

THE RADNOR

FEBRUARY 2025

An offering of five loaves and two fish - Rhosilli Church, The Gower



The Magazine of the East Radnor Ministry Area

Beguildy & Felindre | Bleddfa | Heyope & Knucklas | Llangunllo

Knighton | Norton | Whitton | Pilleth | Cascob

New Radnor | Gladestry | Colva | Evancoyd | Llanfihangel Nant Melan

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Christmas Carols Light Up Llangunllo!

Photos by Michael Brown, Charles Kightly & Debbie Jones



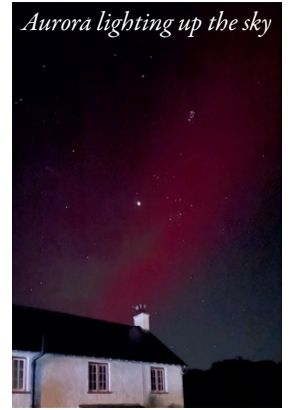
A de-light-ful display!



St. Cynllo's lighting the way



Aurora vs the village



Aurora lighting up the sky



All lit-up. The centre of the village.



The Aurora & stars of The Plough constellation



Lots of happy faces ready to sing!



The Musicians



Children ready & waiting



Rev. Rachael leads the carols



Everyone was in fine voice!

Carols for the Community at Whitton



Wellies and Woollies at Pilleth



Christmas Carols Light Up Llangunllo!

When the 1st of December rolls around each year, lots of multi-coloured Christmas lights gradually spread their twinkling jollity around the village, as we welcome another opportunity to 'Light Up Llangunllo' for the festive season. There's always an air of anticipation, looking for any new additions and creations to brighten up the cold, Winter evenings, and they didn't disappoint. However, just as we had seen in 2024, we were treated to the return of the Aurora Borealis during the evening of January 1st. It was visible throughout many parts of the UK, once again, and brought its own ethereal light-up show over Llangunllo, a beautiful addition to start the New Year!

Another Llangunllo festive tradition is the annual 'Christmas Carols Around The Tree,' which takes place in the centre of the village. On Sunday, December 15th at 6.30pm, on a cool, but mostly clear evening, a sizeable crowd of all ages gathered outside The Greyhound Inn. Mulled wine and mince pies were served, before Rev. Rachael Storer jovially led proceedings, throughout a mixture of traditional Carols and jolly Christmas songs. The audience, in fine voice, their singing echoing around the valley, were accompanied on guitars played by Paul Hardware and Trevor and Debbie Jones, as the village Christmas Tree and decorations added their own sparkle and shine to the atmosphere. A most enjoyable occasion, as always, easing everyone into the spirit of Christmas.

Debbie Jones

Christmas News from Whitton

Carols for the Community

This was held on Sunday 15th December and featured Knighton Town Silver band. The band opened the afternoon with a varied selection of Christmas music as the audience were settling down, they then led the singing of three Christmas Carols before playing another musical selection. The audience then sang another three Carols before a final Christmas musical collection.

The audience of around fifty thoroughly appreciated the quality of the music played by the band and Jim Walbran thanked all the participants for a wonderful afternoon to set the scene for Christmas. This was followed by seasonal refreshments and the afternoon raised £170 for Shelter Cymru to help support the homeless in Wales over Christmas.

Annual Christmas Whist Drive

This took place on its customary date of December 23rd, when eight tables played. The MC was Philip Watkins, and the players came from a wide area. There was a good selection of prizes and the usual raffle to raise funds for St David's Church.

Christmas Day Service

Whitton was fortunate in being able to hold a service of Morning Worship on Christmas morning, which was ably led by Jim Walbran. The congregation was not large, but included worshippers from other parishes. We unfortunately did not have an organist, but with some good choral voices in the congregation we sang four carols unaccompanied which was very moving. Some time was spent in fellowship after the service before people headed home to carry on the Christmas festivities.

Pilleth Christmas News

Wellies and Woollies

The ritual that is "Wellies and Woollies" took place in St. Mary's Church, Pilleth on Friday evening the 6th December. The evening was led for the first time by Revd. Rachael and music was provided once again by the Radnor Valley band. The evening of Carols was interspersed with both Biblical Christmas readings and other seasonal poems and renditions. There was a very good attendance, including many who had never visited Pilleth before. Peter Hood thanked all those who had helped to decorate and light the Church and to everyone who had supplied refreshments which were much enjoyed afterwards.

Update "The Village Shop/PO Past and Present."

The next article in the series will be in the March edition of The Radnor and will feature Whitton. Accounts of the Village Shop/PO in Evanjobb, Knucklas, Felindre and Norton to follow over the Spring and Summer months.

If anyone has information of a past shop/PO in Cascob, Colva and Llanfihangle Nant Melan, please do let me know so they can also be included in the series. With thanks.

Isabel Morris, 01547 550689 / mramorris@btconnect.com

Happy Birthday

Fred Lewis
Birthday Greetings for a Special Day!
(90 years old)

A Letter from the Vicar's Study

Dear Friends,

The celebration of Christmas is now a distant memory for us all. We have had our carol services, our fill of Christmas goodies and celebrated the birth of Jesus on Christmas day and packed away all the Christmas decorations back in the attic, cupboard or garage for another year. We have remembered the Epiphany, when the three kings after following a star in the heavens, knelt before Jesus in Bethlehem, presenting those strange gifts to him, of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We have revisited the events of Jesus' baptism in the river Jordan, where God declared him as his own, this is my son, with him I am well pleased. And we have seemingly trudged through January, a month that really seems to drag on and on, the days cold and damp and the evenings never ending. But there is a bright light if we care to lift up our heads and see, guiding us to the last hoorah of the Christmas season, Candlemas, celebrated on the 2nd February this year. A celebration of Jesus being presented at the temple in Jerusalem when he was forty days old, and the church candles to be used through the coming year are blessed. And then we enter a quiet time in the church calendar where we prepare ourselves for Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Easter, starting on Wednesday the 5th of March this year.



Let us confidently look to the months ahead, knowing that we have the light of God to guide us and that even in our darkest moments that we will experience, he will be walking with us and that we are never alone. May you all walk in his light and know his grace and love always.

Blessings, Rev Rach

About the Cover - Feeding the 5,000

Five loaves and two fish is all it took for Jesus to feed 5,000 men, not counting women and children. He had been teaching this great crowd out in the countryside when the shadows lengthened and his disciples knew the crowd would soon have a long walk home on empty stomachs. But one young boy offered what he had. Jesus blessed that simple offering, and the disciples distributed it. When everyone had eaten their fill, they collected twelve baskets of scraps! This much-loved miracle shows us Jesus's care for our physical and spiritual needs, AND the generosity of one small boy! Read the whole story in John 6.1-14.

The stained glass is from Rhossili Church on Gower. Its dedication reads "In loving memory of Rev William Scudamore, Rector of Rhossili 1920-1954 and his wife Margaret."

Photo and article by Laura Woodside-Jones

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The new email for all advertising enquires in the Radnor has been updated to: radnoradvertisingmanager@outlook.com

Thank you to those who have placed an advert in the magazine in 2024, as without the revenue from our advertisers the magazine couldn't be in the format that it currently is in.

Thank you for those of you who have paid your subscription for June 2024 - June 2025, and a polite reminder to those of you who haven't yet paid, can you please do so by the end of February.

Due to the increase of printing costs the cost of placing an advert has been increased by 12.5% for June 2025 - June 2026 subscriptions. Small £45 Medium £90 Large £135

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Rev Rachael Storer

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Please pay subscriptions to your distributor. Thank you very much for your custom.

If you have any comments or suggestions please email Rosemary at radnoreditor@outlook.com

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Article Deadline

The deadline for the March 2025 edition is 15th February. Please send all items for The Radnor to radnoeditor@outlook.com



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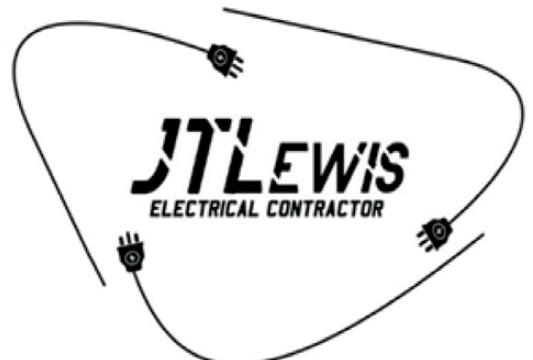
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Light Up A Life

Knighton Methodist Church was full for this year's Light up a Life service, held in early December. It was organised by Sally Hall on behalf of St Michael's Hospice. Over forty people came forward to light candles in memory of loved ones.



*Christmas Eve Crib Service
at St Edward's, Knighton*

Christmas Tree Festival

at St Edward's, Knighton



Llangunllo Carol Service – “Christmas Through the Ages”

The Players



Good King Wenceslas

O Christmas Tree

The Readers



The Tudors

The Georgians and the Nativity from St Luke

The Victorians

Into the 20th Century and World War 1

The Musicians



Carols and O Christmas Tree

The Coventry Carol

Silent Night

Christmas Through The Ages

At our Christmas Eve carol service in Llangunllo carols were sung, of course, and we heard the familiar and much loved Christmas story read from St Luke's Gospel, but we also took a slightly different approach from usual. We took a look at many aspects of the festive season through the ages - different music, customs and food that have been part of the celebrations.

The Dark Ages were represented by Good King Wenceslas whose kind actions on the night of the Feast of Stephen (26th December) were acted out for us by an impromptu band of young actors, followed by us all singing the well-known carol that also tells the story.

From the Tudor period our own travelling minstrels brought us the lovely *Coventry Carol* and the Georgian era gave us *'While shepherds watched their flocks by night.'*

Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, introduced the idea of bringing the Christmas tree indoors and decorating it and the singing of *'O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree'* heralded the arrival of our own tree which the children decked out in sparkling tinsel and baubles.

Our trip through the centuries concluded with a touching glimpse of the trenches in World War 1, with two more of our local musicians giving us the poignant *'Silent Night'* – a reminder of soldiers from both sides singing during that often recalled break in hostilities.

The service was followed by a jolly social time which really put us in the mood for our very own 2024 Christmas celebrations. Many thanks to all those who attended and made our Christmas Service such a memorable occasion, particularly those families who brought along their younger members who helped to make it such fun! Isabel, Pam and all St Cynllo's Committee would also like to thank the Friends of St Cynllo's and everyone who has given their help and support throughout the year doing the many jobs that go towards keeping everything running smoothly.

Pam Livingstone-Lawn

New Radnor celebrates return of film director, 65 years on!

Kevin Brownlow, the director of the 1964, breakthrough movie, *It Happened Here*, returning on 30th November to the main Water Street site of his shoots in New Radnor, commented: *"Of all the many places where we went on location the people here were always the most welcoming."*



The film, first shown at various film festivals in 1964, portrays what it would have been like to have lived in a 1940s Britain which had lost the war and was under Nazi occupation.

Conceived by Brownlow in 1956, when he was only 18, the independent film, which took eight years to complete, includes early scenes shot in and around New Radnor, including at a derelict farmhouse on Black Yatt which was 'blown up' in a highly realistic battle scene. But the core of the New Radnor shoot involved a scene in which practically the whole village turned out to be 'evacuees' put on trucks from a war zone, but in which one small group left behind are caught up in a shoot-out with partisans and in which all but one were killed. The survivor was none other than Pauline Murray, star of the film, otherwise wife of Dick Jobson, New Radnor's doctor for more than thirty years.

It was Dick Jobson's own enthusiasm as an amateur film maker which led him to cross paths with Kevin Brownlow in, which in turn led to the invitation to come and shoot parts of the film in New Radnor in 1959. Headquarters for the whole operation was the Jobson's grand old house in Broad Street. And when Pauline was not on set she was busy cooking for all the film crew who pitched up there. That aside, the film critics are unanimous that, though not a professional actor, it was above all her performance which so forcefully captured the dilemma of what an ordinary person might do in circumstances not of their own choosing.

This was one of the difficult issues explored by Kevin Brownlow in conversation with another famous film maker, Martin Smith, at the New Radnor community centre on 30th November. Both discussion and film viewing had the audience of forty absolutely rapt. But arguably stealing the show were the three New Radnor ladies who stepped up to the plate to tell how they got involved as extras and the excitement of it all. Libby Roe, Jane Lissaman and Pat McGilvray were only young children in 1959, but their reminiscences of the event, including being dumped on lorries or indeed being 'shot', were utterly vivid.

Dr Mark Levene

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Looking back on Felindre WI

Our Institute really began in Beguildy on August 1st 1927 with a membership of 30-40. Owing to the black-out and difficulty in getting speakers during the war years, attendance dwindled and it was decided on October 3rd 1941 to suspend meetings during the winter. In fact meetings were not resumed until October 1947. By this time there was more interest in the Felindre area than at Beguildy, so it was re-opened as Felindre WI, supporting the Community and going from strength to strength in all aspects of WI.

We were very involved with the Field Name Survey during 1969/70. One of our members Mrs JAP Thomas, who was Chairman of the Organising Committee for the survey, had the honour of receiving the Prince of Wales Countryside Award from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Mrs Thomas was on the National Agriculture and Produce Sub-Committee.

We were a lively WI with a netball and a rounders team also competing in Federation events. We were proud that one of our members became County Federation Chairman.

Fast forward to the second millennium, still very active competing in short mat bowls and new age curling events with other WIs within the County. We experienced much success in the County Show and on several occasions represented the County in the WI Rose Bowl Competition at the Royal Welsh Show, winning on one occasion.

During the 'noughties' Felindre WI produced another Federation County Chairman, who was also Vice-Chair of the Wales Federation. We continued to support all County Events, Campaigns and fund raisers. Three of our members sang in the Federation Choir, entertaining and fund raising locally.

Numbers started to dwindle through no fault of our own despite having membership campaigns, targeting every household, and holding Open Evenings which were well attended but still no members. The ladies were very happy to support us for functions but didn't want to join. The younger ladies of the community did open up a WI of their own in the upper Teme Valley but sadly it didn't last. Covid didn't help but the officers were wonderful in keeping in touch with members.

Rebe Brick

The Late Rhona Barnett – Felindre WI

It was just a month after the official closing of our WI when members heard the news that they were all dreading – the passing of our Secretary and Treasurer Rhona Barnett. It was a very sad day; she faced her illness with courage and dignity.

Rhona was an incredible lady - wife, mother, friend and WI member who will be greatly missed in the community and further afield.

She was an accomplished horsewoman and needlewoman – it was Rhona who made the patchwork cushion for the winning display when Felindre represented Powys-Radnor WI Federation at the Royal Welsh Show in 2011.

Over the years we have shared and savoured many memories with Rhona, she had a very dry wit. These we shall keep close in our hearts in the future.



Felindre W.I. Early 1950's.

*Back Row. L to R. Mrs Pryce Brick, Mrs. Annie Lloyd, Mrs. Annie Hamar,
Mrs Reynolds, Rhydyccwm, Miss Edith Reynolds, Vron.
Front Row. L to R. Mrs. Reynolds, Vron, Mrs Bennett,
Mrs Thomas Bryndraenog, Mrs Lucy Bright,
Upper House.*



*Mrs. J. A. P. Thomas receiving the Trophy
from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales*



Knighton News

Presentation

Archdeacon Alan Jevons, together with Rev. Rachael Storer, held a short service in church to welcome back Rev. Petra Goodband to receive a gift from our ministry area members. The beautiful silk stole with exquisite embroidery, designed and worked by Mrs Rene Morris, was presented to Petra by Mrs Morris, who explained where her inspiration came from for the design. Rev. Petra thanked all for such a precious gift that will be treasured and worn on Christmas Day for the first time. Refreshments and lots of chat followed, with time for all to admire the stole before wishing Petra and John all the best in their new home.

Coffee Morning

Our next get together will be on **15th February** in the Church Hall at 10am to midday. Why not bring an item along to celebrate Valentine's Day (Feb 14th)? There will be a prize for the best treasure. If you have items for one of our stalls, please bring them along or phone Jean (528260) to arrange collection. All funds for maintenance of St Edward's Church.

Annual Christmas Draw

Thank you to all who gave such a lovely variety of gifts for the draw, all won by local people (list of winners available). Thanks to all who sold the tickets. The sum raised was £500.00 for church funds.

December Coffee Morning

This was a very enjoyable festive event, well attended, lots of coffee and chat. Thank you to all who continue to support these get togethers. Winners of the competition were R Johnson, B Johnson, R Williams, M Brick and J Bevan. A profit of £350.00 was made.

Christmas Tree Festival

Lots of visitors, families and friends came along to a busy weekend of decorated trees, many with twinkling lights, providing a lovely atmosphere ready for Christmas. We appreciate all who brought along trees and skilfully arranged many hand-crafted items. Thank you to all for the lovely arrangements on the windows and to the volunteers who helped and cleaned the church for the celebrations.

From the Registers

15th November – The funeral service for Lilian Bright, who passed away on 22nd October, aged 99 years. Rev. Rachael Storer conducted the service. The organist was George Baker for the hymns chosen: *“O Lord my God”* and *“Guide me, O Thou Great Redeemer”*. Lilian had been a life-long member of St Edward's. We will always remember the huge contribution she and her late husband Eric made to the church and our community.

25th November – Rev. Rachael Storer conducted the funeral service for Philip Ash, who passed away on 6th November, aged 82 years. The hymns chosen for the service were *“Guide me, O Thou Great Redeemer”* and *“Abide with me”*. Tributes and a poem were read by family members. Philip, a keen sportsman, will be missed by his family, friends and neighbours. Our thoughts are with the families of Lilian and Philip and all recently bereaved. Remembering Carol and Sandra (Richards), mourning the loss of their much-loved Dad, the funeral of Dennis Richards took place on 18th December in the Norton Street Baptist Chapel.

Family News

We remember in our prayers all who are unwell at this time, at home and in hospital. It is good to see Derrick Price is now home after a stay in Hereford Hospital. Our thanks to Brian Paul for taking over necessary church hall duties in Derrick's absence.

Illuminating the parish church over Christmas is always a joy to the community and visitors. Our thanks to Mike Conway. It is much appreciated by so many.

Congratulations to Robert and Linda Johnson on the birth of a baby grandson, born to Adele and Jack, earlier than expected.

Colin Phillips, Late of Millfield, Knighton

Doe, Louise and Alex send sincere thanks for the kindness and sympathy shown to them on their bereavement, and attendance at the funeral and the donations received. These were divided between St Michael's Hospice, Presteigne and Knighton District Nurses and St David's Church Whitton.

Thank you also to Rhayader Male Voice Choir for turning out to send Colin on his final journey.

Whitton WI

From the smiling faces, it is clear that we could not have been happier with our Christmas lunch at Beguildy's Radnorshire Arms (see photo). It's the only meeting in the year when you need to book.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings, which are usually held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in Whitton Community Hall.

On **4th February** Owen Griffkyn, The Community Rail Officer for the Heart of Wales Line, will be at our meeting. Local WI Members and also their partners and friends are very welcome to join us, if they are interested to hear what he has to say.

On **4th March**, our local and very interesting florist, Tanith Fox from the Flower Box in Knighton, will be speaking at our AGM.

Tel. 01547 560350 if you are interested in knowing more.

Stowe & Stanage WI

Our December meeting was our opportunity to 'do Christmas lunch' at the Radnorshire Arms in Beguildy, and to all come together to celebrate the festive season. The food was delicious, the company delightful and the quizzes organised by Shauna were such fun. A big thank you to all the lovely staff who looked after us and served us so well.

In early December we joined in with the St. Edwards Christmas Tree event, and our very unusual Christmas Tree was highly commented on by those who took the opportunity to visit the lovely occasion.

The January meeting was a very enjoyable and informal meeting, we had our usual committee meeting, and then shared food, tried to guess whose 'baby photo' belonged to whom, and then swapped 'not needed' Christmas gifts.

If you would like to know more about our very supportive, friendly and welcoming Women's Institute, and for information on our future meetings, please contact the secretary Annie England at sswisecretary24@gmail.com or call 07570 258511.

Organising an Event?

Spread the word with The Radnor.
Contact the editor for inclusion of your poster.
radnoeditor@outlook.com

Gladestry WI

Our November meeting was abandoned due to a heavy fall of snow- no, we didn't have 'build a snowman' as the competition!

Several members met in December and welcomed Rev. Rachael who led us in the art of felting. I certainly 'felt' the needle in my fingers - my fault I hadn't listened to Rachael's instructions on how not to prick your finger! It was amazing how, with time and patience, a piece of fleece could be moulded into a 'body' with ears, tail, jacket and scarf and become a mouse. After many thanks to Rachael for her enthusiasm and instruction, we celebrated our 100th birthday (to the day) with a lovely cake made by Viv and Prosecco - other nibbles were available. The competition 'The best created mouse' was won by Marion, and Marlene won the draw.

We are all looking forward to our Christmas dinner at the Roast Ox when Santa's Sack will be passed around and surprise presents unwrapped.

Gladestry WI Christmas Dinner

Members and friends gathered in the warm and beautifully decorated restaurant at The Roast Ox, in Painscastle for our Christmas dinner. An evening of delicious food, fun and friendship was shared by all. Crackers were pulled, hats worn and jokes shared. The Secret Santa sack was passed around with much excitement and anticipation as presents were unwrapped to 'oohs and aahs'. Towards the end of the evening prizes were presented to the winners of the monthly competitions. Marlene, Viv and Liz had scored most points and were delighted with their prizes. Thanks to Chris and Joan for organising the competitions.

Marlene thanked all her committee and members for their support during the year and to the staff of the Roast Ox for their superb food and service.

This was our last WI gathering of 2024 - we now look towards 2025.

Happy and Healthy New Year to everyone!

Welsh Words



mis Chwefror – February

gŵyl Sanffraid – St Bride's Day (1st February)

gŵyl Fair y Canhwyllau – the feast of Mary of the Candles (Candlemas, the feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 2nd February)

rhos yr eira – snowdrop (rose of the snow)

Whitton WI



Gladestry WI



Needle felting with Rev. Rachael

Stowe & Stanage WI



Christmas Dinner and Competition Prize Winners

Pop In Café

Pop In celebrates with the Holy Joes!



Post Christmas Lunch



Gladestry Remembers

A box of 10 poppies was laid by Dee from Gladestry WI in remembrance of the men from our area who gave their lives in two World Wars.



Duck Race

The annual Radnor Valley Football duck race took place on a glorious sunny but cold Boxing Day.



Pop In Café

We really knew Christmas was on its way at our Pop In get together when we welcomed the Holy Joes! Eight wonderful singers led us in a brilliant morning of carols and popular Christmas songs. Our regular PopInner, Pat, was on the keyboard and Roger, who has entertained us previously, played his guitar. Feet were tapping and hands clapping as we either sang along or listened to the singers. The morning drew to a close with refreshments and lively chatter. Thank you Holy Joes - look forward to seeing you again in 2025!

The following Monday at Pop In Café we were entertained by the children from Gladestry Primary School. Their Christmas performance was truly inspiring! It's amazing how such a small school can produce such talent. Confidence poured from the young performers - well done all of you! The staff were also applauded for their dedication and hard work to our wonderful Primary School. Happy New Year to all at Gladestry School!

Nineteen Pop Inners met for their annual post Christmas lunch- a week later than usual due to snow and ice the previous Monday. The table groaned with an amazing array of delicious bring and share food. Strange how there were no duplicates of culinarily delights. It was so lovely to get together for a catch-up, the first time after Christmas. Surprising what can happen in a small village in a short time. We celebrated the birthday of one of our regular Pop Inners with cake and a resounding rendering of 'Happy Birthday'.

Our lunch drew to a close with a draw - the winners thrilled with their prizes. Then it was all hands to the pump as our lovely group pulled together to wash up and tidy away. A great time was had by all!

Pop In is held every Monday morning 10.30am-11.30am for coffee, biscuits and neighbourly natter.

Why don't you come along too?

Marlene Evans

Can you help?

Please be aware that, due to rising costs, the March Edition may be delayed or even rolled into the April Edition to allow time for ongoing discussions and possible changes around the way The Radnor is produced.

One way to keep costs down is to reduce the number of coloured pages. Until we get back on our feet again, the editor requests that contributors send no more than four photos with their reports. If you send more than four the editor will select the most appropriate or publish some in black and white. Thank you for your understanding.

Are you interested in helping with the running of The Radnor? Do you have good publishing software skills? We also need a dedicated advertising manager. If you could spend some time volunteering to keep our magazine going, please contact Rosemary Hanna radnoeditor@outlook.com in the first instance.

Thank you to all our readers, advertisers and contributors for your patience and ongoing support.

Felindre Short Mat Bowls



Felindre Short Mat Bowls Group hosted an open evening on 6th December at Felindre Village Hall. There was a great turn out with 10 teams taking part in a knock out competition. In second place were Mark Fletcher and Stuart Greaves and the winners were Jenny Barrett & Edward Harris. The short mat bowls group meet on a Friday evening at Felindre Village Hall and would love to hear from anyone who wishes to join the group - felindrevh@gmail.com



Runners up Mark Fletcher & Stuart Greaves



Winners Jenny Barrett & Edward Harris

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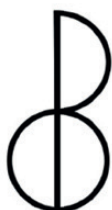
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Knighton Comm

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31st Jan - Back To Black (15)

Starring: Marisa Abela, Eddie Morson, Lesley Monville 122 mins

A celebration of the iconic - and much missed - home-grown star of the 21st century, *Back To Black* tells the extraordinary tale of Amy Winehouse. Painting a vivid, vibrant picture of the Camden streets she called home and capturing the struggles of global fame, *Back To Black* honours Amy's artistry, wit, and honesty, as well as trying to understand her demons. An unflinching look at the modern celebrity machine and a powerful tribute to a once-in-a-generation talent.



14th Feb - Fly Me To The Moon (12A)

Starring: Scarlett Johansson, Channing Tatum, Woody Harrelson 132 mins

A sharp, stylish romantic comedy set against the high-stakes backdrop of NASA's historic Apollo 11 moon landing. Brought in to fix NASA's public image, sparks fly in all directions as marketing maven Kelly Jones wreaks havoc on launch director Cole Davis's already difficult task. When the White House deems the mission too important to fail, the countdown truly begins.



28th Feb - How To Make Millions Before Grandma Dies (12a)

Dir: Pot Boonitipat / Thailand / 2024 / 1.26 mins / Subtitled

A Thai box office sensation, Pat Boonitipat's irresistible debut is a proven tearjerker. When his grandmother Amah (Usha Seamkhum) is diagnosed with terminal cancer, young slacker M (Putthipong Assaratanakul) moves in to care for her. His newfound devotion seems altruistic, but it's her multi-million-dollar fortune he's really after. Unfortunately, it turns out it's harder to win his shrewd grandmother's favour than he thought - plus, he's only one in a number of interested parties.

Norton Hub 100 Club Winners

December Draw

Prizes for December are double

1st £80: 17, Margaret & Brian Lloyd

2nd £50: 6, Georgina Pearson-Gee

3rd £30: 42, Lucy Wilding

January Draw

1st £40: 45, Richard Wilding

2nd £25: 20, Jane Hutchinson

3rd £15: 72, Daniel Price

New Radnor Children's Playground Club 100 Winners!

December 2024

1st: S.Hamer

2nd: Ken and Jo Williams

3rd: Caroline and Jamie Martin

January 2025

1st: Any Cox and Anna Milsom

2nd: Joel Weekes

3rd: Doug Nicholas

Teme Valley Gardeners' Club

The December meeting consisted of a pleasant festive lunch for members and spouses, enjoyed in Knighton.

The next meeting is scheduled for Knucklas Community Centre on **February 10th** at 2pm. The subject will be: *'Shade Loving Plants.'*

Visitors are always welcome to this friendly group.

Robert Forbath



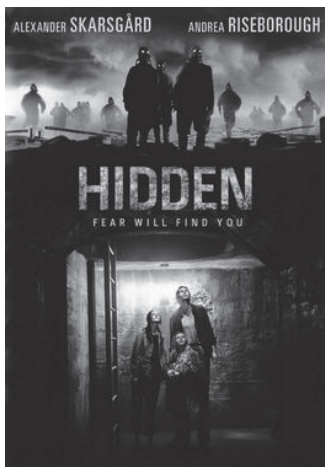
What's on in the East Radnor Ministry Area?

arts **qLive** FLICKS IN THE STICKS

The Everest Hall, Llanfairwaterdine, LD7 1TU are proud to be continuing our new season of films.

Saturday 15th February *"The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare"*

Saturday 15th March *"Hidden"*



(Please note these films are subject to change)

Doors open at 7.00pm

Tickets £5/ concessionary price for children.

Refreshments are on sale prior to the film and also during the interval. We look forward to seeing you there.

Flowers for Fun

Maybe you would like to know how to arrange flowers? Join our friendly group to see what we do!

Find us at Whitton Community Hall on Thursdays from 12 - 2pm.

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5 th November 24	HUNTINGTON Village Hall
GEOLOGY ROCKS <i>"Tales of a Mountain: The Underlying Rock-Scapes of Radnorshire"</i> Chemistry for Life	Geoff Stead The Underlying Rock-Scapes of Radnorshire Hosted by KLEEN
3 rd December 24	ALMELEY Village Hall
TOPOGRAPHY <i>"Local & Rural Influence: Landscape Planning Focus"</i>	Nic Howes Geomorphology (Earth Shaping) Hosted by The Green Group Almeley
26 th January 25	KINGSWOOD Village Hall
NATURAL HISTORY <i>"Soil Farming Fungal Partners: Water, Weather & Carbon"</i>	Phil Ray Woods "Plants in a Changing World" Hosted by Kington Branch HWY
25 th February 25	NEW RADNOR Community Centre
PEOPLE & POWER <i>"Industrial Farming & Globalised Markets"</i>	James Hitchcock Spending Our Precious Natural Assets Hosted by Resilient Radnorshire/HWT
2 nd April 25	KINGSWOOD Village Hall
INTO THE FUTURE <i>"Blue Sky Thinking - Growing Consumer Choices"</i>	Lynette Lewis & James Hitchcock DEFRA Funding - ELMs - Carrots & Sicks Hosted by Kington KLEEN



Knighton Community Centre



Whist Drive

Thursday 20th February

Thursday 20th March

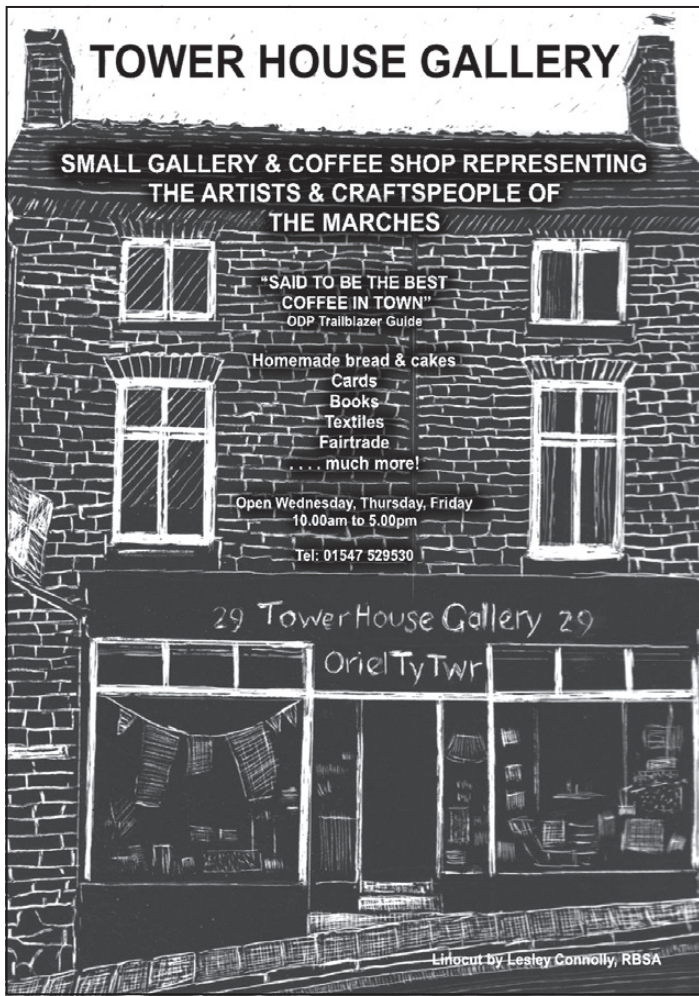
Thursday 17th April

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2 x course freshly cooked lunch
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*The club is run with a loyal group of
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Interested?

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Knighton Library Opening Times

Monday Closed

Tuesday 10.30am - 1pm & 2 - 5pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 10.30am - 1pm and 2 - 6pm

Friday 8am - 12.30pm

Lego Club

4th Sat of the month - 10.30am - 12.30pm

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01547 528778 knighton.library@powys.gov.uk

Knighton Library and Community Hub,
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Hear to Help "Drop Off" Hearing Aid Clinic

Knighton Community Centre

3rd Tuesday of the month, 10am - 12 noon

For more information: Rachael Beech
07552 165 800 or rachael.beech@rnid.org.uk

Presteigne

4th Wednesday of the month, 1pm - 3pm

Llangunllo Community Events

Singing Group at the Village Hall

1st Wednesday of the Month. Between 7.30 and 9pm.
All welcome

Table Tennis at the Village Hall

Every Thursday, between 5 and 6.30pm. £2. All welcome

Please see our Llangunllo Village Website:
www.llangunllo.co.uk

Knighton Thursday Drop-in Eatery

A drop-in lunch of soup, sandwich
and cake is available between
midday and 1.30pm each Thursday
at the Knighton Community
Centre. Home delivery is available
for local residents who cannot join
us. The service is donation led.

Book and Jigsaw Swap

There is a book and jigsaw swap
at Walton Hall on the second
Wednesday of every month, from
10.00am to 1.00pm.

Come and have a cup of tea, a slice
of cake and a friendly chat with us.

The Radnorshire Bridge Club

Thursdays at 6.45pm at Whitton
Old School Community Centre
(LD7 1NP).

New players are very welcome.

Kay Taylor - kay.tony@me.com
Jane Stirling - jane@janestirling.co.uk

Citizens Advice available via the Knighton Community Centre

For anyone in the Knighton area who needs help or advice from the Powys CAB, the Community Centre in Knighton are offering a video link appointment with a CAB adviser every Tuesday between 10 am and 1 pm.

At the Community Centre they offer a private room, computer access and help with starting the interview. All interviews are by appointment only. To make an appointment either phone the Community Centre on 01547 428 088 or drop in on Tuesday or Thursday mornings or message the Comm's Facebook page.

You can also self-refer to the CAB contact line 0345 6018421.



Flora and Fauna

At the time of writing most gardens are covered in snow, quite picturesque for all photographers. Children are enjoying having a lot of fun making snowmen and games in the snow. But for some of us the novelty soon wears off, with low temperatures and ice. One thing we can look forward to and be certain of is that when the harsh weather ends we will see the early signs of spring and the joy of the first snowdrop and the days lengthening. The 2nd of February is called Candlemas in the Church Calendar, the day when we return our Nativity sets to a safe place ready for Christmas 2025. It is the day when all gardeners hope to pick the first snowdrop, one of the nations favourite flowers, which fills us with hope, lifting the spirits, especially a carpet of these growing wild or cultivated. The snowdrop is among many flowers dedicated to Mary, Mother of Jesus. Perhaps this stems from the association of white flowers with purity. A small bunch of snowdrops in a cut vase placed on a mirror makes an exquisite centre for the coffee table. The mirror allows you to see the dainty and intricate centre of these little garden treasures.

February 14th, Valentine's Day, attracts much excitement in the flower world. St Valentine, one of the 3rd century Christian martyrs in Rome, is traditionally the saint of lovers. The custom of exchanging valentines can be traced to the English poet Geoffrey Chaucer. Hamlet's Ophelia and A Midsummer Night's Dream also speak of valentines. For all involved in floristry, it is a busy time, a chance to show off their latest skills with beautiful flowers, mostly red. Rather like fashion designs, new ideas change every year. February is not one of the most popular months in the garden, but the promise of spring and planning for warmer days ahead can be rewarding, especially if seated in a comfortable chair.

A happy and healthy New Year to all our readers.

Jean Price

Show Time! Community Concert full of Camaraderie and Energy!

Audiences packed Llangunllo Village Hall for three evenings on the 14th, 15th and 16th November for the long-awaited "Time for another Do!" A team of dedicated performers and highly capable stage crew presented a show that provided much needed light entertainment relief at this cold, dark time of year.

There were many stand out performers, skits, songs and sketches that will doubtlessly be fondly recalled in time to come and the evening blended the efforts of Llangunllo's much-loved stalwarts with the impressive talents of relative newcomers to the area.

To anyone who hasn't experienced a Llangunllo concert (the last one was nearly seven years ago), it's no mean feat to bring together excellent music, comedy that (almost!) suits all ages and tastes, witty re imaginings of well-known songs and inventive drama, but that's exactly what we were treated to. The evening opened with a gentle reminder of those much loved and missed 'am dram' volunteers who are sadly no longer with us and engaged us wholly for nearly three hours – not bad value for money!

Bravo, congratulations and a huge round of applause to musical director Katie Baker and every member of cast and crew that pulled out all the stops to bring us a right good 'Do!'

Claire Northwood

Photos by Michael Brown





What's on in the East Radnor Ministry Area?



Y Com - The Comm
 Y Com - The Comm
 Multi-Community & Community Hub
 Community Development & Community Project
 Centre for Community & Community Care
 Knighton and District Community Centre

BINGO NIGHT

Cash bingo comes to The Comm!
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FRIDAY 21st FEBRUARY
FRIDAY 21st MARCH
SATURDAY 26th APRIL

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Y Com - The Comm
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 Multi-Community & Community Hub
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 Centre for Community & Community Care
 Knighton and District Community Centre

Community Market

Knighon Community Market

Saturday 22nd
FEBRUARY
Saturday 22nd
MARCH

Cafe open
Knighon Community Centre
LD7 1DR
9.30AM - 12.30PM



DYDD GWYL DEWI ST. DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION DATHLIAD

SUNDAY 2ND OF MARCH
3PM - 5PM

**AT THE KNIGHTON
 COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**CHILDREN'S COMPETITION FOR THE BEST
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SATURDAY 15th FEBRUARY. DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM FOR A 7:30 PM START

LLANGUNLLO COMMUNITY HALL
llangunllo.co.uk

Welsh Hymns 4 – Builth

Rhagluniaeth fawr y nef,
Mor rhyfedd yw
Esboniad helaeth hon
O arfaeth Duw:
Mae'n gwylio llwch y llawr,
Mae'n trefnu lluoedd nef,
Cyflawna'r cwawl oll
O'i gyngor ef.

Llywodraeth faith y byd
Sydd yn ei llaw,
Mae'n tynnu yma i lawr,
Yn codi draw:
Trwy bob helyntoedd blin,
Terfysgoedd o bob rhyw,
Dyrchafu'n gyson mae
Deyrnas ein Duw.

Ei th'wyllwch dudew sydd
Yn olau gwir,
Ei dryswch mwyaf, mae
Yn drefen glir;
Hi ddaw â'i throeon maith
Yn fuan oll i ben,
Bydd synnu wrth gofio'r rhain
Tu draw i'r llen.

Great providence of heaven--
What wonders shine
In its profound display
Of God's design:
It guards the dust of earth,
Commands the hosts above,
Fulfils the mighty plan
Of his great love.

The kingdoms of this world
Lie in its hand;
See how they rise or fall
At its command
Through sorrow and distress,
Tempestuous storms that rage,
God's kingdom yet endures
From age to age.

Its darkness dense is but
A radiant light;
Its oft-perplexing ways
Are ordered right.
Soon all its winding paths
Will end, and then the tale
Of wonder shall be told
Beyond the veil.

"Rhagluniaeth fawr y nef", sung to the tune Builth, is another very popular Welsh hymn.

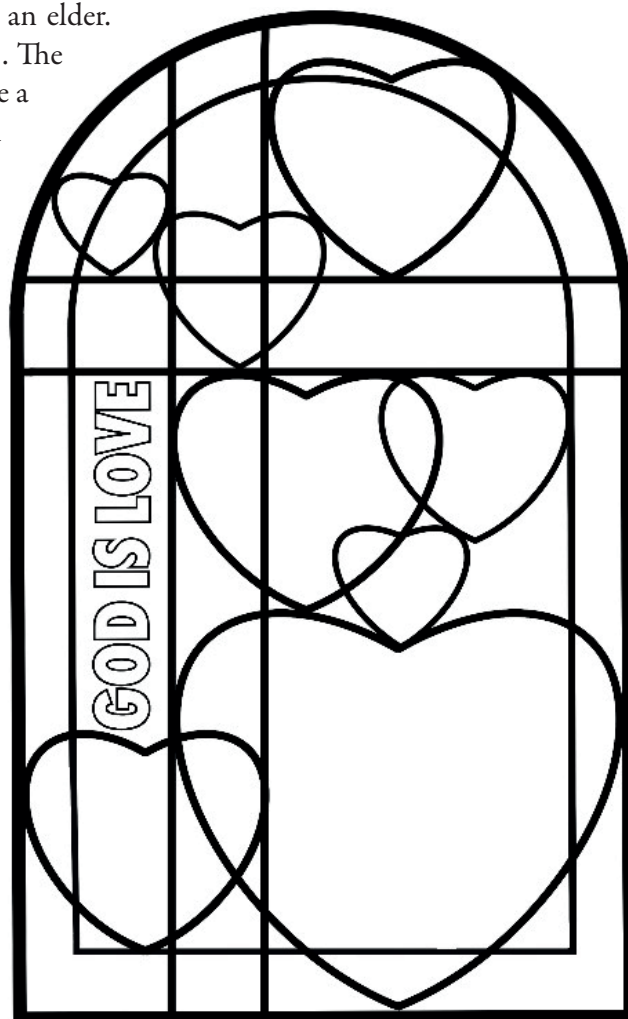
It was written by David Charles (1762-1834). He was born in Carmarthenshire into a comfortable family but his father lost all their money and he had to work. He was apprenticed to a flax-dresser and rope-maker in Carmarthen and afterwards spent three years at Bristol. He returned to Carmarthen when he married Sarah, the daughter of Samuel Levi Phillips, a Haverfordwest banker, and set himself up as a tradesman. He had long been involved with the Calvinistic Methodists and became an elder. He was among the first lay preachers who were ordained in 1811. The tune *'Builth'* was composed by David Jenkins (1848-1915) Despite a humble background, in Trecastle, Brecknockshire he graduated in music from Aberystwyth and Cambridge and became a Professor at Aberystwyth University.

The stirring words of the hymn are rooted in Calvinistic Methodism. Most of Wales developed a quite distinct type of Methodism, strongly influenced by Calvin's beliefs in predestination (the doctrine that all events have been willed by God), usually with reference to the eventual fate of the individual soul and church government. Calvinistic Methodists formed the Presbyterian Church in Wales. English Methodists had different interpretations and structures. The hymn celebrates the 'great providence of heaven', God's hand in shaping world affairs and the reasons will be discerned, at first faintly *'Tu draw i'r llen'* through the veil.

An arrangement of the hymn by Jeff Howard can be watched on YouTube conducting many Montgomeryshire community choirs at the 2015 Montgomeryshire National Eisteddfod. Jeff himself conducts and you may recognise some of the singers. www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kEwtasY02c

Further reading: Dictionary of Welsh Biography, the WellDigger website.

Ruth Forrester



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East Radnorshire Care Day Centre and Home Support

East Radnorshire Care is the new name encompassing all services previously provided by the East Radnorshire Day Centre.

We are working towards becoming a community care hub and to provide new and exciting services.

A new drop in coffee & cake morning will take place every Monday, 10am-12noon.

Meals on Wheels are still being delivered daily and Home Support can help with any practical support.

For more information contact -
01544 260 267 / 01544 260 360
admin@eastradnor.care
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What's on in the East Radnor Ministry Area?

Music in New Radnor Saturday 8th February, 7.30pm

Music for Flute and Harp *Isabelle Harris, flute; Emily Harris, harp.*

In a change from our advertised concert we present an evening with two young welsh musicians who first met as undergraduates at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Since graduation in 2020, both are developing diverse careers ranging in solo and ensemble performance, as well as private teaching practice. Both have appeared with several prestigious orchestras, including London Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra of the Swan and the CBSO.

(NB: BYOB – no bar this time).

New Radnor Community Hall,
Hall Lane, New Radnor, Powys, LD8 2SW
Pre-booking preferred. Tickets £15 / £3
from 01544 350 746 or 07493 940 683
Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start

Knighton and District Concert Society

Sunday 23rd February at 3.00pm
in St Edward's Church Hall, Knighton LD7 1AG

Clun Valley Music Trio

Luba Tunnicliffe (Viola) & Richard Tunnicliffe (cello)
With pianist

Clun Valley Music is based in Clun, centering on St George's Church. We are lucky enough to have Luba and Richard come to perform here in Knighton for us.


Mozart Piano Trio in B flat,
K502 Rebecca Clarke Piano Trio (1921)
Schumann Piano Trio in F, Op.80

Visit their website: www.clunvalleymusic.co.uk

Tickets at the door.
Adults £15.00
Students & Children £2.00

For further information contact:
Peter and Becky Sherman
01547 530530
squirefm@gmail.com
www.knightonconcerts.co.uk








Chinese Lunar New Year Festival

16th FEBRUARY 2025


It will run from 11.00 to 4.00 and there will be interesting activities for all the family – all for **FREE!**


- ❑ **General activities**
All day include Chinese Painting, Chinese calligraphy, paper cutting and traditional costume dressing. There will be Vegan food and Chinese tea to try.
- ❑ **Special performances**
From 1.30 to 3.00 will include Chinese paintings, calligraphy, sign language, red packets distribution.
- ❑ **Art Exhibition**
Chinese paintings and writings from Chinese Language class students.

Venue:
Knighton and District Community Centre, Bowling Green Lane, Knighton LD7 1DR.

Facebook: Tzu Chi Malvern

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Second Tuesday of the month
10.30 am to 12 noon
Whitton Community Hall LD7 1NJ

**13 February
11 March
8 April**

Organised by
Whitton WI,
Sponsored by
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Women's Hour

The Women's Hour project commenced as a pilot scheme in September 2023, fast forward 15 months, and due to its popularity and success it is now a permanent feature within the Tuesday Cafe Drop-in.

The project is available **Tuesdays from 11-12pm weekly**, FREE at point of access and offers an eclectic mix of guest speakers, opportunities for attendees to learn new skills and knowledge, have fun and make meaningful friendships. Monthly evening sessions are currently being trialled as a pilot scheme.

Session Schedule (Subject to Change)

Unless stated all sessions start at 11am and will last for 'around' 50 minutes. We need to be away from the room for 12.05pm. The Cafe opens at 10am, currently refreshments are at subsidized prices.

4th February Rebecca Jones from National Energy Action will be offering a talk on energy advice please note this meeting will be an open meeting and men will be welcome

11th February Cuppa & a Catch Up

18th February Rebecca Morris is offering the Women's Hour members an opportunity to go on a local walk, please meet outside the Comm at 10.50am

25th February Linda porter is back for a second time with her author's hat on! This time she will be talking to us about her second book she has had published *'Under the Hat'*

Evening Session - 6pm door opens, session starts sharp at 6.30pm.

Please access the Reynolds Room through the Community Centre Garden

26th February Amanda Price is a regular to the Wellbeing Festival, she is offering our Women's Eve a Sound Bath experience, this can be accessed seated, but if you would prefer please bring a yoga mat and a blanket so you can lie on the floor.

If you would like to hear more about the project then please contact Annie England at volunteercoordinator@knightoncomm.wales, or come and experience a session for yourself. The Women's Hour has an active Facebook group, where details of sessions etc are regularly available. For details of our exciting 2025 programme please contact our secretary Isabel Morris on 01547 550 689.

Can You Help? East Radnor Ministry Area Volunteers Needed

The East Radnor Ministry Area is now up and running but there are still some essential people needed to ensure that it will run smoothly.

We need a Ministry Area Treasurer, Secretary, Warden and more members of the Ministry Area Council to fill roles on various sub committees.

If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact Rev'd Rachael Storer

KNIGHTON & PRESTEIGNE LEG CLUB

Worried about your legs?

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Ulcers - Varicose Veins

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Every Thursday 9.30 – 11.30**

Run by District Nurses
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01547 521 270 / 07773 226 496
Come and meet the team have a chat and a drink

Christmas at Evancoyd

The month leading up to Christmas is filled with the anticipation of joy, and yet the busyness of December means that it is daunting trying to fit all the occasions into our schedule and to join in every event on offer. We are always so glad that we make the effort or journey because these special events lift our spirits and actually give us renewed energy.

Our Christmas celebrations started with a fun filled, glitter sprinkled, colourful craft session at the Village Hall, where making all things Christmassy took place. Thanks go to Alison Rogers and Rachael for organising this event for the local community.

Father Christmas himself came to visit the children, he even had time to chat with the adults too!

Our Crib Service was a lovely event where we dressed the crib with nativity figures and sang the traditional carols, young Noah made us smile when he placed his toy crocodile on the roof of the crib to join the Angel Gabriel! After the service we indulged in delicious refreshments including Olwen's Welsh cakes.

Later in the month, Heather conducted a lovely service of 9 Lessons and Carols, she explained that this popular festival service was first held on Christmas Eve in 1918. The Dean of King's College Chapel in Cambridge, Eric Milner-White was concerned that after the terrible effect and shock of the Great War, people needed an uplifting service and he adopted an arrangement originally compiled by Edward White Benson from Truro Cathedral in 1880. Our own Evenjobb service was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and there was sherry, Olwen's mince pies and hot spiced drink afterwards.

Then, closer to Christmas, it was time for our carol singing around the village, which raised £263 for The Bracken Trust and we thank everyone who came and sang and donated and provided refreshments and delicious soup. For us this is an important build up to a highlight of the Christian year, the celebration of the birth of Christ, and our Christmas Eve service takes us into the most special day, Christmas Day, when we can declare that Jesus Christ is born this happy morning!

Joanna Winstone



Crafting Companions at Felindre

Crafting Companions (funded by The National Lottery Community Fund) hosted two craft sessions in Felindre during December. The first session was a day of willow wreath making, which went ahead despite a 3-day power cut in Felindre (thank you to Bono Barrett and his generator!). Dressing warmly, the day was attended by all ages and everyone went home with their decorated willow wreath. The second session was an evening dedicated to making Christmas decorations. Activities included Christmas table decorations, festive bunting, felted tree decorations, painted baubles, wire stars and hearts and more willow wreath making for those that couldn't make the first session.

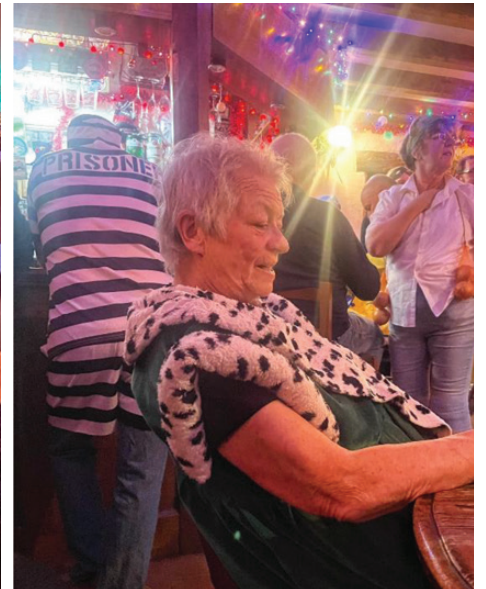


*Pictured Left to Right:
1. Christmas Wreath
2. Wendy Lambourne and Jen Bright making Christmas table decorations.
3. Moira Hurley and Yvonne Thomas with their festive winter bunting.*

Llangunllo WI Visit The Judges Lodgings for Christmas



New Year's Eve at The Greyhound



Llangunllo WI Visit The Judges Lodgings for Christmas

On December 16th Llangunllo WI kick started their Christmas celebrations with an excellent lunch at Rose Cottage Café in Presteigne. The food was delicious and the staff made us very welcome. Following the meal we walked down to The Judges Lodgings to meet up with other members who joined in for the tour, which was very interesting. Gabby Rivers, our tour guide, gave us a fascinating insight into the history and restoration of the 1870s lodgings. We heard how the court functioned, and what the role and life of the visiting judges and staff would have been like.

Gabby talked about the history of the building and the detailed work undertaken to maintain its authenticity and history during the restoration, and continued upkeep. Many of us were completely unaware of the extensive involvement of some of our own community who live in Llangunllo, which certainly added another very interesting aspect to the tour. We were all struck by how dark the rooms were, and in particular how difficult it must have been working in the kitchen with just the flickering gas light, the contrast of living above and below stairs was quite stark.

The damp prison cells were also a reminder of the purpose of the building, along with some stories of those who unfortunately found themselves in the dock, like William Morgan and Mary Morgan, thought to be the last woman to be hung in Wales, along with the number of escapes from Presteigne gaol.

The visit was rounded off with mulled wine and warm mince pies in front of a roaring fire and a traditionally decorated Christmas tree where we all exchanged Christmas cards and Secret Santa presents.

We thanked all the staff for making our visit so interesting, and agreed it had been a lovely way to spend an afternoon, and as our next years programme card was distributed, we look forward to what 2025 will bring. Wishing everyone health and happiness for 2025.

For details of our exciting 2025 programme please contact our secretary Isabel Morris on 01547 550 689.

What's Occurrin'?

What's Occurrin'? The 31st of December, that's what... which meant it was time to welcome in New Year 2025, with fancy dress fun and plenty of live music at The Greyhound Inn, Llangunllo. Local musicians played and sang a wide range of songs, helping to provide a happy atmosphere, and a much-enjoyed, tasty buffet was provided by The Greyhound. This year's fancy dress theme was 'TV Sitcoms', with quite a selection of different characters turning up, ready to party past the midnight hour

Amongst the revellers were almost a complete holiday camp full of *Hi-De-Hi* yellow coats ... Ho-De-Ho! Two sets of A-a-arkwright & Nurse Gladys Emmanuel's from *Open All Hours*; *Ab-Fab's* Sweetie Darlings, Patsy & Edina; Blakey ... "I'll get you, Butler!" from *On The Buses*, two Barbara Good's from *The Good Life*, Queenie from *Black Adder*, Foggy from *Last Of The Summer Wine*, Lily Munster, minus Herman; an escaped *Porridge* inmate, *Calamity Jane*, *Only Fools & Horses*, Batman & Robin and Grandad... Lovely Jubbly; No, no, no... yes! Geraldine Grainger, from *The Vicar of Dibley* and all served, from behind the bar by Nessa from *Gavin and Stacey*... Tidy!

Debbie Jones

Photos by Debbie Jones, Amy Jones & Lawrie Stephens

Chinese New Year Celebration in Knighton

Knighton Comm is hosting a special family event on Sunday 16th February to celebrate the Chinese New Year. At this free event visitors will be able to try their hand at a range of activities including Chinese calligraphy, painting and paper lantern making. Children can also dress up in Chinese costumes and there will be Chinese tea and snacks available.

The Lunar New Year in 2025 welcomes the Year of the Snake, according to the Chinese lunar calendar. Celebrated by millions around the world, this is a time for cultural traditions, family reunions, and hopes for good fortune in the coming year. In 2025, Lunar New Year falls on January 29th, kicking off the 16-day Spring Festival.

As we move from the energetic and dynamic Year of the Dragon, 2025 brings the Snake's wise and intuitive energy. The Snake, symbolizing wisdom and transformation, offers opportunities for personal growth and change. Come and find out more about Chinese culture and traditions at this fun event.

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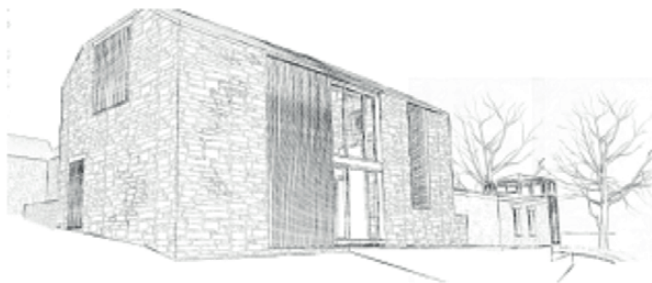
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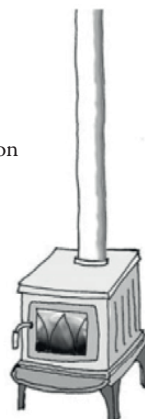
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David Roberts Poem

Dated: 6 April 1916

Is it reassuring to read of familiar weather?

This poem reminds me of the Vicar of Wolstaston, the Rev Donald Carr who, one Sunday afternoon in 1865, almost perished when returning from his other parish of Ratlinghope, over the Long Mynd! *'A Night in the Snow'* is the book he wrote of his amazing survival.

It was republished in 1998 (He originally wrote it to raise funds for his Church.) His boots... are in the museum in Shrewsbury...

The Blizzard!

The night was cauld and stormy,
The gale was howling wild!
Along the lanes you couldna go
When snow so high was piled!

The shepherd was in terror,
When gwain to see the flock!
And in the ffields he roamed afar,
By giar! Till twelve o'clock!

The snow was drifting orful,
And he was almost blind!
Amid the drifts, so dredful 'dip',
Hees 'ship' he couldna find.

He had a goodish lantern,
But that un gave no light!
'Twas dredful from the path to roam,
Far from hees home that night!

He didna know the fences,
The road he couldna see!
And as he tried to find hees farm,
In great alarm was he!

Hees 'ship' were surely buried,
Beneath some yards o' snow!
He had to leave them to their fate,
For straight for home he'd go.

Afore he found the homestead,
He had a ruffish fight;
And tho' at times quite close was he,
He couldna see the light!

Our friend was sorely troubled,
And almost in despair!
For in the blizzard wild and strong,
Quite long he wandered there.

At last there was a glimmer,
Hees window came in sight;
And you may guess how glad was he
To see its welcome light.

Knucklas Notes

Since the middle of November the weather has been in turns wet and stormy and fiercely cold, but it was mild and calm around Christmas Day. Comparatively little damage was done by the storms to local structures, but trees on the roads, including the all-important road to Knighton, caused problems at times. Through it all, however, although the local train-service was again disrupted, the bus-service did amazingly well for our village, dogs were faithfully walked and all the bins were emptied according to the revised festive schedule. And, during term-time, the school bus has continued to pick up and drop children at Glan Nant. All this despite the fact that Knucklas fails to qualify for the salting and gritting programme which applies to more major through-routes.

There was a brief power-outage in our area but of very short duration compared with 30 hours, and more, further up the Teme Valley. Local roads were under sheets of water at times but no houses in our area were flooded, so far as I know.

Because of the challenging weather a number of events around the New Year were cancelled or postponed, including church and chapel services. What did go ahead was a Baptist Chapel service for Christmas morning and the Sunday after, with participants from Knighton, and a pre-Christmas Carol service at Heyope Parish Church. For this well organised event, conducted by Rev'd John Hanna from Knighton, the nave of the church was filled to beyond capacity and was followed by a well appreciated social time, with attractive refreshments available. The Llanfair Choir came over and shared some of their musical talents during the service.

The Castle Hill Community Land Project combined with the Community Centre Committee to mount a fine local arts and crafts display and sale, along with attractive refreshments in early December. In January, the Wassail took place but with reduced participation, due to the weather conditions. Another Burns Night is planned for late January.

A New Year celebration, with refreshments, was held on the night of December 31st at the Community Centre.

Congratulations to Tom Smith of Mill Bungalow, Knucklas, who is now a very fit 90 years old.

There is much sorrow over the loss of Annie Deakins (adjoining Llangunllo Station) who has recently passed away. Her funeral is due to take place at Heyope Parish Church, as I write. With every sympathy to Gethin, Sean and all her family and friends.

Robert Forbath



Celtic Saint of the Month

Brigid of Kildare - 1st February - died c. 523



St. Brigid by Kathleen Verschoyle (1892-1987)

I wonder if we realise that some of the festivals we celebrate in our churches date right back to pre-Christian times. This is particularly true of our agricultural festivals. Harvest is the most widely celebrated one, though it only became a church festival in the 19th century. In rural areas we ask for God's blessing on the crops at Rogationtide in May, and some churches still celebrate Plough Sunday in January. In the first millennium, when our Celtic saints started to preach the Gospel and found churches and monastic communities throughout our islands and beyond, they looked for ways of connecting with local customs and long-held beliefs, turning them into Christian celebrations, just as we have done with harvest festivals.

St Brigid's Day and Candlemas on the following day are good examples of this. The agricultural festival at this time of year was called Imbolc. It is such an ancient word that it is difficult to get to its original meaning, though it seems to contain the word for belly or womb or alternatively to do with milk and lactation. It was explained as the time of celebrating the start of the lambing season, with the ewes in lamb and starting to lactate. There was also a goddess called Brigid who, among other things, was associated with healing, fire, fertility, domestic animals, the natural world and compassionate care, who may have been celebrated on this day too.

It so happened that there was born to a Christian family in Leinster a girl who was called Brigid, who became a much beloved saint. St Brigid is honoured in Ireland as one of their three patron saints, the other two being Patrick and Columba, but we know very little about her. She came from a humble background, though her parents had been baptised by St Patrick and her sanctity was recognised at an early age. She founded the abbey at Kildare and was well known for her hospitality and charity towards all those in need. The Lives that were later written about her are full of stories of the miraculous provision of food, drink and healing and a perpetual fire was kept burning at the abbey until the Archbishop of Dublin extinguished it in the 12th century on the grounds of superstition. So celebrating St Brigid on 1st February was an excellent way of "Christianising" the ancient traditions which marked the first signs of spring and gradually turning

people's minds away from a goddess to honouring a Christian saint who had done so much to bring the love of God to the people of Leinster and beyond.



Kildare Cathedral is built on the site of St Brigid's double monastery

There are dozens of churches, chapels and holy wells dedicated to Brigid (Bríd in Irish, Brìde in Scottish Gaelic, Ffraid in Welsh) and also on the Continent on the pilgrimage routes to Rome. It is suggested that there were other Irish saints called Brigid, but they have all been subsumed into the famous Brigid of Kildare. Nearest to us we have Llansantffraid yn Elfael, above the road between Builth and New Radnor, and Llansantffraid Cwmdeuddwr near Rhayader.

Rosemary Hanna



New Radnor Baptist Chapel

23rd February - 3.00 pm
Mrs Christine Gould

*Further information from
May Hardwick 01544 350 680.
All very welcome*

Knighton Roman Catholic Church

Service every Sunday
at 11 am

Gravel Baptist Chapel

9th February - 2.30 pm
Pam Livingstone-Lawn

23rd March - 2.30 pm
Richard Mansell

*Further information from
Keith Williams
01597 851 122*

St Mary's Church, New Radnor, Services

Every 2nd Sunday, 10am,
Morning prayer in church

Every 3rd Sunday, 4pm,
Evening Praise in
Community Centre

Every 4th Sunday, 10am,
Holy Communion in Church

Please contact Reverend Rachael Storer for any queries about the services, thank you. The Rectory, School Lane, New Radnor. Telephone: 01544 350 760

Methodist Church Services

February

2nd..... 11am Stephen Dalton

9th..... 11am Kingsley Duah

16th.... 11am Vivienne Thomas

23rd.... 11am Rev Phil SummersHoly Communion

Baptist Church Services

February

Sun 2nd..... 11 am..... Worship ServiceNorton Street, Knighton
6pm.....Sunday @ 6 Service Knucklas Chapel

Mon 3rd.... 7pm.....Prayer Space Community Room, Norton St, Knighton

Sun 9th..... 11 am..... Worship ServiceNorton Street, Knighton

Sun 16th.... 11 am..... Worship ServiceNorton Street, Knighton
6pm.....Sunday @ 6 Service at..... Knucklas Chapel

Sun 23rd.... 11 am..... Worship ServiceNorton Street, Knighton

In addition to the above, our popular Toddler Group meets 10.00-11.30am each Thursday morning in the Community Room at our Knighton Chapel during school term times. We also have a network of Lifegroups meeting daytime and evenings during the week - please call our Pastor, Rev. Gareth Davidson. for details of times and venues on 01547 519 215. For details of other events and news, please see our Facebook page.



...are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again, dear?

Readings for February

2nd February

Malachi 3. 1-5
Psalm 24. [1-6] 7-10
Hebrews 2. 14-18
Luke 2. 22-40

9th February

Isaiah 6. 1-8
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15. 1-11
Luke 5. 1-11

16th February

Jeremiah 17. 5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15. 12-20
Luke 6. 17-26

23rd February

Genesis 2. 4b-9, 15-25
Psalm 65
Revelation 4
Luke 8. 22-25

28th February

Sirach 6. 5-17
Psalm 119. 17-24
Mark 10. 1-12

2nd March

Exodus 34. 29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3.12 – 4.2
Luke 9. 28-36, [37-43]

East Radnor Ministry Area Bible Study Group

The third Thursday
of the month,
10am-11.30am

Hosted by David & Heather Evans,
Middle House, Beggars Bush

A warm welcome awaits you
For further information please
contact Rev Rachael Storer
rachaelstorer@cinw.org.uk
01544 350 760



Diocesan Prayer

Our diocesan prayer, which captures our vision for Ministry Areas so well, says this:

Bless us as we gather in your name;

Guide us as we grow into the likeness of your Son;

Lead us by your Spirit to go out and make disciples of others.

Ministry areas are the structure we are using to journey together with God as a pilgrim people, turning that vision into reality.

from diocesan website

Church Contacts

Methodist Minister:

Rev Phil Summers
07795 109 126
philsum41@gmail.com

Baptist Minister:

Rev Gareth Davidson
01547 519 215 or 07795 087 363
gareth16@tiscali.co.uk

Baptist Secretary:

Mrs Sue Wilson
01544 267 456 or 07866 833 294
knightonbaptists@gmail.com
www.knightonbaptists.org.uk

Knighton Roman Catholic Church

Fr. Gerald Okechukwu Isiguzo
07376 459 370

Grid References & Church Postcodes

Beguily.....	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 390673.....	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 199512.....	HR5 3RA
Evancoyd.....	SO 262639.....	LD8 2PA
Llan'l N M.....	SO 180581.....	LD8 2TN

Church/Community Hall Contacts

Evenjobb Village Hall.....	Linda Ellams.....	01547 560 306.....
Felindre Village Hall.....	Jayne Bright.....	07498 424 292.....
.....	Brian Thomas.....	07799 346 182..... felindrevh@gmail.com
Gladestry Village Hall.....	Marlene Evans.....	01544 370 646..... marlene.evans@hotmail.co.uk
Llangunllo Community Hall.....	Karen Edgar.....	07811 172767..... communityhall@llangunllo.co.uk
Knighton Community Centre.....	Ceri Brown.....	01547 428 088..... www.knightoncomm.wales/
Knucklas Community Centre.....	01547 529 007..... www.knucklascommcentre.org.uk
New Radnor Community Centre.....	Carlee Evans.....	01544 350 575.....
St Ed's Church Hall.....	Jean Price.....	01547 528 260.....
Whitton Community Hall.....	Gill Powell.....	01547 560 367.....



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East Radnor Ministry Area Service Rota February 2025

2nd February – Candlemas (White)

10am St Michael's, Llanfihangel Nant Melan Morning Worship
 11am St Peter's, Evancoyd Morning Worship
 11am St Edward's, Knighton Holy Communion
 2.30pm St David's, Colva Evening Worship
 7.30pm St Mary Magdalene, Bleddfa Compline

9th February – 4th before Lent (Green)

9.30am St David's, Whitton Holy Communion
 9.30am St Mary's, Gladestry Morning Worship
 10am St Mary's, New Radnor Morning Worship
 11am St Peter's, Evancoyd Holy Communion
 11am St Edward's, Knighton Morning Worship

16th February – 3rd before Lent (Green)

9.30am St David's, Whitton Morning Worship
 11am St Peter's, Evancoyd Morning Worship
 11am St Edward's, Knighton Holy Communion
 4pm New Radnor Informal Worship @ the Community Centre

23rd February – 2nd before Lent (Green)

9.30am St Edward's, Knighton Morning Worship
 10am St Mary's, New Radnor Holy Communion
 3pm St Mary's, Gladestry Holy Communion

Friday 28th February – (Green)

7pm St David's Heyope Evening Worship

2nd March – Celebrating St David (Green)

Ministry Area Services for St David's Day

9.30am St David's, Whitton Holy Communion
 2.30pm St David's, Colva Holy Communion



**Saturday 8th
February 2025**

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Knighton

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Performance at 5.30 pm

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**Sunday 2nd March
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accompany the singing.
Everyone Welcome

Women's Hour

Tuesday morning at
The Comm

11 - 12 PM

ALL WELCOME

For further information contact
Annie England:-
volunteercoordinator@knightoncomm.wales

