



Talybont Matters

Find this newsletter in full colour on <http://www.talybont.org/newsletter.html>



Issue 48

Spring 2015

Please send in articles!

- The newsletter will be published quarterly, at the end of January, April, July and October. All articles to be submitted by 20th of these months to appear in the next issue.
- Be a journalist, send in articles, news, and what's on in Talybont.
- Wherever possible your articles will be published in the next issue. However the editor reserves the right to edit articles or hold them back for subsequent issues should there be insufficient space in the current issue.

New Editor lined up!

Following my announcement in the last issue that I will be stepping down as Editor after the 50th issue this July, I am now pleased to announce that a new editor has stepped forward to take over from me: David Meacham.

I will leave him to introduce himself.....

Claire Gray, Editor

Hello, my name's David and I'm taking up the reins of your fabulous, community magazine after Claire has put the fiftieth edition to bed at the end of July.

Hopefully by then it will be warmer and I'll be able to pedal around the district on my bike and introduce myself in person but, in the meantime, here's a few pointers to who I am.

My first love was and is photography but that didn't keep my wife, Alison, in the manner to which she'd

like to be accustomed so I trained, many years ago now, as a journalist at Coleg Gwent.

I've worked for various publications over the years, including among others the Gwent Gazette and the Brecon and Radnor Express rising to Editor of the latter - a seat I vacated in 2007.

More recently I edited the Mybrecon news website but sadly lack of funding saw that close last January. Since then I've returned to photography, weddings mostly, and I also work a few days a week as an ambulance driver with British Red Cross.

I am married with four children, three grandchildren at the last count and a mad rescue dog called Milli. I'm looking forward to looking after Talybont Matters and can't wait to get started on the autumn edition.

David Meacham

Brecon Regional Action Group (BRAG)

Talybont on Usk Community Council is leading a new initiative to improve security and safety for residents and visitors to our area. In partnership with Dyfed Powys Police, the National Park and Natural Resources Wales it is planned to keep a mobile watch over our area at weekends from March to September. Vehicles will be provided and all costs met by Dyfed Powys Police.

Our partners are committed to providing volunteers for this initiative, but this community will also need to find a volunteer group. If you would like to help and be available on the occasional weekend day, please leave your details with our Clerk, Katy Tutt via email on katyutt1976@googlemail.com, or speak to any Community Councillor for further information.

Workshop to improve local bus services

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has agreed to support a feasibility study to investigate the reintroduction of a bus service on summer Sundays linking Hay, Brecon, Talybont-on-Usk, Bwlch, Crickhowell, Talgarth, Llangorse and Abergavenny railway station.

Local support amongst businesses and communities is crucial and in order to gauge the level of interest for the proposed service, we are holding a workshop at **Talgarth Town Hall on 4th February 2-4 pm** and would like to invite you to come along and decide what you would like to happen.

The study will consider route options and timetables and will also identify the likely costs of such an operation and possible sources of funding. While reductions in local authority funding mean that cuts to bus services are more likely at the moment rather than the creation of new ones, there is the recent example of the Hay Ho! bus service between Hay on Wye and Hereford, whereby local communities and businesses have taken over responsibility for supporting Sunday bus services: See <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hay-Ho-Bus/520031264799155>

The workshop will take the following format:

- Presentation regarding Hay Ho! bus
- Presentation of feasibility study
- Discussion regarding route options and costs
- Conclusions/Registering commitment
- Setting up of a Steering Group

Timescales

If the service is to start this summer, timing is very tight. We will send you a copy of the feasibility study prior to the workshop, so you can come along fully informed and ready to make decisions.

We really hope you can make it and look forward to seeing you.

Annie Lawrie - Visitor Transport Officer: 01874 620480
Brecon Beacons National Park Authority



Advertise goods, services & activities
Free!

Many thanks to the volunteers who distribute this newsletter

Editor's Note
In compliance with the provisions of the Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2013, this issue of Talybont Matters will be sent to the National Library of Wales for archiving as part of the Library's national collection.

TALYBONT ON USK ENERGY YNNI TALYBONT AR WYSC
Talybont-on-Usk Energy is delighted to fund Talybont Matters



HENDERSON HALL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

TALYBONT FLICKS

Wed 4 Feb - 7.30pm
Dallas Buyers Club
£4 - bring your own tipples & nibbles.
(Look out for other films to follow: *Pride, Inside Llewyn Davis, Chef, The Golden Dream, Llo Llo and Lucy*)

TWMPATH/CEILIDH

Sat 14 March
7pm
(see adjacent article for ticket prices)

REGULAR EVENTS

Short Family Service 1st Sunday each month 11am for approx 25 mins.

Playgroup

Mondays
10 - 12 am
Kirsty Carr

Tea and Chat

1st Monday in the month 3-4.30pm.
Cherry Jones 676232

Zumba Dance Class

every Tuesday 8-9pm
Heather Vaughan
Talybont Stores

Talybont Flicks

1st Wed each month
7.30pm
Clare Wright 676679

WI

2nd Wed each month
7pm - 10pm
Penny Morgan
01874 665283

Gardening Club

3rd Wed each month
7.30pm Sept to June.
Chair: Gareth Davies
01874 676200

Junior Tennis Club

Weds 5.30pm - 7.00pm
Margaret Cox
01874 676697
Sarah Osborne
01874 676633

Cricket Club

Contact Geraint James
01874 676272

Henderson Hall Contacts

Clare Wright (Temporary Chair) 676679 (Vice Chair - Vacant) Donna Darbyshire (Treasurer) 676304
Shirley Hemmings (Caretaker) 676456 Sue Thorne (Bookings Secretary) 676293

Book now for the Twmpath/Ceilidh!

Back by popular demand we will be holding another Twmpath/Ceilidh on **Saturday 14th March with Bandemonium.**

This is a great family event but numbers will be limited due to space so make sure you get your tickets as soon as possible.

Tickets will be available from the Village Hall Committee or at the Talybont Stores from the beginning of February.

- £10 for an adult,
- £5 for a child (16 and under)
- £25 for a Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children).

The evening will start at 7pm and tickets A light snack will be provided and a bar is available on the night. Here's to another good knees up!

Clare Wright

Talybont Tennis Talybont Flicks

Tennis coaching re-started on Wednesday 14th January.

Please note that times have changed slightly. Due to popularity of the coaching sessions we have had to split them into two.

They are now:

Beginners 5.30 - 6.15
Intermediates 6.15 - 7pm

Charge is still **£2 per session.**

Margaret Cox

Henderson Hall Friends have a great range of films coming up. On Wed Feb 4th is Dallas Buyers Club starring Matthew McConaughey, who won an Oscar for Best Actor for his portrayal of a Texas cowboy diagnosed as HIV positive. It's a gripping, funny and moving film. Bring along your own choice of tipples and nibbles and enjoy the film for just £4 per person. 7.30pm start.

Talybont Community Council

A quick reminder that the agendas and minutes of the Community Council, as well as other useful local information, appear on its website: www.talybont.org.

The agenda is released a week before each meeting, with the minutes appearing a month in arrears as they are approved by the Council the following meeting.

Meetings are held at 7.15pm in the Henderson Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to come and listen. If you have an issue you wish to raise, please contact a Community Councillor before the agenda is released. Meeting dates for 2015 are also on the website.

Katy Tutt, Clerk, Community Council,
[katytutt1976@googlemail.com](mailto:katy.tutt1976@googlemail.com)

Yesterday Today - a record of our community

Brenda Powell, Sarah Osborne and John Jones need your help to produce an illustrated historical record of our community.

The aim is to create a book of pictures with related text telling the story of the villages and countryside within the area of Talybont-on-Usk community.

Photographs, postcards, posters of events, certificates, paintings and newspaper articles plus stories relating to our community area throughout the years are the essential ingredients. To ensure that precious items are not lost or damaged you are invited to the **Henderson Hall on March 14th**

Forthcoming meeting dates:

16 February
16 March
20 April
18 May (AGM + ordinary meeting)
15 June
27 July
14 September
19 October
23 November

between 10.00am and 4.00pm to have your photographs and other paper records scanned and immediately returned. This project can only succeed with your support so look through those boxes, albums and drawers and take part.

Contact Brenda 676639, Sarah 676633 or John 676232

John Jones

Proposals for a Talybont Welcome Scheme

Talybont-on-Usk offers a hearty and warm welcome to all, but especially to people coming to live in our local community. The plan is that soon newcomers will be given a hamper of local food, invited to enjoy a drink in one of the many pubs and have a range of vouchers or introductions to the clubs, societies and events that take place in Talybont-on-Usk.

In February, 2 representatives of the Women's Institute will find out how this scheme runs successfully in Belgium, where the Farmers' Union has initiated a 'Welcome' scheme in 3 of their rural villages. This has been made possible through partner links within the transnational EU-funded Rural Alliances project, of which Brecon Beacons National Park

Authority is Lead Partner. The project aims to share best practice across different parts of rural North West Europe and the BBNPA have agreed to support the setting up of the Talybont Welcome Scheme.

Sue Thorne



Easy fundraising

May we remind you about the fuss free way of raising some really needed funds for our community hall which costs you nothing when shopping online. Shop online with over 2700 retailers and they give a donation every time you buy something at no additional cost to you. All you need to do is take a few minutes to sign up then there is nothing else to do except do your normal shopping. Visit

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/hendersonhall

We strongly recommend you download the 'Donation Reminder' which is completely safe and just means a small reminder comes up on the retailers website when you visit it and you never miss the chance for a donation. Easy!!

We would be really, really grateful if you could take a few moments to sign up.

Thank you very much in advance.

Clare Wright

TALYBONT VILLAGE LITTER PICK GROUP

Next Litter
Pick
**SAT 14th
FEBRUARY
2015**



Please meet at Talybont Shop at 10 am.
All equipment will be supplied - all we need
is **YOU** for a couple of hours!

For further information please contact:
Sandra Briskham 676297

Email Sandra.briskham@btinternet.com

"The Tombles of Talybont"

Our last Litter Pick for 2014 was on Saturday 15th November when 13 enthusiasts turned out on a dry but showery morning. As usual we split up into designated areas to cover the village and worked in pairs.

There were 9 bags three-quarters full which were placed by the toilets for collection but there were additional bags which were disposed of at various homes. We even had young Betsy with us this time and her sister in a pram - along with young Mum of course!!! Betsy did a really thorough job in the play area and I hope from now on she will be a "regular"!!

I spent all of my time cleaning around the Recycling Bins in the Hall Car park - a plea to residents - **will you please ensure that all the recycling goes right into the bins and not dropped on the ground nearby,**

What the WI got up to last year...

Our 2014 programme reflects the wide range of interests of the members, who took turns in arranging the monthly meetings.

Sue Large kicked off by telling us about her year as High Sherriff of Powys. In February, Sue Thorne organised a workshop for members to try their hands at making glass jewellery and we all ended up with pretty pendant necklaces. In March Seamus Hamill Keays added to our existing knowledge that Talybont had a Roman Road by relating recent discoveries of a Roman marching camp between Talybont and Brecon and a Roman villa at Llanfrynach.

In April Dave Coombes gave a presentation on the work of Brecon Mountain Rescue, and in May Hilary Williams came to talk to us about her time in Molo, Kenya, bringing along examples of local handicrafts. Our summer outing was in June: 16 members visited the garden of Cilgwyn Lodge, Llangadog, where the owners have raised over £25,000 for charity over the last few years. A perfect summer afternoon was spent admiring the displays of beautiful and often rare and unusual plant, followed by supper at the Castle Hotel in Llandovery.

Our July meeting was rearranged at very short notice Rhiannon Davies, a community volunteer, talked about "Dementia Friendly Communities" (see Page 6) and members took part in a workshop to become "Dementia Friends". August is normally a quiet month but not this year! Our members took part in a commemorative canal walk, as part of the W.I.'s Centenary Celebrations, wearing fashions from the First World War to the present day. We also participated in a commemorative service at Brecon Cathedral and for this we got out our best frocks and even hats!

this is particularly important around the bottle bank where there was an awful lot of broken glass and is a dangerous hazard for the children playing nearby.

Thanks to all my volunteers for their invaluable help in trying to keep our delightful village clean and tidy; if there are any groups or individuals who would like to borrow the equipment please let me know - you can then choose your own date to go "out and about". I have in fact applied for funding via the Community Council to purchase some additional items including the hoops that hold the brown bags open so there will be no need to share!! Have also applied for childrens' size litter pickers and childrens' gloves.

Sandra Briskham, Organiser

In September Cath Rees gave a flower demonstration, following which members were able to make their own very professional buttonholes. October brought another outing and meal, this time in Brecon. Michael Hodges gave us a wonderful tour and talk at The Plough Chapel, followed by a meal at Roberto's.

Our AGM in November was accompanied by Cheese and Wine; and the season was completed in December, feasting over Christmas Dinner at the Travellers - a very delicious meal followed by a Quiz and Secret Santa. Our Bridge Bunch meets on Wednesday afternoons. After two years we have all learned a lot, and while often collapsing with the giggles and being not quite up to competition standard, we can certainly play and have fun. New recruits are always welcome!

2015 brings another very varied and interesting programme, please check Talybont Matters for details of upcoming events. If there is something that interests you, please come along as a guest.

Anne Jeans

Talybont WI

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month
7-10pm at Henderson Hall
Newcomers Welcome!
Secretary Penny Morgan: 665283

Programme:

Feb 11 Mr Colin Preece & Cllr. David

Meredith: 'A Tour of Nepal'

Competition: 'A Mountain Photograph' (anywhere)

Mar 11 Liz Quarrell

'Flanders and Swann'

Competition: A comic ditty

Apr 8 Pecha Kucha evening

'Bring along 20 holiday photographs on a memory stick to show on the big screen.'

Competition: A holiday souvenir





The ENERGISER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
TALYBONT on USK ENERGY GROUP
JANUARY - APRIL 2015

info@talybontenergy.co.uk

www.talybontenergy.co.uk

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Free Shopping Trip!!

Why not take advantage of a free trip to Brecon to do your shopping?

Talybont Energy is offering to take people into Brecon in the new(ish) electric van - whose name is Heulwen meaning sunshine in Welsh.

There is space enough for 4 people including all their shopping and the trip will be organized at a time to suit. Obviously all those taking up the offer will have to agree the time.

All you have to do is contact **Hilary Williams on 01874 676568** and book your place. Plus you get a chance to experience travelling in a van powered by the sun!!

If this is successful it may become a regular Event in the future.
Please ring before the end of February as this will happen in March at the latest.



Get in touch if you have Solar PV or hydro....

Talybont Energy would like to calculate how much renewable electricity our community generates compared to how much it consumes.

We know our Talybont turbine generates around 220 mWh (220,000 kWh) electricity a year and Henderson Hall's 8 kW PV panels are now generating around 7,500 kWh a year. Typical UK households consume around 5,000 kWh electricity a year so that would mean a total maybe of 1,500 mWh annual consumption for our Talybont community as a whole. So, what we are currently generating is still less than 20% of our consumption as a community. Our challenge is both to use less and to generate more renewably.

If you live in the Talybont area and have your own Solar PV or hydro, we'd be interested to know how many kWh you generate in a year and how many years you have had your installation. We can then add your totals to the community totals on the Talybont Energy website.

One day we might be able to generate all the renewable electricity which our community uses - wouldn't that be great?!



Car Share Project Update

The Talybont Energy Car Share Project has two vehicles for community members to use - Mr Chips (a Skoda Octavia running on recycled vegetable oil) and Heulwen (Renault Electric Van/5 seater with a 70-80 mile range).

In 2014, we had 12 member households and the two vehicles travelled a total of 15,114 miles resulting in a saving of 5.5 tonnes CO₂. This means the project has now saved 30 tonnes CO₂ in its (nearly) 5 years of operation. Regular users find Heulwen-the-van incredibly useful for transporting the occasional large load (for work or domestic reasons).

We welcome new members of the scheme for 2015. The vehicles live at Henderson hall and are bookable online. Costs include an annual membership fee per household of £25 and user charges as follows:-

Mr Chips - £18/day, 18p/mile

Heulwen - £2.50/hour, 5p/mile.

These rates are subsidized by Talybont Energy to encourage car sharing and low carbon journeys.

Please get in touch if you are interested in joining.



Eco Award Launched

Flushed with success after a highly regarded Chef Activity Badge series in partnership with Sodexo, our local Cubs and Scouts Group has just embarked on its latest activity and skills programme in collaboration with Talybont on Usk Energy.

Cubs from Talybont, Llangynidr and the surrounding area will spend much of the first quarter of 2015 completing their Level 1 Eco Award which launched just before Christmas with a visit to Talybont Energy's community hydro-electric turbine adjacent to the Waterworks at Talybont Reservoir. The High Sheriff of Powys, Phil Bowen Esq, got the 2015 programme underway on 6th February 2015 with a hubbub of eco-themed games and interactive sessions including 'Unsustainable Frisbee'!

Modern scouting is about much more than just hiking and camping. The local Cub and Scouts group, 1st Llangynidr, has launched this range of activities to develop the energy awareness of our young people. The highly interactive programme will encourage Cubs and Scouts, to learn about renewables and non-renewables, gain eco-craft skills as well as become green energy detectives – forensically examining lots of the eco-friendly stuff going on in Talybont and its surrounding communities.

The entry-level part of the Eco Award series will conclude on Friday 27th March 2015 with a Badge Presentation and Film Night at Henderson Hall to which all Scout Group friends and family are very welcome and encouraged to attend.



1st Llangynidr Scouts in partnership with Talybont on Usk Energy



making Brecon a dementia friendly community

Nearly all of us have some experience of dementia in our families and circle of friends, yet the stigma of dementia remains. We are a community-led, voluntary, not-for-profit group, established in 2014.

Our mission is to create a social movement that mobilizes all sections of the community. We want to challenge the myths and stigma around dementia, increase awareness and understanding, support and promote social inclusion, and most importantly give a voice to people living with dementia so their needs can be fully recognized and the appropriate support offered.

The back-bone of our work is delivering **Dementia Friends** sessions. This is an Alzheimer's Society national initiative.

Dementia Friends information sessions are run by local, trained volunteer Dementia Friend Champions. **Each session lasts about one hour and can be done individually for your Church, group, members, shop or business.** They are interactive, they're fun - and suitable for all ages!

Call for Entries

Crickhowell Open Art Competition 2015
Oriel CRiC Gallery 22 May-14 July
FREE ENTRY

Submission closing date 20 March 2015
Application Form and Terms and Conditions on www.visitcrickhowell.co.uk

For further information contact the Open Art administrator
openart@visitcrickhowell.co.uk

About 2,500 people in Powys are living with dementia and this number will only increase in the coming years. Over two-thirds of these people are living in the community. One-third live alone. Most say they want to keep going out and using local shops, services, transport and our wealth of leisure, cultural and spiritual resources. But people living with dementia lose confidence in themselves, and worry about how they will manage these day-to-day things that you and I take for granted.

Dementia is everyone's business, so why not join us and become Dementia Friends in your work-place or group? Learn a little bit more about what it's like to live with dementia and then turn that understanding in to action, enabling people with dementia and their carers – your customers and group members - to remain part of their community not apart from it.

In August 2014, Brecon received official 'Working to become Dementia Friendly' recognition from Alzheimer's Society. Brecon is the first community in Wales to achieve this status.

We would love to hear from any individuals, community groups, organizations, shops and

A new funding programme was launched in January with grants between £300,000 and £1 million to help community groups to develop assets and improve where they live. See www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/CAT2
Tel: 029 2067 8200, or email cat@biglotteryfund.org.uk



businesses that would like to get involved in whatever capacity to work with us in making Brecon dementia-friendly.

www.dementiafriendlybrecon.org.uk

Email; info@dementiafriendlybrecon.org.uk

Or Tel: 01874 676617/ 07940 961006

to speak to Rhiannon Davies, Chair of Group.

Rhiannon Davies

Why not become a **Dementia Friend**? Increase your understanding of dementia, and learn about the small things you can do that would make a big difference to those living with dementia within our community.

Dementia Friends sessions:

Sat 14 Feb 11-12pm, Brecon Library

Sat 28 Feb 11-12pm, Brecon Leisure Centre

Wed 11 Mar 6-7pm, The Hours, Ship Street

Wed 18 Mar 6-7pm, Brecon Leisure Centre

Wed 8 Apr 6-7pm, Brecon Leisure Centre

Sat 18 Apr 11-12pm, Brecon Leisure Centre

- ♣ Do you live with Dementia?
- ♣ Are you, your friend or a relative affected by Dementia?
- ♣ Would you like to meet other people in a similar position, have a chat and try out some new activities designed especially for people with dementia and their carers?
- ♣ Would you like to have access to useful information about dementia and dementia services in the area?

If you answered YES to one or more of the above then come and join us at:

Ty Croeso, St David's House, 48 Free Street, Brecon LD3 7BP

The Group will run every Tuesday from 10.30am to 12 noon from

Tues 17 Feb to Tues 31 March 2015.

For more information please contact

Jean Nowell, Dementia Support

Worker, Alzheimer's Society on

Tel: 01874 712083

Email: jean.nowell@alzheimers.org.uk

being asked should contact 0845 602 7035 or email waste.awareness@powys.gov.uk to request an application form for additional capacity.

Residents whose waste is still classed as infectious will be supplied with orange sacks to use rather than the yellow sacks. From 2 February, the yellow sacks should not be used or placed in with their normal rubbish, only the orange sacks will be collected by Powys teaching Health Board.

Residents who feel that their waste is infectious and do not receive a continued infectious waste collection are being advised to contact their GP to be assessed for the appropriate collection.

Melanie Amor

Communications Services, Powys County Council

Changes to clinical waste collection

There will be changes to the way in which clinical waste is collected from households from 2 February 2015.

The council has been operating a clinical waste service across the county collecting material from residents' homes separately from normal household rubbish.

Following a review of the clinical waste collection service by Powys County Council and Powys teaching Health Board, in future only clinical waste classed as infectious will be collected separately to normal household waste. This change will result in significant savings for the council, as all such collections will be the responsibility of Powys teaching Health Board.

Only clinical waste classed as infectious will now be collected

separately, this includes infectious dressings, needles and syringes, and dialysis wastes. Non-infectious hygiene wastes, such as incontinence pads, catheters, colostomy bags, will be collected with normal rubbish using a wheeled bin or purple sacks for properties without wheeled bins. This material can be safely and legally landfilled with normal domestic rubbish.

Residents whose waste is classed as non-infectious hygiene waste will receive letters informing them that their clinical waste collection service will end on 31 January and should place all such waste in with their normal rubbish for collection fortnightly.

If residents feel that their existing wheeled bin or allocation of purple sacks is not be enough as a result of this change, they are

Domiciliary Care

The domiciliary care service is essential for many of our elderly and vulnerable residents. Carers provide an invaluable service all year round, including of course Christmas and the New Year, ensuring that people can remain in their own home as long as possible.

However, since the changes to Domiciliary Care Service in Powys in the spring, Kirsty Williams and I continue to receive complaints from constituents about the provision of domiciliary care in Powys. This profession is a calling and the vast majority of carers do a fantastic job and are highly valued by those they look after, but unfortunately continual change of service providers is a huge worry to those who rely on the domiciliary care service.

Tor-y-Foel 2015



Saturday January 10th saw the fourth running of the Tor-y-Foel race, one of eight races in the Welsh Fell Runners Association winter hill series. The race involves a climb of 1150 ft over a distance of 4.6 miles (350m/7.4 km). Out on the course the day before the race the weather could be best described as bestial. On the lower slopes of Tor-y-Foel the wind speeds must have been approaching 50 mph, on the top with the rain as well, an inhospitable place to be. So you think: if today is tomorrow, then a shortened version of the race or maybe cancellation is what will happen. Come the day, the rain had gone and the wind, though strong, had abated.

The decision on, summit or not was left until

We have met with Powys County Council on several occasions to raise numerous cases where care has not been provided when expected and sometimes not at all and we continue to receive complaints. These cases have also been passed to the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW).

Both Kirsty and I expressed strong concern at the time the changes were happening and it is very sad that those fears have been realised. The service people are currently receiving is simply not good enough. The commissioning exercise that took place in August 2013 met with a very low number of responses with some areas of the constituency receiving no bids from service providers. This in itself should have sounded alarm

the intrepid Kay and Martin Lucas got there and were able to decide whether an hour or so on the top as a marshal was possible. Yes was their answer and a million thanks to them for their audacity.

So to the race and the highlight, a tremendous performance by Katie Beecher, first lady and with a new record of 37m 38s a significant improvement on the previous record of 39m 38s set by Emma Hitchins. The men's race was a little more competitive, Ben Moon a previous winner of the race was at the sharp end until the open section of the race started, when the order was shuffled, a fight for the front between the first three finishers. All of whom were over forty with the winner Mark Palmer a super vet with a time of 34m 10s just 2 seconds outside the best men's time of 34.08. set last year. Thus over fifty and within a mere 2 second off the record is this man a late developer or would he perhaps have been closer to 30 minutes ten years ago, answers on a postcard please.

Huge thanks also to the people who made this event work, they deserve to be men-

tioned, thus, Mike Bugler, Geraint James, Peter Sowerby, Huw Morgan, Stuart Iles, Kay and Martin Lucas, Andrew Jenkins, Seamus Hamill-Keays and Richard Preece as marshals. Hilary Williams, John and Margo Sweeting, John Chidlow and Colin Huntley for number crunching, Toni and Jo at Dan-y-Wenallt for working miracles in a small space and Peter Williams for his major contribution in transforming the parking situation at the race. Thanks also to Christine James for some wonderful photographs of the runners descending off Tor-y-Foel and to Owen and Sue at the White Hart and Aber Farm for their generous sponsorship.

This issue does not only affect customers, but those providing the actual care also. A number of concerns have been raised directly by care workers about capability of service providers and the shortfalls in staffing levels.

We would urge anyone who has any issues with Domiciliary Care to contact either Kirsty or myself on 01874 625739 so that these cases can be highlighted to the Council and the CSSIW as a matter of urgency.

Roger Williams MP

Last year were had 99 runners taken part this year I thought 115 runners started the race but in fact 116 finished. Better that way round rather than 115 starting and less than that finishing, an organiser's nightmare. If you are interested in running, helping or supporting the race next year then you can contact me via:

lrweryri@hotmail.com

01874 676568; 07754 840966

A full set of results and photographs can be found on www.wfra.org.uk or alternatively via my email address. *Les Williams*

Siop Siarad a'r iaith y nefoedd

Siop Siarad will be two years old shortly and will be looking to celebrate that fact on Friday 27th February; more in a moment.

Siop Siarad is a group which meets every Friday morning @ 10.30 in the White Hart in Talybont. It is an informal gathering of people who are interested in using the Welsh language in the local community and open to everyone who shares that objective. We have been blessed recently with two new members, Margaret and David Williams who are first language Welsh speakers. They are originally from the Onllwyn and Seven

Sisters area and more latterly Glyn-neath and, not surprisingly perhaps, bring with them a Boycian sense of humour. There is thus a cross section of abilities in the group, first language members, people who have grown up with the language around them and those people who are beginners, wanting for themselves and their children to learn the language.

On Friday 27th February we will be visiting two historic and significant memorials in South Wales. The Guardian of the Valleys sculpture commissioned to commemorate in

2010 the 50th anniversary of the 1960 mining disaster in Six Bells just south of Aber-tyleri. A magnificent piece of work in every sense. The second part of the day will be to Senghenydd and the mining memorial and garden which remembers not only the disaster of 1913 but documents each of the other tragic events in collieries in Wales. If you are interested then come along to Siop Siarad and book a place but come to Siop Siarad anyway and be part of the 'project'!

Hwyl am y tro, *Les Williams*
(Contact details in article above)



Newsletter for Talybont-on-Usk,
Aber, Buckland, Llansantffraed,
Pencelli and Scethrog

Produced by: **Acer Trading Ltd.**
Editor: Claire Gray

Please send articles & contact
details to:
Pentre Melyn Cottage
Buckland
Bwlch
LD3 7JJ
Email: claire@acerltd.com



Talybont-on-Usk website:
<http://talybontonusk.com>

Talybont Community Council website:
<http://www.talybont.org>

Talybont-on-Usk Energy website:
<http://www.talybontenergy.co.uk>

**The next dates for
Talybont Woodland Group's
meetings are:
8 Feb 8 March 12 April**

Talks and Walks

Just to let you know I am still available for talks and walks.
This year I have set out what I do in a book format which can be accessed by clicking on
http://issuu.com/ecologycymru/docs/talks_and_walks_available_during_20/0
Please take the time to browse what I have on offer and email me for anything that interests you.
If you could forward this onto people or groups you feel may also be interested then that would
be very much appreciated.
Also there may be the chance that I can step in at short notice if a guest speaker has to pull out.
I look forward to hearing from you.

Neville Davies

News from the Beacons Benefice

The Christmas services were full of joy and wonder. The choir sang beautifully in Llanfeugan and are looking forward to Easter, while Peter the donkey carried Mary safely to the Farm barn to be greeted by hundreds of people. He has been invited back – see below. And for the first time in years it didn't rain!

Normal Service is continuing thanks to our ministry team and supporters. January and February are quieter months, thankfully!

On March 15th there will be a special Mothering Sunday family service in the Henderson Hall at 11.00am.

Plans are afoot for Easter: on **Palm Sunday, March 29th** there might be another donkey on the streets in the morning, making for the Henderson Hall to re-enact Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. Easter Sunday is on April 5th this year. Watch out for details around the village and on the Community Council website.

And then...

We have news that our new priest and Team Leader will be Rev. Kelvin Richards, coming all the way from Llangynidr and Llangattock. He will move into Talybont Rectory with his wife Rachel some time in May, to be leader of the wider Ministry Area which

TALYBONT-ON-USK & DISTRICT GARDENING ASSOCIATION

We are a very informal group with regular speakers & garden trips out during summer months. Indoor meetings are held in the Henderson Hall, always ending up with tea, coffee and biscuits!!

7.30 pm at the Hall

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME - JUST COME ALONG!
Annual membership is only £5 per annum.

Wednesday 18 February: "Any Questions" Panel with visiting local Clubs

Wednesday 18 March: "Pat Wilkie slides and talk: "Some Dorset Gardens"

SPRINGTIME COMPETITION: Vase of 5 Blooms of Miniature

Daffodils/Narcissi/Tulips in flower

OR Pot of Primroses or Polyanthus in flower

Thursday 16 April: Three Way Quiz with Bwlch and Llangynidr, we will be visiting Llangynidr who are the hosts this year.

For any further information please contact either the
Chairman: Mr Gareth Davies 01874 676200 or the
Secretary: Mrs Sandra Briskham 01874 676297

Woodland Group

It might be hard to credit it, given the weather just now, but spring is definitely on its way. Seeing sparks of green starting to push up through the mud and snow is like seeing old friends returning!

If you fancy a bracing morning in the woods, meet in the usual place; if you've never been and don't know where this is, contact me on 07581 226524.

Adele Nozedar



The 200 Club Draw

Winners of the Draw on
3rd December 2014 were:

£50 Donna Darbyshire
£35 Mary Fundell
£25 Audrey Holliman
£15 Di Eckley
£10 Cherry Jones

Thank you to all members for your continuous support, and also to all the new members who joined for the first time this year.

New members are very welcome
Contact Margaret Cox on 676697

also includes the churches round Llangorse Lake.

More details

You will find details of all our church services on notices in the village, in the churches and on the Community Council website www.talybont.org

Interregnum arrangements

Until our new Priest-in-charge arrives, please contact the Churchwardens for local enquiries. Overall responsibility falls to the Archdeacon, Ven. Alan Jevons, 01874 658298
archdeacon.brecon@churchinwales.org.uk

Liz Bramley