



Llanfair Times

incorporating Lloyney News

December 2021

Welcome to our 23rd edition.

If you live in the parish of Llanfairwaterdine or the village of Lloyney you do not need to pay for 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 www.llanfairparish.co.uk.

Llanfair Times is always on the lookout for articles of local interest so please get in touch and we'll try to make room in these pages for you.

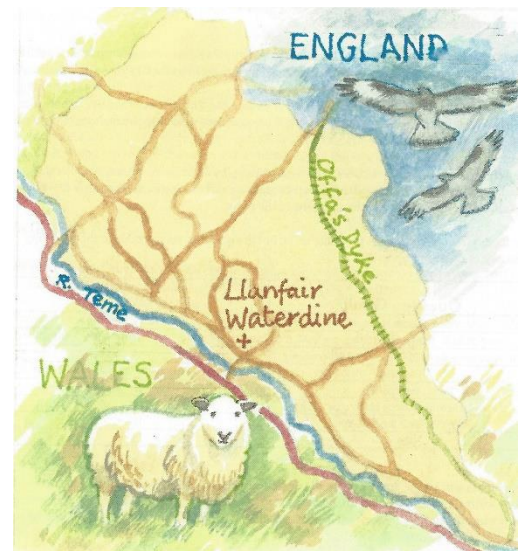
The "What's On" section on page XXX. Please send us your events calendar and contact details so we can promote you.

Like all teams, here at LT we would love more folk to get involved and help with proof reading, distribution, ideas for articles etc. If you would like to join us please email;

llanfairtimes@gmail.com

Happy reading.

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.



We would like to receive your comments, ideas, points of view.

Please email us at llanfairtimes@gmail.com

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

The Llanfair Macmillan Coffee morning was held at Graig Cottage on a lovely sunny day in late September.

Thanks to everybody for supplying the scrummy cakes and for generous donations, we also had a fun Raffle

It was lovely to see you all and thank you for your support for this important cause.

The Late Bill Baron



Bill Baron was born in 1923 and was raised in Wolverhampton along with his brother Ron and two sisters Norma and Edna who referred to him as 'THEIR HERO'.

At the age of 17 he joined The Army, lying about his age to gain admission . He received his training at Inveraray in Scotland . He and his fellow army pals of The Somerset Light Infantry were sent to The Normandy Beaches, where they took part in the Bloody Battle of Hill 112 which lasted 6 weeks .

Following this Battle he and his comrades were later taken prisoners of war and so spent the remainder of WW11 in German Prison of War camps one being LEIPZIG, not far from the borders of Czechoslovakia.

On being de-mobbed from the army he pursued a career in catering, attending Westminster College in London , and gaining a City and Guilds Qualification, not only as Chef but as a Cordon Bleu chef too.

He worked at Reynolds Restaurant in Queen Square Wolverhampton and for Great Western Railway on the dining cars. He eventually secured a position with Mitchell's and Butler's Brewery as a Catering Manager/Advisor and eventually



becoming Regional Catering Manager, overseeing the catering of over 1,000 public houses. Among the places he was responsible for were Uttoxter Races, The Royal Show and Monmore Green Stadium. The highlight of his career was when he had the privilege of cooking a meal for HM Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother.

Bill's connection to Llanfair Waterdine was through Nancy Davies (sister of Dai Davies) at Teme Cottage . He met Nancy Davies on a professional basis at Monmore Green Stadium where Nancy was employed. Bill happened to mention that he and his friend were looking for a location to fish and to site a static caravan . It was then that Nancy mentioned the field above Teme Cottage. Arrangements were made with Dai Davies. This was in the early Sixties .

Bill and his wife Joan and family regularly visited 'The Van '. The caravan is still in its original position and regularly visited by the family today .



Bill was a member of The Territorial Army and this became a large part of his life.

On the 19th April 2016 Bill attended a Mayoral Lunch at The Civic Centre, Wolverhampton where he was awarded The French Medal 'Les Insignes de Chevalier dans L'Ordre de la Legion d'Honneur'.

Bill's outlook on life was to have a good sense of humour and a philosophical attitude. He led a full and active life enjoying fishing (on The Teme), gardening and was also a season ticket holder at Molineux. He was a member of The T.A. and annually he would go and sell poppies in Walsall Town Centre for Remembrance Day.

Weekly he would meet his old comrades at The Blue Ball Pub in Wednesbury.

A visit to Normandy was an annual event, too, to visit the graves of those whose lives were lost during the war and he was always welcomed by the people of the surrounding areas.

As one of his hobbies was fishing Bill would make time for his weekend visits to The Van at Llanfair, where he would do a few jobs but he would always down tools at lunchtime to make a visit to the local pub 'The Builders Arms', which changed its name to The Lloyney Inn. He enjoyed the company of locals Rob Davies (Teme Cottage), Harry Raymond and Roy Davies, John and Robert Gwilt,. Gordon Evans and Tom and Chris Jones to

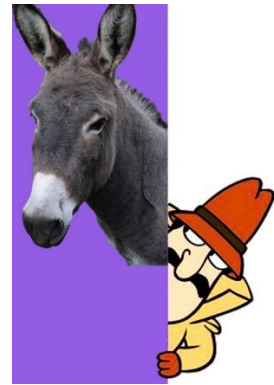
mention just a few and quite often would say "I could boast a pint ".

Bill was a very proud man and worked hard to raise his family and in his latter years he said he'd had a good life with no regrets.

Bill survived Covid being diagnosed on his 97th Birthday. He lived till he was 98 sadly passing away on the 28th September 2021

Pat Brookes

Detect Denzil



For our younger readers, Denzil will be hiding somewhere in the pages of Llanfair Times. If you can detect him, tell us where he is and the first person to email us with his whereabouts will be invited to meet Denzil and feed him his favourite food.



What's On at..... The Everest Hall

Flicks in The Sticks:

Saturday December 18th - Sound of Music

Saturday January 22nd - Green Book

Feb 19th -TBC

March 19th - TBC

These films are provisional bookings and will happen as long as they are available.

Every second **Saturday of the Month**, starting on the **12th February 2022**, between the hours of 10.00am and 12.00pm: when you are going past the **Everest Hall** please **STOP** for a welcome break of tea or coffee and biscuits while you are catching up with friends and neighbours.

..... **The Pavilion**

Friday 31st December – NYE Party – limited tickets



..... **St Mary's Church**

'The Four Cs Drop-In'

(Calm, Company, Coffee, Cake)

Monday 25th January from 3.00 pm until 5.00 pm.

All ages, from 0 – 100 and beyond, are welcome to come for calm, company, coffee and cake.

There will be activities available for younger people, including picture book reading, drawing and Play-Doh. You can come and simply sit and think for a while, listen to music, chat over coffee and cake, read, or add to our Prayer Tree.

We hope to see you.

Sue Lane and Graham Trew

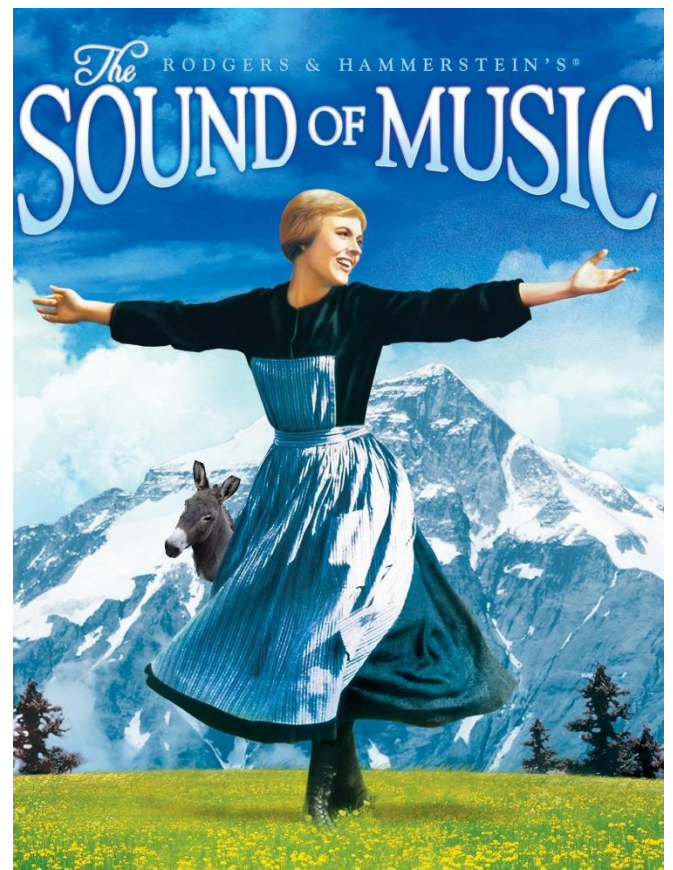


It's been a great start to the season with our opening films of Dream Horse and Yesterday having been well attended and the films themselves well received. The atmosphere is great with the café-style seating: Even in the posh seats at the Odeon you don't get to enjoy good wine, a piece of cake and the film of your choice!

So what's the Christmas treat? I know that the cat is out of the bag, but by popular demand it's.....

THE SOUND OF MUSIC!

Yes, in all of its Alpine glory here is the film which has been asked for as the Christmas screening, so come along, SING ALONG, and feel free to enter into the spirit of the much loved Rogers and Hammerstein musical.



The date is Saturday 18th December.

Doors open at 7.00

Film starts at 7.30.

Refreshments served before screening starts and during the interval.

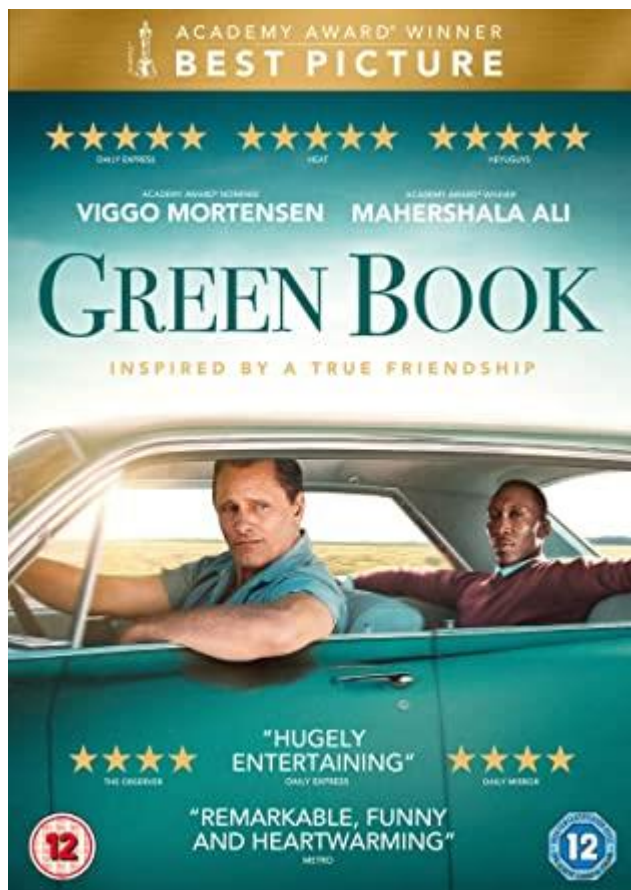
Hearing loop audio system in place.

£5.00 for adults. U16 £2.50

Saturday the 22nd of January.

We are delighted to be screening '**Green Book**'

Based on a true story and set in 1962, Tony Lip (Vigo Mortensen), a working class New York bouncer, is given the job of chauffeur / minder for the maestro pianist Dr. Don Shirley played by Mahershala Ali. The two unlikely companions embark on an eight-week tour, which works its way to the deep South. Great story.....We see it as a modern classic (it picked up three Academy Awards, and a Bafta) and highly recommend it.



Dates for your 2022 diaries, but programme yet to be confirmed:

Feb 19th, March 19th.

Finally here are some 'Flicks Fun Facts'.....

- Our first ever screening was "About a Boy" when 37 people attended
- We have held 112 screenings.
- Film highlight 'The Queen' with a total audience of 89 people.
- Total audience so far? 4049....!

Thanks for your support,

Don and Kath Szmidt

The Pavilion



We are pleased to announce that we have just been successful with our application to the National Lottery Community Fund for a Playpark with Swings at the Community Pavilion Field.

An award of £10,000 has been approved and this will enable a large playpark and swing area to be built and take the place of the current Blue container.

We can't wait to keep you all updated on this project which will enhance our community again. We hope to start work with the foundations in Early Spring but a professional company will install the playpark.

The Community Pavilion Management Committee

Some nibbles for Christmas?

Twiglets? Yes.

Those cheesy things for £1 at the COOP? Yes.

Walkers Crisps half-price at the COOP? Yes.

Homemade blinis with smoked salmon and cream cheese? A bit of a faff.

These easy parmesan biscuits? For sure!

Easy Parmesan Biscuits



Equal measures (100gs) of

- Grated parmesan cheese
- Plain flour
- Salted butter small chunks

If you want to be a little more adventurous add;

- pinch salt
- pinch cayenne pepper
- 1 heaped tsp mustard powder

In a food processor mix the chilled butter and flour (and spicy bits if using)

Pulse until it comes together. No need for any extra binding agent.

Wrap in clingfilm and put in fridge for 30 minutes

Lightly flour a work surface and gently roll out the pastry to about the thickness of two-pound coins. Cut out the biscuits to the size and shape you wish. Lay them out on a greased baking tray leaving a space between as they do spread - it may take two lots of baking to use up the entire mixture.

Optional - Carefully brush the surface of each biscuit with the egg and sprinkle over a little finely grated parmesan.

Bake for 10 minutes in a pre-heated oven at 180C. Leave to cool on a rack.

Rita Hughes (with thanks to Richard Lewis and Graham Trew who have converted me to these treats)

Oliver Potter – Wine enthusiast and Spitfire pilot



Back in 2018 Roy Lloyd kindly gave a bottle of wine to one of his neighbours in return for a favour. She enjoyed it so much that she asked where he had bought it. The result was a family visit to our last Wine Tasting in Presteigne before the Covid Lockdown. Suzie Meek arrived with her husband, Bill, and father, Oliver, who is now The Real Wine Company's oldest customer, having celebrated his 99th birthday in November this year.

Negotiating delivery of wine to Stoneypound via the enthusiastic welcome of a trio of hounds I noticed a picture of a Mustang Mk III on the wall.

It turns out that we have a WWII spitfire pilot in our parish and I asked if we could do an interview for the Llanfair Times (over a glass of wine, obviously).



Born in 1922, not with a silver spoon in his mouth but certainly a sugar spoon: Oliver's father was the General Manager of the Tate & Lyle sugar refinery in Liverpool. His grandfather had been a Director of Henry Tate & Sons before their merger with Abram Lyle & Sons in 1921 to form Tate & Lyle. Oliver followed the family footsteps into the business just after war broke out and went to Liverpool University where he joined the University Air Squadron. He joined-up at the age of 18.

In September 1941 he was sent to Dallas in Texas to one of the six British Flying Training Schools based in the USA. Each school trained 30 British pilots and was headed by a British Squadron Leader and an Armaments Sergeant, the rest of the instructors being American.

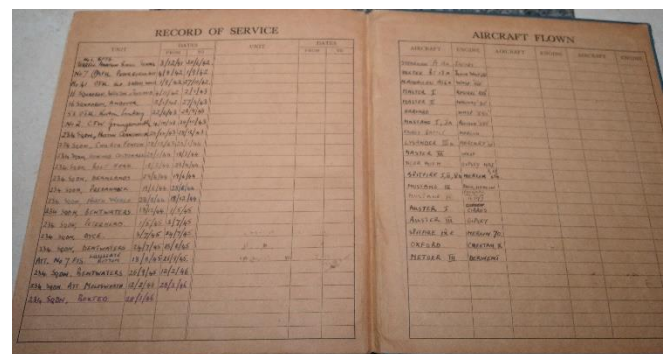
Nine months later Oliver had qualified, gained his wings and a commission. By dint of his commission, Pilot Officer Potter returned to the UK in a First Class cabin in a Transatlantic Convoy and began his war with 16 Squadron.

This enthusiastic (possibly too enthusiastic?) flying officer survived a low-flying accident and a subsequent Court Martial "cashiered" him. Oliver lost his commission but the war effort still needed his flying skills so he didn't stop flying.



(Oliver pictured left)

From October 1943 to the end of the war he was fully operational in 234 Squadron based in Norfolk. Firstly flying Spitfires to protect anti-ship attacks off the Dutch coast and then Mustangs escorting bombers over Europe. The Mustangs had a greater range.



I had to ask about the low survival rates for RAF pilots over such a long period. What were your main emotions? Fear, Adrenalin, Excitement?

"I don't remember fear, but I do remember the excitement of every operation. The Spitfire was a wonderful machine and the Mustang was like driving a bus by comparison."

After the war, Oliver went back to Liverpool and joined the stevedores and master porters unloading sacks of sugar at the docks. Then a stint as a trainee Shift Manager at the Tate & Lyle refinery before re-locating to their London refinery where sugar arrived loose in ships' holds rather than in sacks. The lure of the bright lights of London attracted Oliver but also to escape the suspicion of nepotism in Liverpool where his father was still General Manager.

He met and married Anne in 1947. They were unable to have children so adopted their son, Michael. Then, as sometimes happens, Anne became pregnant with Suzie.

We fast-forward through the life of living in Notting Hill until 2017 when Oliver came to live in Stoneypound with Suzie and Bill plus the two Labradors - Hattie and Annie, Ella the Hungarian Vizla, Marmalade, the three-legged cat and the three horses - Charley, Perdi and Big Mac.

"Time to go and leave you in peace." I said after pocketing a couple of photos to scan later. "I thought we were going to talk more about wine" said Oliver. "I know nothing about it but I love it."

So we drank a bit more red and chatted about wine.....

Mark Hughes

Llanfair Waterdine WI



It has been lovely getting together again and enjoying proper meetings. In September after the long break we got together over supper and started planning for the future. This has resulted in some good speakers to complete this year and a full programme for 2022 which is our 90th Anniversary.

Our meeting in October was a talk about volunteering with the Severn Valley Railway with Julia and John Roberts. It was wide-ranging, including history, archaeology and some anecdotes from a retired Father Christmas!

November is our AGM when we were able to welcome three new members. Margaret Clugston was re-elected as President and Mary Morgan

thanked her for all her work during this difficult period. After the meeting we had a demonstration of silver jewellery making with some lucky members receiving custom made pieces. In December we are looking forward to Simon Nix talking (and we hope) giving us a taste of his home made wines.

The full programme for 2022 is now in place and speakers include in February "Ugandan Dream" with Jane Roberts and Kay Pritchard. In March Andrea Moore, a member of our Institute and recent resident in the Parish is talking about Hiroshige which is a form of Japanese woodwork. Something that I have never heard of and I am looking forward to learning about.

But first off, next year, we are celebrating our Anniversary by inviting a few friends and enjoying a special afternoon.

Our meetings are held in the Everest Hall, Llanfair Waterdine, on the first Friday of every month and we are always pleased to welcome guests at 7.30pm to share our speaker and our supper. Please visit us and find out what we are all about. For further information please contact Margaret Clugston (01547 529155) or me (01547 528477).

Ann Harroway

St. Mary's Church



Grass cutting coffee mornings

Held at 11.00am on the first Wednesday of the month.

December 1st - At the home of Graham Trew and Richard Lewis - Melin y Grogue

January 5th - At the home of Ruth and Robert Davies - Teme Cottage
February 2nd - At the home of Rob and Denise Taylor - The Derrells
March 2nd - At the home of Mary and Llewelyn Morgan – Selley Hall
If you feel able to host a coffee morning in 2022, please contact Ruth on 01547 528592

Revd. Dr. Martin Quayle comes to St Mary's to take Holy Communion on the third Sunday of each month. Service times can be found in the porch or on the 'A Church Near You' website which we attempt to keep up to date. The Christmas Carol Concert, this year with the Knighton and District Silver Band, is on Tuesday 21st December at 7.00pm. There will be a Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 3.30pm and Holy Communion at 11.15am on Christmas Day.

There was to have been a meeting, organised by the Parish Council, for Parish groups and bodies to talk about themselves. This, unfortunately, had to be postponed. Thus the majority of this quarter's church report contains a shortened account of happenings outside and inside our church. Robert Taylor was to speak about the churchyard and church structure and I was speaking about services and fund-raising.

Robert Taylor writes: I am going to talk to you about the churchyard and the church building. We have a large churchyard which is still in use. It is also the home of the graves and memorials linked to many local families as well as of those people who have moved here. We have a duty to maintain it well. During the last few years, we have tried to improve its appearance and also to make it a better haven for wildlife. Parts of the churchyard, including the wide margin under the north wall and other parts have been "wilded" and seeded to provide a better habitat for insects, birds and animals – including hedgehogs. Across the churchyard as a whole the number of wildflowers has increased. Further improvements, particularly in the area where

ashes are interred are being funded by a gift from the estate of the late Mary Townshend.

Of course, we have also continued through regular cutting to keep the grass neat and allow access to graves and memorials. This necessary work is expensive (averaging over £2,000 PA) and over the years has been paid for out of church income, although in recent times a contribution from the Parish Council, made in recognition that the churchyard is for the whole parish, has been most welcome. Sadly, we heard in November that the Parish Council has felt unable to grant our application this year. This has given us a further shortfall in funding of £500. For a number of years "grass cutting coffee mornings" have been held monthly in homes across the parish and the income from these events and donations from individuals have made a significant contribution towards the expense of keeping things neat and tidy. After a pause during lockdown the coffee mornings have restarted – look out for details and come along if you can.

As well as maintaining the churchyard, we have a duty to maintain the church building and when necessary to make improvements in response to changing needs and use. The most recent improvement was the installation of an electronic organ in response from a request from our organists. We have teams of cleaners who are on a monthly rota and ensure that we have a clean and polished church adorned, when required, with fresh flowers.

A building over 150 years old and built of fragile local stone requires constant care and maintenance and we always need to have funds available to meet unexpected costs. The latest problem is the stone tracery on the outside of the west window. A piece of stone fell out last winter and a recent inspection by a mason indicates the need for repairs. All contributions gratefully received!

Over ten years ago we received a legacy of £50,000 from the estate of the late Edward

Phillips of Nantiago. The condition attached to it was that it was to be spent on the fabric of the church and churchyard and in particular the restoration of the north wall of the churchyard. Almost simultaneously, with the receipt of the legacy, a failure in the existing wiring made re-wiring necessary. We now have the warmest and best lit church in these parts. The work was paid for by the legacy. We then moved onto repairing the churchyard north wall. When this work was almost complete an unknown benefactor paid the bill. This left us with almost half the £50,000 unspent. At the same time, it became clear that we needed to improve facilities inside the church, by providing a toilet and provision for catering including space for a café area. Consultations with our architect and the diocese established what could and couldn't be done and we are moving forward to radical changes in the existing vestry area and north aisle, which will give us these facilities. The process of plans and their approval has been elongated by the pandemic, but things are now moving along. As part of the process, we will be consulting with the whole parish when we have final plans. We hope we will have your support.

Graham Trew writes: Firstly I would like to thank all those who have helped to keep our church running since before COVID, during the long-term illness and early retirement of Revd Annie. Over the last two years, until the appointment of Revd. Dr. Martin Quayle, 90 services were held, only 6 of those being led by a priest. During COVID the church was open for private reflection or prayer and socially distanced services whenever it was allowed and 5 members of the church contacted people in the parish regularly. I would like to thank our PCC. Four excellent members retired last year but all have been replaced by equally supportive people.

The good news is that support for the church is tremendously strong. This is shown in the numbers for regular and new services. Midweek, evening services have been popular and we have had many more than usual for special services such as Harvest and Remembrance.

The PCC has recently voted to become an 'Inclusive Church' and forms of daytime gatherings, which will appeal to those who might possibly feel that current services are not relevant to them, are being considered.

There are over 100 members on the church Electoral Roll and we have fifty people willing to read at services and 15 willing to take the Intercessions, (Intercessions workshops are held to help anyone thinking that they might like to lead the prayers), which makes it much easier for four of us who have led the services before the recent appointment of Revd. Martin. There are five organists, in addition to our permanent three, on whom we can call, and also a 'pop-up' choir. The area where we need volunteers is on the six 'cleaning' teams. We like to have four people on each team and they are on duty once every six months. Please let Ruth Davies know if you feel you could volunteer: there are men and women on the teams! All who work in some way in the church and churchyard and for the church have a photograph in the church. There are many fascinating lists in the church as well as charts and pictures and we are pleased that visitors to the church find it welcoming. Since its inception, around 100 card 'leaves' asking for prayers have been placed on our Prayer Tree. These leaves are read out at our services.

The not so good news is that after the retirement of Revd. Annie the Middle Marches Benefice was placed in 'Suspension' This means that we cannot appoint a priest ourselves for three and possibly five years, while discussions are held about the future of the Benefice. However, we have been fortunate in that the Diocese has appointed Revd. Dr. Martin Quayle, many people's dentist!, to be our part-time interim minister for three years. St Mary's, as I have said, has good support in the parish, but we have three years in which to maintain and grow this support and to increase our funding to the Diocese. Churches in the Benefice may close or they may become 'Festival Churches' or they may be joined to another Benefice. The PCC is formulating a Development Plan to assess all aspects of our church so that we will hopefully be in as good a position as possible when the Benefice is reviewed.

Due to COVID all of St Mary's regular income from 'fund-raising' events disappeared in 2020 and has remained diminished this year. We are grateful to Deirdre and Derek Beavan and their small team for deciding to hold this year's Wakes in reduced form. The Wakes, held traditionally on the second Saturday in August, is a church event, very popular in the community. The profits are usually divided between the church and other chosen charities, but this year it has been decided that the church should be given all the reduced profits and next year, once again, the profits will be shared. Given good weather, this year's Wakes proved a most enjoyable social meeting. Sadly, at the time of writing, cases of COVID have grown in our area and it has been decided not to hold the annual 'Auction', which is our other main church fundraiser.

We have been lucky, that we have encouraged members of the parish, and some further afield, to support us through the Parish Giving Scheme and over £10,000 has been pledged this way over the last two years. At present our funds will cover our reduced Parish Offer for the next financial year. We have given around £7,000 per year for several years but it is not possible this year. Amounts given, and numbers participating, will be one of the deciding factors in keeping our church open. We have twenty contributors at present, so please consider joining them. It can be as little as £5 per year, it can be anonymous and Gift Aid can be added. Forms are available in the church, or from me, and it is easy to donate to our church on the Parish Giving website.

The Parish Offer is an annual amount paid to the Diocese for priests' salaries and pensions and for support given from the Diocese. In 2018, the Middle Marches Benefice of seven churches, of which we are one, provided 14% of our annual Deanery need. Our Deanery, numbering 27 churches, provided 69% of its need. In 2022 the figure at present is Middle Marches 8% and the Deanery 49%. Some churches in our Benefice are able to give very little and the Diocese is having to find 51% of our costs. They are not prepared to continue with this, of course, hence the Suspension. According to their calculations everyone attending a service regularly should be giving £16 per week, which is why the Parish Giving Scheme, as an alternative, is so important.

Thank you for your support in so many ways throughout the last year. On behalf of the Parochial Church Council may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a safe and peaceful New Year.

Graham Trew

LLANFAIR SINGERS CHAIRMAN'S DIARY

The hills are alive with.... (Alright.... Llanfair valley is alive with..... OK, if you're going to be pedantic then... the Everest Hall is alive with....) the sound of music! And, for the Llanfair Singers, it has been a real joy to be back doing the thing that we love and that has been missing from our lives for too long: singing together and enjoying each other's company.

Inevitably there have been Covid precautions to deal with – hand sanitizers to the fore; windows and doors open; singing in woolly jumpers and wrapped up against the draft; making sure that we are all double and triple jabbed. And, so far it has all been worth it. What is more, we have had 11 new members in total, joining across all sections....Yes, including the basses – although we still need more male voices: come on chaps, we know you can sing. Stop being wimps and join up!

After much soul-searching it was finally decided that, as much as we would like to perform our usual Christmas Charity Concert the reality was that, whilst we can reasonably distance the choir, we could not also reasonably distance choir and audience within the hall. After the disappointment that so many faced last year with the last minute rule-changes, we did not wish to be responsible for anyone being ill this Christmas and missing a second one! So we will give a small concert for our families and end with a Christmas party – yes, Llanfair Singers, true to form, cannot

do anything without either food or a party being involved!

The good news is that the repertoire that we have been working on will be polished to perfection by the time that the Stour Valley Singers join us for our biennial concert together next year – so watch this space for a concert that will really set the hills alive with the sound of music.

Of course, some choir members will be singing from the congregation at St Mary's Carol Service and also leading the singing at the Carol Service at Heyope. I hope that we shall see you at one or both of these.

In the meantime we wish you all a very happy and joyous Christmas and a wonderful New Year and, if you're looking for a New Year's resolution then look no further than deciding to join the Llanfair Singers in 2022!

Further information on events and on how to join the choir can be found on www.llanfairsingers.co.uk

Michael Symonds

Poets' Corner



BOB IS GETTING OLD

I've heard this rumour,
It surely can't be,
Why such a bad thing
Has happened to me.

From on the outside
There had been no sign,
Of my rapid descent
Into old age decline.

I still look quite youthful,
Far as can tell,
The lotions and pills
Are working quite well!

I'm upright in stature,
Don't sit and brood,
Nor do I dribble
When I eat my food!

I used to run,
But now I walk,
Quite happy now
To sit and talk!

See what wildlife
I can see,
Go to the woods,
And hug a tree!

Lots of jobs,
Are still to do,
Mowing lawns,
And logging too!

House to fix,
Veg garden to tend,
It's damn hard work,
When I can't bend!

A sit on the bench,
Is heaven sent,
When my get-up-and-go,
Has got up and went!

Now is the time,
To be brave and bold,
Acknowledge the fact,
My God – I'm old!

Bob Bailey

Christmas can't be bought from a store.
Maybe Christmas means a little bit more.
Dr. Seuss



Rob Gwilt just keeps on quizzing us....

History Quiz – Name the Year

1.

- 1 England lose 1-0 to the USA at World cup. Their most embarrassing result ever?
- 2 Listen with Mother is first aired on BBC Radio.
- 3 Florence Chadwick swims The Channel.
- 4 The release of Myxomatosis in the UK.
- 5 Shrewsbury is elected to the Football League. (Co-Incidentally Hereford United have their application rejected).

2

- 1 The Decimal Currency is introduced.
- 2 The British and Irish Lions defeat The All Blacks. Still the only time they have won a series in New Zealand.
- 3 Benny Hill is the Christmas No1 with 'Ernie' (The Fastest Milkman in the West).
- 4 Lord Hunt opens The Offas Dyke Centre in Knighton.
- 5 Arsenal complete the double, only the second club this century, defeating Liverpool 2-1 in the F.A. Cup, and confirming the League Championship with a 1-0 away win at their North London rivals Spurs.

3

- 1 Heavy snow and the Beast from the East cause widespread disruption throughout the UK.
- 2 Prince Harry Marries Megan Markle.
- 3 Our Yorkshire Farm (with the Owen Family) begins its first season on channel 5.
- 4 Summer Temperatures touch 33°C in Mid Wales.
- 5 Lincoln City win the E.F.L. Trophy at Wembley luckily defeating Shrewsbury Town 1-0.

4

- 1 Charles Lindbergh completes the First Solo Transatlantic Flight.
- 2 The last model T Ford is produced, and the First Fordson F Tractor is produced.
- 3 The Tithe Act, Live and Dead Meat prices and Merchandise Marks (Re Eggs) are discussed in Parliament.
- 4 A total Eclipse of the Sun.
- 5 Cardiff City lift the F.A. Cup, the only time the trophy has left England, sometimes known as the Singing Final "Abide with Me" is heard for the first time. The Arsenal Goalie Blambo his new shirt for the winning goal.

5

- 1 Margaret Thatcher becomes the UK's first Female Prime Minister.
- 2 Another Brick in the Wall by Pink Floyd is the Christmas No 1.
- 3 Trevor Francis becomes the UK's first Million Pound Footballer.
- 4 Keith Castle becomes the UK's first Heart Transplant Patient, and his first question when he awoke? "Did Fulham win on Saturday?" (Re-Assuring we agree).
- 5 Nottingham Forest lift the European Cup for the First, with Trevor Francis scoring the goal.

6

- 1 The Versailles Treaty.
- 2 The sale of The Llanfair-Waterdine Estate.
- 3 Match Fixing Scandal's rock The Football League.
- 4 Nancy Astor becomes the First Female M.P.
- 5 West Ham are elected to the Football League.

7

- 1 Andy Roberton is crowned British Moto-Cross Champion.
- 2 The Watergate Scandal.

3 Rose Heibron becomes the First Female Judge to sit in the Old Bailey.
 4 The musical Jesus Christ Superstar makes its West End Debut.
 5 Southern League Hereford United defeat top flight Newcastle United 2-1 A.E.T. in the F.A. Cup, possibly the most famous F.A. Cup tie of all time? And Ronnie Radford, with his wonder goal writes himself into F.A.Cup Football folklore.

8

1 The Kodak Camera was introduced.
 2 The lawn Tennis Association is founded.
 3 John Boyd Dunlop Patents the inflatable tyre.
 4 Bangor Uni opens its Agriculture Dept, the first British Uni to do so.
 5 Nott's County are one of the twelve clubs who are founder members of the Football League.

9

1 Pope John Paul II visits Glasgow.
 2 CD's are introduced.
 3 Knighton Town entertain Hereford United in the Welsh Cup ,over 2000 spectators crowd in at Bryn-Y-Castle, Segregation, Hooliganism, and that Expenses Controversy.
 4 E.T the Extra Terrestrial is released.
 5 Aston Villa lift the European Cup defeating Bayern Munich 1-0 in Rotterdam.

10

1 The World loses Lady Diana.
 2 Chinese rule returns to Hong Kong.
 3 Katrina and the Waves win the Eurovision Song Contest.
 4 J K Rowling publisher's Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone.
 5 On Saturday 3rd of May Brighton and Hove Albion draw 1-1 away at Hereford United to secure their Football League status (incidentally the result relegates Hereford from the Football League).

Again each of the teams featured in this quiz are mentioned because at least one local looks out for their results, award yourself a bonus point if you know who supports Nott's County.

Robert Gwilt

Answers to September Quiz questions;

1. 1955
2. 2013
3. 1933
4. 2016
5. 1977
6. 1968
7. 1903
8. 1961
9. 1999
10. 2021
11. 1959
12. 1973

Bonus point – Dorothy Lee-Frampton is the Leicester City fan.



Seasonal Tips for the Gardener's Year

We have heard a lot about global warming lately and it does seem to be having an effect here locally. We have had a very mild Autumn with very few frosts as I write this at the end of November. Sweet peas and roses are still flowering.

Terracotta pots can now be wrapped in bubble wrap and raised on pot feet to help protect them from future frost.

Cut down old fruited canes on summer fruiting raspberries and cut down Autumn fruiting

canes. Cut out one third of the old wood on blackcurrants.

Now is the time to order your seeds for next year to be sure of getting the varieties you want. Also order your seed potatoes.

Lilies can be planted now for a beautifully scented display in the summer. Some varieties require an acidic compost and so it is advisable to ask which soil type they require when buying them.

There is still time to buy and pot up an Amaryllis (hippeastrum) to flower in the New Year. Soak the roots in lukewarm water for 30mins and pot up in multipurpose compost using a pot about 20cm in diameter. Water the bulb and keep it in a warm sunny position.



If you have potted up prepared hyacinths, daffodils etc check them now to see if they need watering and if they are about 2/3 inches (7cm) tall they can be brought out of the dark onto a light windowsill.

Cut back any tall stems on roses to avoid wind-rock damage. Prune properly in March.

Now is the time to buy bare rooted shrubs and trees. They can be planted straight away providing the ground is not frozen. If the ground is frozen they can be heeled in until conditions improve.

Any leaves on hellebores which have black spots should be cut off and destroyed to avoid losing the plant to leaf spot disease.

Cover rhubarb to force it into producing early tender stems.

If you grow runner beans now is the time to dig a trench and gradually fill it with kitchen waste fruit and vegetables, putting a spadeful of soil over it as you fill it. This will rot down slowly and provide moisture and nutrients for the next crop.

In February it is time to mulch perennial crops like asparagus and Jerusalem artichokes with well-rotted FYM or garden compost. You can also mulch herbaceous borders and roses after removing any weeds. February is also the right time to prune wisteria. Cut back new growth to two or three buds. Some older wood can also be removed to reduce the weight of the plant.

If you have not already done so, cut back dead flower heads from lavender and winter flowering heather.

If we get a heavy snow fall it is a good idea to brush it off hedges and trees to avoid broken branches.

May I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Gardening Year.

Di Bailey

“One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day. Don't clean it up too quickly.”

Andrew Rooney

PARISH COUNCIL

Much preparation went into the Open Parish Meeting which was due to take place on 16th November but which was cancelled due to Covid.

It was going to be a great showcase for local clubs, societies and organisations so we asked those who were going to make presentations to send in written versions to be published here in the Llanfair Times. It makes heartening reading to see just how much activity we have in our parish. Please read on...

Flicks in the Sticks

Flicks has been an important part of village life since 2002.... that's 20 years of bringing people together with good wine, a good film and a good natter!

Started by Anne Singleton, and then managed by David and Judith Tollman until recently, and with support from the Everest Hall Committee, Flicks is part of the Arts Alive programme which in turn is sponsored by the Arts Council.

We run a season approximately from September (late start this year!) through 'til March with a screening once a month on the third Saturday of the month. We are supported by a fantastic Food and Drink Team so our guests get to eat locally-produced food during the interval.

So, what would you expect from a Flicks screening? Let me start by saying what you will NOT get.... You will NOT GET a film about an abused Ethiopian goat herder in the original Amharic language with subtitles! No, we are not a film club. If you want films like that then you need to go to Bishop's Castle!

We hope to entertain you: we once heard that if a Flicks presentation had Dame Judy Dench in it, or Dame Maggie Smith then it was standing room only at Everest Hall!....a little bit harsh. We don't always play safe or predictable. Looking back, we have shown thrillers, comedies, foreign films and classics as well as children's matinee presentations. Some of our screenings have converted to themed supper nights: Fisherman's Friends gave us an evening of Pasties and Fish Pie. We have had curry nights and the hall was converted to a Trattoria for The Italian Job. Other Flicks venues have taken our lead....

We visited several Flicks venues prior to taking over from David and Judith and the results of our visits were:

Best Film Choices - Llanfair Flicks

Best Audio - Llanfair Flicks

Best Food and Drink - Llanfair Flicks

Best Wine - Llanfair Flicks

Best Heating System! - (yes you can see where this is going....) Llanfair Flicks.

So, there you have it: 20 years of entertaining the village:

112 films shown

Over 4,000 visitors.

Huge thanks to all who help to make this work, and if you have not yet visited us then please look out for the posters and the events' heads up in all the usual magazines.

Everything is subject to change in these crazy times.

Finally, if you wish to help in ANY capacity please let us know.... we would be delighted to hear from you.

Don and Kath Szmidt.

Everest Hall

We thank the Parish Council for all their efforts in organising the open meeting which was cancelled due to Covid. It gave the Everest Hall Trustees the opportunity to let everyone know that after the difficult time we have all had we are now open and hiring out the Hall as we have always done.

The Hall was conveyed to be held in Trust for the inhabitants of Llanfair Waterdine and the neighbourhood so that is why we try to keep our charges to a minimum.

We have lots of groups using us and plenty of activities for everyone.

The plan was and still is for it to be used by the Community for social gatherings, fund raising and charitable events and meetings by local clubs and organisations. It has always been the aim of the Management Committee to maintain the building for such use. This has been achieved by so many willing volunteers and much hard work by them over the past 60 years. The facilities have been improved and upgraded as and when finance allowed and has been much in demand for all those years by many local people.

We have our own fund-raising with **Flicks in the Sticks** which has gone from strength to strength over the last few years. Please refer to our separate report.

We also have the Everest Hall 100 Club Lottery which has been very successful over the last three years with **157** ticket holders. There is still time to join this year as the first draw will take place at the Everest Hall on the 6th December 2021, at approximately 7.30 pm, after the Annual General Meeting and before our monthly December meeting.

The ticket cost is £5.00 per annum and the first prize is £20.00 each month.

50% of total funds is prize money. 50% less costs (printing etc) goes towards the upkeep of Everest Hall. Please contact any of our Trustees for a ticket.

A Date for Your Diary

Every second **Saturday of the Month**, starting on the **12th February 2022**, between the hours of 10.00am and 12.00pm: when you are going past the Everest Hall please **STOP** for a welcome break of tea or coffee and biscuits while you are catching up with friends and neighbours.

You can have a look at the improvements we have made and make any suggestions or put forward your ideas that you feel would help with the upkeep of **YOUR HISTORIC VILLAGE HALL**.

Information, photographs and history will be on display boards for your interest.

Contact Details as follows:-

General Enquiries: Iorwerth 528155 or Christine 529558

Bookings : Ruth 528592 or Mary 510285

Flicks in the Sticks: Don/Kathy 528842 or Ruth 528592

100 Club Lottery : Ann 528477 or Mary 510285

Llanfair Singers

Those of you who are regular Llanfair Times readers will know all about us already – our passion for singing every kind of choral music and for supporting any event which raises money for charityparticularly if that event involves refreshments!

For those who don't know about us then here we go: Llanfair Singers was formed in 2003 with nine members and has gradually increased to a membership of around fifty, with members coming from Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, Chapel Lawn, Clun, Clunton, Dutlas, Knighton, Knucklas, Leintwardine, Llangunllo, Llanfair Waterdine, Lloyney, Norton, Stowe and all places in between! We rehearse in the Everest Hall in Llanfair Waterdine every Thursday evening (7.30pm – 9.30pm) and enjoy a sociable coffee break at half-time. We live by our motto: *Friendship through music*.

We sing all types of music from easy listening to classical; from 21st Century to choral works and from whimsical to oratorios and masses. We give charity concerts both locally and as far away as Suffolk and have raised over £10,000 for a whole variety of causes, international, national and local.

One passion that we all have is singing choral evensong in Cathedrals when their own choir is away. We have sung at Cathedrals from St David's in Pembrokeshire to St Paul's in London and even as far afield as Durham – with invitations to return and more invitations awaiting us.

So, we must be a professional choir? NO! We are a community choir. There are no auditions; few of us could sight read music before we joined – many struggle to sight read even now! We sing for enjoyment and for the fun and the friendship that the group provides through its social events as well as concerts and rehearsals. We are blessed with our Directors of Music – both professional singers who, amongst their many claims to fame, sang with the choir of the Chapel Royal for nearly 30 years.

We welcome anyone who wants to sing as part of a group and we are particularly eager to recruit more basses! If you are interested please contact either Richard or Graham or our membership secretary via our website: www.llanfairsingers.co.uk where further details can be found.

The Singers are very much a part of Llanfair Waterdine, providing music for St Mary's, supporting local events not to mention carrying the name of and, we hope, enhancing the reputation of Llanfair wherever we go whether that is as far as Durham Cathedral or as close as St Edward's Knighton. Maybe that is why we have so many invitations to return?

Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, as mentioned I will be speaking on behalf of the Llanfair Waterdine Community Trust. Firstly, to introduce myself to those of you who may not know me, I am Matthew Croose and live at the Vedw – I've been a Parish resident for 7 years and have recently joined the Trust in February 2021. This as you are all aware was in the midst of the Covid 19 Pandemic so has been a very different introduction to what I was expecting.

I applied to join the Trust as I was aware of the positive impact it has on the local area and truly believe "we are here to make a difference by working for a sustainable and progressive community".

A brief overview

We are a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), operating across the Llanfair Waterdine parish and local environs. All members of the Trust are volunteers and currently we have 3 Trustees (Andrew, Byron and Myself), we have recently dropped in number from 4 Trustees to 3 and would like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Bailey after 4 years of extremely hard work. We appreciate all the hours of dedicated work he has offered voluntarily to the community. With this in mind we now have a vacancy for a new Trustee and in the near future (January 2022) we will have a second vacancy when another Trustee finishes his term – so we are keen to get our number back up to 4 to allow all the good work to continue. So for anyone who has an interest in becoming a trustee, please contact the Parish council for an application form.

What are Our Objectives?

- 1) Relief of Financial Hardship, either generally or individually, of people living in the Parish, we do this by making grants of money - paying for items, services or facilities;
- 2) Advancement of Education for the public benefit to promote the education of people under the age of 26.

3) The promotion for the benefit of the public of urban or rural regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation by all or any of the following means:

- a) The relief of financial hardship;
- b) The maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities; c) The protection or conservation of the environment;
- d) Such other means as may from time to time be determined subject to the prior written consent of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales.

4) The General Benefit for charitable purposes of the inhabitants of Llanfair Waterdine and its environs for which provision is not made out of rates, taxes or other public funds.

5) The provision of a recreational field in accordance with the Conveyance of the Joan Adams Community Field of 7th August 2000.

Additionally to this we now have the voluntarily built Community Pavilion, as any new building and venue we have had some learnings and truly believe that we are working in a way that is benefiting the parish. There have been a number of positive varied events successfully held at the premises, the management committee will summarise this in their report. The Pavilion project has given the community field and parish a number of improvements:

- Additional Parking/ Overflow parking for events held in the local area · Public toilets and a Shower facility
- A boules pitch, that can be used at any time
- A additional social hub and venue for the parish
- A new notice board, providing dates of future events held at the venue. The notice board also shows the minutes from all Trust meetings.

We also manage 3 land parcels, the Hordy, Gravels and Turbary. These are currently let to local farmers and are also subject to Environmental schemes that generate income for the trust, which in turn is distributed in accordance with our mission statement and target areas.

Recently we have developed a website that has made the trust more visible to the wider community and we are making a great effort to be as contactable and open as possible. The website gives a background of how we operate and who we are, if you get a chance it would be great if you could have a look. The website is on the notice board outside – but for those of you with a pen and paper the web address is:

www.llanfairwaterdinecommunitytrust.co.uk.

The Community Pavilion Management Committee

Hi Everyone, most of you will hopefully know me, but for those who don't my name is Zoe and I am one of 8 members of the Community Pavilion Management Committee. I am also a Parish Councillor.

The Pavilion was completed in the Spring of this year, and initially welcomed its first group, Llanfair Little Ones, back in April under Covid restrictions.

Since then, we have opened regularly on a Friday evening, more recently trialling a Saturday evening instead, to provide a social night for all the community. This generally consists of an informal evening chatting, playing cards, playing boules or table tennis. Myself and another Committee Member hold a personal license, allowing us to have a bottle bar for our social evenings, as well as for the use of other hirers if they require it.

Last week saw us participate in an adhoc Table Tennis tournament with over 20 locals entering, and during the summer months, a Boules Club was formed with regular boules competitions on Friday evenings.

Each week the people who come together alters and it gives a real chance for parishioners and local villages to meet their friends and neighbours in a warm and relaxed environment, with children meeting after school to play frisbee, or to run around on the field in a safe environment. Everyone is welcome to join us on any of the evenings.

Since running the socials, I personally have met people in the Parish for the first time who have lived or holidayed here for years, and welcomed new people to the area such as the new families at the Hurgin & Llantroft.

The Pavilion has been privately hired for Yoga, First Aid Courses, a Vet's Evening, Naming Ceremony, Childrens birthday parties, Children's Halloween evening and has now just booked in with a dog training course. It is available to anyone in the parish to hire and anyone outside of the parish that can provide a service or facility to the local community. All of our events and bookings are displayed on our website and the notice board in the carpark for all of the community to see.

The Management Committee have also held a quiz night, rounders evening, mini beer festival and a live music evening. We also have another quiz evening on the 4th December and Tanith from the Flower Box visiting on Tuesday 7th December to hold a wreath making workshop. This year, we have decided to hold a New Year's Eve party for all of the local community, and their families to get together celebrating what has been another difficult year. We have also just applied for funding to place a playpark and swing on the pavilion field to enhance the outdoor space.

We fully believe that we are providing a much-needed facility and service to our community offering weekly socials and hope that each one of you are able to support us whenever possible. With any new project, we had a few teething issues which we have ironed out, and want to assure all parishioners that we are only accepting events and hirers that we feel are suitable and will not affect the local residents. We have had several requests for weddings, and private adult parties which we have declined.

If the past 2 years has taught us anything, it's that small communities such as ours, need to work together, support each other and celebrate positivity.

We are searching for more volunteers to join our management committee to help plan events, organise the upkeep and day to day running of the pavilion.

So if you would like any information on hiring the hall, booking on to an event, or joining our committee then please let any of us know. [Zoe Croose](#)

Parish Council Website

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

Have you seen the Parish Council website? You can read 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*