

The Leighton News

April 2011

Edition 253

This month The Leighton News is sponsored by
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Spring Arrivals

New Neighbours

This new arrival appeared in the field next to us in February. I am grateful to Claire Turner who took this photograph whilst out walking, clearly soon after the birth of this highland calf.

Isn't it beautiful and isn't its mother proud and protective of her new child? It was a lovely, hopeful start to the spring season, coming even before some snowdrops!

Welcome

The last remaining house in Redwood Close is now occupied by Lynn and David. We welcome them, and any other new arrivals to the village, and hope that they enjoy and are happy in their new surroundings.

A reminder

Any letters in support of, or objecting to, the expansion of the dairy unit at Lower Leighton farm should be with the planners by 14th April.

Congratulations

James and Sarah Evans have their own spring arrival with the birth of their son, James Montgomery on Wednesday March 23rd. We

extend a welcome to him and congratulations to all the family.

(We are wondering if his first rattle may look like a gavel!)

At Last

As I write this some light rain is falling and after a very dry spell it is a welcome arrival! The rainwater harvester which flushes our toilets, waters our garden and fills the washing

machine, has had to be topped up with mains water in recent days - a sign of how dry it has been. All farmers, gardeners and owners of rain butts and harvesters will be delighted with this Springtime arrival - provided it doesn't last too long!



Deadline for next edition
Thursday 28th April 2011

Contact: Mike Kempster on 01938 559286 kempster.michael@gmail.com
or Jenny Sanders 01938 559562 dandj.sanders@btinternet.com

Church Services at Leighton and Trelystan for April

Leighton	Date	Trelystan
9.30 Holy Communion	Sunday 3rd April	3.00 Family Service (Followed by Annual PCC meeting)
11.00 Family Service	Sunday 10th April	3.00 Evensong
6.30 Evensong (Followed by Annual PCC meeting)	Sunday 17th April Palm Sunday	9.30 Holy Communion
6.30 Festival Communion	Sunday 24th April Easter day	3.00 Festival Communion
9.00 Holy Communion	Sunday 1st May	3.00 Family Service

Easter Services throughout the benefice

Wednesday 20th April 7.30 pm A reflective service using Taize chants at Middleton Church

Maundy Thursday 21st April 7.30 pm Commemoration of the Last Supper at Leighton Church

Good Friday 22nd April 9.30 am Morning service at Middleton Church to mark the start of the day long Deanery walk.

2 pm An hour at the Cross - a meditative service at Leighton church

6.30 pm Compline at Corndon Marsh Chapel to mark the end of the Deanery walk.

Easter Eve 23rd April 8 pm A Service of Light with Renewal of Baptism vows at Chirbury church. A beautiful candlelit service.

Easter Sunday 24th April Festival Communion services to celebrate the Resurrection 9.30 am at Marton church

11 am at Chirbury and at Middleton churches

3 pm at Trelystan church

6.30 pm at Leighton church

7 pm at Corndon Marsh Chapel

All Saints Church Buttington

Serving the community of Buttington, Trewern and Hope

All Sunday Services at 10 am unless otherwise stated.

April 3rd Family Service for Mothering Sunday

April 10th Family Service for Passion Sunday

April 17th Holy Eucharist for Palm Sunday

April 21st 7.30 pm Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist

April 22nd 2 - 3 pm Good Friday Watch at the Cross

April 23rd 7.30 pm Easter Vigil

April 24th Easter Day Holy Eucharist

May 1st Holy Eucharist



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News From Leighton School

My word! Life never seems to slow down at school at the moment! We have been busy recently. Not just busy, but BUSY! In the last few weeks we have had children out for sporting events, children out for educational visits, visitors in to work with the children and to talk to them, and of course our St David's Day Service as well!

In recent years we have taken part in the North West Shropshire Schools' Cross Country Tournament, and this year we have again sent teams along. All of the children taking part have done brilliantly, and the year three / four boys did so well that they wrapped up the team first place after only three of the four events! We've also taken part in the Dragon Sports Cross-Country, the PESS Cross Country and the Urdd Cross Country this year, and will be taking part in the Welshpool Area Schools Cross Country before the end of March. This represents a fantastic effort from all the children involved, and we have to say a great big "well done" to all of them. Our thanks go to all the parents who provided transport and support, and especially to Mrs Wray and Mr Richards, who have been giving up their own time during lunchtimes and after school to help the teams.

Some of the Key Stage Two children have been to Welshpool Rugby Club for a couple of visits: starting with half a day of skills training and ending with a day-long tournament. This was greatly enjoyed, if a little chilly on the first day!

We've had a team involved in the Oswestry Indoor Athletics Tournament as well, and the children involved enjoyed themselves and did very well indeed.

We were delighted with the outcome of the area Indoor Hockey Tournament, when both of our teams made the semi-finals, and the A-Team (not the one with Mr T!) came out as winners overall. In all of our sports activities we stress the importance of enjoying the activity, and it's heartening to see that so many children from Leighton are taking part in the competitions for the love of the sport. Winning is just a bonus, though we love it when it happens!

Once more our St David's Day Service was a great success. This was held in Leighton Village Hall, and I apologise to anyone who had to stand at the back – we were caught by surprise by the numbers of people attending! We were ably supported by Rev. Robert and by Mrs Lynne West on the piano, and the service was greatly enjoyed by all the children and adults attending. Hopefully we'll be having an Easter Service at Leighton Church again this year, and I know the children (and staff) love going up there.

Powysland Museum have been a part of Leighton School life for many years, and it was a real worry that the educational staff there would lose their jobs after Powys removed their funding last year. Luckily enough local schools agree to "chip in" and sign up for an agreement whereby the education service is funded directly by the schools. We get tremendous value from this, and we've been to the museum and had visits in from the staff several times in the last few weeks.

Other visits out have included Year 5/6's visit to the dairy farm at Gwyn's Barn, and visits by the youngest children to places such as Welshpool Airport and the Library. Visitors have also been welcomed into the school, with David Adams telling us about life in Brazil, and the children's author and illustrator Rob Lewis spending a day with the children. Regular visits from the Impact schools assembly team and the Bookrunner mobile library have been enjoyed by the children.

One thing that took me completely by surprise happened the other week: Mr Leese the guitar and drums teacher had asked if the children learning drums could give a demonstration in the hall during an assembly. I'd expected a five-minute session, but instead we were treated to 25 minutes of fantastic solo and group drumming. I did manage to record the session so if one of your children took part and you'd like a video of it, please ask me and we can sort something out.

I did say we'd been busy!

Graeme Mulvey

FORDEN, LEIGHTON & TRELYSTAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL BE
HOLDING A
PUBLIC MEETING IN FORDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE THURSDAY 14TH
APRIL 2011 7.30 PM

REGARDING THE NATIONAL GRID
MID WALES WINDFARM CONNECTION PROJECT

The Welsh Assembly Government has identified that on shore Wind Farm developments should be concentrated in defined areas known as Strategic Search Areas, several of which are sited within Mid Wales. **There are currently 14 Wind Farm applications lodged with Powys County Council** from several different developers. Scottish Power is statutorily bound to provide the connections to transport the electricity generated by these Wind Farms back to the nearest electricity sub station. With so many proposed Wind Farms in the pipeline the existing capacity for transporting the electricity to the grid is now very limited, therefore National Grid is duty bound to increase capacity to service future Wind Farm projects.

The supply chain in the Wind Farm development process is made up of several different links and can very briefly be summarised as follows: -

1. **New Wind Farms**
These are developed by various different companies in the UK.
2. **New Local 132 KV electricity connections.**
These connections carry the electricity from the Wind Farms to the nearest substation (either on double wooden poles or 70 ft metal pylons) and are **provided by Scottish Power Energy Networks and SSE Renewables.**
3. **New Substation (Hub)**
This is where the electricity from the 132kv local connection will be fed into and one of two identified sites will be chosen, either at **Abermule** or **Cefn Coch**, **this will be built by National Grid.**
4. **New National 400 kV line connection (Large 126 ft high pylons)**
This will also be built by National Grid and will take power from the **New Substation (Hub)** to an existing 400kv. line where the power then enters the national transmission network. (The Grid) supplying homes and businesses around the country. Connection points have been identified along the existing 400 kv. line somewhere between Legacy near Wrexham and Shrewsbury, which will take the power from the **New Substation (The Hub).**

IF ABERMULE IS THE SELECTED SITE FOR THE NEW SUB-STATION (HUB), LARGE METAL PYLONS WILL BE ERECTED THROUGH FORDEN AND LEIGHTON VIA CAERHOWEL.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT WE ALL STRESS TO NATIONAL GRID AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT PYLONS ARE UNACCEPTABLE AND THE NEW 400 KV. LINE MUST BE BURIED UNDERGROUND.

Phase one of the consultation process has now begun and ends in June 2011. It is vital at this stage that as many people as possible from our communities make their representations, as National Grid will be recommending which of the two sites (Abermule or Cefn Coch) will be chosen for the new Sub Station, based upon local reaction. After the first phase has ended this opportunity will be lost. A series of exhibitions and meetings are being held by National Grid and Scottish Power, throughout Montgomeryshire during March and April, dates and venues for these have been published through mailings and the local press.

Two Face book groups have been set up: -

NO TO THE ELECTRICITY HUB AND PYLONS IN THE SEVERN VALLEY

KEEP PYLONS OUT OF THE VALE OF MONTGOMERY

Email: cllr.linda.corfield@powys.gov.uk

From Rev Robert

Easter Sunday is on 24th April this year - the latest it has been for over thirty years. In fact, this year the festival is almost as late as it can be - the last possible date is 25th April. The earliest possible date is 21st March. This wide variation occurs because the date of Easter is determined by the lunar cycle which in itself varies from year to year. There has been talk of trying to 'fix' the date of Easter so it always happens on the same Sunday in the year but this would destroy an important link in the heritage which Christianity shares with Judaism. This is because the date of Easter is related to the 'Paschal' full moon which in the Jewish faith determined the date of their Passover festival.

Christians see another link between Passover and Easter apart from the co-incidence of dates. The feast of the Passover commemorates the events on the day on which the Jews won their freedom from slavery in Egypt and left the country under the leadership of Moses. Easter recalls the death and resurrection of Jesus which, for Christians, marks our liberation from slavery to our sins. The events commemorated in the Passover mark the day on which the people of Israel were freed and enabled to enter into a new and special relationship with God. In the same way, Easter marks the day on which we were freed and enabled to enter into a new relationship with God. For the Jews, the events of the Passover opened the way to the Promised Land. For Christians, the events of Easter open the way to God's heavenly Kingdom.

Hopefully, as Easter is so late, we will have some decent weather to enjoy but whether the sun shines or the rain falls, do try to make time to come and celebrate with us at one or more of our Easter services.

Starting at the beginning of May, the six churches in the Chirbury Group, which includes Holy Trinity Leighton and St Mary Trelystan, are adopting a new pattern of services for an experimental period. In Leighton, the service on the first Sunday moves to 9 am whilst the family service on the second Sunday will start fifteen minutes later than at present at 11.15 am. Evensong moves to the third Sunday of the month at 6.30 pm and there will be a second Holy Communion service at 9 am on the fourth Sunday. At Trelystan, the Family service will continue to be at 3 pm on the first Sunday and on the second Sunday Holy Communion will alternate with Evensong, month by month, at 3 pm. I am introducing these changes to make better use of the limited clergy resources which are available and to make it possible, if necessary, for one person to cover all the services in the six churches.

Many of you will be aware that this year marks the 400th anniversary of the publication of the Authorised or King James Version of the Bible in 1611. I am no great fan of the translation personally but it remains dear to many people. In recognition of this, all the readings at Leighton during May will be taken from the King James version. In addition, readings at the monthly Evensong service will come from that translation too so, if you enjoy the magisterial language, come along!

Happy Easter.

Yours,

Rev Robert

FORDEN WITH LEIGHTON AND TRELYSTAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN LEIGHTON ON THURSDAY 24TH MARCH 2011

PLANNING

P2011 0156 Resubmission re Lower Leighton Farm

This agenda item was brought forward for discussion at the start of the meeting as a number of members of the public were in attendance.

Supported . (It was brought to the Council's attention, that Trewern Community Council will have this application as a discussion item at their meeting on Tuesday 29th March at 7pm in Trewern)

B4388

A letter has been received from Norma Griffiths, Local & Environmental Services regarding the resiting of the 7.5 ton sign making it more visible. She said that she will resite the current sign if it is possible to do so.

Bank House Crossroads

Again, Norma Griffiths responded to our request for white lining at this junction by saying that the road is in too poor a condition to mark 'Give Way' signs and they cannot be provided unless there are 'Give Way' road markings. However, she will arrange to have a sign advising that the route is unsuitable for HGV's on the Powys junction. Shropshire County Council will have to be contacted to ask about signs on the other two approaches.

PLANNING

P2011 0244 Resubmission of Erection of 2 semi detached dwellings to replace an existing dwelling together with vehicular access, replacement septic tank and erection of a boundary wall at Barndale, Leighton.

Supported

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Local Development Plan Candidate Site Process (LDP) is the process by which Local Authorities plan and identify sustainable development needs of communities, and will form the basis of planning decisions from 2016 to 2026. It is important that every community contributes to the LDP process, as this document once produced, will form the basis of planning decisions made within communities for a period of 10 years ie 2016 - 2026. The first stage of the process is to identify 'candidate sites' that may be suitable for development potential for housing, affordable housing, employment, retail, recreation etc, or alternatively it may be that a community wishes to protect certain areas from such development and this too can be put forward as a 'candidate site' identified for protection.

Forden with Leighton and Trelystan Community Council will be holding the following two drop-in events to give residents the opportunity to contribute to the LDP process.

LEIGHTON Community Centre - 7th April 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

FORDEN Community Centre - 20th April 6 p.m. to 9 pm.

Continued on next page

NATIONAL GRID MID WALES WINDFARM CONNECTION PROJECT

There are currently 14 Wind Farm applications lodged with Powys County Council. Scottish Power is

statutorily bound to provide the connections to transport the electricity generated by these Wind Farms back to the nearest electricity sub station. ABERMULE IS ONE OF THE SELECTED SITES FOR A NEW SUB-STATION (THE OTHER BEING CEFN COCH) AND IF IS SELECTED, LARGE METAL PYLONS WILL BE ERECTED THROUGH FORDEN AND LEIGHTON VIA CAERHOWEL. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE ALL STRESS TO NATIONAL GRID AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT PYLONS ARE UNACCEPTABLE AND THE NEW 400 KV LINE MUST BE BURIED UNDERGROUND.

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL BE HOLDING A **PUBLIC** MEETING IN FORDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY 14TH APRIL AT 7.30 WHEN PCC COUNCILLOR WYNNE JONES WILL DO A PRESENTATION. PLEASE ATTEND TO MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN.

SALT BIN

A request has been received for the replacement of a salt bin opposite 'Three Oaks', Leighton.

The next meeting will be held in Leighton on Thursday 28th April at 7pm.

Carol Alexander send The Leighton News the minutes of those parts of the Community Council meetings which relate to Leighton. Full minutes can be found on the website, www.leightonnews.com

Fair Trade

From supermarkets I can buy “FAIRTRADE” goods so that producers from all over the world can receive a good price. I can buy meat, chickens, eggs from sustainable, good-practice British farms, I can buy fish from sustainable oceans.

Why cannot I buy milk from sustainable British dairy farms, where the cows can eat natural grass outdoors for approximately 7 months of the year ?

Why cannot the supermarkets pay “FAIRTRADE” prices for milk produced in this way, so that British dairy farms can stay in business? At the moment dairy farms are dying because this living food is the same price as water in supermarkets.

A factory dairy farm for 1000 cows is planned near Welshpool next to our school. This will only keep the supermarkets happy and the price per litre so low that more traditional dairy farms will go out of business. Imagine 1000 cattle in sheds during a foot and mouth outbreak.

I will not drink milk produced in this way. If you feel as strongly as I do, and many others, please contact your MPs, Welsh Ams, Councillors, Mayors supermarkets etc. And with enough support we can ban these factory dairies, especially in Wales’ green and pleasant land and we can all pay a “FAIRTRADE” price for our milk.

M. Marriott

Community Council Support Farm Expansion

If this is Mr Cameron's idea of the "Big Society" it is time for an immediate "U" turn. Having sat through the first part of last Thursday's (24th) Community Council meeting, I can only say it was the biggest farce I have ever had the pleasure of attending. I say this not lightly - during my 25 years in big industry I have attended quite a few.

The discussion on the farm expansion opened by the chairman stating that the new application made significant changes, satisfied the Environment Agency and, therefore, should be supported. He also stated that he had only spoken to 2 people who had any objection to it. These statements were incorrect or at least very economic with the truth.

The changes were hardly significant, the applicant didn't seem to think them worthy of a full public meeting to explain. They principally involved changing the manure management plan in an attempt to satisfy the Environment Agency and a few cosmetic changes around the farm. The Environment Agency has yet to officially respond to these changes, either supporting or objecting.

The chairman appears to be failing in his duties by turning a deaf ear on those who oppose the expansion. "There are none so deaf as those who don't want to hear." He had a letter in front of him, the same letter delivered to all councillors, with 9 signatures opposing the proposal. There were at least 10 people at the meeting who opposed the proposal and he attended the meeting on March 8th when there was overwhelming opposition to the proposal. Finally, the chairman should not make any directive, on whether to support or oppose, during the opening statement but wait until the final summing up.

There followed a scintillating discussion (yes, I jest) that lasted all of 5 minutes at the end of which a vote was taken; 4 votes of support, 2 votes against with Councillor Alexander abstaining. Carol, I thought you were supposed to reflect the views of you constituents! I would question the legality of the decision anyway as, if my sources of information are correct, at least 1 councillor who supported it should have joined the councillors who left the meeting declaring a conflict of interests, his family renting land to the applicant's family.

R Clegg.

Thank you, thank you!

Occasionally we remind our readers that we would like to hear from them. Recently an envelope was posted through our letterbox from Tanya Allison which contained a newspaper cutting her mother had kept from The Express and Times, November 1955. She had kept the cutting because it contained an article about her father.

In this cutting there is an article about events at Leighton - all of them being held in the Guild Room. It shows what a centre of activity it was. There was "a dance in aid of the bell-ringers' fund" on Friday, with Mr R Jones, from Pear Tree, being the MC. Wednesday was a busy day with the Rev. S. H. Atherley presiding over a committee meeting about the letting of the room and obtaining a caretaker. The Mothers' Union held their monthly meeting addressed by Rev S. H. Atherley and there was a Whist Drive, organised by the local branch of the Conservative Association. Mr D Tibbott was MC and refreshments were served by "Mesdames (Don't you just love the use of that word!) Thomas, Tibbott, Bevan, Colwell, J. Evans and Miss Williams." Rev S. H. Atherley had, presumably, an early night!

What a lovely reminder of the past.

Thank you, Tanya

BEELINE

With turmoil round the world, the rate of inflation rising and reducing values of any saving we have, it is nice to be able to find a little good news for this month's Leighton News.

It will be good news for those of us who keep bees but it will still offer encouragement to those of us who have concerns about our environment. This news was published in the latest edition of The Welsh Beekeeper, or Gwenynwyr Cymru for those of us who do not have the English. Mind you, the latter will not have comprehended the rest of the paragraph!

The news:

'Varroa levels – are predominantly low. However, it is difficult to know whether that is due to better beekeeper Varroa control, colonies developing resistance, the cold winter or changes in the mite's reproductive behaviour. Many beekeepers are now monitoring levels carefully and treating only when necessary.'

Readers for Services at Holy Trinity In April

3rd April (Mothering Sunday)	Maureen Marriott
10th April	Pauline Hawkes
21st April (Maundy Thursday)	Elisabeth Griffiths
24th April (Easter Day)	Jane Walton

There will be an additional service during April for Palm Sunday - April 17th at 6-30pm. and the reader will be Jenny Sanders.

CALFe Tick Box Forms

If you were given one of these forms by Geoff Vine, and it has not been collected, he will be glad to hear from you to arrange collection.
01938 580501

A Word Of Appreciation

As a deaf person I would like to express my appreciation of the sound system in Holy Trinity.

The purchasing and fitting of the new speakers is a very expensive and time consuming job which needs lots of expertise to get them functioning properly.

We are all very grateful to John for his continual attention at every service, as well as sitting in the back seat next to the box!

Roma

Churchyard Day

The next attempt at maintaining, nay improving, the state of our churchyard will take place on **Saturday 16th April**.

We hope to have a list of jobs that will take no more than half an hour each. So, if you can spare that half hour, come along.

The tidiness of our churchyard is showing a long-term improvement, which we shall try to maintain.

"Yup, gardening and laughing are two of the best things in life you can do to promote good health and a sense of well being."
- David Hobson

Dates for your diary

Saturday 25th June - The Summer Fete in the Church grounds at 2.30

Saturday 17th September - Colla Voce (a quartet of singers and their accompanist) will be performing in Church during the evening.

Powys Local Development Plan meetings

There will be public public drop-in events in Leighton and Forden to discuss Candidtae Sites for the Powys Local Development Plan. Candidate Sites are sites that can be developed and built on and Powys is looking for new sites as part of the Local Development Plan. You can find out more about the process on the [Powys Council website](#). The meetings are open to everyone and are as follows:

- **Leighton Village Hall** on Thursday 7 April 2011 6pm – 9pm
- **Forden Community Centre** on Wednesday 20 April 2011 6pm – 9pm

For Sale

Priory Welsh Dresser
Medium oak – Excellent condition
£100.00

Schreiber Dressing Table
Pine – Six drawers – Good condition
£60.00 ono

Schreiber Chest of Drawers, Pine
Four drawers – Excellent condition
£35.00 ono

Mobility Scooter – Little Gem 2
Four wheels, dismantles for boot of car
Used only twice – Ill health forces sale
£700.00 when new – asking £400.00 ono

Sandra
4 Poplar Drive
Leighton 01938 554191

Hello All

For my sins I am involved with the National Cycle Collection at Llandrindod Wells. www.cyclemuseum.org.uk
tel 01597 825531 .

I am a trustee and part time curator.
The museum is normally open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-4pm and most Sundays during the winter months. Hopefully open more days when the weather gets warmer!

Can you please spread the word that the museum exists?, groups are very welcome (discount given) and we would try to open to fit in with them.

All my best wishes and grateful thanks,

Freda Davies

FOR SALE

Two Double Wardrobes in very good condition -
Cream. Width - 33 ins. Height - 72 ins.
Both with top boxes - Height - 15 ins.
Also matching chest of drawers
£125.00

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