

# Leeswood & District News

March 2018

[www.leeswood-district.news](http://www.leeswood-district.news)

Issue 370



## JOIN OUR TEAM

WE NEED YOUR HELP!  
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS



# Leeswood & District News

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## Community Event

### LEESWOOD SUPPORT GROUP NIGHTINGALE HOUSE HOSPICE

WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL 2018  
19:00

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE



# Leeswood & District News

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We are currently looking for a new member to join the Leeswood & District News team.

If you have very basic IT skills and would love to express yourself to the local village, join our team - it's easy & fun!

### **Benefits of being a member of the Leeswood News Team include:**

- ◆ Learning how to put together a news publication
- ◆ Become a recognised member of our community
  - ◆ Looks excellent on your CV
- ◆ Builds connections within the local area

**Call June on 07525 929 522**

**or**

**Call John on 01352 344 399 (option 2)**

# Leeswood & District News

## PONTYBODKYN LADIES GUILD

Gill Burton

On the 25th January 2018 the President welcomed everyone to the meeting, Each member of the Guild had bought a plate of savoury and sweet to provide a wonderful spread for a very special occasion. A party to celebrate Mrs Flora Robert's 90th birthday. What a wonderful achievement for Flora to have reached that age. At the end of our feast Flora cut a birthday cake, provided by her family, we all wished her happy birthday and hope she has many more to come.

The raffle was drawn and the winners were Mrs Jane Lucy, Mrs Doreen Kilpatrick and Mrs Margaret Roberts. The President then thanked everyone for making the evening so enjoyable.

On the 8th February after the President, Mrs Lucille Ingman, opened the meeting Mrs Maureen Calder read a poem followed by the Lord's Prayer. We were then introduced to the speaker for the evening, who wished to be known as Canon Carol, who came to speak to us on the work of The Leprosy Mission. It is hard to grasp that today leprosy is still around but Canon Carol told us approximately 3 million people are diagnosed with the disease. The Leprosy Mission helps with building hospitals, schools and housing. For those who have been left with disabilities it also helps out with various aids to make life a little easier. It was a very thought provoking evening.

Refreshments were provided and served by Mrs Maureen Calder. The raffle was drawn and Mrs Lucille Ingman was the winner, Mrs Margaret Roberts won the special raffle. The meeting was then declared closed.

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**DAVID HANSON MP FOR DELYN**

**SEVEN WAYS TO CONTACT DAVID**



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Flint  
Flintshire  
CH6 5NN

OR

House of Commons  
London, SW1 A0A

Phone me: 01352 763 159

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

Fax me: 01352 730 140

Email me: david.hanson.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.davidhanson.org.uk

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# Leeswood & District 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

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

### Safe Haven

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. We have five regular crafters with learning difficulties, most of whom also use a wheelchair. We would love to have more. Check us out at [www.safehaven.wales](http://www.safehaven.wales)

We all know the difference between right and wrong in the moral sense. It's wrong to steal, wrong to bully others. But what do we do when faced with options neither of which are wrong but will certainly have life directing consequences. Which university or college shall I go to or which job should I take? God has a plan and a purpose for every life and we know this by reading about the people He interacted with throughout history.

In the Old Testament God wanted His people to have a home that was fruitful and productive where they could thrive. The only problem was they had to fight for it. 12 spies did the reconnaissance. 10 came back amazed at the fertility and lushness but didn't believe that they could beat the giants that inhabited the land. 2 of the spies saw things differently. They believe that their own people were strong enough, with God's help to take the land God had promised would be their home. In the end the people believed the spies who dealt in fear and discouragement, so they had no home for another 40 yrs.

If you are scared of the unknown but have an opportunity that will allow you and your family to thrive, be brave-Go for it! You may have something wanting to hold you back but even in challenging times God reminds us "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Trust the Lord and he will direct your path.

Bethan Peters



Please phone or check our website

changes and special events.

**Website – [www.bethanialeeswood.org](http://www.bethanialeeswood.org)**

**Phone Rob 01352 771607**

# Leeswood & District News

## Carnival News

Louise Hoyle Fennell



Hi Campers, well here's hoping that we have seen the last of the cold snaps we have endured (for what seems like an eternity) and that we all now have a "spring" in our step. No more flakes falling from the sky or frost on the ground, blighting our lives causing mayhem, instead the only white we can see (or should be seeing at least) is that of the snowdrops (the flowery type of course) and field-packed precious little bundles of Welsh cuteness. But, if indeed there is any of that white stuff falling from the sky when this edition is out, I'm handing in my notice and off to sunnier climates. I do hope that Customs at the airport however don't notice my little white bundle of cuteness in my travel bag, but I could always say it's just my woolly jumper! Brrrr!!

Easter is already upon us and earlier too this time. Make sure you have enough pennies in your pockets to subsidise the masses of chocolate available but doubly make sure you have enough pennies left over for our Bingo on Wednesday 25th April 2018. It won't be our usual Easter-related Bingo, but Bingo all the same, and we know how you lot like a game of Bingo! We hope, as always, for a good turnout. We also hope this time around that we have enough Bingo books at the ready as Clive is probably sick of us calling him back out for more! And, if we do manage to raise anywhere near what we did last time (£755.00), then we'll be more than happy. That kind of money raised goes an awful long way to assisting us to be able to put on a bigger and better day for everyone, but it can only happen if we all make it happen.


Before our Bingo night however, we do have a 'Family Night' arranged for Saturday 7th April 2018 at the Community Centre, Leeswood, commencing at 7pm. The bar will be open for beverages (whoo-hoo) but there will also be other refreshments available for the younger ones. Admission for adults is just £2.00 and

children go in free. Please refer to the poster in this edition, along with the poster for the Bingo, both of which give you full details of each event. We do hope you can make either one, if not both!

We are now progressing onto talks of the Prince/Rosebud/Queen Night and, even though we can announce the date for that event (19th May 2018) we are still in the early throws regarding details. The advert for the event will be in the April edition as, by then, we should pretty much have those all important details secured.

That is actually pretty much it for this month Campers. We will hopefully be able to concentrate next month on those details for the Prince/Rosebud/Queen night but, unfortunately, will not be able to report on funds raised on both the Family Night and Bingo as those two fundraisers fall just after the April edition coming out.

You never know though, I may just have jetted off to sunnier climates and could be simply writing you all a "Wish You Were Here" postcard from me and my little woolly friend, Aran!

Kind regards,   
Louise Hoyle Fennell  
Committee Member  
LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Hotdogs

Leeswood Playgroup



Family Disco

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of March

Leeswood community centre

Doors open 7.30 pm

## **DEFIB COMES TO PONTBLYDDYN!**

By the end of March, a defibrillator machine will be situated at The Bridge Inn, in the heart of the village, and will be available **twenty-four hours a day.**

There is no point having these machines if you don't know how to use one. It's not difficult, but you do have to have the know-how and feel confident: speed is the essence and somebody's life could be saved by YOU!

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND**

### **FREE CPR and DEFIBRILLATOR DEMONSTRATION!**

**AT CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN**

**AT 4PM ON SATURDAY, 24TH MARCH 2018**

**HOSTED BY WELSH HEARTS (RCN. 1154109)**

Cardiac arrest? A Defib can increase someone's survival rate by 50% !

*After the demonstration, limited places are available at a cost of £5.00 for further practical training and certificate of attendance.*

**PLEASE DO COME – YOUR LIFE COULD DEPEND ON IT!**

To book a place for the demo, please text Johanna Kaufmann on **07962 063300** and indicate if you wish to do the 'practical'.

**AM I GETTING THROUGH? THAT AMBULANCE THEY CALLED ISN'T!**

# Leeswood & District News

## Local Personal Announcements

From the Community

### Birthday

I would like to say Thank You to my friends, Ladies Guild members, neighbours and family for all the flowers, presents and cards that I received for my 90th Birthday, in January. They were lovely.

Warmest regards to you all. Flora. X

### Birthday

I would like to say a huge thank you to my children; Dawn, Sandra, Michael and Stephen for arranging a lovely surprise party for me to celebrate my 80th Birthday two weeks ago. To all of my friends and family for the lovely gifts, thank you, I really appreciate it and thank you for making it a wonderful evening. Thank you to my Granddaughter Lauren for making my birthday cake. Also, a big thank you to Harry for playing some songs for me, you were excellent. Lastly, thank you to Brenda and Joyce for the lovely food.

Thank you everyone once again. Gwyneth Davies

### Sympathy

Merle and family wish to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy on the sudden loss of David. Thanks also to H.J. Williams & Sons, Rev'd Carol Poolman; Lorraine for the family flowers and the Bridge Inn for the buffet. Donations received in lieu of flowers for Nightingale House Hospice, Wrexham, of £515.

Many thanks, Merle

### Sympathy

Billy and June would like to thank family and friends for their lovely cards and sympathy on the sudden loss of Alice Lincoln (Billy's Mother). Thank you also for the donation collected by the Ladies Guild and passed to the Methodist Church.

June Lincoln

Sponsor

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### Guided Walk

GUIDED COMMUNITY WALK

from

LEESWOOD

This month's community walk

HARTSHEATH

SUNDAY MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>

All walks start from Leeswood Community Centre

At 10am

.....

GUIDED COMMUNITY WALK

from

LEESWOOD

via the BRIDGE INN at Pontblyddyn to

HOPE MOUNTAIN

SUNDAY APRIL 8<sup>th</sup>

10 am from Leeswood Community Centre



# Leeswood & District News

## CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN MARCH/APRIL 2018

### SUNDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH: LENT III

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV JOHN POOLMAN

### SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH: LENT IV MOTHERING SUNDAY

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

### SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH: LENT V PASSIONTIDE BEGINS

11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: MS KATHY STEWART

### SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH: LENT VI PALM SUNDAY

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

6.00P.M. EVENING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

### HOLY WEDNESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

7.30 P.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
AND STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

### GOOD FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

10.45 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE  
AT LEESWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

### SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL: EASTER DAY

9.30 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
FOR ALL THREE CONGREGATIONS  
IN ST MARY'S CHURCH, TREUDDYN  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

### SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL: EASTER 2

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

### SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL: EASTER 3

11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: DR WENDY SHILLITO

### SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL: EASTER 4

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

## EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT SERVICES

CHRIST CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS  
Rev'd Carole Poolman, Vicar.

The Rectory, Llanfynydd, Wrexham. LL11 5HH.

Phone: 01978 762304

Email: [cc.sm@btinternet.com](mailto:cc.sm@btinternet.com)

## Dates of EVENING PRAYER for 2018 IN CHRIST CHURCH.

25<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday) at 6.00p.m.

8<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00 p.m.  
(please note change of date)

30<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00p.m.

25<sup>th</sup> November at 4.00p.m.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

### Holy Monday – 26<sup>th</sup> March

7.30 p.m. Evening Prayer  
in St Mary's Church, Nercwys

### Holy Tuesday – 27<sup>th</sup> March

7.30 Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar  
In St Mary's Church Treuddyn

### Holy Wednesday – 28<sup>th</sup> March

7.30 Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar  
In Christ Church, Pontblyddyn

### Maundy Thursday - 29<sup>th</sup> March

11.00a.m. Chrism Mass at St Asaph Cathedral  
Followed by lunch - If you would like to stay for  
lunch please let Carole know by March 4<sup>th</sup>

### Good Friday - 30<sup>th</sup> March

10.45a.m. Ecumenical Service in Leeswood  
Methodist Church  
11.00a.m. Good Friday Service in St Mary's  
Church Treuddyn

## IN CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH & 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018

"COME 4 COFFEE"



10.30 A.M. – 12 NOON

*Please note the Vicar will be available on that date, if you wish to speak to her on Church Business.*



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# Leeswood & District News

## BUMPER WORDSEARCH

X L K F D T R E Z W U F Z S A I T U B N S M A E J E A B P P  
W I H O E V X H K D F B S L Q R S K E F Y E R N V M O G X Q  
K F J B N A X D O I D S G C M H Y A Z T J I J O Q Y H K T C  
Z D Z V B C M J D N P K V O N K T E V T H H Z Q E T T Z A D  
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A R M R H C H L W U G O A O A C J T H W L R R N R P X G J A  
R Y S S S V U D O P E N R C W A U H T M F G V E H M V J O R  
L H E P H G P G Y U O T P P Y O E T F Q K Y N I V E B T S E  
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N E W R E A O A L N R Y O Y T M P N D R Y X Y L F O I D U J  
B M I S I L P B D Z V M B K S J P M T M Q J U S P S E C Y W  
J L B K M H O P E V F U Q Q L I N R M A X E A A W U X L B X  
N H A R F T S I D O J N O J C M S K T R F H C X K E H B S Y  
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K B N V N C H H N L V S N V V N Y A B H N Y F A E S F L D R  
A G E F T A G Z R I G W Y N E D D U H E R L D J C N E P Q F  
I Q I A L B U C W Z L L C O V G U N D N F S R I Y U S Q U X  
N U V S X S E G L L W F S M X K T N K S C G R K Z Z G M S I  
C O R W E L Z Q W G J A J S X D U C V H E G Z K C A K H H D  
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H L P R L C G X E T H F N I V W Y W A F F J S R O N C J D A  
Y W U U V G Z T T G X N Z W B Y Z D F X A L I V V K N I G T  
N Z M L O M O R P I E O Y S I L W O F W Z O N H C H L P O S  
C W H N A E H A J W I Y X Q Z Z D N W Y Y W G R G X R R H W  
G O Y E Q K M O O P Q H T C Z W N J O H O G H X Z K F Y U A  
N A G R O M A L G F O E L A V Y E Z A C H K A A H A U Y E N  
G R V U T Q A N Y C S G N A C Z G Z E P Y T B L E E D B H S  
E X T P E M B R O K E S H I R E D J U S K Q Q N G U N G D E  
K I A M R P A J Q D H A Q S F M I M Q J P U Y F C M N N Y A  
U W Z Z H A X F T G I Q N I H K R U C Q U O A E M S G T C A  
W N E X F S C R O G Q P F F G O B J Y R S V D Q O J N S X W  
L Q N O I G I D E R E C B U T W H S S H K F L H A F P W I B  
Y M Y K R J J Z O Z A V R Y N O C S X E D L Q S M R I Q X Y  
B C B D S P O H W U G N O V W K P Q X N B K N A T U A W N V  
I Z D I Z U X R Y X L P G J J F H Q U S V F O M A H X E R W

**Blaenau Gwent**

**Bridgend**

**Caerphilly**

**Cardiff**

**Carmarthenshire**

**Ceredigion**

**Conwy**

**Denbighshire**

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# Leeswood & District News

## Council Meeting Minutes

**These have not been agreed by the community council members, and therefore cannot be released yet. They should be published in the April edition.**

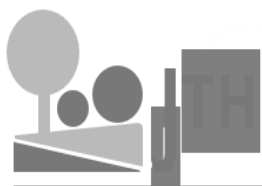
## DELIVERY NOTICE

Thank you to Jenny Pitts, for all your hard-work in delivering the Leeswood News in your area, for all this time. Jenny has had to stop because of work commitments. She will be greatly missed.

**We are now looking for a replacement for the Dingle Road delivery.**

### Sponsor

### Sponsor



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Leeswood Support Group presents

# Prize Bingo

In aid of Nightingale House Hospice

**Doors Open 7.00pm**

**Eyes Down 7.30pm**

**Come  
along—all  
welcome**

**Wednesday  
11th April 2018**

**Leeswood  
Community  
Centre**

# Bingo!

Wrexham Hospice & Cancer Support Centre Foundation (Limited By Guarantee). Company Number: 2906838  
Registered Charity Number: 1035600 Registered in England and Wales.

# CARNIVAL

LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

invite the community to a  
**"FAMILY NIGHT"**

at  
**LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

on  
**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018**  
7.00pm to midnight  
Admission: Adults £2.00 / Children Free  
Raffle Prizes

*With sounds from the 80's and 90's  
brought to you by 'DJ Rhiannon'*

**LICENSED BAR OPEN**  
**HOT DOGS = POP = CRISPS**

*The Carnival Committee would be extremely grateful for your support as a Community to  
make this 2018 Carnival a success*

# CARNIVAL

“UNLUCKY FOR SOME...”

“LEGS ELEVEN...”

“TWO LITTLE DUCKS...”

**LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE**

*invite the Community to their*

## PRIZE

# BINGO

*to be held at*

**LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018**

**Doors open 7pm/Eyes down for prizes 7.30pm**

**Raffle Prizes also available**

*“PUT DOWN YOUR REMOTES AND DON YOUR COATS,  
EMMERDALE CAN WAIT AND SO CAN CORRIE,  
WE PROMISE YOU FAITHFULLY YOU WON'T BE SORRY!”*

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



# Leeswood & District News

## The Methodist Church

### Wesley Church, Leeswood

- 4<sup>th</sup> March** Morning Worship **10.45 am**  
Led by Mr M. Thorne
- 11<sup>th</sup> March** Lord's Supper **10.45 am**  
Led by Rev Pat Christopher
- 18<sup>th</sup> March** Morning Worship **10.45 am**  
Led by Mr D. Scanlon
- 25<sup>th</sup> March** Morning Worship **10.45 am**  
Led by Rev Rosemarie Clarke



You are invited to join Revd Pat to walk the Stations of the Cross at Pant Asaph Monastery, near Holywell. Traditionally there are 14 stages or stations each with an image of Jesus depicting an event that took place on the day of his crucifixion. At each stage we will pause for short reading, meditation and prayer. The walk which begins at 5 pm is along a sloping, wooded path so; strong shoes and warm clothes are advised.

After the walk we will gather for a meal at the Stamford Gate Hotel. For more menu and more information please contact Revd Pat.



**Palm Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March**  
Morning Worship at **10.45 am**  
with Palm Crosses  
Led by Rev Rosemarie Clarke

**Maundy Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March**  
Service at Bryn Methodist Church 7 pm  
Led by Rev Pat Christopher  
all are welcome to attend

**Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March**  
Service at **10.45 am**  
Led by Rev Pat Christopher  
this is a Churches Together Service

**Easter Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April**  
Celebration of Lord's Supper **9.30 am**  
Led by Rev Pat Christopher



# Leeswood & District News

## Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

Sometimes we have to make a good study of what has been done over the years, what has been successfully achieved, and all the things that did not go according to plan, or did not achieve the desired effect.

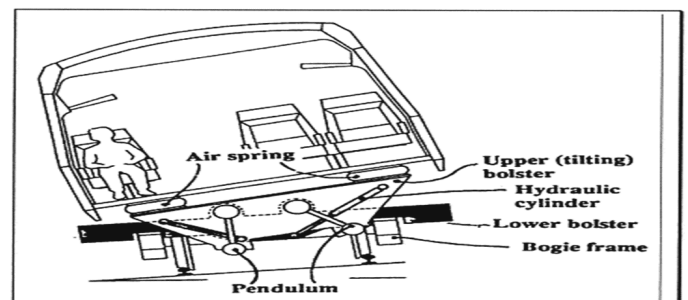
When industry tries something new, the novelty creates positive feelings, and everybody wants to be part of the action, due to the hype created by the initial excitement some things might be overlooked. Overlooking part of a manufacturing process can prove very expensive, and corrective action can exert huge strain on the financial resources available to sustain a development project. In my time in Industry, I have witnessed many occasions where things have been overlooked, or corners were cut to achieve a quick fix. We need to differentiate between accidentally overlooking part of a project and cutting corners. Overlooking a section of a development project of a development project could be put down to an innocent error, and not as deliberate action. However, cutting corners is an action in which the executer deliberately deviated from the normal from the normal or proper process in order to save time or money. From my experience, when I observed occasions where corners were cut, the result was a weak final product. A weak final product can have a negative effect on the reputation of an organisation. Damaged reputations can take a long time to put right, and can also affect sales which will cause a ripple effect on the financial wellbeing of the whole organisation.

If we look at the history of the car industry and analyse how it went on over the years, we might come across several intervals where corners might have been cut or where quality might have suffered due to certain cutbacks. Cutting back on the substance of a product might create a weakness on the overall wellbeing of a final product, and although it might be initially attractive on the market due to a cheap price, there might be comebacks which could be costly to rectify. It is therefore imperative to draw an overall picture of all the aspects of the project in hand, look at it from all angles, do some lateral thinking to produce a comprehensive vision of how the end product needs to be to combat the elements on the market.

Engineers and Scientists are always coming up with new ideas, however, for some reason or another, these ideas are sometimes lost along the way. Whether they have been lost during their conceptual stage, their development period, or final production, is an issue open for debate. When Britain produced cars for all classes of society, everybody from all walks of life was seen proudly driving to work in a British car, me included.

This country has pioneered several innovative ideas, some of which have successfully reached the market place to create wealth, prosperity, and jobs. Other ideas were not followed through or were picked up again at a later stage.

The tilting train was pioneered in this country, and a lot of money was poured into the project. It was an exciting project, it was futuristic, and placed us one or two steps ahead of international competition. This was a project that initially started very well, and a lot of research and development was carried out. Several prototypes were developed and tested, then all of a sudden the work stopped. The reason why the work topped is not a clear cut issue, and several people have their personal opinion as to why this has happened. The project was restarted years later, but a lot of time was lost, and others were catching up. Again, here we have an issue which we can analyse and from which we can learn. These issues must be studied carefully by the younger generation to create a solid manufacturing base that can deliver the goods that the market wants.



Over the years, we have started several industrial projects, but whether we have followed all of them to a profitable end is another matter. Nevertheless, we have proved time and time again that we have the capabilities to manufacture world class goods, affordable goods, and goods that we can all be proud of.

Manufacturing is an ongoing process which survives on continuous and incremental investment, engineering expertise, and marketing strength. We need to create a harmonious atmosphere where the financial sector and the industrial sectors work together, for the greater good of further industrial growth.

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## Memories of an oilfield man

### Moving to Cyprus

Tom Nicholson

Cyprus seemed an excellent choice as it had been under British administration since around 1914, and it was only an hour flight from Cyprus to Egypt, but there was only one snag, would the company allow me to commute as we were supposed to live in the division of Cairo. As stated previously Carol and a friend Margaret had travelled to Cyprus to check out schools etc, and they both came back totally in love with the place.

This was in 1976 and Turkey had successfully invaded Northern Cyprus with 5,000 casualties on both sides, if any person is interested in the invasion I highly recommend reading "The Cyprus Conspiracy" by Brendon O'Malley & Ian Craig, 2001, if this is still in print The American CIA have a lot to answer for it certainly opened my eyes: - anyway that is beside the point.

How could we get permission to transfer to Cyprus? We knew that Gordon and his family wanted to move there but we knew the company would not allow just the two of us to go, so there was only one thing to do. Let our wives sell the idea to the rest of the expat wives and let them convince their menfolk that the schooling and a quality way of life would be better for everyone. I must say they did not require much persuasion, so it was decided that we would arrange a meeting with the divisional manager Gus Henderson. I must say that Gus and I had a great relationship for some reason, possibly because I never sucked up to him like all the other guy's. Maybe the other reason was that I had arranged for Mohamed, my main man Friday, from the rig to come into Cairo with our crew of roustabouts during their field break and dig out a swimming pool for Gus and family, and anyone who wanted to pop in for a beer or two. There was another incident involving that pool/ Gus and myself, if I remember, I will put in another issue. The pool took many months of hard digging with Picks and shovels, but the crew were more than happy with the project and they were well paid (via the company even if they didn't know it),

Anyway, back to our own conspiracy; over a drink or two, we had decided for all the expats to approach the Boss with an ultimatum either we would be allowed to move across to Cyprus or we would all resign. At that time there were plenty of jobs in the oil industry for experienced personal, the strange thing was not one of our American co-workers wanted anything to do with it they were too used to saying yes sir no sir. There were about four of us in the office and I was elected spokesman, I explained to him that the families were not happy living in the division and wanted to move to Cyprus for a better Quality of life for all, and that it was only an hour's flight from Cairo to Cyprus. Then went on to explain that there were Brits who commuted to the UK who did not live in the division, "How come none of my fellow Americans are here with you" he asked, "I don't know

Gus perhaps they and their families are happy living here". After a couple of beers and a little bit deep thinking he said "Tell you what we can do, I can see the problem, if the wives are unhappy that makes unhappy workers so I can see no problem with you guys moving over there but if any one of you miss a crew change flight you will all move back or find another job, ok?". Once out of the office we decided to have a few more beers to celebrate this included our American mates who all had sour faces, "you should have come in with us" I said to Jimmy King, "Didn't want to risk our jobs" was the reply, "Not to worry Jim, once we are settled there you and Pat can come and stay with us for a break".

What was the next step? Look for a place to live and arrange schooling for the boy's I suppose this would mean another trip to Cyprus for Carol while I was working on the rig, Carol and Margaret decided to go the following month.

This is Carols story:

(she is sitting here while I pick her brains) "We arrived in Larnica Airport with only hand luggage, in the 70s the airport consisted of a corrugated building not much bigger than a tin shed but security was very tight due to the Turkish invasion, and Nicosia was under Turkish control with united Nations armed forces on the border. We took a taxi into Limassol and checked into a hotel, and Margret proved to be a pain in the backside she was totally incapable of doing anything for herself and expected me to run around after her day and night. She clung to me like glue, but Gordon had helped us so much when we first arrived in Egypt I felt indebted to help her. After a month or two living near her, it drove me nuts, more about that later. So, the following day was spent looking for some where to live, I had heard of two apartments available one above the other as I was the spokesperson the landlord showed me around the top apartment first and it was just what we needed until a house could be found, I shook his hand paid the deposit and agreed to the terms. It was time to show the other apartment to Margaret while I had another look around, the next thing was that the landlord came back up the stairway and told me that my friend was crying, "what is wrong with you" I asked her, "you have the better flat and I wanted that one" she replied in between sobs, I could not believe it so I ended up letting her have the top one to keep the piece, and that was only one incident of many.

The next day was spent making enquiries about the school situation, with her holding onto my skirt, we met an English-speaking lady Anne Constatiniedes, who was married to a Greek Cypriot business man, we became good friends and remain in contact today. She told me of a private English school that her children attended, and she recommended it highly, and as the company was footing the schooling costs I thought it would suit us, we planned to meet the owners of school, a Mr & Mrs Foley. They had to leave Nicosia because of the war where they had a huge catamaran (this was a twin hulled boat that they lived on) and taught English/French and art, but they had to flee with their children and what they could carry in their car, leaving their home and business behind.

(continued...)

# Leeswood & District News

## Memories of an oilfield man

### Moving to Cyprus (continued)

Tom Nicholson

They managed to rent a building and open another English school. Anyway, to cut a long story short our children were enrolled,

So that was all done and dusted now we could relax a little and explore Limassol our new home town for a couple of years, all I had to do was return to Egypt and sort out what we needed to take with us. Cyprus: - this would be a lot different to Egypt and we could buy items that we needed, and it was not such a culture change, but I think Tom would prefer to stay in Egypt as had gone native, so to speak,

That was Carols little memory:- she had a lot more to contend with, leaving the UK on her own then having to move to Cyprus on her own, all I had to do was fly to Cyprus where Carol would be waiting at the airport to pick me up and take me to our new home that she had sorted out, I couldn't have managed without her.....

## Leeswood Allotments

On the 17th of February the Potato Fair was held at the Daniel Owen Centre in Mold. It is an annual event and is a great opportunity to look through the vast number of potato varieties available. The photo shows just a few of the ones to choose from. They also sell fruit bushes, fruit trees and vegetable seeds at very reasonable prices.

Seed potatoes are available as First Early, Second Early and Main Crop varieties, the difference being the time between planting and harvesting. First earlies mature quicker and are usually ready in around 10 weeks, second earlies in about 13 weeks and maincrop in about 20 weeks.



Also on sale at the potato fair were asparagus crowns. I had tried to grow asparagus on the allotment a few years ago. I prepared the bed and erected a low windbreak on two sides as I'd read that they needed a sheltered spot and our allotments are quite open to the elements. I planted the crowns but nothing grew. Following other attempts I decided that I wouldn't try to fight against nature and just stick with vegetables that were happy in Leeswood soil. However, seeing a box of asparagus crowns in the potato fair, I have decided to give this tasty vegetable another go. The crowns themselves don't look as though they have much life in them as you can see in the picture but I'm crossing my fingers that in two years time (I'm told that's how long it takes), I will have a decent crop of asparagus to bring home.

I'll finish with two weather sayings about this month..."  
"March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb" and  
"So many mists in March, so many frosts in May". We'll see if they are true for this year.

And finally, if you would like to take on a full or half allotment contact:

Joseph Caruana on 01352 770187

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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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