

Llanfair Times

incorporating Lloyney News

June 2021

Welcome to our 21st edition.

Do you need to pay for future issues of the Llanfair Times?

If you live in the parish of Llanfairwaterdine or the village of Lloyney you will not need to pay for future copies of the Llanfair Times. The Parish Council will pay for those in the parish from the precept and the Llanfairwaterdine Community Trust is kindly covering for those in Lloyney. If you live outside of these areas then you will need to pay for your hard copy of the magazine but bear in mind it is free as a downloadable copy on the Parish Council website

<http://www.llanfairparish.co.uk>.

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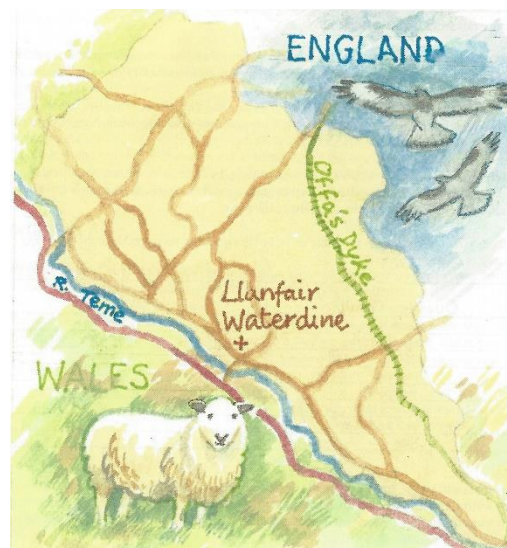
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1. Direct into the Llanfairwaterdine Parish Council bank account. Sort code: 20-61-08, account number: 30253243. Please include you first and surnames in the transaction so we know who has paid.
2. Hand cash or a cheque to a Parish Councillor. Again include your name and address details on an envelope.

We hope that you will continue to enjoy reading the magazine and that these arrangements are fair to everyone.

Llanfair Times Editorial team



Any views expressed in this newsletter are those of the author and not Llanfair Waterdine Parish Council or the Editorial Team.



Undaunted by the Covid related uncertainty over social gatherings this year, it was decided to aim for an easy-to-organise Wakes event, using the traditional date. That way the tradition of the Wakes continues, and we also get the chance to meet our neighbours and friends in an outdoor setting.

Hence the plan for a 'bring and share' BBQ on Saturday, 14th August, from 2.30 pm. Locally produced meat and rolls from the BBQ will be available with everyone asked to bring a small contribution of salad or cold buffet food. Refreshments of tea/coffee and a bar will be available and just for tradition's sake we will also aim to have a cake stall! Please get baking! Entry will be free for everyone, but there will be a donations' tin rattling by the BBQ to cover costs!

We look forward to seeing everyone at what will be the 69th year since the revival of the Wakes tradition in Llanfair Waterdine.

Deirdre & Derek Beavan

Llanfair Wakes 19??



Robert Gwilt found this old photo and asks;

- ***Do you recognize anyone?***
- ***Do you know the site?***
- ***Do you know the year?***

Answers on a postcard please.....
(bigger picture on back page)

Anyone for Boules?

Boules, or **Jeu De Boules**, also called **Pétanque**, is thought to have originated about 1910, but it is based on the very old French game of *Jeu Provençal*.



Having spent a lot of my student and working life in France sitting around in village square cafés sipping Pastis or Vin Rouge watching the old boys play boules, or Pétanque as they officially call it, I realised that whilst it always only seemed to be old men playing it really is a game for all.



In 1975 I cycled home from France after six weeks youth hostelling down to Geneva and back with a friend with two gleaming, spanking new sets of boules (and a beret by the way!) ready to take on all-comers. Eight kilos on the back of the bike.

Little did I realise that whilst the French do gravel well, we do grass better. There really was nowhere to play. I kept those boules for years, not a scratch on them and actually I don't know where they are now. Still in their original boxes gathering dust somewhere.

We have friends with a holiday home in Spain close to a great bar and, guess what?...a boules terrain. Or Petanca as they also call it. They practise so Rita and I always lose.

Did you know that at The Baron at Bucknell they have a couple of lanes in the beer garden and every Thursday evening during the summer they have an open boules night. We happened upon it by chance and everyone was having a blast.

At the time of going to press an alley, or lane, or terrain (who knows what they call it?) is being laid out at the Community Field to official dimensions so we could at some point set up a club and have official games as part of the UK Pétanque Association.

Mark Hughes



Now, over to Ben Eastop:

If you haven't played boules before, now's your chance! Boules, played widely in France, is very much a social game, played slowly and informally with plenty of time for chatting and a drink or two.

Pétanque – which is onomatopoeic from the pleasing clang when you score a direct hit against an opponent's ball - can be played as singles or doubles with three steel balls for each person, or triples, with two balls each. I've played it in quite a few different places, mostly in France – the 'court' is sometimes just an area of bare compacted ground with sand or fine gravel spread over it, and comes in all kinds of shapes and sizes, often in a village square. Slopes and bumps add to the uncertainty and make it more fun! There are, of course, national and international competitions where the court is more regulated.



The great thing is that anyone can play – children and adults – and it doesn't need a lot of skill – although it can get quite competitive when you have to get the measure out to decide a point. The game is played to 13 points - all balls for a team that are closer to the jack (or cochonnet in French) than the opposing team's balls score a point. Those not playing can watch from the sidelines and offer their opinions on tight decisions! No rushing – it can last for hours!

At The Wakes on 14th August we will be having a “Come and try” session.

There will be Boules available for anyone to use (Infant, Junior, Senior). “Rules of Play” and “How to Play” laminated sheets printed off.

So, how about it?

For more info contact Ben on 01547 520 152 or at ben.eastop@btinternet.com

Mark Hughes & Ben Eastop

The Coronation Tree



The PCC kindly tidied-up the grass around the tree outside the entrance to the church following some discussion in the PC around who owns that patch of land and therefore who takes responsibility for the tree. Shropshire Council says it's not them so it seems to be the parish's and is known as The Coronation Tree.

So, when was Llanfair Waterdine's Coronation Tree planted?

The only two mentions found in the Parish Council minutes are brief;

9th April 1906 – “Proposed by Rev. H.L Mason and seconded by R. Gwilt that the clerk be instructed to write to Mr. H. Owen to ask if he would allow some timber to provide a better protection to the Copper-beech tree planted near the entrance of the churchyard.”

And later on **3rd November 1906** – “Resolved that the fencing around the Coronation Tree be left to Mr. F. Mackin & Rev. H. L. Mason to do what is thought best.”

If anyone can shed more light on its origins The Llanfair Times would love to know.

Edward VII acceded to the throne upon the death of his mother, Queen Victoria on 22 January

1901. However, his coronation was set for 26 June 1902

By the time of his accession, the 59-year-old Edward was overweight and fond of large meals and cigars. He launched himself into his new role, but his first months on the throne were bedevilled by a succession of illnesses and injuries.

On 23 June, three days before the date set for the coronation, Edward and his wife, Alexandra of Denmark, returned from Windsor Castle to Buckingham Palace in preparation. Foreign journalists noted that he appeared "worn and pale" and was leaning heavily on his cane. That evening, the King and Queen hosted a formal dinner for seventy British and overseas royal guests.

On the following day at noon, a telegram marked "OFFICIAL" was dispatched around the Empire, with the news that the coronation was postponed and that the King was undergoing an operation. Shortly afterwards, a bulletin was released from Edward's medical team, stating that "The King is suffering from perityphlitis..." (*appendicitis to you and me*).

Although workmen immediately received instructions to begin dismantling the wooden stands that had been erected along the route of the procession, Edward was insistent that regional celebrations and a planned "Coronation Dinner for the Poor of London" should go ahead.

Many people had intended to watch the coronation procession, and rooms along the planned route had been rented out at high rates for the expected day of the coronation. The postponement of the coronation led to many demands for refunds on the rental contracts, resulting in the "Coronation cases", which set an important precedent in the doctrine of frustration of purpose in the English common law of contract.

The Coronation eventually took place on 9th August 1902.

Mark Hughes

In Conversation with.....

Gail and Steve Knowler

Mark suggested that I get in touch with Gail and Steve who have fairly recently moved into The Waterdine. They agreed to meet to talk about coming to this part of the world and we met on a baking hot day with some very cold liquid refreshment.

RL: Thanks so much for agreeing to an interview for Llanfair Times. Very brave! Of course, the first thing that comes to mind is to ask you how you discovered this area.



SK: Friends of ours moved to Norton, near here, from Rickmansworth (*Hertfordshire*). We visited them and began to look at houses in the area. One was lovely but very isolated indeed and although we liked it we decided that we wanted space but to be part of a community. The Waterdine was the last house that we looked at and it was ideal. With lockdown, where permissible, we have had time to settle in and have been able to have friends and family to stay.

GK: My mother came last November and attended the church for Remembrance Day service held outside. I was brought up in the church. My father played the organ, and my uncle was my headmaster. The children have been up here to see us, too, and love the area.

RL: How many do you have?

GK: Two: our daughter, Lauren and son, Ben. They still live down near Oxford and work in the family business.

RL: What is the family business, please?

SK: It is an air-conditioning business called 'Chiltern Air'. We are both somewhat involved but not to the extent that we were. Gail, who was Finance Director, for example, is now semi-retired and I work part-time.

GK: We don't miss anything about the south, other than, of course, our family. But we will be seeing them. By the way we have both recently had a very big birthday!

RL: Where are you both originally from?

SK: The High Wycombe area. We both grew up in and around Wycombe.

RL: No! I'm originally from there too! (*A talk about the Wycombe area ensued.*) Have you had to adapt to life here?

SK: We feel so lucky to have moved here before lockdown and to have all this space.

GK: It must have been awful for families where there were young children and they were living in a flat.

RL: What do you most appreciate about The Waterdine and the area?

GK: The views, the character of the house and the lovely garden leading to the river. Apparently, the left of the house is the very old, sixteenth-century part and the right-hand side is what was originally a barn. We love the pace of life but have been kept really busy with improvements to the house and garden. Nevertheless, it was a concern that the river has once been so high recently that it came up and covered the lower garden: something that has rarely happened, apparently. Robert Gwilt has been a marvellous friend, including giving some unenviable help with the drains last Boxing Day.

RL: I know that the church has been grateful with your generosity over parking.....

SK: We've been really glad to help out. We are very happy indeed for people to use our part of

the parking area and to park in front of our cars and house.
All we need is for people to leave a space for one of the cars to get out in an emergency.

RL: That's brilliant. Thank you. We've heard that, when the time is right, one (or even both) of you might be interested in joining Llanfair Singers. You've both done quite a bit of singing of different types in the past, apparently.

GK: I'll certainly give it a go.

SK: And I'll think about it!

RL: And lastly, please, what are your hobbies?

GK: Cake-decorating, baking and gardening.....

SK: Mine are social golf, DIY and, of course, I'm a football fan!

RL: Thanks for letting us get to know you a little better.....and, of course, a belated very warm welcome to you both.

Richard Lewis



Everest Hall

After a long time of closure it is hoped that the hall will be able to reopen on 21st June. Everyone has worked hard to put all the necessary Covid needs in place and you will definitely be welcomed back.

We have used the closure time to have a complete overhaul of the electricity system and are organising an upgrade for the porch and the rendering of the external south wall.

If you need any further information please ring Andrew Gibbs on 01547 529064 or contact any of the Trustees. This, of course, is dependent on Government guidance and regulations but fingers crossed it will happen.

Ann Harroway

KNUCKLAS VILLAGE FETE

**Saturday 31st July
12 - 5pm**

Knucklas Community Centre LD7 1RR
For more information call 01547 520263

**Dog show, Live Viking Show
Classic cars, Cake competitions,
Books, Bric a Brac, Plant stalls,
Beer tent, BBQ, Teas
and much more**



In aid of Knucklas Castle
Community Land Project
Contact: knucklascastleclt@gmail.com



Following on from a highly successful fete in 2019, the Knucklas Castle Community Land Project will be holding another, bigger, village fete on Saturday 31st July this year at the Knucklas Community Centre and on the adjoining field.

There will be numerous attractions including a dog show and demonstration. With doggy competitions in various categories from waggiest tail to dog most like its owner, and tips on dog agility which proved a popular event in 2019 with competitors and visitors alike.

The Black Crows Viking Group will be showing their skill with sword, axe and shield, together with living history displays showing what life would have been like in different aspects of old Norse society; a must for children.

No village fete would be complete without a cake stall and competition, beer tent, barbeque, classic cars, secondhand book stall and numerous trade stands.

Don't forget, we have a station in Knucklas very near the hall where the fete will be held, so why not come by train and make a special day of it?

KCCLP is a community land trust that looks after about 21 acres of land in the village of Knucklas, in Powys.

On Sunday, 1st August, they are also holding an Allotment Day on the Castle Hill site, with teas and music for would-be allotment holders. For more information follow KCCLP on Facebook and Instagram.

Save the dates!

Jamie Richie

Notices

Rowan Ellwood Ford born 7th April 2021



Congratulations Ali & Byron



Book Ends

Book Club may not have been happening during lockdown but that doesn't mean we have not been reading. For this particular reader, books have become a beacon of light.

I remembered Susan Hill's *Howards End is on the Landing* in which she searches her bookshelves and revisits old favourites and found many books that merited another reading (and some that didn't!).

Recommendations have been shared with friends far and new, book parcels have been lovingly posted and received. My old schoolfriend, Trish, who lives in Powell River, an old wood pulping town on the west coast of British Columbia, had discovered Bruce Chatwin's, *On the Black Hill*, but was unable to locate a copy, so I posted my battered second-hand copy to her. It took two months to reach her from Beguildy Post Office but she was delighted.

I have been doing a "carrier bag full" swap with a friend in the village, better than a birthday.

Most of the time I have three books on the go – a daytime book, either too heavy physically to hold in bed or heavy in content, a lighter bedtime book which is often travel or nature writing and I have discovered Audible Books: what luxury to lie on the sofa on a winter afternoon and have someone to read to you.

Another local friend put it quite clearly. She alternates a "worthy" book with something more refreshing and absorbing. Sound advice.

I readily admit that I have been guilty of judging a book by its cover and under that premise have discovered many books and authors that I have previously overlooked. I think they call it "unconscious bias" now.

When the Oxfam Bookshop in Ludlow reopened I was eager to search for authors whose books I

had donated many years ago. Comfort Reading was the order of the day and Maeve Binchey and Mary Wesley fitted the bill. There was some children's fiction that had passed me by and I read *Anne of Green Gables* and *Goodnight Mr Tom* for the first time.

CS Lewis wrote "You read to know that you are not alone".

I hope that our Book Club gets on its feet again soon, but in the meantime, this Book End still has a pile of unread books waiting to be opened.

Judith Tollman

From the other Book End

Allan and I were lent a book entitled "**Peaks and Troughs - in at the deep end, high in the hills**", author **Nick Perry**, by a friend who had listened to us describing our previous home and life in North Wales, and knew that we would recognise aspects of the book.

It is the story of the author and his wife with their two small children and his brother, leaving London and their "hippy life" in 1970 and setting out to make their living from the land on a hill farm in North Wales.

With a kitchen garden for fruit and vegetables, pigs, and sheep they very quickly discovered how different and difficult life was, especially with a prickly Welsh mother-in-law near to them. Their boar was part of the family, even escorting the children to the school bus in the mornings and every time the pigsty was mentioned my mind conjured up a picture of our pigsty and old bakehouse.

Although we were definitely not farmers, there are many aspects of this narrative that we recognise, some of the neighbours, other people being helpful and kind, and above all, the beauty of the Clwydian Hills. It was such a privilege to live amongst it. Each chapter heading has marvellous line drawings by Rosalinda Monteiro.

I still have a paper carrier bag of books left with me from the Mobile Library four weeks ago! It is a delight to see the wagon again; a bit of normality resumes.

Helen Henchoz

Football

We are pleased to report three local 'starlets'; Robbie Hodnett, Harvey Friday and Dan John who recently played at the Montgomery Waters Meadow, home of Shrewsbury Town. Their team, Presteigne, was invited by the League One Club to play the Shrewsbury Town U16 Academy as part of the club's commitment to our local community and football.

Of course, because of Covid19 restrictions only a lucky few parents and officials were allowed tickets. However, they were treated to a thriller! Six goals, one-on-ones, Presteigne missed a penalty (!) and end-to-end action for the entire match.

Presteigne in effect is a county team and set-up. So both sets of officials, trainers and managers were delighted with the standard of football played. It was a wonderful, positive and exciting experience for our local starlets.

Congratulations to Robbie especially who, according to reports, had a great game.

Good News

Congratulations to Joe Roberts who has graduated in Aeronautical Engineering gaining a First with Honours. After a somewhat lengthy interview process and competing with over 600 applicants, Jo was one of only eight to be offered an immediate management role with Airbus (North Wales).

Congratulations to Lorna Roberts who has graduated in Asia-Pacific Studies (in builder-speak she is now fluent in Japanese). Both brother and sister attended Beguildy Primary School and then John Beddoes.

Congratulations to Ben Thomas who was invited and is now training with Shrewsbury Town Academy (Primary Schools). Ben has already been involved with the in-house tournaments and we will look out for his progress.

Robert Gwilt

Poets' Corner



Lemon Yellow

Crisp frosty feel
young April morning sun;
a splash of celandines
and air that wakes the day
like taste of lemon shudders
sharply sweet upon my tongue,
Cut fruit: segmented wheel
of sunlight rimmed with ring
of pith and peel.
Grate rind: how zest lifts flavour,
tempers sweetening.
April sings with lemon yellow zing!
Senses mingle, overlapping
place and time with scattering
of gold, accompanied by
music of a robin's song.

Philippa Boast

BOB IS SENT SHOPPING.

We opened up the fridge quite wide,
And could only stand and stare,
The fridge was really empty,
And all the shelves were bare!

"You must go to the shop" she said,
"This really is your aim,"
So I set off with my walking stick,
And my trusty Zimmer frame!

I stood right by the freezers,
And I could only stare,
I didn't know what I wanted,
Or even why I was there!

The crowd built up behind me,
There really was quite a few,
They smiled at me through gritted teeth,
And formed a very long queue!

The people were quite helpful,
They threw things in for me,
I had 200 toilet rolls,
And 40 packets of tea!

The Manager unloaded my trolley,
And then I heard him say,
"We've packed up all your shopping, sir "
"And now you have to pay!"

I searched all through my pockets,
"I know you're going to curse"
"I left my jacket back at home"
"And in it is my purse !!"

The manager was angry,
As he took me to the door,
" next time that you come shopping "
" Go to the shop next door!!"

I really was quite hungry
When I got home again,
"We can cook ourselves a meal"
But we looked for food in vain!

*We opened up the fridge quite wide
And could only stand and stare,
The fridge was really empty,
And all the shelves were bare!!.....anon.*

Limericks

Curiously, nobody knows for sure why limericks are named limericks. There have been numerous theories put forward for why the five-line verse known as the 'limerick' is so named, but none of them is conclusive. The name 'limerick' was first applied to the five-line form in the late nineteenth century, and one theory holds that comic verses once contained the line 'Will [or won't] you come (up) to Limerick?' *Mark Hughes*

The limerick packs laughs anatomical
Into space that is quite economical.
But the good ones I've seen
So seldom are clean
And the clean ones so seldom are comical.
Algernon Charles Swinburne (1837-1909)

*There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, 'It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard!'*
Edward Lear (1812-1888)

An ambitious young fellow named Matt
Tried to parachute using his hat.
Folks below looked so small
As he started to fall,
Then got bigger and bigger and SPLAT!
Graham Lester

*A flea and a fly in a flue
Were imprisoned, so what could they do?
Said the fly, "let us flee!"
"Let us fly!" said the flea.
So they flew through a flaw in the flue.*
Ogden Nash

*There was a young lady from Crewe
Whose limericks stopped at line two.....*

There was a young man from Verdun.....
Sir Tim Rice

St. Mary's Church

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Benefice was subject to some re-arrangement, due to COVID rules and the retirement of Rev. Annie Ballard.



However, it was held at the end of April in Clungunford Church, so that it could be taken by Rev. Annie, just days before her retirement. A presentation from the Benefice was made to her during the service, of which the APCM formed a part. St Mary's is grateful for Rev. Annie's pastoral care during her time with us. Trying to fulfil the needs of all in the seven parishes of the Benefice is both daunting and stressful and it is sad that Rev. Annie became ill after three years with us and that aspects of her illness have not responded to treatment over the last eighteen months as well as she would have liked, leading to her decision to stand down.

The Middle Marches Benefice is waiting to hear from The Bishop of Hereford and the new Archdeacon of Ludlow with regard to our next step. We are told that Bishop Richard is anxious not to leave us without a priest for too long, especially as the neighbouring Clun Valley Benefice is still trying to attract a new incumbent after quite a long period of advertising.

The congregation of St. Mary's was pleased to welcome the Reverend Mike Plunkett to lead the Service of Holy Communion on 16th May. Thanks are due to the Revd. Preb. Stephanie Fountain, our Rural Dean, for organising a priest once a month to lead Holy Communion for us. In June, on the third Sunday, we look forward to meeting the new Archdeacon of Ludlow, The Venerable Fiona Gibson: the Revd. Neil Patterson from Hereford Cathedral will visit in July. Twenty people attended 'Compline' on Wednesday 12th May. Geoff Weaver was the guest organist. In June the 'Reflection' Service will be on the second Wednesday, 9th, at 6.00pm, as usual. We are always open to any suggestions about different forms of worship for different age-groups if lay leaders are available to take them.

St Mary's is fortunate in having an ever-growing congregation for its five monthly services and a large increase in those supporting the church by joining the Church Electoral Roll (now over 100). The church is reliant upon being able to call upon several lay people to lead and organise the services as well as maintaining the building and the churchyard.

We are very grateful to Iwan and Lily Waters who have taken over grass-cutting duties from Tom Gwilt. They have maintained the high standard set by Tom during last year, to whom we would like to send renewed thanks.

Following a request from the LWPC, the church asked Robert Davies from 'Nantiago' to remove the excess growth around the base of the beech tree on the 'village green', outside the church gate. This has been done and thanks are due to Robert for responding so quickly to our request.

Work is continuing on developing the 'eco-friendly' parts of the churchyard and work will also soon be undertaken to tidy and landscape the area around the 'cremation plaque' area of the churchyard, thanks to a sizeable donation specifically for that purpose.

The first part of this has been to raise the cremation plaques so that they stand out from the grass. The boundaries of that area are to be defined and a stone seat put in place in due course.

St Mary's Parochial Church Council is delighted to welcome five new members, who are Lindsay Bayles, Robert Gwilt, Sue Lane, Rosie Peace and Michael Symonds and would like to fulsomely thank the four recently retired members, Philippa Boast, Bethan Gough, John Gwilt and Andrew MacLauchlan, for their work and support over many years.

With a weekly service, plus Compline or Reflection, we are grateful that 41 volunteers are now on the readers' list and 20 have offered to be occasional sidesmen. There are also nine organists, including our three, much valued, regular organists. We hope more people will feel able to take intercessions and lead services. It is not as daunting a job as it might seem.

We also have new members who have joined the 'flower/cleaning/coffee' rota including Richard Lewis, Jane Thomas, Sandra Thomas and myself. There are six groups which each have two separate months allocated per year.

St Mary's has always managed to pay its way. Fund-raising has been extremely difficult this year, of course, and we have been grateful to all

who have found innovative ways of supporting us.

More people are helping the church by joining the Parish Giving Scheme – it is now even easier to join by going online:-

Google 'Parish Giving Scheme' or put in

www.parishgiving.org.uk

Put in LD7 1TU and click 'Find Your Church'

Click the 'Donate Box' next to 'Llanfair Waterdine St Mary's'

Donate!

Application forms are available from the church for any who would rather not use the computer. The smallest amounts given on a monthly basis are a tremendous help. Please give me a ring if you need any more information or clarification of the process of doing this.

'Love Your Burial Ground/Churches Count on Nature Week' runs from Saturday 5th June to Sunday 13th June. You are encouraged to take children to walk around the churchyard and spot flora, fauna, trees and animal life as well as different ages of gravestones. 'Caring for God's Acre' has provided some very informative and colourful booklets to use in the churchyard while you are exploring. Numbers of these are limited so we would ask that you do not take them away. If you would care for a copy after the 13th, please put a request in the visitors' book. The booklets can then be distributed on a 'first-come, first served' basis. Many thanks.

Graham Trew

It's recipe Time

Wild Garlic Pesto...local to Llanfair

Many thanks for this seasonal recipe Judith!

150 g Wild garlic leaves thoroughly washed and the roughly chopped

50 g toasted Pine Nuts

50 g grated Parmesan

1 chopped garlic clove

Juice and zest of half a lemon

150 ml Rapeseed Oil

Blitz all ,except half the oil, in a food processor till thoroughly blended and fine. Add a little more oil as needed.

A rather messy job, scrape the pesto and fill either a 275 ml jar or 3 smaller jars(one to use and two to give away) and just cover with remaining oil. Seal the jar of course. This will keep in the fridge for two weeks.



We like it on freshly cooked pasta or spread on salmon or cod fillets liberally before baking Enjoy.

Judith Tollman



Rob Gwilt just keeps on quizzing us....

1. Craig Smith is a now a retired, successful jump-jockey. He was apprenticed to Josh Gifford, rode 207 winners including the 1978 Mackeson and the 1982 Greenall Whitley Stakes. But where in Llanfairwaterdine did he spend his formative years?
2. Which year did the Women's Tour of GB travel through the Teme Valley?
3. Name the local who has competed in the National Trampoline Championships representing Lancashire.
4. Geraint Waters completed the London Marathon in 2018. Congratulations, but what was his time?
 - a. Approx 2 hrs 30 mins
 - b. Approx 3 hrs 30 mins
 - c. Approx 4 hrs 30 mins
5. Name the local who contested the Frisbee World Championships in Rimini (Italy).
6. Robert Morgan is a past Player of the Year for which team?
 - a. Bishops Castle Hockey Club
 - b. Knighton Cricket Club
 - c. Tref-y-Clawdd Rugby Club
7. Grass-Track was once upon a time a highlight of the Felindre Sports day. True or false?
8. Llanfairwaterdine Women's Institute members are past champions of Radnorshire County Bowls Championships. True or False?
9. Name the local who played football for Radnorshire in 1974 and 1976 and for Mid-Wales Youth in 1978.
10. Along with the Rev. James Richardson and Herbert Kilpin, Alfred Edwards was a pioneer of Italian football and the first chairman of A.C. Milan. Where did he spend his formative years in Llanfairwaterdine parish?

Answers next edition

Answers to March Quiz questions;

Richard Lewis;

1. Boxing
2. Niagara Falls
3. Asparagus and rhubarb
4. Strawberry
5. The pears grew inside the bottles. The bottles were placed over the pears when they were small. The bottles were left in place for the growing season. When the pears are ripe they are snipped off at the stem.
6. Dwarf, dwell, dwindle
7. Full stop, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation mark, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, ellipses
8. Lettuce
9. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts

Rob Gwilt;

1. Terry Williams
2. Richard Lewis
3. Felicity Waters
4. Bridlington
5. Jemma Morgan
6. Monaghty
7. Matthew Croose
8. 2014
9. Katy Gwilt
10. Tom Weaver

Steve and Juliet's Long Walk to Land's End



We're embarking on a walk from John o'Groats to Land's End accompanied by Poppy our dog, a total distance of 1,360 miles. We first walked the JOGGLE just for fun in 2017 and have been dreaming of repeating the adventure ever since, but have decided that this time, our goal is to raise funds for charity.

All charities have struggled to raise funds over the last year so we thought that now was the time to strap our boots on and put in the miles to help three charities which are close to our hearts.

We don't have a target in mind. All the money we raise will be split equally between Children in Need, the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI), and Read Easy Shropshire Hills.

Children in Need doesn't need much introduction but it provided much-needed support to us at a time when our son, Nick, was going through life changing surgery and learning to live with a prosthetic leg. We benefited so much from Children in Need, that we really feel it is time to give something back to them.

Juliet is a volunteer with RABI, a charity which provides emergency funding and support for farming families. Her connection with farming began when she was a member of a Young Farmers' Club and she has always felt an affinity with the farming way of life.

There is a general misconception that all farmers are wealthy, but this is often far from true. Many farms exist on a knife edge with farmers taking on other employment to make ends meet. Farm incomes are often precarious and if a farmer is ill and unable to work, debts and stress start to spiral out of control. RABI is one place farmers can turn to in times of crisis. In the past year pressures on farmers have increased because of Brexit and the pandemic, while at the same time fundraising has been seriously impacted.

Steve helped to set up and run Read Easy Shropshire Hills, a small charity which provides free one-to-one reading coaching for adults who struggle with reading. It is generally assumed that everyone has a good grasp of this basic life skill, but many thousands of people missed out on the opportunity to learn at school and now struggle

with everyday activities such as reading a bus timetable or applying for a job. The funds we raise will help to train new coaches, buy more reading materials and will really help to change local people's lives.

We are going to walk in relay starting at John o'Groats following national trails and minor roads on our journey. We will pass through Inverness, Aviemore, Fort William, Glasgow, Carlisle, Lancaster, Liverpool, Shrewsbury, Worcester, Bristol, Salcombe, Plymouth, before reaching Land's End in August.

If you would like to follow our progress, please go to Steve Gibbon's Facebook page and if you would like to help them raise funds search for Steve and Juliet Gibbon on www.justgiving.com Your donation will help three worthy causes.

Thank you.

Steve and Juliet Gibbon

LLANFAIR SINGERS CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

**We're back! We're finally
back!..... probably.....**

We shall be singing again. We have the date in our diaries! Of course, it will be in July, socially distanced and in a large and beautiful garden and, being Llanfair Singers, will include a party. Helen and Allan Henchoz have, with typical generosity, offered to host the choir's annual end-of-year party twice already but the pandemic has intervened - now we are hoping that this time it is third time lucky and it will become a "start of year party"! And now..... whilst we don't need money we do need your help.....

YOUR CHOIR NEEDS YOU



We all know that the bottom has fallen out of many markets this year and that has been true for the choir too, but in our case the "bottom" comprises the lowest voices in the choir where we are suddenly really short of basses,

particularly baritones. In a Cathedral we always need at least four basses – two on each side of the aisle – very sadly, ill health and infirmity has now left us with only three basses. So, if you can hold a tune - and don't say you can't sing because *everyone* can sing (too many boys and young men were told at school that they couldn't sing and believed it!) - then please volunteer either directly by speaking to any choir member or through the website www.llanfairsingers.co.uk

You don't need to be able to read music. Indeed most of us learnt the rudiments "on the job" – after joining the choir. We could also do with a few tenors!

If you're not sure which sort of voice you have then this may help: if you can sing along with any of the following then (accepting that, as professionals, they will have a larger range) then you have found your niche! Come and join us.

Tenor – e.g. Paul McCartney, Bruno Mars and Andrea Bocelli.

Baritone (or first bass) – e.g. Michael Buble, Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and Graham Trew

Second Bass e.g. Barry White or Johnny Cash – (those who struggle with Buble's top notes but sing a lot lower than he can!)

The greatest thing about the Llanfair Singers is that we have an enormous amount of fun both singing and socially and we would love to have more people join us. After all, the motto of the choir is Friendship Through Music and no truer definition exists. If you contact us before July – you will be able to join in our party, too..... and parties are things that we are REALLY good at! Otherwise you'll just have to listen to us singing and enjoying ourselves in Allan and Helen's garden!

Further information on the choir can be found on

www.llanfairsingers.co.uk

Michael Symonds



Seasonal Tips for the Gardener's Year

Although the days were sunny and warm in April they turned showery during the daytime in May with sharp frosts at night. Not the kind of weather for planting out dahlias and other tender flowers and vegetables. Many fruit trees had their blossom frosted and my large hydrangea had its new leaves and flower buds destroyed. I must remember to keep it covered with fleece next Spring.

Hopefully, the frosts are now behind us and we can plant out courgettes, squashes, climbing beans, dwarf beans, and tender annuals. If you haven't sown leek seed, Brussels sprouts and broccoli, there is still time to buy plants. Geraniums can now be planted outside together with tender bedding plants, hanging baskets and tubs with fuchsias, petunias and lobelia, etc. Pots of scented lilies can be placed near garden benches where their perfume can be appreciated. Successional sowing of lettuce, spring onions, and other salad leaves can be sown outside. These must be kept well-watered if the weather turns hot and dry. Keep an eye open for slugs and remove them.

If you are growing cordon (indeterminate) tomatoes do remember to pinch-out side-shoots that are not carrying flower buds. Tie the stems to a cane support as it grows. Do not pinch-out side-shoots on bush tomatoes. Keep cucumbers well-watered and if you are not growing an all-female variety you must remove the male flowers, those without an embryo fruit behind the flower, to avoid getting bitter cucumbers. Continue to remove any dead heads left on daffodils and other flowering bulbs. Split up clumps of bulbs which didn't flower well last Spring and replant them now to give them time

to establish before they die down and disappear for the summer.

Dead-head perennials and roses to keep them flowering for longer.

Keep removing weeds which use nutrients from the soil and also spoil the overall view of the garden. Not an easy task to keep on top of.

Enjoy the Summer and your garden.

Di Bailey

Community Pavilion Friday Social Evenings

We are thrilled to announce that from Friday 2nd July, we will commence a Friday night social between 6pm-9pm at the Community Pavilion.

The Pavilion has a licensed bar and will be serving local ales, wines & soft drinks.

This is a chance to see the new voluntarily built pavilion, catch up with friends & neighbours and play boules on the new boules court.

We aim to open every Friday after the 2nd July and to create a much-missed community social hub so please spread the word and we can't wait to see you all there!

Covid Restrictions will apply.

***The Community Pavilion Management
Committee***

ST MARY'S CHURCH

SUSPENSION

Our Middle Marches Benefice Vicar, the Revd. Annie Ballard, retired at the end of April. The Bishop of Hereford has decided to put the Benefice into suspension from May 21st 2021 for a period of up to five years.

There is a notice to this effect in the church porch.

The Bishop intends to carry out a consultation as to the future of this and other Benefices in the Diocese and we are not allowed to advertise for a new Vicar during these consultations.

A priest will be appointed to the Benefice by the Bishop as soon as possible to look after our pastoral needs, but at this point we do not know if we will be consulted about this. A meeting to clarify the situation is due to be held in July.

In my main report, elsewhere in the Llanfair Times, you will see that St Mary's Church is being well used and supported. We are just managing to pay the full amount of our Parish Offer, despite the difficulties of the last year and so we are not at present a burden on the finances of the Diocese.

The more we can show that the parish actively supports the church, the better our stance will be in any consultation. There are many options. The Diocese could leave us as we are; could decide to put us into another Benefice; could decide to make us a 'Festival Church', only allowed to open for major services in the year, or, as a last resort, it could close the church altogether. However, we have an improving record of attendance over the last year or so; more parishioners have joined the Parish Giving Scheme and plans are underway to improve the facilities in the church. We probably have a minimum of two and a maximum of five years to maintain and improve upon this success.

The churchwardens and PCC will continue to strive to maintain the current services in our church and look forward to ever-growing support from those who would wish the church to continue to serve the parish in the years to come.

Graham Trew

Tales of the Riverbank

I have a new word for you : Riparian - Of, inhabiting, or situated on the bank of a river. C19 from Latin riparian, from ripa - a river bank. You might of course know this word already but it was new to me.

When I visited James Thomas at Coed y Hendre in the Spring he showed me various areas of new woodland planting and also an area by the River Teme which he had fenced off and where he was about to start planting more trees.

Planting along the riverbank has many benefits. "Riparian woodland is the planting along watercourses which can create a buffer between rivers and adjacent land, intercepting and removing nutrient pollutants and sediment in run off; providing a barrier to pesticide spray drift; protecting river banks from disturbance and erosion; slowing flood flows and providing shade to reduce thermal stress to fish and other aquatic life."

I really enjoyed James's enthusiasm for his latest project and we had a very nice walk to take a 'before' photograph (see below) and wanting to share this with you I popped down to take 'after' photographs. James has planted 300 trees; Sessile Oak, Goat Willow, Common Alder, Downy Birch, Hazel, Hawthorn, Holly, Wild Cherry, Bird Cherry and Rowan.



April was so unusually dry that he had spent some time watering the young trees.

James was given advice and help with the Riparian planting (just checking you were paying attention!!) by Matt Marston the Senior Farm Advisor for the Severn Rivers Trust.



He can give confidential general farm advice related to rivers and land management and can be contacted by email or phone at matt.marston@severn-river-trust.com or 01938 555663 / 07593 443393.

For me it is not just the tree planting that is exciting but all that comes with it - so many other species of flora and fauna flourish with this bit of protection and help. We are very lucky to have the lovely Teme River flowing past and what a beautiful way to look after it.



This is an ungrazed bank on the River Lugg
Jane Thomas

Trees at the Triangle

Early in April, when it was still very unseasonably cold, we gathered up at the Triangle to plant 100 mixed native broadleaf trees.



Thermals, waterproofs and some very welcome snacks helped things along and we made short work of strimming, planting staking and guarding. Although we all often drive past the Triangle on the way over to the Clun valley or maybe stop there to walk along the dyke or visit the Turbary, it is worth going right into the middle of the triangle as it is a surprisingly large area. With time when the trees have grown it will be a lovely tiny wood which hopefully will provide shelter for wildlife and a cracking picnic spot for humans.

The last bit of planting that was done here was at the Millenium and there is still room for more. What other patches around the parish would be good for tree planting? 'Team Tree' are ready to go!

Janet Lewis

Llanfair Waterdine WI



At last! Hopefully! We will all be able to meet again soon.

During lockdown we have held a few meetings through Zoom and it was nice to keep in touch

but only a certain number of members feel able to participate and we miss seeing everyone.

We had two very interesting, illustrated talks by a member from Norfolk. One about the Palace of Westminster and another about Highgate cemetery. There was some fascinating information and a good question and answer session.

We hope to hold our first meeting on Friday 2nd July in the Everest Hall at 7pm. Just a get together to exchange news. This, of course, is subject to Governmental advice and regulations. Fingers crossed!

For any further information please contact Ann Harroway (Secretary) on 01547 528477 or Margaret Clugston (President) on 01547 529155. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Ann Harroway

South Shropshire Climate Action Conference May 2021

Over the lockdown about 100 volunteers have put this Climate Action Plan together as a tangible plan and also available online at

www.southshropshireclimateaction.org covering the broad themes of transport, energy and buildings, land and biodiversity, communities and education. It is well researched and backed up by data while being focussed on this corner of the county. Lockdown enabled people to get on with it and luckily there happen to be rather a lot of very enthusiastic people who live in South Shropshire.

Our M.P. Philip Dunne, who also happens to be the chair of the Environmental Audit Committee, has supported it throughout. The conference was about launching the plan and we had a real coup getting our keynote speaker live from the Solomon Islands.

Janet Lewis

Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust

After what seems a lifetime of long hours and hard work the Pavilion is finished and the final pieces of the jigsaw are falling into place. A Pavilion Management Committee, led by Sharon Beavan, has been established and all the hurdles which any new facilities have to negotiate have been satisfactorily completed.

The Pavilion Management team is made up entirely of volunteers and the energy and enthusiasm that they are bringing to their role is infectious and satisfying. Members of the Management Committee and also Trustees have all undertaken training in fire safety and first aid and are now proud owners of certificates to prove their competence. Two committee members are also personal holders of an alcohol licence.

A wild flower seed mix has been sown in the border in front of the Pavilion and shrubs have been planted at the entrance to the Pavilion.

Trustees have recently been granted an award of £9,600.00 which will allow us to erect metal railings around the perimeter of The Terrace and also to construct a wooden storage shed at the rear of The Pavilion.

Trustees would like to remind everyone that awards and financial help can be applied for which of course will be treated in strict confidence. Also, the installation of personal alarms for those who feel isolated and vulnerable can be arranged by The Trust at no cost to the recipient.

The names of Trustees are as follows.

- Bob Bailey.
- Andrew Beavan.
- Matthew Croose.
- Byron Ford.

All Trustees can be contacted by email:

llanfairwaterdinetrustees@gmail.com

Bob Bailey, Andrew Beavan, Matthew Croose, Byron Ford.

Trustees of Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust

PARISH COUNCIL

At the local elections on 6th May only the seven existing councillors stood for election so were returned unopposed. It was a shame that no new names came forward, but on the positive side it saved £££s of electoral expenses!

The council is aware of concern regarding the licensing application at the new pavilion and at the meeting on 20th May issued the following statement which can also be seen on the PC website www.llanfairparish.co.uk

Statement from the Parish Council in support of the Trust and the Management Committee.

“As a local parish council, we believe that well-being and a sense of belonging are integral to a healthy vibrant community, and wish to see the Pavilion add value and be an asset for all to enjoy.

Work to the exterior of the building is still ongoing, but the Pavilion is open, and already in use by certain groups, subject to COVID-19 regulations and guidelines.

We have full confidence in the management committee of the Pavilion to ensure the space is safe and responsibly run.

Cllr Darren Knipe is a Personal Licence holder with many years' experience of running events and bars, and has agreed to help train volunteer staff and act as the Council representative on the Pavilion committee.

If you have any genuine concern or complaint about activities at the Pavilion please contact Cllr Knipe, who will look into the issue and raise matters with both Council and the Pavilion committee. This can be done by email: darren@darkolive.co.uk or telephone: 07943 646351.”

The return of dog fouling has once again been raised by parishioners. Anyone witnessing dog owners not clearing up after them are encouraged to report this anti-social behaviour to the parish clerk at llanfairparishclerk@gmx.co.uk

The defibrillator at The Everest Hall was found to be faulty and sadly did not function when called upon last month. The technical fault is being investigated by Cardiac Science and in the meantime Clun Valley AED have sourced us a temporary replacement. The Parish Council is sponsoring a Heart Start training session on **Wednesday 30th June at 7pm at the pavilion.** It is open to all but places are limited. Please book your place with the clerk at llanfairparishclerk@gmx.co.uk



Parish Council Website

<https://www.llanfairparish.co.uk>

Have you seen the Parish Council website? You can read the Llanfair Times, reports from the Community Trust, Parish Council Accounts, Minutes & Agendas and more! Sign up on the site to receive Email Alerts for the latest news, notifications of planning applications and events.

Please contact the Clerk for more information. Maggie Brown, 07398 222 310 or

llanfairparishclerk@gmx.co.uk.

*From the Chairman of the Parish Council,
Mark Hughes*



- *Do you recognize anyone?*
- *Do you know the site?*
- *Do you know the year?*