

# Castle News

Spring 2022



Quarterly Newsletter

## **A note from the Editor.....**

If you have any stories, photos or information that you would like to include in the next issue of the Castle News please get in touch with me via my email amyshanahan27@hotmail.com.

As always I would like to thank our team of contributors for all their quarterly updates, and a special thank you to Brenda Brown and her team for the printing.

Amy

## **ST GARMONS**

At last Spring has arrived and we can put the damp and cold winter months behind us. It's also a time to welcome our gardeners back into the churchyard continuing their ongoing work of keeping God's Acre looking so smart and tidy. Thanks lads, our churchyard is a real asset to the village.

Every year we see changes as people come and go, and it was only last year that we said goodbye to Rev. Steve Willson after 10 years of being the local Vicar. Rev. Alexis Smith replaced Steve and has been our main person ever since as well as being part of our church and the community for the past 6 years or so. Alexis has decided to retire from full time ministry and her and Scott will be moving to Meiford in the near future. Alexis' last service will at 09.30 on the 24 April. We wish her and Scott a healthy and happy retirement. I understand Alexis will be keeping in touch with us here so it's not quite a final goodbye.

The church held it's annual meeting during mid-March and whilst there are a few committee role changes, the old team is back serving the church in a variety of ways. There was only one nomination for Warden, so Colin is back as Warden for the next year. The remainder of the folk being Richard as Secretary and Clive, Viv, Sonia, Vojka and James as the other committee members.

We await news of who we are likely to receive as our next local Vicar, but

*St Garmons Cont'd .....*

for the next few months we expect to welcome the Rev. Imogen Marsden from Welshpool as our main clergy person.

Work on the repairs to the spire are finally expected to commence on 9 May. The works will all be at high level and apart from short periods when a "cherry picker" will be on site there should be no closure of the paths around the church. For any photography hobbyists there should be some excellent photographic opportunities during this time.

For the Platinum Jubilee celebrations we are planning to hold a flower festival and will be inviting local groups or anyone with a flair for flower arranging to contact us and provide a display. More on that in local notices nearer the time.

As we approach Easter, please note the following planned services which are:

10 April, Palm Sunday at 0930

15 April, Good Friday Family Half Hour at 10.30

17 April, Easter Day at 09.30

23 April. Celebration of the life of Michael Rogers at 13.00

24 April. Alexis' final service

Colin Pengelly

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and electrical repairs

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Tel: 01938 850264



## Castle Caereinion Church in Wales School Ysgol Castell Caereinion

We have had a busy Spring term so far, with lots of fun events going on within school.

In Class One, the children have loved their topic of 'Castles, Knights and Dragons' and Class Two have enjoyed exploring the topic of 'Explorers'. To promote independence, our youngest children prepare their own 'play plans' and our juniors have a weekly 'Genius Hour'.

February started with Chinese New Year. The children made dragons, Chinese fans, found out which Chinese Year they were born in and tasted delicious Chinese food. On March 1st we celebrated Saint David's Day with a school Eisteddfod. We all dressed up, either in red, green or white (the colours of the Welsh flag), a Welsh sporting top or in traditional Welsh costume. Our pupils competed with reciting, singing, handwriting, 2D art work and computer-generated pictures. Mrs Delyth Evans judged our stage items and Mrs Eirlys Jones and Mrs Christine Williams kindly judged our non-stage items. We shared our Eisteddfod with Parents and friends on our school Facebook page.

On March 3rd we all dressed up as our favourite book character for World Book Day.

PC Sweetman visits the school regularly to lead sessions with the children and Reverend Alexis leads a service each month linked to our Christian values. Mrs Annwen Watkins visits the school to support the Key Stage Two pupils with an exciting coding project. On March 18th we took part in Red Nose Day to raise money to raise money for Comic Relief. Everyone wore red and we sported some wacky hair styles. We even shared jokes and items in our Talent Show.

A highlight of our week is still Forest Schools. On a Thursday afternoon, whatever the weather, all pupils thoroughly enjoy donning their wellington boots to go out into our wonderful outdoor area. They experience a huge variety of outdoor skills such as building swings and dens, cooking on an

*CIW school Cont'd .....*

open fire and making models and pictures. As part of our new reward system linked to Christian values, the children enjoyed a full day of Forest Schools and have also enjoyed a Hot Chocolate Friday. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions rules placed on us we have been unable to organise a whole school visit anywhere offsite. However, in March we were able to organise our first visit off site to Powis Castle.

Sadly, Castle Caereinion Church in Wales School will close at the end of this school year- Summer 2022. We hope to have an open evening to invite back past pupils, staff, Parents, Governors and villagers for a last look around our school. Further details to follow.

Angela Jones

Acting Headteacher

## **THE ARTS SOCIETY MID WALES AND BORDERS**

The April 2022 lecture of the Arts Society Mid Wales and Borders takes place on Thursday April 28th and is titled 'The Triumph of Lutyens' New Delhi' The speaker is Anthony Peers. Lutyens' Delhi is an area of New Delhi named after the British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens.

The May 2022 lecture of the Arts Society Mid Wales & Borders takes place on Thursday May 26th and is titled 'Antonio Gaudi'. The speaker is Hugh Ellwood. Gaudi was a Spanish architect, and many of his buildings are in Barcelona.

Venue is the Powis Suite, Royal Oak Hotel, Welshpool. Start time is 2.30pm prompt. Visitors are welcome, though a donation of £6 per person is requested towards costs.

For more details contact Dennis J Duggan [djduggan@supanet.com](mailto:djduggan@supanet.com) Tel 01938 555574 or Carole Joby [carojoby@keme.co.uk](mailto:carojoby@keme.co.uk) Tel 01691 658110

## CASTLE WI

As our arranged lunch was cancelled in January it was so nice to get together in February. David Oliver was our speaker for the evening, he spoke about how his passion for Cobs and the equine circuit began, having been around horses for many years with his father and Grandfather, they too were also avid successful breeders, showing their prize Cobs at the Royal Welsh, winning many sections and eventually winning overall.

David has judged the Cob section many times, opening up opportunities for him with YFC and later S4C, becoming a presenter in the equine section. Also a notable compère at many Urdd eisteddfods.

Dougie Bancroft representing the Wales Air Ambulance also gave an interesting insight to such an invaluable service which we are so lucky to have on our doorstep.

He went on to say that it costs around £2,000 per shout, estimated to have about 5000 shouts a year, the costs are immense at £8.5 million to keep the ambulance service afloat, Hopefully our carol singing efforts and our donation of £180 will go a little way to help.

Throughout the winter, fellow member Megan Evans knitted many squares to form a most beautiful colourful blanket which is being donated to Ukraine on our behalf.

Our next meeting will be on Weds April 13th, Carolle Doyle will tell us about her 'Donkathon' around the world with her two donkeys

Meetings start at 7 pm in the Community Hall, come and give us a go, you just might enjoy

Meryl Evans

## 2022 Programme

**13th April**—Carolle Doyle—'Donkathon all around the world' talk

Competition: Make as many words from the word 'donkeys'

Teas—Meryl & Rhian

**11th May**—Alma Evans—Sugacraft Demo (extremely talented lady in the icing world)

*Castle WI Cont'd .....*

Competition: Decorated Cup Cake

Teas: Bring and share food

Other WI Club guests invited

**8th June**—Trip—Wedgwood Factory Tour

**13th July**—Afternoon around a garden in Caersws from the “National Garden Scheme” with tea afterwards, address given nearer the time.

**August**—Holiday

**14th September**—Charlotte Woodford—Laughing Yoga

Competition: Funny photo of your pet

Teas: Jean & Hazel

**12th October**—Coco Piazza Chocolate making Demo and history of the business

Competition: Jar Chutney, any variety

Teas: Ruth & Sandra

**9th November**—Club AGM and Mini show

Competition: Waste Not Want Not tip

Teas Bring and share food

**14th December**—Helen Cooksley from Meifod—talk on her herd of Alpacas, she will bring along items made from their wool

Competition: The funniest New Year’s Resolution

Teas: Megan & Gwyneth

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**NICK OVER**

Cabinet Maker  
& Restorer  
The Rhallt

Castle Caereinion  
Tel: 01938 850388

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# Jubilee Party

Castle Caereinion Community

Council and Castle Caereinion Recreation Association invite all

Residents of Castle Caereinion to our

**QUEEN ELIZABETH PLATINUM**

**JUBILEE PARTY**

**SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**



Join us for a special day to celebrate 70 years of Queen Elizabeth II  
With a day of Free Activities for the Residents of Castle Caereinion

**Daytime – at the Community Centre** *(Some snacks will be provided, but you may want to bring your own picnic)*

**11:00 – Coffee Morning** with some home-made cakes at the Community Centre

**12:00 – Walking Treasure Hunt** for all the family – Prizes for the winner! Starting at the Community Centre

- Mega Bouncy Castle including Bouncy Basketball, Bouncy Football and a Soft Ball Pit for smaller children
- Royal Photo Booth - with Royal Props – strike a Royal Pose
- Raise a toast to the Queen (bubbly or lager) (18 + only)
- Ice Creams / Lollies & Soft Drinks
- Candy Floss & Popcorn
- Face Painting
- Bubble Machine
- Short Mat Bowling
- Golf Chipping and Putting
- Seed Planting



## **Evening – at the Red Lion from 5.00pm**

- Music courtesy of Tim Humberstone and Jon Pierce
- Hog Roast
- Magician – “Liam’s Close Up Magic”



**Everyone welcome!**

## MONTGOMERYSHIRE CANAL

*This time it's ITV.....*

The Tramps have had a busy winter, the weather has been kind to us, Thursdays have all seemed to be decent days and the winter storms didn't give us too much extra work.

Seems the Monty is getting popular, on the 11th February we had a visit from Rebecca Pow, the Waterways minister accompanied by Craig Williams MP and Richard Parry, the Chief Executive of The Canal and Waterways Trust. The minister was genuinely interested in the work of our volunteer group.

Not to be outdone by the BBC, ITV Coast and Country sent reporter Sean Fletcher along with a camera team recently and the resulting piece was shown on the programme airing on Friday 18th March. Coast & Country: Series 10, Episode 2 | Wales Programmes ([itv.com](http://itv.com))

All these diversions haven't detracted from the work we have been doing, the weed cutter has been busy and now all the navigable sections are weed free and make life easier for boats using the navigable sections between Ardleen and Belan.

We are starting to be asked to help with other projects along the course of the canal, one such was the planting of nearly 800 trees at Aston lock recently, this was one of the few Thursdays when the weather wasn't kind and we got pretty damp and muddy!

Tim

## **CASTLE CAEREINION GOLF SOCIETY 2022**

Welcome to the Castle Caereinion Golf Society 2022 spring report.

Firstly, we hope you and your families are keeping safe and well.

This, spring for many is the start of the golfing season, clocks go forward and society members are seen cleaning and polishing their clubs to do battle on the golf courses.

Our Christmas away day did not go to plan, whilst everyone was driving on the way to Porthmadog Golf Club we received a phone call to inform us the golf course was closed due to flooding. Some quick thinking and a few phone calls were required, and we managed to book into Welshpool Golf Club, we had a great day of golf and food.

Finally, after having to completely cancel the 2020 AGM/Presentations we managed to have both the 2020 and 2021 AGM/Presentations on the 19th of February this year after it being rescheduled from the 11th of December 2021, I know talk about confusing, this all thanks to Covid. Some 20 members attended the Presentations held at the Red Lion in Castle Caereinion, buffet style food was put on with plenty of drink. The Chairman gave a report of the year and presented the winners with their awards and trophies, well done to all. The AGM was carried out and the new officials were duly elected, it was decided to reduce the membership fee to £10/year. A discussion was held into the Thursday evening competition, and it was decided to include Newtown Golf Club in the mix.

We have booked all the dates for our Thursday Evening Competitions and the away weekend at The Vale in South Wales. Our annual match with Crew Green Golf Society will be held at Llanymynech Golf Club in June.

The "David P Dowling Challenge Cup" (Thursday evening competition) starts on the 7th of April playing golf at Newtown Golf Club, followed by Welshpool Golf Club then Llanymynech Golf Club and Lakeside Golf Club on a four-week rotation and finishes on the 15th of September. The games are played over 9 holes at each club. The format will be an individual stableford. We are hoping we can play 6 rounds at each club, totaling 24 rounds in all. The best 3 scores from each of the four clubs will count to winning the competition.

**2022 EVENT FIXTURES**

Sunday 27th March...Away Weekend....The Abbey, Golf & Country Club

Monday 28th March...Away Weekend....The Abbey, Golf & Country Club

Thursday 7th April...Start of Thursday Competition...Newtown Golf Club

Friday 29th April...Away Day...Mold Golf Club

Sunday 12th June...Society Match (Crew Green Golf Society)...Llanymynech Golf Club

Sunday 31st July...Away Weekend...The Vale Hotel, Golf & Country Club  
Incorporating the annual match against Crew Green Golf Society

Monday 1st August...Away Weekend...The Vale Hotel, Golf & Country Club  
Incorporating the annual match against Crew Green Golf Society

Thursday 15th September...Finish of Thursday Competition...Lakeside Golf Club

Castle Caereinion Golf Society would like to wish everyone all the best through 2022, keep safe and keep well.

We always welcome new members (it does not matter how good or bad you are). If you are interested, speak to Joan or Richard at the Red Lion or give one of the following a ring: -

Scott Theobald...850430

Clive Jones...850264

Jon Pierce...850381

## **CASTLE CAEREINION RECREATION ASSOCIATION (CCRA)**

Castle Caereinion Community Centre was established in 1980 and has since allowed so many wonderful functions and events to take place. We have had a fantastic group of trustees which have overseen the daily operations, organising of events, maintaining through pandemics and all the while offering a wonderful service for our community and surrounding areas.

The current committee will be standing down in May because of work and other volunteering commitments. We feel now the time is right for some fresh faces with new ideas and energy to take over the roles and we welcome support from you in doing this, which will allow your community centre to continue providing for many years to come.

We will be on hand to guide you through this process and have support from other agencies to provide training and guidance. Thanks to the late and much-loved Mike the Shop, the hall is in an excellent financial position, and this will hold it in good stead to move forwards with a new trustee group.

Becoming a trustee of such a venture is a fantastic opportunity. Volunteering can provide a healthy boost to your self-confidence, self-esteem and life satisfaction. You are doing good for others and the community, which provides a natural sense of accomplishment. Your role as a volunteer can also give you a sense of pride and identity.

We meet on the third Monday of the month for an hour.

We have written to every household in the community of Castle Caereinion to appeal for your help and support to keep the community hall open. We have a meeting set up in the Community Centre on **Monday, 11th April at 7:30pm**

This is an opportunity to meet the current volunteers, ask questions and become involved. Our AGM is set for the 16<sup>th</sup> of May, and we would like to have our new trustees in situ for this time to avoid any disruption.

We must point out that without a committee the centre would have to close – this is something we do not wish to see. The community centre was built by the community, is owned by the community and now it's the community who will keep it flourishing.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and we look forward to seeing you  
at our meeting

## Your team needs you.....

Among the many activities going on in this vibrant community of ours, there is a Bell shooting team, based at the Red lion, which has been in existence for over 20 years

*What is Bell shooting you may ask?*

It started in the 1890's after Queen Victoria was advised about the poor standard of shooting during the Boer war. Promoted by the likes of Lord Ednam and Baden Powell, by 1905 there were 1600 teams in Birmingham alone and 4000 nationally.

Put simply, using a 0.177 calibre low power air-rifle, the aim is to put a pellet through a central small 3/8 inch (9.525mm in new money) diameter hole in the target and ring the bell located behind the hole. This from a distance of 6-7 yards (6 metres)

*Sounds easy doesn't it?*

Our team is in the Montgomery league and we could do with 2 to 4 new members, for next season which starts in September and runs through to the end of March. Without new blood there is a danger of the team having to disband.

Practice sessions can be arranged between now and the season start, probably on Monday evenings at the Red Lion.

We shoot on Thursday evenings.

You do not need to own a suitable gun as I can make mine available, you never know, like me you get hooked and go on to invest in your own.

Open to anyone over the age of 18 and ladies don't be put off, some of the other teams have some very good lady shooters, in fact we have had some ladies in the Castle team in the past. More information on this sport can be found at [www.belltarget.com/montgomery-league.php](http://www.belltarget.com/montgomery-league.php) Anyone interested? Contact myself at [timhrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:timhrobinson@gmail.com), I can be found in the Red Lion occasionally, or talk to Stuart in the pub.

*Don't let our team disappear!*

*PS We could do with a couple more players in our Darts Team too*

Tim

## **CASTLE CAEREINION COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Mike the Shop - Celebration of Life Service**

Saturday 23rd April 1.00pm in St Garmon's Church, followed by tea in the Community Centre. All are welcome.

### **Mike the Shop - Memorial Bench**

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to the memorial bench for Mike the Shop. We are very pleased to say that the bench has been ordered and we hope to take delivery during June this year.

### **Queen's 70 year celebration**

Join us for our Royal Jubilee Party on Saturday 4th June, starting at 11.00 in the community centre, we look forward to making it a day to remember. **Please see the advert within this edition**

Invitations for our jubilee party will be sent out to each household soon and we will keep you updated on the Facebook page and website.

### **Website**

News, updates and events can be found at [www.castlecaereinion.org.uk](http://www.castlecaereinion.org.uk) for those members of the community not signed up to Facebook

### **Playground**

We have received our new picnic table for our playground, our thanks once again to Tyrgwynt who awarded our community a generous grant. We have the picnic table in safe storage at Tynllan Farm, our thanks go to Gareth Davies for kindly offering to store the table for us temporarily. We hope to have the picnic table installed in the spring.

### **Community Speedwatch**

Thank you to everyone who has put their names forward to join our community speed watch group, we hope to see them out soon with their speed cameras!

### **Castle Caereinion Facebook Group**

Have you joined the Castle Caereinion Community Group on Facebook? Please let people know about the group as it is a great place to share

C.C. Community Council Cont'd .....

community news and information with each other.

### **Defibrillator Training**

We hope to carry out defibrillator training in the spring for anyone in our community, we will advertise sessions closer to the time on our website and Facebook

### **Council Meetings**

Our council meetings take place on the last Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the community centre, the first 10 minutes are for residents to raise any concerns they may have, so please do come along if you would like to bring something to our attention, alternatively you can speak to one of our community councillors or the Clerk, details are below:

**Clerk:** Carys Evans [castleclerk1@gmail.com](mailto:castleclerk1@gmail.com) 07739 187402

### **Councillors:**

ClIr Nigel Bowen (Chairman) 07703 193381 [nigelbowen.ccc@gmail.com](mailto:nigelbowen.ccc@gmail.com)

ClIr Clive Jones 07803 379244 [cllrclivejones@gmail.com](mailto:cllrclivejones@gmail.com)

ClIr Joan Wyatt [redlioninn@aol.com](mailto:redlioninn@aol.com) 01938 850233

ClIr Michele Humberstone [cllrmhumberstone@gmail.com](mailto:cllrmhumberstone@gmail.com)

ClIr Gary Human 01938 850340 [gary.humanccc@gmail.com](mailto:gary.humanccc@gmail.com)

ClIr Nicola Kynaston [ClIrnicolakynaston@gmail.com](mailto:ClIrnicolakynaston@gmail.com)

ClIr Paul Roberts [cllrpaulroberts@gmail.com](mailto:cllrpaulroberts@gmail.com) 07917 163559

The County Councillor for our Ward is ClIr David Jones

[cllr.david.jones@powys.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.david.jones@powys.gov.uk) 01938 590312

***Please note there is an election in May, and members of the community council may change, please check the community website for up to date information***

**COMMUNITY: held by all in common; joint or common ownership (OED)**

When we moved to Castle quite a few years ago now, we told friends and colleagues that we were going to “a lovely little community in Mid-Wales.” And it was...

There was a school for the community, a pub for the community, there was a church for the community, a community council to represent us all to higher authorities. There was a community shop and post office, and there was a very wide range of activities in the, yes! Community Hall and on the fields surrounding it.

Now, people choose to live in a village for different reasons: some want a quiet life, to settle in, never to be seen again; some believe they have the skills, ideas, personality to make things happen in their village. We fell in between somewhere...Sally joined the WI “to meet people” and became Secretary for seven years. I decided, after a couple of invitations from each, to join the “Recreation” and not the council, and like many others of my age in Castle, served ten years on that committee. It was a busy time, but enjoyable working with a dozen other villagers on all sorts of projects. Putting in acoustic panels in the roof to make the louds and softs of all the activities bearable. Applying for a lottery grant to install excellent projection facilities to join the already good sound system. We organised coffee mornings, concerts, films, ceilidhs, talks, some with suppers; people came up with ideas for more events: the wine evenings, Christmas parties for children, Chinese New Year, and many others.

Somebody who had then lived in Castle for many, many years, told me quite early on that “we raised the money to build the Hall, you must now use it.” So we did...It is, of course, not just a matter of putting things on. People have to actually come and take part in activities, tear themselves away from hearth and home occasionally to join others, to talk, to listen, to learn, to have fun. To be part of the community that Castle Caereinion must be if it is to avoid quietly fading away.

The Community Hall is indeed “held by all in common,” it really does belong to all of us in the village. Every One. It needs people with energy and ideas to keep it alive, to keep it fit for purpose to be a vital centre for getting together, mixing, interacting, being A Community.

Adrian Hughes  
(Former Vice-Chair CCRA)