

Leeswood & District News

September 2017

www.leeswood-district.news

Issue 365

AS CARNIVAL SEASON CLOSES...

The committee start their fundraising, and look for ideas and feedback ready for 2018



Leeswood & District News

Highlights in this new edition...

An update from the Pontybodkin Ladies Guild	Page 3
News from the churches	Pages 4 & 12
Carnival News	Page 5
Memories of an oilfield man	Pages 7 & 8
Mike Stevens: When this lousy war is over	Page 10
Leeswood Community Walk	Pages 10 & 11
Technical Corner	Page 13
Leeswood Bowling Club Champions	Page 15
Carnival Fundraiser Carwash	Page 18
Leeswood Allotments	Page 19
Monday Craft Group	Page 19

Community Event

**BACK
TO
SCHOOL**

SATURDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 2017

19:00 - 23:00

Leeswood Community Centre

Refreshments and the bar is open..
ENTRY on the door is JUST £1 per
child with ADULTS FREE
(Strictly no unaccompanied
children sorry)

Come along and join
us at Leeswood Community
Centre where there's fun for
all the family.. There
will be Music, Games
for the kids, Prize Raffle



Leeswood & District News

PONTYBODKYN LADIES GUILD

C.Flitcroft

Our final meeting before the Summer break took place on 27th July. Mrs Ingman welcomed all to the meeting. Mrs Anne Davies started our evening with a reading from Patience Strong.

Our speaker was Mr Islwyh Parry, he is a very good friend of the Guild, he has been sharing his stories with us for the last thirteen years! His stories and anecdotes are always very entertaining and amusing.

We also met Mrs Shireen Devine, the new lady involved in the Rural Wisdom Project; Shireen introduced herself to us and said she will be meeting with as many people as she can to further the aims of the project to make Leeswood and Pontblyddyn an age friendly community – friendly for all age groups.

The tea hostess was Mrs Anne Davies, she was thanked by Mrs Ingman for the lovely refreshments. The raffle was won by Mrs Doreen Kilpatrick and the special raffle was won by Mrs Ingman.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 14th September and on the 28th September the Guild will hold its Harvest Festival Service (followed by a supper) at English Methodist Chapel in Leeswood at 7.30p.m.

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DAVID HANSON MP FOR DELYN

SEVEN WAYS TO CONTACT DAVID



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Flintshire
CH6 5NN

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House of Commons
London, SW1 A0A

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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.

Kidzone 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

(Meeting again in September)

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

All weekday activities stop over the Summer Holidays.

Bright Sparks under 4s

Friday 9:30 – 11:00

(Starts on the 8th September 2017).

High Fives - Reception to Year 6

Wednesday 5:45 – 6:45

(Starts on the 13th September 2017)

Lasers – Year 6 and over

Wednesday 7:15 – 9:00

(Starts on the 13th September 2017)

Safe Haven – (Starts on the 5th September 2017)

If you know someone who has a disability please let them know about Safe Haven Crafts. They don't have to live in Leeswood. We have people coming from Wrexham and Queensferry. As we break up for the summer we have five regular craftees with learning difficulties most of whom also use a wheelchair. We would love to have more in September when we start back after the summer break. Check us out at www.safehaven.wales

RESTARTING THE ENGINE

Starting the car is not a problem. Put the key in the ignition, turn it to the right and the engine fires.

Then check there's enough fuel in the tank. Starting the lawnmower is a different ballgame altogether. Step one: wheel it out of the garage. Step two: refill the petrol tank otherwise it will only go 30 feet. Step three: check there is sufficient oil in the reservoir. Step four: manoeuvre the mower into its starting position. Step five: engage the ignition handle and pull the ignition cord. Step six: mow the lawn.

Restarting all the Bethania activities in September is very much like starting the lawnmower multiplied by all the activities the church undertakes: Safe Haven, Hi Fives, Lazer, Bright Sparks, Conversations of faith. Step one: have the leaders got all the information they need? Step two: are there sufficient leaders or do we look for more? Step three: has the publicity gone out to the participants, village noticeboards, school and wherever else it needs to go? Step four: is the whole church ready to go with its prayers for all the activities? That's the spiritual equivalent of making sure there is fuel in the tank.

Whether or not we are involved in our midweek activities, we all enjoy the summer break to renew our energy. My old minister in my student days at Bangor always used to say when it came round to New Year 'Hats off to the past. Sleeves rolled up for the future.' As September is the new year of the church's calendar, let's all get on with it.

Having said that, it is essential for all of us to pray that God will use all we do to draw those we serve to believe and follow Jesus. I came across this prayer the other day.

Help us, O God, at all times to do the things we ought to do. To that end give us:-

Clear sight that we may know what to do.

Courage to embark upon it.

Skill to find a way through all its problems.

Perseverance to bring it to its appointed end.

Strength to resist all the temptations that would seek to lure us aside.

So help us to begin, to continue and to end all things in you.

A warm welcome to all – Croeso cynnes i bawb

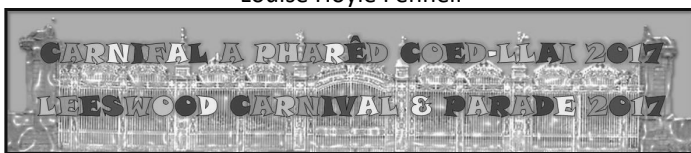
Please phone or check our website for details, changes and special events.

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

Leeswood & District News

Carnival News

Louise Hoyle Fennell



Hello everyone, we hope you enjoyed last month's edition with the souvenir pull-out. (Thanks to June the Editor for her assistance with that, it was a job well done). No doubt that, for those who unfortunately missed the day itself, those pictures and the write-up, not to mention people talking in general, would definitely portray what they sadly missed. We are sorry to say that there is not much to report in this month's edition of the LDN. We have had one meeting since the Carnival to discuss the usual things such as particular areas where we may have gone wrong, how we can improve next time, where we felt we actually did better, and of course what future fundraisers we intend to hold throughout the coming months.

Our first fundraiser to speak of will be a car wash, again to be held on the Community Centre car park, and this will take place on Saturday 16th September 2017 running from 9am to 5pm. Or at least until we run out of water in our tanks that is! Please see the poster in this edition for details.

Only one of the remaining unclaimed raffle prizes from the day has now been claimed and this is fourth prize, the small hamper, claimed by Sue Amis of Leeswood. If there are no further claims, then we will seek to probably use the Zoo Tickets at a forthcoming Bingo and the £100 cash will go back into the Carnival Fund.

Hopefully there will be more to report in October's edition and, by then, no doubt we will have further discussed and indeed booked our next fundraiser. We should imagine this will be a Bingo due to the fact that the event that happens every year in December (can't for the life of me think what that's called [cough cough]) will hopefully bring the crowds out to support us in the run up to it. There will of course be some lovely presents to be won. Sorry, did I just say presents? I meant prizes. Silly me!

Please don't forget we still have souvenir programmes of Carnival Day which you can purchase for just £1 and we will make sure these are available at any of our fundraisers just in case anybody does wish to purchase one as a keepsake.

Hopefully, the sun will put its hat on and shine again for us at the car wash like it did back in March and that we have a line of dirty motor vehicles waiting to shine too!

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Savings Using Personal Pensions

With the State Pension Age continually rising, and the amount on offer sustaining only a basic standard of living, many people turn to personal pensions in order to make their own provisions for the future. This is especially important for the self employed, who may not have a scheme at work. The sooner you start, the better the outcome.

What is a personal pension?

Personal pensions represent a popular and attractive way of saving for your retirement. A personal pension is an arrangement made in your name over which you have personal control. You can alter your contributions, suspend them, or stop them completely.

What are the perks?

All monies invested into your pension fund grow free of capital gains tax, and the contributions you make are enhanced by income tax relief at source. For example if you invest £80, the government adds on tax relief (currently 20%) to enhance your contribution to £100! If you are a higher rate taxpayer you can claim additional relief through your PAYE coding. Tax relief limits apply.

An annual allowance of up to £40,000 (2016/2017) is available as well as the possibility of utilising potential carry forward of unused annual allowances. Tax relief provides a useful planning tool for tax payers and businesses alike.

Investment Choices - Personal Pensions usually offer a range of investment choices to suit your attitude to investment risk, and you can change your investment at any time, in many cases, free of charges. This provides an ideal platform on which to adapt your pension, to meet your changing attitudes throughout your lifetime.

Do I have to pay tax on pension income when I retire?

With personal pensions, based on current rules, you will be eligible to take 25% of your accumulated fund tax-free when you retire, the earliest age currently being from 55. Some clients appreciate the discipline that this enforces i.e. you cannot access your benefits until later in life, which ensures they are not frittered away. Any other income drawn from a pension is subject to tax at your marginal rate. In simple terms it is taxed in the same way a salary would be.

What are the options when I retire?

There are a range of options when you decide to take your pension benefits such as purchasing annuity or electing capped or flexible drawdown. It is important to review your circumstances at the point you retire, to ensure you pursue to most appropriate solution for your needs. Retirement planning is complicated and you would benefit from quality independent advice at this stage.

Pensions can be an effective and tax efficient way of saving for your future, however everyone is different, and here at Clickery, we can tailor your planning, to meet your needs, attitudes and circumstances. Get in touch to arrange a non obligation consultation, and find out whether personal pensions could be appropriate for you.

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Leeswood & District News

Memories of an oilfield man

Tom Nicholson

First Flare Off

After working seven days and nights to erect rig 22 on the Jack up barge Zarah we then had to connect our Tender 3 to the barge, as previously stated the tender was like a umbilical cord attached to the rig supplying it with water, drill pipe, cement, mud, etc. As well as being our living accommodation but before they could be connected eight 12ton anchors had to be run out from the tender these kept it in a stable position during adverse weather conditions. When I signed my contract in London I signed on as a Deck supervisor /lifting engineer, I was now informed that I was the Barge Captains Assistant, although I had run anchors many a time in the North Sea I was always on the rig sitting in the crane, this operation did not require the use of a crane, all of the work was carried out on the deck of the boat,

The boat supplied their own Pelican hooks; these were huge quick release links weighing approx two hundred pounds each, these were attached by a 25ton wire sling to the boats capstan, these hooks secured the anchor until it was in the desired position then I would hit the release pin on the hook and run like hell while the anchor dropped over the stern end of the boat, it was a very dangerous operation and caused many a serious accident, this was the first time that I had run this antiquated system of anchor running. I hand-picked three men from my crew and had Mohammed

explain what we needed to do, I already had a tool chest with sledge hammers, large marlin spikes, shackles etc all we had to do was connect the pelican hook to the anchor chain, "Come on get your god damn finger out, we haven't got all day" this came from my old mate and Nemesis Melvin Whitmire, who were standing on the bridge of the boat with his fancy aviator sun shades on and with his hands in pockets. That's all I needed in this midday heat 80s -90 degrees. Enough is enough I thought this was a perfect opportunity, "Hey Melvin we need a extra pair of hands for this hook, it's too heavy" he took the bait, "god damn weak Limey wimps" he replied as he climbed down onto the deck with us then as he took hold of the heavy pelican hook I realised it was too heavy for me and had to let it go, sad to say Melvin did not have time to move his fingers out of the way. I was full of sympathy and remorse as I escorted him onto the helicopter with both hands in bandages, luckily he only lost two fingers but otherwise he was ok, he decided to transfer to another rig, still all's well ends well, all though it was an accident a number of people bought me a drink when I got back to Cairo. I will not bore readers with day to day drilling operations but this was the first oil well that Rig22 (Zarah) had brought in (successfully drilled) and flared off, as

in my photo, (please ignore my skinny legs).



The heat coming from the flare is unbelievable if you notice I am standing next to the empty emergency life raft rack the rafts are removed during testing, I have quite a number of flare off photos taken from various rigs I have worked on which I will introduce in later issues,

After a very hot and hard but productive month on the rig it was time for my well-earned R&R back in Cairo, hopefully all was well with Carol and the boy's, but it was not to be, Mahmoud my faithful taxi driver was there to meet our helicopter "Stop off at the Hilton for a couple of beers before you take me home and you can sit in the Kazbar" I told him. After a couple of ice cold Stellar beers I was ready for Carols tale of woe, "You are not going to believe it" were her first words of greeting, " let me get a beer first then you can tell me everything" then she started to tell me, "The boy's were in school and Toweda and myself had just finished the house work etc, and were sitting having a drink when we heard the sound of a fire engine coming nearer to our apartment then this quite modern looking fire engine stopped outside, obviously we ran outside thinking there may be a fire but when we were outside there was the Egyptian lady neighbour standing on her balcony wall ready to jump, she lived with her husband and children on the fourth floor. The fireman was on the extended ladder trying to reach the lady but as he got a little closer she decided to jump and that's when she landed on our clothes washing line "I could not help myself when I asked if she was dry when the ambulance took her away". Carol never found out why she jumped, but she must have been ok because she returned home after a couple of days.

I thought it was a good conversational piece among the expats, but Carol was not amused. Another what I thought was amusing little tale happened one day, it was while Carol was shopping for green groceries in the local outdoor market. As usual I was reclining in my chair with the usual bottle of cold beer when I heard a commotion outside. If only I had a camcorder but they had not been invented then,

Leeswood & District News

Memories of an oilfield man

Tom Nicholson

First Flare Off (continued...)

Carol had taken her string net shopping bag with her (bet she wished she had not) this was so funny we both still laugh when we talk about it, Carol was returning from the market when a small number of long eared goats began to follow her and her string net bag full of greens, by the time she arrived outside she looked like Norah Batty from the Last of the summer wine,(she goes mad when I say that) the goats were standing on their back legs and she was trying to beat them off with what was left of her string bag - all she needed was a pair of baggy stockings around her ankles - why she did not just let them have the bag I don't know, when she came through the door and seen me rolling around holding my sides with laughter she never saw the funny side of it like I did.

I remember another incident involving the washing line this happened after Carol had finished washing the clothes in the antiquated washing machine and had hung them out to dry, after a couple of hours she decided to collect them in ready for ironing, and could not believe her eyes all the laundry had disappeared from the line. This included a couple of pair of my Levis jeans/shirts and Carol and the boys clothes and all of these were hard to come by in Egypt in those days, there was no clue as to where they had gone, after a week she had given up any hope of seeing them again, but could not believe her eyes when she was walking to the market and low and behold she recognised our clothes hanging from clothes line belonging to a local Egyptian, realising it would be useless for her to confront the thief she decided to ask our Boab (gardener & house man) to go for them with the promise of a reward (which he refused) anyway this man's appearance would scare anybody with his deformed back and blind in one eye and carrying a big stick but honestly he was a great guy, he returned an hour later with all of our clothes and some that did not belong to us but we told him to keep them for himself, that taught Carol a lesson, in the future she would let him guard her washing until it was dry, life was never boring in Maadi as I will explain in future issues.

To be continued

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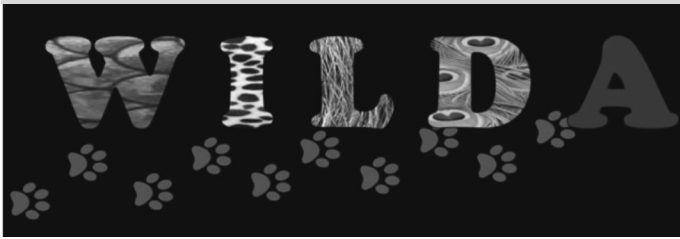
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MISSION STATEMENT:

Our goal is to open an Exotic Animal Rescue with an Education centre. We are passionate about exotics and want to share our passion by offering workshops that will teach basic exotic animal care. We will also give educational talks in, but not limited to, schools, community centres, fetes and open days We want to provide training for anyone who works with exotics to enable confidence in handling and give advice on suitable habitats for these amazing animals. We will make sure that we teach current legislation and identify if any special licences may be required. We will abide by and encourage conservation legislation and promote environmental awareness. We will work in and with the community and we will promote local business.

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WILDA

Learning with

WILDA Rescue

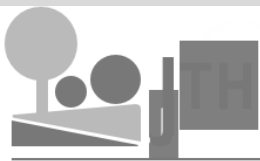
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When this lousy war is over

Mike Stevens

In 1911 Violet Wynne-Eyton inherited Leeswood Hall and during the First World War, the Hall became a convalescent hospital, quite extensive, with something like 40 huts for wounded soldiers. There is not much recorded information about this period in the history of Leeswood Hall, although we do know that many of the wounded soldiers would often go up to the village and mix with local people. I am currently carrying out some research into this period of Leeswood's history, particularly what was happening in 1918, and would very much like to hear from anyone who can help me. Obviously no one is alive now who has any recollection of the convalescent hospital, but there may be residents whose grandparents talked of the times during the First World War when wounded soldiers lived in Leeswood Hall. We do know that they would have worn a specific "uniform" when they came up to the village, for instance, and at least one letter exists of a grateful soldier who wrote about his experiences. There may be more. If anyone can shed any light on this absorbing period of Leeswood's history, I would be really glad to hear from you. Please mail me on mike38stevens@gmail.com or phone 759203. I will keep Leeswood and District News readers posted on any memories or information that come to light.

Community Walk

Why is Blast Wood Blast Wood?

Phoenix Park Phoenix Park?

If you want to join a walk around the village to find where the footpaths take you come along on **SUNDAY OCTOBER 1st**

Mike Stevens leads the walk and points out some places of historical interest, leaving the Community Centre at 10 am.

See map across the page



Don't let the prospect of rain put you off – come dressed for the weather and the terrain. There are a few stiles to negotiate and the fields may be wet underfoot.

But you'll enjoy the walk!

Leeswood & District News

New series
FOOTPATHS IN
LEESWOOD &
DISTRICT No 1

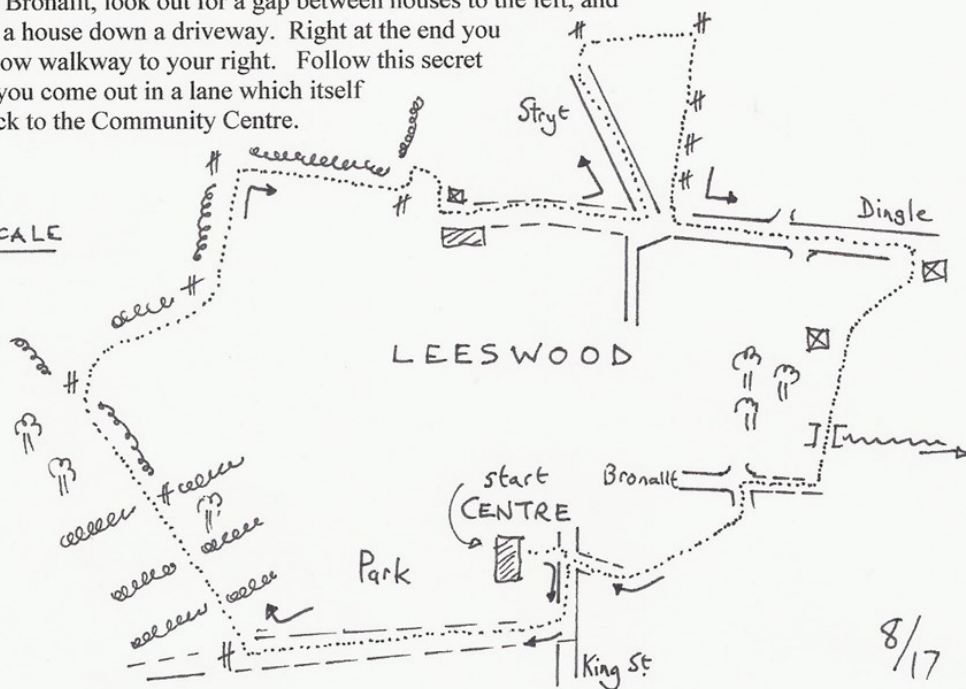
LEESWOOD
VILLAGE
LOOP

1. Leaving the Community Centre, once out on King Street turn right and immediately right again, making for Phoenix Park. Waymark on a post here. Keep the playing fields to your right, and continue on the broad track.
2. The broad track turns into a narrow lane. Just as this lane starts to dip, look out for a stile on your right into the field beyond. Journey through three fields now, marked by old hedgerows with gaps, aiming for a stile which you can't see yet. Go slightly left across the first field, but do not lose too much height. Go through a gap in the hedge into the second field. There is a prominent tree in the next hedge boundary. Keep this well to your right, passing through a gap to enter the third field. Finally you reach the field boundary and stile in the hedge. Cross the stile into young woodland.
3. Follow the path, with hedge close by on your right. Look out for a stile in the hedge to your right. You will see this good metal stile just as the path seems to open up. Cross into the field.
4. Follow the field edge to your left, round a sharp corner to a projecting field corner. Go round sharp left here, following the hedge on your left until you reach a stile in the field corner. This stile has a waymark "Leeswood Heritage Trail" on the other side. Cross into a field, and follow the field edge on your left all the way up to the top of the hill, ignoring the field gate on your left.
5. Once at the top, in the field corner, change direction. Turn right and continue downhill in the same field, with the hedge on your left. In the field corner at the bottom you will find a good stile with waymarks. Once in scrubland beyond, go ahead then right to find a kissing gate taking you out onto a lane. You have reached Leeswood Green Farm. Turn left and follow the lane, passing allotments on the left, to reach the road, Stryt Cae Rhedyn, with a waymark on a post. Turn left on the road here.
6. Follow the road here [there is no pavement, so beware of traffic, particularly at the junction with Dingle Road] and continue uphill, with occasional houses on the right. Just before you reach the bungalows, on your right, you will find a footpath marked with a waymark on a post. Leave the road here and follow the footpath to a waymarked stile. Now in a field, keep the hedge to your left to the next field corner and stile. Once over turn right and continue with the hedge close by on your right.
7. Go through three gates with stiles to the side until you reach Dingle Road, where you turn left and follow the road, first of all on a pavement and then without, until you leave houses behind. Before the descent look out for a walkers' signpost by a seat, directing you off right through a kissing gate.
8. Cross the field on the diagonal, passing under power lines to reach a field corner and another kissing gate into Blast Wood. Continue straight on in the wood, past capped mine shafts and, over to the right, the site of the Blast Furnace, until you reach a bridge over a stream far below. Go through a gate, over the bridge and up the other side. At the top here turn right and you are in Bronallt.
9. Once in Bronallt, look out for a gap between houses to the left, and make as if for a house down a driveway. Right at the end you will see a narrow walkway to your right. Follow this secret passage until you come out in a lane which itself brings you back to the Community Centre.

Mike Stevens

MAP NOT TO SCALE

- path
- track
- == road
- ~~~~ hedge
- # stile
- ⊠ gate
- ▨ building
- ☺ tree
- || bridge
- ~ stream
-



Leeswood & District News

Church News

Wesley Church, Leeswood



The **Methodist** Church

Upcoming Services

- 3rd Sept.** Worship **10.45 am**
Led by Mrs Brenda Pugh-Jones
- 10th Sept.** Worship **10.45 am**
Led by Mr Chris Cole
- 17th Sept.** Worship **10.45am**
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Led by Rev Pat Christopher
- 24th Sept.** Worship **10.45 am**

Prize Bingo

Wednesday 6th September
at Community Centre
in Leeswood
7 pm for 7.30pm.



in aid of

**Wesley Methodist Church,
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Contact Information

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Leeswood & District News

Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

The intention of reusing or recycling of a product, starts at conceptual stages of the product itself. This means that the designers must design every aspect of the product with reusing and re-cycling in mind. Reusing and recycling are well and truly environmental issues, which should be treated with respect in order to sustain a good environment for generations.

Therefore, with this in mind, we might as the question of how much reusable or how much recyclable a product is. To do things in order, we start by looking at re-usable products. Be we say re-usable, we could have a product that can be used over and over again, either for its original purpose or other purposes for which it might be suitable. As an example of this, and to keep it as simple as possible, we can look at reusable potential of a glass container. Glass containers comes in different shapes and sizes, with designs to suit either a practical application or for ornamental looks. A common application of a glass container is a jam jar, and these can be bought from super market in the country. Now, with a little imagination it is clearly noticeable, that a jam jar can be reused for several other purposes after its original use. For those of us that like DIY, one can use a jam jar to store bits, such as screws of different sizes, washers of different sizes, and many other items that we might think off. We can also use a jam jar to mix and blend paints to achieve a desired colour for a personal choice. The number of items which are reusable is enormous, and if we look around us we will find ourselves surrounded with reusable items. Therefore, next time we use a product, instead of throwing the glass container away, it might be beneficial to spare one or two seconds to determine whether you can utilise the container for a second use. The material of the container determines how many times a container can be used. For example glass can be used indefinitely, while plastic tends to deteriorate and therefore its capability to reuse is limited. It all depends on the level of hygiene the material can retain.

Now we come to the subject of recycling, and it is appropriate to say that to a certain degree all products are recyclable, whether it is a corn beef tin, a plastic toothpaste tube, or a big massive engine. Each and every product can be recycled in different ways, and can be recycled to produce a different product. Just because a certain product has been serving in a particular application, it does not mean that when it is recycled it is going to perform the same application, because when a material goes through the recycling process, it can be made into several other products suitable to be made from that particular material. Therefore, the tin metal which is today a corn beef tin can be recycled and included in a batch of steel to make parts for a bicycle.

When it comes to recycling paper products, there are a limited number of times a product can be recycle. This is because paper is made from little tiny stands of wood which are held together with starch which acts as a matrix. When wood fibres are used for the first time they are of an original size and are often referred to as virgin fibre. However, when paper is recycled, it is turned into a mulch, all the impurities taken out, dried and turned into paper again. During this process, the wood fibres are broken into smaller pieces, and therefore they do not retain the same strength. This happens every time paper is recycled, and eventually there will come a point when the strength gets so reduced that it can no longer be recycled in a paper mill. When wood fibres reach that stage they can be mixed it with virgin fibres to give it another lease of life or allowed to turn into compost and fed back into the ground. Paper turns into compost because it is a natural live material and can be recycled in a way.

In the previous paragraph I mentioned the term live material; this is applied to those materials which grow from the ground such as trees from which timber products are made. Steel, aluminium and plastics are not live materials because they have not grown as a natural material. Steel and aluminium are mined from underground while plastic is a bi-product of the oil industry. To this end, each and every product that we purchase in our daily life, does have some recyclable element in it, nevertheless, it can also have the ability to be reusable, which is the ultimate way to help the environment.

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Leeswood & District News

Leeswood Bowling Club Champions

Leeswood Bowling Club has just won their 1st trophy after 20 years of trying. They won the Wrexham Vets Division 5 Cup defeating Bangor on Dee. In the eight man team Leeswood had 6 winners and one of the losers got 20 points. In the end it was quite a convincing win. It may not be the last trophy as the same team are currently top of Division 5, with 5 games left. The team have lost only one game and two of their players Syd Drury and Rob Jackson are unbeaten. They do, however have to play the 2nd and 3rd teams in the league before the end of the season. The team plays on a Tuesday afternoon at 2pm.

The Wednesday evening team, that play in the Flintshire Midweek League, also look like they could finish in their best ever league position. With 4 games to play they are in 5th position but have a game in hand over the 4th team. After a poor start to the season the team have won their last 8 matches, and confidence is high.

The season will end with a singles competition for all members on Sunday 17th September, were we will play for the George Mitchell Trophy.

We will still be able to give some coaching in how to play and we all go down on a Monday evening for much needed practice. The club has a very friendly atmosphere and most of us do not take the game too seriously.

If you are interested in getting into Bowls then contact Rob on 01352771607 for more information.

If you would like to see the results then you should go to bowlsnet.uk and find the Wrexham vets league or the Flintshire midweek league and Leeswood are in Division 5.

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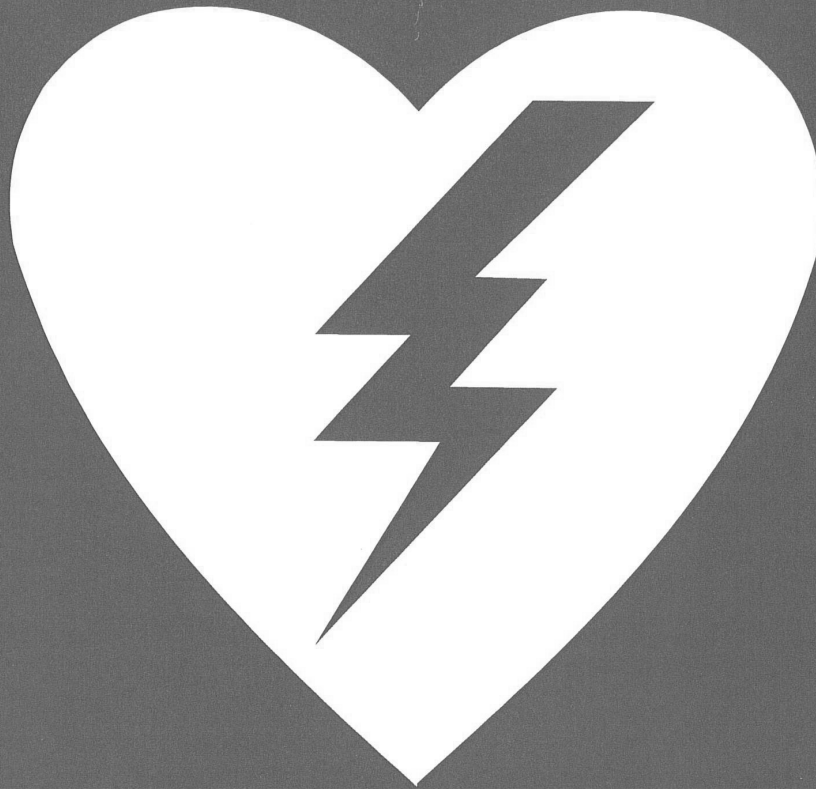
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Leeswood & District News

Leeswood Allotments

Earlier in the season I was expecting to be harvesting a really bumper crop of big juicy gooseberries by now. I had watered the gooseberry bushes during the dry spell, fed them with liquid feed and picked off many of the smaller berries to leave the bigger ones to develop. Everything was looking good - no sign of gooseberry sawfly which I've had trouble with in previous years.

Well, not only were the gooseberries and near by red currants looking good to me but they also looked inviting to the blackbirds too. I had made an effort to deter them with some bits of netting and a child's plastic windmill which had been reasonably successful in previous years. However, this year, the birds were persistent and determined and in no time at all the bushes were virtually stripped of the best crop of berries I'd had for quite a few years.

Well, I've learned my lesson the hard way and this back-end, after I've done a bit of pruning and put some manure round the base of the bushes I will be making a strong, properly constructed frame of netting. Sorry blackbirds but that will be your last free meal of gooseberries from my allotment. Thankfully, I've had an excellent crop of blueberries this year too and so far the birds have left these alone.

Hopefully in the next issue of the Leeswood and District News there will be some pictures of the Allotment Open Day and we can give a figure of how much was raised for Blood Bike Wales during the day's events.



Monday Craft Group

C. Flitcroft



This cheerful, enthusiastic, group of ladies are widening their crafting skills and in recent sessions they have made cushions, even though some of them have no access to a Sewing Machine and some of them have not used their sewing machines for years !! Pictured here are some of the finished gems! Heirlooms and/or presents for Christmas maybe?

The group meets fortnightly, Mondays at 1.30 pm until 4 pm. WE have lots of different crafts going on and the sharing of tips and techniques can help people learn and practice new crafts and skills, and there is no substitute for actually being shown!

Dates for September and October:-

- Monday, 4th September, '17
- Monday, 18th September, '17
- Monday, 2nd October, '17
- Monday, 16th October, '17
- Monday, 30th October, '17

A small charge of £1.50 is asked of you, and you will have a cuppa and a biscuit during the afternoon.

The top of the ladies "wish list" is to learn lace making, crochet and felt making. So we will definitely be sharing techniques and helpful advice in the next few sessions to set some very keen learners off on a new craft that they can enjoy in the coming months. You could join us too!

Bring your current craft work if you can, you will be very welcome.



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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:

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Mon, 18th September 2017