



Talybont Matters

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

Issue 52

Winter 2016

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.

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.

2016 VILLAGE SHOW

Ready

Steady

GO!



Great news! The 2016 Talybont village and community show is secure and thriving. Following an appeal for help, a number of residents, both show regulars and new faces, from our community area have come forward to offer their services. This is a great boost to this traditional and popular event which will take place on Saturday 27th August (the August bank holiday weekend).

Full details of various events, displays and the garden, crafts, baking, photography, and children's' section will be published in the next edition of this newsletter as well as on our new show website at www.talybontshow.org.

Volunteers include: Craig Burdon, Gareth Davies, Lettie & Robert Francis, Mary & Tony Fundell, Dawn & Robert Goodwin, Kevin Hollings, Iuan & Maureen Probert, Richard & Gill Abram, Nicola Scott, Peter Seaman, Julia Ziegler, Alan Jones, Seamus & Anne Hamill-Keays, Alan & Rhian Irwin, Stuart Isles, Gary & Heather Vaughan, Alan Jones, Lorraine Lewis, Claire Gray, Pam Langton, Sue Large, Brenda Powell, Mike Bugler, Margaret Cox, Sandra Briskham, Bridget Elwin, Julian Dinsdale, Les Williams, Margaret Robinson, Pat Wilkie, Sarah Osbourne, Anne Dixon and Jenny Merrill. A lot of their family members are also getting involved and I apologise if I have missed anyone out!

We still need volunteers for Gate Stewards and to help on stalls please. If you feel that you can spare some time and want to get involved in this key local event, then please contact Bridget Elwin on 01874 676338.

So now is the time to buy a packet of annual flower seeds, or some gladioli bulbs, or take a dramatic winter photograph, or look up your recipes ready to submit an entry to the show.

Article and photographs by Peter Seaman.



Congratulations to these 200 Club winners

- Mr Bob Teagle
- Ms Barbara Anglezarke
- Mrs Martina Morgan
- Brychan John Williams,
- Miss Brenda Powell

Numbers were drawn at the Christmas Bingo



Talybont-on-Usk Energy is delighted to fund Talybont Matters



HENDERSON HALL

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Talybont Flicks:
Starting back the first Wednesday of the month from February 3rd. There are some great films coming up so keep your eyes peeled for your email or the A-frame outside Talybont Stores.

REGULAR EVENTS

Short Family Church Service

2nd Sunday each month 11am for approx 30 mins.

Playgroup

Mondays 10 - 12 am
Lydia Cox

Tea and Chat

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

Zumba Dance Class

every Tuesday 7:45pm
Heather Vaughan
Talybont Stores

Hatha Yoga

Every Thursday 7:00pm
Cathy Genevie
01873 812637

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 Fri each month
7.30pm Sept to June.
Chair: Peter Seaman
01874 676225

Junior Tennis Club

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

Cricket Club

Geraint
James
676272

Henderson Hall Contacts

Clare Wright (Chair) 676679
(Secretary / admin - Vacant)

Kirsten and Russell Jones (Treasurer)
676509

Shirley Hemmings (Caretaker) 676456

Sue Thorne
(Bookings
Secretary)
676293



TO LET BY TENDER

The Old School Playing Field
Talybont-on-Usk

Approx. 1½ acres of canal side grassland for grazing by sheep, cattle or ponies or agricultural purposes only.

Available for 5 year fixed period.
Tenders in writing (envelope to be clearly marked

'Tender for The Old School Playing Field') by 29th February 2016

To: The Priest-in-Charge, The Rectory,
Talybont-on-Usk, Brecon, Powys. LD3
7UX

HENDERSON HALL

Our small but merry band of volunteers from Henderson Hall would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and also thank you all for the support of your village hall over the last year. As you may know, our community Big Lottery Grant application has got through to the final application stage and it is now a waiting game. If successful then the village can expect to see huge improvements in and around the hall. In the mean time we will continue to do our best to provide you with a community centre that stays open and is accessible for everyone. Don't forget you can check out what is going on in the hall and the village either on www.talybontonusk.com or the 'visit Talybont' Facebook page.

This could be a really exciting time coming up for us and we would happily welcome anyone who would like to get involved either as part of our small group of volunteers or we are still in need of someone to assist with our admin. Do get in touch with any of us for an informal chat if you think you may be interested.

In the meantime, if we can help you with any sort of booking enquiry then please don't hesitate to get in touch.
Clare Wright



Totally Talybont



Fantastic news! The Big Lottery has confirmed receipt of our village application to People and Places! We will hear in the coming months whether we have been successful in our bid for a Big Lottery Grant to replace and replenish all the outdoor playground equipment and to improve facilities in and around Henderson Hall. Fingers and toes crossed! Huge thanks to everyone in the community and beyond who has contributed and helped get us this far, particularly with your letters of support.
Ceri Bevan



Talybont WI

In January the ladies of Talybont WI brushed up on their First Aid Skills, with Simon Smith also teaching us how to use the new defibrillator which is positioned outside the village shop. Visitors and locals watch out there are WI ladies and others 'dying' to try out the new equipment! New members and visitors encouraged, just come along to Henderson Hall at 7pm on the dates shown and you will receive a warm welcome.

February 10th Fun, dance fitness.

Heléna Barnard.

March 9th Sugar flowers

Christina Gale

April 13th Circle Dancing

Andrea Jarman

Sue Thorne

Talybont WI
Meets the 2nd Wednesday
of each month
7-10pm at Henderson Hall

Talybont on Usk Tennis Club

2015 was a busy year with regular attendance of eight to ten children at the coaching sessions each Wednesday. It has been great to see the improvements being made by each child. The new sessions start on Wednesday 13th January.

Beginners: 5.30 to 6.30. **Intermediates:** 6.15 to 7.00pm. Any newcomers to the village are most welcome. For more information please contact: **Sarah Osborne 676633 or Margaret Cox 676697.**





Brecknock Decorative & Fine Arts Society

www.brecknockdfas.wordpress.com

Tuesday 2nd February 2016

“Bernard Leach, the National Museum of Wales and Tea”. Brecknock Decorative and Fine Arts

2:30 Theatr Brycheiniog, Brecon.

Bernard Leach, the greatest British potter of the 20th century, made a collection of Japanese tea ceremony utensils while studying his craft in Japan. This talk will discuss the tea ceremony and the influence of the ceremony and its equipment used on Leach's own work as a potter'

Lecturer: Simon Rees

Annual membership of Society £40 Visitors welcome £7:50 per lecture

Tuesday 1st March 2016

“Your Country Needs You”: Art and Design of World War One. Brecknock Decorative and Fine Arts, 2:30

Theatr Brycheiniog, Brecon.

This talk will cover the story of famous posters and artworks of the campaigns of 1914 – 1918 and the origins of the Imperial War Museum.

Lecturer: James Taylor

Reduced membership subscription after 1st March, Visitors welcome £7:50 per lecture

Tuesday 5th April 2016

“Searching For Shakespeare” Brecknock Decorative and Fine Arts

2:30 Theatr Brycheiniog, Brecon.

2016 is the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death and to celebrate it we have a talk that will examine his life, the influence of the Renaissance on his work and his impact on the global stage.

Lecturer: Jane Tapley

Reduced membership subscription after 1st March, Visitors welcome £7:50 per lecture

Deborah Coggar



Facebook for Talybont

Talybont has now got its very own village Facebook page aimed at local residents, businesses and visitors. With many people of all ages checking Facebook daily we thought this would be a great way to keep the village and surrounding area connected. Facebook is a great resource to instantly update people with local events and items of interest. We hope it will prove a useful tool helping residents to stay informed and also a great information point for visitors.

If you are on Facebook then search for ‘Visit Talybont on Usk’ and press **like**. If you have anything you wish to add to the Facebook page please feel free to send your information directly to me and I would be happy to post it on your behalf.

Contact: Rachel Griffiths, Secretary Talybont Tourism Group
info@tynewyddholidays.com



Llangynidr Farmers' and Producers' Market

January 31st
February 28th
March 27th
April 24th

There are tables available at the market if you feel you would like one.

Contact Jenny Thomson
jterwbant@hotmail.com



***** TALYBONT HYDRO *****
***** Maintenance Update *****

Unfortunately Talybont hydro is currently closed for planned pipe maintenance by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water. Works started in October 2015 and are planned to last about 12 months meaning a lengthy period without income for Talybont Energy. This will have an impact on the projects we undertake and it's been particularly galling to witness the wettest Welsh December on record with none of it being used to generate electricity for us! However the Board has agreed to fund another round of community projects via the Community Council in 2016. Please apply to the Council for further details. Please also note that we are obviously currently unable to offer turbine visits to other communities, visiting politicians or the media. We have regular update discussions with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water and value our ongoing partnership with them. Sadly it does mean that we will be unable to celebrate our 10th anniversary of operation until later (hopefully) in 2016. **Watch this space!**

Alison Kidd



Wood Fuel Boilers

Talybont Energy is hoping to organise an evening for those interested in wood chip or wood pellet boilers where we can hear from local people with direct experience of using these in their own homes.

If you might be interested in attending, or sharing your experiences, please email: info@talybontenergy.co.uk

Visit our website at: www.talybontenergy.co.uk

Talybont Energy Community Car Club

While the hydro has temporarily stopped, our 2 Talybont Energy vehicles continue to offer a fantastic alternative for low carbon journeys or handy use of an extra car or van. Heulwen, our electric van, continues to get used as a very useful load carrier and has also been making regular work trips to Bristol. Mr Chips (a Skoda Octavia) runs on recycled vegetable oil and is getting elderly but is still happily transporting members all over the UK. The car project has now been running for 6 years and has saved 35 tonnes CO2 in that time period. Membership of the car club is open to any local resident (aged over 24 years). The cars are kept at Henderson Hall and membership costs £25 per year.

Current usage charges for members are subsidised by Talybont Energy to encourage low carbon travel and car sharing.

For 2016, the charges are:-

Heulwen (electric Kangoo van): £2.50/hour and 5p/mile.

Mr Chips (Skoda Octavia): £18/day (£9.00 for ½ day) and 18p/mile.

To join the scheme, you need to provide a copy of your Driving Licence and sign the hire forms. Members book the cars online, collect them from Henderson Hall and fill in the trip log book in the car. They are invoiced once a month by email and can pay either at Talybont P.O. or online.

Please call Hilary & Les Williams on 676568 or email info@talybontenergy.co.uk if you are interested in joining..





THE TALYBONT "TOMBLES" VILLAGE LITTER PICK GROUP

"CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN" in readiness for her 90th Birthday celebrations in June. This is a National Litter Pick Day so please join us and show your support

SATURDAY 5th MARCH 2016 at 10 am

Please meet at Talybont Shop, equipment will be supplied - except for gloves - all we need is **YOU** for a couple of hours!

For further information please contact: Sandra Briskham 676297 or email sandra.briskham@btinternet.com

Our Final Litter Pick during 2015 was on Saturday 7th November, the start time of 10 am was moved to 12 noon due to continuous heavy rain - and it doesn't seem to have stopped since!!! I think the weather forecast put off some regulars, however 8 intrepid and enthusiastic members of the group turned out and were really lucky to have a couple of dry hours to tidy up our normal sites. As usual we worked in pairs and split up to cover designated areas in the village. Each time we carry out the task we seem to gather less and less litter so we like to think that we are educating and encouraging locals and visitors to take their litter home with them rather than leave it here with us! However Mike Wright did find a very bulky and rusty bicycle wheel complete with tyre in the undergrowth at the top end of the Playing Field - which required placing in one of our special "bags" - with difficulty, for disposal!!!

Once again a plea to all local residents - it is disappointing to see that unwanted household items that are **STILL** being left behind the recycling bins in the Hall Car park. Any unwanted items **MUST** be disposed of by the individuals concerned and not merely "dumped" hoping that someone else will clear up after them!!!

Thanks once again to all my volunteers for their invaluable help over the past twelve months in keeping 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".



Sandra Briskham (Organiser)
Tel 676297

Talybont Stores and Canalside

Café

Pizza night is back!

Starting Friday 25th March 2016

Not only will we be serving our delicious pizzas, we will also be serving


Homemade beef or mushroom and spinach lasagne

Battered cod, scampi, ham egg and chips

Then as a special

Homemade curries

Served with rice or chips, naan bread and poppadoms

 All to either eat in or take away

6.00pm until 9.00pm

Friday and Saturday nights 

The shop will also open until 9.00pm as well on pizza night

Call on 01874 676663 to make a booking

***** WANTED *****

Cleaner/caretaker to maintain the Community Council's play area and bus shelter. Involves emptying litter bins and keeping the bus station free of leaves and litter. £500 per annum. Contact Katy Tutt for more details 01873 810733 katytutt1976@gmail.com





BI MONTHLY REPORT- MON & BREC & SWANSEA NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 2015

Llangynidr maintenance

Construction works for Llangynidr Relining, Mon & Brec Canal, commenced on Monday 2nd November 2015 and is intended to be complete by Friday 11th March 2016. The works involved reconstructing the canal bed between Bridge 131 and Bridge 132 with a water proof liner which will be overlain in concrete. The works are necessary to prevent the canal leaking through the adjacent embankment and affecting the local residents in the village of Llangynidr. The customer service team helped de-water the canal between Bridge 135 and Bridge 128 throughout the course of the works. The towpath will also be closed between Bridge 131 and Bridge 132.



Lime Kiln Project

The Lime Kiln Project is an opportunity for volunteers to get involved in a conservation/ heritage project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Monmouthshire & Brecon Lime kiln Trail project includes the conservation and interpretation of three significant lime kilns along the M&B canal owned by CRT in South Wales, as well as the interpretation of two others not in the ownership of CRT. Currently the focus is on the lime kilns at The Watton in Brecon and Llangatock. Volunteers along the Mon and Brec got involved by carrying out heritage repairs, including lime mortar pointing (which will help manage further deterioration in the future) as well as clearing vegetation, replacing fencing and supporting the development of two new interpretation panels. Volunteers gained first-hand experience of working on listed structures, learnt new skills and were trained in lime mortar techniques. This is an ongoing project and we are still looking for new volunteers to take part.

Cassie Ward Team leader - The Mon & Brec & Swansea Canal

WET, WET, WET (and windy) !

Officially December 2015 has been the wettest ever on record. No statistics are available but it has to be one of the windiest as well! Flooded fields, flooded roads, fallen trees, blocked canal, damaged buildings, flood warnings along the Usk—anything else? Here are the facts as recorded by Peter Seaman in Scethrog and Sue Large at Cui Parc.

Scethrog: 2015 was 0.4°C above average; 2015 rainfall was 6.4 inches below average; December was 2.08 inches above average for the month at 6.75 inches*; rain was recorded on 23 days out of 30 in November and 27 days out of 31 in December. **Cui Parc:** 444mm (18 in approx.) of rain in December.

*There has been a significant variation in the rainfall recorded by 2 observers in Talybont (14 inches and 17.5 inches). We do not know the reason for such huge differences and would welcome reports from anyone else in the area keeping an eye on the rain.

Picture showing a massive tree blocking the canal and towpath at Bridge 150. Taken 20th December by Gill Abram. The towpath was cleared by the Canal and River Trust within 24hrs!!!



Neville Davies—author and wildlife expert

BIRD IDENTIFICATION COURSE - Saturday 12th March 2016.

Meet at the Crickhowell Resource Centre at 09.15hrs for a day's course on learning how to identify birds both in your garden and the countryside by sight and sound.

We will cover the skills and tips needed to help identify the British birds, including how to eliminate species down to the one you are looking at, and to give you the confidence and knowhow on the best way to identify our avian friends.

This is a day's course ideal for the beginner and intermediate alike. Part one of the course is classroom based at the centre followed by a guided walk in the afternoon to put all your skills into practice. Certificate of attendance upon completion.

To book your place on this excellent days course or to get more information email either myself, Neville Davies, at avevigilar@hotmail.co.uk or Jan at the Resource Centre on jan@visitcrickhowell.co.uk

Free parking available (email for directions).

£35 per person.

I prepare and conduct numerous guided nature walks to hundreds of sites throughout Wales and beyond and I also take small groups on bird watching trips abroad with all the driving done for you. I visit schools where the children are taught about the varied wildlife on their doorstep with natural history artefacts brought along for them to see and hold.

To date I have written four books on ornithology, two local guides, a look at my travels around the world as a Natural History enthusiast and my fourth looking at how and where to watch birds on Mallorca. I also conduct ecological surveys from birds to plants, all of which is passed onto my guests who join me for walks, talks and courses.



Please take some time to view my website at: www.ecologycymru.co.uk

ABER AND BENAIAH CHAPELS

Everyone is welcome to come at 10.30 am to the services listed below:

| Aber | Benaiah |
|---|--|
| February 7th | February 28th |
| March 13th | March 27th |
| April 3rd | April 17th |
| May 8th | May 22nd |
| June 5th | June 19th |
| July 10 th Memorial Service | July 24th |
| August 7th | August 21st |
| September 4th | September 18th |
| October 9th | October 23rd |
| October 13 th HARVEST | |
| November 20th | November 27th |
| December 11th | December 18 th Christmas Service |

Different visiting ministers take the service which leads to many interesting approaches and interpretations. On occasions a DIY service is held when members of the congregation contribute.

A date for the diary is Sunday 10th July when a service is to be held in memory of John Evans the only young man from Aber village who fought in the First World War and fell at Mametz Wood on the 10th July 1916.

TEA AND CHAT

This is held on the first Monday of the month, including Bank Holidays at the Henderson Hall at 3pm for anyone of retirement age. It has now been in existence for three years and it is an opportunity for people to get together for a social afternoon. Tea and homemade cake is provided by different hostesses and there is no charge. A big thank you to the Henderson Hall and Talybont Energy for making this possible.

Cherry Jones



Talybont Matters is a Community Council
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Energy

This edition edited by:
Richard Abram

Please send articles & contact details
to: Ger-Yr-Afon, Pencelli, LD3
7LX
email:richardabram@btinternet.com



<http://www.talybont.org/newsletter.html>

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

Friday 19th February: Pat Wilkie—Gertrude Jekyll and her garden legacy.
Friday 18th March: Visit to Raglan Garden Centre. Tour, refreshments
and talk— Plants for small gardens.
Tuesday 5th April: 3 way Quiz—Talybont, Bwlch, LLangynidr

For any further information please contact either the Chairman:
Mr Peter Seaman 01874 676225 or the
Secretary: Mrs Sandra Briskham 01874 676297



CHURCH NEWS



**CONCERT AT LLANFRYNACH CHURCH WITH THE
ABERHONDDU MALE VOICE CHOIR** : This is Saturday 20th
February at 7.30pm, Tickets are available now at £8 from Janet
Watkins or Joyce Griffiths, or on the door on the night.

PILGRIM STUDY COURSE : This lively discussion group has
started up again – this term we are looking at The Creeds. All
sessions are on Thursday evenings, 7.00pm, fortnightly with a break
over Easter and the final session after Easter:-

January 28 - Llangors Climbing Centre
February 11 - Barn 6 Dros y Sir, Cefn Cantref
February 25 - The Rectory, Talybont
March 10 - Pen yr Heol Isaf, Cathedine
April 7 - 4 Waunberllan, Llanfrynach

ASH WEDNESDAY : This is Wednesday 10th February – there is a
communion service at 10am in Llanfrynach Church and another one
at 7.00pm in Llangasty at 7-00pm

TALYBONT FAMILY CHURCH is MOVING BACK to 11am,
but on the SECOND SUNDAY IN THE MONTH i.e. 14 February
2016, 13th March, 10th April. Three things stay the same, the time:
11.00am, the place: Henderson Hall, Talybont and the warm welcome
to young and old, for half an hour of fun, worship - and coffee.

SPECIAL SERVICES AT LLANSANTFFRAED

Sunday 28th February, 4.00pm - Walking Festival Service with the
Unicorn Singers
Sunday 24th April, 3.00pm - Annual Henry Vaughan Memorial
Evensong

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER : At the time of writing services in
the group for Holy Week are not yet finalised, but there will be a
Communion service on Easter Day 27th March at 10am in Llanfeugan
Church. All welcome.

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

Rev. Kelvin Richards

Yoga with Cathy Genevie at Henderson Hall

in Talybont on Usk
New Hatha Yoga Class begins on:
Thursday, January 21st 2016
At 7:00 pm

For this first term, all can drop-in
for each class
With no need to register for the entire
term
£6 per class

For more information,
Phone Cathy Genevie on 01873-812637
Or simply turn up a few minutes early on
the Thursday evening

