

CÆREINION CHRONICLE



ISSUE 3
FEBRUARY 2022



Christmas and New Year have well and truly gone and I hope everyone had an enjoyable festive season meeting up with family and friends.

Whilst I already mentioned the Christmas Lights opening in the last edition it was wonderful to see the turnout on that night and the marvellous display that could be seen on the evening. Thank you again to everyone for making it special.

Congratulations to Sam Webster for her work within the community which was recognised by an award presented by the local Council. This will be an annual event and we hope that residents will consider nominating other worthy people nearer to the time. Only 11 months to go!

There is an article within this publication relating to the settings of defibrillators within the town. What3words App. Please pass this message around to enable everyone to be aware of their locations.

The QUEEN'S JUBILEE is on Thursday 2nd June and Councillors are looking for ideas or events to mark this celebration. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact Robert Robinson our Town Clerk.

Congratulations to Llanfair United FC and Caereinion A table tennis team for being top of their respective leagues. Hopefully they can retain their lead.

May I take this opportunity to apologise to Lin Gethin on the incorrect spelling of her surname in the previous issue.

Cllr. Wyn Williams

LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

MONITORING REPORT



The Town Council has published its first annual monitoring report showing what has been achieved against target in the past year. There are many more projects planned for the ensuing year.

The report can be found on the Council website at www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk

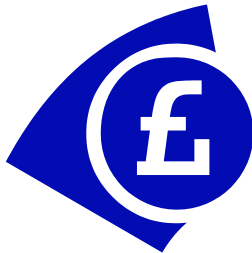
ELECTIONS MAY 2022



The elections for the County and Town Council will take place on Thursday 5th May 2022. All Council seats will be up for election.

Notification will be published by Powys County Council and interested parties can seek information from the town clerk, either in the office or at llanfairtownclerk@mail.com.

PRECEPT FOR 2022/2023



The Council has agreed the budget for 2022-2023 which will see a rise in the precept from £40,000 to £44,000. This is an increase of £2.70p per year for a Band D property. There are a number of projects planned which will be funded by reserves supported by grant aid where possible.

QUEENS JUBILEE



This year, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth 11, will be the first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee. The Council are asking residents for suggestions on how to celebrate the occasion which will be held 2nd to 4th June. Please contact Robert Robinson, clerk, either in the office or at llanfairtownclerk@mail.com with ideas.

TOURISM GRANT



The Council has been awarded a grant to help tourism in the town. The plan is to attract more people from the steam railway into the town. This will be done by information boards, booklets, a tourism website and flag poles along Broad Street and High Street. The information boards will include a map and details of local business as well as other innovative ideas including Q codes.

PLAYGROUND



The council has gained further grant funding for a new playground at Glanyafron. This will allow almost £35,000 to be spent on an upgrade.

Designs were gained by the middle of January and presented to the Junior School children who made their choice. The Council will be considering the quotes at its January meeting. More news soon.

COMMUNITY AWARD FOR SAM



Sam Webster has been given a Community Award for her sterling work in the community including the Carnival and the Royal British Legion. Well done Sam, very well deserved. The Award was presented by Cllr Wyn Williams, the chair of Llanfair Caereinion Town Council, at the Christmas Lights switch on held on Friday 3rd December.

Bygone Days



Llanfair Caereinion Carnival 1955

Back row: Mona Jones, Berys Whiffen, Viola Evans, Mavis Cork, Margaret Whiffen.

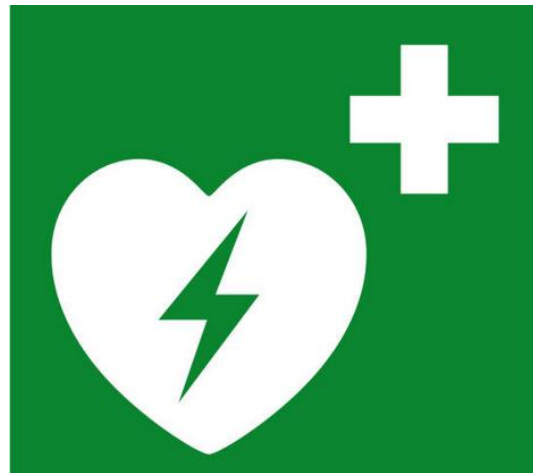
Front row: Pat Evans, Gwyneth Williams.

Submitted by Cllr. Viola Evans

APRIL CHRONICLE

If anyone has a photo or forthcoming event that they would like included in the next newsletter, please contact Cllr. Ursula Griffiths at ursulagriffiths1953@gmail.com or Robert Robinson, clerk, either in the office or at llanfairtownclerk@mail.com.

Defibrillators in Llanfair Caereinion



No	Location	Postcode	What 3 words
1	Leisure Centre	SY21 0HW	Exulted Developer Arranger
2	Doctors Surgery	SY21 9RT	Messaging Green Riots
3	Black Lion Market Square	SY21 0RR	Birthing Realm Flanks
4	Watergate Street <i>In the telephone box by Trem Banwy top of the Town</i>	SY21 0BU	Awaiting Remaining Scanning

There will be more defibrillators arriving soon for locations at Mount Field and High Street.

You can do some training on the use of defibrillators on utube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFvL7wTFzI0>

If you do not have access to the internet please do call the Town Clerk on 07767 267380 and we can arrange for you to see the training DVD.

Remembrance in Lanfair Caereinion



The remembrance Day event started with a service at St Mary's Church. The Last Post was sounded and followed by two minutes silence. Cllr Wyn Williams, Chair of the Council, led the wreath laying followed by the Royal British Legion and others in memory of those who lost their lives defending their country in all conflicts. There was a special memorial service booklet for the day.



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CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – WHAT A DISPLAY FOR LLANFAIR



This year the Christmas Lights were turned on by the Town Crier helped by Bronwen Burns chosen on the night by ballot.

There were carols, Santa giving out sweets to the children, a grand draw and carols to add to the festive spirit.

The lights looked better than ever with the display along the Churchyard Wall and the addition of the new colour LED lighting to St Mary's Church.

Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway Santa Specials 2021



The steam railway hosted its Santa Specials leading up to Christmas with a sell out for almost every train.

The train left a festival Llanfair Caereinion Station where children went through passport control to progress to the North Pole to meet Santa, who was waiting for them.

There were gifts for all the children and those, both young and old, who had birthdays received a special card from Santa.

As everyone went to the train they were given a goodie bag containing drinks and nibbles for the journey to see Santa and his helpers.

The event was Covid safe with social distancing and face masks. All the staff and volunteers had taken tests close to the day to ensure all were as safe as possible.

REPORT FROM GARETH JONES COUNTY COUNCILLOR FOR LLANFAIR CAEREINION



ALL AGE SCHOOL

Ysgol Bro Caereinion have had a very productive January, look out for a press release week commencing 24th Jan for more details.

The all-age new school will open in September 2022.

TOWN ROADS

As shared on social media the A458 Welshpool Road Golfa bank will be closed week commencing Monday 24th January, this will be a 24hour permanent closure. Diversions will be in place and signposted. The closure is potentially until 12th April understandably questions have been asked as to why it is taking so long? I have been told this is the worst-case scenario and hopefully work will be completed much sooner.

Bridge Street will be closed 9am – 5pm from 21-23 March 2022, this is for work carried out by Openreach. I will share further details on social media closer to the time.

PLAYGROUNDS

Further progress has been made regarding playgrounds within Llanfair, the Town Council are asking children for their thoughts on what equipment they would like. I have again spoken to residents in Parc yr Onen who are in the process of getting back to me with what they would like to see in their play area.

COUNCIL TAX SCAM ALERT

Scam callers have been ringing some Powys residents and advising them that they have a credit on their council tax. The person being contacted is then asked to confirm their name and address. And is told they will get another call from a bank to arrange a refund to their nominated account. These calls are not being made by Powys County Council staff! If anyone needs to check if such a call is genuine, they should contact us:

- **Phone:** 01597 827463 (office opening hours 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday)
Email: revenues@powys.gov.uk

If you receive a cold call:

- Don't give out any of your personal details. Don't give out any of your bank details
Don't let on that you live alone

You can report fraud or cybercrime to Action Fraud online, at any time:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime> Or call Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040, Monday to Friday, 8am – 8pm.

BUDGET 22/23

The first briefing of the 22/23 Council Budget has taken place and we have received from WG an increase this year of 9.4% £18374m and the total for 22/23 is £210,257m however we have been advised that the settlement will not be as favourable for 23/24 and 24/25. The settlement is based on data e.g. population, number of pupils, free school meals, and the number of benefit claimants we have. All these stats have increased and hence the improved settlement.

MID WALES GROWTH DEAL

The signing of the final deal agreement between Ceredigion and Powys County Councils was signed 13.1.22. It marks the commitment of all partners to deliver the MWGD bringing a combined investment of £110 from Westminster and Welsh Government. This will see investment Digital Connectivity, Energy, Tourism, Food and Agriculture, Research and Development and Skills.

COVID 19 VACCINATION IN POWYS AS AT 11.1.22

74% of adults in Powys have received their booster. This is the strongest performing Health Board across Wales. 66.8% of 12-15 years olds have received their first dose and 73% of 16-17 years olds have received their 2 doses.

POWYS POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

Population in Powys is currently 133,030. 16% are aged 0-15, 57% aged 16-64 and 37% aged 65+. In the last 20 years the number of people living in Powys has increased by 5%. The changes in population are as follows: Under 16 -14% reduction, 16-65 -2% reduction and 65+ saw 47% increase and 80+ 53% increase. 4088 families in Powys live in absolute poverty. This year we have seen the largest increase in children eligible for free school meals and the increase from 1601 to 2371 children. 80% of people are economically active i.e., working, and self-employed. 93% or 8030 businesses in Powys are micro businesses (employing 0-9 employees. 19% of residents can speak the Welsh language. Powys have distributed 3204 3-day emergency food parcels. Newtown East is ranked as the most deprived area in Powys. All these statistics and data enable the authority to plan in terms of educational needs, types and size of houses we will need in the future. All of which will help shape a stronger Powys.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns that you wish to raise on 01938810296 or cllr.gareth.jones@powys.gov.uk



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Ryan Astley



Local lad, Ryan Astley has made a name for himself with Everton Football Club. He joined the Finch Farm Academy at the age of 9 when his mother, Dawn would ferry him to and fro. At 14 he moved into the club. He was awarded a scholarship to play for Everton in November 2017. The centre-half was Under-17 skipper for Wales in international friendlies.

In 2018 he played his first game for Everton's Under-18s and making rapid progress was promoted to the Under-23s mid-season. David Unsworth, the manager, stated, after his debut against Sunderland, "I thought he was the best player on the pitch. It was a stunning performance".

Ryan was signed up to his first professional contract, a 2½-year deal, in January 2019, fending off predatory moves from Arsenal in the process and agreed a new deal in July 2021 that will potentially extend his Everton career through to June 2023.

In November 2021, when Wales defeated Gibraltar 7-0, he said, "I'm buzzing to have made my under 21s debut and to top it off with a win and goal. It was a great night and one I won't forget for a long time".

Calling all knitters!



The newly formed "Knit and Natter" group has proven to be a success. Meetings are held in the Institute on Wednesday mornings. Everyone is asked to take a lateral flow test before attending.

The group is currently engaged in knitting

poppies and if anyone is interested in helping but unable to attend the meetings, a pattern and wool can be provided. Please contact Shirley Jones on 07866 350554.

Quiz night

A very successful quiz night was held at the Black Lion on 15th November to raise money for the Severn Hospice. Nineteen teams entered and the winners were The Goat. Prize money given by the Black Lion was donated to the charity.

W I

Llanfair Caereinion WI held their AGM this month and appointed a new President and Secretary. We also enjoyed a pottery painting session. Next month we will hold a Valentine's Quiz and are planning an exciting programme of events for 2022, so come along and join us. We meet in The Institute on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7pm. All welcome.



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LET YOUR HAIR DOWN AT THIS YEAR'S LLANFAIR CARNIVAL



We are going to really let our hair down at the Llanfair Caereinion Carnival this year when the highlight will be “Rapunzel; the Pantomime!”

Our theme for the Floats and Fancy Dress will be “Pantomime and the Theatre” which should give everyone the permission they have always wanted to dress up as the Crocodile, Captain Hook, Cinderella or Widow Twanky. If your workplace, your voluntary group or any group you are part of has not put a float into the carnival before, then this is the year. The possibilities are endless (oh yes they are..... oh no they’re not). Be honest, your mind is already racing isn’t it?

We will once again be welcoming our Carnival Queen and her attendants. So if you are interested in being the Carnival Queen or one of her attendants, then keep an eye open on our Facebook page for the details.

We have all missed the Carnival over the last two years and we could all do with a great community get together, a parade through the streets, brilliant entertainment for all on the field and lots of pop for the kids and perhaps the occasional beer for the adults.

So get your red pen. Go to your calendar. Put a big red ring around the date – **the 9th of July**. And start designing your costume and float.

Excerpts from newsletter of Russell George

Our Welsh NHS

I hope to be in a position to update further on improvements in our local health services in the coming months, especially in regards to a new community hospital in Newtown to serve North Powys.

It is truly astonishing to think that one-in-five people in Wales are on an NHS treatment waiting list compared to 1 in 19 in England. It increased by 11,000 in September alone.

No matter how many times Mark Drakeford says there is a record number of people working in the NHS, there are 3,000 vacancies. That means people are not being seen quick enough in A&E – leading to delays in transferring patients from ambulances to hospital, meaning calls are taking longer to respond to, exacerbating conditions that may then need elective treatment. This is all in addition to year-on-year reduction to NHS beds during devolution, with the Welsh Government in Cardiff Bay cutting them by 30% over 22 years.

The Welsh NHS is not the new normal – it is simply normal. And totally unacceptable. We have got to do better. But how do we do that?

First, the existence and locations of other services like minor injury units and community pharmacists need to be promoted far more widely.

Second, is implementing our long-term calls for regional surgical hubs where people on a waiting list can get their treatment sorted closer to home.

We also need rapid diagnostic centres to spot cancers earlier. Nearly 60,000 breast cancer screenings have been missed because of the pandemic with a charity predicting almost 620 women are living with undiagnosed breast cancer.

Thirdly, we need to make GP services far easier to access. Later in January, I am going to launch my ideas for a GP access plan, with concrete and funded proposals that I hope the Health Minister will seriously consider.

Together we can come through this.

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Men Walking and Talking is a non judgmental safe space for men to get together and end the stigma around mens mental health by supporting each other. If anyone is struggling in life then come discuss it Fridays in a safe non judgemental way.



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Friends of Deri Woods



If you are a user of Deri Woods? If you would like to get involved in helping maintain this wonderful Ancient Woodland site or would like to know more about the wood please have a look at the Friends of Deri Woods website. It has a Contact Us link if you would like to get in touch.

<https://e-voice.org.uk/deriwoodsvolunteers/>

We have a workday in the wood on the 3rd Monday of each month and are looking for volunteers who would like to help with maintenance, special projects or wildlife surveying. We work in partnership with Llanfair Caereinion Town Council and Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust.

A little bit of history

Cysgod y Cryman and *Yn Ôl i Leifior* describe the social tensions between two generations on a fictitious large family farm, called Lleifior, in Montgomeryshire, Mid Wales. Islwyn lived in that county – working as a minister in Llanfair Caereinion – when *Cysgod y Cryman* was published in 1953. It was his first novel and it breathed new life into the Welsh-language novel, inspiring a new generation of authors to tackle the genre. It also established him as the foremost Welsh-language novelist of his era.

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Town Trail



The statue of the horse's head has been put into place opposite the railway. It marks the start of the Town Trail and represents the first entry, referring to Victor M. Jones or Vic, as he was known.

He worked for J L I Peate, the local coal merchants, by the railway station.

One day, while working in the coal yard, a farmer took his two Shire horses down to the river for a drink. Suddenly, they bolted, dragging the farmer into the swollen river at a point known as "The Whirlpool". Vic jumped into the fast-flowing water to try and save him but his bravery was unrewarded. Both horses survived.

Vic went on to serve with the Royal Welch Fusiliers, surviving the terrible explosion on HMS Abdiel, in 1943, although he suffered severe injuries.



Green Connections Powys

Green Connections Powys is a collaborative Wildlife Trusts project across Powys working with community groups, small businesses, landowners and local councils to take action to address climate change and biodiversity loss and create a nature recovery network across the county.

Together we will be surveying and mapping wildlife, advising on habitat management and nature-based solutions, helping people encourage more wildlife into their communities and offering opportunities for upskilling and volunteering.

This project has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

If you are interested in getting involved, or want to find out more, please contact our **Community Wildlife Officer:** lottie@montwt.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

February 10th Women's Institute 7pm Institute
16th Knit and Natter 10-12noon Institute
March 10th Women's Institute
16th Knit and Natter
April 14th Women's Institute
20th Knit and Natter
May 5th Local Council elections
June 2nd – 4th Jubilee celebrations
July 9th Carnival and "Rapunzel – the pantomime".
September 2nd – 4th Annual Steam Gala. Railway station

Paddington Bear and Peppa Pig will be visiting the railway later in the year, details to follow.

CYNGOR TREF LLANFAIR CAEREINION LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL

Cllr Wyn Williams Chair- 01938 810823
Cllr Ian Davies Vice Chair – 07887 714444
Cllr Rob Astley – 01938 810393
Cllr Richard Derricutt – 07767 267830
Cllr Hazel Davies – 01938 810152
Cllr Cadvan Evans – 01938 810752
Cllr Viola Evans – 01938 810481
Cllr Ursula Griffiths – 01938 810573
Cllr Gareth Jones – 01938 810296
Cllr Geraint Peate – 01938 810657
Cllr Kate Roberts – 01938 811196
Cllr Ceri Stephens – 01938 810625

Robert Robinson Town Clerk – 07767 267830

Council Meetings:

Mondays 14th & 28th January 2022 at 7.15pm

All meetings are held in the Youth Room of the Institute Bridge Street Llanfair Caereinion

Agenda and Minutes on the Website at
Website www.llanfairtowncouncil.co.uk or call in the Office
open most Friday afternoons from 2pm to 5pm.
Call 07767 267830 to check times.

Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway

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To learn more, visit <https://wllr.org.uk/membership/>

Reopening on February 19th

Issued by Llanfair Caereinion Town Council 07767 267830