

Leeswood & District News

May 2020

www.leeswood-district.news

Issue 394



VE Day 75th Anniversary



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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

KEEP SAFE, KEEP ISOLATED, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

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 JUNE 2020

EDITION – Monday 18th May 2020

County Road, Leeswood, Flintshire CH7 4RF
07955 847917

www.bethanialeeswood.org

The God who makes all things new...

This May we commemorate 75 years since VE day in Europe. Many events that were planned will have been cancelled to accommodate social distancing brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Perhaps we will have time and space to reflect in our own way on what the days were like for Europeans coming out of the traumatic experience of World War 2.

In the UK the post war years were marked by economic instability and the newly elected Labour government implemented an austerity programme. Food, clothing and sources of energy were severely rationed and by 1947 some food rations were cut to well below wartime levels. Only when financial aid started funnelling in via the US Marshall Plan between 1948 and 1951 did Britain's economic situation start to improve.

Beyond Politics and economics, a more sinister spiritual force had started to take hold. The two world wars and revelations of the atrocities that so called civilised man was capable of, lead many to the conclusion that there was now no moral certainty and belief in a benevolent God was shaken in some. The new threat of nuclear war and the beginnings of the cold war further cast doubt on man's capacity for goodness and a cynicism and scepticism about 'religious' absolutes also crept in.

As far as church attendance went in the European nations affected by the Second World War, the idea that 'Faith in your own self' as the only option in a world now increasingly thought to be devoid of God, lead to a decline.

It was against this backdrop that Christian philosopher, C S Lewis wrote his children's book '*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*'. It's a story with a strong Christian theme to it. In it there is a good world, Narnia, that has been cursed and locked in 100 years of winter by the White Witch. In spite of this, within that broken world there still exists beauty, truth, joy and the working of a Saviour, Aslan the Lion, who by sacrificing his own life and rising from the dead breaks the curse over Narnia and its winter comes to an end.

Towards the end of the book of Revelation in the Bible, God gives this promise *And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."* And to make doubly sure we get it, He follows those words with... *"Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."*

Even the darkest days come to an end. Our part is to trust the Saviour to "make all things new".

John Mainwaring

Coronavirus update

In line with Government guidelines on public gatherings, all Bethania's public meetings (including 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. **Kidzone** is available for younger children. After the service we have tea and coffee, and sometimes a meal together as a church family.

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.



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 April/May 2020

April 19 th	No service
April 26 th	No service
May 3 rd	No service
May 10 th	No service
May 17 th	No service

Message from the new minister Clive Davies:

Greetings from Cedron Chapel! We may not be meeting at Church at this testing time but we are still doing Church! I have recorded three Easter messages, which will be accessible to you when our new website is up and running over the next couple of weeks.

It is my hope that we keep in touch with each other, in whichever way is best for you, and let us know that you are coping! In nature, this is a wonderful time of year, so please, if you are able, relax in your garden, go for a walk, enjoy the beauty God has given us! It is important to get away from the news sometimes! Make sure you exercise as often as is good for you. Keep your conversation uplifting! Our words have a great influence on how we feel! Above all, keep well, talk to friends and relatives, even if you can't get to see them! Remember, we can always trust in the Great Creator, believe in Him, speak with Him, and watch what He does!

We pray for health and wellness for all, and we ask that our Lord's healing hand can be upon all those suffering at this time. May the doctors, nurses, shop workers, delivery drivers and all those key workers be protected at all times. We are so grateful for them. God bless always. Clive
For anyone wishing to speak with Clive, he can be contacted at: 01244536988(fixed), 07811807446(mob).

Living under Coronavirus

In response to those concerned with the advent of the atomic bomb, the great Christian apologist C.S. Lewis wrote a short essay in 1948 entitled "On Living in an ATOMIC Age". Substituting "corona virus" for "atomic", although written a lifetime ago, his words of encouragement are in many ways still relevant today.

...“How are we to live in an atomic age?” I am tempted to reply: “Why, as you would have lived in the sixteenth century when the plague visited London almost every year, or as you would have lived in a Viking age when raiders from Scandinavia might land and cut your throat any night; or indeed, as you are already living in an age of cancer, an age of syphilis, an age of paralysis, an age of air raids, an age of railway accidents, an age of motor accidents.”

In other words, do not let us begin by exaggerating the novelty of our situation. Believe me, dear sir or madam, you and all whom you love were already sentenced to death before the atomic bomb was invented: and quite a high percentage of us were going to die in unpleasant ways. We had, indeed, one very great advantage over our ancestors—anaesthetics; but we have that still.

It is perfectly ridiculous to go about whimpering and drawing long faces because the scientists have added one more chance of painful and premature death to a world which already bristled with such chances and in which death itself was not a chance at all, but a certainty. This is the first point to be made: and the first action to be taken is to pull ourselves together. If we are all going to be destroyed by an atomic bomb, let that bomb when it comes find us doing sensible and human things—praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, chatting to our friends over a pint and a game of darts—not huddled together like frightened sheep and thinking about bombs. They may break our bodies (a microbe can do that) but they need not dominate our minds. C.S.Lewis (1948)

³Trust in the Lord and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper.

⁴Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. **Psalms 37 v.3-4**

Local community garden initiative.

In these straitened times, remaining hopeful for the future can be tough. It is sometimes said that to plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

Cedron Congregational church would like to offer the side garden for use as a local community garden. There is scope for a few of vegetable patches and to the rear of the church there are suitable areas for bird boxes and bird tables. This year has been difficult however we do have vegetable seedlings ready for planting out from early May

We propose to form a Facebook Garden group for the benefit of everyone in the local community.

Anyone will be entitled to join the group and does not have to be a member or attend the church. Group members will be able to help in one way or another updating the Facebook page, organising work, starting small boxes of seeds in window ledges and helping with the planting. To save effort we plan to employ no-dig techniques whenever we can.

If anyone in the local community would be interested in helping in any way including administering the work, please get in touch on Cedron.congregational@gmail.com.

The potential scope includes:

General vegetable plots, Small fruit trees, strawberries and berries, Bird boxes, bird tables and food hangers, sitting area, Collecting for compost and Competitions

Experienced gardeners and absolute beginners are all welcome. We hope the more experienced gardeners can share the wisdom of their years and bring encouragement to all.

Details of the Facebook connection will be passed on to anyone who requests it.

Springtime reminds me of the popular children's hymn:

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

*Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.*

Cedron.congregational@gmail.com
www.cedrononline.com



It is Easter time, a time when we remember all the stories of Jesus resurrection. One of my favourites is the one where the Risen Jesus appears to the frightened disciples who have locked themselves away because they are afraid of the Authorities. As Jesus appears, he says "Peace be with you".

I wonder what that phrase meant to the Disciples. The disciples are locked away from the world, they saw Jesus being arrested, then saw (or heard about) Jesus being killed, so they are afraid of the same thing happening to them. Then they hear he's been raised from the dead. Imagine what they must have been feeling, scared, confused, afraid, hopeful – their emotions will have been all over the place. So, when Jesus offers them the gift of Peace. He is not talking about an absence of noise or the kind of tentative peace that comes at the end of a battle. He is offering something deeper than that, recognising their emotional turmoil, he is offering his calming presence and a new start. His greeting says, "Be at Peace with all that has gone before, and all the worries of what might lie ahead". For those disciples gathered in that room his visit brings an end to the turmoil of the past and the gift of his presence in the future.

But this story also introduces us, a week later, to Doubting Thomas – poor man, fancy being remembered through the ages for the fact that you were once a little bit sceptical. After all many of us find it quite difficult to hold onto our faith when things get tough. When we are faced with realities of life that we simply don't understand. When our "Why" questions don't seem to have any believable answer, and our future doesn't seem to be at all certain. For Thomas, his questions were only answered when Jesus appeared again, and Thomas was able to see him and satisfy his doubts.

But the main thing that strikes me about that meeting is the patience of Jesus, he knows what Thomas has been thinking, and he isn't a bit cross or irritated with him for his lack of faith. He simply talks to him with love and shows him what Thomas needs to see.

At the moment, we are all in the kind of situation which provokes more questions than answers. Whether we are in lockdown at home, or a key worker on the front line, our future is uncertain, and our worries are probably numerous. If we are able to find the Peace offered by Christ in the midst of all of this then we will, no doubt, be thankful. But if that Peace is illusive, if our worries and fears shut out any sense of God's Presence and Peace. That does not mean we are shut off from God, it simply means we are too troubled to be able to see him at the moment. That is a situation God is familiar with, so he simply waits, ready to meet us when we are ready to meet him and in the meantime he works quietly in our lives and the lives of those around us giving us little glimpses of his presence to lift our spirits, perhaps in a beautiful sunset, or the kindness of a neighbour, or the love of a child.

May the Peace of the Risen Christ reach out to you, today, tomorrow, and in all the days ahead. Amen.

CONTACT DETAILS: Rev'd Carole Poolman,
The Rectory, Llanfynydd, Wrexham.
LL11 5HH.

Phone: 01978 762304

Email: cc.sm@btinternet.com

Although the church building is closed at present, please feel free to contact me at any time to talk – or to ask for prayer. Carole



The Methodist Church

Wesley Church, Leeswood

Wesley Church, Leeswood

May 2020

Sunday Worship in this
building is suspended
until further notice.

Dear Friends,

These are very strange times in which we find ourselves and we are united in that none of us have shared these experiences before. We are all grieving for people, things and a way of living that we once took for granted. But now the life we are able to experience is pared down to a simpler way of being.

May we each know that God is with us and may God the father enfold in his love, may God the Son befriend us each day and may God the Holy Spirit guide and protect us today and always. Amen.

Yours in Christ's love,
Pat

A Devotion for the Easter Season

A litany: 'Sometimes we wonder'

The creation is alive with the glory of God,
yet sometimes we wonder.

After the music has died away and we are
faced with the challenges of a new day
sometimes we wonder.

Wonder whether we have the heart to keep
going.

The way ahead seems unclear and so much is
changing around and within us.

Sometimes we wonder whether we have
the imagination to keep hoping.

When the pain and struggles of our hurting

world catch at our throats and draw us into
despair,

Then into our weariness new life is
breathed.

Into our helplessness fresh dreams are
poured.

And we rise upon wings like eagles.

We run and no longer feel tired.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers of Intercessions:

*The world with its multitudinous needs is
always with us but so is the presence of
Christ. Let us pray for some of them.*

For those making hard decisions - give to
your indecisive children clear heads, strong
wills, and peaceful hearts.

For those who feel deserted - may they rise
up from their hurt and find a peace and a
purpose that is grounded in your steadfast
love.

For the terminally ill and those with
covidavirus - give to all medical staff a
sensitivity, and to each patient a profound
serenity and if death comes, may it come
like a friend opening a new door.

For peace in our world - build up courage,
trust, forgiveness, patience and
hopefulness, and teach us how to look into
each other's eyes without fear or self-
righteousness.

For our government - keep the minds and
hearts of our leaders open to your grace.
May they may be wise with the courage to
make decisions that will help our nation and
others.

For the church - teach us that the closer
we draw near to one another the closer we
come to you, and the closer we come to you
the closer we must be to each other.

For ourselves - may God grant to each his
love and peace and may we show this to
others in every time and place.

Amen.

If you are isolated locally (Leeswood, Treuddyn, Mold, Connors Quay, Buckley etc) and need Pet/Animal stuff...contact us,

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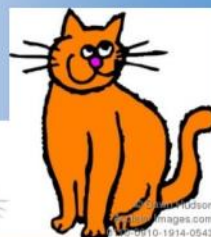
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STANDING FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT SHAPED ME
Yn sefyll dros y gymuned a'm ffurfiodd

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

f Hannah4Delyn **t** @HannahBlythyn **e** hannah.blythyn@assembly.wales

☎ 01352 762102 **globe** hannahblythyn.wales **📍** 38 Church Street, Flint, CH6 5AE

Sunshine ☀️ Goffi
Goffi ☀️ Heulwen 🍰



A big hello to all our lovely customers. We hope you and your loved ones are safe and well.
We are looking forward to seeing you soon to celebrate our belated 2nd Birthday.

Thank you for your continued support

Stay Safe

Poetry by Joseph Caruana

Mother Nature

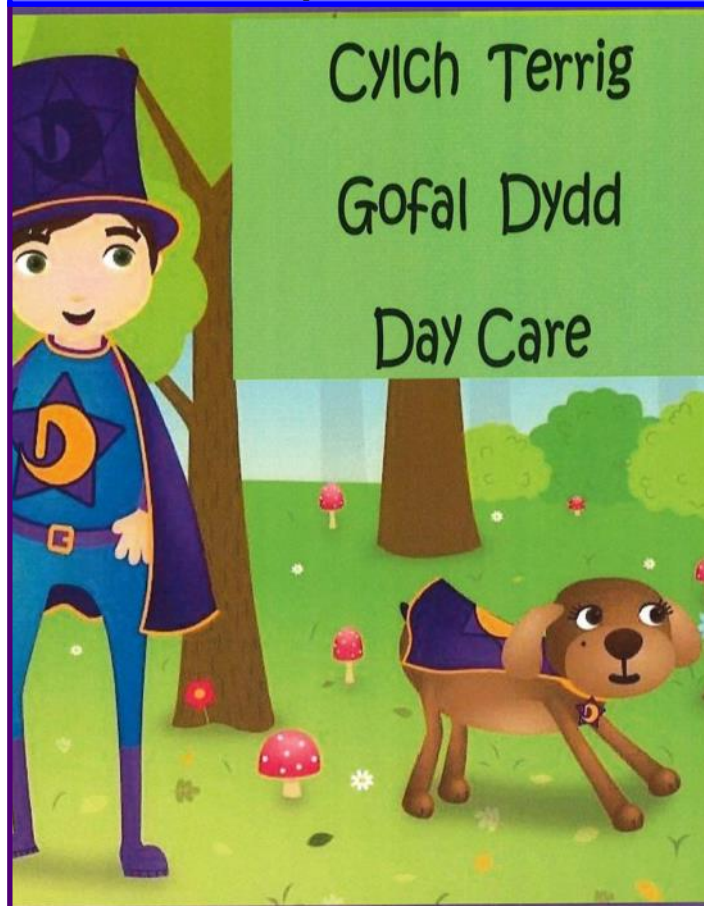
Mother nature looks after us
She does it without a fuss
But we should not abuse her kindness
For we will harvest all the madness

If we think we are big and brave
Our breath we should save
For nature can take us by surprise
Mainly all the time, not just once or twice

We can create and we can destruct
With all account that is a fact
But we have to be on nature's side
For when things go wrong, from nature's
fury we all hide



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Leeswood Allotments

When our lovely editor, June emailed me on Saturday asking if we had anything from the allotments for submission to the Leeswood and District News I was taken aback . It was the 18th of April already and that meant deadline date. As things are at the moment, the days seem to be very much the same. However we are exceptionally lucky that we are able to go to the allotments as part of our daily exercise during lockdown, provided of course that we observe the social distancing rules. I have often thought how fortunate we are to have our allotment plots here in the village but never more so than now!

The weather has been fine and the soil has begun to warm up now and the allotment holders are busy preparing the ground and sowing and planting. Sometimes, however, our hard work is scuppered by nature. I sowed two rows of broad beans recently, watered them regularly and they emerged from the ground last week. Success, I thought so I decided to sow two further rows in order to have a succession of the bean crop later in the year. The next time I paid a visit to the allotment I found all but two of the twelve young bean plants were severed at ground level. My thoughts are that it was a mouse or mice. However there are other suspects in the frame - we have a variety of animal and bird life visiting the allotments, any of which may have fancied new, fresh bean shoots on their menu.

I'm hoping that a strip of wire netting will deter the secretive thief from decimating my most recent and final (for this year) sowing of broad beans.

I'm sure I can say, on behalf of all the allotment holders, we hope people in Leeswood and surrounding villages stay safe and well and have the strength and resilience to come through these strange, worrying and sad times.



How to WALK..... on the PAVEMENT

The Virus has brought many things to a standstill, but not the urge to walk! Walking is still allowed, and in fact encouraged. One of the beneficial changes has been the drop in traffic on our main roads, so here are three routes letting you walk alongside our main roads, particularly where you can use the PAVEMENT. *If you have children with you, score points for every landmark listed.*

WALK ONE: From the Bridge Inn [5 points] at Pontblyddyn to Plas Teg.

It's PAVEMENT all the way alongside the normally hectic A541. Some sights to look out for - on the left the red and white terraced houses of the artisan dwellings: Alyn Terrace. [2 points a red house, 2 points a white house] Next up is the cricket club house, [3] with glimpses of the cricket ground [4] beyond. Then there's FFERM, a 17th Century house, with its conspicuous chimneys [5]. Round the corner you will see the entrance to Hartsheath, with the Lodge House [5]. Entering woodland area now look out for white wood anemones and bluebells. [5 for a bluebell] A woodpecker drilling? Past the flowers laid in memory of those who died in car crashes on this notorious section, [3] the road opens out into a dual carriageway. Walk on a little further to the footpath sign which would lead you down to the River Alun, to your left. Before going back, look out across the way - there's Plas Teg. [8] *Maximum 42 points*

WALK TWO: Circular Walk starting at the Co-Op shop [2] in Leeswood.

PAVEMENT MOST OF THE WAY, with some ROAD WALKING [County Road and Constitution Hill] Walk down to Bell's Corner and the War Memorial, [5] turning left into County Road. Mostly pavement here until you reach the end of the village. Older residents will remember the Lion Inn, which used to be over there to the right. Once you leave the village [Thatched cottage – 6 points] it's road only, downhill sharply to the bend by the railway bridge. As you're walking and not driving, there's a time to look from the bridge [7] and see the line taken by the railway down below. A sharp descent down Constitution Hill. Cross the once busy road [A 5104] at the bottom and follow the road uphill on the PAVEMENT. Not normally a pleasant walk, but how times have changed. You can hear the stream, The Nant, over to your left. [8 if you hear the stream] You officially enter Pontybodkin, and after the chapel on the left, [4] turn right over the bridge and climb back to Leeswood up Pontybodkin Hill [a punishing stretch, as those who do it regularly will agree] As you re-enter the village you cross the line of the railway line again – it's interesting to see how it used to skirt the hill. [8] On top of the hill now, over to the right, where there are new houses, there used to be the old Board School, some of you will remember. *Maximum points 40*

WALK THREE. The Bridge Inn [5] at Pontblyddyn travelling in the Mold direction as far as the Bridge over the River Terrig.

PAVEMENT ALL THE WAY Two former pubs along here – one where one of the Mold Riots victims was taken – this is just opposite the entrance to Queens Farm. Further on another former pub, [7] the first house of the row just opposite the Church Car Park [5]. Keep going. The Church, [5] over to the left, and the Druid Inn [8] on your right are two notable landmarks. Further along you will see the Riding School [8] and after the dual carriageway, a thatched cottage. [8] Right on the bend is the Bridge [10] over the River Terrig, normally a hazard for fast-moving traffic, but in these strange times eerily quiet. *Maximum points 56*

Mike Stevens



THE LDN BIBLE BLOG : MAY 2020

CAN WE REALLY TRUST THE BIBLE - 2?

God's Word is perfect in every way; how it revives our souls! His laws lead us to truth, and his ways change the simple into wise. His teachings make us joyful ... his precepts are so pure! His commands, how they challenge us to keep close to his heart!

Psalm 19:6-8 (OT) The Passion Translation

In our 'modern' world, many people are convinced that the Bible is nothing more than an old book that is out of date and out of touch. Its religious ramblings are not based on fact or reality, and it is only read by the few remaining religious people who want to feel better than everyone else! It's just a mixture of myths, fairy-tales and children's stories, all re-told and altered or rewritten over time. It's irrelevant, boring and inaccurate. You've probably heard plenty of one-line 'put downs' about the Bible. Do any of these sound familiar? Have you said or thought these yourself? For example :

- The Bible isn't historically accurate.
- No other writers at the time support the stories of the Bible.
- It contradicts itself!
- Science makes it impossible to believe in the miraculous.
- Why all the suffering in the world?

If these are correct, how can we possibly take the Bible seriously? Surely, it isn't trustworthy? In fact, the Bible could even be thought of as dangerous! So what is the truth? What possible evidence is there to support the Bible as an accurate, trustworthy book?

Throughout the Bible, the events recorded are linked to named people, times and places that existed then and in many cases exist today too. Many of these places are recognisable, such as Egypt, Syria, Jerusalem, Rome, Galilee etc. Engraved stones and clay cylinders from ancient civilizations back up many Bible stories. These were the ancient world's version of history books. This was how they recorded events, proclamations, laws, commands, regulations, instructions etc.

One example is the Taylor Prism (a clay cylinder dated between 705-681 BC) which confirms the Assyrian siege of Jerusalem, the Bible also describes this in 2 Kings 18-19 (OT), 2 Chronicles 32 (OT) and Isaiah 36-37 (OT). The discovery of the Tel Dan Stele, confirms that Israel's King David existed. The Cyrus Cylinder records Cyrus of Persia's decision to let the Jewish people, who had been captured and exiled years before, return to their home in Israel (Ezra 1:1-3 and 6:3; Isaiah 44:28; 2 Chronicles 36:23 All OT). The Moabite Stone records the rebellion mentioned in 2 Kings 3 (OT).

Other historical documents also support what the Bible says. The Jewish teacher and military leader Josephus (37-100 AD), the Roman senator Pliny the Younger (61-113 AD) and the Roman historian Tacitus (about 56-117 AD) all wrote about Jesus. Josephus calls Christ "a wise man" and "a doer of surprising works". In a letter to the Roman Emperor, Pliny said that Christians worshipped "Christ as a god". Tacitus noted that "Christ" was the founder of a "rebellious" religion. Rebellious because it was not an official religion of the Roman Empire and because Christians would not swear allegiance to whoever was Emperor as their Lord. Tacitus also mentions that Jesus was executed under Pontius Pilate. None of these writers were followers of Jesus. Yet they all knew Jesus existed and that His followers thought He was God.

Now this is just a sample of the independant evidence supporting the Bible, and it clearly shows that, rather than disproving the Bible's stories, history actually supports them and vice versa. Perhaps we need to re-assess the prevailing view of the Bible, and actually read some of it for ourselves!

Simon - TheLDNBibleblog@gmail.com

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Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

In industry we hear a lot about quality, and we sometimes associate quality only with the actual value of the end product in terms of durability and performance. Quality comes in different forms, and applies to different stages of the production process. A good quality production process, is a process that does not waste raw materials, and gives out as much as possible in relation to what is put in the process. Another aspect of process quality is the capability of a process to produce items within a narrow band of tolerances. This is referred to as process capability. The value of process capability is calculated either over a sample quantity of items, or the whole population of the items produced within a batch. One might ask the question of how can anyone check all the items within a production batch? The answer to that is that items are checked by a computerised system, with the results calculated in parts per million rather than in per cent. In today's industry, we do come across manufacturers producing items for the automobile industry in quantities exceeding multiple millions of units, and in such a fast moving facility, if an error occurs and it is not spotted in time, we could end up with a substantial number of defective parts with a few minutes. That is why a computerise system is important to continually check the process capability continually and incrementally.

There are different ways of producing an end product, and the production process depends on the function that the product is going to perform. For example, if the function calls for a bespoke product, then the process may vary from one production batch to the next. In such an instance, a different process capability system might need to be set up every time a new process is activated. However, there could be several similarities

between different processes, and these similarities can be established as constants with a few variants which can be used to customise different bespoke processes. The larger the number of constants in a process, the more economical and efficient the process becomes, this is because the number of set-ups are a lot less, thus consuming less time and man-power. Ultimately there is the final product quality. This gives a product the competitive edge in the market place, because the market place is where a product proves whether all the activities to produce it have been worthwhile. All manufacturers would want their products to be top sellers within their category, and they go to great lengths to push their product to the top of the market. As most customers does not realise the incremental activities which took place from concept to final product. This would be a great opportunity for manufacturers to highlight all the latent activities which took place behind the scenes to bring such a product to the market. Every manufacturer should be proud that along the way, each and every step has been taken with a measure waste elimination, increase quality right through the production line, and make the product as attractive as possible to the customers in such a highly competitive market place.

In a market economy, the market place dictates which products sells and which products stays on the shelves or in the showroom. At the end of the day, it is the customer that decided what to buy, and if we do not produce what the customer wants, the customer will go elsewhere.

It is our duty to do all that is possible to produce good quality products. We cannot take anything for granted and we need to stay alert to see what markets are likely to emerge in the future. Today's market place is always changing, and we need to be ready to accommodate for those changes. A positive collective effort is a good approach and a good way forward.

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Interested in the English language? Here are some words and phrases which have cropped up in the last few weeks, with my take on them.

LOCKDOWN

Here's an excellent word, which brings to mind exactly the process it describes.

It's only been in circulation since the 1970s with the meaning - to prevent people from entering or leaving a building or an area because of an emergency. In the past it has mostly been used in connection with prisons, where inmates are literally "locked" in. "Lock" is an old Germanic word meaning a device for fastening or securing. Interestingly it came to be used as a means of securing a barge in a canal while the water level was altered. Now it has taken on a new meaning of an imposition on the population to reduce or restrict human movement. Good strong word, though. These Germanic and Anglo-Saxon words are usually short and straight to the point.

FURLOUGH

v

It's good to see **FURLOUGH** [furr/ low] brought back into service. It's a military term really, meaning "leave of absence" - just right for the times, as workers are given leave of absence rather than being made unemployed.

It comes from the Dutch "verlof" and German "Verlaub" [firr/lowp]

UNDERLYING HEALTH ISSUES

Ugh.

This phrase refers to people who may already have some health concerns, particularly with breathing or with their immune system, which make them more susceptible to contracting coronavirus. As there have become more cases of people getting the disease who seem to have no "underlying health issues", this phrase seems to be falling out of use. It's a cumbersome phrase anyway and in any case needs further definition. Is "old age" an underlying health issue?

SOCIAL DISTANCING

"*Social Distancing*" is another rather imprecise and bureaucratic phrase.

It describes the need to keep your distance from other people. As one of the forms of passing on the virus is directly from person to person, when someone coughs or sneezes, droplets containing the virus pass into the air and can reach someone nearby. By keeping your distance you reduce the risk of absorbing the virus through these droplets. But, again, it needs further definition, which is included in the additional phrase "*Two Metres*"

TWO METRES

The current use of this phrase seems to give the metric system a well-earned place in the official language. Not every one know what a metre looks like of course [rather like not knowing how much milk there is in a litre, or the amount of sugar in a kilogram]

Many of us oldies don't really have a concept of a metre. A yard, yes, I can visualise. I notice in some quarters that the figure of Peter Crouch is used to explain what two metres looks like. He's a six-footer, so you have to imagine keeping a six-footer footballer between you and the next man [or woman] – on the horizontal, that is, not standing up, if you see what I mean.

SELF ISOLATION

This phrase seems to mean: *Putting yourself in isolation, because you think you may have the disease, and don't want to give it to anyone else. You do this for a week or so, by which time the virus will no longer be active, and you can come out of isolation* But it also might mean remaining on your own anyway, thereby not coming into contact with anyone else with the disease, so you will neither pass it on to an innocent person or catch it yourself from an infected person.

"Self isolation" seems to raise questions e.g. Can you self isolate and still live with, alongside or in the company of another member of your family? "Quarantine" might do just as well, although this is strictly a period of isolation for forty days {from the Italian for "forty"}

PPE

When all else fails, bureaucracy resorts to abbreviations. Some become household words, like NHS and BBC, but PPE is not there yet. PPE, in my day, stood for Philosophy, Politics and Economics, but now it's shorthand for Personal Protective Equipment. It can include helmets, visors, masks, gowns and so on – all the necessary equipment to combat the spread of infection, particularly from patient to nurse or doctor.

Once again it's such a generalised term. Personally I would have preferred something like "body armour" or "combat gear" but there you go.

There might be more words or phrases which have come into use recently, in connection with the coronavirus, so be on the lookout and let me know if you've found another one. I'm on mike38stevens@gmail.com

Mike Stevens

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 & Pontblyddyn
Age & Dementia Friendly Steering Group**

What is the Leeswood & Pontblyddyn Age & Dementia Friendly Steering Group?

The Leeswood & Pontblyddyn Age-Friendly Community Group is a group of volunteers who are committed to making Leeswood & Pontblyddyn 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@volunteermatters.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'.

3 Spend them on doing something fun

You can spend your Time Credits on a wide range of activities. You can even take a friend with you! One Time Credit is worth one hour of activity.

"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

Phone: 02920566132

To see where you can spend your Time Credits visit: timecredits.com

Tempo



Do you need support?

Your Community Development worker is still supporting your Community. If you need support during COVID19, with Shopping, Dog Walking, Prescription Collection or would like to receive a phone call from a Telephone Befriender, please contact Shereen Devine. All volunteers matched to you will be trained, and have full DBS check.

Volunteers Needed

If you can support your Community with any of the above and would like to do so on a more formal basis, we can offer you the following.

- : DBS Check
- : Role Description
- : Guidance to support your role
- : Training Including Safe Guarding & GDPR
- : Risk Assessment
- : Insurance
- : Support from a Volunteer Manager

Please contact Shereen for an application form.

shereen.devine@volunteeringmatters.org.uk

07469 851886



75th Anniversary of VE Day—Friday 8th May 2020

Thank you to: **Rhiannon Coleman** for her help in obtaining the information on pages 25—28



Life in Leeswood during the war by wxmcommunitystudio

You are browsing in:

[Archive List](#) > [Childhood and Evacuation](#)

Contributed by

[wxmcommunitystudio](#)

People in story:

Lucy Wynne

Location of story:

Leeswood, North Wales. Pontblyddyn, North Wales

Background to story:

Civilian

Article ID:

A8998825

Contributed on:

30 January 2006

My name's Lucy Wynne and I'm 78.

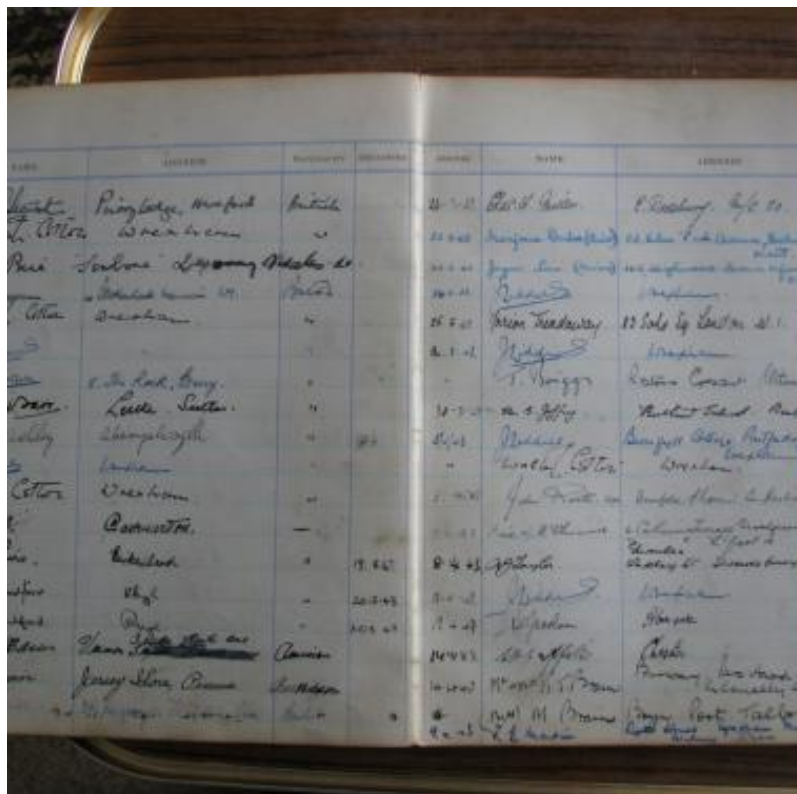
I remember going under the stairs. Four of us used to squash in. We used to do a lot of knitting in those times. We spent most of our time under the stairs, really.

We didn't have a lot to eat either, did we, because of rationing. When we used to have an apple, we'd share it between five of us.

The nearest bomb that dropped was in Pontblyddyn, and I lived in Leeswood. That was a long way from us. That hit by somewhere by the River Alyn. It didn't kill anybody, I don't think.

An airplane came down in Pontblyddyn too. A German bomber. The German died: it came straight down. We went looking for pieces of the plane, to keep for souvenirs.

Mold hotel's small but crucial role in Second World War plot to trick the Nazis



NAME	ADDRESS	RESIDENCE	DATE	NOTE
Miss P. R. Jones	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100	19.4.43	J G Martins signature entry

J G Martins signature entry



The old pillars of the Black Lion Hotel

[- Read the story on page 27](#)

Mold hotel's small but crucial role in Second World War plot to trick the Nazis

*Taken from a report by **Jamie Bowman** In 'The Leader' on 2nd July 2019*

IT'S been called the greatest episode of military espionage since the Trojan Horse. It involved the body of a dead homeless Welsh man, a fictitious army officer and a suitcase full of fake documents. The ruse worked, German reinforcements were shifted to Greece and Sardinia, and thousands of soldiers' lives were saved. And unbelievably, the market town of Mold, in Flintshire, played its part in what came to be known as Operation Mincemeat.

Early in 1943 the Allies were anxious to build on their stunning military successes against Nazi Germany in North Africa. It had been decided that Sicily would be their next target. So they could then leapfrog to Italy. Sicily was a huge challenge. The Germans needed to be persuaded that Greece – and not Sicily – was the invasion target.

A small team was set up with its head the peacetime barrister and Royal Navy Commander Ewen. Montagu and his deputy, Charles Cholmondeley came up with an idea to dump a dead body on the coast of Spain, which would apparently be that of a British officer who had been acting as a courier, who had come out of a plane that had crash-landed into the sea.

A suitable body, that of a homeless man in his late 30s, was found by the team. Glyndwr Michael had been born into a poor family in Aberbargoed in South Wales and wandered into a hopeless existence. He eventually drifted to London and died.

One important aspect of this was Major Martin's 'family', which would include his father, John G. Martin. To make the discovery of the body as authentic as possible, he would not only be carrying the top-secret correspondence between the British generals but also personal letters, including one from his father. It would be penned just a few days before his son's death and refer to routine family matters.

It would also have to be sent from a hotel rather than a fictitious home address which German agents in Britain might be able to check as being the residence of a J.G.Martin.

The place chosen was the Black Lion on Mold's High Street, Mold. Built in the 18th century, the inn once stood in the heart of the market town and during its heyday had accommodation comprising 19 beds for the weary travellers and refreshments for about 100 people. Later the hotel was closed and became a Woolworths store. A reminder of the hotel's former existence can be seen in the pillars still standing outside.

A few months later, Major Martin's body was cast adrift from a submarine and was found by fisherman Jose Antonio Rey Maria.

As predicted, the Mold letter and other documents were soon passed to the Nazis, who dutifully arranged for massive reinforcements to be sent to Greece. The invasion of Sicily went ahead with limited loss of life and achieved all its objectives, meaning Operation Mincemeat had been a dazzling triumph.

The official history of the Second World War later described it as "perhaps the most successful deception of the entire war".

There is speculation that one of the team must have travelled from London to North Wales to cover their tracks, and then signed as J.G. Martin in the Hotel guest book. It turned out later that this signature was out of sequence in the register as if added as an afterthought. Which could have rung alarm bells if the Germans had, had sight of the register. In the end, it did not matter. There is no evidence that the Germans ever carried out any checking of the Bill Martin backstory.

It is sobering thought, that if a single German agent had travelled to Mold and examined the register of the Black Lion, he would surely have spotted the obvious addition of 'J.G.Martin', recognising there was something fishy going on, and warned the Germans before the invasion of Sicily.

LUFTWAFFE OVER MOLD

By Aled Lloyd Davies.

There can be something very satisfying when we succeed in completing an unfinished story which has been around for a long time waiting for the last piece of a jigsaw to fall into place. By a strange stroke of good fortune, I was able to experience this satisfaction recently.

During the wee small hours of 29 May 1941 there was an aerial battle above north-east Wales involving a Beaufighter piloted by Wing Commander Charles Appleton and a German Heinkel 111 piloted by Lieutenant Helmut Einecke. The Heinkel carried a crew of four, and somewhere above Wrexham and Mold, its starboard engine caught fire and the four occupants had to bale out by parachute. They all landed safely, but at some distance from one another. Hans-Gorg Hartig came down near Leeswood; Hans Mulhahn near Nercwys, and Konrad Baron, very obligingly, came to earth within a hundred yards of Mold police station. The exact location of the pilot's landing place has been wreathed in uncertainty ever since, and as police records of the event are no longer available, the various stories which were circulated at the time cannot any longer be corroborated. Some said that he landed near Llwynegryn, others that he fell at various other scattered locations near Mold. But where exactly? That has been the unanswered question.

Quite be chance, I happened to meet one of the two men who first greeted him near his landing place the other day. Rhys Jones now lives in Abercegir near Machynlleth, but during the war, he worked for the Forestry Commission in Flintshire and Denbighshire. On this particular morning, he and a colleague were walking near the wooded area called Y Rofft, near Rhesycae. Out of the woodland came a limping Luftwaffe pilot. He had injured his leg when landing and had ripped his parachute into strips in order to bind his wounds. He greeted the two forestry workers in perfect English.

Before they were taken into custody by the Home Guard and police, however, he asked whether he was near Mold, and whether the Alun School was still there. He then intimated that he was a former pupil at the school, his family having lived in the town of Flint in the pre-war years, prior to his going to college in Liverpool in 1938. When war was imminent he and his family had returned to Germany, and he had joined the Luftwaffe. Since my chat with my friend from Abercegir I have spoken to a number of Einecke's contemporaries

at the Alun School, who have confirmed the existence of a German pupil at the school at that time. He was a smart, well-groomed lad, who seemed to have a slight superior attitude – although this may have been his defence against a certain amount of anti-German feeling which was prevalent during the late thirties.

Rhys Jones did not find him arrogant in any way. He had reason to get to know him better when Einecke was a prisoner of war at Wynnstay near Ruabon. He, and a number of fellow prisoners were employed by the Forestry Commission during the early forties, and my friend from Abercegir was the person who sorted out their various tasks. Because of his fluency in the English language, they used to converse a great deal and he got to know him quite well. Before he left the Wynnstay camp, he presented Rhys Jones with two baskets which he had woven himself during his spare time. The baskets are in Abercegir to this day.

TAKEN FROM MOLD CIVIC SOCIETY WEB PAGE

<http://moldcivicsociety.org.uk/journal/luftwaffe-over-mold-by-aled-lloyd-davies/>

For further information about the crashed German aeroplane see, *Buckley*, 21(1997), 47-68. *Editor*