



Talybont Matters

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

BIG GREEN plans for the

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Save your unwanted red, white, blue, purple, silver and gold coloured materials, e.g. sheets, t-shirts, jeans or plastics as we want to use them to make bunting and other decorations for our jubilee celebrations.

Can you sew? If you can, then we need you!!!

WE NEED YOU!



Dates for your Diary

14 May: BIG BUNTING BASH Bring or drop off your recycled materials at Henderson Hall and join us for a morning or afternoon bunting making workshop led by local crafter Bridget Morgan. Alternatively make bunting from recycled materials at home to donate to the celebrations.

21 May: BIG PETUNIA GIVEAWAY DAY Come to Henderson Hall between 11am and 1 pm to collect **FREE** red, white and blue, petunia plugs for your hanging baskets and gardens this summer

1 June: BIG ABBA SINGALONG to the film MAMMA MIA, as part of the Hall's Monthly Film Night. **FREE ENTRANCE** starting at 6pm

2 June: CHILDREN'S MAKING DAY Children aged 2 to 11 years are invited to craft sessions at the Hall to decorate the bunting made on 14th May and make crowns, sashes, medals and flags. Jayne Gold of *Stomping Space* will also run outdoor environmental workshops.

5 June: BIG PICNIC IN THE PARK Bring a picnic to the Henderson Hall park and enjoy an afternoon and evening of entertainment including music and games. Contribute a cake to Afternoon tea served by Talybont on Usk Women's Institute. End the day's celebration with a Social Evening in the Hall.

25 June: BIG MAC's WHOLLY SOUL BAND Tickets are £10 and will be on sale to residents of Talybont on Usk Community Council area on 16 May from Talybont Stores or Julia Watkins Tel 01874 676085

For more information on Jubilee activities and initiatives, including Cui Parc's Jubilee Wood, please visit Henderson-Hall.com

Issue 77

Spring 2022



WELSH LEARNERS CORNER - **CORNEL Y CYMRAEG**

Croeso Cynnes i Gornel Cymraeg (Warm Welcome to our Welsh Corner)

Please pop along to any of Siop Siarad. Talybont's Welsh sessions' either Friday Morning 10-11 for learners or 11-12 for more confident. We also have a complete beginners group which runs quietly in the corner 11-11.30 for those who are completely new to the language or simply not quite brave enough to join with the conversations yet. All sessions held in Talybont Henderson Hall. Give it a go! Also keep an eye out for information on our next Bore Coffi (Coffee Morning).

This issue I thought the following would be of use as it repeats the same sentence construction and you can replace the changing word to something relevant to you at the time. You can even use the English word to help you practice the construction.

Mabon yn cael bath - Ma-bon-un-cai-ell-bath - Mabon has a bath

Oes sbwng gyda ti yn y bath? - oi-ss-sb-oo-ng-gud-da-tee-un-ur-bath- Do you have a sponge in the bath?

Oes mae sbwng gyda fi? - oi-ss-my-sb-oo-ng-gud-da-fee - Yes, I have a sponge

Oes sebon gyda ti yn y bath? - oi-ss-seb-on-ng-gud-da-tee-un-ur-bath- Do you have a soap in the bath?

Oes mae sebon gyda fi? - oi-ss-my-seb-on-ng-gud-da-fee - Yes, I have a soap

Oes pel gyda ti yn y bath? - oi-ss-pel-gud-da-tee-un-ur-bath- Do you have a ball in the bath?

Oes mae pel gyda fi? - oi-ss-my-pel-gud-da-fee - Yes, I have a ball

Oes cwch gyda ti yn y bath? - oi-ss-coo-ch-gud-da-tee-un-ur-bath- Do you have a boat in the bath?

Oes mae cwch gyda fi? - oi-ss-my-coo-ch-gud-da-fee - Yes, I have a boat

Oes hwyaden gyda ti yn y bath? - oi-ss-hoi-ad-den-gud-da-tee-un-ur-bath- Do you have a duck in the bath?

Oes mae hwyaden gyda fi? - oi-ss-my-hoi-ad-den-gud-da-fee - Yes, I have a duck

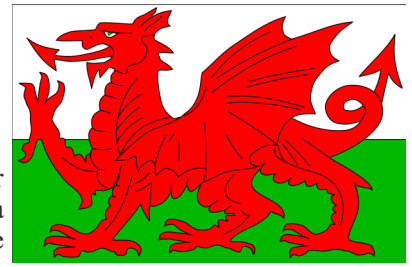
Beth sy'n bod te? - Beth-seen-board-te- What's the matter then?

Does dim dwr gyda fi yn y bath! - D-oi-ss-dim-doo-rr-gud-da-fee-un-ur-bath! I have no water in the bath!

Pob lwc - Mwynhewch! (Good Luck - Enjoy)

For further information about the group please email Rhian

rhianyoung38@gmail.com



Spring news from the Vaughan Garden

This is an exciting year as the delayed anniversary conference of the Vaughan Association will be held in Brecon, 5th-8th May. They will visit Henry Vaughan's grave for the annual wreath laying ceremony at Llansantffraed Church on Saturday 7th May and also come to the Garden. Trees and roses have been pruned and beds and labels tidied in readiness, and BBNP and locals are working on the entrance at the uphill boundary.

And will the wildlife members of the garden contribute to the celebrations? Signs are that they are getting ready. The profusion of insects visiting the flowers last year suggest the biodiversity of the garden is increasing and, on 31st March, a huge oil beetle was spotted meandering about the grass. As they depend on mining bees for their life cycle this must be a good example of how healthy the garden is. Maybe the bug hotels made by the local Cubs are filling up!

Meantime, all the day to day maintenance goes on - weeding, planting, grass cutting, hedge trimming - if you would like to join in or help with ongoing tidying or other projects please contact Nina at nina.krauzewicz@gmail.com

Nina and Sandra



Talybont WI

February, March and April meetings have been thankfully back to 'normal.' We have welcomed new members and visitors to all of our meetings and had speakers from the local area. It is amazing what diversity and talent there is on our doorstep.

February we enjoyed listening to Peter Guthrie who talked about bee keeping, a passion spanning 120 years to date following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. Members were delighted to taste 4 different types of honey and to see the interesting artifacts Mr. Guthrie brought along. He had stories a plenty, we could have listened to

him for hours.

March was a more serious meeting but just as interesting. Rhiannon Davies of Talybont talked about her career working with Brecon and District Mind. She has been involved in a Welsh government research project for adults 18+ with mild to moderate mental health issues. It was a really interesting talk and brilliant to learn that although face to face meetings had to move on line due to the pandemic after 2 years 96% of clients had reached their goal.

For our April meeting we welcomed another local lady who has written a book during the pandemic entitled 'Life on the Flood Plain.' The River Usk flood plain. We were delighted to see the most amazing photographs that Ceri Leigh had taken right on her doorstep and to hear about the species of mammals, insects, birds, butterflies and moths she has attracted to her garden. A fascination and informative talk where she also read extracts from her book which she had with her and was available to buy.

7th May. SUMMER OUTING - Theatre Visit to Millennium Centre Cardiff

8th JUNE. Fabulous Felting with Jane Evans

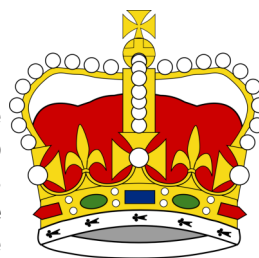
13th JULY A local photographer. Zoe Mathias

Sue Thorne.



The Queen's Green Canopy - A Celebration for the Platinum Jubilee

Trees have always been important to us and over the years we have been very lucky to have the opportunity to plant many. We heard about plans for woods to be planted across the U.K. to mark the unique achievement of HM the Queen in reaching this amazing milestone. So we approached members of the Community Council to see if this could become a part of the



community's celebration, for everyone to use and enjoy over the coming years - our contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

We chose a site on one of our fields nearest to the village where there is already a Public Footpath, not far from the Henry Vaughan Walk, and with wonderful open views of the magnificent surrounding countryside and hills. We are very grateful to Glasnant and Huw Morgan for allowing us to use one of the few flat and best bits of pasture on the farm! During the next few months, we will enclose the area and provide details of where it is, so that you can see the project beginning to take shape.

We were delighted that the community group involved in organizing the Platinum Jubilee celebrations were very enthusiastic and supportive about our idea and, working with us, have successfully put in an application to the Woodland Trust. The Woodland Trust will now donate 195 trees which will include Wild Cherry, Birch and Rowan. The community group have also generously offered to provide funding from the National Lottery Jubilee Celebration Grant for a bench to be sited within the wood, so that everyone can come at any time to enjoy the trees as they grow. We hope very much that anyone who wants to, can be involved in the planting which is planned for next November.

Watch this space, Facebook and Henderson Hall website for further details as they emerge.

In addition, the Welsh Assembly is offering to give each household in Wales a tree to mark the occasion through the Woodland Trust: *"My Tree, Our Forest project - Plant a tree for the Jubilee"*. Some of you might like to plant your tree in the small wood and arrangements are being made to try to make this possible. Again, further details will be provided once the timing of this is confirmed.

In these current troubled times, we hope that this project will bring a little of that hope for the future which always comes with planting trees. For us, the joy of watching trees grow and mature year by year is very positive and we hope that all members of our community, and especially those of you with young children, will be able to share in this simple pleasure.

Sue and Andrew Large April 2022



**Llanfeugan
Church,
Pencelli**

**Gwent
Chamber
Orchestra**

19th June, 3.00pm

**Music to include
Vivaldi, Handel
and Telemann**

Featuring:

**Lowri Probert
(Soprano)**

**and Glasnant
Morgan
(Narrator)**

**Tickets: £10
from Julia Watkins
(01874 676085)
or at the door**

There will be a concert given by the Gwent Chamber Orchestra at Llanfeugan Church, Pencelli, on the 19th of June at 3pm. Tickets (£10) are available from Julia Watkins (01874 676085) or at the door. The Orchestra is grateful for the help of Hilary and Simon Baldwin in organising this concert.

The programme will include works by Handel, Telemann and Vivaldi and will feature several local performers. Lowri Probert (soprano) will sing music by Handel as well as popular Italian and Welsh airs. She will be joined by Glasnant Morgan in a Welsh song and Glasnant will also give brief readings from the story of Don Quixote when the orchestra performs the suite, Don Quixote by the baroque composer, Telemann. Lowri has just completed her vocal studies at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and will next year take up a scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. Glasnant's fine voice has been heard many times on Christmas Eve, leading the singing at

the Talybont Village Nativity Procession. The other local soloist will be Julia Watkins who will take the first solo violin part in Vivaldi's Concerto for four Violins and Julia's husband, Stephen Broom will conduct the concert.

The Gwent Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1975 by David Gedge, organist and choirmaster at Brecon Cathedral and apart from one brief period (2012-2015) has been in existence to the present day. In 2014 Julia, a member of the orchestra since its early days and originally from Brynmawr, came to live in Talybont following many years living and working as a violinist in London. After meeting up with several original members of the orchestra it was decided to restart the group with Julia leading the players and Stephen conducting. Stephen, originally from Pontypridd, has been a viola player with several major orchestras most notably as principal viola for twenty years with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. The Gwent Chamber Orchestra has a mixture of professional, semi-professional and gifted amateur players and performs mainly in the Gwent, Brecon and Welsh borders area.

Tickets: £10 from Julia Watkins (01874 676085) or at the door



TEA and CHAT

A social afternoon for senior citizens held on
the first Monday of the month at the
Henderson Hall at 3pm.

May 2nd

June 6th Jubilee Party

July 4th

August 1st



Cherry Jones



PLANTING FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE



I have been asked by a member of the Queen's Jubilee Committee to suggest a few colourful planting schemes in red, white and blue so here are a few suggestions:

For producing a colourful bedding display try planting red GERANIUMS with white PETUNIAS and an edging of blue LOBELIA. Another suggestion would be to use red SALVIA with blue HELIOTROPE and a border edging of white ALYSSUM

If your choice is to use only one type of bedding plant you might like to consider searching for plug plants of VERBENA (UNION JACK mixed) in red, white and blue shades or PETUNIA (STARS AND STRIPES) or (FROST mixed) again in red, white and blue.

There are a number of choices for patio containers. Again, red GERANIUMS would be popular, planted up with SURFINIA PETUNIAS (WHITE, BLOOD RED and SKY BLUE shades) Apart from the petunias there are other types for producing a cascade of colour such as trailing LOBELIA (MONSOON or SAPPHIRE), BACOPA in white and blue shades and trailing FUCHSIAS in red, blue and white colours.



Most of the plants listed are annuals but you might prefer to plant up a container with perennials. If so you could use SALVIA (HOT LIPS), white OSTEOSPERMUM and the hardy blue GERANIUM (ROZANNE) to trail around the edges.

A planting scheme to attract insect pollinators would be COSMOS in red and white shades, single red POPPIES, blue CORNFLOWERS and white OX-EYE DAISIES.

Most of the annuals and perennials listed are obtainable as plug plants from mail order companies like THOMPSON and MORGAN, VAN MEUWEN OR WOOLMANS so start searching and see what colourful schemes you can come up with for the Queen's Jubilee.

Gareth Davies

Talybont Village Show 2022

THE SHOW IS ON! Saturday August 27th, Henderson Hall.

After two years of cancellations the village show is set to go ahead on Bank Holiday Saturday. Earlier appeals in Talybont Matters, plus through a flyer delivered door to door, has resulted in a couple of important additions to the show committee, so boosting the organisational capacity. It was disappointing that we received no suggestions about how to improve / alter the show or any volunteers from the younger age groups to get involved. However, it isn't too late to have your say or volunteer some help. We always need lots of people to help set up, run stalls and pack away so, if you haven't already made yourself known to the committee and want to help out, then please contact me.

Full details of events and show categories will be published later in the year. However, already booked, are The Brecon Town Band, Taiko drumming, Birds of Prey and Military vehicles. Along with the old favourites, including children's sports, bouncy castle, fancy dress competition, ice cream van, craft stalls and the famous WI refreshments. Also, hopefully, for the first time we aim to have a dog show!

Advance notice of some entry categories to help you prepare

First time exhibitors			Photography		
Ugliest vegetable	Vegetable collections		Adults	Life on the Canal	A Portrait
				An interesting building	The Brecon Beacons
Gladiolus	Roses	Cut flowers	Children	My Pet (age 5-8)	
				My Favourite Place (age 9-11)	
				Jubilee Celebrations (age 12-16)	

Richard Abram richardabram@btinternet.com



Keen to save energy on your heating?

Come & explore some options: 7:30pm Wednesday 18th May in Henderson Hall.

With 12 local households taking part, we have been running a domestic heating trial - heating people rather than spaces. Come and hear the results!

Local people will also be sharing their experiences of installing ground and air source heating, and Severn Wye Energy Agency will look at how you can take action to insulate your house and make it energy efficient.

We'll also give an update on the Talybont Turbine.

Hope to see you on May 18th

Barbara Anglezarke

CHURCH NOTES

CHURCH SERVICES

At the time of writing ten of our churches in the Beacons and Llyn Safaddan Ministry Area are open for worship for Sunday services, following this monthly pattern:

Beacons Benefice

10-00am at Llanfrynach Church on the 1st Sunday of the Month

10-00am at Llanfeugan Church on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month

10-00am at Cantref Church on the 3rd Sunday of the Month

10-00am at Llandetty Church on the 3rd Sunday of the Month

10-00am at Llanhamlach Church on the 4th Sunday of the Month

Llyn Safaddan

9-30am at Llanfihangel Church on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month

11-00am at Llangors Church on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month

9-30am at Bwlch Church on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month

11-00am at Llangasty Church on the 2nd Sunday of the Month

11-00am at Llanywern Church on the 4th Sunday of the Month

Services are usually Holy Communion. Revd Liz Bramley also hopes to restart the 11-00am Family Church services, meeting in the Henderson Hall on the 2nd Sunday of the month from May onwards.

It was good to have Llandetty Church open for the first time in over two years for a service on Easter Day. To date, Llansantffraed Church is still closed, although we do hope to have it open for people to visit at 3pm on Saturday 7th May, for the annual Wreath Laying at the grave of Henry Vaughan, as part of the Vaughan Association Conference which is taking place that weekend.

Both Llandetty and Llansantffraed Churches are in difficulty as they each currently have no churchwardens or treasurers and very few members. Inevitably this does raise difficult questions about the potential future of these churches. However, it is important that any decisions about their future are not made rashly nor with undue haste. It's also important that the views, feelings and ideas of the wider communities which these churches have served over the centuries are taken into account. With the help of the Archdeacon we plan to hold a meeting - **7-30pm on Friday 1st July at the Henderson Hall, Talybont** - at which these things might be considered. Do please come along if you are able.

Parish Website: <https://parish.churchinwales.org.uk/s451/> Priest-in-Charge : Revd Kelvin Richards

Tel. 01874 676146 email: kelvin@beaconssafaddan.plus.com





THE TALYBONT TOMBLES

Our last Litter Pick was on Saturday 12th February when we were 12 adults, 1 child and 1 small dog! In addition Gareth and Eirion checked out their patch on the previous morning - main road through the village and down Station Road, whilst Gerry did a stretch up the Reservoir a few days prior (3 full bags) as well as joining us on the day and checking out the grassy bank behind the bus shelter and the road up to Gilestone Cottages; Craig had quite a haul from the Dram Road and in the vicinity of the Star Inn, and Mike Smith found a lot of cans and bottles in the hedgerows towards Ashford Tunnel. We had a new team member Hayley and her daughter Jo who were also dog-sitting and brought her along as an extra 4 legged helper and they checked out the car park and the immediate hall area. Mike & Clare did their usual route up to Cross Oak via Cui, and Anne & Tim checked out the canal towpath to Cross Oak and back; Colin Parry did his patch up to Aber Village and along the reservoir dam wall, Linda & Mark picked the tennis court end of the playing field, Penpentre & the OAP bungalows. Linda and Hayley both noticed some metal bits and pieces and doors which appeared to have been left over from the dregs of the bonfire and had been dumped up onto the old cycle track but Linda very kindly offered to drive over and retrieve all the left overs and dispose of them during that week - thank you Linda for offering to do this. Maesmawr Lane, Maesmawr Close and the cutting through to Station Road as well as the Orchard Trail were also done the following week, which means that all the immediate village areas had been thoroughly covered.

I stayed in the vicinity of the hall car park/recycling bins and discovered a large amount of something quite nasty behind the recycling bins which I was unable to remove! I passed the information onto Keren, the hall Chairman, who quickly responded within an hour of me contacting her to say that it had been disposed of. Thank you Keren very much for your prompt action which is very much appreciated. How disgusting of people and I hope that will be the only time it happens. Here is a photo of our 'haul' which amounted to around 9 full bags, which the Council collected from the bus stop within a few days.



Once again thank you all for turning up and joining in, I like to think that we have made an improvement over the years in our immediate village surroundings for the benefit of visitors and our local residents.

The next one will be on **SATURDAY THE 21st MAY** when we will be 'Litter Picking for the Jubilee'.



It is now 10 years since I started organising our village scheme - our first pick was on Saturday the 2nd June 2012, after I won some initial Litter Pick equipment in the Daily Mail competition "Lets Tidy Up for the Queen" when it was her Diamond Jubilee. My mobility has seriously deteriorated lately and as I am waiting for hip surgery I think this would be an appropriate time for me to 'retire' and to hand over to someone else to organise - a couple would be ideal, please are there any takers? It is only 4 times a year and the next one will be July/August so is not particularly onerous and you have the advantage of choosing the dates to suit you! I have all the relevant information and all the equipment which can be passed on, I even have a large green equipment storage bin where everything is kept quite warm and dry.

Please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss in person, by phone or email - I look forward to hearing from you!

Sandra Briskham (Organiser)

Sandra.briskham@btinternet.com

Tel 676297





Talybont Stores

Canalside Cafe and Post Office

01874 676663 www.talybontstores.co.uk
Shop

Stock a wide range of products from fresh local meat, bread, milk, eggs, fruit and veg. Coal, logs and kindling. Newspapers, pet products, wines, spirits, local beers and ciders. Frozen meals prepared in the café.

Lottery, Health Lottery, Top Ups, greeting cards and stationary. Card payments accepted.

CRAFTY CRAFT SHOP by Regan Craftycraftshop21@gmail.com

Local handmade gifts, crafts, keyrings and cards. Personalised greeting cards, vinyl mugs, vinyl and etched wine glasses and more available. Custom orders welcome.

Café

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

Post Office

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

Opening times

Shop: Mon to Fri 7am until 6pm. Saturday 8am until 6pm.

Sunday 8am until 5pm

Café: Mon to Sun 9am until 5pm. Cooking till 4:45

Post Office: Mon to Sat 9am until 1.30pm



Usk Valley Gardening Association

Thursday 19th May Aberglasney visit

Friday 24th Jun, 7:00 pm Henderson Hall

Orchard Trail talk / Wildflower planting

Thursday 21st July Batesford Arboretum visit

Please contact either Gareth Davies, Chair

gebdavies@btinternet.com

or

Susan Hankey, Secretary

susiecello@me.com



The newly formed gardening association continues to go from strength to strength. We have had talks on bees, been advised on growing vegetables and shown the perfect way to prune roses. As the better weather approaches there are visits planned and the chance to catch up on some local long term projects run by some of our members.

Member numbers are very strong but we always welcome new blood. All our talks, and activities are open to non members (with a one off charge of £3). However, a full years membership is only £10 - a bargain!

If you are interested, or want to know more about our new amalgamated (Talybont, Bwlch and Llangynidr) club then please contact either Gareth or Susan on the emails listed above.



Talybont-on-Usk Community Council

Elections will be held on May 5th for the Community Council. You will be able to vote for the Community Councillors who will serve you on the Community Council for the forthcoming term. The Polling Station is located in Henderson Hall.

Community Councillors have met with your Senedd Members, Jane Dodds, James Evans and The Canal and River Trust Senior representatives to discuss a number of issues impacting on the community along the canal towpath and bridges from Pencelli to Landetty. This was an extremely productive meeting resulting in a positive action plan for improvements.

Floodlights have been installed by the Community Council at the far end of the playing field at the tennis and football courts so that games can be enjoyed into the evening.

The Community Council have purchased 2 mobile speed units that will be installed by Powys County Council. There are 4 locations between Station Road and Pencelli where they will be sited. The mobile speed units will then be moved around the 4 locations.

Agendas and Minutes can be found on our website- www.talybont.org

Meeting Dates:- All meetings are held in Henderson Hall at 7.15pm. Meetings can also be accessed over Zoom. If you would like to attend a meeting please contact our Clerk.

Monday 16th May

Monday 20th June

Monday 18th July

Monday 19th September

Monday 17th October

Monday 21st November

The Community Council continues to work on issues on behalf of its residents.

Keren Bender 07951536001

email: - kerenbender1@gmail.com

TALYBONT COMMUNITY FIBRE BROADBAND PROJECT

We are trying to get superfast fibre broadband for Talybont. There is a government scheme offering free installation of the fibre optic cables right to your home. Our neighbouring communities around Crickhowell, Llangorse, Erwood, Llangyndir etc. have all either already done this or are midway through their own projects. We don't want to be left out!

There was a bit of a panic as the Welsh government announced that the funding would end on March 31st, so we did a big leaflet drop in March to publicise the project. The Welsh government then slightly backtracked on that, so although they won't fund new projects, they are allowing people to apply to join existing projects up until the new deadline of September. Luckily, local company Beacons Telecom had already put in an application for the village, so we now have until September for anyone who is interested to join.

Why join? If you want faster, better internet then this is for you. If you are a homeowner, it will increase the value of your house. If you have children or grandchildren living with you or visiting, they will expect superfast broadband.

Also, copper wires and landline telephones are going to be phased out, so if we want to remain connected, we will need fibre optic in the future.

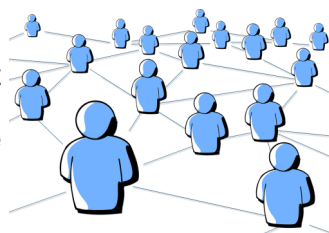
Most importantly, **it is free!** The government is paying to instal the cable to your home. All you would pay is the ongoing internet or phone bill, exactly as you do right now. So it is a "no-brainer" as they say!

We've had 44 people express an interest and 27 have signed up for the government vouchers, but we need more than this otherwise the project won't go ahead. Beacons Telecom is a company and they won't build the fibre optic network if they lose money doing so. Please do speak to your friends and neighbours to spread the word.

At the moment, the project only covers Talybont and Aber. Hopefully, there will be other schemes available in the future for the other villages in the community.

If you would like to join up, then contact Beacons Telecom on 02920 099 345 or info@beaconstelecom.

If you would like to know more about the scheme, look at gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk. If you have any specific questions, please do email us at talybontcommunityfibre@gmail.com.

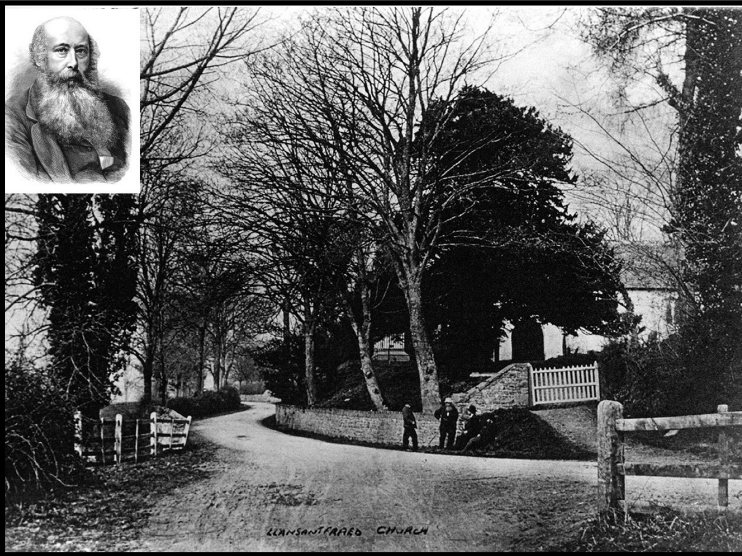


The old Llansantffraed Junction

This photograph shows the 'London to Fishguard Highway' next to the 17th Century St Bride's Church in Llansantffraed. The church visible through the trees was replaced by the present St Bride's in 1885. The Gwynne-Holford sarcophagus, dating from the 1840s, is also visible. The highway curves left to cross a bridge over the Brecon and Merthyr Railway, opened in 1863. A trace of the highway is now formed by the long lay-by past the Old Rectory (previously Rock Cottage). The track-bed of the railway is now the flat straight of the A40 towards Newton Farm

The photograph was almost certainly taken by the one-time iron master Robert Thompson Crayshay (inset). He was known 'The Iron King'. He lived in Cyfartha Castle in Merthyr Tydfil. He suffered a stroke in 1860 that left him profoundly deaf. With the advent of photography he took up that pastime most enthusiastically. He took many photographs of the the Usk and Taff Valleys some of which are preserved in

the National Museum of Wales. He may be the bearded gentleman in the white hat. He died in 1879 at the age of 62.



With thanks to Sarah Osborne.

Seamus Hamill-Keays

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Scethrog Party

Scethrog will be holding a party to celebrate the Jubilee on **Friday 3rd June**. To be based around a marquee in the 'field' next to the Barn, the event will include games for children, music, special Jubilee cakes, a fire pit, fireworks, and bubbly to toast the Queen. Invitations to follow shortly.

Peter Seaman

**Talybont Matters is a
Community Council Publication**

**This edition edited by:
Richard Abram**

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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.

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.

