do come available from time to time.

Please get in touch with the Secretary, Paul Berry on 07805530835 or email paulberry65@btinternet.com and your name can be put on the list. You don't have to be particularly knowledgeable, I'm not, and there's always someone around to help. Enthusiasm and some time is all you need. Give it a go, you'll be made very welcome.

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Leeswood & District News

February in the Garden

Jenny Pitts MHort (RHS)

So we are in the depths of winter...hopefully by the time this article comes out we may even have had some snow! Just because it is winter, does not mean that there is nothing to do or any interest in the garden though.

Jobs for February

- Winter is the perfect time to carry out any formative pruning of fruit trees such as Apples and Pears – removing older stems, and pruning out dead, diseased and damaged growth
- Plant bare-root trees and shrubs- these must be planted when dormant so get them planted before too far into March
- Tie in wall shrubs, climbers and climbing roses – it is easier to do when less leaves on them and important to prevent damage from winds

Plants for Winter

There are plenty of plants that are great for Winter interest, it is not just bare stems and Forsythia at this time of year. Here are some of my favourites.

Viburnum



Viburnum x bodnantense 'Dawn' produces the most amazing scented flowers in the dead of Winter. The smell of the flowers will stop you in your tracks, as it did to me just last week when walking the dog. They are produced on bare stems and in abundance, providing colour and interest for the garden.

Sarcococca is a small evergreen shrub that can be grown in containers or the ground, so great for by your back door. The flowers are small and white, and often are not noticed, until you smell the sweetly scent. The flowers are long lasting and abundant on the established plants. Once they have finished the shrub produces shiny black berries that contrast well with the glossy green leaves.



Clematis cirrhosa 'Freckles' is a beautiful evergreen Clematis that will grow in most conditions. It is unusual with the fact that it keeps its leaves in Winter, but it also produces these amazing small creamy flowers, with red/brown 'freckles'. The plant is easy to grow and will be happy in a large container or the ground, as long as it has space for deep roots and wall or fence to climb.



Finally and in my opinion the best Winter interest plant, is Helleborus. There are many varieties out there, and with each year you can get more and more colours of flowers (picture shows just some of the forms and colours available). They will happily grow in sun or partial shade, but need rich fertile soil for best results. They hate being moved so plant them and leave them, and they will produce masses of colour in Winter and into Spring.

Jenny Pitts MHort (RHS)

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