

# Leeswood & District News

April 2020

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

Issue 393



Pasg Hapus



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## VILLAGE NEWS - CORONA VIRUS

Co-operative shop opening hours - Now 8 am to 8pm (Monday to Sunday)

Libraries closed

All events Cancelled

No 27 Bus running every 2 hours

Brown Bin collections cancelled

All Church meetings cancelled

All Pubs, Restaurants, Cinemas, Gyms etc closed

**Do you have an idea for a great article?**

**Maybe you have a story to share?**

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

**Please send, or drop it in, to:**

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

**07738 876302**

**58junelincoln@gmail.com**

**DEADLINE FOR MAY 2020**

**EDITION – Saturday 18th April 2020**

## PONTYBODKYN LADIES GUILD

### LADIES GUILD

Our meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020 was opened by Vice President, Mrs Margaret Roberts, and as it was my turn to be host for the evening I read a poem by Helen Steiner Rice. Margaret then informed us that unfortunately due to various problems our speaker for the evening had to be cancelled. As there was quite a lot to discuss we proceeded with all the business. Refreshments were then served and the raffle, donated by Margaret, was drawn, Mrs Janet Burden was the winner. Margaret then closed the meeting.

*Gill Burton*

Poetry by Joseph Caruana

### The Sky at Night

Watching the stars at night  
One wonders what make them shine so  
bright  
They are all set in a certain formation  
Which in the past sailors used for naviga-  
tion

The odd streak of a shooting star  
Travelling across the universe high and far  
It is the tranquillity of the night  
Which makes it more of a wonderful sight

What a wonderful sight is the sky at night  
Against the contrast of a shining light  
When observing the sky at night  
It is definitely a magical sight



Dear Friends

Following Government advice, we have decided to close **Sunshine Café & the Lunch Club** for the forthcoming weeks. Although this decision has been tough to make, we believe it is the right thing to do for the physical wellbeing of all our volunteers, customers, and of course the school children and staff. We will keep you up to date, in the Leeswood News, Social Media and the Community Website.

We want to thank you for your friendship & continued support, and hope you will join us once we reopen. Wishing you all good health.

Many thanks, Leeswood & Pontblyddyn  
Age & Dementia Friendly Steering Group

In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact  
Shereen Devine 07469 851886

County Road, Leeswood, Flintshire CH7 4RF  
07955 847917

[www.bethanialeeswood.org](http://www.bethanialeeswood.org)

## What amazing love...!

I have always been fascinated as to why the Easter story attracts so much attention. What is it about this event of nearly 2000 years ago centred in the Middle East? Few other events have attracted such close international scrutiny and affected so many lives. I guess it's the claim that is made by Jesus. He told his followers that he was going to die and rise again on the third day. Even his inner circle of friends struggled to believe this. Thomas doubted, Peter denied he even knew Jesus, and most of Jesus' disciples scattered when he was nailed to the cross. I guess that is our fickle human nature - embracing such new and unthinkable ideas is usually way beyond our comfort zone! What thrills me is that Jesus persisted with his mission despite the dispersal of some of his closest friends at his time of greatest loneliness. But His mission was too important for him to be deterred by the rejection he faced.

For me the Apostle Paul's bold declaration sums up why Jesus persisted with his calling to atone for the sins of the world. Paul wrote *'If Christ has not been raised from the dead, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.'*

The stakes for mankind were very high and Jesus loved us all too much to abandon his mission to save us. Without His death and resurrection our faith would be of no value and we would have no escape from sin's fatal grip on us.

There was one thing that kept Jesus so focussed on his goal to become the *'atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world'* and that was *'the joy that was set before him'*.

What does this mean? How was Jesus looking forward to joy?

He saw joy because He saw beyond the cross, knowing exactly what he would achieve. It was seeing beyond the suffering that gave Jesus the strength to *'bear our sins in his body on the cross'*. This was no easy task, as Sidney Carter writes in his poem Lord of the Dance *'it's hard to dance with the devil on your back'*.

This is why I together with millions of other Christ followers across the world this Easter will be singing the words penned by Charles Wesley: *'Amazing love how can it be that thou my God should die for me'*. What amazing love!

Elfed Godding

**Coronavirus update**  
**In line with Government**  
**guidelines on public gatherings,**  
**all meetings listed below have been**  
**suspended until further notice.**

### 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 modern Christian songs and some classic hymns too. We have Bible teaching that is 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.

### Sunday Evenings

On alternate Sunday evenings we meet at 6:00pm for prayer.

### Children and Youth

Bright Sparks under 4s – Fri. 9:30am to 11:00am

High Fives - Reception to Year 6 – Weds. 5:45pm to 6:45pm

Lasers – Year 6 and over – Weds. 7:15pm to 9:00pm

### Croeso

Er mai Saesneg ydi prif iaith ein cyfarfodydd, mae sawl un ohonom ni'n siarad Cymraeg ac yn falch iawn o gael byw yng Nghoedllai a'r cyffiniau ac o gael gwasanaethu ein cymuned drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Mae croeso mawr iawn i chi ymuno â ni ar y Sul.



Lighting a flame. Mrs Gill Burton, Mr & Mrs Barry Richards.....with Cllr. Carolyn Thomas and Christopher Enston



Enjoying the renovated kitchen



Members of Cedron Congregational Church with new minister Mr Clive Davies



## Cedron Congregational Church

Cedron is located at the bottom of the Pontybodkin Hill, Leeswood and is nestled near the junction with the Corwen Road by the bridge. No doubt you have driven past it many times on your way to Mold, Wrexham or Chester.

We are a small, friendly, welcoming group of Christians who meet **every Sunday morning at 10:30am**. Our meeting normally lasts an hour. So, instead of driving past we would love to see you and welcome you as we meet to worship God, sing, pray, talk, share and read and study the Bible together in a friendly and informal atmosphere

### **SPEAKERS for March/April 2020**

March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mr Clive Davies
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	TBA
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Clive Davies
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Chris Cole

**Coronavirus update**  
**In line with Government**  
**guidelines on public gatherings,**  
**all meetings listed have been**  
**suspended until further notice.**

### **A New Fire in the Hearth.**

In the 150<sup>th</sup> year since Cedron's foundation, our church is enjoying something of a revival. It is a pleasure to welcome Mr Clive Davies as our new resident minister (See his message below). Clive has been speaking at Cedron for more than 8 years now and will be speaking at least twice per month. This means there will also be visiting speakers roughly every other Sunday as well as occasional family services.

In addition, the facilities at Cedron have received a facelift, with a renovated kitchen and disabled toilet to enable greater usage of the building.

In addition, the lighting of a newly installed solid fuel stove was celebrated on the afternoon of Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. In attendance to set 'a new fire in the hearth' where Mrs Gill Burton, Mr Barry Davies, Mrs Margaret Davies, Councillor Carolyn Thomas, local musicians Mr Christopher Enston & Meriel Enston. Mr Prayers were led by Mr Clive Davies. Also taking part where Church members Mrs Julie Davies, Mr Marc Davies, Mr Ian Gent, Mrs Carole Gent, Miss Zena Jones, Mrs Dorothy Gent & Mr Brian Gent.

As far as local memory can recall, this was the first time in over 75 years that smoke has risen through the Chimney. God willing it will still be doing so in another 75 years!

### **Message from the new minister Clive Davies:**

I enjoyed a wonderful welcome from all at Cedron Chapel, as I was made a member and inducted as our new minister. I was also pleased for my wife Julie and son Marc as they were also welcomed as members. We will also be joined by our son Craig daughter Ami, daughter in law Erika and grandson Craig as members in the coming weeks. We live in Hawarden and have done so for 40 years, so we know the area well. We run our own business in property maintenance and have done so for over 30 years! Perhaps we can make good use of this at Cedron! To be part of the 150yrs anniversary of the Chapel is particularly special, and we can look forward to many more years together, building a new relationship, a new friendship with everyone, and this is something I am excited about. Loving God, and His Son Jesus, is the most wonderful, beautiful, rewarding gift, and it is a Treasure to behold! So, we can really look forward to reaching out to the community, and sharing life's experiences, and God's Word to deal with them!

For anyone wishing to speak with Clive, he can be contacted at: 01244536988(fixed), 07811807446(mob).

[Cedron.congregational@gmail.com](mailto:Cedron.congregational@gmail.com)  
[www.cedrononline.com](http://www.cedrononline.com)

## CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

### CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN SERVICES IN APRIL – MAY 2020

**Coronavirus update**  
In line with Government  
guidelines on public gatherings,  
all meetings listed have been  
suspended until further notice.

#### **SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL: PALM SUNDAY**

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

#### **SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL: EASTER DAY**

10.30 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
FOR ALL 3 CONGREGATIONS  
CELEBRANT: REV'D CAROLE POOLMAN

#### **SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL: EASTER 2**

11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: T.B.A.

#### **SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL: EASTER 3**

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

#### **SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY: EASTER 4**

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

#### **SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY: EASTER 5**

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

#### **SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY: EASTER 6**

11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: T.B.A.

#### **SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY: EASTER 37**

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: T. B. A.

### **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

*During a clergy vacancy in Northop other members of the clergy team will stand in for Carole when she needs to be in Northop Church.*

If you would like to spend time in church, to light a candle or simply sit quietly with God

**CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN**  
is open every day between  
the hours of 10.30 a.m. & 3.30 p.m.

### **IN CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN.**

#### **“COME 4 COFFEE”**

*is, unfortunately, cancelled until further notice. However, if you wish to speak to the Vicar for any reason, please contact her on 01978 762304 or [cc.sm@btinternet.com](mailto:cc.sm@btinternet.com)*

### **Lent Services and Meetings**

#### **In Mold Mission Area**

**Lent Groups** to take place each week:

In Gwernaffield Church at 10.30 a.m. on  
Tuesday mornings led by Mr John Foxlee

In New Brighton Church at 7.30p.m. on Wednes-  
day evenings led by Revd Kevin Horswell

### **Holy Week 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> April**

#### **Holy Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

7.00 p.m. Evening Prayer in Nercwys

#### **Holy Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

7.00p.m. Communion in Treuddyn

#### **Holy Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

7.00 p.m. Communion in Pontblyddyn

#### **Maundy Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Chrism Mass 11 a.m. at the Cathedral

#### **Good Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

11.00 a.m. Meditation Service in Treuddyn

#### **Holy Saturday**

7.30 Vigil & Communion at Llanferres  
Church

#### **Easter Day**

10.30 a.m. Holy Communion in Pontblyddyn

### **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)



# The Methodist Church

## Wesley Church, Leeswood

April 2020

**Sunday Worship in this building is suspended until further notice.**

### A Devotion for Easter Day

#### **Prayer of Approach**

We come in awe and amazement, loving God. We look at an empty cross, at hammer and nails, signs of crucifixion, at bowl and towel, signs of love and care, at bread and wine, signs of Good Friday.

Jesus, who was dead, is alive. God's Son, who was dead, is risen. Christ, who said he would rise, has kept his promise. He is alive and lives forever more.

This is your day, eternal Lord: yours by right of death and resurrection, yours by victory over cross and grave, yours by the triumph of unbounded love.

Yours and ours; Easter Day. You are our Lord; we are your people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Reading:** John 20: 1-18

#### **Meditation:**

*And then it happened. Jesus called me by name. "Mary!" I didn't see Jesus come forth from the tomb. I heard my name and then — I came forth from my tomb. "Rabbouni!" Divinely wise teacher! The intimate and the cosmic mingled in my ears as I heard my name from the other side of death. Jesus was alive again and so was I! I was speechless. Eventually, he spoke again, "Do not hold on to me." I think I know what he meant, that none of us could hold him now, or control him—that he could not be contained. That's when I really started to understand the good news of the resurrection. He was saying, "Let me be free so I can ascend and finish what the incarnation began. Let me be free so I can give you the fullness of what I have to offer." This way resurrection could get loose and spread out throughout all creation. Jesus is raised and forever after the Body of Christ is being raised. And I am part of that body! And so are you! And so are Christians around the world, from the Sudan to Yugoslavia, from Ireland to Honduras to Thailand, from Australia to California. We are all part of the Body of Christ,*

*and we are being raised to new life, each and every day! Then Jesus sent me home to break the silence about what God has done. I was the first one to tell the story of resurrection! I said, "I have seen the Lord!" and I told the others the truth about what had happened to me. May God help all of us to proclaim the truth of our experience of our Risen Lord, now and forever. Amen.*

#### **Prayer of Dedication:**

Our God for when politics means people lead us into new life itself. Our God who loves through death and beyond join us to each other.

Our God who nails our mistrust and hatred to the cross call us to celebrate together.

Accept our grateful thanks. God guide us.

Christ bind us. Spirit draw us. **Amen.**

#### **Hymn:** I Know That My Redeemer Lives

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What joy the blest assurance gives,  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my everlasting Head.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave,  
He lives eternally to save,  
He lives all-glorious in the sky,  
He lives exalted there on high.

3 He lives to bless me with His love,  
He lives to plead for me above,  
He lives my hungry soul to feed,  
He lives to help in time of need.

4 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives and I shall conquer death;  
He lives my mansion to prepare;  
He lives to lead me safely there.

5 He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Saviour, still the same.  
What joy the blest assurance gives,  
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"

#### **Blessing:**

How blessed is this day, when earth and heaven are joined and humankind is reconciled to God! May the light of Jesus shine continually to drive away all darkness.

May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting,

find his light ever burning in my heart

he who gives his light to all creation,

and who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**



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## Sponsor

**STANDING FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT SHAPED ME**  
**Yn sefyll dros y gymuned a'm ffurfiodd**

# Hannah Blythyn AM/AC

## Assembly Member for Delyn Aelod Cynulliad dros Delyn

It is a privilege to serve the community that shaped me. I care passionately about the people, communities and workplaces in Delyn and I will always be a strong and effective voice for you in the Assembly.

Mae'n ffrind gennyf wasanaethu'r gymuned sydd wedi llunio pwy ydw i.

Mae gennyf lawer o feddwl o'r bobl, y cymunedau a'r mannau gwaith yn Delyn, a byddaf bob amser yn lais cryf ac effeithiol i chi yn y Cynulliad.



**Welsh Labour**  **Llafur Cymru**

 [Hannah4Delyn](#)  [@HannahBlythyn](#)  [hannah.blythyn@assembly.wales](mailto:hannah.blythyn@assembly.wales)

 01352 762102  [hannahblythyn.wales](http://hannahblythyn.wales)  38 Church Street, Flint, CH6 5AE

### **LEESWOOD and PONTBLYDDYN NIGHTINGALE HOUSE HOSPICE FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

Thank you all for kindly supporting our Valentines Bingo on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at which £333 was raised for the Hospice. We again experimented with having the Leeswood Community Centre Bar open. We thank Adam the Barman very much for doing this for us free of charge in January & February. We also thank Ray Hughes very much for calling the Bingo for us.

Thanks are due to Boots the Chemist in Mold who donated Prizes. Thank you also to everyone in the local Communities who generously donated Prizes for the Bingo, Raffles, Tombola and "Trash or Treasure". We appreciate your Support and Donations very much indeed.

Thank you also to those who supported the St. Davids Day Coffee Morning held in the Community Centre on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020. £315 was raised for Nightingale House. We were pleased to have Sue, one of the Hospice Fundraisers assisting us.

Thank you also to the Head Master Andrew Jones and Mrs Linda Dilkes for kindly bringing the School Choir from Ysgol Derwenfa, to sing to us beautifully in Welsh and English and to the children who recited to us in their second language of Welsh with great passion. Everyone enjoys the school's regular and valued contribution to our Fundraising very much indeed.

Thank you very much to the wonderful staff of the Spar Shop in Caergwrlle for again sponsoring the St. David's Day Coffee Morning by donating milk, tea, coffee, welsh cakes, bara brith, cakes and two bottles of wine as Prizes.

We are very proud that our Secretary Mrs Jane Lucy [daughter of the late Mildred and Don Heyward] is to travel to Peru to walk the Macchu Pichu Trail with a Team from Nightingale House Hospice. Jane has paid her own fare and is also doing extra fundraising for the Hospice. Coronavirus permitting Jane is to hold a Bingo in the Leeswood Community Centre on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020, 7pm. For Eyes Down at 7.30pm.

We also hope, coronavirus permitting, you will support our Strawberry Tea from 2pm. To 4pm. on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>. June 2020 in the Leeswood Community Centre. Entry £5 Adults, £3 Children. There will be the usual delicious tea plus strawberries & cream, tombola, cake stall, "trash or treasure", greetings card sales, etc. Hartsheath will be having their Strawberry Tea in aid of Pontblyddyn Church in July this year.

We are still hoping more people will join our Group.

The Nightingale House Hospice in Wrexham very much appreciate the sterling regular support of this small community and send their grateful thanks.

Very best wishes, Lucille, Flora, Anne, Bryn, Bryan, Jane, John and Jennie



ebost/email posttellig@hwbcymru.net rhif ffôn/telephone 01352 770235

## GOFAL DYDD / DAY CARE £32

Mae CYICH Gofal Dydd yn agored o 7.45-5.45  
Dydd Llun i Dydd Gwener drwy'r flwyddyn  
Derbynir plant 2 oed hyd at 5 oed

Day Care open from 7.45 until 5.45 Monday to Friday All year  
Children are accepted from 2 years up to 5

### Rhestr Prisiau / Price List

Clwb brechwast/Breakfast Club 7.45 – 9 = £4  
Bore / Morning session 7.45 -11.30 = £11  
Bore estynedig/Extended Morning 7.45 - 1 = £16  
Bore / Morning 9 – 11.30 = £7 **SÊL Ionawr £5 I blant newydd/January Sale £5 for new starters**  
Bore estynedig / Extended Morning 9 - 1 = £12  
Diwrnod ysgol/School Day 9 – 3 = £17  
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rowlands.roofing@gmail.com

# Leeswood Allotments

It is well documented and widely accepted that gardening is good for one's physical health. There are times, however when I may doubt these findings. For example the day after digging a large section of the allotment in preparation for planting or, when, in the middle of a job there's a sudden downpour and I don't have a waterproof coat to hand. However, in general the benefits far outweigh the disadvantages.

There is also evidence that gardening is good for mental health. I can wholeheartedly agree with this. If you happen to visit the allotments unannounced, you may well find me busy but at the same time talking to myself!

Maybe not the best sign that someone is in good mental health but I find that while engaged in some of the more mundane jobs on the allotment such as weeding and watering, my mind will wander and I have the time to mull over events, problems and other subjects in my daily life. Being out in the fresh air and in pleasant surroundings often gives me a different perspective on things.

Conversely, some of the tasks on the allotment require total concentration and often this in itself is a useful and therapeutic distraction from the worries and stresses of everyday life. Added to this, just being outside in the fresh air and in lovely surroundings is a pleasant way to relax.

If you feel you would like to take advantage of the benefits of working an allotment get in touch with Joseph Caruana on 01352 770187...there may be a plot available.

**Unfortunately the March meeting of Leeswood Allotment Association which was due to be held on 23rd was cancelled. It is still hoped that Leeswood Allotments will be able to mark the 10th year of their inception in some way later in the year.**



# WE NEED TREES

## Why?

- Trees provide oxygen, our life's breath
- Trees conserve water and help reduce flooding
- Trees absorb carbon dioxide and help reduce global warming
- Trees provide habitats for wildlife
- Trees provide spaces for walking and recreation.

There are now plans afoot for a national forest for Wales, stretching the whole length of the country, with a North Wales spur from Snowdonia to Wrexham.

The Welsh Government is putting £5m into a national forest scheme which will link existing woodland with new forests, parkland and hedges, creating green corridors for flora and fauna, with public access.

Suitcase Theatre's December 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 event at THEATR CLWYD, entitled **THE HOLLY AND THE IVY**,

will feature seasonal words and music with the emphasis on TREES,

Come along and support the planting of 20 more trees.

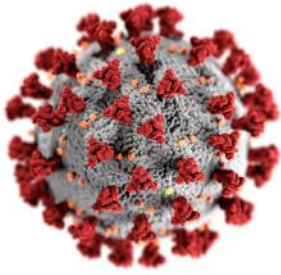
Not surprising that the drama chosen that night will feature scenes from

UNDER MILK WOOD by Dylan Thomas.

If you want to get involved as performers or members of the audience, contact Mike on [mike38stevens@gmail.com](mailto:mike38stevens@gmail.com)

Mike Stevens





## THE LDN BIBLE BLOG : APRIL 2020

### Corona! In the 60's and 70's It Used To Be A Fizzy Drink!

Jesus said **"Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."** John 16:33 (NT) (NLT)

**"God is our place of safety. He gives us strength. He is always there to help us in times of trouble... But we will not be afraid."** Psalms 46:1-2 (OT) (NIRV)

Recently the news has been dominated by one thing: the rise and spread of a coronavirus called COVID-19 (see picture above left). So for this month I am abandoning the series started last month to look at this issue. The virus was first reported in Wuhan, China on 31st December 2019 and has made an impact from daily travel to the corner shop to the global financial markets. Yet coronaviruses in general are actually common throughout the world and usually "cause mild illness like the common cold." However, this new strain has proven to be very contagious but also virulent especially in the vulnerable.

Psalm 20:7 reminds us: "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God", or these days we might read it as, "Some trust in their savings account and some in their fitness regime, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God." Neither money nor fitness will protect us from catching COVID-19. This is important to remember when fear threatens to take hold of our hearts, because where there is less faith (and I don't just mean Christian faith), fear exists in greater measure! God is not disinterested in our fears. He is our rock, our light, and our salvation (Ps. 27:1) so the spread of this virus might be a good time for us to look toward our Bible and God, as well as Radio 4, the six/ten o'clock news and internet scams etc. for support.

The history of the Christian Church has many examples of ordinary people stepping into the darkness of suffering to shine as lights. Maybe that is what we are about to face, and at the time off writing this seems likely.

In 251AD a plague swept through the Roman Empire decimating its population. In a letter written around 260AD, Dionysius (of Halicarnassus) paid tribute to the Christians whose heroic efforts cost many of them their lives during that plague. Pagans tended to move out of the cities during plagues, but Christians were more likely to stay and minister to the suffering. According to Dionysius: "Most of our brother Christians showed unbonded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Needless of danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy...The best of our brothers lost their lives in this manner, a number of presbyters, deacons, and laymen winning high commendation so that death in this form, the result of great piety and strong faith, seems in every way the equal of martyrdom."<sup>1</sup>

In this example, we are reminded that the gospel message and the life it calls Christians to live, means that we are to live sacrificially, especially in the face of crisis. Jesus did exactly this to solve the crisis of sin separating every human from God. Even though fear can threaten to fill our hearts and tempt us to isolate ourselves and hoard, the Bible anchors our hope in God who is greater than the pain, anxiety and fear we endure in this life. History shows that there are windows of opportunity to minister to our 'neighbours', especially in times of national crisis. In doing so, Christians are living witnesses to the truth that this world is not our permanent home, we are citizens of another world – the Kingdom of God.

For now though, let's rest in the truths of the Bible and pray that we may be ready if 'a plague' that struck during Dionysius' time repeats itself today, now, here in the UK.

Simon  
TheLDNBibleBlog@gmail.com

1. Quoted in Rodney Stark, **The Rise of Christianity: How the Obscure, Marginal Jesus Movement Became a Religious Force in the Western World in a Few Centuries** (San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1997), page 82.

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## Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

Industry is the product of great thinkers who can translate their ideas into wealth creating, progressive, and market orientated products. Industry serves the need of market forces, which are themselves dictated by the public in general. Obviously, an idea needs to be realistic and can be produced economically within a programme where it generates a substantial profit. Profit is always directly proportional to the efficiency of the way a product is produced, and indirectly proportional to the losses, or misuse of the time it takes to finish a product. It is therefore most important that production time is utilised in the most effective way possible. Having said that, we need to strike a balance between the way a product is produced, and the effect it has on the operators conducting the production process. It is good to have operators who are happy with the way things are done, and feel relaxed within their work environment.

In manufacturing, everything from start to finish creates the fabric of the industrial process. This so called process transforms raw material into a useful product. The process is as important as the final product itself, and in some cases it might involve some form of lateral thinking. Lateral thinking can improve a lot of things along the course of the process, and coupled with a good measure of fertile imagination, it could produce a product which will possess a competitive edge in the market place. It is therefore clear that an industrial manufacturing process follow a product from its conceptual moment, right through its development stages including testing, manufacturing and marketing.

The marketing department is sometimes tasked with educating end users on how to responsibly dispose of a product at the end of its life. Disposing of a product could come in several ways, and with this in mind, although a product might no longer fit within the order of the day, it might be transformed to serve an alternative purpose.

Most industrial processes produce what is known as by-products. These so called by products can either be discarded and dumped as rubbish, or be put to an alternative use. If they are dumped as rubbish, they most certainly cause a strain on the environment, and therefore such a disposal process must be eliminated if possible. By-products could be explained and compared to a process where a chemical process is filtering a liquid in order to take certain elements out of it, in order to transform the chemical composition of that liquid. It is important to mention that if we abuse the environment, nature will turn and bites us back, sometimes with devastating consequences.

Forward planning is of paramount importance, and it is imperative that all industrial activities should involve proactive thinking in order to control the impact by today's activities on tomorrow's environment. Proactive thinking is always a positive way to minimise the unnecessary fallout from an industrial process. From this one might conclude that an industrial process has a lot of side effects as it progresses along the way. These side effects have to be carefully balanced to create an outcome with a balanced and fare result. All manufacturing processes should be formulated to look after the workforce, the environment, and the well being of the organisation itself. These are the three sides of the triangle, which, if left unchecked and out of proportion, will destabilise the whole process. It is reasonable to say, that without a healthy workforce the whole organisation will find it difficult to compete on the open market. To have a healthy workforce, we must provide a healthy environment where everybody can enjoy and pass on to future generations. Nevertheless, in a market economy if an organisation does not create a profit, the whole organisation will collapse. It is therefore important that we consider all sides of the triangle are balanced, that everything is done in moderation, and that those involved must complement one another. It is only then that a production operation functions effectively, and beneficially to all those involved.

Tuesday 4th February 2020

**PRESENT**

Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman (in the Chair),  
Councillor D.K. Crowther, Vice-Chairman,  
Councillors J. Caruana, L.T. Coleman, D. Foster,  
Terry Hughes, L.C. Richardson, J.E. Saul and G.  
Sherwood.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to  
the Council.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received from Councillors J. Atkin-  
son, Timothy Hughes and D. Rule.

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS****CODE OF CONDUCT**

There were no declarations of interest.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 had been circulated  
to all members. It was proposed by Councillor  
J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor D.K.  
Crowther that these be accepted as a true  
record of proceedings. All Councillors in  
agreement.

The minutes of the Precept meeting held on  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 had been circulated  
to all members. It was proposed by Councillor  
R. Williams and seconded by Councillor G.  
Sherwood that these be accepted as a true  
record of proceedings. All Councillors in  
agreement.

**POLICE LIAISON**

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was unable to attend  
this evening. He had forwarded an e-mail to  
the Clerk.

**Incident update** - (from 31/12/2019 to  
02/02/2020)

**Crime Issues / Trends**

Bryn Clyd, Leeswood – theft of a motor vehicle  
– a vehicle has been taken via unknown means  
in the middle of the night. Vehicle was later  
located in the Wrexham area. Forensics experts  
have examined vehicle – awaiting results.

Birch Court, Leeswood – common assault –  
Person reported being assaulted by the neigh-  
bour. Enquiries are on-going.

Bryn Clyd, Leeswood – burglary – section of  
rear patio door has been smashed and the  
door has then been unlocked with the key that  
had been left in the door. Watch and  
collectable with 50p's stolen from within.  
Enquiries on-going.

**ASB Issues**

Heol-y-Goron, Leeswood - ASB – Motorbike  
riding around at the location one rider was not  
wearing a helmet. No registration number was  
provided. Upon officers attendance the vehicle  
had left the area.

Corwen Road, Pontblyddyn - ASB – number of  
youths have banged on a residents windows.  
The resident has approached the youths and  
they have eventually apologized.

The Clerk reported that PCSO Jones had  
advised that they are due to get a new  
Inspector in the next month or so, and that he  
will try and arrange a meeting with him when  
he arrives.

**CEMETERY**

Councillors noted that the Cemetery was  
looking very well. It was pointed out that Mr  
Aled Davies and his team were doing a very  
good job there. All Councillors were in  
agreement that they are very pleased with the  
Cemetery.

The Chairman, Councillor R. Hughes reported  
that Mr Aled Davies and his team would be  
starting work on the removal of the Church car  
park wall the following day. The Clerk advised  
that she had been in contact with Rev. Carole  
Poolman to inform her of this. Councillor R.  
Hughes, Chairman, was to contact Mrs M.  
Bartlett, Church Warden to Nercwys Church in  
order to discuss a convenient time for the  
stone to be delivered there.

**HANSON HEIDELBERG CEMENT**

Councillor J. Caruana reported that there had  
been no complaints between the Liaison  
Committee meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
2019 and 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020. This was  
confirmed by Natural Resources Wales. Since

the beginning of January 2020, the transportation of product between Padeswood and Avonmouth has been conducted by rail. Each trip by train carries 1,500 tonnes which is the equivalent of 60 lorry loads. There are three rail trips per week which is keeping 180 lorries off the road. Natural Resources Wales has confirmed that CCTV monitoring of the Padeswood site has improved. Councillor J. Caruana advised that Natural Resources Wales can have access to the CCTV footage if necessary.

### **VISIBILITY ISSUES JUNCTION OF CONSTITUTION HILL, LEESWOOD**

Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, informed that the monitoring of this area was ongoing. The issue of parking in the area of the Motorbike Café remains of great concern and whilst there had been no accident, there had been a couple of close shaves.

### **PONTBLYDDYN SIGN**

Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, advised that the sign had finally been erected on the Nant, Pontblyddyn. Councillors were pleased that this work had now been completed and all agreed that this item should now be removed from the Agenda.

### **BETSI CADWALADR STAKEHOLDER REFERENCE GROUP MEETING**

Members had been circulated with a copy of the latest report from Mike Parry, One Voice Wales representative on the Betsi Cadwaladr Stakeholder Reference Group. The last meeting had taken place on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

In his report Mr Parry advised that the Chair advised the meeting that following the absence of Local Authorities at the last meeting, he had then written to them to urge them to attend.

A presentation on Primary Care (General Practice) was given by Chris Stockport a GP who is the BCUHB Executive Director for Primary Care and Community Services.

Dr Stockport highlighted the problems and issues that Surgeries are facing with many facts and figures given. Amongst the interesting figures presented were that in North Wales, 14,000 GP consultations take place per working day – in 105 GP practices, 153 community pharmacies, 86 Dental practices and 78 Optometry facilities. Of these 14,000 consultations only 4% (approx. 500) lead onto forward referral of one kind or another and 1% (approx. 140) progress to become emergency admissions. In relation to GP recruitment, the model of care and working environment continues to be problematic in attracting GP's to General Practice – despite the Tony Blair initiative which introduced basically a 5 day a week and office hours working (as compared as to how the old GP practices operated). There has also been a shift in gender balance of the makeup of GP's - towards women, which by default means that family life is a serious consideration for potential female GP's when considering placements. The way forward being advocated is a model that embraces a centralised service that offers a one stop solution. A social model of care - this would entail housing, surgeries, services, including OT's, nurse practitioners, pharmacy, co-ordinators, advance nurse practitioners, GP's etc. - basically a centralised multidisciplinary team/workforce under one roof. Essential partners here would be housing associations and some of the solutions are presently being developed by working with Housing Associations/Local Authorities, the third sector etc.

A presentation was given relating to Orthopaedic treatment, with very some ambitious plans for upgrading and investment over the next ten years – which is not as yet funded. Orthopaedic and musculoskeletal services are predominantly for older people – which due to the ageing population, is increasing in demand. The focus of the programme is on prevention via a healthy lifestyle, earlier intervention and care

closer to home and in the longer term reduce waiting times and to produce sustainable services. There are significant challenges ahead as demonstrated by the fact that there are substantial delays and unacceptable waiting times, national targets are not being met and over £4.0 million being spent outside North Wales.

It is proposed to improve referral and assessment processes, increase the number of Consultants and support staff to promote new ways of working etc. – but in the longer term, dependant on potential access to Welsh Government funding.

The overall programme business plan is yet to be finalised - with a commitment to work and engage with key stakeholders to deliver the National Planned Care Programme (Orthopaedics).

A general overview was given by Mark Williamson Finance and Performance Director. The three year plan is yet to be secured and a financially balanced plan has yet to be achieved as an operating deficit still prevails. The Chair of the Board is committed to submitting the three year plan next year. It requires co-working and collaborating with organisations, agencies and partners on many fronts and clusters. From January to March 2020 it is proposed to have stakeholder meetings to build on year two and three of the three year plan.

An Update of the Well North Wales Programme was given by Mr Glynne Roberts who is the Programme Director. It is a framework for local communities and organisations to improve health and well-being and reduce inequalities as demonstrated by deprivation, homelessness, food poverty, housing etc. – with a great emphasis being given to the establishment of Health and Wellbeing Hubs. Along with other partners and Housing Associations etc., five of these are presently being developed in Shotton, Denbigh, Colwyn Bay Bangor and Penygroes.

There are other community based projects for regeneration and Homelessness etc. throughout North Wales. Initiatives are also in place to address food poverty and social prescribing. Councillors expressed their gratitude at this report, appreciating the updates in regard to the BCUHB and its' future plans.

### **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – 'MANAGING THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT'**

Members had been circulated with a copy of an e-mail from Ruth Cartwright, Regulatory Services Manager, Streetscene and Transportation, Flintshire County Council. In her e-mail, Ms Cartwright advised that in December 2013 Flintshire County Council's Cabinet Committee approved a single policy for all of its Environmental Enforcement activities. Entitled "Managing the Local Environment", the policy included an explanation of all the enforcement arrangements operated by the County Council, across all service areas and the powers under which the various enforcement activities are carried out. This policy has recently been reviewed to reflect the various changes, both to legislation and portfolio operating arrangements, in the period since 2013.

Members had been circulated with a copy of this updated version. Councillors accepted this.

### **COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) Road through Leeswood from the Doctor's Surgery to the Wylfa Farm – the re-surfacing has failed. This will be re-done by the contractor hired by Flintshire County Council for free in March 2020, weather permitting. Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman advised that the County Council will try to get the road re-surfaced from Bell's Corner to the Wylfa Farm without cost. The County Council road sweeper is attending the village regularly.

b) Chester Road, Pontblyddyn – Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, advised that the potholes on Chester Road, Pontblyddyn need repairing. It is believed that the cause of these potholes is water run off from nearby farm land.

# Tackling anti-social behaviour and increasing community pride

## What is anti-social behaviour?

There are many different forms of anti-social behaviour, some can make people feel threatened, some impact the environment and affect the quality of life of an individual or the wider community, some can have a criminal element including vandalism, drug dealing or underage drinking.

## Anti-social behaviour in Leeswood

Whilst no community is free from anti-social behaviour, in recent months there have been increasing concerns about the number of incidences in our community. This has included spoiling play areas with obscene graffiti, causing damage to community facilities including the bowling club, community centre, Christmas lights, spoiling children's activities though the mindless destruction of Halloween decorations, and many incidences of people feeling threatened by the anti-social behaviour of youths/young adults on the street at night.

We have some excellent facilities in our community that are available for us all to use, but if they are continually targeted by thoughtless individuals who have nothing better to do, funding to repair the damage will eventually run out and the volunteers who give up their time to look after them will eventually give up.

## What can you do?

Reporting anti-social behavior is vital. It enables all the evidence to be gathered so that appropriate agencies can be brought in to take action. You should report all incidences including:

- If you are feeling threatened or harassed
- If someone is creating a public nuisance
- If you see OR suspect someone is causing criminal damage



**Help us to protect our community and improve the safety of all our residents. Report all incidences by calling 101.**

**In an emergency (if someone's life or safety is threatened or a crime is in progress) call 999.**



## Earn Time Credits in your Community!

Can you spare 1 or 2 hours once a week or just once a month?

Join the Leeswood & Pontblydyn  
Age & Dementia Friendly Steering Group

### What is the Leeswood & Pontblydyn Age & Dementia Friendly Steering Group?

The Leeswood & Pontblyddyn Age-Friendly Community Group is a group of volunteers who are committed to making Leeswood & Pontblydyn an Age & Dementia Friendly Community.

### What has the Group achieved?

One of the Group's most significant achievements is Sunshine café, a weekly community café with a focus on reducing isolation & loneliness. Profits from the café used to support other events within the Community. The Steering group has funded or arranged many events and activities, including:

Tablet Courses  
Sunshine Café  
Book Group  
Lunch Club

Dementia Friend Sessions  
Carvery  
Afternoon Tea  
Dementia Performance

Pop up Cinema  
Litter Picks  
Pumpkin Soup  
Book Swap

We also are working with the Bowling Club to plan an intergenerational bowling event

### How can I get involved?

The Group welcomes new volunteers, either regularly or for one-off events. The steering group is registered for [Time Credits](#) you can earn 1 credit for every hour that you volunteer. Time credits it can be spent Nation Wide.

For more information, please contact Shereen Devine

[Shereen.devine@volunteeringmatters.org.uk](mailto:Shereen.devine@volunteeringmatters.org.uk)

07469 851886

# TIME CREDITS

## HOW THEY WORK

Time Credits are a community currency that you can earn by giving your time.



### 1 Give your time

Give your time by helping with all kinds of activities.

### 2 Earn Time Credits

When you give your time and help, you can earn Time Credits. It's a way of saying 'thank you'.

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"I feel proud of myself for volunteering. Time Credits help you to get out more and do things that I wouldn't do if I didn't have them."

To find out more about Time Credits in your area contact:

Email: [hello@wearetempo.org](mailto:hello@wearetempo.org)

Phone: 02920566132

To see where you can spend your Time Credits visit: [timecredits.com](http://timecredits.com)

Tempo

# CARNIVAL

Due to the Covid 19 Virus and daily changing government advice. We, Leeswood Carnival Committee have taken the decision to cancel this years Carnival.

Our heart is in our community, we have a duty of care and wont risk putting our people and community at more risk by letting it go ahead

All future fundraising events and Committee meetings will also be cancelled

For all that have booked a pitch and paid a deposit we will be in touch shortly to offer a refund or to carry over to rebook for next year

We WILL be back in 2021, thank you for your support.

Leeswood Carnival Committee