



Talybont Matters

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RECORDING THE HISTORY OF HENDERSON HALL DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GET INVOLVED AND HAVE YOUR SAY!

Many of you will be aware that last year Henderson Hall, in celebration of its 50th Anniversary, received a grant from the National Lottery Heritage fund to create a record of the physical and social history of the Hall and its surrounds.

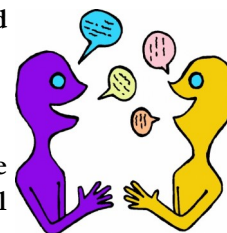
This record is taking the form of a **Storyboard**, permanently sited at the Hall, which will show the Hall's vibrant history as a much-valued community hub: the clubs, the activities, and the key events that have taken place over the years. The Storyboard will be complemented by **Oral History recordings** which will bring to life the memories, experiences and personal stories of those who have been involved and enriched community life for others. With the support of Tim Jones, a local media director, these interviews are being recorded by people of all ages living locally. We would welcome the involvement of further young people aged 16+.

The Working group welcomes you to Henderson Hall to see the proposed design and wording on the Storyboard and give us your thoughts and comments.

Sunday, 23rd February, anytime between:
10.30am – 12.30pm and 2pm – 4pm

Jon Dixon, the designer, will be available between 2- 4pm to answer any questions. The final version of the Storyboard and the Oral History recordings will be in place on April 19th 2020, when we'll be celebrating the completion. So save that date too!

For further information, please contact; Rhiannon Davies, rhiannon.aber@btinternet.com Tel: 676617



RECORDING THE HISTORY OF TALYBONT

“Talybont-on-Usk – Our community – Past to the Present”

Henderson Hall 7pm Friday 3rd April 2020

Residents of the community of Talybont-on-Usk and area are invited to a special presentation by **John Jones** of a collection of fascinating images of the community through the ages. This special event will also launch a unique website dedicated to this important collection of photographs including many never seen by the public before, both old and new about our area, its life and times.

All welcome



Issue 68

Winter 2020

Many thanks to the volunteers and Talybont Stores who help in the distribution of this newsletter. Also to the individuals, groups and societies who have contributed articles for this edition.



CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH SERVICES

The usual service pattern for the six Churches in the Beacons Benefice (Cantref, Llanfrynach, Llanhamlach, Llansantffraed, Llandetty and Llanfeugan) is:-

2nd Sunday of the month

10am Holy Communion at Llandetty
10am Holy Communion at Llanfrynach
11am Family Church at Henderson Hall

3rd Sunday of the month

10am Holy Communion at Llanfeugan
10am Holy Communion at Cantref

4th Sunday of the month

10am Holy Communion at Llansantffraed
10am Holy Communion at Llanhamlach

On the **1st Sunday of the month** there is usually just the one 10am Communion Service at a different church each month - in February at Llandetty and in March, at Cantref.

The above service pattern can change on special occasions, such as Mothering Sunday or Easter Day - you will always find full details on church noticeboards or on the Beacons Benefice website

<http://parish.churchinwales.org.uk/s475/>

Kelvin Richards

TALYBONT GARDENING CLUB



This autumn the club has continued to have a busy programme starting in September with a visit to The Kitchen Garden at Ty Mawr on Llangorse Lake where we had a conducted tour by Rae Gervis the owner followed by refreshments. The walled garden was flourishing with all kinds of vegetables, herbs and companion planting flowers. There is also a delightful "potting shed" which now also incorporates the "Prosecco" Bar!!! Rae gardens organically and had great delight in showing us her compost bins and members were keen to learn how successful they were proving. The club took part in the village show in August by providing plants for sale. The afternoon was really very hot and we were glad of the gazebo for shade – rather than rain!! In October we had an excellent presentation from Pat Wilkie on gardens of Herefordshire. This was followed in November with a talk by well-known bee keeper Peter Guthrie (who brought with him some busy bees one of which attacked our president!). We finished the year with our usual Christmas lunch – this time at the Travellers. Our first meeting of 2020 was our AGM where Richard Abram was re-elected chair.. We are still planning our 2020 club trips and suggestions so far have included the Gardens at Hampton Court Castle, Glanseven Gardens, near Welshpool and perhaps to David Austin Roses who are based in Albrighton, near Wolverhampton.

Friday 21st February

Gareth Davies Growing plants in containers

Friday 20th March

:Pat Wilkie Daffodils

Friday 17th April 3 Way Quiz

WELSH LEARNERS CORNER - CORNEL Y CYMRAEG



Croeso cynnes i bawb, tipyn bach am Y Tymor

Warm welcome to you all to my Welsh Corner, this time you can learn some words about the seasons.

Lovely to hear that you are using this and enjoying it. Diolch, pob lwc and Dal at ti (keep at it)

Hydref, Gaeaf, Gwanwyn, Haf - Autumn, Winter, Spring, Summer

Dw i'n hoffi'r Hydref – Dween-hoff-eer-hud-ref – I like the Autumn

Mae'r deilen yn edrych yn hardd – My-re-day-len-un-ed-drich-un-ha-th – The leaves look pretty

Dw i ddim yn hoffi'r Gaeaf – Do-ee-thim-un-hoff-eer-Gay-af – I don't like the winter

Mae hi'n oer iawn – My-heen-oi-er-yaww-n – It is very cold

Dw i'n hoffi'r Gwanwyn – Dween-hoff-eer-gwan-win – I like the Spring

Mae hi'n dechrau yn teimlo dymach – My-heen-dech-rau-un-tame-lo-doim-mach-It is starting to feel warmer

Dw i ddim yn hoffi'r Haf – Do-ee-thim-un-hoff-eer-ha-f – I don't like the summer

Mae hi'n rhy boeth – My-heen-rh-ee-boy-th – It is too hot

Rhian

Talybont Stores, Canalside Cafe and Post Office

01874 676663 www.talybontstores.co.uk enquiries@talybontstores.co.uk

Please come and try our new LITTLE GREEN REFILLS products, all eco-friendly and in glass bottles. Also stocking fresh Milk and Orange Juice in Glass Bottles as well, so please get in touch if you wish you pre-order

Shop

Stocking a wide range of products from your everyday selection of groceries to fresh local meat, bread, milk, eggs, fruit and veg. BBQ's. Coal, logs and kindling. Newspapers, pet products, wines, spirits, cans, local beers and ciders. Frozen meals prepared in the café.

Orders taken for bread milk, newspapers etc.

Lottery, Phone, Gas and Electric Top Ups, greeting cards and stationary.

Card payments accepted

Regan's Creations - Made in Talybont

madeintalybont@gmail.com

Local handmade gifts, crafts, keyrings, jewellery and cards

Personalised greeting cards, vinyl mugs, vinyl and more available

NOW T-shirt printing, pictures on mugs and more

Custom orders welcome.

Café

Homemade food and cakes, sit in or take away. Packed lunches available on request

Shmoo Milkshakes

Post Office

Click and collect, health lottery, foreign currency, passport checking service, free cash withdrawals etc.

Opening times

Shop

Mon to Fri 7am until 7pm.

Saturday 8am until 7pm.

Sunday 8am until 5pm

Café

Mon to Sun 8am until 4pm

Post Office

Mon to Sat 9am until 1.30pm

We are also on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram

A new fun and entertaining full body
aerobic workout

WWW.DIVERSEDANCEMIX.COM

Diverse Dance Mix (DDMIX) is a fitness program that is designed to get everyone of all ages and abilities involved in dancing for fitness and fun. The creator of DDMIX is Darcey Bussell CBE. Darcy is one of the most famous British ballet dancers of all time. Many people will be familiar with her as one of the judges on 'Strictly Come Dancing'.

DDMIX is a program using segments of dance from around the world, which gives variety and a more western touch. A fun, effective and easy full body workout. Be entertained by the variety of styles and diversity of the music. A class for every age and ability – no experience necessary!

Classes are held on **Tuesdays at Henderson hall from 7-45 to 8-45**. Please bring water and a smile! I look forward to meeting you. Helena. (DDMIX Qualified Instructor) Contact: Gill 07487 632418



Talybont WI

The start of a new year at Talybont WI saw reflections of Talybont of old. Our own John Jones, (Cherry's husband) showed historic photographs of Talybont on Usk and shared stories from the past. Some members enjoyed being reminded of these things and new members appreciated learning more about the village they now live in. It was a great way to start the year. These pictures will be available for all in the community to see later in the year.

Our February meeting is another historic subject which will be of interest to the wider community, both men and women and we welcome you all to attend.

7.30pm Wednesday 12th February

DROVING Robert Stephens.

10th MARCH

"Tricks of a Trickster." Gerry Walker

8th APRIL

"Tales of a vet." Rosie Gibson

Sue Thorne

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

TALYBONT COMMUNITY WOODLAND GROUP



Talybont Community Woodland Group meets once a month at 10am on Sunday mornings for a couple of hours.

The Group manages 12 acres of woods on Gilestone Farm under kind licence from Charles Weston.

Its aims are to enhance local biodiversity and environment whilst promoting social cohesion and having some fun.

New members welcome.

Dates and tasks for 2020 have been set

9th Feb - Felling

15th Mar - Finish felling and tidy, review of the years work

19th April - extraction

17th May -extraction - check newly planted trees

14th June - extraction, logging, brambles, path works

12th July - logging, brambles, path works

16th August - logging, brambles and path works

13th Sept - Plan work for new season, any outstanding summer jobs, check and service tools/1st Aid Kit

11th Oct - felling

8th Nov -felling

13th Dec -felling

27th Dec - felling/social/odd jobs/ tree planting/ clean out and repair bird boxes.

For more info contact Michael Wright on 676679 or email onlyonewrighty@btinternet.com



ABER AND BENAIHAH CHAPELS

Aber and Benaiah United Chapels serve the community of Talybont. The denomination is Unaffiliated Congregational, which means they are independent in every sense. A service is held in each Chapel once a month, Aber having the 1st Sunday of the month and Benaiah the 3rd. Different ministers take the services which gives variety and much food for thought. A warm welcome is extended to all.

For more information phone Glasnant Morgan 676354 or Craig Burdon 676090

ABER

Feb 2nd Rev Trina Lodge

Mar 1st Mr Paul Rowe

April 5th Mrs Liz Tadd

BENAIHAH

Feb 16th Mrs Liz Matthews

March 15th Rev Ray Lewis

April 19th Mrs Penny Robinson





Henderson Hall Committee has some shoes to fill!

Your community hall committee will hold its AGM in April this year and will have several positions to fill. Current committee members have had a very busy 2019 celebrating the 50th anniversary of the hall as well as keeping day to day activities going, including giving local people and visiting groups opportunities to hold meetings, host events and deliver activities such as exercise classes, tea & chat, Playgroup, WI and Gardening Club to name but a few.

From April, there will be an opportunity for more people to become involved as some positions on the committee will become available as the current post holders have been doing these roles for several years. The positions becoming vacant are: Secretary, Booking Secretary, Caretaker and/or Handyperson. The work required for these positions isn't onerous and the committee only meets once a month to plan activities and make decisions.

#Typical duties for these positions include:

Secretary

Minute Taking
Applying for licences
All correspondence/Admin

Booking Sec

Managing bookings (Regular & 1-off)
Liaising with Caretaker / Treasurer
Monthly bookings report

Caretaker Handyperson

Opening & Closing for 1-off hirers Small repairs
Prepping venue for guests General improvements
Liaising with cleaners & handyperson Reporting issues to committee

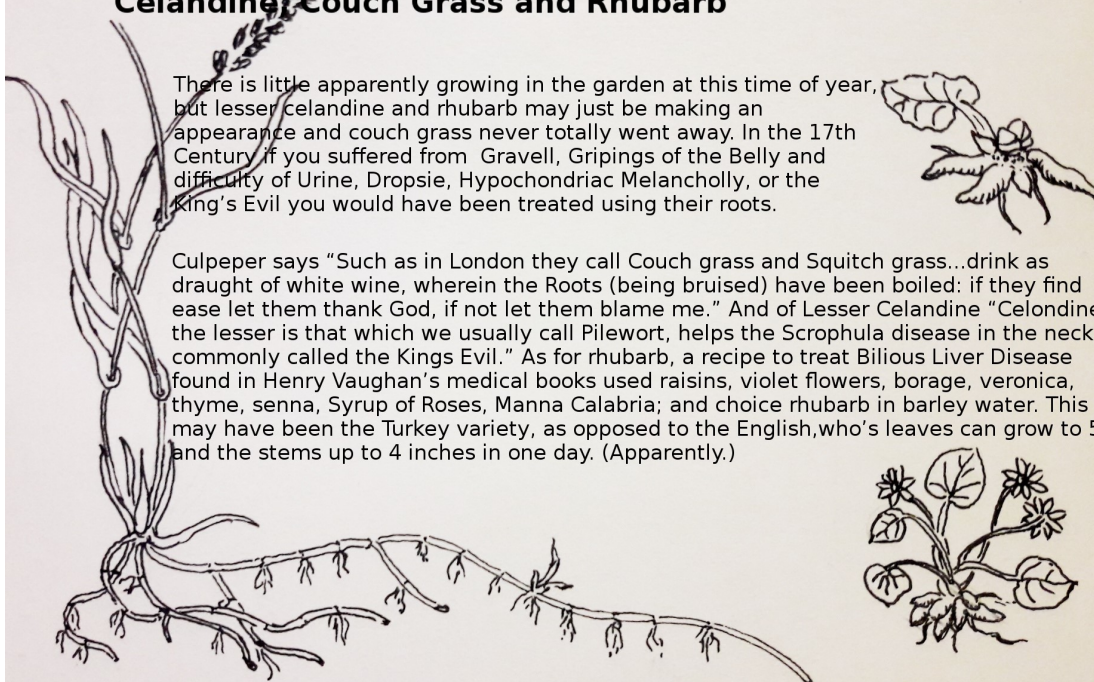
Ideally, we would like the Caretaker/Handyperson to be one person but would be pleased to hear from people interested in either role. The Secretary and Bookings Secretary are traditionally volunteer positions, but the Caretaker/Handyperson role would be paid. If you're interested in one of these roles and would like to chat to one of the current postholders, please call: **Sec: Verity Ryan 07495 130210 / Bookings Sec: Julia Watkins 01874 676085/ Caretaker & Handyperson roles: Phil Darbyshire 01874 676304.**

As well as these roles, the committee would welcome new members to join as trustees/volunteers to help support the general running of the Hall. Expressions of interest would be welcome in advance or local people can attend the **AGM** to be held on the **29th April at Henderson Hall** and express their interest in person.

Medicinal Herbs in the Henry Vaughan Garden - Lesser Celandine, Couch Grass and Rhubarb

There is little apparently growing in the garden at this time of year, but lesser celandine and rhubarb may just be making an appearance and couch grass never totally went away. In the 17th Century if you suffered from Gravel, Gripings of the Belly and difficulty of Urine, Dropsie, Hypochondriac Melancholly, or the King's Evil you would have been treated using their roots.

Culpeper says "Such as in London they call Couch grass and Squitch grass...drink as draught of white wine, wherein the Roots (being bruised) have been boiled: if they find ease let them thank God, if not let them blame me." And of Lesser Celandine "Celondine the lesser is that which we usually call Pilewort, helps the Scrophula disease in the neck commonly called the Kings Evil." As for rhubarb, a recipe to treat Bilious Liver Disease found in Henry Vaughan's medical books used raisins, violet flowers, borage, veronica, thyme, senna, Syrup of Roses, Manna Calabria; and choice rhubarb in barley water. This may have been the Turkey variety, as opposed to the English, who's leaves can grow to 5 ft and the stems up to 4 inches in one day. (Apparently.)



**Are you missing a dog in your life?
Are you retired or work from home? Do you work term time only?
We have a fantastic new hobby for you for 2020!**



Could you spare some time for an occasional doggy companion and provide plenty of cuddles, or know someone who would love this? This is an ideal voluntary opportunity for retired people, home workers, families, or teaching professionals, to experience the joy and life enhancing benefits of canine companionship, at a time to suit them.

Cuddling and caring for a lovely dog provides real interaction and exercise. We witness families' leisure time being transformed by visiting dogs. The dogs arrive with all their own food, bedding, toys

and treats, with all insurance and administration taken care of by ourselves. There is no need to provide anything other than your time and affection and a loving home environment.

Have friendly dogs, carefully matched to your preferences and lifestyle, come and stay with you for their holidays and short breaks. Host your guest pooches at your convenience with full insurance and 24/7 support.

All resident children must be 5+ years and you will need to have a safe, enclosed outdoor space. You may also have a sociable dog who would enjoy an occasional playmate. We'd love to hear from you.

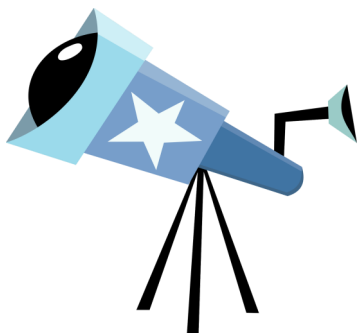
**Contact Alison on 01495 400195 or email
alison.preece@barkingmad.uk.com**



**Talybont Star Party
Wednesday April 22nd**

If you, friends or family fancy learning a bit more about our dark sky and want the chance to do a bit of star gazing with some experts (there will be a planetarium just in case of bad weather) then do keep the evening of Wednesday 22nd April free.

It will be a ticketed event as numbers will be limited and should be a great night. Full details and how to get your ticket will be posted shortly on the community Facebook page and on the Visit Talybont website



Talybont Flicks

7:30 pm starts

February 5th:
Swimming with Men

March 4th:
The Sisters Brothers

April 1st:
Knives Out



HENDERSON HALL 200 CLUB

Henderson Hall runs a 200 Club which helps with the upkeep of the hall, from which we all benefit. It is only £10 per year and the draws take place every quarter - usually at an event in the hall. There are 5 Prizes each time which are £50, £35, £25, £15, and £10

Winners November 2019

£50	Ray Briskham
£35	Mike Bugler
£25	Lucinda Bugler
£15	Lisa Preece
£10	Amanda Williams

THE TALYBONT TOMBLES

Our group last met on the afternoon of the 6th November mainly to tidy up following the village Bonfire held the previous evening. It was a dry afternoon – for once!! We were 9 in the group, with some picking in the field whilst the remainder of the group checked out our normal regular routes.



The unusual wind direction during the firework display this year created more debris over the playing fields and village hall area than normal. My special thanks to the members of the Talybont Tombles and Hall committee representatives who worked extra hard to clear the area. The Hall committee discussed feedback from the fireworks event at their next meeting, and have agreed some actions for future displays which should minimise the impact on the surrounding areas. Thank you Ben and the Hall Committee for taking on board our concerns in this matter.

More Volunteers!!!! The local Llangynidr Cub group have contacted me asking if our group could use 20 pairs of Cub hands to assist in keeping our community litter free. This really was an offer we could not refuse!!!! They will “adopt” specific areas within our village which they will keep clean and tidy on their normal meeting nights - so look out for the youngsters in the village in the future!! We are still discussing specific areas for them to adopt. Thank you so much to Vicky who contacted me about this marvellous gesture.



Meanwhile our next Litter Pick will be on **Saturday the 15th February** meeting at the Hall at 10 am as usual. Sandra Briskham, Organiser **676297**

Welsh and its Future

The United Nations declared 2019 *The Year of Indigenous Languages* in order to raise the awareness of the contribution smaller languages make to the world's rich cultural diversity. More than a third of the world's 7,000 languages are currently classified as endangered and more than half are expected to become extinct by 2100. In the **UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger**, Welsh is classified as “vulnerable”. It is interesting to look at how the other indigenous languages in the UK are rated at this point in time. Both Irish and Scottish Gaelic are listed as “definitely endangered” and Cornish and Manx as ‘critically endangered’.

While we should be greatly concerned about the state of these indigenous languages of the UK, we should also reflect and celebrate the success and resilience of the Welsh language. We should feel rightly proud of how we have reversed the decline of the language – taking it off the endangered list and breathing new life into it through the tongues of new speakers. Wales has a National Poet and the current occupant is **Ifor ap Glyn**. He has written a poem “Lleisio” (Voicing) to mark the launch of the Year of Indigenous Languages in Wales and the final verse beautifully expresses his optimism and that of many others for the future of the Welsh language:

Yn y llafur y mae ei lleufer; (It's verve comes from being voiced) **a thafodau plant yw ei** (and on children's tongues it) **pharhad.** (will live on.)

Data published recently by the Royal Society compares Welsh with **te reo** Maori the indigenous language of New Zealand. This shows that while Maori is on a pathway to extinction, Welsh will “thrive in the long term”. The indication is that by **2300** more than two-thirds of the population in Wales will be Welsh-speakers. I'll probably miss that momentous event and Talybont-on-Usk will by then be Talybont-in-Usk.

Finally, by the time this issue of Talybont Matters has been published the Welsh Language Commissioner, Aled Roberts will have visited here. He was due to come at the end of November, but the snap general election caused a postponement. But he will be here on Friday 24th January. So watch this space for an update or come to Siop Siarad for the complete picture.

Hwyl am y tro, Les Williams 01874 676568

lrweryri@hotmail.com



**This edition edited by:
Richard Abram**

Please send articles & contact details to:
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email: richardabram@btinternet.com

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.

Tea and Chat

This social group for the over 60's meets on the first Monday of the month at 3pm in the Henderson Hall.

Anyone is welcome and there is no charge, thanks to the hostesses, Talybont Energy and the Hall committee.

Cherry Jones



Brecon County Time 3rd July 1913

REMARKABLE SALMON TAKES ON THE USK
The Good Old Days

The recent taking of a big salmon in the Usk led to the appearance of the following letters in the "Fishing Gazette" of June 14th, which we're sure will be read with interest by all those interested in the Usk fishery:-

Dear Sir,- In your remarks re Captain de Winton's record take for the Wye in the "Fishing Gazette" of May 31, you state: "On the Usk at the back end, as many have been killed in one day by one rod". Mr Alfred Crawshay killed on Oct. 15 1873, 26 fish weighing 207 lbs., and on July 30 1888 he caught 20 fish weighing 191lbs. These were spring fish, for the Usk at that time was not as early as now, and they could not possibly be called back-end fish. Mr Crawshay has given me permission to publish a letter he wrote me on June 3. It is such a remarkable record (both for salmon and trout) for one rod that I hope you will publish it, for I am sure it will be of interest to Usk fishers, and, indeed, to fishermen generally.-

Yours truly, John Hotchkis, late member of the Usk Fishery Board.

The following letter is Mr Crawshay's account of the wonderful sport:-

"Lochside near Crumnock. Ayrshire. June 3, 1913.

Dear Hotchkis,- Your wire came just in time to catch post. My best year was 1891, when I caught 324 fish weighing 3,513 lbs. My best days were: June 29, 13 fish, 149 lbs; July 9, 16 fish, 190½ lbs; July 20, 15 fish, 153½ lbs; Sept. 2, 15 fish, 134 lbs; Sept. 12 fish, 124 lbs. My next best year was 1888. 264 fish, 2,578 lbs. Best days: July 30, 20 fish, 191 lbs; (that day I hooked, rose and caught 58 fish. The water was very high and they would not lay hold. I rose, etc, eleven, before I caught one in the afternoon. I caught 14 running and with the same Jack Scott, which broke, taking it out of the last one; I have the fly now) July 31, 124 lbs; June 29, 11, 129 lbs; Oct. 14, 8 58 lbs. A lot of these were 'botchers'(grilse). These were my two best years. In 1891 I was shooting in Scotland from Sept. 25 to Oct. 26, or I am quite sure I should have caught another 100, as the river was swarming with fish and in order more or less all the time. On Oct. 15 1873 I caught 26, 207 lbs. My other years were- 1873, 127, 1878, 106; 1879, 178; 1882, 170; 1885, 126. I could send any particulars as to trout if you wish. My two best years were 1882, 1,619 fish, 658 lbs; 1884, 1,823 fish, 643 lbs; lots of years 300 to 500. Believe me, yours sincerely,

ALFRED CRAWSHAY.

P.S. ,- All this, of course, refers to the Usk. Very funny I should have got 15 fish three times in '91. I have no doubt that I should have caught more fish if I had anyone with me.

Seamus Hamill=Keays

