



LLANWDDYN NEWSLETTER



Rhagfyr/December 2008

Newyddion a Digwyddiadau _____ Covering the News and Events
pentref Llanwddyn of Llanwddyn

SERVICES at St. Wddyn's

There will be a service of Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer each Sunday at 11.15 a.m.

The Rev. Edward Yendall
The Vicarage
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant
SY10 0JZ

Telephone: 01691780660

Welcome to all. Croeso I bawb.

CHURCH FLOWERS

December

Annette Griffiths & Audrey Jones

OEDFEUON CAPEL SARDIS

Rhagfyr

7th Y Gweinidog (bore)
14th Y Parch Raymond Hughes (pryn)
21st Oedfa Nadolig y plant (pryn)

Changes to Church Services

Sunday 14th Dec

There will not be a service at 11.15 am, instead there is a **Christingle** at 6pm.

Sunday 21st Dec

This will be a **Carol Service** at the normal time of 11.15am.

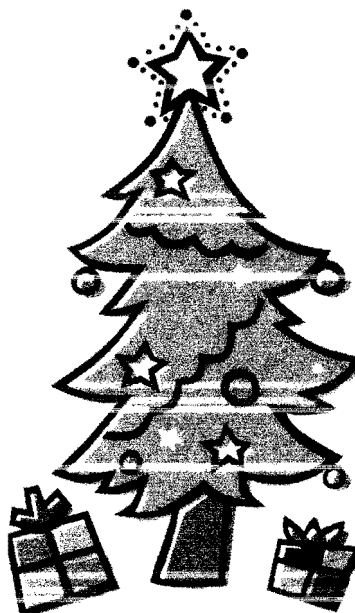


Wednesday 24th Dec
Christmas Holy Communion
11.30pm



Happy Christmas

to All



FROM THE VICAR

December, with its short and wintry days is once again upon us. It has been for many people a difficult year and the recent economic news will no doubt have their impact on Christmas trading and celebrations.

At this time when darkness seems to be all about us, not only as we approach the shortest day, but also too in wider sense as we wonder about many of the things that go on in our modern world, we look for a light to shine upon the way ahead.

I selected a book from our Christian lending library which calls every third Tuesday of the month in the morning at the Vicarage here in Llanrhaeadr. Everyone is welcome to come to see the books at this time. The name of the book is 'Landscapes of Light' and it is a photographic book and anthology of prayers by David Adam.

One of the pages of this book shows a beautiful winter scene, with a winter sunset and the seashore in the twilight. The oncoming darkness is broken by the sunset and some lights that shine from the shore. The heading is also very striking and it reads 'The Light of the World'.

'Light of the world, enter into the depths of our lives. .come into the dark and hidden places, walk in the storehouse of our memories. .plumb the very depth of our being. and bring us safely to your glorious light'.

This light of the world is, of course, no less than the Christ-child in the manger whose birth we shall soon be celebrating. However bleak things may appear in the world, let us remember that Christ, through His Holy Spirit, is always with us. This is what Christmas is all about. Let us pray as we approach it that God will indeed bring us safely this Christmas to His glorious light.

When it comes, I wish everyone a most peaceful and happy Christmas and a bright New Year.

Wrth nesau, unwaith eto, at amser Nadolig byddwn ni'n cofio fod Crist - wedi ei eni inni yn y preseb ym Methlehem - yw goleuni gwir o'n byd. Wrth gofio ein amgylchiadau economaidd presennol ac anhawsterau eraill a'r tywyllwch sydd o'n cwmpas ni y Mis Rhagfyr hwn peidiwch ag anghofio genedigaeth Crist a gweddiwch iddo i fod yn bresennol yn ein plith fel yr ydym ni'n baratoi ar gyfer Dydd Nadolig.

Edward Yendall.

Royal British Legion

Lake Vyrnwy Branch

are holding the

Annual Christmas

WHIST DRIVE

On

Tuesday 9th December

At

7.30pm

Llanwddyn Community

Centre

Cash Prizes

Admission £1.50

Free refreshments

TRIFLE WHIST



To be held at

Llanwddyn Community

Centre

On

Friday 12th December

7.30pm

Admission £1.50

Raffle

Refreshments



Get away from it all ...

HOLIDAY TOURS 2009

1940s We'll Meet Again - Torquay 9 March - 5 Days

Explore the West of Ireland - Tralee 23 April - 8 Days

Lake Garda 27 June - 10 Days

Tenby 2 July - 8 Days

Orkney & Shetland 20 July - 8 Days

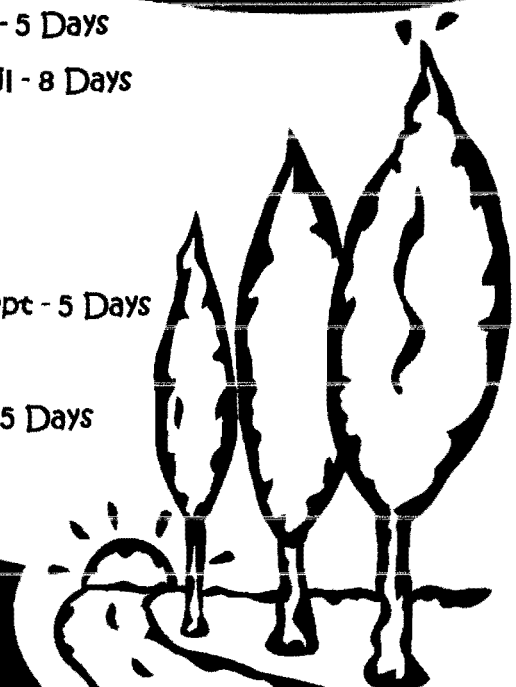
International Sheepdog Trials-Penrith 9 Sept - 5 Days

Ireland October - 6 Days

Turkey & Tinsel - Llandudno 30 November - 5 Days

Tanat Valley Coaches

01691 780212





a million voices for nature

RSPB Newsletter by Roger Whiteway

Reserve Management

Nest box maintenance is continuing whilst the weather is relatively dry. Winter farmland bird surveys have started, 2 visits per month during Oct-March. We are not intending doing any heather seed collection this winter which is often a major task in the first part of the winter period, at present we have a large store of seed from the past few years. Sowing of areas will soon take place this season on 12 ha of bracken spraying on Cwm Hesgyn. Maintenance of the volunteer accommodation has started, mostly decorating and some odd repair jobs. Minor repairs were carried out on the bridge to the Centenary hide by the stalwarts Nick and Clive who have been volunteering here for many years. They also carried out some improvements in the shop, mostly in the book display area. Trail audits were carried out. Heavy snowfall occurred here on the 30th of Oct causing considerable damage to lots of small trees (and some not so small) which fell onto the trails. Many of the deciduous trees were still in heavy leaf and that combined with the snow, was just too much for them and over they came. Snowfall at this time of year is very unusual here. These trees have been duly cleared up. The autumnal leaf colours have been excellent this year.

Jacqueline Miller from the Nene Washes Corncrake release project came to volunteer for one week.

Andrew Sheppard has joined us as a long term winter volunteer. Andrew was on the Stone Curlew project previously in Wiltshire this summer. One or two other long term volunteers are in the pipeline as well.

Flora and Fauna

Hen Harrier seem commoner this autumn with a male hunting near the Myrddin track on Oct 2nd, a ringtail over Cedig forestry on Oct 9th and a ringtail at Gareg Coch on Oct 14th. A Green Woodpecker was heard in Parc fields on Oct 15th, one seen in conifers at Allt Forgan on Oct 21st and one male seen at Allt Forgan on Nov 3rd. Chaffinch seem in very

short supply this winter with no large flocks on beech mast, must a poor year for mast, no Brambling yet either. The first Goldeneye for the winter were 1 male, a female and an immature female at Old Village Bay on Nov 3rd. 30 Redpoll were seen at Coed Bryn Gwyn on Nov 3rd. A Woodcock was flushed from field on Ffridd Fawr and 1 off the Blue Trail on Nov 3rd. Redwing numbers have remained low with ones and twos around, the largest number being 20 at Ty Llwyd on Oct 22nd. Fieldfare counts have been low also so far with 25 over Gwyn's mountain track and 120 feeding on Rowan berries at Ty Llwyd on Oct 23rd and 90 over Parc fields on Nov 3rd. A few sightings of Peregrine occurred over the month.

Two Short eared Owl were seen on the Migneint at Pont yr afon Gam on Oct 13th. A Grey Partridge was seen on the Myrddin track on Oct 22nd, presumably a released shoot bird from somewhere nearby. Red Grouse seem to have had a good breeding season with several groups of 6 and 7 around the reserve. A male Black Grouse was seen at Hafod on Oct 30th. A Lapwing was present at Blaencoed (one of the recently ditch blocked areas) on Nov 3rd. Duck numbers seem to have remained fairly static with around 80 Mallard and 4 Teal. It is hard to tell as with high water levels, the ducks tend to go under the willow out of sight. The lake should be at its lowest in October, in fact it was at its highest. 2-3 Cormorant seen throughout the period. 3-400 Starling were seen swirling around the Island willow area at dusk on Nov 5th, possibly roosting in here and this was confirmed on the 6th when c500 were seen flying around the willows again. Dabchick was also seen on the lagoon on the 6th, along with the regular Dipper.

Events.

Our principal event this month was the "Feed the Birds Day" on Saturday 25th October. We tried a new venture, with an illustrated talk in our cinema facility

at the centre. This was most successful with 15 people attending. The feedback was good, and we made 2 members. Unfortunately the other event on the following Friday - "An introduction to Wildsquare", for the younger generation, was less successful, mainly because the poor weather (Snow!) keeping people away.

A clearer view of wildlife this Christmas!

On Saturday 22nd November between 10.30am and 4.00pm, the retail team at Lake Vyrnwy nature reserve are holding an Optics day, displaying a wide range of binoculars and scopes enabling visitors to try for themselves and compare the products.

Lucinda Barfoot, the retail manager, says "I am arranging a display in the complete price range from a £25 pair of binoculars suitable for children, to the latest HD models in the RSPB range. There will also be instruments by Swarovski and a digiscope and camera kits"

All of this is available and very suitable for a Christmas wish list!

There will also be an opportunity to see a full range of cards and excellent gifts, including RSPB membership, as Christmas presents at the RSPB shop.

Plant a Tree for posterity!

On Saturday 29th November we will be supporting National Tree Week with a "Plant a Tree" event. This offers a chance to watch "your" tree grow here on future visits to Lake Vyrnwy for many years to come. This event will take place at 1.00pm.

LIFE ACTIVE BLANKET BOG PROJECT

Practical

Grip blocking has continued this month with all of the machines now in good working order! So far over 7km of drain have been blocked at Lake Vyrnwy.

At Penaran more than 80km of drain have been blocked, 70 hectares of regenerating conifer have been removed and the plantation removal has also begun.

The "Aliens" have been very busy too and have cleared, in less than a month, more than 2000 self-seeding trees from the moorland at Lake Vyrnwy. These have ranged in height from 2 inches to 30 feet.

Visits

This month the project hosted visits by Natural England peatland and climatology scientists; the RSPB Wales Conservation Officer Team and the Countryside Land and Business Association.

Monitoring

The second vegetation survey was carried out by ECUS.

The hydrological surveying continues with some of the work now contracted out.

Community

Mike Morris gave four further talks to Montgomery Age Concern groups to 60 people.

Mike, Jude and Howard lead the last guided walk of the year to 20 members of the Oswestry Ramblers Association.

Gary spent the half term week braving the snow by having a display outside the shop where he spoke to 72 people about the project.

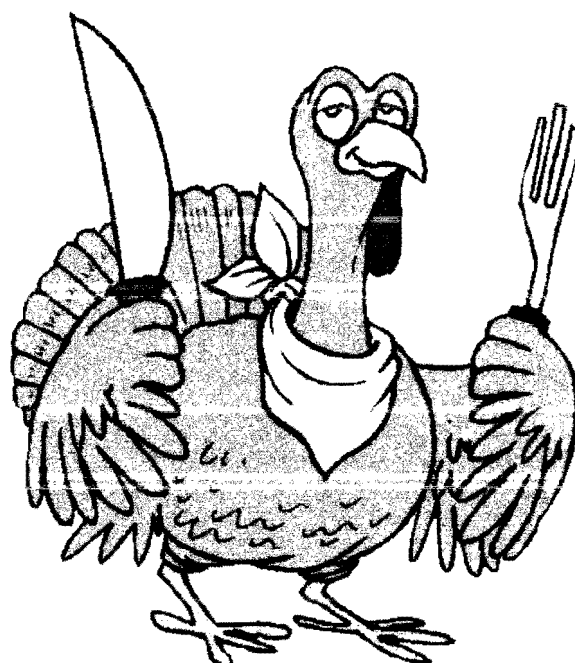
Unfortunately due to the early heavy snow fall at Lake Vyrnwy at the end of October a number of landowner visits had to be cancelled as the dams and grips were covered in snow!

Other

The External Project Steering Group met at Lake Vyrnwy.

A Knowledge Exchange Day was held at the Lake Vyrnwy Hotel by UKPopNet and was attended by interested parties. The day was very successful in increasing the understanding of the research being carried out at Lake Vyrnwy.

Roger Whiteway 15th November 2008





Everyone is invited
to the
Christingle Service
at
St Wddyns Church
On
Sunday 14th Dec
at
6pm



Midnight
Service
At
St Wddyns Church
on
Wednesday
24th December

Starts 11.30pm



ANY OLD RAGS?

The next time you are sorting out your wardrobe and come across clothes that you once loved but have now perhaps gone out of fashion, or that you know you will never fit into again (except in your dreams) or old curtains or towels, please do one of two things.

The good stuff, put in bags and they can be re-sold. Things which are not suitable for selling, please put in black sacks and stick a label on and write the word RAGS on it. Take them to Audrey in the Post Office or Jen Barratt will collect them if you have difficulty getting them there. The Proceeds will go to Hope House Childrens Hospice.

THANK YOU

Newyddion Ysgol Efyrrwy - News from Ysgol Efyrrwy

Ysgol Efyrrwy, Llanwddyn Powys SY10 0LS

office@llanwddyn.powys.sch.uk

www.llanwddyn.powys.sch.uk

September Activities

During September the children had been busy with various extra curricular activities -

Cobra Tag Rugby at Meifod on September 10th -

All junior classes from schools in the Llanfyllin and Llanfair area came together for a day of Tag Rugby coaching with Cobra.

Crucial Crew Event at Park Hall, September 11 -

Where Yr 5 & 6 children from schools in the area learnt about keeping safe in the home and whilst out and about.

An Assembly with Darren Mayor, School Impact team was held at School on Friday, September 26th

After School Sports Club continued this term, with children from Ysgol Llanfihangel joining in the activities!

Art with Hilary - The pupils of Ysgol Llanfihangel joined the Junior Class for a session of lessons on Felting.



School's Thanksgiving Service

Thursday, October 2nd

The School welcomed the Cylch Meithrin, friends and family to join us at our Thanksgiving Service. The children had donated food items for the display and the collection amounting to £25 was donated to Great Ormond Street Hospital, London.

The school children also took part in St Wddyn's Church Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, October 5th.

On the afternoon of Monday, October 13th the children of Yrs 5 & 6 joined children of many other schools at Menter Maldwyn's Annual Jamboree at Llanfair Caereinion Leisure Centre.

An excellent time was had by all the Children!

School Stall at the Community Centre's Autumn Fayre, Friday evening, October 17th

We'd like to thank all the children and Staff who brought in items to support the School stall. Also thanks to the Staff who manned the stall on the evening. Total raised by the School Stall in aid of the Community Centre was £74.

Llanfyllin Area Dragon Sports, Indoor Athletics Llanfyllin Leisure Centre, October 21st

The children of Yrs 5 & 6 took part in the vast variety of indoor athletics events that were held. All taking part were awarded Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards for their achievements in each of the events. Da iawn chi gyd!!

Powysland Museum... come to school!

On Thursday, October 9th, Sara Metcalf of Powysland Museum spent the morning at the school conducting a Food and Farming Workshop. All the children had the opportunity to learn about farming in the past.

They also made their own butter.



**Visit to Morrisons, Welshpool and
Pyrography Workshop with Andy Hancock
at Powysland Museum**

A busy day at Welshpool was had by the children of the Junior class on Wednesday, October 15th.

The morning was spent learning about the baking processes at Morrison's, while after lunch they enjoyed an outdoor pyrography workshop with Andy Hancock.



Children in Need, November 14, 2008

The children and staff supported Children in Need by being sponsored to wear their pyjamas to school, making and selling cakes and covering 'Pudsey' in loose change.

Total raised to date is £155!!!

Da iawn blantos!!



Welcome Sioned!! Who is joining us for 8 weeks as part of her NVQ Level 3 Course.

Llanwddyn Eisteddfod, Friday, November 14th
The Eisteddfod Committee wish to thank everyone for their support.
Dymuna Pwyllgor yr Eisteddfod ddiolch i bawb am eu cefnogaeth.

Here is a list of the First Place Winners -

- Pre School Solo - Eleri Davies, Meifod
- Yr 2 and under Solo - Siwan Roberts, Llanwddyn
- Yr 3 & 4 Solo - Elain Wyn, Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa
- Yr 5 & 6 Solo - Elin Mererid, Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant
- Yr 6 and under. Instrumental Solo - Elin Mererid, Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant
- Under 18 Solo - Angharad Lewis, Llanfair Caereinion
- Under 18 Piano Solo - Angharad Lewis, Llanfair Caereinion
- Under 18 Instrumental Solo - Emma Morgan, Llanerfyl
- Yr 6 and under Singing Party - Ysgol Efyrrwy, Llanwddyn
- Under 18 Singing Party - Parti Moli a Gwawr, Llanerfyl
- Under 18 Duet - Mirain and Ellyw Llanerfyl
- Under Yr 6 Cerdd Dant - Erin Williams, Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant
- Under 18 Cerdd Dant - Angharad Lewis, Llanfair Caereinion
- Yr 2 and under Recitation - Siwan Roberts, Llanwddyn
- Yr 3 & 4 Recitation - Elain Wyn, Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa
- Yr 5 & 6 Recitation - Caryl Lewis, Llanfair Caereinion
- Yr 6 and under Recitation Party - Ysgol Efyrrwy, Llanwddyn
- Handwriting Competition—Yr 2 and under - Siwan Roberts, Llanwddyn
- Handwriting Competition—Yr 6 and under - Lucy Humphreys, Llanwddyn
- Art - Yr 2 and under - Siwan Roberts, Llanwddyn
- Art - Yr 6 and under - Shane Roberts, Llanwddyn
- Computer picture - Yr 2 and under - Siwan Roberts, Llanwddyn
- Computer picture - Yr 6 and under - Jack Mills, Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa
- Craft - pre school - Dyfrig Jones, Llanwddyn
- Craft - Yr 2 and under - Dyfrig Jones, Llanwddyn
- Felting - Yr 6 and under - Lucy Humphreys, Llanwddyn
- Sewing - Yr 6 and under - Lucy Humphreys, Llanwddyn
- Rose Bowl presented to the Best Singing Performance -
Angharad Lewis, Llanfair Caereinion

Last recommended posting dates	Service
Thursday, 18th December	Second Class
Saturday, 20th December	First Class
	Recorded Signed For™ has the same last posting dates as the 1st or 2nd Class service, but the customer has chosen to apply, too
Special Delivery™	
Tuesday, 23rd December	Special Delivery™
Friday, 19th December	Special Delivery™ with Saturday Guarantee
Parcelforce Worldwide	
Monday, 22nd December	Parcelforce 48
Tuesday, 23rd December	Parcelforce 24
Monday, 8th December until Monday, 18th December**	Special Priority
International Air Mail	
Friday, 5th December	South & Central America Caribbean, Africa, Middle East, Far East, Asia, New Zealand and Australia
Wednesday, 10th December	Japan, USA, Canada and Eastern Europe
Friday, 12th December	Western Europe



**Line
Dancing
Wednesday
3rd December
7.30
And
Monday
15th December**

VALLEY ARTS AND CRAFTS



Vrynwy Craft Centre
 Units 3 & 4.

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 shop or on our website:

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 Summer 11 - 5

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**Seasons
Greetings
to all my
friends and
Neighbours.
Sally Williams
33 Abertridwr**

Cyngor Cymuned Llanwddyn Community Council Adroddiad/Report

The Community Council met on 22nd September chaired by Cllr. Frances Ellis. The Community Council had learned that the three Telephone Kiosks were not included on the list which was under review. The Community Council had written to the relevant authorities stressing the importance of this service especially as the area is badly served with signal for mobile phones. The County Council had been approached regarding the overgrown Trees on the B4393 at Boncyn Celyn. Powys County Council informed the Community Council on their strategy for the reduction of street lighting throughout the County in order to make savings in the Energy Budget. The switch-off will commence in September. It was decided to monitor the lighting when the operation has taken effect. Other communications from Powys County Council included changes in the number of registration districts within the County, changes in the way Planning Applications consultations are processed using web pages, also correspondence on Village Halls funding for 2008/2009, nomination for representative on the Standards Committee and offer of training to new members on the Code of Conduct. It was reported that re-cycling matters were being pursued – especially bottles and plastics, and the Wood Fuel System being monitored and the extension of the speed limit at Nantllachar was being looked at again. It was also learned that the proposed bus Service cutbacks had been set back for another year. The Chair Cllr Frances thanked members and County Councillor Simon Baynes for all the work undertaken. The next meeting will be held on 27th October at 7.00 pm

The Community Council met on 27th October and the meeting was chaired by Cllr Frances Ellis. There were a number of correspondence from Powys County Council including nominations for Tidy Towns Initiative, suggested measures to safeguard BT Payphones schemes like adopt or sponsor a kiosk, a seminar on 30th October at Neuadd Maldwyn regarding managing play areas, a meeting on 28th November regarding the Rural development Plan and Rural Community Action Programmes at Llandrindod Wells led by the Powys Regeneration Partnership, information that Cllr H Evans from Llanfihangel CC being elected to represent Montgomeryshire on the Standards Committee, it was noted that Planning Application P2008/1095 re dwelling at Lake Vyrnwy Hotel had been refused. The matter of the proposed Dyfnant Forest Windfarm scoping report giving details of the first stages of consultation. The Community Council will hear representations from concerned parties. It was resolved to set the TV fees for the current year at £20 as last year and a letter will be sent out shortly. It is hoped that the TV engineer will be able to demonstrate what service can be offered after the switch to digital.

Following the steps taken by Powys CC to switch off Street Lighting it appears that lampstands which were scheduled to be retained had been switched off and others had not been turned off. It was stressed that there is a need for more light turned on at Abertridwr and the Powys CC will be approached regarding this. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th November 2008 at 7.00 pm

J Gwyndaf Richards, Clerk Llanwddyn Community Council

Things you may not know about Christmas

It is illegal to eat mince pies on Christmas day.

Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas pudding, mince pies and anything to do with gluttony. That law has never been rescinded so mince pies are illegal.

Can you drive to mass on Christmas day?

According to the Holy Days and Fasting Days Act of 1551, which has not yet been repealed, everyone must attend church on Christmas Day on foot.

Has Christmas ever been banned?

English Puritan leader Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas between 1647 and 1660 because he believed such celebrations were immoral for the holiest day of the year

How many Christmas cards are sent in the uk?

Over 1.8 billion Christmas cards are sent annually in the UK. Producing these cards requires over 200,000 trees to be felled each year.

Why do we change Christmas to Xmas?

We write "Xmas" as X represented the Greek letter chi. It was pronounced with an aspirated [kh], which is the first letter of Christ's name.

In the Christmas carol 'Twelve Days of Christmas,' the total number of gifts that 'my true love gave to me' is 364.

About 10 million Turkeys are eaten at Christmas each year. The UK is alone in making this a Christmas tradition although the US does so for Thanksgiving.

Famous people who have their birthdays on Christmas Day include Dido, Annie Lennox, Sir Isaac Newton, Anwar Sadat, Humphrey Bogart and Sissy Spacek.

Two non humans have topped the Christmas charts.

Bob the Builder was Xmas No.1 in 2000, and Mr Blobby in 1993.

December 2008



In Touch With The Community

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3 Line Dancing 7.30	4 Youth Club	5	6	7
8	9 Whist Drive 7.30	10	11 Youth Club	12 Trifle Whist Drive 7.30	13	14 Christingle St Wddyns 6pm
15 Line Dancing 7.30	16	17 School Concert	18 Youth Club	19	20	21
22 Community Council Meeting 7pm	23	24 Midnight Service St Wddyns 11.30pm	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31				

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the Editorial Board

Editorial Team

David Rowlands
Audrey Jones
Vic Clark
Annette Griffiths

Llanwddyn Newsletter

Annette Griffiths
Dam View
Phone: 01691 870236
Email: annettegriffiths@llanwddyn.com