

# Leeswood & District News

September 2021

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

Issue 405



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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?**

**PLEASE EMAIL TO: Moya Hughes**

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**Mobile:**

**DEADLINE DATES - October, November & Dec 2021/Jan 2022**

**October Edition - Saturday 18th September 2021**

**November Edition - Monday 18th October 2021**

**December 21/ January 22 - Thursday 18th November 2021**



Jesus promised he would one day return in power and glory with all the angels of heaven to usher in God's kingdom.

In Matthew 25:1-13 Jesus uses a parable to warn listeners to be spiritually prepared for that day; its an interesting little tale and deserves reading in full, so here it is.

*"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take along any extra oil. But the wise ones took oil in flasks along with their lamps. When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.*

*At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise,*

*'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 'No,' said the wise ones, 'or there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' But while they were on their way to buy it, the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other virgins arrived and said, 'Lord, lord, open the door for us!' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour [of Christ's return]."*

It's a sobering message about staying ready at all times, for no one of us knows the day Jesus will return, or - on another level - when our own time here is up. Be wise and be ready for Jesus.

John Mainwaring



County Road, Leeswood, Flintshire CH7 4RF  
connect@bethanialeeswood.org • www.bethanialeeswood.org • 07561 679317

**Cedron Congregational Church** is located in Pontybodkin on Corwen road at the junction opposite the main road up into Leeswood. We are a friendly, welcoming group of Christians who normally meet every Sunday morning at **10:30am**. Our service normally lasts an hour. If you find yourself in the locality, we would love for you join in with us as we meet to worship God, sing, pray and study the Bible in a friendly and informal atmosphere.



## **SPEAKERS for September 2021**

Sept 5<sup>th</sup>        Clive Davies  
Sept 12<sup>th</sup>      Clive Davies  
Sept 19<sup>th</sup>      Clive Davies  
Sept 26<sup>th</sup>      Clive Davies

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

**Mark 7 v.31-37.** *Jesus heals the deaf and dumb man.*

There is a lesson here for all of us. Jesus caused the man to hear and to see! Many of us need this! Our ears opened to hear His Word. Our eyes opened to see his wondrous works. The people were amazed to the point of being overwhelmed. Jesus works these miracles in our day to day lives, if only we have ears to hear and eyes to see. Many are deaf to His Word and blind to His power. We pray today that God's Word will be heard and His wondrous works seen to the point that we are amazed at His love for us. Listen to Him speak to you. He has much to say. Encouraging you, reassuring, comforting, strengthening. At the healing of Jesus people were amazed, blown away! They could not contain themselves! May we be so grateful for His love, so thankful that He has opened our ears and our eyes that we are able to hear and see all that He does for us, and that we too are so full of joy that we cannot contain ourselves!

Work at Cedron is progressing well, and it is our prayer to soon be able to conduct weddings and Christening services at our Chapel. If anyone has plans for marriage, please get in touch. God bless.

For anyone wishing to contact Clive, please call **01244 536988** (Mob: **07811 807446**)

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Amid the difficulties that have accompanied our nation's responses to the Covid virus during the last 18 months, it is easy to overlook the plight of those less fortunate than ourselves. A glimpse at the unfolding drama in Afghanistan illustrates that we have much to be grateful for, and the speed with which such events can unfold are at once a sober and blessed reminder of how much we rely on God's grace for the safety and liberty we often taken for granted.

**Psalm 106:47:** *Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.*

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Anyone can message us at [Cedron.congregational@gmail.com](mailto:Cedron.congregational@gmail.com) or via Clive's facebook: **#Cedron Chapel**

# CHRIST CHURCH PONTBLYDDYN

## SERVICES DURING SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER WILL PROBABLY BE AS FOLLOWS:

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 14**  
11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: MS MEL MORGAN

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 15**  
11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 16**  
11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: MS MEL MORGAN

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 17**  
**HARVEST FESTIVAL**  
11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup> – TRINITY 18**  
11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: MS MEL MORGAN

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 19**  
11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION (TBC)  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 20**  
11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER  
OFFICIANT: MS MEL MORGAN

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup> – TRINITY 21**  
11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

**SUNDAY OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> – ALL SOULS**  
HOLY COMMUNION (TIME TO BE CONFIRMED)  
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

EVERYONE IS WELCOME IN OUR SERVICES  
MASKS MUST BE WORN, SANITISER IS AVAILABLE  
AND ALL COVID REGULATIONS WILL BE FOL-  
LOWED.

*PLEASE NOTE THESE SERVICES ARRANGEMENTS  
MAY CHANGE IF COVID RULES CHANGE*



## OPENING CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

We hope to be able to open our Church daily from the beginning of September 10.30 a.m. to 4.00p.m. Sanitiser is available in the porch, please remember to wear a face mask and maintain social distancing.



Our next **Messy Church** will be on  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September**  
“God loves Grumpy People”  
**at 4 pm on zoom.**

We will be telling a story and have lots of activities for you to do at home.

If you would like us to deliver a free bag of goodies and the zoom code so that you can join in with the fun please contact

Rev'd Kathy Stewart on [kathy12oct@sky.com](mailto:kathy12oct@sky.com)

*By Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September*

(If anyone has any special dietary requirements please let us know as bags contain homemade biscuits and sweets)

### CONTACT DETAILS:

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

**Phone:** 01978 762304

**Email:** [carolepoolman@cinw.org.uk](mailto:carolepoolman@cinw.org.uk)

Wesley Methodist Church,  
Leeswood



- 5<sup>th</sup> Sept** Morning Worship **10.45 am**  
led by Mrs Michele Jones
- 12<sup>th</sup> Sept** Morning Worship **10.45 am**  
led by Rev Bernard Nixon
- 19<sup>th</sup> Sept** Morning Worship 10.45 am  
Celebrating the Lord's Supper  
led by Rev Pat Christopher
- 26<sup>th</sup> Sept** Morning Worship **10.45 am**  
led by the congregation

***A Prayer for Afghanistan***

The prophet says, you know the plans I have for you, says the Lord; plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to offer you hope and a future.

Gracious and holy God,

We come to you with the situation in Afghanistan heavy on our hearts. It is a situation so complicated, and so fast moving, that it is difficult for us to know what to say or how to think.

We hold before you the people of the country, those who stay and those who flee; those living with terror and afraid for the future; those who, because of this latest turn of events, will never be able to live the fullness of life that is your purpose. We hold all this before you. We hold open to you the future: the world

leaders with a role in shaping what happens next; the many who are becoming refugees and the people who will be called upon to offer them safety and a future; the impact of these local events on our world story. We hold all this open to you.

We hold in your love all those known to us whose lives have been bound up in the recent story of Afghanistan. We think of all those who have served there in our Armed Forces, those who were injured and those who did not return. We hold in our hearts all those for whom this is a time of special grieving and confusion, and those who minister to them. We hold all these in your love.

Rock of ages, at this difficult time we lean into your timelessness.

Turn us, and all people, to your good purposes for your world. Grant courage and wisdom, hope and a future. Amen  
*Barbara Easton, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference*

***... an Irish Blessing***

Count your blessings instead of your crosses

Count your gains instead of your losses

Count your joys instead of your woes

Count your friends instead of your foes

Count your courage instead of your fears

Count your laughs instead of your tears

Count your full years instead of your lean

Count your kind deeds instead of your mean

Count your health instead of your wealth

Count on God instead of yourself. Anon.

***And finally.....***

There 775,632 words in the Authorised Version

of the bible. This is the condensed version:

God made, Adam bit,

Noah arked, Abraham split,

Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled,

bush talked, Moses baulked;

Pharaoh plagued, people walked.

Sea divided, tablets guided, promise land-  
ed.

Saul freaked, David peeked, prophets

warned, Jesus born. God walked, love

talked,

anger crucified, hope died.

Love rose, Spirit flamed, word spread,

God remained.

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### Poetry by Joseph Caruana

#### The Environment

How careless we might have been.  
If the consequences, we have not seen.  
For the environment we have abused.  
With the results future generations might not be amused.

We are destroying what we have.  
We need to take drastic action if this planet we are to save.  
We need to be bold and very brave.  
As it might be too late, and there might be nothing left to save.

We are answerable to future generation.  
We need to have and observe some regulations.  
Mainly stopping from being wasteful.  
Become more efficient and more resourceful.

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# Leeswood Allotments



The allotments are full and growth is vigorous at this time of year. In my plot, sadly, that most definitely includes weeds. They really do need attending to on a regular basis at this time of year and with the warm, wet weather (it seems impossible to write a Leeswood Allotment report without at least one reference to the weather!) they flourish.

The photographs show that quite a few allotment holders grow flowers as well as fruit and vegetables. I have a few on my plot; Sweet William- bringing back childhood memories, some gladioli (sadly not doing so well this year) and also a



few statuesque ver-bena which attract bees and butterflies.



I grow these for cut flowers and not for their culinary attributes but there are many flowers that are edible.

The one common garden flower I probably first knew was edible was the nasturtium. I had never tasted nasturtium before but for the purpose of this report, I thought I should. I picked a young flower and leaf from our garden and I can now say that they have quite a strong peppery taste.

I have, in the past made elderflower cordial which was a lovely summery drink but as I remember, required a lot of sugar in the making. Another flower which I knew was edible is the violet. I remember once tasting a parma violet sweet as a young child and really not liking it at all. Though the sweets don't actually contain violet, they have most definitely deterred me from trying the real thing.



There are numerous edible flowers according to my research on the Internet, some of which came as a big surprise to me...chrysanthemum to name just one but they all seem to have beneficial vitamins and minerals. Perhaps next year I will consider growing more flowers on my plot. I know from experience that I can always grow a good crop of dandelions!!!



## THE LDN BIBLE BLOG : July 2021

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We are more than just physical flesh and blood!

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*"The Lord is my Shepherd ... I shall not want"* (Psalm 23:1)

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Today I want to share some thoughts on the last part of one of the most well-known verses in the Bible: *"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"* Psalms 23:1 (ESV).

Now notice that it does not say I shall not need. In Matthew 6, Jesus is clear that God will provide all our physical needs, and we shouldn't worry about that. Psalm 23, however, says I shall not want. It is speaking to our desires.

David is saying that God cannot only take care of his physical needs but that He can fulfil **all** his needs i.e. body, soul and spirit. We are more than just physical flesh and blood! In other words, God can satisfy David's heart, i.e. the innermost desires, even the ones we are not consciously aware of. There are plenty of those that can have a significant impact on how we live and think.

To "want" means to lack or be short of something, to decrease, be empty or run dry. David tells us that there are areas in his (and your life) that only God can fulfil, and He will fulfil them if you let Him. Allowing Him shows the decision we have made not to desire anything outside the scope of what God wants for us. In this shepherd-sheep relationship with God, David can feel satisfied and fulfilled, and so can you and I.

***When the Lord is truly our Shepherd, by our invitation, then we lack nothing. Full stop!***

It's hard to get that point across sometimes because we constantly live with a 'lack' or 'not enough' mentality. This is to concentrate on what we don't have, haven't done or haven't achieved yet. It disregards what we have. But it doesn't matter what you've done or accomplished. God is enough. When He is leading and guiding us, we are not lacking. He will fulfil us in ways that we simply can't on our own. Think about it—an empty cup cannot pour into itself. A sheep cannot lead itself. We cannot be truly fulfilled without God. But with Him, we shall not want.

I wonder, when David said, "I shall not want," was it a statement that he had already accepted as accurate? Could it have also have been a reminder to himself that seeking satisfaction outside of God has no lasting (eternal) effect?

I wonder how much our lives would change if we didn't live with a mentality of lack but lived by the truth that "the Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." ... I won't lack.

We'd then be able to look at the dry and empty places in our lives and see how God is still providing and protecting—even when we're walking through the valley of the shadow of death.

Finally, no. This valley is not also known as Leeswood. Well, not in the Bible anyway.

Simon F  
TheLDNBibleBlog@gmail.com

## Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

I am sure that from time to time most of us have been tasked carrying out a job from start to finish. However, different people have different ideas of where a job starts and where it finishes. Some of us might take great care and pay good attention in preparing everything to the last detail, while others dive in headfirst without thinking. Organization and preparation of things prior to any activity will definitely pay dividends. Being systematic in the way someone carries out a task might result in a more efficient operation, especially if the operation in question is a line production activity.

Sometimes, the way someone works might cause some sort of stress to other operators. If this is the case, those who are under stress are more likely to make mistakes. If mistakes are done, there will be a lot of stoppages and rework, which will obviously eat into the profit, make the operation less competitive, which could result in job losses. It is therefore imperative to plan every aspect of the job in as much detail as possible and eliminate confusion. This could prove to be a bit of a challenge if operators do not have an overall vision of the activities which are taking place.

Some people just love a challenge irrespective of what form the challenge comes in. Others aim for a beneficial objective, and if the objective becomes challenging, they assess the benefits of overcoming that challenge, before taking on the challenge. At a very young age, I have heard the phrase that need is the mother of invention, and I can assure you that it is very true. I have been in many situations

where it was impossible to achieve an objective with what was available at the time, and something new needed to be developed. This would call for the skill of an inventive mind and personality that can face a challenge.

An invention can be something totally new, or the utilization of a group of items or systems, which are already in existence arranged to produce a unique new combination. It would be helpful that in order to make a product easy to manufacture, the original design of the final product, is made the all the manufacturing systems in mind to minimize any obstacle down the line.

We can observe that a lot of effort is put in the design process of a product, followed by further work and investment in the production process, with not as much input into how the product if going to be disposed of after it comes to the end of its working life. This is another change that might involve an infrastructure to discombobulate the product, separate the bits that are suitable to be reused from those which can only be recycled, and produce a new product. It would be recommended to reuse as many bits as possible, because when we reuse, the carbon footprint is negligible, while recycling does have a carbon footprint, although it is smaller than that of manufacturing a totally new product.

It could be concluded, that there are four main stages in the life of a product, the first stage is design and preparation, the second stage is manufacture, the third stage is the working life of the product, while the fourth stage involves the reusing/recycling.



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## WALKING THE FOOTPATHS IN LEESWOOD & DISTRICT

### **No: 25 - ON THE BANKS OF ALYN WATER**

*Short or long walk \* No stiles \* up to 8 miles in total \* Dog-friendly*

*This is a popular walk in the enchanting Loggerheads Country Park and can be as short or long as you wish. It also has the advantage in the first stage of being on the level and is suitable for accompanied dogs and children. One or two stretches need care, and tempting caves and rock faces should be avoided. The Car Park levies a charge [£1 in today's money] There is a café and a shop and a pub across the other side of the road. Take the Ruthin road out of Mold and turn off into the well-signed Park.*

1. Leave the pretty picnic area and make for the bridge over the river like everybody else. This is your first view of the cascading River Alyn. Once over the river turn left at the rock bluff and continue the walk. There is no real need for me to describe the route, as it is plain sailing. This first section is one way, not circular, so it's worth making a note of the time you set out so that you can turn round when you feel you have had half enough.

2. The path follows a delightful winding course. You always have the river close by on your left, though in prolonged dry periods, the Alyn sinks below ground and you may see only a dry river bed. The walking surface has been much improved on the stretch up to the Dogs' Home. Once you reach this landmark, use the walkers' gate to gain access to a driveway and continue a short distance to meet a track coming downhill from the right. Cross the track and enter woodland. Carry on walking. It is well-signed.

3. Two tempting caves appear on the right, but these should not be explored. There are warning signs. More tracks cross your path, but carry on along the level until you reach the footbridge high over Devil's Gorge. This is a good objective and a handy place to turn round. Beyond the Gorge the path, though still level, becomes just a bit rougher, and this is partly because it is not walked so much. Eventually, after about 2 miles in total, you reach a road, and this is more or less the end of traditional Leete Path. And this is a good place to turn round and go back the way you came.

*However, if you have an appetite for a longer walk, I include a circular 3 mile or so stretch from this point.*

4. When you come to the end of the official Leete Path from Loggerheads, you reach a road coming down from Pantymwyn (on your right) making for Cilcain (left). Cross the narrow and sometimes busy road, (look out for traffic) making for an obscure footpath entrance on the other side. There is a way-mark on a pole, somewhat overgrown in high summer. Press on through this narrow entrance way, which proves to be a footpath between houses. As you enter woodland you will see that the Leete continues, on your right, so your level walking carries on. Follow this delightful route, crossing the occasional fallen wall, with the hillside dropping down sharply to the river on your left. Walk round the remains of a metal barrier, which seems to have no function except to provide a good look-out point for a robin.

5. Ignore a path, off left, down to the river and carry on until you come to a distinct choice, where paths diverge. One goes off to the left and the main one climbs straight ahead. This is the one to take. Only a short uphill section and you are back on the level, with railings to the left suggesting old mine workings. To the right - the backs of houses. A fallen wall across your path, and before you know it you reach a minor road, with a homely letter box by the side of waymarks on a pole. Llwyn Gyll is the name of the house to the right. Cross the road and follow the sign to Pantymwyn Caravan Park.

6. This is a road surface and goes uphill to reach a complex of houses to the right. Further round on the left there is a field gate with a waymark. This more or less tells you not to go through the gate but to continue along the road, which bends round, alongside copper beech hedging. Erw Goed is the name of the house on the left.

## WALKING THE FOOTPATHS IN LEESWOOD & DISTRICT

### **No: 25 - ON THE BANKS OF ALYN WATER (CONTINUED)**

After the house the road becomes more of a stony track, with grass in the middle. Behold a llama in the field, to your left. Of course it may have moved since I was there. The next house, on the left, is called The Cottage. You have now reached the summit of this upwards stretch. Over to the right you have clear views of Moel Famau. Ignore a gateway on the right, and your walk starts to descend a little, to reach a metalled road.

7. Turn left on this road. Good views again of Moel Famau and the Clwydian Hills at a gateway on the left. More habitation on the right: Pen Y Fron Farm. The road descends more distinctly now to reach a T-junction. Take the right-hand option here. Ancient beech trees on the left. Where the road bends off to the right there is a waymark on a pole, left, indicating a footpath. Leave the road and go left, through the galvanised walkers' gate. I made the mistake here of heading for another walkers' gate just ahead, but ignore this, as the right of way continues downhill along the track, which opens up a bit, veering left to reach a kissing gate, with a waymark.

8. Proceed now through woodland, a small and shallow pool to the right, and continue to wind your way down. Under ancient Yew trees you come to the banks of the river Alyn, which, today is totally dry, as the river, only last month swollen with heavy rain has now gone underground during this dry June spell. Turn right at the bottom and cross the dry river bed on a bridge – there's a dusty stony track here- and reach a road. You have reached Nant Alyn.

9. Turn left along the road in the direction of Friesland Cottage with the dry river bed now on your left and suddenly you encounter a blast from the past, a telephone kiosk [!], which is actually marked on the OS map. You now reach a caravan park called Leete Valley. Stick to the road which swerves right and uphill in front of a white-fronted house. Uphill you go, with Pine View on the right – quite a sharp rise this – but soon levels off with Tan Y Coed on your right. Now the road decides to go uphill again, so stick with it, all the time looking out for a walkers' path off left, which is shown by a waymark on a pole. Leave the road here and enter woodland.

10. Wind your way down through woodland, heading for the river again, and the closer you get to the river the steeper the descent. Look out for tree roots. You reach the river, where there is a footbridge going off, left. But don't cross the river and instead continue, perhaps annoyingly on a hot day, back up, directed by a waymark on a post. You are once again in woodland, and at first the way is up, then, as is the way with paths, down again, back to the river. You come out, rather unromantically, at the sewage works.

11 Turn right along the track and approach the farm, Hesp Alyn. There are plenty of opportunities to go wrong now. As you reach farm buildings, you will see an array of waymarks, left, on a pole. One waymark suggests leaving the road and plunging through undergrowth. I did this, the first time, only to find that it led not only to the river, but into the river! So don't take that and instead continue along the road for a very short distance and approach the farm itself. This is where you do turn off left. It would be handy if there was a waymark here, but, typically, there is none where most needed. However go between farm buildings and out the other side. This is a right of way.

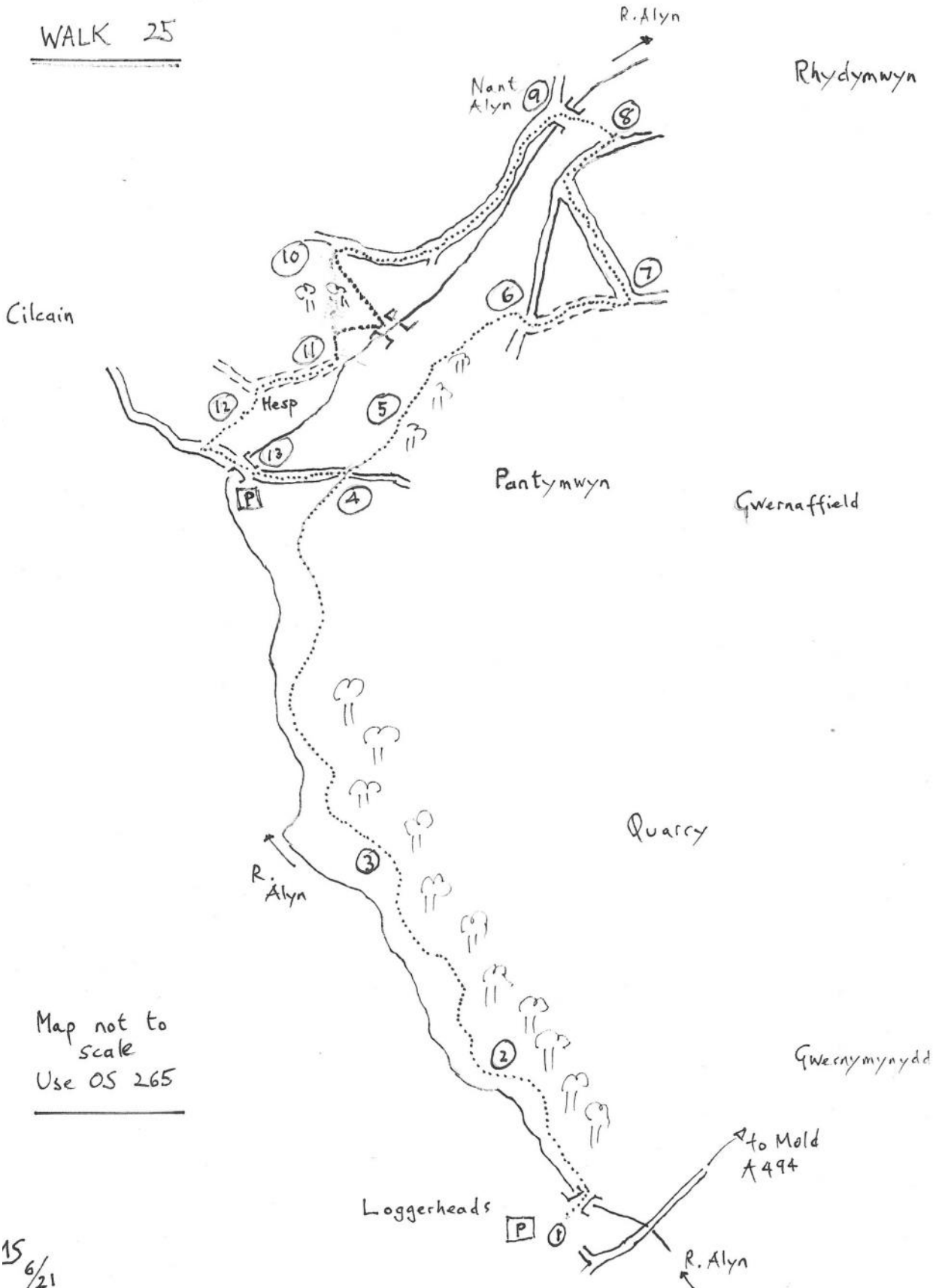
12. You will then reach a field gate, with a notice on it asking you to take care to shut the gate after use. So they expect travellers. In fact there is a bridle way through here. Go through this field gate and almost immediately approach another. Once through here you are in the last field for the day. By keeping to the right hand-side of the field [horse or horses in here] you will eventually come to the last gate which opens out onto the same main road, between Pantymwyn and Cilcain, that you crossed before. A waymark on a pole confirms you have just been walking along a public right of way. What a pity there isn't a corresponding sign the other side of Hesp Alyn.

13 Once on the road now, turn left and cross the narrow bridge over the River [with water in!] and follow the road up to the point where you can retrace your steps to Loggerheads. There is a convenient parking space just at the bottom of the hill, by the way, and if you are simply doing half of this walk, you can park here and use this as your base. Otherwise, walk back to Loggerheads the way you came.

Mike Stevens *Walked June 2021*

**WALKING THE FOOTPATHS IN LEESWOOD & DISTRICT**

**No: 25 - ON THE BANKS OF ALYN WATER (CONTINUED)**





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## LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN NIGHTINGALE HOUSE HOSPICE FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT GROUP

Sorry that we have not been writing to you lately. We have not forgotten your long term generous help to the Hospice but in these difficult times fundraising in the Community has had to be suspended.

Sadly we are not able to book any Events for the time being but will do so when it is safe for every one.

The Hospice are very grateful for your continuing support for their lottery. If you wish to join please ring 01978 313134

Take away meals are very popular and the lovely Cafe Cwtch is open again. To book delicious take away meals please ring 01978 316800.

They can be delivered free in the County Borough of Wrexham, unfortunately from our community we have to go to collect them.

Very best wishes to you all, take care & keep safe.

*Anne, Bryn [Treasure], Bryan, Jane & Jennifer*





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