



Severn Lake, Aberhafesp. February 2022
after the terrible storms.

ABERHAFESP COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022

FROM THE EDITOR:



The Polish community in Welshpool arranged a collection of donated goods on the 2nd March, and our local residents responded amazingly by gathering items and delivering them to Welshpool for transport to the Polish/Ukraine border to support thousands of refugees fleeing the Russian invasion. Well done.

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



The Platinum Jubilee of Elizabeth II is being celebrated to mark the 70th anniversary of the accession of her Majesty to the throne. The 2022 May bank holiday weekend has been moved to Thursday 2nd June resulting in a four-day bank holiday weekend for the nation.

ABERHAFESP WILL BE CELEBRATING ON
SATURDAY 4th JUNE
AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
3PM TEA AND CAKE
YOUNG FARMERS GAMES ON THE PLAYING FIELD
7PM BBQ
MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

COMMUNITY CENTRE

This spring has been very frustrating for all at the hall, trying to keep going during the latest Omicron threat. Happenings in the hall have been on, then off, then on again. However, we did manage a good coffee morning on February 20th, with Margaret Pugh's sister taking a stall for her lovely paintings – 'The Boat' was my favourite. We sold all of our bacon butties!

We have plans for later this summer, a special weekend to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, bless her, which you will read about elsewhere in this newsletter. Also probably in September, and by popular request an Italian evening and Quiz.

The new sound system is now installed and working well, and already tested by one hearing aid user. The sound quality of the music is first class, and I am sure the system will be a great asset.

This spring, the weather hasn't helped, and on February 20th that terrible Sunday, I woke to lashing rain, gale force winds, and water from the side of my chimney going "plop" onto the bedroom floor. I was due to drive to St. David's to be with some of my family, in a rented old mill, for half term. I risked what became an epic drive, after taking courage from Steph, one of our W.I. members who I knew had driven to Albania, and back three times! I left two buckets in the bedroom.

After dropping the dog in kennels, I was wet, blown away, no hood, and my hair looked like Germaine Greer's on a bad day. The road was flooded most of the way through Llangurig to Aberystwyth, with the mist near Plynlimon down to the road, so I avoided my usual scenic route via Devil's Bridge.

The coast road was better, especially after Fishguard, when I was able to put my foot down. Thank goodness for a diesel car, with wide wheels, I managed St. David's in time for a pub lunch in Solva, but on seeing me my son said, "Mum, have you got a hairbrush?"

It was a good few days, with spectacular seas, and fun with their two dogs on White Sands beach. My son was convinced, finally, that we could not have a trip round Ramsey Island, when a wave on Aberiddy Beach soaked his wife and daughter to the waist. The lifeboat would have struggled in those seas! We had a marvellous dinner one night at my all time favourite restaurant "The Shed" at Porthgain: really fresh fish, beautifully cooked as always, amazingly, from a very small kitchen. We had tea one day, at the other surprising place in Porthgain, "The Sloop", which looks like a suburban bungalow, but opens up inside, like the tardis, the beams, sea memorabilia and a very warm welcome.

Back to Aberhafesp: I hope you will all have a happy summer at last, and that we can all get together more.

Maddy Thornton. Chair

XMAS 200 CLUB WINNERS

Winners drawn at the Xmas Party on Saturday 4th December 2021

£100	Paula Roberts	Llanwnnog
£75	Avis Thomas	Aberhafesp
£50	Gwyn Jones	Llanwnnog
£50	Gareth Jones	Llanwnnog
£25	Sam Shearer	Tregynon
£25	Ivor Lloyd	Bwlchyffridd
£25	Heather Parry	Aberhafesp
£25	Mr & Mrs Jarman	Clatter
£25	G. Evans	Aberhafesp
£25	Ivor Astley	Llanwnnog
£15	Tom & Jamie Owen	The Garth
£15	Mr. Breeze	Hillcrest
£15	Christine Green	Bwlchyffridd
£15	Russell Bradley	Caersws

SPRING 200 CLUB WINNERS

Winners drawn on 22nd March 2022

£50	Mrs Freda Jones	Caersws
£25	Hazel Williams	Caersws
£25	Janet Edwards	Aberhafesp
£25	Ms Jan Griffiths	Aberhafesp
£25	Sarah Holloway	Tregynon
£25	Paul Edmonds	Caersws
£15	Llywela Gethin	Llanwnnog
£15	Marjorie Williams	Llanwnnog
£15	Len Davies	Aberhafesp
£15	Margaret & Erfyl Pugh	Llanwnnog

Note: Tickets will soon be available for the 2022/23 Draw (£10 each)

POWYS PETS IN NEED

Powys Pets In Need was established by the founders, Amy Le Clerc & Michael Le Clerc on the 30th April 2020.

We knew Powys is one of the worst counties for people in poverty, and with the start of the pandemic, this put people in a worse situation, due to the fact a lot of people were already on the lowest budget for shopping, then with the panic buying, that low budget shopping was no longer there.

We donate free pet food short term to people on low income, who live in Powys, and we deliver free once a month, we cover the whole of Powys (2,000 square miles)

We have helped over 170 beneficiaries, and so far from our first donation to our first beneficiary on the 12th August 2020 until now, we have donated over 105,000 pet meals.

Dogs 57,301 /Cats 45,655 /Rabbits 2,370 /Guinea Pigs 300 /Horses 180

We know most of our Beneficiaries were feeding their pets, but eating junk food themselves, so the main reasons we do this is so people can eat a tidy meal, and to prevent pets being re homed.

We have had help and support from a wonderful community, also food manufacturers and the National Lottery and Postcode Lottery.

The situation is getting worse at the moment with the price inflation on all groceries and bills.

If anyone would like to help and support us, we are looking for donated pet food, or donated items that we can sell at our events or our boot sales. We also have a PayPal link on our facebook page and on our website.

Email: powypetsinneed@gmx.co.uk

Facebook [powypetsinneed](#)

Instagram [powypetsinneed1](#)

Website: powypetsinneed.com

Tel: 01686 689114 Mobile: 07385 784394

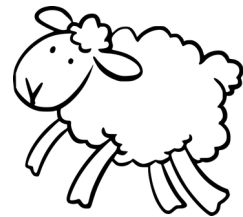
Lambing Season

Please walk your dog responsibly!

**Keep to footpaths
Keep dogs on leads**

Q: Can a farmer legally shoot a dog that is worrying sheep?

A: Yes. Under section 9 of the Animals Act 1971, such action must be reported to local police within 48 hours



COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Aberhafesp Community Council covers the area of Aberhafesp, Bwlch-y-Ffridd, Bethel and Rhyd-y-Felin.

A Community Council is governed by the Local Government Act of 1972. Here in Aberhafesp it consists of seven Councillors who sign a Declaration of Office and work on a voluntary basis for the good of the whole community. They are supported by a clerk who is employed to ensure the correct procedures are enforced and the smooth running of the Council in general.

Meetings are held on a **Wednesday evening in the Community centre**, and members of the public can attend any meeting, unless otherwise specified.

Notice of each meeting

is displayed for three clear days giving the date, the time, and the agenda.

They are posted on the notice boards at Bwlch-y-Ffridd, Hillcrest Aberhafesp, the Community Centre and the telephone kiosk in Bethel.

Details of meetings can also be found on the

Community Council [Facebook page](#) and the **Community Council website**

You can access the latest *County Councillor monthly reports* as well as current *County planning applications*, where you can enter comments to support or object.

The minutes of meetings are only posted on the website after they have been approved by the Community Council which takes place at the start of the following meeting. For example minutes from a meeting in July would be approved in August, if a meeting was held then.

If you have an item you wish to add to the agenda please contact the clerk Rachel Hamer rachel.hamer72@hotmail.com. Come and just watch if you have an interest in anything on the agenda, or if you have anything you wish to bring to the attention of the council and you wish to speak at the meeting you need to ask the chairman.

NOTICE OF ELECTION

Election of Powys Community Councillors

An election is to be held of Community Councillors for the County of Powys.

Nomination papers must be delivered to the Returning Officer no later than 4.00 pm on Tuesday, 5th April 2022.

If the election is contested, the poll will take place on

THURSDAY, 5th May 2022.

Applications to register to vote must reach the Electoral Registration Officer by midnight on 14th April 2022.

Applications can be made online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. Electors should take note that applications to vote by POST or requests to change or cancel an existing application must reach the Electoral Registration Officer by 5.00pm on the 19th April 2022.

Applications to vote by PROXY must reach the Electoral Registration Office by 5.00pm on the 26th April 2022. Applications to vote by emergency PROXY on the grounds of medical incapacity, or if your occupation, service or employment means you cannot go to a polling stations after the above deadlines must be made by 5.00 p.m. on POLLING DAY.

Dr Caroline Turner, Returning Officer Tel: 01597 – 826202

POLITE NOTICE

It has been brought to the attention of the Community Council that dog mess is not being picked up within the village of Bwlch-y-Ffridd. Please pick it up and dispose of it in your own waste at home.

YOUR DOG, YOUR MESS!!

Thank you



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SHORT MAT BOWLS

We have continued to meet at the Community centre every Tuesday evening. Due to the continued uncertainty of the Covid situation teams have not taken part in the league this year, but recently members have entered, single, pairs and triples Saturday competitions.. We have organised our own in house pairs competition for members on club nights. Hopefully we can get back to normal when we return in September. *Elaine Benbow: 01686 625586*



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POWYS BEFRIENDERS

**Feeling lonely or socially isolated?
Would you like someone to talk to?**

PAVO's Powys Befriending Service supports people over the age of 50 living in Powys, to help maintain their independence, build confidence, develop their social network and reconnect with activities in the community or with a friendly cuppa and chat in their own home. We have skilled, trained Volunteers who can provide face to face befriending, regular telephone calls, letter/email correspondence as well as supporting you to access a wide range of online groups and local social activities.

Powys Befriending Service is a project to improve the independence of people over 50, to maintain their social networks and remain in their own homes for as long as they are able.

To make a referral to **Powys Befriending Service:**

Call 01597 822 191 for an informal chat or email [pbs\(at\)pavo.org.uk](mailto:pbs(at)pavo.org.uk)

[See our Facebook page](#)

[or the Web page](#)

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GAME CHANGE PROJECT

It has been a busy start to the year and we have seen a huge increase in referrals as more young people need opportunities to raise their aspirations and gain confidence following the school closures and lack of activities during the pandemic. In February, a group of young people helped us run a 4x4 event for Caerphilly Veterans Support Hub. The event was a great success and bringing the younger and older generations together proved very rewarding for all involved.

We are extremely grateful for the support and generosity shown by local groups who kindly donated proceeds from fundraising events to the project. Knit and Natter Newtown donated £200 raised at a craft fair and Caersws Village Club donated £900 raised from a Christmas raffle. The extra cash will help us purchase craft materials, outdoor heating and IT equipment so that we can offer a wider range of activities. Huge thanks to all who helped raise the money.

We would also like to thank everyone who voted for The Game Change Project in Tesco's community grant scheme in the lead up to Christmas. We were delighted to hear that we came second and have been awarded a grant of £1000. We really appreciate the support of local people and would love to hear from anyone who would like to get involved.

Sian: 07766606276

[email: ask@gamechangeproject.com](mailto:ask@gamechangeproject.com)



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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Due to the increase in Covid cases over Christmas and the new year and for the safety of our members we cancelled our January meeting. We were going to have a keep fit evening in February but this was cancelled at short notice. We are grateful to one of our own members, Steph Benbow who stepped in to give us a very interesting and moving talk, describing her trips over land to Albania to take medical aids for disabled people. We were amazed how much she could pack into her van but it was clearly very much appreciated. Before we commenced our March meeting we spent a moment to reflect on the situation in Ukraine and to take the opportunity to say thank you for all the kind efforts that have been made locally to help the refugees from the country. Then we went "Through the Garden Gate" with Helen Anthony telling us how the National Garden Scheme originated. Through the generosity of enthusiastic gardeners opening their gardens and providing the welcome tea and home made cakes, £3million was raised in 2021 to support nursing and health charities. Our successes in the County W.I. Literary Eisteddfod last year seemed to encourage more members to "have a go" resulting in 15 entries being submitted this year.

Sport has resumed in the county and despite cancellations of matches and difficulty in rearranging them our sports ladies have yet again made us very proud. Our dominoes team reached the final and came away with second place. Steph Benbow and Fiona Willians came fourth in the short tennis and the darts team will shortly complete all their matches.



Dominoes team: Glenys Pryce, Doreen Lloyd, Angela Welbourn, Jean Jones, Joyce Owen

We had to forgo our Christmas lunch this year so we are making plans to either go out for lunch in June or having been inspired by our last speaker we are keen to have a garden visit. Also a member has very kindly offered to host a Strawberry tea in her garden, so much to look forward to. If you would like to join us for any of our meetings they take place at the Community centre in Aberhafesp on the first Thursday of each month at 7p.m. **Note:** Due to the local election taking place in the hall on May 5th our meeting will take place in the Church Room at St. Gwynog's.

April 7 th	Welsh Costumes	Eleri Williams	Competition: Four Welsh cakes
May 5 th	Pegloom Weaving	Sharon Smith	Competition: Jug of flowers from your garden
June 2 nd	Jubilee lunch	?	
July 7 th	Trip	Garden visit	
August	Holiday		
September 1 st	Fashion and undergarments	Jemma Esvelt (Powysland Museum)	Competition: Period photograph showing clothes from the past
October 6 th	The Rhine valley from Coblenz to Basel	Edward Parry	Competition: Favourite holiday photograph
November 3 rd	Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust	Dave Lewis	Competition: Flower arrangement for Bonfire night
December 1st	Chocolate Making	Lori of Coco Pzazz	Competition: Dish of home made sweets

Elaine Benbow President

Are you elderly, disabled (young or old) or just have mobility problems?

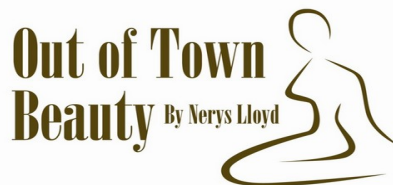
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ST GWYNOG'S CHURCH

Easter

We shall be having a service at 12:00 on Good Friday 15th April, followed by soup and a hot cross bun. Then on Easter Sunday we shall be welcoming Peter Pike to speak at our service at 9:30am. We will be decorating the churchyard over the Easter season and hope that the community will help us, especially the younger children like they did last Easter.

Prayer Vigil for Peace in Ukraine

St Gwynog's Church was open on Friday 11 March from 8am to 8pm for anyone wishing to pray for peace in Ukraine and Russia. Thank you to all who attended and a big thank you to Steph for organising the event and laying out a variety of very thought-provoking prayers and poems as well as activities such as making Doves.

All donations were added to the DEC appeal run by the Church that raised a total of £5,535 including Gift Aid and £500 given from the Fair Trade Coffee morning funds. A huge thank you to everyone who donated.

Jean Jones

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Jean. Jean has been a much loved member of St Gwynog's for much longer than many of us have known her and also a member of our Mothers' Union. She has been known by some members of her church family as "Miss Ellie" (from Dallas days), always smartly dressed with a beaming smile and a giggle. When she was unable to drive, Peter and Pam would collect her for church & Mothers' Union along with Winnie and both would sit in the back of the car chatting away, laughing and giggling. Thank you Jean for brightening up our lives.

The **Fair Trade shop & café** re-opened after the Christmas break in February and the event was possibly our busiest ever with over 60 present. It continues on the 1st Saturday of each month and it is wonderful to see so many people and we thank everyone for their continued support.

Services continue at St Gwynog's and there is no longer a requirement to wear a face mask if you do not wish to. We have a Holy Eucharist service at 9am on the 1st Sunday of the month and a Morning Prayer service at 9:30 on the 3rd Sunday. We also hold midweek services at 11am on a Wednesday twice a month, with Morning Prayer on the 2nd Wednesday and Holy Eucharist with Nia on the 4th Wednesday. Monthly virtual Youtube services from Newtown have now stopped but Nia will be preparing Easter and Christmas services.

Eco Church

At the beginning of March, 7 bird boxes were put in place in the churchyard and we are waiting for some training to manage them and report to the British Trust for Ornithology. If anyone would like to get involved with the task of recording the movements etc in the boxes please get in touch.

Snowdrop Teas

The snowdrops this year have been wonderful, and we were sorry that we were unable to hold the teas this time due to unforeseen circumstances, but we hope next year to be back in business again. See our [Facebook page](#)

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LOCAL YOUNG FARMERS

Aberhafesp young farmers have been glad to get back to a bit of normality with great club nights in the community centre like trampoline exercise class and a movie night. We also have had some joint nights like bowling with neighbouring club Trefeglwys young farmers. We also are so pleased to have Montgomeryshire Junior member of the year, Ruby Grigg. Ruby won at county and will now enjoy a year in her new role helping and being the voice of all young members in Montgomeryshire. On Sunday 27th March Ruby went to Builth to compete against all other winners from across Wales and she came an amazing 3rd place. As a club we are so proud of her and look forward to seeing what she does in the next year.

Looking forward to summer the club has a few things planned. Fun club nights, and preparing to enjoy the country Rally held in Llandrinio. In addition, we look forward to getting together with the community for the Queen's Jubilee for a fun evening of games, food and drink with the community. We are also planning on doing a walk in aid of Yellow Wellies and DpJ raising awareness and money for both great charities. Please keep an eye out for more information.

Gemma Owen: Chair 07791466484

COMMUNITY CENTRE HIRE

If you are arranging a family event, children's party, funeral tea, or a meeting, our community centre building, marquee and a gazebo are all available for hire. Local residents are also able to hire tables and chairs for private off site functions. There is a fully functioning kitchen and a newly installed sound system which includes a hearing loop. For details of costs:

For the hall contact: Graham Green 01686 651225 graham.green2@btinternet.com

For the marquee or gazebo contact: Nigel Hamer 01686 650702 nigelhamer68@hotmail.com

ABERHAFESP COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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This newsletter can be accessed from both the website and our [Facebook](#) page

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

Residents and friends of Aberhafesp and Bwlch-y-ffridd have submitted their email addresses to the editor of this newsletter giving permission for the distribution of quarterly issues of the newsletter plus occasional emails giving additional local news and/or information. Consent for the use of personal details to be held for this purpose can be withdrawn at any time.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of this newsletter will be published in **July 2022**. Please send any articles of interest to the Editor (mbedworth@gmail.com) no later than the **20th June**.

Also: If you usually receive this newsletter as a printed copy through your letterbox and you have an email address please let the editor know so that we can save on the cost of printing.

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