# Leeswood & District News

August 2020

### www.leeswood-district.news

Issue 397



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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?

### DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER 2020 EDITION

### Tuesday 18th August 2020

Please send, or drop it in, to:

June Lincoln,

7 Llys Ann,

Leeswood, CH7 4RW

### 07738 876302

58junelincoln@gmail.com

**Leeswood & District News** 



County Road, Leeswood, Flintshire CH7 4RF 07955 847917 www.bethanialeeswood.org

**Coronavirus update** In line with Government guidelines, all of Bethania's general meetings have been suspended, but we are pleased to announce that Bethania Chapel is now available for Private Prayer.

I hope everybody is still keeping safe as the lockdown is eased. At Bethania we have been busy, safely working one at a time, to make the Chapel available for private prayer. We have installed a new central heating boiler, the church building has been cleaned and the kitchen and hallway painted. We now have social distancing measures in place and a risk assessment carried out to enable individuals and family bubbles to come to the Chapel for (up to) hour-long sessions of Private Prayer. The building is open by appointment from 9am until 8pm every day. Details can be found on the website and Bethania Leeswood Facebook page.

With this in place, we are now looking at how we can carefully re-open the Chapel for Sunday Services. Many of us have attended on-line Services over the internet, but these cannot replace meeting together face to face.

Though the prospect of this happening is still some way off, when lockdown ends, Bethania is already planning two Celebrations.

One will be in the Community Centre to celebrate all the key workers in the village, including our friends in the Co-op, the Surgery staff and all our NHS workers and those who have helped the village during the lockdown.

The second Celebration will be in the Church building on County Road and will be a service of Thanksgiving. Details on both to follow. Meanwhile we have a regular on-line Zoom Prayer Meeting every Sunday evening and we continue to pray for the village. If you would like us to pray specifically for you, or for someone that you know, then message the Bethania Leeswood Facebook page or text: 07561 679317.

We look forward to greeting Leeswood friends, old and new, whether online and ultimately in person once the lockdown is lifted.

Rob Jackson, Church Secretary

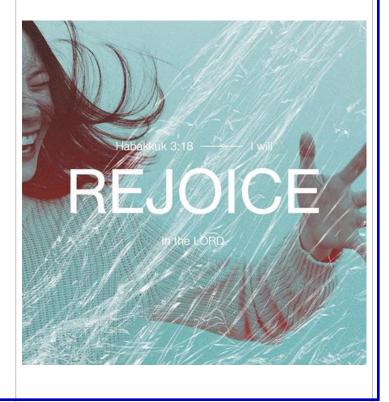
## What to expect at a Bethania Morning Service once lockdown is fully ended

Our standard morning services begin at 10:15am and finish 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 normally 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 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 July/August 2020 (subject to the lifting of Government restrictions)

July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Clive Davies
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	TBA
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Alyn Thomas
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	Clive Davies
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Chris Cole
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Clive Davies</b>

### Message from Cedron's Minister - Clive Davies writes:

#### Hi Everyone!

Wow! Another month comes around, and I do look forward to sharing Cedron Chapel in the LDN. We have really enjoyed opening our doors again and feeling God's presence with us. We will again be at Cedron this coming Sunday for private prayer. It would be amazing if some of you could join us. It is good to be part of the Leeswood group and we are feeling part of the community here. Please feel free to get in touch. We are working on the Chapel and a new kitchen is in place! This is the year of celebration for us remembering 150 years of worship at Cedron! As we begin to get back to some sort of normality, we pray that everyone remains vigilant and stays safe and well. God is placing his healing hand upon our world. We at Cedron extend a hand of friendship to you and may God be your help and your guide always through the precious name of His Son our Saviour Jesus. Amen.

Clive. (Minister: Cedron Chapel)

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

#### **Communion**

It was with a blessing and a sense of relief that we were able to receive communion on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, albeit in compliance with all C19 restrictions. It was the first communion held at Cedron since February and we look forward to partaking again on the first Sunday of each month.



### Local community garden.

Some more seed potatoes made it into the ground this month, and God willing, Autumn may yield a few for the harvest thanksgiving service on 26<sup>th</sup> September.

If anyone in the local community would be interested in gardening a plot or helping in any way including giving gardening advice, please get in touch on <u>Cedron.congregational@gmail.com</u> or via the facebook: **#Cedron Chapel** 

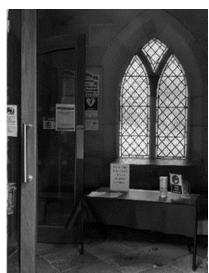
Cedron.congregational@gmail.com www.cedrononline.com

### **OPENING CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN**

All the Churches in Wales have been given permission to open for Private Prayer and for Services where it is possible to open safely. The guidelines are strict, and, in the Anglican Church, risk assessments (which have been agreed with the Mission Area Leader and the Archdeacon) have to be put in place. This means that nothing can be decided quickly.

In order to open for Private Prayer, we have provided sanitiser and safety measures, but we also needed stewards who are able, and willing, to spend time in the church, therefore

### CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN will be open:



Thursday Mornings 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon Friday Afternoon 2.00 p.m. – 4.00pm.

**St Mary's Church, Treuddyn** will be open: Saturday Morning 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Services, however, are a different matter. The guidelines are complex, the 2m rule must be implemented whether people are seated, standing, or moving about. Singing isn't allowed, nor is organ music, although recorded music can be used. The church must be cleaned before and after every service. These are just a few of the new regulations, we will therefore be meeting in the coming week to see if we can find a safe way of opening for services including baptisms, weddings, and funerals. But please be patient, we will open if we can do it safely, meanwhile <u>I am not</u> taking bookings for Baptisms or Weddings until I know what kind of service we can offer.



One thing that has become obvious is the fact that, even when we do open, not everyone will feel able to return to physically meeting for worship. We will therefore do all we can to provide for those people who need us to maintain contact, and provide worship in other ways.

Keep Well, Stay Safe, and May God give you his Blessing of Peace.

*Carole M Poolman* – Vicar of Pontblyddyn and Treuddyn.

CONTACT DETAILS: Rev'd Carole Poolman, The Rectory, Llanfynydd, Wrexham. LL11 5HH. Phone: 01978 762304 Email: <u>cc.sm@btinternet.com</u>

Although the church building is still closed at present, please feel free to contact me at any time to talk – or to ask for prayer. If you would like to receive the weekly readings and reflection let me know. Carole

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### THE LONG DAYS OF SUMMER

What a pleasant time of year The long days of summer are here Birds singing and flying about People feeling good inside and out

How nice nature can be With all the flowers and colours for us to see There are so many things we can enjoy Let us therefore be creative and not destroy

Nature feeds us, clothes us, and the rest What it gives us is the best We have to look after nature as best we can For looking after nature can be a lot of fun



We like to welcome you back to reflections hair and make up.

There will be new temporary days and hours in place while we adjust to the new normal of hairdressing—due to Covid19.

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OR/ go to our Social media accounts:

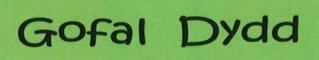




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### A KIND OF WARFARE

Lockdown has been a good time for reading, and I've just finished a gripping World War Two novel about a tank crew in 1944 making its way across France into Germany. The Imperial War Museum has reprinted some works of fiction written by soldiers who actually experienced the events they describe, so "Warriors of The Working Day"<sup>1</sup> provides an authentic account of the claustrophobic and uncertain life of a tank crew as they battle their way on from Normandy.

Not only did the reading of the novel provide a realistic picture of events in the past, I think it gave me some insight into ways of dealing with Covid-19.

### THE UNSEEN FOE

One of the problems facing the tank crews was an enemy who didn't show up. Or at least stayed hidden from view. There were battles, true, in which the opposing Nazi forces were engaged. But very often Troop One came across empty buildings and deserted villages. But, as with Covid 19, not being able to see the enemy did not necessarily mean the enemy was not there. Opposing tanks could be concealed in woodland, snipers might be holed up in ruined houses, bridges apparently abandoned may have been mined first. Just because you can't see the enemy, doesn't mean it isn't there.

### **IN RETREAT**

Even though the German forces were in retreat, they could still attack, maim and kill. And there was always the chance, as the Ardennes proved, that they could fight back. So it is with Covid 19. When the threat is lessened, there's still a need to look out for it.

### THE FRONT LINE

I notice that there are many references today to the nurses and doctors working with Covid 19 patients, bus drivers, care home staff and describing them as in <u>the Front Line</u>. It's interesting that this war image is being used. It brings to mind soldiers at the Front, often ill-equipped, poorly supported, often poorly directed ["Lions led by donkeys"] whose job it was to engage with the enemy one-to-one. In the novel, there is one scene in which a tank is singled out to go ahead and engage the enemy, who may or may not appear. It is apparent that this leading tank will be sacrificed, if the enemy does appear, and the tank crew with it. While at home the soldiers are being described as "heroes", as they do the dangerous work on our behalf.

### KNOW YOUR ENEMY

As with anyone facing the threat of Covid 19, the Tank crews learn about warfare by doing it. In order to defeat the enemy the crew need to learn what the enemy is. "What are we fighting against?" Covid 19 staff have the same problem. The virus is new, they have not seen it at work before. They have to get to grips with it, close at hand, to see how it works, even before finding a way of treating or managing it. And of course there is no way of attacking it. Yet.

"Think how they're feeling" says the Tank Sergeant at one point, as they wait for the Germans to approach. "They're not advancing in a battle – they're cut off

behind the *enemy* lines.... They're trying to get away". <u>Understanding</u> the enemy is the first step.

With Covid-19, at the moment, we do not have a way of destroying the virus, only several ways of avoiding the severity of it impact. So it helps to know what the enemy, COVID 19 is, and here I paraphrase from a health leaflet which we have received.

- The virus travels from person to person.
- You "catch" COVID 19 by being in contact with someone who is already infected. There are two ways this can happen.
- If an infected person transmits the virus by, say, sneezing or coughing, it will travel through the airwaves and you will breathe it in, if you are close enough. At 3 metres the virus should miss you and will instead fall onto a surface.
- You cannot know who is infected, and therefore in a crowded place, e.g. a pub, cinema, football ground, you should keep at least 2 metres away from others. One metre is not really enough, and restrictions have been lifted more or less to help the businesses not the general public.
- Wearing a mask will also prevent transmission.
- You can also catch it by touch. The virus will survive for up to 12 hours on a surface. If you touch a contaminated surface, it can then stay on your hands. If you then rub your face, particularly the nose and mouth, you can transfer the virus into your body.
- The virus can live on your hands for up to 10 minutes.
- Washing your hands prevents this, as does using hand sanitizer.
- The virus can live nested in clothes and tissues between 6 and 12 hours. Common detergents can kill it.
- The virus will also die if exposed to the sun.
- As the sun's UV rays kill the virus, sunbathing is beneficial it's also a good source of Vitamin D.
- The virus enters the body via the throat, where it can cause inflammation and a feeling of dryness.
- The virus then travels through the moisture present in the airways, goes down to the trachea and installs itself in the lungs where it can cause pneumonia. Symptoms are a high temperature and breathing difficulties.
- The virus dies if exposed to temperatures greater than 80°F [27° C], and therefore hot drinks are recommended, as this will prevent the virus from going into the lungs, travelling instead through the oesophagus into the stomach, where it is killed by the body's gastric juices.
- Transmission can also be prevented by disinfecting surfaces, including mobile phone, keyboard, steering wheel of a car, door handles etc

### THERE ARE NO BORDERS

As the tanks roll across first France, then Belgium, Holland and into Germany itself, it is apparent that administrative and national borders are no longer valid. The British Army is now sweeping through countries, mindless of borders, as the Germans did when they invaded. A pandemic knows no borders either. There have been attempts to close borders, to contain the virus and stop its spread, but the virus itself does not obey. All it is intent on is finding a new host to live on. It strikes me that the spread of the disease has thrown up in the UK the absurdity of self-contained English and Welsh and Scottish approaches. The virus does not distinguish between Saltney and Chester. It spreads regardless. For the UK not to have had a unified approach, an approach without borders, seems to me to have been a clear mistake. I am all in favour of devolution, but having separate lockdown plans for England and Wales has been absurd. There needed to be a joint approach.

### SOCIAL DISTANCING

You can't have social distancing in a tank. In fact I can't think of anything more cabined, cribbed and confined. The crew consisted of a commander, a driver, a co-driver, a gunner and a wireless-operator all crammed into a tight operating space. This small social unit lived and worked together as a Troop. They were separated from other tank crews, isolated too from their families and wider network of friends back home. But it is this social isolation and separation which seems to ring true of today's life in lockdown. A tank troop is working from "home", whether firing ammunition, brewing tea, or keeping in contact with other soldiers. The present lockdown has thrown up two apparently contradictory states: separation from each other, and a strong feeling of solidarity and community. This will be severely tested in the months to come, as the threat appears not to go away, while the measures to contain it continue to a greater or lesser degree.

The novel ends before the war ends. Before the battles and the skirmishes end. "They reached the road a few yards from the first blazing house and he silenced his guns. He took the tank round the backs of the houses, around the church which was also burning and the school inside which the shells had burst. Finally he came back to the road and moved down to the last, big house, which he had fired on first. There was no sign of any living thing anywhere; there was nothing but burning houses".

So with Covid19. We will not get back to normal. There will be a new normal. After a war there comes post-war. We never get back to pre-war.

Mike Stevens

<sup>1</sup> Peter Elstob "Warriors for the Working Day" [1960 Cape] and Imperial War Museum Classics [2020]



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Leeswood & District News

### **THE LDN BIBLE BLOG : August 2020**

### Are You In Training?

Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Psalm 23 v 4 NLT (OT) A psalm of David

Since March this year everything has been centered around Covid-19. All of us have had to adapt to some degree to being in lock-down, keeping away from people, working from home (or maybe not if you are a key worker) and wondering if/when life will get back to normal or to a new normal? At last though, the restrictions are now being eased. But even so, I for one am getting tired and stressed with it all. So with this in mind here are a few positive thought's based around the imagery of an old favourite, Psalm 23 verse 4—see above. Let's start in the New Testament though - in the book of Hebrews.

'This trouble you're in isn't punishment; it's *training* ... so why not embrace God's training so we can truly *live*? ' Hebrews 12:8 MSG

When we go through tough times, our automatic reaction can often be to ask God to take us out of it. And if He doesn't, we assume He doesn't care or that we've been abandoned or we are even being punished for something. But this couldn't be further from the truth. God cares about everything we go through and always knows what's happening in our lives. He walks alongside us through everything. The psalm writer wrote:

FAITH DOESN'T EXEMPT US FROM DIFFICULTIES. THE STORMS OF LIFE COME TO EVERY PERSON. BUT GOD WILL NOT ALLOW A STORM UNLESS HE HAS A DIVINE PURPOSE FOR IT.

'Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me' Psalm 23:4 NIV

God is with us, even in the toughest of times <u>and</u> the easiest of times. But we only seem to call on Him in the toughest. This has been noticeable in the UK since March when the nation had to stop and as a result had time to think and subsequently sought comfort and re-assurance. So why doesn't God just take the situation away? After all, if God really loves us He wouldn't want people to suffer, surely! If He really loves us, why does He allow bad things to happen anyway? One thing is for sure

TODAY LET ME REASSURE YOU THAT GOD KNOWS RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, AND HE KNOWS HOW TO GET YOU TO WHERE YOU NEED TO BE. EVEN WHEN THINGS DON'T GO THE WAY YOU PLANNED, HIS HAND IS ON YOU. though, God doesn't work for LV= or 'Go and Compare The Market' with Igor and Sergei. He is not primarily in the business of only being our insurance policy against tough times, and neither should we expect Him to be. But we often still do!

We don't always seem to pick-up on it if He does intervene, and, we don't know the reason(s) why He might not intervene either. But one reason could be because He wants us to learn something. Could God be training us to be stronger, more resilient and more like Jesus? In every situation we go through, there are always things we can learn and we would be fools not to take those lessons with us into the future. But we'll only learn them if we are open to admitting to God, ourselves and others as well, that we got something wrong and/or misjudged a situation.

So, if we're too busy asking God to take the situation away, we won't be as open to the opportunity of learning and growing in the Christian faith. All training, tests and valleys we experience are temporary. They'll end. But it's up to us whether we only just make it through or if we come out the other end 'looking' more like Jesus. Yes, valleys can be beautiful but they can also be frightening because the deeper the sides the colder it can be, the shadows are longer and it's darker too. The lesson to learn is to trust God with everything but without disregarding or abandoning common sense! Balancing these can be a bit tricky.

In the Bible, we're encouraged to go as far as 'rejoicing' in the troubles that we face! Now that doesn't seem quite right.

'In all this, you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials' 1 Peter 1:6 NIV (NT)

This trouble and grief might feel like it is impossible to bear with at the time, but when we think about it, we can be pleased about walking through those valleys in life because we know we are being trained to trust by God Himself.

David, the writer of Psalm 23 started out as a shepherd and knew about valleys, especially mountain valleys. In those days a shepherd literally lived with the flock. He also knew that when the sun is low, especially in a river valley, it is cold, dark, damp and dangerous. You just didn't know who or what was waiting for you—yes maybe even death at the hands of bandits, hi-jackers, thieves and sheep rustlers or large hungry wild animals.

So how can you be 'joyful' in an equivalent (not literally) situation today? Well, it's because you know that you can take the lessons learnt, the experience itself and the increased reliance, trust and faith in God into the future and be a better person because of it. How? By trying to not make the same mistakes etc. again.

Onward and upward we MUST go, whether Christian or not, into a changed world! Next month I am hoping to be looking at all the mistakes, discrepancies and differences that can be found in the Bible? Simon TheLDNBibleBlog+August2020@gmail.com Feel free to contact me via email if you want to talk about this months blog. But DON'T expect Christianity or the Bible to be "shoved down your throat"! Bible versions used in the blog this month: MSG- The Message, NLT-New Living

GOD HAS BLESSED ME. I HAVE SEEN BETTER DAYS, BUT I HAVE ALSO SEEN WORSE. I DO NOT HAVE ALL MY WANTS, BUT I DO HAVE ALL MY NEEDS. I WOKE UP WITH A FEW ACHES AND PAINS, BUT I WOKE UP! MY LIFE MAY NOT BE PERFECT, BUT I THANK GOD, IT IS GOOD.

Translation, NIV-New International Version

<b>Contact</b> Joseph Caruana: 01352 770187 Leah Thomas Coleman: 07798 665392 Gayle Brand: 01352 779068 Marie Reynolds: 07912 146517	<b>Contact</b> Shereen Devine: 07469 851886 Mike Jackson: 01352 771607	352 771607 )1352 218704	38stevens@gmail.cc I352 771 245	n@pontblyddyn	704 716				mbers					gmail.co			mail.co
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When 4th Monday of the Month 2nd Tuesday of the Month Last Tuesday of the Month 1st Tuesday of the Month	<b>When</b> Every Thursday 09:00 - 12:00 Various	Friday: 09:30 -11:00(Term Time Only) Tuesday: 17:15- 18:45	Various Alternate Mondays:13:30 - 16:00	Various	Tuesday: 17:15 - 18:45 Wednesday: 17:45- 18:45 (Term Time Only )	Every 2nd & 4th Thursday 19-00-21:00	Wednesday: 19:15- 21:00 (Term Time only)	Alternate Wednesdays: 14:00 - 16:00	Tuesday: 10:00 - 15:00	Friday Night	Monday - Thursday : 09:15 11:45 (Term Time Only )	Tuesday: 17:45: 18:45 Tuesdav: 14:00 16:00 (Term Time only)	Thursday 09:00 - 12:00	Various	Tuesday & Thursday 06:30 -	Monday: 18:30- 19:15	Various
<b>Committee</b> Allotment Association Carnival Group Community Centre Community Council	Activity / Group Book Swap Bowling	Bright Sparks Brownies	Community Theatre Craft	Cricket	Guides High Fives	Ladies Guild	Lasers	Mouner's Union Over 60s	Patch Work & Quilting	Pigeon Racing		Kainbows Safe Haven		Suit Case Theatre	Youth Club	Zumba	Walks Around Leeswood & Surrounding District

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### **Technical Corner**

### Joseph Caruana

We all like prosperity and wealth, and there is nothing wrong with that. Wealth and prosperity are directly proportional to what an individual can transform in terms of time and material in monetary value. If a group of individuals work collectively together within a community, they can create wealth from which the community can benefit as a result. Industry is an environment where people work together to produce a product which will sell and bring in revenue. Creating wealth, or transferring wealth in your direction could come in different levels. The basic level is when local traders do business among themselves within a small community. This type of trading is very limited and only moves wealth around within that community. If a community desires to increase its own wealth as a whole, it will need to trade with other communities, and make sure that it sell to the other communities more that it buys from them. This system goes up the steps of commerce to a national level. where countries trade with other countries, and create movements of wealth on a world level. Industrialised nations do have a competitive over those who do have the means to produce and sell high value products. These days, more and more countries are becoming industrialised, with countries that were becoming producers. consumers Manufacturing is no longer the exclusivity of a handful of countries which had protected enclaves around the world. When foreign markets change, and countries which in the past were taken for granted to be consumers, start manufacturing good themselves, the established industrial nations had to do something.

As a nation, we have always been able to manufacture world class goods, and if we want we can still do it today. Circumstances that occurred recently might have been a wake-up call to start manufacturing more ourselves rather than depending on imports from abroad. In the car industry, we have seen the disappearance of good names such as Austin, Morris, Hillman, etc.

These were brands that flew the flag abroad and gave this country a technological presence in other countries. remember when a Hillman Hunter car won the race from Britain to Australia. It was great to see a British made car winning on a world scale. What was more important about that achievement was that this was a car that the ordinary public in the street can afford to purchase. When I went on driving trips abroad, I felt proud that I was driving a car which was totally made in this country from start to finish. That was an era that we might need to study, analyse, and hopefully apply a modern version of those techniques in today's manufacturing industry.

These days, a motor vehicle could be the product of several different countries, also its assembly could be started in one country with the final touches finished in another country. Whit this in mind, which country does appear as being the manufacturing country? The answer to that question is the country where the car has been fitted with its final items. Industry is continuously changing, and the masters of industry might have a strong say on what these changes might be. Also, because the manufacturing industry is powered by commerce, it is the commercial element that will probably dictate where or how a product is made. When a region is no longer of good use to what commerce wants out of it, commerce will move elsewhere.

What is for certain is that the world is becoming more and more competitive, with most countries developing their own manufacturing capabilities and associated services such as financial services, marketing plus export techniques. To stay ahead of the rest, industry needs to be alert, and if a gap occurs in the market place, the gap should be filled immediately. Missing an opportunity could cost jobs, and loss of wealth, therefore, vigilance and attentiveness to what is happening around the globe may be key to future survival. We cannot take anything for granted, because the trends of today, might be outdated tomorrow.

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