



Tidbit

Llanbister

Transcoed

Llanbister Area Community Magazine
Issue 7: December 2025 – February 2026

Disclaimer

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"A Warm Welcome in the Hillside"

Ray & Janet Thomas

LION HOTEL

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WELCOME to Tidbit No.7!



Tidbit is a free quarterly magazine for residents of Llanbister and surrounding area, an initiative by Llanbister Community Council and delivered free of charge by hand to as many residents as possible with additional copies available in various locations. If you are not receiving it at home at the moment, have been receiving duplicate copies or have any special delivery preferences, please let us know.

Please let us have contributions, including articles, announcements you would like to share such as births, marriages, deaths, special anniversaries and achievements, etc. which should be submitted about 1 month before the next publication date to allow ample time for editing and printing, either as handwritten/typed contributions to 1 School Meadow, Llanbister LD1 6TN, or by email preferably in plain text or Word format to:

llanbistertidbit2@gmail.com

(don't forget the 2 in the middle or your email will vanish unseen!)



DEADLINE for inclusion in the next edition (March 2026 to May): **1st February 2026.**

Although we have recently and gratefully received some grant aid from the Garreg Lwyd Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, advertising income is still important to maintain our sustainability so if you'd like to promote a local business and demonstrate goodwill towards a much appreciated project, please get in touch. We may revise advertising rates next year to a more realistic figure.

If you are interested in advertising a local business, please get in touch . Donations are also gratefully received and will go toward printing costs.

Payment & donations to:

Llanbister Community Council 40 26 21 account no. 41048619

IN MEMORIAM

Sadly, having been mentioned in the article on Moelfre City (Part Two) in the last issue, **Ruby Ann Mills** of Green Gardens, Llanbister passed away on the 6th August 205 and was laid to rest at Pound Baptist Church on 30th August.

Bill Rees

The funeral of villager William 'Bill' Rees of Glan Dorddu took place on 15th September at Pound Chapel, followed by interment in the Methodist Chapel Yard.

A full appreciation of Bill's life by Geoff Morgan, page 16

GARDENING TIPS *from Jude at Rockhouse*

Winter is upon us so here's a few ideas to keep you busy:

Greenhouse cleaning - If you have a greenhouse, now is a great time to clean it. Clean panes of glass will let in more light and help your young plants to grow and reduces the risk of diseases spreading. Start by emptying the space and having a good sort out. Get rid of anything you don't use or need and give the greenhouse a sweep out with a brush.

Choose a day when the temperature is above freezing and set about cleaning the glass inside and out using warm water and a soft cloth or sponge. Remove debris from gutters and use a flexible plant label to ease out dirt from between panes of glass. If you have a solid floor, use a stiff brush and with warm water to remove algae. No need to use chemicals, detergents or abrasives, water and a bit of elbow grease is enough.

OK, now that's done, how about a bit of pruning? First let's look at why we prune plants:

- It encourages growth and helps a plant fill out and become bushier.
- It allows us to manage the size and shape of a plant.
- We can cut out dead or diseased parts of a plant to improve plant health.



Let's look at the tools you'll need:

A decent pair of secateurs, sometimes called bypass secateurs are essential. It's important to keep them sharp as a blunt cutting edge will damage plants.

For thicker stems you might need a pair of long handled loppers but if you're tackling small branches a pruning saw is a great tool. Don't be afraid of pruning, plants are incredibly resilient and will mostly be forgiving of any mistakes. Plants to prune in December - climbing roses, fruit trees, grape vines and wisteria which we'll look at below.



Wisteria – this beautiful climbing plant should be pruned twice a year. Once when it is dormant (not growing) between November and February and again in summer after it has flowered. Wisteria winter pruning involves:

- cutting out dead or dying branches
- tying in new growth and
- cutting back long wispy growth to just two or three buds. That means finding the start of that wispy branch and cutting it off just above the 3rd little bud from the start.

See, not too scary after all – just don't fall off the ladder!

Whatever you get up to, enjoy your garden!



LLANBISTER COMMUNITY HALL & HUB

What's On



Regular activities

Beer and Bowls	And Pool and Dominoes! First Thursday of the month from 7 - 11pm
Badminton	Wednesday with Tracy Lewis 6.00-7.30pm
Lily Rose Massage	Every 2nd Wednesday in Hub from 9.00am - 4pm. Massage therapy & Nails with Natalie Scarlet in the Hub (booking essential)
Pool League	Every other Wednesday, 8.00pm start (full League details and tables available from Hall)
Whist	First and third Friday of the month.

Events

December 24th	7.00pm in the Church followed by tea and mince pies in the Hall (note, an hour later than previous years)
December 27th	7.00pm+ Games Night
31st January	Big Breakfast from 9.00am - 2pm
27th February	YFC entertainment evening in Hall. Time to be advised
20th March	YFC Whist Drive

To book the Hall or Hub, contact:

Tracy Lewis 07495 827360 lewis431@btinternet.com
or Joni Hughes 07508 048681



CATCH-UP CLUB

Meets in the Community Hall or Hub, 2.00-4.00pm

3rd December	Wreath Making
17th December	Christmas Lunch and Haircuts
7th January	Lily Rose talk with Natalie
21st January	Age Cymru talk and Crystal Brick
4th February	David and Janice's Travelogue and Haircuts
18th February	Local Police Liaison with PCSO Liz

Contact: Tracy Lewis 07495 827360 lewis431@btinternet.com



Llanbister CP School - dates



9th December	Christmas Performance at 14:00
10th December	Christmas Performance at 18:00
11th December	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Performance 18.00
19th December	Christmas church service at 14:00
5th & 6th January	INSET days
4th February	Rags 2 Riches collection

LLANBISTER SCHOOL PTA

We are a small committee of parents who support the school with extra funds to provide more learning opportunities, activities, resources, equipment, travelling/transport cost and much more.

We had a very successful AGM and have a new committee:

Laura Lewis (Chairperson)
Rachel Matthew's (Vice Chair)
Rhiannon Williams (Secretary)
Dana Williams (Treasurer)

So far this academic year we have had the Cefnlllys School community charity shop. Thank you to the people that helped, supported and donated. It was a very successful fundraiser.

We also held a Halloween disco, thank you to all of the residents of Llanbister for allowing us to trick or treat around the village afterwards and for leaving sweets out for us. All the children had great fun.

Every year the pta support the school and our little learners with over £2000 worth of educational materials and other bits along the way. All the funds that are made at all of our events are very much needed, so a big thank you to the community for your continued support, we really appreciate it.

Our next Rags to Riches collection is on Wednesday 4th February 2026. Keep an eye on the Llanbister Facebook page for other upcoming fundraising events.



We have a lovely school and community which we are all very proud of. Thank you all.

Llanbister School PTA (Fundraisers)



School Head's update - Autumn term 2025

As the leaves turned golden, our school has been filled with the buzz of new projects, performances, and plenty of school spirit. We returned after the summer break in early September to begin our topic of Cynefin. At its heart, Cynefin is a unique Welsh word meaning a “place of belonging.” It goes beyond describing a physical space, capturing a sense of home, identity, and our connection to nature. For the pupils at Llanbister, this has been a wonderful opportunity to explore their sense of belonging within the local community, across Wales, and in the wider world.

As part of learning about our school community, our older pupils began the year by campaigning for positions in their chosen school committees. The options included the School Council, Eco Committee, Criw Cymraeg, and the Healthy Schools Committee. In addition, some of our Year 5 pupils completed their Bronze Ambassador training, preparing them to lead sporting activities for younger pupils — a great way to promote teamwork and active play.

October was a particularly busy month. We began by visiting the church to celebrate Harvest, followed by our annual Farmers' Market back at school. Pupils demonstrated their speaking, singing, and entrepreneurial skills, and we'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who came along to support the event.

Later in the month, our school choir travelled



to Llandrindod to compete in the Eisteddfod, where they proudly achieved second place — well done to all involved! We also held our much-loved Scarecrow Trail, which once again saw some fantastic and creative entries decorating the village. As we move through the term, excitement is already building for Christmas. This year's festive



performance, A Touch of Snow White, promises to be full of laughter, music, and holiday cheer, with three showings planned so everyone has a chance to attend. We'll also be holding our Christmas Carol Service at the church on Thursday 19th December, and we warmly invite everyone in the community to join us in celebrating the season together. If we don't see you before everyone in Llanbister Primary School would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kay Hughes

School Governors December 2025 - February 2026.

As I sit to write this for Tidbit, Llanbister CP School has just finished celebrating it's Scarecrow Trail for the second year running... where the creative amongst us have masterfully designed their Scarecrows for us to all enjoy.

We have had a busy beginning of term up to the Half term break. The Governors AGM and first yearly meeting was held on Thursday 25th September in the evening. We were missing Miss Powell as she has welcomed her baby boy earlier in the Summer and is currently on Maternity Leave.

We discussed the upcoming vacancies on the Governing Body. A Parent Governor position was subsequently advertised and we can report this has been filled and we look forward to welcoming a new parent governor once the various administrative tasks have been completed, hopefully to our November meeting. This position came into being as Gerry Hughes has finished his term of office. Thanks was extended at the meeting to Gerry for his support given, always cheerfully and generously. I don't think Gerry will mind if I share with the readers here that he advised the meeting that he was finishing with the knowledge that the school was in a good position with excellent leadership. Those words are such an encouragement for those who staff the school and as Governors we are hugely grateful for all that the staff do for the school and our learners. They really do go above and beyond, day by day. Yes, there are challenges as with all areas of work with the public and in those front facing roles but they are always professional and approachable. As a Governing Body we have huge admiration for their ongoing work.

The other Governor vacancies are a Local Education Authority Governor and a Minor Authority Governor. Geoff Morgan who is one of our LEA Governors is conducting the process of finding a LEA Governor. The Minor Authority Governor is currently Darren Rogers and we are hopeful he will continue in that role and be reappointed. The Chair and Vice-Chair were also appointed and it is resolved that myself and Emma Howells are to serve in those roles respectively.

I must convey thanks to those in the community who have shown interest in joining the Governing body. There are a number of ways in which the community can support the school, being a Governor is one way, there is also the active and committed PTA and other roles. Please don't hesitate to ask Miss Hughes or one of the Governors/PTA if you are considering how you could help.

At the AGM we also had the 'annual delegation of functions', an increasingly interesting part of the meeting as the functions seem to grow in number every year. and usually with some very grand sounding titles. However despite being a smaller school and therefore a smaller Governing body we rise to those tasks with enthusiasm.

We have welcomed Sara Wilson as one of the staff Governors and she admirably stepped into some of those newer roles such as 'Champion for Teaching Assistants' and 'Whole School Approach (WSA) to Emotional Health and Mental Wellbeing'. I have no doubt that Sara will bring her usual steadfastness to both of those roles.



Hughes, Mr Matthew Williams and Mr Darren Rogers. They do a great job at helping with the practical matters of Health and Safety on site.

We have some busy weeks ahead preparing for the Christmas Play, this year there is a treat in store as we will have two plays... the older children will perform, Snow White and the younger children will take their parts in The Nativity. There is already much excitement as you can imagine as Fairy tale characters and those conveying the Nativity all prepare for their starring roles. If you would like to come and see a performance then please contact the school for tickets. We would be delighted to see you. Our next Governors meeting is due to be held 13th November 2025 and 5th February 2026.

I am going to end this update by wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

*Rebekah Meredith
Chair of Governors.*

Llanbister Online

Llanbister Community Council and general local website:

www.llanbister.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/p/Llanbister-100068983617286



COUNCIL CHAMBER NEWS

I am now Vice Chairman of Powys County Council. I have also been appointed by the Local Education Authority as a Governor of Llanbister CP School, with power to nominate a second governor. It would be particularly appropriate for someone from the general area but without children at the school.

Please call me on 07890 914005
or cllr.geoff.morgan@powys.gov.uk with any enquiries or suggestions.

I attended various events as usual, including an All Wales Civic Service in Wrexham on behalf of Powys.

Among the many issues we have to consider is the controversial proposal for a Holiday Let Tax, which could include £1.50 per person per night for a hotel and 75p for a camp site. It was decided to refer this to consultation.

Geoff Morgan

County Councillor for Ithon Valley Ward

Vice Chair of Powys County Council





It Takes a Village to Help Make a Christmas

For me Christmas is a time of many mixed emotions, you reflect on people who have passed and family who live too far away to see. There is so much to cram into a few weeks, are the presents just right, wrapping done, all this for two days. Since I have come to this village I have watched a Christmas tradition grow. I get excited by it and I have an appreciation of my village, tradition matters, chaos is gone and things are just so.

The first year I moved here I marvelled at the Christmas tree and lights on the green. I could see the star in the distance when travelling, “nearly home”, although I did secretly have a giggle; I hope a jumbo jet does not mistake it for a landing strip. The next year a group of people lead by the Best Kept Village joined together to make wooden Christmas trees which were decorated and displayed along the road of the village.

Last year Llanbister truly shone, The Christmas tree went up with the star making its presence felt, more lights where bought for the wooden trees. More people decorated the outside of their home. The result was a village that showed that it cared with a warm welcome and above all, a community. This is the place I call home and feel safe.

So thank you to all the people who participate to brighten our village, roll on the 1st of December...**Community Matters!**

Jennie Dean, Best Kept Village group

VILLAGE SHOW

The 2026 Llanbister Show & Sports takes place on 25th May, with many of the associated traditional events either side. Put it in your diary! The AGM in September re-elected Geoff Morgan as Chair, Chris Brown Vice Chair, Claire Carter and Jane Jarvis as joint Secretaries, Treasurer Lucy Stonebridge, Publicity & Programme Officer David Strachan. Subsequent meetings are now heavily focused on planning, one particular thing unanimously acknowledged being the success of the music last year so agreed to ensure the same in 2026.

Meetings take place on the 3rd Monday of the month, 7.30pm in the Hall or Hub. All welcome with ideas and especially offers of help! The Show also needs sponsors and programme advertisers, so if you or someone you know can help, please get in touch. Contact llanbistershow@hotmail.com, visit our Facebook page or the Secretary on 07598 101713.

Llanbister Church News



The ashes of Ron and Muriel Boswell were laid to rest in St Cynllo's churchyard, Llanbister on 22 September. Both were devoted church members and honorary villagers

Our harvest festival was held on Sunday 19 October village children Harry, Ella, Monty, Scarlett, Liam and Freya carried the produce to the altar, the collection was taken by Steve Thomas and Mark Williams, and the service was led by Rev. Menir Ronicle with Catherine James as organist.

Special thanks to Glenys Brick and the Best Kept Village ladies for beautifully decorating the church. After the service tea was served in the village hall. I am extremely grateful to everyone who donated food, helped serve and assisted with the washing up.

Liz Bowen

Carol Service 24th December at 7.00pm (note, an hour later than previous years) followed by tea and mince pies in the Hall

The Ministry Area informs us that the January-March services rota won't be agreed until mid December.

West Radnor Ministry Area Administrator: 01597 822557 or email westradnor.maa@churchinwales.org.uk. Ministry Area Lead: Rev. Jonathan Copus

Gravel Baptist Chapel

Carol Service Sunday 21st December 2.30pm. All welcome.

Pound Chapel

Carol Service Sunday 21st at 2.30 pm at Pound Chapel

Carol Service Tuesday 23rd December, 6.30 at Llanbister Community Hall.

This will replace the afternoon Christmas Eve Service. A warm welcome to all.

Regular services are held weekly at 2.30pm.

Best Kept Village

Well done everyone else who brought even more colour than usual to the village this summer with their own displays of flowers, not least Alex's stunning giant lilies by the War Memorial grassed area! Our AGM took place in November, with a partial change of officers as below.

Chairman: Malcolm Dean

Treasurer: David Horne

Secretary: Jennie Dean

Group Email: llanbisterbestkeptvillage@gmail.com





Llandrindod Wells Post Office



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**FAMILY RUN BUSINESS SINCE
2015**

Llanbister Community Council General Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday 4th September 2025 **Time:** 7:30pm **Venue:** Community Hub.

1. Apologies received: Gareth Bowen

2. Members Present: Tracy Lewis, County Councillor Geoff Morgan, Darren Rogers, Wayne Bowen, Marc Williams, Catherine James
Jennifer Turner (Clerk).

3. Declaration of Interest. None

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting(s) – Minutes of the 3rd July 2025 general meeting were reviewed. It was agreed they were an accurate record. Proposed DR, Seconded MW Approved and Duly signed by the Chair

5. Matters Arising from Minutes-

- The second Pool Team is not operational as yet
- Tidbit – Clerk to contact advertisers (of 9 only 1 has paid). It may be necessary to apply to PAVO in November to request a further grant for printing. Recent edition collected and in the process of being delivered. Clerk to ask Llanbadarn CC if they would like to work collaboratively on Tidbit to increase circulation and advertisers
- Catch-Up Club very successful and High Sheriff was impressed
- Graveyard – Information supplied and solicitor is submitting to TMCP
- Litter Pick – Completed. Two Highway matters were discovered and reported on Powys portal.
- War Memorial Funding request – Suggest apply to RES in the first instance and if unsuccessful contact CC again

6. Planning –

None



7. Finance - Balances as at 4th September 2025

Savings Account - £ 8,175.69 (£7000 belonging to current account)

Community Current Account - £3,846.39

Income (as part of above balance) - £2,309 Precept

Outgoings in addition to the above balance –

£5 Bank charge

Clerk's salary (September and October)

£26 x 2 Clerks expenses (September and October)

£50.20 x 2 HMRC (September and October)

Aztec £414.00

Stuart Ingram £240



Defib World £476.59

Lorna Pardoe Audit £100

Payments Approved (Proposed WB, Seconded GM)

8. School Governor's Report.

Blood Bikes visited and class 1 attended for a talk. DR will continue as school governor for four years (Proposed WB, seconded MW)

9. Community Hall / Hub Report.

Blood Bikes raised £237, an article will be published in Tidbit. Poppy Appeal representative attending to give a talk. Catch up club continues success. Choir is attending in November. Whist/Beer and Bowls going well. YFC recently held a games night.

10. Any Other Business.

- MW – one bench is rotten and two benches have been replaced. Authorisation requested to transfer plaque. Agreed with consent of family. Thank you to Kath Carter for purchasing replacements.
- DR – Clerk to report pothole (summit, marketing, refutes)
- DR – Cattlegrid at Cantel, grant awarded and work should commence shortly
- GM – Anti poverty Grant – events arranged by TL (Craft Day and Wreath Making)

Items for next agenda

- RES
- Budgeting

Date of Next meeting - Thursday 6th November 2025 at 7.30pm.

Meeting Closed at 20.39



Freshly made to order sweet and savoury bakes.

- Variety of Cakes – Sponges, Tray Bakes, Loaf Cakes etc
- Flavoured Sausage Rolls using local sausage meat
- Quiche
- Chutney
- Afternoon Teas
- Gift Vouchers
- Delivery available
- Customer requests welcome

If you would like a produce and price list please get in touch!

Email: llathocountrykitchen@gmail.com Tel: 07983 927722

Facebook: [@llathocountrykitchen](https://www.facebook.com/llathocountrykitchen)

Bill Rees (1939-2025) – an appreciation

Bill Rees was a Llanbister stalwart, living at no 5 Glan Dorddu since they were built in the mid-1970s. Growing up in the village in post war years was tough, with Bill remembering living with his mum, nan and uncle Tom and there not being enough eggs to go around so Nan just ate the whites. It wasn't only Llanbister that was short of food, the country was hungry with Bill as a young boy regularly going to Birmingham with Cyril Pugh the Shop taking 2,000 couple of rabbits twice a week to the Smithfield with a police guard waiting them when they got there. The rabbits were caught by farmers and country folk to help pay bills. Bill recalls Cyril giving him the rabbits that, in Bill's words, were 'going a bit ove'r (starting to smell). Bill and a mate would swill them out with water and vinegar and sell them down the backstreets at a discount price.

Pugh's the Shop was a thriving business in those days with a garage and electrical business running from the site, and of course a petrol pump. Bill worked at the shop for many years doing most jobs and eventually delivering groceries to farms and homes in rural Radnorshire and picking up rabbits and eggs in a barter.

There was no satellite TV in those days, with the youngsters making there own fun. Bill recalls many a frosty night spent at the cobblers shop (Uncle Tom's) with a roaring fire. Youths would walk to Llanbister from miles away to play darts, dominoes, draughts and cards. Pugh's shop was the core of the village: they would also take poultry (old hens) to Birmingham, inviting youth to come and feather hens for 2p each. Bill says that Mike Gayther was the fastest, feathering a hen at a young age, but when he finished he wanted his 2 pence before starting the next.

In the summertime the garage at Pugh's would be cleared out, a boxing ring set up and again youngsters walking from miles away would come to watch Llanbister boys box with Dick Nicholls Bwlch always coming away champ. As a 7 year old Bill remembered the street tea party in the village at the end of the war with tables going from the church gate down to Marshbrook and up Frog Street (by the side of shop). Bill did his national service with the first 6 weeks spent in Aldershot, then in Cyprus as a ambulance driver.

Bill, you done your bit for your family, for your community and for your country. Thank you. Rest in peace.

Geoff Morgan



How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?

Nothing – it was on the house.

What do donkeys send out near Christmas?

Mule-tide greetings.

What is Santa's favourite kind of pizza?

One that's deep-pan, crisp and even.



Llanbister Turnpike

Records from Llanbister Parish Register and the Censuses



Llanbister Turnpike, the toll house for the then toll road, was sited near the present bus shelter. The first record appears with a baptism for a John, son of John and Mary Williams, shoemaker on 8/10/1830 in the church. This was followed by another baptism for James, son of James and Eliza Hall on 28/2/1836, labourer of the Turnpike. The next references to the turnpikes are in the censuses:

1841 William Bundford aged 35, agricultural labourer was there with his wife Jane, and 2 children William and John.

By 1851 it was referred to as the Old Turnpike House. William's surname was now spelt as Bumford and he came from Nantmel. 2 more children, Joseph and John were now in the family. The description in the parish register for William the father, when Joseph and John were baptised, was that he was a collector of the Tolls. Obviously not enough money was made from this as he



and the following turnpike keepers had other occupations. It was said that by 1854 the tolls had been abolished in Radnorshire but the gates were still up in Llanbister.

By 1861 there was a new family in Turnpike House, and the 'Boundfords' had moved up to the Rock House. William was still living in the Rock House in 1881. There is a burial record on 21/10/1881 for him, where it was recorded that he had miserably perished having lost his way on a very cold night.

The new family were the Prices. They remained at the Turnpike for at least 80 years as they were still there during the 1939 Register. In 1861 John Price 34, his wife Martha 30 and daughter Mary, 5 were there. John was a Grocer etc, in 1871 a haulier. Martha was missing but her daughter Mary aged 15 and brother John aged 5 were still at the Old Turnpike. According to the Parish Register Mary Price of the old Turnpike had a daughter Charlotte baptised on 5/6/1874, father was Edward Morris of Upper Caerfaelog.

1881 John Price was dealer in fowls and still a haulier. Martha and Mary were also present and Mary's daughters Charlotte and Mary Elizabeth, the latter being baptised in Llanbister on 23/3/1879. In 1891 John Price described himself as a farmer and haulier, by 1901 he described himself as an egg and poultry dealer. Martha and their daughter Mary was now joined by their son William, a Royal Mail postman. In 1911 Martha described herself as a widow of private means, living with her children Mary, working at home, and William remaining a rural postman.

1921 Mary Price was living at the Turnpike with postman brother William, granddaughter Phoebe Elizabeth Hughes aged 9 and a scholar.

It was all change in 1939 when the Turnpike was lived in by Richard J Price who was born on 17/3/1890, with his wife Alice born 6/3/1888 and William 22/11/1866, now a retired postman. Richard was a carpenter, and was involved with the local Observer Corps.

Martha was born at Caerfaelog Farm, daughter of James Hughes. She was married in 1854 at Llanbister Church to Mr. John Price. Mrs Price was a well-known huckstress (a person who sells goods, typically in a street or at a market) and she and her piebald pony was a familiar site in the Llanbister area. Martha lived at the Turnpike from her marriage to her death, a period of 61 years. The Turnpike being on the main road from Newtown to Builth, Mrs Price was well known to travellers from near and far, when she would offer them a couple of tea.

Records from Powys Archives

In 1774 a diarist travelling between Newtown and Llandrindod Wells wrote of his journey through the 'Dolfor Moors' that his party had found their way 'through disagreeable uncertainty of being on the right track preying upon our spirits for many miles.'



An Act for obtaining Returns from Turnpike Road Trusts of the amount of their Revenues, and Expense of maintain the same was passed on 24/7/1820, created to regulate the Turnpikes in England and Wales.

A road between Newtown and Builth Wells had been completed as part of a collaboration between the Radnorshire turnpike trusts and Pugh's Western Branch of the Montgomery Canal. The

Dart coach made the trip from Newtown to Llandrindod Wells on June 2, 1823 - the first ever journey on the road.

In truth work on the road continued for three more years and involved cutting into the steep side of Glog Hill in Dolfor and climbing to the Camnant before heading down to Llanbister.

20/10/1827: New turnpike house and gate to be erected between turning of Llanbister Village and turning to Maesllan. Money paid for the house, gates, posts, railings, and any ironwork. The former vicarage immediately behind the site was renamed Old Turnpike House a few years ago in acknowledgement of its former existence.


22/4/1836. Edward Farmer was successful for the bidding by auction of the rents from Llanbister and Llanbadarn Fynydd Turnpike Gates. He paid £57. Edward Farmer would then rent out the toll houses, and take the revenue for the year.

14/4/1837. Ordered that Messrs Sayce be directed to let the Llanbister Turnpike Gate to the best bidder.

Tolls were used to keep the roads in good repair from Llanbadarn Fawr Cross (Crossgates) to the border of Montgomeryshire. It was decided that if you went

through Llanddewi Gate then it was free to go through Llanbister and Llanbadarn Fynydd. The total income from the Radnorshire Turnpike was £3,135 in 1833, and expenditure £2575.

Jennifer Lewis




LLANBISTER TI A FI PLAYGROUP

We run every Friday morning throughout term time, 9:30 - 11:30 at Llanbister Village Hall - attached to the school. Fortunately due to funding we are currently FREE to attend! Our preschool group includes a craft activity and snack for every child but most importantly a hot drink for parents/guardians.

We are a small, friendly, voluntary group who love to see new faces both attend and get involved with the running of the group.

For more information we have a Facebook group 'Llanbister Ti a Fi'



**9:30 TO 11:30
FRIDAYS
DURING TERM**

**LLANBISTER
COMMUNITY
HALL**

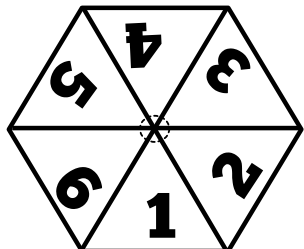


LLANBISTER TI A FI PLAYGROUP

NO CHARGE - INCLUDES SNACK & DRINK

ALL WELCOME BETWEEN AGES 0 - 4

FOR MORE INFORMATION JOIN OUR PRIVATE FACEBOOK GROUP LLANBISTER TI A FI



MAKE A SPINNER DICE!

Trace or copy the design onto a piece of stiff card, poke a matchstick (you might need to ask a grown-up to sharpen the bottom end) or a piece of cocktail stick with the pointy end downwards exactly through the middle for a short distance. Spin like a top between your thumb and a finger and the edge it lands on tells you your number of moves!



LEST WE FORGET

A tribute to the Llanbister fallen, 2025

It is amazing how time accelerates as one gets older. It seems like only yesterday the faithful were gathering last year, to give tribute to the Llanbister fallen at the annual Llanbister Remembrance Service held at the War Memorial opposite St Cynllo's Church. I make no excuse for reiterating the comments made in Issue 3 of the Tidbit Magazine "***This is a very brief act in our lives, that takes our eyes and thoughts off, from ourselves and our life requirements for a few minutes and focuses them on individuals we may have never known, but upon hero's, who were part of the Llanbister Community in time past and who paid the ultimate sacrifice of losing their lives, in two devastating conflicts***"

This year's ceremony was (in my opinion only) a "stripped to the bone affair". In as much, there were no hymns or the presence of a Church individual (due to unfortunate circumstances). However, the wonderful attendance of **Twenty Seven Plus Individuals**, who gave up their time to respect and honour the fallen, was **Magnificent!** The



Service started, with a remembrance prayer and committal of the fallen to **GOD**, followed by reading aloud 48 names of the individuals fallen. Following this, part of the Poem by **Laurence Binyon "For the Fallen"** was read and recordings of the military fanfares "**The Last Post**" were played, preceding the **2 Minutes Silence**, after which the call "**The Rouse**" (composer unknown) marked the end of the silence. Then followed a selection of wreaths and crosses placed around the memorial by various individuals, concluding with a reading of part of the **Kohmia Epitaph "When you go home tell them of us"** "composed by **John Maxwell Evans** and the Prayer of Remembrance "**Ever living God**"



After the Service, the gathering assembled in the Hall for tea and cakes. I was privileged to talk with and photograph **Mrs Vera Wozencraft**, who was displaying part of her phenomenal war research documentation, a true labour of dedication and perseverance!



The image of the banner attached to the Llanbister Church gates reflects the last two lines of the **Rudyard Kipling** poem entitled “**Recessional**” - God of Hosts, be with us yet, - **Lest we Forget, Lest we Forget!**

These words encompass the relevance and necessity of Remembrance Sunday. We must all, present & future generations never forget!



CANTAL YFC

A busy start to the YFC year for Cantal, kickstarting off on the 1st of September with an evening for our new members joining the club, where the night was filled with games, food and laughter. Last Christmas, Cantal were able to raise over £400 in the village and across the farms carol singing, which we donated to Blood Bikes. This was accepted by Steve, representing Blood Bikes, sharing with our members his role, and the importance of having Blood Bikes across the country. The annual county quiz was held in Penybont on the 19th of September, where Cantal had some success with their two teams of 3 (missing a member each), coming away with 4th and 10th place. A jam-packed September, the Police graced us with a visit for a club talk. We discussed the importance of sharing the load, drink driving and how to keep your farm possessions safe.

At the beginning of October, Field Day was held by Knighton YFC at Cwmwhitton Farm, with kind permission of the Pugh family. The Cantal team came away with a number of place cards, congratulations to everyone who competed! A few noticeable results from the day include Milly Lydiate winning the Under 28 floral, 2nd in the dancing, 2nd to Maisey Hughes and Ellen Nicholls for the Junior Give it a Go competition, 4th in the Skills Exhibit, 4th place to Lily Hughes and Scarlett Bowen in decorating a Yule Log, and 5th place in the cooking competition. Well done to all members, and a massive thanks goes to parents and helpers prior to and on the day. A huge congratulations to Laura Bevan for taking away Junior Stockman of the year on Stock-judging day – we never had any doubt!

The members had a chance to get their bowling shoes on with their trip to Newtown U-Strike in the middle of October, even indulging in a McDonalds following the trip. A big thank you goes to Radnor YFC for funding the trip and for their endless support. Cantal's members channelled their inner Van Gogh at the end of October with an evening full of pumpkin carving. It was a close call, but our president Tracy Lewis was forced to pick a winner.

Next up for Cantal is the Public Speaking weekend, where some of our members will be getting up in front of a crowd for the first time, and some who have done it for years! We wish everyone luck.

If you would like to join Cantal, get involved or to know more about our YFC calendar, please do not hesitate to contact:

*Chairman - Rhian Hughes – 07957653905
Vice Chairman - Jasmine Jones – 07798942665
Secretary - Adam Watson – 07979980145
Secretary - William Lewis – 07495811752
Or visit our Cantal page on Facebook and Instagram!*



🔧 Handyman Jon 🔧

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* Experienced ** - Skilled in a wide range of odd jobs.

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07484 289160

Jon.glyde@btinternet.com

Green Cottage, Llanbister

***House and
garden
maintenance
and repair***



Blood Bikes ride to Llanbister Catch Up Club



I was given the privilege of being asked to attend and photograph, on Wednesday 3rd September 25, a very special event hosted by the **Llanbister Catch Up Club** in the School Main Hall. This was a visitation by the **Powys Blood Bikes Wales Volunteer Team**. An amazing volunteer organisation, who organise the immediate emergency transfer of Blood to and from various destinations within Wales, to help save lives in critical circumstances. **They are, no doubt, Absolute Heroes!** In addition to as these wonderful people in attendance, **CUC** members welcomed also, **Mrs Sally Roberts** who is the current **High Sheriff of Powys** and in that role, was giving additional support to this special event.



Within the Powys sector of **Blood Bikes Wales**, the organisation has **84 volunteer riders** that roughly cover **500 miles** per month, which equates to **6000 miles P/A**. There are two machines allocated for Powys and the annual fuel Cost is around **£4200!** With the high mileage, tyres are replaced two to three times per year, at a cost of **£300** per set and the bikes themselves are replaced every **30 months** at a cost of **£9000** plus! **Helping to save lives is not cheap!**

In addition **to the volunteer riders** there is a team of highly dedicated individuals, who operate and control the telephones, organise the locations and destinations of the blood requirements. They do this, together with supporting and attending fund raising events, operating and maintaining the vital I.T. and communications website. There are also the mechanics, who maintain the essential capabilities and working order of the bikes and other such individuals who are unseen, but vital to the service. A recent National Numeracy Day calculation, of total hours donated by members in key service roles, **equated to 124 with 21 jobs completed**. All this time and effort is given freely by volunteer individuals, with the objective of saving lives in emergency situations. **Please, please consider this organisation in your charity giving!** **CUC** was attended by **4 individuals** from **BBW**. Essential Bike Riders **Mr Steven Lambert & Mr Phil Evens**, Controller and organizer **Mrs Lorraine Thomas** and Volunteer Supporter **Debs**, all came

along, but stars of the presentation, were the two immaculately maintained **Blood Bikes in Black and yellow!**

Lorraine gave the **CUC** members a talk, regarding the organisation and its operations with additional contributions from **Steven, Phill** and **Debs**. Towards



the end of the afternoon, some of the **Children & Teachers** from the **School** visited the hall, where again, **Lorraine** gave a brief talk to them about the organisation. It was evident however, that most of the eyes of the



children were glued to the bikes with individuals yearning to sit upon them!

As indicated earlier. In addition to the attendance of the Blood Bike organisation. A further important visitor was present at this particular **CUC** meeting. Namely, **The High Sheriff of Powys** who at present is **Mrs Sally Roberts** of Ceunant, Llanrheadr Ym Mochnant Powys. She took office in April of this year succeeding Kathryn Silk. This role of Office is appointed by the King for a period of one year. It is a volunteer role, with no remuneration of public expenses. The role of the Sheriff is varied and incorporates giving support to the Justice Systems, upholding the law and the judiciary, giving support to the Voluntary Sector by offering encouragement and assisting community foundations and charities through engaging and attending various support events. Hence her presence at the **CUC** meeting.

Mrs Roberts was given a warm welcome by the members and was quickly at home with the ladies, sitting, laughing, talking and sharing cups of tea and biscuits, while giving a merry presentation of her role of Sheriff and what that entails. She shared with the members regarding some of the dress code and shoes that are required to be worn at specific ceremonies and was



totally relaxed, both in her presentation skills and with her audience. Well done Mrs Roberts! Also in attendance, was the resident hairdresser to the **CUC**. Where members took the opportunity to have their hair styled and cut, without having to travel to Llandrindod or Newtown to achieve their positive looks! Not only did the **CUC** members take advantage of this opportunity to be trimmed, but one of the Bike Riders also sat under the scissors to be transformed with a new smart look. With all this shearing going on, I considered this was time to make a healthy exit as my role as guest photographer was well and truly completed!

In conclusion: - The presentation by the **Blood Bikes Wales Organisation** was highly informative and very well received. This is a special and dedicated volunteer organisation that plays a vital and essential role when speed and capability are required in the quest of saving lives in emergency situations. **They deservedly require and need your charitable support!** Equally, in reinforcing these essential requirements, was the presence of the current **High Sheriff of Powys, Mrs Sally Roberts** who shared her experiences and capabilities to the **CUC** members in a very relaxed and charming manner.

Finally, **Mrs Tracy Lewis**, a formidable powerhouse with organisational skills, deserves high praise, acknowledgement and thanks for her input to the **Llanbister Catch Up Club**.

Richard Ford



TIDBIT QUIZ

Winter Gardening Quiz



1. In 1634 a craze for growing which type of flower broke out in Holland?
2. In the new television series of the 'Flowerpotmen', what type of flower has 'Littleweed' become?
3. The lost gardens of where are a major tourist attraction in Cornwall?
4. 'Oh Adam was a gardener and God who made him sees, that half aproper gardener's work is done upon their knees' is taken from a poem by whom?
5. When harvesting your beetroot why should you twist off the leaves rather than cut them?
6. Why are dead flower heads removed from most plants?
7. What is the quickest, easiest and cheapest way to protect a cauliflower head when still developing on the plant?
8. What are leaves of ferns called?
9. The Loganberry is the product of a cross between which two fruit bushes?
10. What type of tree does the leaf on a flag of Canada belong to?

ANSWERS TO TIDBIT QUIZ - ON PAGE 28

Llanbister Catch Up Club

Our annual **Christmas Dinner** will be served on
Wednesday 17th December 2025 in

Llanbister Community Hall from 2pm till 4pm



FREE for everyone who attends
(booking essential!)



With Christmas songs sung
by children from our Primary School

This year we have a **FREE MINIBUS** service to
transport people to the event from the local villages and
homes close to Llanbister.

If you are interested and wish to book a seat, or know
someone else who is physically less able and wishes to
come along then please call or message either:



Tracy 07960 271696

or

David 07398 190585



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2026!
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of the month.

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Email: beautyLR24@gmail.com

As winter worries are upon us...

ADVICE AND SUPPORT PAGE

...here are some people you can call on (see also the Handy Contacts page)

STAY WARM *with...*

FREE home energy advice

Stay warm, healthy & safe at home

Are you struggling to manage your energy use and bills? If you need support, Severn Wye can help. We can arrange a confidential appointment to give advice tailored to you.

Our community-based energy advisers can help you with:

- Fuel debt support
- Carbon monoxide safety advice
- Help with the Priority Services Register
- Energy efficiency tips and bill advice
- We'll speak to your supplier on your behalf

0800 170 1600

- Help with the Priority Services Register
- Energy efficiency tips and bill advice
- We'll speak to your supplier on your behalf

0800 170 1600

communityadvice@severnwey.org.uk

severnwey.org.uk/communityadvice



Severn Wye Energy Agency provides people with energy free and energy. To book the support call for advice, contact the agency, we'll create a confidential space for you to talk about the way we can help you. We'll speak to your supplier on your behalf. We'll speak to your supplier on your behalf. We'll speak to your supplier on your behalf.

Also in person at:

The Hive, Temple Chambers,
South Crescent, Llandrindod LD1 5DH

Phone: Kate 07484 538622

(for information, Llandrindod Town Council
have recently relocated to The Hive)

Struggling with benefits, housing, bills, or essentials?

Oasis Centre

Not just a Food Bank but a safe and supportive space where you can get the advice you need — without judgment

Or just need a friendly chat over a cuppa?

At Oasis, we offer:

Friendly Staff
Confidential Support
Comfortable Setting

Come in, have a chat, and let us support you

Tuesdays 10.30am to 1pm

Wednesday 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Friday 10.30am to 1.30 pm.

Oasis, Spa Road, Llandrindod (behind The Hotel Commodore)



ANSWERS TO TIDBIT QUIZ - ON PAGE 18

1. Tulip
2. Sunflower
3. Helligan
4. Rudyard Kipling
(The Glory of the Garden)
5. It reduces bleeding and loss of colour from the harvested roots
6. To encourage more flowers and avoid using the plant's energy in making seeds
7. Snap a large leaf over the head to protect it from the sun
8. Fronds
9. Blackberry and Raspberry
10. Maple

WEALES WHEELS

A family run Minibus and Coach Hire



company based in Powys!



Coaches to hire include...

- ✓ 16 Seat Minibuses
- ✓ 28 Seat Midibuses
- ✓ 33 Seat Midibuses
- ✓ 49 Seat Coaches
- ✓ 52 Seat Coaches
- ✓ 59 Seat Coaches
- ✓ 70 Seat Coaches

We also now provide private hire cars and minibuses ranging from 4 to 8 seats.

mjweale@btinternet.com

Weales Wheels are also now in partnership with JJ Travels to help provide day trips and overnight stays!

These Trips include...

- ✓ Theatre trips
- ✓ City breaks & Coastal breaks
- ✓ Various shows such as Malvern Flower Show

And much more...



Weales Wheels – 07766 743760

JJ Travels – 07398 144808



Find us on:
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Handy contacts

Age Concern		01686 623707
Church in Wales	WestRadnor Area Administrator	
westradnor.maa@churcheinwales.org.uk (3 days per week – Tues, Weds & Thurs)		
Citizens Advice Bureau		0345 6018421
Dial-a-Ride Newtown		01686 622466
Doctor	Llandrindod Medical Practice	01597 824291
	Knighton Surgery	01547 528523
Shropdoc out of hours (via NHS 111)		111
Dyfed/Powys Police Non-emergency		101
Emergency Services		999
Libraries		
(note: Llandrindod Library has moved to the Museum)		
	Llandrindod Wells	01597 826870
	Newtown	01686 626934
Library of Things/Benthyg Llandrindod	c/o The Hive, Llandrindod Wells	01597 824616
<i>(borrow/donate /skill share scheme)</i> llandrindod.benthyg.cymru		
Llanbister Community Council Clerk	Jennifer Turner	07534 990237
Llanbister CC Chair – Tracy Lewis		07495 827360
Llanbister CC – Website	www.llanbister.org.uk	
	Facebook page Llanbister Community	
Llanbister Community Hall bookings –	Helen Hughes	01597 840450
Llanbister School		01597 840258
Llandrindod Wells Hospital		01597 822951
	Minor Injuries Unit	01597 828735
(new hours from Nov 2024: 8am–8pm, 7 days a week)		
Local Representative (Powys County Council)	Geoff Morgan	07495 503808
Mobile Post Office	Thursdays 11.45 – 12.30	Lion Hotel car park
Public Transport		
	Buses: (Timetables etc)	0871 200 2233 www.traveline.info
	Rail: 03333 211 202	tfw.wales/service-status/timetables
	& www.trainline.com/train-times (or via App)	

Trash Nothing – want free stuff...got stuff to give away?
<https://trashnothing.com/beta/>

Vet – Ddole Road		01597 822044
Vet – Hafren		01597 851500
TIDBIT Editing Team	llanbistertidbit2@gmail.com (note the '2!')	
	07398 190585 c/o 1 School Meadow LD1 6TN	

Tidbit Payment & donations to:
Llanbister Community Council – account 40 26 21 41048619





(Thanks to David Horne,
BBC Food & Jenni Turner)

RECIPES

Sausage Bake with Gnocchi

*Easy, flexible and warming dish. Dairy- & nut-free and apparently pregnancy-friendly! The gnocchi (usually made from potato flour) should turn out like mini-roast potatoes with fluffy insides.
Preparation: less than 30 mins Cook: 20 to 30 mins Serves 2*

Ingredients

- 1 red pepper, 1 yellow pepper and 1 orange pepper, deseeded and cut into chunks
- (substitute any vegetables if you are allergic to or do not like peppers, e.g. tinned mixed beans). Tomatoes are a good addition.
- 250g/9oz gnocchi
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 4 pork sausages (or vegetarian alternative)
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste



Method

1. Preheat oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
2. Toss together the peppers, gnocchi, olive oil and a generous amount of salt and pepper
3. on a large baking tray.
4. Place the sausages on the tray. Roast for 25 minutes, or until the sausages and gnocchi are golden-brown and the peppers are soft and have started to brown around the edges. Serve hot.

Mulled Warm Cider



This is a fragrant, comforting beverage to celebrate Christmas made by gently heating apple cider with a blend of whole spices and citrus fruits.



Ingredients

- Apple Cider: Use a good quality, cloudy, non-sparkling cider (or juice for a non-alcoholic version)
- Spices: Cinnamon sticks, Whole cloves, Star anise, Allspice berries, Fresh Ginger. Sliced oranges or lemons add brightness and a festive flavour.

Instructions

1. Combine Ingredients: Pour cider into a large saucepan and add the whole spices and sliced citrus fruits. For easy removal later, the spices could be placed in a tea ball or wrapped in cheesecloth.
2. Heat Gently: Bring the mixture to a low simmer over medium-high heat, then reduce the heat to low. Don't let this boil, as this can make the it cloudy, affect the texture, and cause alcohol to evaporate.
3. Let the cider gently simmer for at least 20-30 minutes for the flavours to infuse and mellow. Can keep warm on a low heat and fill your home with a wonderful aroma!
4. Serve: Strain the cider to remove the spices and fruit, then ladle into heatproof mugs or glasses. Garnish with a fresh orange slice or cinnamon stick.
You can also make this in a slow cooker and keep it warm for guests. Simply add all ingredients, cook on "low" setting for 2-4 hours, then switch to "keep warm".





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SJP APPROVED 08/03/2024