



Talybont Matters

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Issue 55

Autumn 2016

TALYBONT TABLE TOPPERS

Cricket club win league at first attempt



TALYBONT
ON USK
CRICKET CLUB

Talybont-on-Usk CC marked their return to Herefordshire cricket after an absence of 26 years by winning the Marches League Division Four title at the first attempt, suffering only one defeat during the season to runners up Wormelow 3rds. Both clubs earning promotion to Division Three. Talybont-on-Usk CC recently received the trophy, which was presented to captain **Dan Bowen**, from England fast bowler Ryan Sidebottom at the Marches League presentation night at the Three Counties Hotel in Hereford. An event which saw players and partners attend a superb evenings entertainment.

The season began in May, a month which saw victories over Woolhope 2nds and Kington 2nds and the only loss to Wormelow. It was from this point on that Talybont-on-Usk went on a remarkable unbeaten run of ten games with wins against Stollers 2nds (twice), Luctonians 3rds (twice) Hay-on-Wye, Glangrwyney, Bartestree 4ths, Brockhampton 4ths, Herefordians and the vital away win at Wormelow.

Main highlights during the season with the bat saw **Dan Bowen** score 176 not out, **Craig Robinson** 134 not out and 107, **Martin Hurst** 121 not out and **Guy Williams** 108. **Richard James** also got his personal best with 66 not out. With the ball **Lewis Deacon** claimed two five wicket hauls with 5 for 33 and 5 for 51 and also **Huw Griffiths** claimed 5 for 26.

Talybont-on-Usk's Sunday side, who play friendlies, was captained by **Tommy Kenchington**. They also had a very successful season as they only suffered one defeat out of their six games, which was against local rivals Llanfrynach. Highlights for the Sunday side included **Lewis Deacon** with 71 not out at Ewyas Harold and **Huw Griffiths** 55 runs and 5 for 35 in the victory at Llanvapley.

Overall a brilliant season for the club which saw lots of new faces joining our successful teams. The club also wishes to thank it's sponsors and supporters for their continued support. Talybont-on-Usk CC now look forward to the 2017 season and welcome any new players old or young who wish to play league or friendly cricket. We also have a Facebook group if anyone wishes to join which is Talybont on Usk cricket club 2016.

Huw Griffiths Vice Chair



SIOP SIARAD

We were delighted to sponsor a learners prize at the National Eisteddfod in Abergavenny during the first week of August. The competitors, of which there

were 27, had to write an essay on the subject of bridges.

I was pleased to meet the winner, who comes from Swansea. Here he is proudly displaying his fused glass trophy.

Please remember our informal weekly Welsh talk sessions take place at the White Hart on Fridays at 10:30.

Maureen Probert



Who was paid for 'throwing snow' in 1857?

To find out the answer to this question and many more, come to the Brinore Tramroad Presentation to be held at 5pm on Tuesday 15th November 2016 at The Muse, Glamorgan Street, Brecon. Local resident and tramroad expert John Jones, together with archaeologist Tom Davies, will be presenting new information about our popular and historic tramroad.

Free entry, all welcome.

TALYBONT ON USK
ENERGY YNNI
TALYBONT AR WYSC

Talybont-on-Usk Energy is
delighted to fund Talybont Matters



**VILLAGE
REGULAR
EVENTS**

HENDERSON HALL

**Short Family
Church Service**

2nd Sunday each
month 11am for
approx 30 mins.

Playgroup

Mondays 10 - 12 am
Lydia Cox

Tea and Chat

1st Monday in the
month 3-4.30pm.

Cherry Jones 676232

Zumba Dance Class

Every Tuesday 7:45pm

Heather Vaughan

Talybont Stores

Hatha Yoga

Every Thursday 7:00pm

Cathy Genevie

01873 812637

Talybont Flicks

1st Wed each month

7.30pm

Clare Wright 676679

WI

2nd Wed each month

7pm - 10pm

Penny Morgan

01874 665283

Gardening Club

3rd Fri each month

7.30pm Sept to June.

Chair: Peter Seaman

01874 676225

Junior Tennis Club

Weds 5.30pm - 7.00pm

Sarah Osborne

01874 676633

Cricket Club

Geraint James

07980 160187

WHITE HART

Siop Siarad

Practice your Welsh

Every Friday

10.30am—12.00

Les Williams 676568

Find out about the Talybont Community Car Club!

Ever wondered how our community car club works or whether it's worth joining? Come and see on Sunday November 20th 2-4pm in Henderson Hall car park.



Membership costs £25/household/year. To use, Mr Chips (Skoda Octavia running on biodiesel) costs £18/day and 18p/mile. Heulwen (electric Kangoo van) costs £5/hour and 0.5p/mile. Anyone over 25 years is welcome to join the scheme.

One household has been able to give up one of their cars thanks to the car club, another is exploring whether it could do the same.

Here's what our members say about using **Mr Chips**...

"A substitute car for when I am doing a long journey with work and an instant solution when my own car breaks down"

"I've loved using Mr Chips for many years for my long work trips around Wales.

It's made me feel better about having to be on the road so much, knowing that Chippy emits no CO2 - and use of and wear and tear on my own car has reduced massively."

"we've really enjoyed driving Mr Chips for long car journeys"

"Mr Chips came to the rescue when my car wouldn't start and I needed to get to work"

"Mr Chips attracts attention from outsiders as to Talybont's energy-saving aspirations and achievements - it's something to be really proud of"

And about using **Heulwen**....

"I find the van very useful for transporting those items I can't get in the car boot"

"much cheaper than going to a van hire company"

"borrowing the electric van for picking up a turf cutter or transporting a kids' group"

"transporting 30 tables for a harvest event"

"runs with a load to the recycling centre"

"Heulwen is so quiet and easy to drive and I love it that I'm driving on sunshine!"

So, as one members summed it up...

"instant online booking and a short walk to pick up the keys for 2 eco-friendly cars - what's not to like?"



Come and find out for yourself on Sunday 20th November.

Alison Kidd

**TALYBONT-ON-USK & DISTRICT
GARDENING CLUB**

Friday 18th November

Talk and presentation by Joseph Atkin, Head Gardener of Aberglasney, entitled **"Yunnan the Precious Province"**. Yunnan, literally means "South to the Clouds", and is the province in the very southwest of China with a varied landscape encompassing snow-capped mountains, rice terraces, lakes and deep gorges. It is also another name for "Kingdom of Plants" and is one of the most botanically diverse areas on earth. A number of our most treasured garden plants such as roses, magnolias, rhododendrons, poppies and many others come from this floral treasure trove



This sounds a really fascinating and interesting talk and all members and residents are invited to join us for this special evening presentation, 7.30 in Henderson Hall. Entrance £1 which includes light refreshments. So please put the date in your diaries and come along and join us. Contact Sandra for any further information on 676297.

MARGARET COX

Margaret Cox died suddenly on October 11th 2016 and is very sadly missed by all who knew her. The January edition of Talybont Matters will include a tribute to Margaret and all her tireless work in support of the local community.

Brecknock Decorative & Fine Arts Society

www.brecknockdfas.wordpress.com

Uncovering the Nation's Hidden Oil Collection

1 November 2016 - Mary-Rose Rivett-Carnac

Art UK was set up to catalogue every oil painting in public ownership in the UK. The lecture offers an insider's view of the project and describes some unusual collections visited, intriguing paintings uncovered, detective work involved and assistance given by NADFAS members.

Toulouse-Lautrec and the Cabarets of Paris

06 December 2016 - Peter Webb

The talk will discuss Montmartre and its music halls in the 1890s with special reference to Toulouse-Lautrec. Included will be original recordings of Lautrec's friends including Yvette Guilbert and also original film of Louie Fuller, Josephine Baker and Edith Piaf - and to end with, the French Can-Can!

Nantgarw Porcelain

03 January 2017 -Ieuan Evans and Gwyneth Evans

Local speakers Ieuan and Gwyneth Evans are experts on Welsh pottery and have an extensive collection, sample of which they will bring to illustrate their talk.

All talks at **Theatr Bryncheiniog, Brecon**
Visitors most welcome. £7-50 on the door

Agi Yates

Talybont WI

Meetings at Henderson Hall on 2nd Wed each month 7pm – 10pm

9th November: AGM. Come and join us for an evening of conversation, food and drink. WI style!

14th December :Christmas dinner. Venue TBC
A new programme prepared from all the ideas of the ladies will be ready for January 2017.

New members and visitors welcome.

Penny Morgan 01874 665283

Sue Thorne 01874 676293



Henderson Hall

Contacts

Clare Wright (Chair) 676679

Verity Ryan (Secretary / admin) 676334

Kirsten and Russell Jones (Treasurer) 676509

Shirley Hemmings (Caretaker) 676456

Sue Thorne (Bookings Secretary) 676293

HENDERSON HALL NEWS

BONFIRE NIGHT: November 5th will see another big firework display at Henderson Hall. The gates will be opening at 6pm with the fireworks starting at 7pm. The price has been held yet again at only £3 an adult, £2 a child or £8 for a family of 4. Please do come along. There will be food, soup and hot drinks and everyone is warmly welcomed. Our magic firework man, Stuart Isles, is again coordinating bonfire building and the firework display. He would like to ask for your support which is always much appreciated. If you can give an hour to help out either before or on 5th November please get in touch with Stuart on 07528398307 or 676316. If you have helped before it would great to see you again but if this is your first time you will find that it is easy to offer as little or as much help as you want.

The key dates for preparation are as follows:

Saturday 29th Oct– Friday 4th November : Bring your **wood based** bonfire material to the playing field. You will see an area marked out for this.

Friday 4th: Bonfire building: 10.00am onwards

Saturday 5th: Any final touches to bonfire: 10am onwards

Saturday 5th: Make and bring your Guys, be a Bonfire Night volunteer which could be doing preparation during the day, helping the catering team, being part of the firework team, stewarding and clearing up on the night.

Sunday 6th. Site clear up: 1.00 pm

If you can give a hand especially for the fireworks or catering please let Stuart or anyone from the hall know, or just turn up on any of the prep or clear up days.

BRECON LITTLE THEATRE are proud to present a production of 'A Christmas Carol' based on Dickens classic novel, on Friday 2nd December, 7pm at Henderson Hall. Tickets are £10 for an adult or £5 for under 16's and include a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie. You can buy your tickets on the door or in advance from Brecon Little Theatre by visiting www.breconlittletheatre.co.uk. Don't miss this lovely festive night out for all the family.



CHRISTMAS BINGO: will be on Thursday 8th December. Doors open at 7pm with bingo starting at 7.30. Lots of festive prizes to be won.

Talybont Flicks: please note that there will be no Flicks in December or January.

Clare Wright





SHOW SUCCESS!



TALYBONT-on-USK VILLAGE SHOW

A very successful Village Show and Sports was held in the Henderson Hall and on the Playing Fields on Bank Holiday Saturday. Despite a few early showers the weather did not interfere with the activities on the field which began with a fancy dress competition for the children followed by a full programme of various types of races for children of different age groups.



There were many attractions on the field to interest young people and adults alike. These included a static display of owls, a climbing wall, bouncy castle, pony rides and a wide variety of stalls.

Competitive classes for children and young adults were staged in two marquees and these were very well supported with many entries. The public were very interested in the two wheelbarrow competitions for children up to the age of 11 years and for children aged 12 to 16 years. The younger age group were required to plant up the wheelbarrows with flowers and/or vegetables

to depict a story written by Roald Dahl, while the planting in the wheelbarrows of the older age group depicted the theme "A garden to attract wildlife"

Adult competitive classes for flowers, fruit, vegetables, domestic, art, handicraft and photography were staged in the Henderson Hall.

LIST OF CUP WINNERS

ADULTS

Henderson Cup for local Vegetables, Travellers Rest Cup for Chrysanthemums, Cut Glass for Patio Container, Aubrey Jones Challenge Cup for Championship Vegetables, J. Lloyd Rose Bowl for most points in open Vegetables, Andrew Farr Memorial Award for most points in Show — **IUAN PROBERT**
Manascin Cup for local Flowers, Ashford Cup for local Roses, Best exhibit in local Flowers, Aubrey Jones Challenge Cup for open Dahlias, Aubrey Jones Challenge Cup for open Roses, Aubrey Jones Challenge Cup for most points in open Flowers — **GARETH DAVIES**



Old Rectory Rose Bowl for Floral Art--**MARY FUNDELL** Gethinog Cup for Handicraft--**JEAN LAWRENCE**
Cui Parc Challenge Cup for open Domestic--**DARYL RESTING**
Committee Cup for local Fruit--**ANDREW LARGE**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

Craiglas Cup for most points for child under five, Wheelbarrow Cup for under 11 age group — **EMILY COOPER JONES** President's Cup for best Miniature Garden under 8--**FINN IRWIN**
Talybont-on Usk Baking Challenge--**ESTHER BURDON** Jubilee Cup for best Miniature Garden 9 to 16 age group--**TOM INGLIS** Bendithion Plaque for the Family Challenge--

BRONWEN COX and FAMILY

Playgroup Challenge Cup for most points in Children's section--**LEONEL MORGAN**

Wheelbarrow Cup for 12-16 age group--

JASMINE CALLONI

Girls Sports Cup-- **COCO MORRIS MARSHAM**

Boys Sports Cup-- **HUW COOPER JONES**



Altogether a very successful and enjoyable Show, appreciated by the visiting public, and a reflection of the hard work generated by the Show Committee and numerous volunteers.

If you would like to be part of the organisation or workforce for next year then please contact **Gareth Davies 676200**.

Talybont Stores, Canalside Cafe and Post Office

01874 676663 www.talybontstores.co.uk

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - TASTING NIGHT

23rd November between 6.00pm until 9.00pm

We will have a good selection of Local produce for tasting, including Vikki's Real bread, butter, cheese, Bromfield's meats, Honey, New wines, beers, lagers and ciders, homemade cakes and more. Come along and sample the wares and if you like you can buy on the night or we are setting up an ordering service, so you can place an order for anything and select a day for collection. More information to follow. Look forward to seeing you all for a good night.



Shop

We stock a wide range of products from fresh local meat, bread, milk, eggs, fruit and veg. Coal, logs and kindling. Newspapers, pet products, wines, spirits, local beers and ciders. Frozen meals prepared in the café. Lottery, Top Ups, cash point, greeting cards and stationery. Card payments accepted

Café

Homemade food and cakes, sit in or take away. Packed lunches

Pensioners Specials



Made in Talybont

Local handmade gifts, crafts, keyrings and cards
Personalised greeting cards, vinyl mugs,, vinyl and etched wine glasses and more available

Post Office

Click and collect, health lottery, foreign currency, passport checking service, free cash withdrawals etc.



Bike and Canoe Hire

Available from Talybont Stores in conjunction with 'Bikes and Hikes'

Opening times

Shop: Mon to Sat 7am until 7pm. Sunday 8am until 5pm

Café: Mon to Sun 9am until 4pm

Post Office: Mon to Sat 9am until 1.30pm



EDITORIAL

You know the way it goes. You move to a new area, you meet someone in the local pub, you mention that you have a bit of spare time on your hands and, before you know it, you are signed up! That was me about a year ago: The Royal Oak, Pencelli, Simon Baldwin and Talybont Matters editor being the relevant details. I have to say what a good decision it turned out to be. It is only when you start doing something like this that you really appreciate what a lively and relevant community Talybont and the surrounding villages is. My only real reservation about taking on the role was 'Did I have to go out and get the stories myself?' Don't worry, I was told, there will be plenty of local news to fill the required eight pages. How right that has proved. This is my fourth edition and the second in which I have had to increase the number of pages to accommodate everything that goes on around Talybont. In fact it is the first edition in which I have had enough room to write an editorial. I have been genuinely impressed by the number of different activities that go on, the number of different people that organise them and the support they get from the local population. True village spirit!

Proof came in the recent awarding of the National Lottery grant for improvements to Henderson Hall—you don't get that unless you are serious. Whether it be the numerous clubs and societies, the annual village show, Henderson Hall as a centre for the village, Talybont Stores, the local pubs, the church, the litter pickers, the Community Council or the superb support given by Talybont Energy —everyone seems to buy into it. Of course, there is always room for more volunteers and this publication is littered with relevant email addresses and phone numbers. So no excuse!

We live in a lovely area. We have problems, like everywhere else. Litter, traffic and crime come to mind. However it seems to me, as someone relatively new to the area, that if any community can deal with issues and develop for the good of us all, then Talybont and the surrounding villages can. I have thoroughly enjoyed being editor of Talybont Matters and hope to continue for a long time to come. So keep sending in the articles, some from the younger members of our community would be nice, hopefully there will be room to publish everything!

Richard Abram Editor



Kepow Theatre present

On the Edge!

starring Kevin Tomlinson (and Guests)



Improvised comedy at its very best! About all those moments in life, when we are on the edge!

Fresh from a sell-out world tour to Canada, America, New Zealand and Hong Kong! This wonderful comedy show explores all those moments in life when we are **On the Edge!** Falling in love, leaving home, getting a job, bungee jumping, you name it, this show explores it!

Garnering 5 star reviews at the Edinburgh Festival, **On the Edge** had a sell-out run and received a standing ovation on the last night.

Essentially a comedy - with touching moments in it - **On the Edge** has since been seen at over 300 venues across the UK and had sell out performances all over the world. Kevin Tomlinson and Abi Hood (actress from **The Bill**) take suggestions from the audience and then create amusing or touching scenes based on these ideas. Masks and even a slide show are sometimes included in this show that has received 5 star reviews, wherever it has been seen.

American company **Warner Bros** have recently bought the internet rights to **On the Edge** and the BBC are now looking at turning it into a TV show. Alongside his solo work, Kevin has also performed with the cast of **Whose Line is It Anyway?** at London's Hackney Empire in a show called **Micetro**, raising money for charity.

Excellent...a must see show! ***** THE TIMES

Magical comedy theatre! CRITICS CHOICE: THE HERALD

He reminds me of a young Robin Williams! PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

***** THREE WEEKS

***** THE INDEPENDENT

An improvisation show that can be funny one minute and poignant the next

THE SCOTSMAN (Edinburgh Festival)

This is a chance to see a highly reviewed comedy right on your doorstep. Saturday 11th February 2017, 7pm at Henderson Hall. Keep the date free and look out for tickets which will be sold from Talybont Stores from December. £8 adult and £6.50 child & concessions.

THE TALYBONT "TOMBLES"!!



Our latest Litter Pick was on August 20th - on a very, very wet Saturday morning when only the most dedicated volunteers turned out!! Kevin and Carol, Sue Large, Sue Thomas and myself. However we were well equipped and prepared for the rain in our waterproofs so did the majority of the village within an hour or so. Fiona and Scott "picked" the day before as it was more convenient for them whilst Gareth and Eirona did their section the following day when it was a bit drier - how very wise!! Thank you to the Saturday "pickers" for being so brave!! And also the Friday and Sunday volunteers for being so loyal!! Some of our

regulars were away on holiday which was understandable, hence our low numbers on this occasion.

With regard to the amount of rubbish collected - really not a lot considering it was during the holiday season but of course the vegetation and hedges were in full leaf which hides a large amount but will be visible next time! Kevin and Carol however found numerous bottles and throw away food containers on the road up to Cross Oak which was obviously thrown out of car windows, whilst Fiona and her son Scott even found dirty nappies by Ashford Tunnel! Scott is volunteering as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award scheme and has actually been out throughout the summer in between our normal group meetings, so many thanks Scott for your additional and most welcome help.

As usual the area which required the most clearing up was around the Recycling bins in the Hall car park and it really is unbelievable what people put into the "plastic skips" - it would appear on this occasion to be everything except plastic!!! Are these from holiday makers or local residents - who should be using their own plastic containers on a weekly basis???

Once again thanks to all my volunteers for their invaluable help in trying to keep our delightful village clean and tidy. The next Litter Pick date is **SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER** - a week after Bonfire Night on the Hall Playing Fields so there could be some bits and pieces left over to clear up. **Please meet outside the Shop at 10 am** and I do hope it will be a lot drier than it was on August 20th!! All volunteers are welcome and it would be nice to see some children taking part as they are our next generation of "litter pickers".

Sandra Briskham, Organiser

676297

TALYBONT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

I am pleased to report that after clearing a multitude of legal problems work has started on Phase I of our lottery funded project. The construction of the perimeter path, which will be pushchair and wheelchair friendly, has started. There will eventually be several adult 'trim trail' stations added to the path. Work on the new playground will start shortly, and so it is likely that the existing playground will be closed after half term week to enable us to remove the old equipment. Work parties will be needed for this, so please check the website or in the shop for dates. Help with this will be much appreciated. Phase 2, the hall refurbishment, will start later in the year.

Powys County Council have indicated to us that they will be making repairs to sections of Station Road, and that they will be resurfacing Maes Mawr Lane. The community needs to be aware that the road between Station Road and Mill Lane will be closed between 4 January and 6 January 2017 for water leakage works. A diversion route has been identified, and will be signed. Access, as far as is practical, will be given to emergency vehicles and residents with premises along the affected section. School transport should not be affected.

The Community Council would like to thank Sandra Briskham and her litter pickers for their work this year, they do an excellent job. Please check future litter picking dates in Talybont Matters if you would like to help.

The Council has become increasingly concerned about dogs being allowed onto the playground and playing field area. Dogs, with the exception of guide dogs, are not allowed onto this land, and we would ask Talybont residents to respect this.

Finally, residents will probably be aware that there has been a spate of robberies in Talybont and Scethrog. The Council is meeting with Dyfed/Powys Police to see if they can increase their visibility in the area, but in the meantime be vigilant and keep things locked up. I have also been asked by our community police officer to encourage people to sign up to their crime messaging service. This will help keep people aware of incidents in their area in real time.

www.dpcm.co.uk

Glyn Thomas Chair Talybont C C

TALYBONT-ON-USK & DISTRICT GARDENING ASSOCIATION

We are a very informal group with regular speakers & garden trips out during summer months. Indoor meetings are held in Henderson Hall, always ending up with tea, coffee and biscuits!!



**7:30 pm at the Hall
NEW MEMBERS
ALWAYS WELCOME
- JUST COME ALONG!**

Friday 18th November: Talk and presentation by Joseph Atkins, Head Gardener at Aberglasney.

December: Annual lunch—date and venue to be confirmed.

For any further information please contact either the Chairman:
Mr Peter Seaman 01874 676225 or the
Secretary: Mrs Sandra Briskham 01874 676297

Prioritising Warm Welsh Homes is a new project which aims to help people stay warm, healthy and reduce their fuel bills. We are working across mid and south Wales offering free support on a range of energy issues.

There are two elements:

- 1) Priority Service Register, supplies additional help for those adversely effected by a power cut.
- 2) Impartial energy advice for anyone with high fuel bills or cold homes.

Website: <https://goo.gl/thKIUj>

Email: Priority.homes@severnwyde.org.uk

Phone: 01597 828 871

Resource Efficient Wales, a Welsh Government service which offers free impartial energy advice to households and community groups. Our expert energy advisors provide

Tailored advice on simple behaviour changes and low cost improvements, to improving insulation or heating systems.

Assistance on how to lower your energy bills- one of our clients saved £4,000 through our recommendations.

Information on local and national funding resources are available for those considering renewable technologies. Along with advice on finding accredited installers.

Website www.resourceefficient.gov.wales

**Cymru Effeithlon
Resource Efficient Wales**

0300 123 2020

Arbed ynni, gwastraff a dŵr | Saving on energy, waste and water



There and back again - The Usk Valley, September 30th.

My guest and I took advantage of the lovely weather and did a circular walk from the Star Inn at Tal-y-Bont, along a section of the Henry Vaughan Walk, over the top and down through Bwlch-y-Waun then down onto the canal to return to the pub. We saw thirty five species of birds and a good mix of fungi along the way.

Common Crossbill, Red Admiral and Sheep feeding under the Birch
© N Davies.

In Tal-y-Bont itself we saw House Sparrows, Chaffinches, Wrens, Robin, Mallards and Jackdaws. Along the Henry Vaughan section we watched Blackbirds, Woodpigeons and Carrion Crows but no birds of prey at this point. As we



continued along the section that runs adjacent to the forestry plantation we heard Coal Tits and Siskin's and fungi became evident with small groups of our most deadliest fungi growing – the Death Cap. This species is responsible for 90% of fungi related deaths and is not one to be messed with. Clumps of Turkey Tail fungus grew on rotten stumps as did a group of Dryads Saddle fungus. A large group of Pennywort I photographed earlier in the season had stopped flowering but still looked impressive as did the collection of Leucobreum Glaucum and Polystichum Commune mosses carpeting the forest floor. Several Jays were squawking noisily and a Nuthatch moved horizontally along some branches whereas a nearby Treecreeper spiralled its way up the trunk of a Norway Spruce tree. Numerous young Foxgloves were growing where the soil had been disturbed by the recent tree felling and will add a splash of colour to the ground next year. Mistle Thrushes were flying back and forth over the field and the first of the days Common Buzzards appeared in the distance.



Owl pellet with Beetle wing cases and Death Cap fungus
© N Davies.

As we approached the tarmac road that would take us alongside the forestry we watched a pair of Red Kites flying gently past and Linnets called as they flew overhead. A nearby Birch tree held a small flock of Goldfinches which showed off flashes of gold in their wings as they flew off. Five Swallows flew purposely past heading south to warmer climes. The 'cronking' call of Ravens echoed over the hilltops and a lone Stock Dove flew overhead. Meadow Pipits were numerous and fed in large groups on the Bracken covered hillsides. Three birds flying into the top of the Spruce trees caught my attention and the binoculars showed them to be Common Crossbills. A distant Hen Harrier quartering the hillside was a lovely surprise and we watched two more Red Kites passing over the valley, with a pair of Kestrels working the hillside together in search of food.

After admiring the views of Tal-y-Bont Reservoir we headed down towards Bwlch-y-Waun. Not only were there masses of Tapered Droneflies and Wasps feeding around some Ivy but we counted five stunning Red Admiral butterflies too. A few Harebell flowers gently swayed in the light breeze along the edges of the path. A Stonechat and Pied Wagtails were added to the list. After lunch we descended down through fields, watching Greenfinches and several Chiffchaffs along the way. We found an Owl pellet that did not contain the usual fur and bone, but instead was packed with the wing cases of Beetles that gave off a beautiful iridescent mix of colours as the pellet was turned. We descended down to level ground and walked a section of the canal path back to the pub. As we approached the pub we heard a Dunnock and a Sparrowhawk flew overhead before we settled down to a drink or two at the Star Inn.

Written by Neville Davies - www.ecologycymru.co.uk



@ecology_cymru

ABER AND BENAIAH CHAPELS

Everyone is welcome to come at 10.30 am to the services listed opposite:

Different visiting ministers take the service which leads to many interesting approaches and interpretations. On occasions a DIY service is held when members of the congregation contribute.

Aber	Benaiah
November 20th	November 27th
December 11th	December 18th Christmas service



Food Assembly coming to Talybont on Usk.



The Food Assembly is a social enterprise that connects local food producers/farmers with consumers, through a convenient pre-order online market. It was recently awarded *Best initiative in British Food* at the *BBC4 Food and Farming Awards*, and there are now 70 Assemblies open up and down the country, with one already successfully supporting and promoting Monmouthshire produce in Abergavenny. I am launching the Talybont on Usk Food Assembly in December to support our local producers and make good quality local food more easily accessible and affordable to all.

The initiative supports local producers and enables local buyers to conveniently find and buy from a range of produce, which will mostly be made or grown within 28 miles of the village. Producers fix their own price for their products (and receive over 83% of every sale compared with anywhere between 10-50% with most supermarkets and shops), but it goes beyond just being an outlet to sell great local food, and the aim of the Talybont on Usk Food Assembly is to bring the community closer to its food producers, whilst giving a better deal to producers, supporting the local economy and driving more people to come to the village and shop, and hopefully pop into one of the pubs, the shop/café or the Traveller's Restaurant while they are here, further supporting the village and its local businesses.

The system is very simple: after buying online from a catalogue of local produce, customers pick up their food from a weekly pop-up market where they can meet the people behind their food and learn more about where that food comes from and how it was made, as well as stop for a chat with neighbours and be part of an innovative and original community event. It offers a more direct, sustainable and fair way of bringing good quality local produce to the community, with much less wastage as everything is pre-ordered, producers know exactly what they need to make and bring in advance.

The Talybont on Usk Food Assembly will be launching before Christmas at Henderson Hall and everyone is invited to the launch party! For further information, please join up here - <https://thefoodassembly.com/en/assemblies/9057>. Becoming a member is free and easy with no obligation or commitment to buy, and you will be supporting your local producers and farmers and encouraging more people from neighbouring areas to visit the village and see what we have to offer. If you are a local food producer and would like to get involved and sell your produce through the Assembly, then please email tboufoodassembly@gmail.com.



Ceri Elms

GWENT CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT AT LLANSANTFFRAED CHURCH

A concert of popular classical music for strings and organ performed by the Gwent Chamber Orchestra at Llsantffraed Church on 8th October was a great success. An audience of more than 80 heard the talented orchestra, which has recently been relaunched under conductor Steve Broom and leader Julia Watkins, play pieces by Mozart, Albinoni, Holst, Elgar, Grainger, Boyce and Bartok. A highlight was Sir Karl Jenkins' *Palladio* - a dynamic piece for strings, which Steve Broom explained he had actually played for Karl Jenkins in its original form as an advertising jingle in the 1990s!

The event, which was organized by the Church Committee, raised £600 towards church funds. As usual for concerts at Llsantffraed Church, the audience and performers was also treated to excellent refreshments in the interval. Church treasurer, Brenda Powell, said 'We are very fortunate that Llsantffraed Church is well suited for concerts, and also to have Steve and Julia living nearby in Talybont-on-Usk. The orchestra has given us a wonderful concert of great quality, and we look forward to organizing further concerts with them in the future'.



Mervyn Bramley



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<http://www.talybont.org/newsletter.html>

Llangynidr Farmers' and Producers' Market Llangynidr Village Hall

November 27th
December 18th
January 29th



There are tables available at the
market if you feel you would like
one.

Contact Jenny Thomson
jterwbant@hotmail.com



CHURCH NEWS



The usual service pattern for Llansantffraed, Llandetty and Llanfeugan churches is as follows:-

2nd Sunday of the month - 10am Service at Llandetty / 11am Family Church at Henderson Hall

3rd Sunday of the month - 10am Service at Llanfeugan

4th Sunday of the month - 10am Service at Llansantffraed.

On the 1st Sunday of the month there is usually a joint service at 10am with the other churches of the Beacons Benefice (Llanhamlach, Llanfrynach & Cantref) - please see local notices for further details.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY : Remembrance Sunday is 13th November. There is a service of Remembrance at 10-00am in Llanfeugan Church which is followed by an act of Remembrance at Cross Oak starting at 10:50am. There is also a service of Remembrance at 10:30am in Llanhamlach Church. Everyone is welcome to either event.

HYMN SINGING FESTIVAL at LLANHAMLACH: You are warmly invited to a Festival of Hymns on Sunday 27th November at 6.00pm in Llanhamlach Church. Come and sing your favourite hymns and enjoy cheering refreshments afterwards!

CHRISTMAS EVENTS & SERVICES : These are the services which are taking place within the Beacons Benefice over the Christmas period:-

Sunday 18th December

10-00am Carol Service at Llandetty Church

6-00pm Carol Service at Llanhamlach Church

Friday 23rd December

6-00pm Carol Service at Cantref Church

Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December

3-00pm Family Crib Service at Llanfrynach Church

5-00pm The Living Nativity will hopefully be taking place starting from Talybont Cattle Market Car park in Station Road.

11-30pm Midnight Communion at Llanhamlach Church

Christmas Day Sunday 25th December

10-00am Christmas Communion Service at Llanfrynach Church

10-00am Christmas Communion Service at Llanfeugan Church

You can find details of all our church services on notices in the village, in the churches and on the Community Council website

www.talybont.org

Kelvin Richards

Editor's Note

In compliance with the provisions of the Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2013, this issue of Talybont Matters will be sent to the National Library of Wales for archiving as part of the Library's national collection.

Advertise goods,
services & activities

Free!

**Many thanks to the volunteers
and Talybont Stores who help
in the distribution of this
newsletter.**

Please send in articles!

The newsletter will be published quarterly, at the end of January, April, July and October. All articles to be submitted by 20th of these months to appear in the next issue.

Wherever possible articles will be published in the next issue. However the editor reserves the right to edit articles or hold them back for subsequent issues should there be insufficient space in the current issue.

