

# THE RADNOR

## JUNE 2021



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# Gladestry



Duck Race, July 2018, - photo by Dave Latham



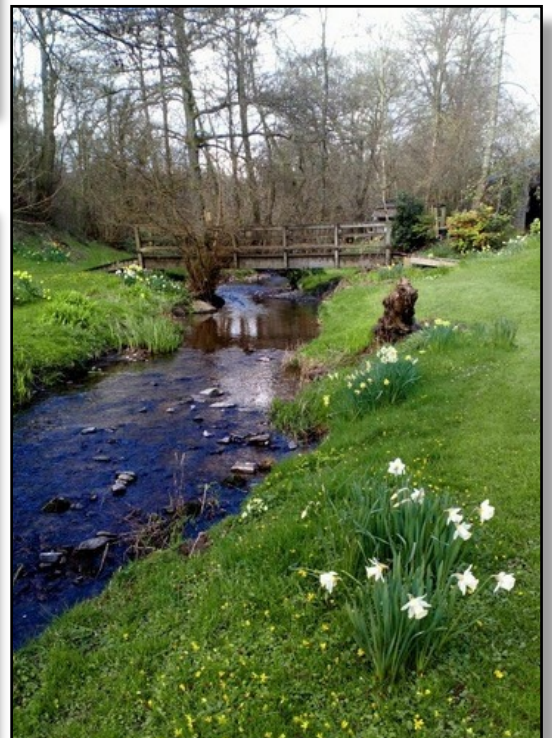
Running in the Hills - photo by Laura



Gladestry Brook Flowing Through the Village  
Photo by Philip Halling on Geograph



Gladestry Brook From Village Bridge



Gladestry Brook and Footbridge,  
downstream of Mill Cottage  
- photo by Joanna Crawhaw

# Gladestry Brook

## All streams lead to Gladestry

Gladestry Brook is part of the Upper Arrow Valley system and is fed by a wide network of numerous small tributaries springing from the hills surrounding Gladestry village. Depending on rainfall, the higher streams may be dry but their course is usually visible. Throughout their length these waterways provide a wonderful habitat for a wide range of wildlife.

Starting from the north are the streams which originate in the hills behind Llanhowell and the Foyce, these join and run alongside the school then under the B4594 main road.

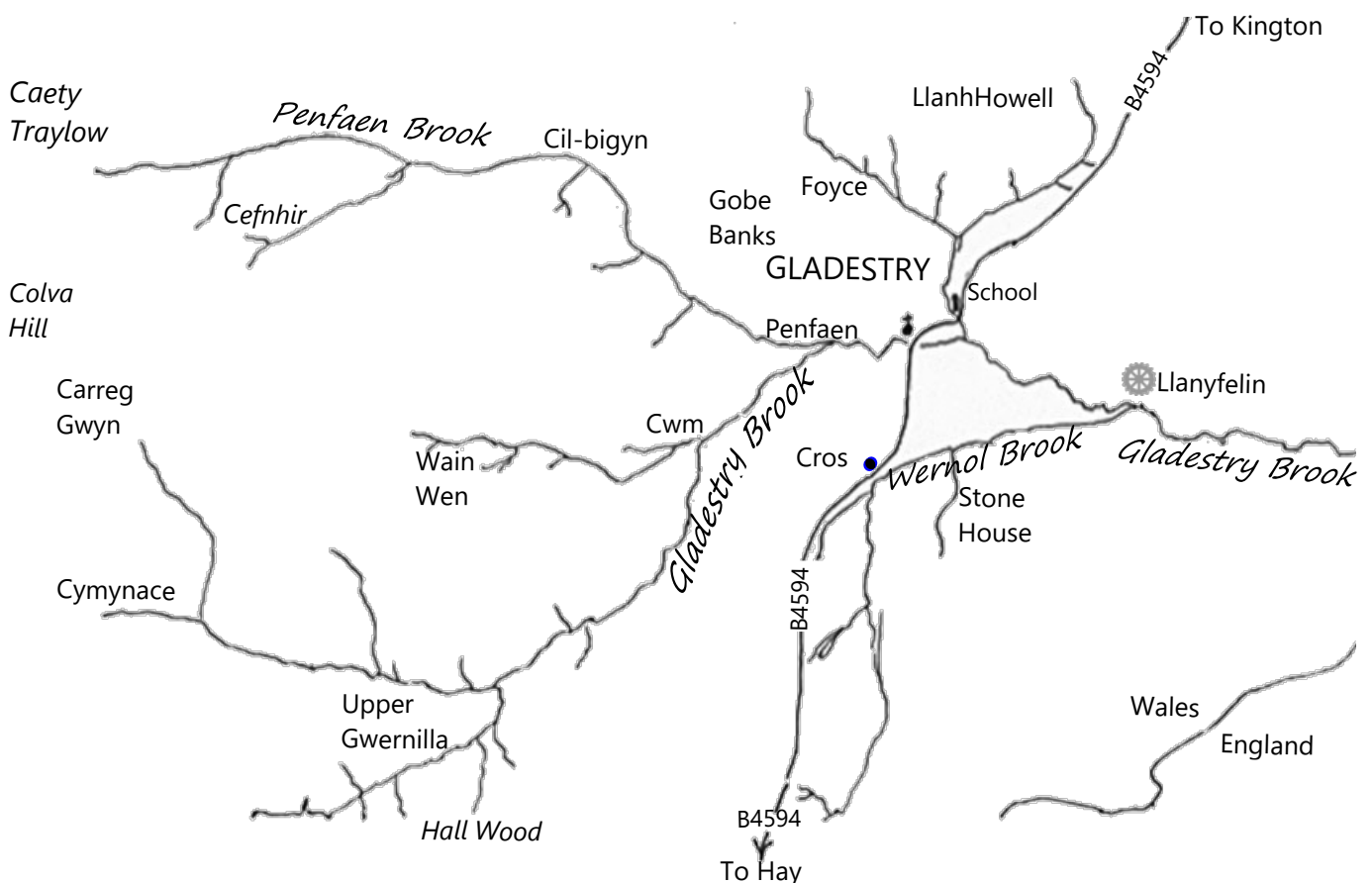
To the northwest streams rising on Caety Traylow and Cefnhir join to form Penfaen Brook which runs past Cil-bigyn, then takes a south easterly course towards the village.

To the west there are several tributaries springing from Colva Hill and Carreg Gwyn

which amalgamate into Cwmynace brook. This is joined by more tributaries from the south to form Gladestry brook which flows down to the Cwm, here it is joined by a stream from Wain Wen. [The Cwm has recently been renamed Afon Gwyddyl, the original name of Gladestry Brook.]

Penfaen and Gladestry Brooks unite west of the village centre and run south of the church and the White Hart then under the southerly bridge on the B4594.

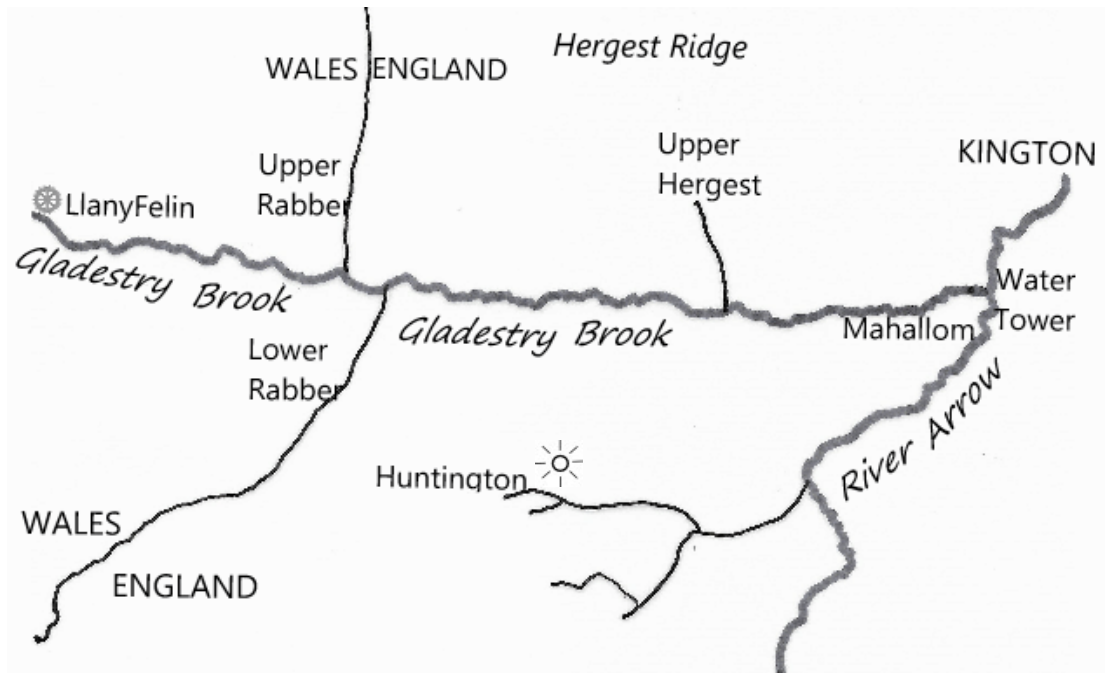
The brook flows past Church House and Gladestry Court then in a short distance on the east side of the village it is joined by the 'school stream'. It takes a south easterly course out of the village and in approx 1km it is joined by the Wernol brook. Wernol Brook originates in the southerly hills and for a short distance flows down alongside Offa's Dyke path near Stone House. *(Continued overleaf)*



## Gladestry Brook Continued

The most southerly tributary has its origins on Disgwylfa Hill and its final course forms the Wales/England border to join the main brook near Lower Rabber.

Gladestry Brook's last lap is in England where it joins the river Arrow at Mahollam. The Arrow joins the Lugg (which also rises in Powys and flows through Presteigne) at Stoke Prior, south of Leominster.



Over the Border - The Final Course of Gladestry Brook

### Gladestry Mill:

There are records of a mill in Gladestry as early as the 14th century but it is uncertain when it ceased to function. It was on the brook opposite Llanyfelin farm, about a kilometre from the village on the Huntington road. (Welsh *felin* is mutated from *melin* – meaning *mill*) The mill leat is now permanently dry but still visible as is the holding pool which continues to fill after heavy rainfall. The mill building was on the site of what is now Mill Cottage situated just below the junction of Wernol and Gladestry brooks. There is a stretch of about 150 metres running through the garden and during the last 40 years it has been fascinating to watch the slow changes in the course and depth of the water.



Mill Cottage before renovation in 1976  
with brook in the foreground

## Gladestry Brook Continued

### Wildlife on Gladestry Brook:

The most obvious change is the disappearance of the ford which was just downstream of the footbridge in the centre of the village (see page 6). Here, there are now steep banks with deep water where brown trout lurk in the shade and where several small eels were recently sighted. The banks are perforated with the burrows of water voles and there is evidence of otters – regular deposits of spraint on exposed stones – but these shy creatures are seldom seen. A mink was spotted recently but hopefully it is not in residence! Lamprey's have been seen on the unnamed stream by the school.

There is plenty of tree cover, mainly alders, for a wide variety of wildlife and a wealth of song birds, woodpeckers, nuthatches & tree creepers and now (end of April) the welcome return of pied flycatchers to their nesting boxes. On the water itself wagtails, dippers, the occasional heron and the infrequent -- but always thrilling -- flash of a kingfisher can be seen.

### Ecology:

Gladestry Brook is an important tributary of the River Arrow and in 2008 it was part of the Wye & Usk Foundation survey of the Lugg and Arrow catchment streams. The aim of the project was to identify any environmental or ecological issues that were adversely affecting fish in these rivers so that conditions could be improved to make the fish population self-sustaining.

Surveys and work were carried out on 3.5 km of the brook with clearing, coppicing and subsequent regeneration of bank side vegetation. This resulted in narrowing and deepening of significant stretches of water and a marked improvement in fish population.

*Joanna Crawshaw*

## History of Gladestry Brook

**T**he beautiful Gladestry Brook, gurgles its way through the village at a cracking pace. Watching it skip over stones and twigs one is reminded of the poem, "The Brook" by Alfred, Lord Tennyson. A verse from it:

I chatter over stony ways,  
In little sharps and trebles,  
I bubble into eddying bays,  
I babble on the pebbles.

What sights, what sounds, what changes Gladestry brook has witnessed over the years.

A hundred years ago water from the brook was collected by villagers and taken to their homes for the weekly laundry. A well, just above the White Hart (one time public house, now a private dwelling), provided drinking

water for the village. Situated a little behind the White Hart was a small cottage; the family there had ducks which they regularly walked to the brook. The path they took lay between the White Hart and Margaret Villa, the dwelling opposite and this path became known as 'Duck Alley.'

One or two inhabitants of Gladestry can remember the days when brown trout were common in the brook and people would often catch them using the tickling method. The water must still be fairly clean as it's not unusual to find tiny fresh water crayfish.

*Ann Dean  
continued overleaf*

## Gladestry's Ford

There was a ford where the bridge now is. A footbridge was there by 1906. Freda Baylis remembered it when she was a child: "There was an old footbridge in the village over the river, and some of the wood was rotten. Once my brother Bernard sat on it and fell in. I remember my brother Fred and Ossie Alman were acting the fool on that bridge and both fell in the water. Ossie was afraid to go in the house because his father was there. So he was all day walking about in wet clothes."

Photo & text from "Gladestry 1900-1999 A Century of Change" by Robert Hughes (one time Headmaster of Gladestry School) and Richard Hughes (no relation) one time Church Warden at St Mary's, Gladestry.

### R.A.C. Rally - 1924

#### Water Splash at the Ford

A Gladestry resident remembers when there was no bridge on the Newchurch road out of the village, so motor cars and ponies had to navigate a ford, known locally as 'The Water Splash.'

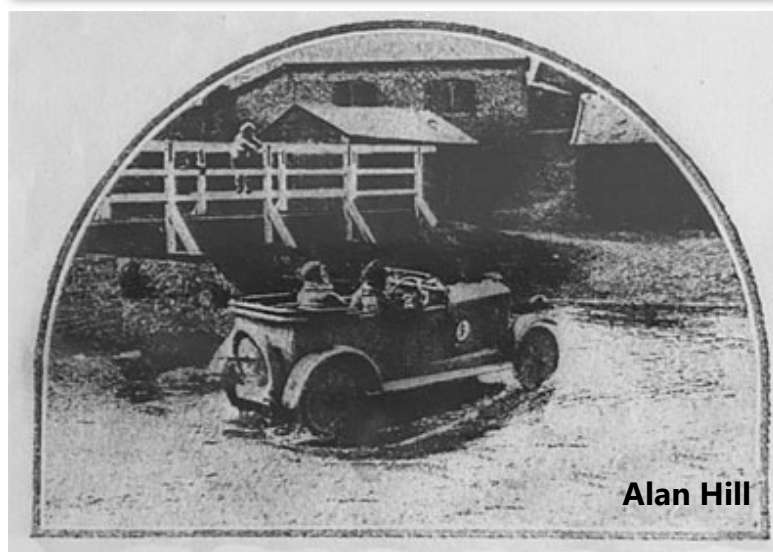
Photographs show the 1924 RAC Small Car Trials with competitors driving through the ford. Some time before the Second World War, a bridge was built -- less fun than crossing the Splash but definitely more comfortable.

*Ann Dean*

*Car photos - Mrs Joan Hughes*



The Ford & Footbridge, 1915-1916, Mrs James and Dora [Wain Wen], Alfred Davies [Burnt House]



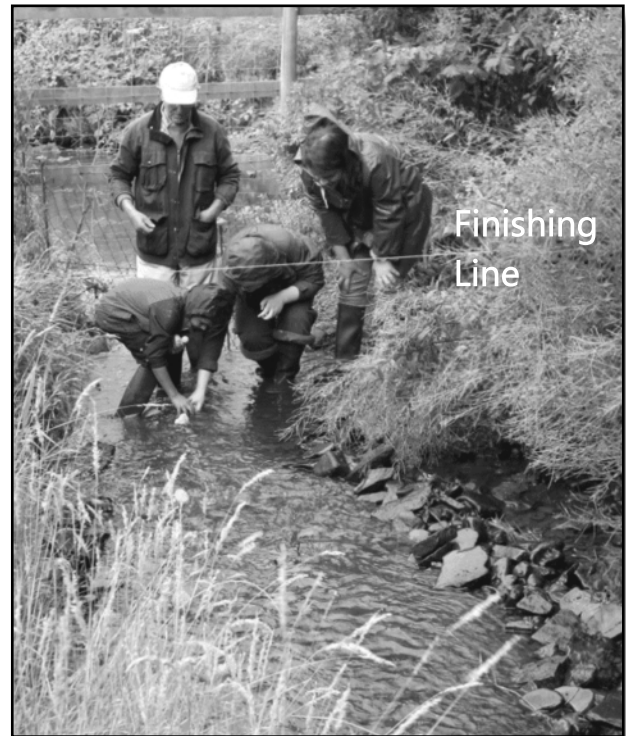
## Gladestry Duck Race

In the early 1990's the village hall committee decided to organise a duck race to raise funds for ongoing upkeep of the hall. This proved so popular that it is now an annual and eagerly anticipated event. Anyone wishing to take part buys a numbered ticket and this number is put onto a plastic duck. At a given moment, sackfuls of bright yellow ducks are poured from the bridge into the brook and the race is on! Excited children (and adults), follow the ducks to the finishing line.

To make it more of a family occasion, the duck race incorporates a walk in the hills, followed by the actual race and then a ploughman's meal in the village hall, after which the results of the race are announced and presentation of prizes takes place. There is a special booby prize for the owner of the last duck over the finishing line. As the event usually occurs in August, the brook can sometimes be quite low, so the ducks need a helping hand in the form of extra water, added by some kind souls upstream. Thankfully, this is a rare occurrence.

The annual duck race is a favourite fun event in the village, enjoyed by adults and children alike. Maybe, in years to come, someone will read about how the Duck Race started and, you never know, it might even still be an active event in the village calendar! The brook

has served Gladestry faithfully over the years and, hopefully, will continue to do so.



Duck Race, July 2018, - photo by Dave Latham

Another verse from the Tennyson poem:

I chatter, chatter as I flow  
To join the brimming river,  
For men may come and men may go  
But I go on for ever...'

*Ann Dean*

## Sunday Readings for June

### **Sun 6 June** *Green*

*Trinity 1*

Genesis 3. 8-15

Psalms 130

Corinthians 4.13

5.1 Mark 3. 20-35

### **Sun June 13** *Green*

*Trinity 2*

Ezekiel 17. 22-24

Psalms 92. 1-4, 12-15

Corinthians 5. 6-17

Mark 4. 26-34

### **Sun June 20** *Green*

*Trinity 3*

Job 38. 1-11

Psalms 107. [ 23-32

2 Corinthians 6. 1-13

Mark 4. 35-41

### **Sun June 27** *Green*

*Trinity 4*

Wisdom 1. 13-15; 2.

23-24

Psalms 30

2 Corinthians 8. 7-15

Mark 5. 21-43

Dear friends,

You don't have to be a vicar for God to call you to care for those who live in in our communities and in the world beyond. Neither Jesus nor Peter were vicars! One a carpenter and the other a fisherman! They put their trust and lives in God's hands and fulfilled God's calling to them. Peter became one of the foundation stones of the Christian faith. Jesus died on that cross just outside of Jerusalem, so that mankind could be free from sin for all of time.



There are people in our communities and beyond who need to know that God cares for them too, no matter what life is throwing at them at the moment. There may be people at school and work who need a friend, neighbours who may need help or a listening ear, people in our communities who are perceived as different, so we don't need to engage with them. But we must remember that they are just like us and have feelings and dreams too.

Serving God can be done in many ways and what seems to be a small act can have a big impact. We can donate food to the foodbank, for those who are struggling to feed their families and themselves, especially through this pandemic where many have lost their jobs. We can volunteer an hour or more if we are able, at the numerous places that need help to keep running in our communities, especially now as the COVID restrictions are being relaxed. It is easy to think that someone else will step forward, but our own kind acts will put our faith and God's love into the community. We all have been gifted with skills and talents, so let's not hide them under a barrel but let the light and love of God allow us to use them like a shining beacon on top of the hill which can be seen from miles around. God Bless.

*Reverend Rachael Storer*

## **The Cover - The Rainbow Promise**

**T**his Welsh scene with mountains and hills represents the hopeful story of Noah – after the deluge, the calm. The rainbow is a promise from God that He will never again bring total destruction. Even today we feel blessed when we see a rainbow. The dove carries an olive leaf in its beak to tell Noah it is safe to exit the ark. The land has dried, the trees are growing again. Today the Holy Spirit is portrayed as a dove bringing peace.

Light streams down in rays from the sky – with just a hint of Jacob's ladder in the two dark columns, where angels ascended and descended between heaven and earth.

This is one of two windows installed in 2010 in memory of Edward Howatson, who died in 2007. He was an ardent conservationist, and the windows reflect his love of nature as well as including Christian references.

## **Online**

The Radnor is freely available at [www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk](http://www.beaconhillbenefice.org.uk)

## **Cost**

£10.00 for the year (10 issues)  
£1.10 for individual copies.

## **Double Edition**

Please note that the next edition of The Radnor is for two months: July and August.

## **Deadline**

The deadline for July/August 2021 is **15th June 2021**.

Please keep submissions to under 200 words.

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## New Radnor School 1939



Back row: Mr Lloyd, Ivor Bishop, Arthur Mason, Alice Bullock, Barbara Bartholemew, Peggy Bounds, Margaret Lloyd, Doris Jones, Derek Williams, John Mason

Middle row: Albert Goodall, Phyllis Davies, Dilys Jackson, Violet Evans, Ena Hughes, Mair Lloyd, Megan Edwards, Janet Evans, Genie Evans, Phyllis Mills, David Bounds, [standing] George Rhodes

Front row: [kneeling] Ted Swain, Alfred Williams, Harold Pugh, Neville Lingen, Ron Goodall, Ted Price, Evan Williams, [kneeling] Evan Ingram - *Photo kindly provided by Bridget Ashley nee Bounds*

### St Mary's New Radnor Annual Plant Sale

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Michael 350352

### An Open Letter to New Radnor

We wanted to let our village know that you cannot understand how your most honest friendship, generosity and practical assistance have touched and truly helped our family.

Whilst nothing may take our current sorrow away, all of your actions were so perfectly judged and sincerely given that it has left us humbled and so, so grateful following our recent heartbreak.

For this we would like to say 'Diolch yn fawr'

*Marcia and Nick Hardiman, New Radnor*

Trouble shared is trouble halved.

- Lee Iacocca

## Church and Chapels in Gladestry

### Baptist Zion Chapel

The Baptist Chapel is opposite the Royal Oak PH. Also known as Zion Chapel, Coflein describe it as “mixed vernacular with simple round-headed style of the long-wall entry type”. The building is now Grade 2 Listed, but it is now a private home.

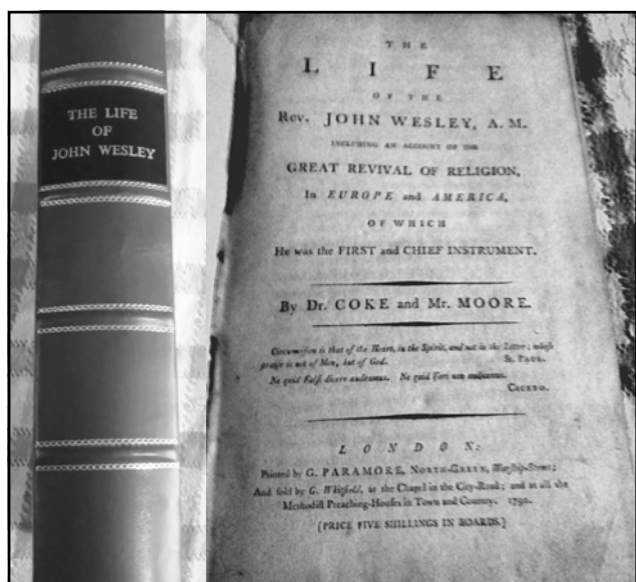
The Baptist cause was started by James Jones of Rock (Jones the Rock), also influential in the beginnings of the Evenjobb chapel. They met at the home of Mr Thomas who unfortunately lived opposite the Public House, and his windows were broken several times. Nevertheless, the membership grew.

Mr Thomas gave a piece of his garden and a “neat little chapel” was built in 1842 at a cost of £250. Young James Jones served as minister and also ran a school which soon encountered difficulties with a local woman, and was closed. (There was still a Church of England school.)

But the chapel continued to grow. The Right Honourable Lord Ormathwaite gave a piece of his land which surrounded the chapel, which was then enlarged and improved. It had new round-headed windows and renewed stonework with a brick-built end wall and porch. [Sinclair and Fenn] The re-opening service was held in 1891.

### Wesleyan Methodist Chapel

The Wesleyan Chapel was built in 1838 and restored in 1864.



First edition of the Life of John Wesley

It closed in the 1920s, but it was reused by a sect called the United Jewish Reformed Church of Bristol. They purchased the chapel and it was used for services until the 1950s. They were very long, evangelical in tone, and they also held open air services. It was something of a revival. Addie Hughes, still living attended the services. She attends the services at St Mary's now. She is the widow of the late Fred Hughes, undertaker. Another person that could well have attended is Mary Hughes; she lived at Mill Cottage.

By 1990 it had been converted into a private home.

*Info from Michael Johnson (dates from Coflein)*

Information from “A History of the Baptists in Radnorshire” by James Jones  
“Marching to Zion – Radnorshire Chapels” by J.B. Sinclair and R.W.D. Fenn  
Coflein (National Monuments of Wales); Michael Johnson



Wesleyan  
Methodist  
Chapel



Baptist Zion Chapel



The building attached to the Chapel is "The Old School House" Next to it is a tall building with the most intriguing hand with red heart at the apex.



## St Mary's Church



War Memorial, site of  
old wooden preaching  
cross

Base of War Memorial  
with hole for  
communion cup.



Tower Door

## Church and Chapels in Gladestry - St Mary's

Some say that Gladestry Church is on a Slay-line on alignment connecting to Colva and Hanter Hill. The churchyard has other evidence of being pre-Norman such as a raised curtag and the yew trees.

The community website says that "St Mary's history can be traced back at least 900 years, although there is a question mark over its origin. The church is believed to have been founded by Harold Godwinson, later the last Saxon King of England. If so, his motives appear more tactical than spiritual; part of his attempt to extend his influence into the territory of the Welsh princes."

"There is evidence, however, that there may have been an earlier church on the site, possibly dedicated to St David. The churchyard is almost round, an indication it may have been founded by the Celtic church."

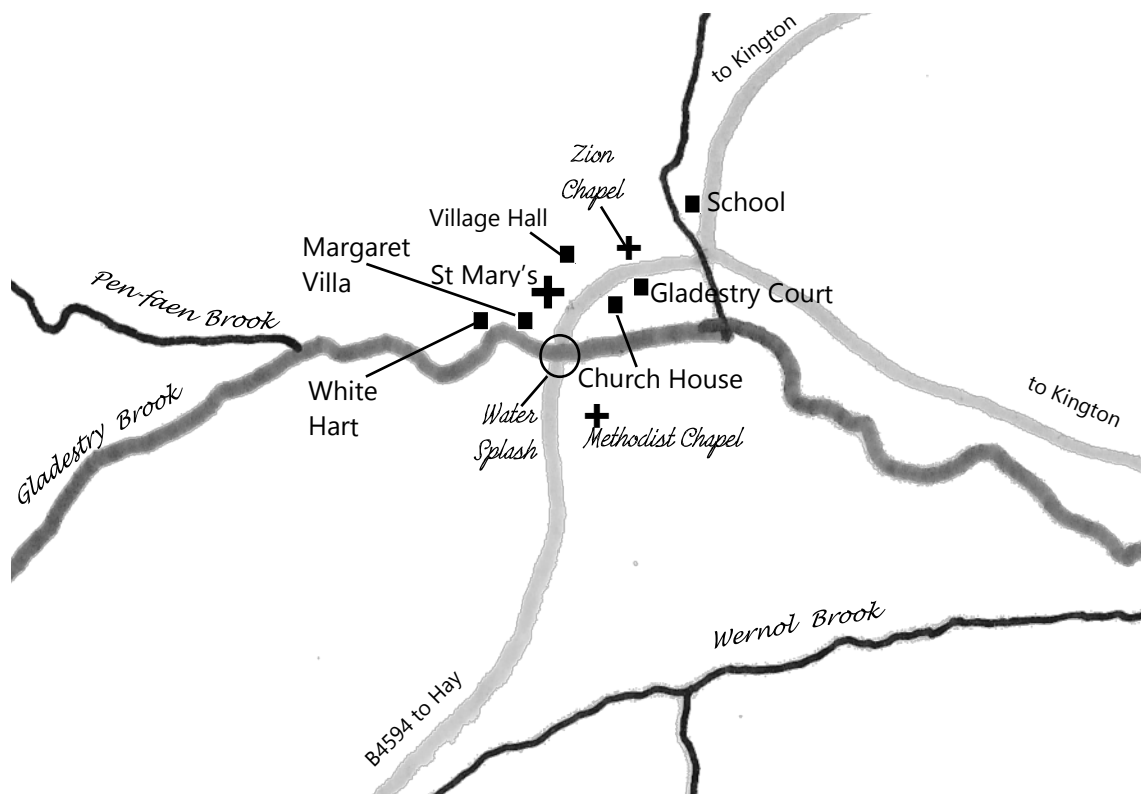
"As use of the Welsh language gradually declined, the parish was one of the first in Radnorshire to stop using the Welsh prayer book and Bible around 1700."

"Later, the village also had two thriving chapels – the Wesleyan built in 1838 and the Baptist opened in 1842, both now private homes."

"St Mary's today is Grade 1 listed and retains several original features despite a restoration in 1910. These include an outstanding pyramidal tower, a 16th C oak roof and a 13th C priest's door in the south wall."

The other thing that is important is the preaching cross in the churchyard. This was originally a wooden cross, but was replaced after WWI with stone and mortar cross as a war monument. Prior to the construction of the chapels this was a focal point for Nonconformists. The stone step base is original (although recently repaired) and you can still see the hole where the communion elements were placed over the three days and nights of Easter. We also have archaeological evidence that the site dates back to the 8th C.

*Info from [www.gladestry.org.uk](http://www.gladestry.org.uk) and Michael Johnson*





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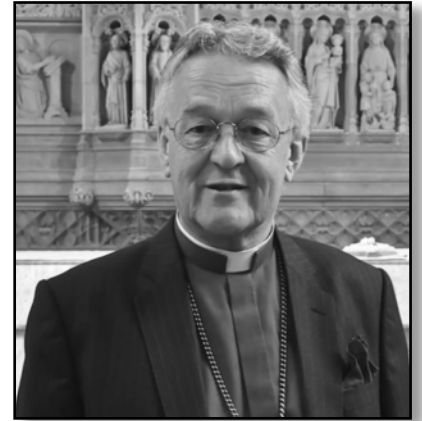
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## Archbishop John's Last Service

Archbishop John retired on Sunday May 2 after serving as Archbishop of Wales for four years and as Bishop of Swansea and Brecon for 13 years. His final service is live-streamed from Brecon Cathedral on its Facebook page.

Thanking people for their support to himself and to their churches and communities, he said: "...there is a lot of goodness and kindness and compassion and love around in our communities. People have been so supportive of others in their times of need, in their times of loneliness, sadly in times of their suffering and bereavement. And I hope that sense of calling to be supportive, to be compassionate, to be kind: won't vanish with the pandemic."

Archbishop John also urged church members to embrace new challenges and opportunities and be prepared to change to be more accessible, welcoming and with refreshed teaching



He said, "I see a Church that is awakening to new challenges, new opportunities, doing things in new ways that touch people in so many new ways too. Long may that continue."

*Diocesan Website*

## Coming Out of Lockdown

Some of our churches have been closed for a long time. Some have been open sporadically for services, funerals and weddings, but we do not yet have a pattern of worship.

Coming out of a pandemic is not something that we have been trained for, however, Ministry Area Leaders through the Deanery and the Diocese have been meeting to discuss this and take advice from some who are ahead of us in England. I hope, along with Rachael to make it as smooth as possible but we know that we cannot please everybody all of the time.

Philippians 2:4 "Look not to your own interests but to the interests of others."

Creating a new pattern of worship cannot be selfish. It must be designed to work for everyone. This applies to everyone including Worship Leaders, Lay or Ordained. Leading three or more services in different churches

on a Sunday does not work for anyone.



This does mean change. I wish to put three questions to you and I ask that you let me know your answers.

1. *What do you want?*
2. *What can be left behind?*
3. *What can be taken forward?*

Philippians 3:13 "Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead I press towards the goal."

This is what we need to do together as a Ministry Area in order to aid each other's worship and praise. We are one family in God's eyes, so we must work together to make this clear in everyone's eyes.

God bless us all as we step into the unknown.

*- Petra*

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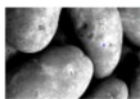
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## Knucklas Notes for June, 2021

An exciting time of year as we approach late spring and early summer, with the Solstice on the 21st.

Also exciting are the further easing of restrictions and the promise of more to come.

As I write, local farms are getting teams together for the annual shearing of sheep.

However, the previous months have not been without activity in Knucklas. The Castle Hill Community Land Project team continues to be active as can be seen in the allotments and in the fine display-cabinet outside Upper House.

The Elections have been another significant event, with our Community Centre remarkably well-adapted to the requirements of the day. The turnout seems to have been some 30+%, roughly average for the region.

Overall, the Conservatives improved their support and James Evans was elected as our new Senedd member, with Jane Dodds, earlier our M.P., now chosen as our regional

representative at the Senedd. Our P.C.C. rep., Dafydd Llywelyn was re-elected. The Labour party are still dominant in Wales under the continuing leadership of First Minister, Mark Drakeford.

There have been some comings and goings in the area recently, with Allan and Avril Hoyle having moved back to Lancashire after some thirty highly productive years here. Now the very welcome new residents of Belmont, with the smoothest of moves, having settled here with astonishing ease, are Neil and Gillian Chell, They have come from Newport, Shropshire.

Sadly passed away in recent weeks are, after long illnesses, Ray Fowkes, previously of Glyndwr, a wonderful and much-loved personality and Ernie Moss, previously of Lloyney, who, over the years, did a great deal to improve the life of our local community. We send our sympathy to Betty, Dean and family. Also to Mervene (Moss) along with Ann and Malcolm.

*Robert Forbath*

### Hear to Help "Drop Off" Clinic

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- Wear a mask when handing over your aid.
- Clients can either wait in their vehicle or return later to pick up their hearing aids. You cannot wait inside the premises.
- Hearing-aids can be dropped off by friends or family on behalf of a user.
- RNID continues to support NHS hearing aid users over the phone and by email.

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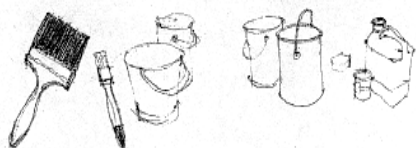
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## Flora in June

This month holds long hours of daylight, blue skies and hopefully lots of warm sun to give energy for rapid growth and lots of flowers.

Tender plants can now be planted out: dahlias, nerines, geraniums and bedding plants. It is all systems go this month. Large baskets filled with summer bedding plants give rustic charm to an outdoor party or barbecue. Unwanted picnic baskets lined with fabric or moss before the soil is added make fashionable containers. Petunias, verbenas, nemesias, nasturtiums

visual impact  
at eye level

and so many others provide a colourful display. A large pot or urn can form the base for a flower filled wigwam – ideal for clematis, sweet peas, roses, honeysuckle, all climbing plants that will add height to the border and provide delicious scent especially in the evening. Hanging baskets create visual impact at eye level. Strawberries and tomatoes (trailing varieties) grow well in hanging baskets adding interest and providing a tasty treat. Watering and feeding is essential.

This month brings the first of the roses, full blown hybrids, sprawling clusters of the old

fashioned variety. Damask and moss appear in so many amazing colours that all flower arrangers love them. The rose was a favourite or the Queen Mother with the floribunda rose named “Elizabeth of Glamis” in her memory. Our lives are filled with references to roses. Their symbolic shape is in Heraldry and church windows. The Romans probably brought the first plants to Britain but it is not until Plantagenet times that roses gained national attention when The Houses of York and Lancaster chose red and white as their symbols. Soon we will see the dog rose in the roadside hedges, so delicate and perfect.

a favourite of  
the Queen  
Mother

Clumps of scarlet red poppies and daisies with their golden eyed flounce appears for miles over the undisturbed banks of the ever pounding motorways. Each season provides beauty and interest all around us despite the challenging times.

P.S. Did you know that ladybirds do nothing but good in the garden as they can consume 50 or 60 greenfly in a day. I wonder who counted them.

## Local Memories of Prince Philip

The Union Flag flew at half mast and St Cynllo's funeral bell was tolled 99 times. Along with the rest of the nation we paused to reflect.

I recalled meeting Prince Philip at St James' Palace when my daughter received her gold D of E Award. Another local Mum missed out because her two boys declined to go up to London to pick up theirs! A memory that nearly was!

Someone else recalled observing from a nearby rooftop the arrival for a function of Prince Philip and Princess Elizabeth. There was no fuss. They came alone and had no security staff!! How times change!!

Perhaps you have a memory of Prince Philip you would like to share – do let us know.

*Pam Livingstone-Lawn*

The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war. - Norman Schwarzkopf

## Unusual Twist for Gladestry W.I.



**D**ue to the Coronavirus restrictions and the difficulties that we have encountered with trying to maintain some semblance of formal W.I. meetings for our members, many of whom do not have or are not savvy with modern technology, it is with no few regrets that Gladestry W.I. ladies have voted almost unanimously to **suspend our membership of the W.I. organisation until April 2022.** We hope that we will then be able to resume “business as normal”.

In the meantime it is our intention to meet as an informal group of “Ladies that Meet”. Either for a pub lunch or an afternoon High Tea, at which, we can maintain contact, chat, catch up or just enjoy being able to meet again. This we were able to do when

the Covid restrictions were eased in autumn of last year.

This meeting of Ladies is not restricted to members of the W.I. nor to any age group or those with children in tow. We would like to invite anyone from Gladestry and the surrounding areas to join us.

We will post details of our first meeting on the Gladestry website and on the various notice boards in the community.

Please join us, we would love to see you and will greatly welcome your company.

Hoping to see you soon.

*Sue and Sian, Gladestry W.I.*

For further information contact

Sue on 07815 496898

or Sian on 07769 703637

## Llangunllo W.I. – And We’re Back

**L**langunllo W.I. took advantage of being able to meet face-to-face outside in the President’s garden for coffee, cake and a much needed catch up, thank goodness we chose a lovely morning. The last time some of us met in the flesh as it were was mid-December, but we have regularly met twice a month via Zoom throughout the various lockdowns. Despite being in competition with a chain saw, noisy birds, and very vocal sheep we had a great morning, and even managed to welcome a new recruit in the shape of a member’s young granddaughter who proved very capable with the watering can; we believe in recruiting them young in Llangunllo!!! We are now planning a trip to a local water garden next month, and our annual BBQ in July. Dare I say it is beginning to feel as though we are getting back to a bit of normality.

### A Turkish Shirley Valentine:

Our monthly meeting for May was via Zoom, the last one for a while we hope, and our speaker certainly turned out to be quite a surprise. Jenny Gibbs dressed in National Costume, captivated us with her life experiences with a talk entitled “A Turkish Shirley Valentine” and it certainly lived up to the title. Embracing many new challenges and experiences for the first time, and completely out of her comfort zone she travelled alone in 1993 to Turkey, never having been abroad before, unable to speak the language and travelling by public transport to lesser known parts of the country having made a rash decision to live in Turkey.

*(continued on page 26)*



## Gladestry W.I.

Photos from September and October 2020 taken in The Royal Oak in Gladestry.

Marion Ingram, Sian Derrick, Joan Hughes and Sue Mullin



Viv Freeman, Heather Carrington and Marlene Evans

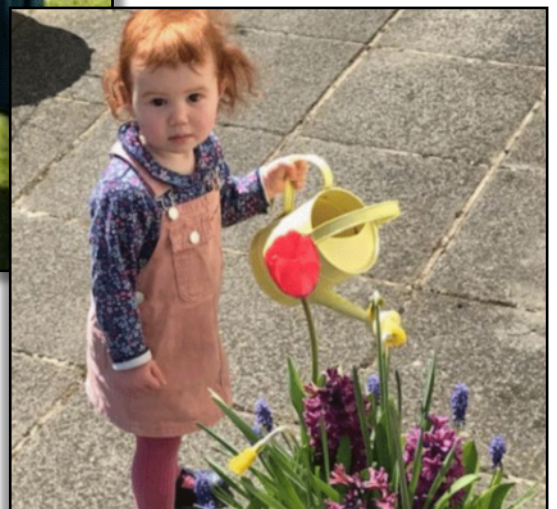
Being a woman is a terribly difficult task, since it consists principally in dealing with men.

- Joseph Conrad



Some of Llangunllo W.I. enjoying the spring sun

Thank you to our youngest member watering spring flowers



# Magic Moments on Zoom



## We Thought About These Ideas on Zoom

### Easter 3 - Elusive Faith

Janet's sermon was about elusive Faith. Finding faith is like de-fragmenting the hard drive on a computer. We sift through a lot of junk through prayer, a time in the garden, a time of stillness, sharing scripture, doing something good, calling upon the Lord at night. We run a bit better once we've sorted the fragments and found faith.

We need what Jesus offered the agitated disciples in the upper room. The risen Christ appeared and said, "Peace be with you."

### Easter 4 - The Good Shepherd

Psalms 23 is the most familiar psalm, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." But we read it from "The Message" Bible.

GOD, my shepherd!

I don't need a thing.

You have bedded me down in lush meadows,  
you find me quiet pools to drink from.

True to your word,

you let me catch my breath  
and send me in the right direction.

Even when the way goes through  
Death Valley,

I'm not afraid  
when you walk at my side.

Your trusty shepherd's crook  
makes me feel secure.

You serve me a six-course dinner  
right in front of my enemies.

You revive my drooping head;  
my cup brims with blessing.

Your beauty and love chase after me  
every day of my life.

I'm back home in the house of GOD  
for the rest of my life.

*translation by Eugene Peterson*

### Resurrection

After Easter Mark Clavier explored the meaning of "Resurrection" through 1 Corinthians 15,

(1) A seed dies and becomes something new, not resembling the seed.



(2) A steamboat is enlivened by spirituality. The steam gives it life.



### Ascension

One year ago we started Zoom services, uniting us during this difficult time. When we looked at the account of Jesus's ascension to heaven, the disciples were also confused and worn out emotionally after the dramatic events of crucifixion and resurrection. But Jesus's last message was **"stick together and pray"**, a message just as relevant today.

In our course with Mark Clavier we saw how Jesus had become King over everything earthly and heavenly when he ascended. Our ultimate loyalty is to Christ the King.

The Son of God became a Son of Man  
that the sons of man could become the  
son of God.

## Llangunllo W.I. – And We're Back (Cont)



(cont from p 22) She made us laugh about where she first lived, and ate in a beach restaurant, where trying out her Turkish she thought she had asked what was in the dish she was eating, but it turned out she had asked for a job, which she was promptly given being immediately set to work chopping vegetables.

During a National holiday where people return to their villages she found herself visiting a remote village with the chef from the restaurant, whom she had barely talked to. Captivated by the beauty of the village and its people came an unexpected proposition from him to buy a house together in the village. Surprising herself she agreed despite knowing very little about him, other than his good looks – so began her Shirley Valentine life as together they set about renovating a farmhouse.

Her description of life in the village that time seems to have passed by was fascinating, from wearing the local costume, to pressing olives and even hatching silk worms in a cloth pouch in her armpit. We weren't too sure about that. She clearly loved her life in the village, and still does, spending her time between her Suffolk home and her Turkish farmhouse. The final twist came at the end of her talk when she introduced her Turkish chef and partner who was charming.

**Hatching silk worms in a pouch in her armpits**

Just goes to show taking a gamble on life no matter how daunting really can have a happy ending.

*Anne Newton*

## Gladestry 49 Club – 10th Anniversary

The Gladestry village has run a lottery since July 2011 and therefore 2021 will mark ten years since it began. Run under the auspices of the Village Hall it has distributed an average of over £1100 in cash prizes each year. Half the proceeds raised are given in prizes, with the other half spilt between the hall and the St Mary's Church fabric fund. Each organisation has received over £550 per annum through the scheme for repairs and maintenance.

The 49 Club is a weekly draw costing subscribers £1 per week. It works like this. The original national lottery had 49 numbers and the bonus ball is the one that is our winning number. The person with the winning

number will receive half the pool. That is, if say 40 people participate they will win £20. The remaining £20 goes to the two organizations. If no one draws the lucky number then the pool is carried over to the following Saturday. Subscribers will be asked to pay quarterly in advance by standing order, cash or cheque (£13).

If you would like to join please contact me. Winners will be notified by telephone and a monthly or bi-monthly list of winners will appear in this newsletter. Cheques should be made payable to Gladestry Village Hall.

Please contact me, Michael Johnson on 01544 370296 if you wish to be in the club. Fortune favours the brave!

*Michael Johnson*

A person often meets his destiny on the road he took to avoid it. - Jean de La Fontaine

## Saint Ronan of Locronan, 1 June

Have you ever been to Brittany? If so, you may have heard of the '*pardons*', an ancient tradition from the west of Brittany where the Breton language remains the strongest. A pardon is a cross between a patronal festival, a penitential procession and beating the parish bounds.

One of the most famous is La Grande Troménie de Locronan (*'the place of Ronan'*). This takes place every sixth year and is the toughest of all the pardons, being 12 kilometres long over a mountain, following the boundary of the ancient monastic community. There are stone preaching crosses along the way where the Gospel is proclaimed and about fourteen booths to represent all the churches taking part. People wear their traditional costumes and each church carries a banner. People come from all over to rejoin their families for the occasion. It is a wonderful way of proclaiming their faith and of developing fellowship with all the churches in the area. Wouldn't it be tremendous to do something like this in our ministry area? Perhaps not 8 miles over a mountain, but a procession in a suitable place with all of our churches taking part and bringing banners, rather like the Whit Walks held in the north. And then have a feast afterwards.

Ronan, by the way, was an Irish bishop who sailed to Brittany and settled in Cornouaille (where lots of Cornish people lived). After

many miraculous events he eventually died. There was lots of controversy over who he belonged to and where he should be buried, so they put his coffin in a cart drawn by oxen. The oxen carried him into the woods and stopped at an ancient sacred site and that is where they buried him. A church was built over his tomb and the community that developed was called Locronan.

Rosemary Hanna



The '*Pardons*'

### *Presteigne & Borders Floral Art Society*

Presteigne Flower Club is still unable to hold its monthly meetings, but we are joining demonstrations from Mercia & North Wales Area on Zoom – one hour on Tuesday afternoons.

To join the demonstrations (no charge) or info email: [mail@galliers.org.uk](mailto:mail@galliers.org.uk)

### Welsh Words

*mor ddiniwed â'r oen* as innocent as the lamb

*mor dwt â nyth dryw* as neat as the wren's nest

*mor effro â'r gog* as awake as the cuckoo



Rosemary Hanna

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Christians need half an hour  
each day for prayer and  
reflection, except when they are  
busy – then they need an hour.

*- Francis de Sales*



## St Edward's Church News

**Bingo** We look forward to seeing you at our first Bingo session of the year Saturday 5th June at 7pm in the Church Hall. All government instructions will be observed.

**Coffee Mornings** It will be a pleasure to meet up again for a chat, coffee and bargains on Saturday 18th June at 10.30am in the Church Hall. On sale will be plants books, cakes, bric-a-brac and the usual draw. We would appreciate items for the stalls, please bring them along or we can collect in advance. Phone 528 260 or 528 391.

We will observe the latest rules to protect everyone from the virus.

**Bereavement:** Mrs Sylvia Balls was a member of St. Edward's Church serving as sacristan and a valued member of the choir. She loved singing the Church music until ill health prevented this. Sylvia will be missed by us all, lovely smile, wonderful sense of humour. A good friend. Lots of happy memories to treasure. Rest in peace Sylvia.

*Jean Price*

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The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.

*- Diogenes*

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

*- William Butler Yeats*

### Lunch Club

The Lunch Club run by Churches Together at Knighton Methodist Church is continuing to provide and deliver meals, £5 for 2 courses.

If there is anyone in need of a hot meal on a Tuesday please ring.

As the news is becoming more positive we are looking to the end of June to meet together again. When it is possible Sister Margaret will be ringing round. If anybody new wishes to join please ring her on 01547 528 154.

Thank you so much.

### Knighton Library Opening Times

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Thursdays 10.30 - 1pm and 2 - 6pm

Fridays 8 - 12.30pm

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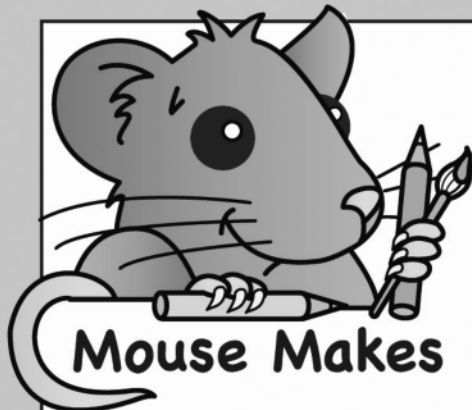
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## JESUS HEALS

Who was the first person  
Jesus healed?  
*John 4:46-54*

Who did Jesus heal  
from fever?  
*Mark 1:29-31*

How was the the  
paralysed man  
brought to Jesus?  
*Mark 2:1-12*

Jesus **healed** and  
made the...

SICK	ABLE
DEAD	WALK
BLIND	FORGIVEN
DEAF	ALIVE
CRIPPLED	SPEAK
SINNER	MOVE
MUTE	SEE
PARALYSED	WELL
DISABLED	HEAR



Where did the  
demons ask Jesus  
to send them  
when he drove  
them out?  
*Mark 5:1-20*

How long had  
the man by  
the pool been  
disabled?  
*John 5:1-15*

What did Jesus say made  
the woman well?  
*Matthew 9: 20-22*

"There are **many** things that  
Jesus did. If every one of them  
were written down, I suppose the  
whole world would not have room  
for the books that would be written."  
*John 21:25*

How many men were  
healed from leprosy?  
*Luke 17:11-19*

What did Jesus heal  
Bartemaus from?  
*Mark 10:46-52*

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead,  
how many days had he been buried?  
*John 11:1-45*



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We are looking for someone who can run the café as their own, please email [hello@bleddfacentre.org](mailto:hello@bleddfacentre.org) with a cover letter and CV.

Check exhibitions, events and classes on our website, and stay updated by joining our monthly newsletter <https://bleddfacentre.org/contact>  
In May we have Yvonne Crossley "Consequences" Exhibition in Oriel Bleddfa, followed in June by the "Picture Makers" collaborative show. In Hall Barn, from 27th May – 13th June, Sorrel Matai exhibits her work.

We also welcome new volunteers to our team; please email [enquiries@bleddfacentre.org](mailto:enquiries@bleddfacentre.org) for more information and the benefits.

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**Pilleth Memorial Service**  
**Sunday 27 June, 3pm**  
**followed by Tea**

Remembering those who helped St Mary's Pilleth to survive.

**Memorial for Albert and Sheila Ward**

Albert was chair of the Friends of Pilleth through the restoration in the late 90s. St Mary's was re-dedicated in 2002.

**Memorial for Ella Whitehead**

Ella was buried at the church during the pandemic. She and John, who lived at Munslow, always supported the church.

His parents lived at Nant-y-groes. In 1911 they helped to roof the church, which had



The Stone Steps to Pilleth Church

been without a roof for ten years. Locals could catch rabbits who scampered amongst the brambles and briars. They also paid for the stone steps leading to the churchyard.

**All in the month of June**

**175 years ago**, on 28 June 1846 the Belgian musical instrument maker Adolphe Sax patented the saxophone.

**125 years ago**, on 4 June 1896 Henry Ford completed his first automobile, the Ford Quadricycle, and gave it a test run around Detroit Michigan. It was a simple frame with

an engine, two gears, a tiller for steering and four bicycle wheels. It had a top speed of 20mph. Its success led him to establish the Ford Motor Company.

**100 years ago**, on 10 June 1921 Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was born on a dining room table in Corfu.

**COME BAG A BARGAIN AT THE  
 COMMUNITY CHARITY SHOP  
 LLANDRINDOD WELLS  
 Mon 21 June to Sat 3 July**



The Friends of St Cynllo and Llangunllo Village Hall Committee will be running the Charity Shop as a joint fund raiser for two weeks and we need your support. We are now collecting household items, clothing and quality toys, so please get in touch with us.

Please contact Karen on 550246 or Isabel on 550689 for drop off arrangements.

**A walking  
 Treasure Hunt**



around Norton Village  
 in aid of Norton Show.

**Sunday June 13th**

£5 per family entry.

Start at Wills view  
 where route and questions will be  
 available between **10am** and  
**12noon.**

Cash prizes, all welcome.

For any info contact Eileen 01544 262710  
 or Margaret 01544 267537.

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## Teme Valley Environment Group

The next Knighton litter pick is on June 27.

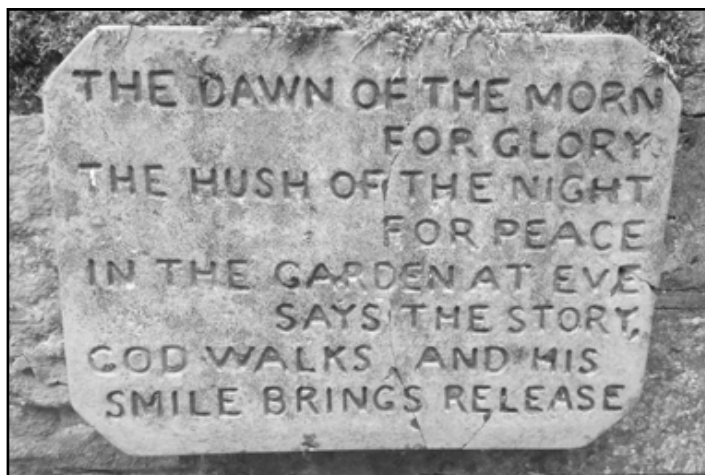
Meet at the Offas Dyke Centre in Knighton at 10 am. The pick lasts an hour – the more people who help the more effective we can be!

Volunteers are also needed to maintain crisp bag collection in Knighton (other sites will be considered if more volunteers can be found) One person to help once a month to bag the collection for recycling is now a critical need. Powys County Council do not recycle crisp bags, even though this is possible. Anything

we can do to prevent this type of litter is important.

Workdays at the railway station in Knighton and the Edible Knighton herb beds and fruit trees have restarted. Just come and help when you can on the last Thursday of the month meeting at 10am. This work aims to encourage sustainable food production and to make Knighton attractive and biodiverse.

You do not need to be a member of the group to participate in these activities. Please come and join in. Contact for information [nicky.colston@btinternet.com](mailto:nicky.colston@btinternet.com)



On the wall of mill cottage, next to a ruined water mill in the Wyre Forest near Bewdley. The mill is fairly complete and is cared for by the Midlands Wind and Water Mill Trust.

*Allan Flexman*

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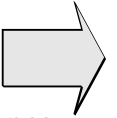
◀ Date corrected from  
last month

### Our Ministry Area on Facebook

Information for all ages.  
Check it out for the latest.  
'East Radnor Ministry Area  
Facebook'



## Changing Village Centre



Changes are underway in Llangunllo village centre as the BT phone box kiosk and the bus shelter are given a new lease of life.

BT phone box kiosks are iconic British structures, historically at the centre of the community, and a great location for new uses.

This March Sky News reported – “Thousands of red phone boxes looking for new calling as BT offers them for just £1 each. Four thousand of the street boxes are being offered to communities as their use has been overtaken by mobile phones. Since 2008 more than six and a half thousand phone boxes have been taken on by communities for just £1 through the Adopt a Kiosk Programme. This scheme makes it possible for local communities across the UK to retain their local phone box with a refreshed purpose for the community.”

Phone boxes have become mini museums, art galleries, defibrillator centres and small libraries with a selected collection of books.

Llangunllo and Bleddfa Community Council has adopted the village phone box which is a listed kiosk. It is the traditional British red telephone kiosk, K6 (kiosk number 6) designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of George V,

with cast iron frame, teak door, glass panes, ventilation slot and concrete base. K6 went into production in 1936 and the fascia has a prominent crown to represent the British government. Until British Telecommunications was formed in 1981, telephones came under the General Post Office’s remit, an agency of the government. In 1953 the present Queen replaced the initial Tudor Crown with St Edward’s Crown, generally used for British coronations, this is the crown on Llangunllo kiosk.

The Community Council will now hold an onsite, socially distanced meeting to discuss its refurbishment and future use within the community, plus other ideas to enhance the village centre – update to follow.

During the Covid pandemic the bus shelter has become the community library and gift store. Books, magazines, DVDs, CDs and jigsaws are available for all to enjoy with book cases fitted to help display the increasing stock. Household and garden items can also be found, with plants, surplus groceries, fruit and vegetables to share.

The new role of the bus shelter is a great success and thank you Brian and Maureen for all your efforts. - *Llangunllo Community*

## National Garden Scheme



*Powys Gardens Opening in June – contact: Gail Jones [gail.jones@ngs.org.uk](mailto:gail.jones@ngs.org.uk)*

The digital booklet ‘The Little Yellow Book of Gardens and Health’ on [ngs.org](http://ngs.org) includes stories of improved health and wellbeing from garden owners and visitors.

**16th June The Kitchen Garden, Ty Mawr, Llangasty.** Admission includes talk & tour of new garden opening for the first time. Only 10 places per hour. Book tickets at [ngs.org.uk](http://ngs.org.uk)

**20th June Pen-y-maes, Hay on Wye.** Here vegetables grown for the eye and the table mix with pretty flower borders, soft fruit and climbers. An orchard of low apple varieties, perry pears, quince and a fine mulberry.

**27th June New Radnor Gardens, New Radnor, Presteigne.** Gardens show what can be done with challenging shapes and terrain.



Brian preparing the new bookcase



AND ready for use!



Llangunllo's K6 awaits refurbishment



The first rose of summer,  
*Canary Bird*.  
The earliest to flower.  
Taken on May 9.  
- Michael Capstick



Spot the daffodils in St David's Colva - Michael Capstick

Celtic Worship at St David's  
Heyope.  
Our first service since March  
2020.





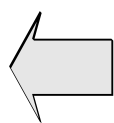
RNLI Amphibious Tractor Made in Knighton for Lifeboat Transfer



Wedding Party in Colin's Land Rover at Llandegley.

## RNLI and the Connection with Knighton

The lifeboat stations with their boats and crews may seem a long way from our Ministry Area and they do not seem to have much in common. However we could not be further from the truth. Many of our Lifeboat Stations house Inshore Lifeboats, the D Class, the Atlantic 75 and her larger sister the Atlantic 85. Many of these boats need tractors or crawlers to take them to the water's edge and it is in some of these stations that we will find our connection.



An example of such a Station is at Poppit Sands, the home of the Cardigan Lifeboat Station. The larger of the two boats housed here is 'Albatross' an Atlantic 85. She is towed across the beach by a remarkable articulated tractor. This is a Talus MB-4H amphibious tractor which was designed specifically for the RNLI and was built by Clayton Engineering Limited in Knighton.

I was privileged to see this tractor when it was first built and to take part in the three day Induction Course in driving and operating this machine. This tractor is completely waterproof and designed to operate in up to 2 metres of calm water at full power. It is divided into two sections with the front section housing the

power unit, hydraulic oil tank, front axle, hydraulic pumps, cooling systems and the fuel tank. The rear section houses the rear axle, hydraulic winch with 100 meter of cable, the driver controls, batteries, electronic control panel and the drive gear.

The driver's seat can face forward or rear with duplicated controls at the front and rear. This allows

**Driver's seat can face forward or rear**

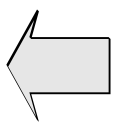
the boating trailer to be towed to the sea and then reversed around so that the boat can be pushed into the sea until sufficient depth is there for the boat to power off the trailer. Care has to be taken during this procedure to close the engine cooling panels before entering the water; otherwise the engine is swamped. Once closed the engine is completely waterproof and the tractor can drive into the sea up to the depth of the air breather which is about 6 feet above the seabed.

Weighing in at over 9 tonnes this is a very stable launch platform although large waves in a heavy sea have been known to lift the wheels off the seabed on occasions.

*Geoffrey Asson  
Former Hon. Sec./ Operations Manager  
Cardigan Lifeboat Station.*

## Radnorshire's Oldest Land Rover

*[Continued from last month]* Within 12 months the engine, gearbox and chassis were reunited, and the vehicle driven as a rolling chassis with a piece of foam on the fuel tank acting as a seat. And this was how it remained for 10 years whilst the body panels were stripped of paint, welded, straightened and filled. Many parts of the Land Rover are galvanised, bumpers, bonnet fasteners, body cappings and latches and these



were all sent away to be spun galvanised to achieve a smooth finish. The headlights which were situated behind the grille were sound, but the insides required re-chroming to be re-used, but still not very bright compared with today's lights. The body panels were all sprayed individually by a professional sprayer, firstly etching primer, sanded and then two pack body paint.

*(continued on page 41)*

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...I think I must have missed that module  
when I was at theological college!

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*(continued from page 39)* It was not until Boxing Day 1995 that the body began to be reunited with the rolling chassis, passed its first MOT test for nearly 40 years following the building of a new garage where the Land Rover could be kept dust free, away from the dirt and rubbish of the farmyard. I did have to purchase new “spade back” seats, and new canvas tilt as these were too far gone. A unique part of this local vehicle was that the tyres put on in 1987 were also from Radnorshire, Motorway remoulds made in Knighton! Probably the highlight of the rebuild was when FO5859 passed its first MOT test for nearly 40 years on St. David’s Day 1996.

In the period between having the rolling chassis and its final rebuilding I took the Land Rover to many more interest... than many of the shiny rebuilds Vintage shows and events including the Classic Car show at Malvern. The rolling chassis caused more

interest to visitors than many of the shiny rebuilds as few had seen under the body of a Land Rover. The first outing as a road going vehicle was to Ludlow Castle vintage event in April 1996 where I was pleased to receive the award for the best Land Rover.

During the following years I have taken the Land Rover to many events both locally and nationally, LR 50th Anniversary rally at Shugborough Hall, Staffordshire, Eastnor Castle, Events at Malvern, Tywyn LR event, LR 70th Anniversary rally on Anglesey [photo last month] and many local vintage shows and runs.

But probably the most surreal moment happened at the Kinsham Classics event near Presteigne. Many people come to look at the Land Rover and tell me how they either had

one or learnt to drive in one, but when this one couple were giving the inside a detailed inspection I enquired if they had owned a Series 1 Land Rover to which the lady replied, “Indeed yes, my Grandfather designed the Land Rover.” She was a Granddaughter for one of the Wilks brothers! I was flabbergasted but we went on to have a long conversation about Land Rovers as she had lived on Islay in Scotland and recounted seeing all the prototype Rover cars and Range Rovers being tested on the family’s estate there.

FO 5859 has given me a great deal of enjoyment and pride as people like to see an original classic vehicle. It also gave the previous owners, the Duggan family, much enjoyment when their restored Land Rover took their eldest daughter to and from her wedding in Llandegley (photo on page 38) on what was probably the hottest day ever in August 2003, with all the canvas and door tops removed.

In 2006 my Land Rover featured in a four-page spread in Land Rover monthly after a motoring journalist had spied FO 5859 on the farmyard at the Vintage Sports Car Welsh trial held here in October and was desperate to return for photos and its life story, which he did on a bright sunny December morning. The article contains around 20 lovely photos taken around the old farm buildings.

I feel very honoured to be the custodian of this unique vehicle which started and continues its life in Radnorshire for over 70 years and with a known background and a documented history of its life so far.

*Colin Pugh  
Postscript on page 42*

## Recipe of the month: Marmalade Loaf

Being fatless, this is useful for those on a fat-free or low-fat diet. The flavour varies according to the type of marmalade and sugar used. Dark Oxford marmalade and brown sugar makes a different loaf from lemon shred marmalade and white sugar. Being an all-in-one recipe it is easy to make.

### Ingredients

12 oz / 350g self-raising flour

7 oz / 200g dried fruit — raisins, sultanas, chopped apricots

4 oz / 125g sugar

3-4 tablespoons marmalade

2 eggs, beaten

Milk

### Method

Preheat the oven to 180°C / 350°F / gas mark 4.

Mix all the ingredients thoroughly with enough milk to make a soft dropping consistency.

Bake in a greased loaf tin for 1 hour, or until done.

Leave to settle for 10 minutes then turn on to a rack to cool.

Serve sliced, with or without butter.



*Recipe from ACE (Association of Church Editors), Deidre Morris*

## Postscript to Land Rover Story

The Duke of Edinburgh was not the first person to be carried to his funeral in a Landrover, as I am told that in 1950, FO5859 was used for that same purpose. An elderly nanny of the Gibson Watt family died and she wished to be buried on a hill on the estate so the Land Rover was used to carry her coffin up the hillside to her resting place.

It also served as an ambulance to rush a young child to hospital one snowy winter, when he had swallowed a marble which lodged in his throat. The Land Rover was taking him to hospital in Llandrindod but did not get all the way as the carburettor iced up as was common in very cold weather. But I believe he was carried the last few hundred yards and was saved. All in a lifetime's work for a Land Rover!

*- Colin Pugh*

If you really want to make a friend, go to someone's house and eat with him... the people who give you their food give you their heart.

*- Cesar Chavez*

## Llangunllo 200 Club Draw

Jan 2021

1st Anne Newton

2nd Donna Morgan

3rd Matt Edgar &  
Emrys Breeze

Feb 2021

1st EJ Harris

2nd Mark Andrews

3rd Bill Reynolds &  
Chris Upton

March 2021

1st Tom Lewis (senior)

2nd Doug Ford

3rd Steven Thomas &  
Chris Upton

April 2021

1st William Deakins

2nd Holly Davies

3rd Sheila Middleton  
& Evie c/o Sue  
Williams

## Churches Count on Nature

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June

Churches Count on Nature is a joint initiative promoted by Caring for God's Acre, A Rocha UK, the Church of England and the Church in Wales. During a week in June, it brings local people together to discover the wildlife in their local churchyard, recording the species they find, combining their results with others which will be collated on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN), a nationwide database of wildlife in the UK.

Come & sit a while in your local churchyard and record what wildlife and plants you can hear, smell & see. Send your findings to Vicar Rachael email: [revrachaelstorer@gmail.com](mailto:revrachaelstorer@gmail.com) or pop it in the Rectory post box in New Radnor. Thank you.



## County Lines Training

The East Radnor Ministry Area will be hosting a County Lines training course looking at the drugs culture from a faith perspective. The training will look at how to help people who are addicted. The hope is to form a team of trained people to work throughout the Ministry Area. These people will be trained to recognise drug problems and those affected, as well as what to do.

If you are interested in coming on board and/or know someone who would be interested please contact me ASAP.

*Petra Goodband*

The breaking of a wave cannot explain the whole sea.

*- Vladimir Nabokov*

## Dolau School Fighting Closure

For the second time in five years Llanfihangel Rhydithon has to fight to save its school from permanent closure. It has

Green ERW - highest ranking in Wales

ESTYN - Good school

The decision was made unanimously by eight members of Cabinet of Powys Council.

Kirsty Williams AM and former Secretary of State for Education in Wales described it last year as “an example of a good rural school.” It has full capacity and no financial debt. A proactive Governing body and staff have

sought to provide children of the village and the wider rural community, a quality education which is the envy of many so called “super schools” within the County.

Over a number of years Powys County Council has systematically closed village schools, which rips out the heart of a rural way of life. Llanfihangel Rhydithon is not alone in this, 'Transforming Education in Powys' is a ten-year plan designed to close small village schools throughout the county, with four now in immediate consultation.

To show your support to save the school please complete the consultation by:

- Filling in the consultation response form – online
- E-mail the Transforming Education Team – [school.consultation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultation@powys.gov.uk)
- Writing to Transforming Education Team, Powys County Council, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5LG

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## Llanfair Singers

The Llanfair Singers are a choir of around 40 voices who rehearse in Llanfair Waterdine. It is a privilege to be a member of this choir whose motto is “friendship through music”. I moved to South Shropshire in 2011 when I became involved with the choir. I hadn’t sung with purpose since I was head chorister in a west London church, but was immediately made to feel welcome by a really friendly group of people.

Graham Trew is our director of music and he has been instrumental in not only selecting a wide variety of music – Mozart’s Requiem to Bohemian Rhapsody – but has also made it possible for the choir to sing Evensong at many of this country’s cathedrals, including St Paul’s Cathedral in London.

The choir also perform in Clun and Llanfair Waterdine around Christmas time to raise money for specific charities chosen by members of the choir. Some of the charities include the West Midland and Wales Air Ambulance, schools in Lesotho, Tibet and an educational charity in Uganda.

Sadly, we stopped singing over a year ago because of Covid but are making plans to resume as soon as we are able to under the Government guidance around for amateur choirs. The majority of the choir are eager to start singing again and we plan to hold an open-air party in July to bring us all together after such a long break.

One of our challenges is finding Bass and Tenor voices. Most people I ask look down at their boots and suddenly become very shy when I mention joining the choir. I really don’t understand why. So, if you are reading this and want to join or know someone who you think would like to sing in a choir, please encourage them to join. We do not audition and the ability to read music is not an essential requirement. So as long as you have a voice and can sing in tune you will be very welcome. For more information please call Graham Trew on 01547 528052.

More information is on the choir website [www.llanfairsingers.co.uk](http://www.llanfairsingers.co.uk)

*Peter Sherman, Treasurer Llanfair Singers*

### Feedback from last month’s Radnor:

#### Dutlas Article

1. Radnorshire Dialect: On the map ‘Skinner’s Field’ should read ‘Skinner’s Piece’. A field was always a ‘piece’.
2. Several photos of Dutlas on page 52 were taken by Idris on his box camera in the late 40’s, early 50s, the others were by Jim Davies, the local photographer. Idris also had a folding Brownie camera.
3. The motorbike in the photo was Idris’s BSA 260 Gold Flash, purchased at the Automobile Palace in Llandrindod. The driver was Susan Price.

#### Evenjobb Articles

1. David Barker who always joins us on Zoom noted that the Charlie Williams who attended Bethel English Baptist Church was his grandfather. “There were 9 children, including Philip (youngest) and my Mum (Gwynfil, second oldest) who sang in the choir at St Peter’s in the morning at in chapel in the afternoon.”
2. Also Sir Humphry Davy, who leant Wordsworth a fishing rod at Hindwell Pool, was a famous chemist who invented a safety lamp in 1815 for use in coal mines, to reduce the danger of explosions.

## Caring for God's Acre



### Norton Churchyard:

Here in Norton churchyard we have been working with volunteers and Caring for God's Acre for five years and have a flourishing wildflower meadow where the older graves are, and a spring flowering area at the front of the churchyard. The area around the new graves is kept short as are the sides of the main path up to the building and various grass paths.

### flourishing wildflower meadow

We have several rare plants, a large variety of lichen and fungi, and wildlife which includes bats, birds, small mammals, lizards, toads, slow worms, grass snakes, a large variety of bees, moths and butterflies. In the Porch we have a board explaining what is happening in the churchyard and photographs and results of surveys. The churchyard has been designated a Bio-diversity Hot Spot and features on Caring for God's Acre web page.

Although there were a few concerns in the village originally over the new regime, this has faded away and the churchyard is admired by all, including the many visitors to the area.

Of course caring for the churchyard in this way ties in perfectly with the Eco Churches Initiative which we all have signed up for.

*Helen Ackland*

### Crug y byddar Churchyard:

Workday 28 April 2021: It was good to be back working in Churchyards again. I regularly work with the team in churchyards across South Shropshire, Wales and Herefordshire.

Everything we do is by hand, and the peace and quiet is a relief from the machinery noise I hear from my own garden. At this time of

year we are doing a spring cut, to stimulate growth of wild flowers. We shall scythe the grass in August after the orchids have finished flowering. We have also put down some corrugated sheets to provide a refuge for slow worms.

It was a cold, damp day to start with, and the forecast put others off, for we were only three: myself and Polly, and Alex our coordinator, whose youthful energy (early 40s!) managed to scythe and rake up all the rough grass that had grown since summer. Assisted by my treacle and butter flapjacks we finished it all and filled 5 bags of garden compost.

The vigorous rhododendron bushes need some cutting back after flowering -- quite a task and a while since we last did it. The number of days we get is not really sufficient for doing everything.

yellow rattle  
[will] parasitise  
coarse grass

I put in some yellow rattle seeds in autumn 2019, and a few flowers appeared in 2020 -- we hope for more this year. They parasitise coarse grass roots which allows other flowers to grow.

Bobby and Adrian, who live there, have been an enormous support to us -- in pre Covid days providing us with tea, coffee and cake in their beautiful Church house! They also contribute 50% of the workday cost, as approximately half of the area now belongs to them. Their garden, mainly behind their home is in harmony with the churchyard area in front, and they are seeing more wildlife -- hares, hedgehogs and tadpoles.

On our website there is a lot more about what we do: [caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://caringforgodsacre.org.uk)

*Hilary Howcroft*

## Caring for God's Acre at Norton



Wildflowers at Norton

## Volunteers at Knighton Churchyard



Photos by



John Goodband



**Knighton Cemetery**



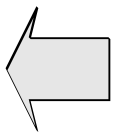
**Not a country lane,  
but a dried up Summergil**

**Summergil Update**



**Ramblers on Rushock Hill**





## Restored Bench at Knighton Cemetery

After visiting Knighton Cemetery over the years I found it sad that the benches were all in a bad state of decay, one especially held very fond memories of times spent sitting there with my mother. No one would be able to sit down to enjoy the peace and tranquillity as we did. My husband Rick and I decided to replace one particular bench as a tribute to my parents, Len and Edie Conway. But my brother Mike suggested that we should restore the old bench as it was a part of the cemetery.

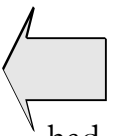
Permission was quickly given by Powys County Council; our contact at the Council was Andrew Ough-Jones who has been supportive as this project progressed.

After removing the bench and taking it apart the metal frame was worked on by Norman Morris, a sheet metal worker who kindly gave his time free of charge. The wood was ordered and machined by joiner Martin Evans and again he gave his time free of charge. We are so grateful to them.

I then ordered a commemorative plaque which is fixed to the restored bench and is now back in its rightful place at Knighton Old Cemetery.

It is pleasing to hear that the other benches in the cemetery are now in the process of being restored.

*Carole Oliver*



## A Dried Up Summergil

By the end of a dry April the Summergil had gone underground and the stream was dry. That's quite early. A week later though after a rainy May Bank Holiday it was back.

*- Photo by Michael Capstick*

Like cold water to a weary soul  
is good news from a distant land.

*-Proverbs 25.25*



**ramblers**

You are welcome on any of these walks.

[ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor](http://ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor)

**Tues June 1. SHORT WALK.** Around Presteigne:

Abley Green, Stapleton Wood, Willey Hall. Return via Stonewall Hill. Moderate 4.5 miles. Start at Presteigne recycling car park Exp 201 SO312 645.

**Wed June 2. Source of the Teme** and Cilfaesty Hill. Moderate 6.5 miles 300m ascent. Start at Cider House car park SO 109848.

**Sat June 5.** Rhayader to Llanwrthall, 700m ascent. 10 miles moderate. Ring 01597 811371 to book.

**Wed June 16.** Bucknell, Bedstone and beyond. Varied terrain. Moderate 8.5 miles,

580 metres (1900ft) total ascent over 3 hills, 1 steep, 2 gentle. Start at Baron pub car park Exp 201 SO350741.

**Thurs June 17 SHORT WALK.** Hindwell Brook: Lower Harpton, ODP to Herrock & Rushock. Moderate 4 miles, Start at Knill Church Exp 201 SO 291605.

**Sat Jun 19.** Hafren Forest to source of Severn. 9 miles moderate. Ring 01597 822512 to book.

**Wed June 23.** Knighton Offas Dyke, Ros-y-meirch, Rhos Hill, Gwernaffel, Moderate 7 miles. Start at Knighton community centre SO288722

**Wed June 30.** Hopesay and Burrow Hill. Moderate 18 miles. Start at Hopesay village SO 390 833

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[www.erdaycentre.org](http://www.erdaycentre.org)

## Woodlanders

**W**e are back in the woods with the easing of Covid restrictions. This spring and summer we will extract felled timber, cut logs, put up our new shed, prepare for the next felling season and – drumroll please – make charcoal! We have published our task day schedule on [woodland@tveg.org.uk](mailto:woodland@tveg.org.uk)

**Biodiversity Survey Training.** Excellent news! We have successfully bid to Natural Resources Wales for funding to train volunteers in biodiversity survey training techniques and to buy the necessary equipment. The funding will allow us to have volunteers trained in how to carry out botanical, ornithological and moth surveys and record the results. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to be trained in plant, bird and moth surveying techniques and to then act as surveyors for the Woodlanders

**Charcoal Making.** With the support of the Shropshire Hills AONB Trust, we are buying



a charcoal retort and receiving training. We wish to use a retort, rather than a traditional ring-kiln, as a retort burns more efficiently and cleanly. Charcoal making turns the ‘waste’ side branches and tops that arise from our work into a value-added product. If you are interested, drop an email to us.

**Forestry Skills.** We are hoping to access a range of first aid and chainsaw qualifications for our member volunteers.

*Woodlanders Team*

### Notable Days in June

- 29 May - 6 June: **Wales Nature Week**  
[biodiversitywales.org.uk](http://biodiversitywales.org.uk)
- 30 May - 5 June: **Bike Week**  
[cyclinguk.org/bikeweek](http://cyclinguk.org/bikeweek)
- 1 June is World Milk Day [worldmilkday.org](http://worldmilkday.org)
- 5 June: **World Environment Day**  
[worldenvironmentday.global](http://worldenvironmentday.global)
- 5-13 June **Churches Count on Nature**
- 12 June: **HM The Queen's Official Birthday**
- 20 June: **Father's Day**
- 8 June: **World Oceans**  
[oceanic.global/projects/united-nations-world-oceans-day-2021](http://oceanic.global/projects/united-nations-world-oceans-day-2021)
- 21 June: **World Giraffe Day (Longest Day)**  
[giraffeconservation.org/world-giraffe-day/](http://giraffeconservation.org/world-giraffe-day/)  
(held appropriately on the 'longest' day of the year!)

**Thank you** Mum, Audrey Humphris, passed away on 11th April, aged 92. It was sad but she was able to meet her only great grandson Alex born just two weeks earlier (he was five weeks premature so that was a miracle) God moves in mysterious ways!

Her funeral at St Peter's, Evancoyd included the interment of her husband Anthony's ashes. I would like to say thank you to everyone present and the organisers of the funeral AW Hughes, Rachel Storer, Heather for playing the organ and everyone who made it the most perfect, respectful and uplifting celebration of two lives.

*Joanna Winstone*

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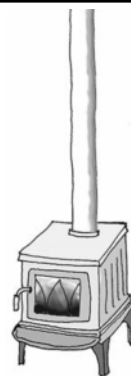
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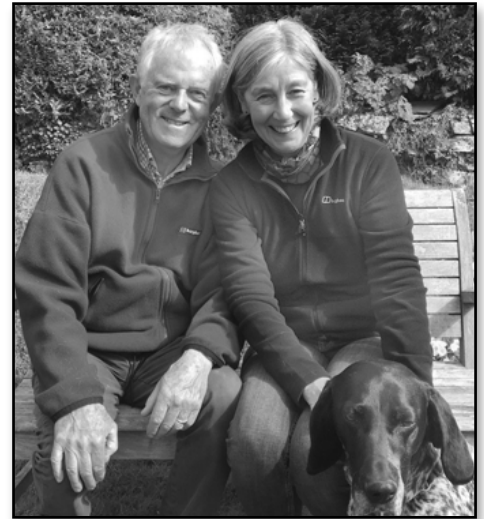


**R**ead Easy has carried on coaching adults learning to read over the last year.. However coaching on Zoom requires each coach and reader to have their own resources, so our coaching costs have increased.

And so Steve, on the management team, has decided to embark on an epic fundraising walk – John O’Groats to Land’s End – to help **Read Easy Shropshire Hills** and two other charities, **Children in Need** and **Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI)** which have struggled to raise funds during this pandemic.

Steve and Juliet who live near Knighton set out on the 10th May to walk in relay accompanied by Poppy their dog, a total distance of 1,360 miles, hoping to complete in mid August. Juliet volunteers for RABI, a charity which supports farming families in crisis. Follow their journey on the Shropshire Hills Facebook page.

If you know anyone who struggles with reading and is interested in our free and confidential service, they can call Amana on 07707 762653, or email her at [shcoordinator@readeasy.org.uk](mailto:shcoordinator@readeasy.org.uk)



Some of our coaching venues have sadly closed. If you know of venues such as cafes, offices, pubs and shops, who may be able to provide a quiet area where readers and coaches can meet, please let us know.

[readeasy.org.uk](http://readeasy.org.uk)

## Bobby's Beat | Special Events

*From the diary of a parishioner who served in the police.*  
Police Special Events.

When there were major events in London, men from the suburbs were drafted in to bolster the numbers. In 1959 the funeral of Field Marshall Lord Ironside took place in Westminster Abbey, with bands, mounted and foot guards, and gun carriage. I was standing in the road, near the abbey and the procession had come to a halt.



I heard a whirring noise from behind me, turned and saw a well dressed man of middle east appearance, with his wife and children. He was holding a cine camera and was taking in the full sweep of British pomp and splendour. Such cameras were not very common in those days Then I noticed that the

dust cover was still on the lens. Did you tell him, you ask? NO.

Each year there was an anti-nuclear march from Aldermarston in Berkshire, to Trafalgar Square, ending there on Easter Monday. Again I was sent up to assist in the square. I found myself at the foot of the plinth from where the speeches were made. Paul Robeson, the great American Negro singer, was performing on this occasion. I liked his rich, deep voice, and so did someone else. Close to me was a clicking noise. A young woman was standing, eyes closed in rapture. Round her neck was the strap of a portable tape recorder, and she held the microphone high, in her hand. What she had not noticed was that the tape had come to the end, hence the clicking. You've guessed it — I kept quiet.

*Bobby Fuzz*

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## Plastics

We are all hopefully aware of the scourge and proliferation of plastics; whilst some play an important role a lot do not. The figures for one use plastics are horrifying: 1.8 billion plastic stemmed cotton bud sticks are used in England each year; 10% are flushed down the toilet. 300 million crisps packets and 200 million sweet wrappers end up as litter in the UK every year. Of the biggest source of plastic pollution in rivers in the UK, 6.9% are plastic bottles. Most of the plastics which are littered are one-use items. They kill wildlife, affect our health and exacerbate the climate crisis.

We can all switch to 'single-use plastics'. Environmentally friendly alternatives are re-useable shopping bags, cotton wool buds with

paper or bamboo stems, re-useable food containers, water bottles and cutlery.



There are many sites on the Internet with more information, such as *WRAP* and *Surfers Against Sewage*, and numerous articles in the press.

In the church we can help by using re-useable plates, cups, and cutlery, using re-useable food coverings, all of which will help towards our Eco-Church Awards. Another way we can help is by enforcing the Church in Wales rules on no plastic flowers on gravestones; this rule has been in place for many years and is even more pertinent now.

*Helen Ackland*



Kington Museum and History Centre would like to thank those who supported and donated second-hand books over the past year. It has enabled us to help fund

maintenance, a new sign, our new logo and website. We now have our bookstall outside once again and will gratefully receive any second-hand books.

With our opening to the public soon, we are now looking for new volunteers. Our dedicated and friendly team of volunteers assist with opening to the public by being on reception, welcoming visitors, answering questions, overseeing the sale of books and donations, general housekeeping, setting up exhibitions and any other tasks which can assist with the daily running of the museum. If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact Wendy Jones on 01544230841.

[www.kingtonmuseum.com](http://www.kingtonmuseum.com)  
Kington Museum on Facebook

### Church Contacts:

**Methodist Minister:** Sara Windsor-Hides,  
The Manse 2 Cae Clawydd, Knighton LD7 1DQ, 01547 520854

[sara.windsor-hides@methodist.org.uk](mailto:sara.windsor-hides@methodist.org.uk)

**Baptist Ministers:** Rev Kevin Dare  
Church Office, Baptist Church  
01547 520340 or 07891 500531

Rev Gareth Davidson  
The Manse, Knighton LD7 1BD  
01547 528479 or 07795 087363

Secretary: Mrs Sue Wilson  
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**Anglican Ministers** Rev Petra Goodband  
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## Church/Community Hall Contacts

Evenjobb Village Hall	Linda Ellams	01547 560306
Felindre Village Hall	Jess Barrett	01547 510603
	felindrevh@gmail.com	07805 002497
Gladestry Village Hall	Marlene Evans	01544 370646
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N Radnor Comm Centre	Carlee Evans	01544 350575
St Edward's Church Hall	Jean Price	01547 528260
Whitton Community Hall	Gill Powell	01547 560367

## Grid References & Church Postcodes

Beguildy	SO 194797	LD7 1YE
Bleddfa	SO 206683	LD7 1PA
Heyope	SO 239745	LD7 1PY
Llangunllo	SO 211712	LD7 1SW
Knighton	SO 287724	LD7 1AG
Norton	SO 304672	LD8 2EY
Whitton	SO 270673	LD7 1AG
Pilleth	SO 256682	LD7 1NP
Cascob	SO 239664	LD8 2NT
N Radnor	SO 210609	LD8 2SS
Gladestry	SO 230551	HR5 3NR
Colva	SO 199531	HR5 3RA
Evancoyd	SO 262627	LD8 2PA
Llan'li n m	SO 180581	LD8 2TN

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## Church Information

### Anglican Sunday Worship

**Zoom** worship every Sunday at 9.30am

#### 6 June

- 11am St Edward's Knighton
- 2.30pm Colva followed by A.V.M.

#### 13 June

- 9.30am Morning Prayer Whitton
- 10am Morning Prayer New Radnor Hall
- 10.30am Llanfihangel Nant Melan followed by A.V.M.

#### 20 June

- 11am St Edward's Knighton
- 11.15am Morning Prayer Evancoed
- 3pm Pilleth (see page 33)

#### 27 June

- 10am Evancoed HC followed by A.V.M.
- 11am Whitton

### Baptist Sunday Worship

**6 June** 11am Morning Worship at Norton St  
6pm Evening Worship at Knucklas  
Chapel [every 1st Sun of the month]

**13, 20 and 27 June** 11am Morning Worship at Norton Street. For further details see [www.knightonbaptists.org.uk](http://www.knightonbaptists.org.uk)

### Methodist Sunday Worship

Service in Knighton every Sunday at 11am.

### REGISTERS:

#### Funerals:

- 29 April Audrey Humphris 92 and the internment of her husband Anthony's ashes, St Peter's Church, Evancoyd, parents of Joana Winstone, Evenjobb.
- 10 May Sylvia Balls 84 St Edward's and Hereford Crem
- 13 May Donald Leighton Gibson 92 Hereford Crem

#### Weddings

- 22 May George Kirkpatrick and Nicola Grant, St Mary Magdalene Bleddfa

### Annual Vestry Meetings

#### St David's, Colva

Sunday 6 June 2.30pm Eucharist followed by the Vestry meeting

#### St Michael's, Llanfihangel Nant Melan

Sunday 13 June 10.30am Eucharist followed by the Vestry meeting

#### Beacon Hill Benefice

Monday 21 June 7pm, Knucklas Comm Centre

#### St Mary's, New Radnor

Tuesday 22 June 7pm in the Village Hall

#### East Radnor Benefice

Wednesday 23 June 7pm Venue tbc

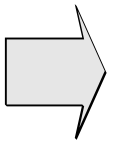
#### St Mary's, Gladestry

Wednesday 23 June 7pm in the church

#### St Peter's, Evancoyd

Sunday 27 June 10am Eucharist followed by the Vestry meeting

## Radnor Valley School



Children and staff from Radnor Valley were delighted to be one of the schools nominated, (alongside the National Botanic Garden of Wales and Conwy Castle), to receive Japanese flowering cherry trees as part of the Sakura Cherry tree project. A gift to Wales from Japanese businesses and people to celebrating friendship between Wales and Japan. Our trees were planted by Year 6 in the front of the school, and we have already enjoyed their blossom this year.

Mrs Edwards organised a visit from the \*Urdd to Dosbarth Mrs Curtis, to help the children practice their Welsh through playground games. The children had a fantastic time practising their vocabulary including different foods, colours, shapes transport and animals.

*Kate, School Secretary*

\*The *Urdd* was established in 1922 to give children and young people the chance to learn and socialise in Welsh.

# Radnor Valley School



Planting the Japanese Cherry Trees



Learning Welsh Through Games



# Save Dolau School Tractor Event



100 Tractors lined up in support of Dolau School. They crossed 28 miles of land.



Dan Lydiate's red Massey 148 travelled the furthest (81 miles) to support the event.



Left - Dan Lydiate (Wales Rugby Star who attended rural Llanbister School)  
Top - Nigel Bufton (tractor owner and chair of school governing body)  
Right - Ben Hardwick (event organiser)

See page 43 for story