

Summer Edition 2020

# EDRYCH YMLAEN



### **List of Directors for Llandysul and Pont-Tyweli and Dolen Teifi:-**

Tom Cowcher-Cadeirydd / Chairman

Keith Evans-Is-gadeirydd / Vice-Chairman

Richard Davies-Trysorydd / Treasurer

Lesley Parker-Ysgrifennydd Y cwmni / Company Secretary

Richard Evans

Suzanna-Van-Eeghan

Mari Slaymaker

Marion Bryant

### **Websites:**

- **For Llandysul and Pont-Tyweli Business, Organisation and Events information: [www.llandysul-ponttyweli.co.uk](http://www.llandysul-ponttyweli.co.uk)**
- **For Community Transport [www.dolenteifi.org.uk](http://www.dolenteifi.org.uk)**
- **Telephone number: 01559 362 403**
- **Email address: [info@dolenteifi.org.uk](mailto:info@dolenteifi.org.uk)**

## **NEWS**

### **Llandysul Library Click and Collect Service**

You can order Books, DVDs and CDs, for free and we will contact you to say when they are ready to collect them from library. This will be on a Tuesday or Thursday between 10am-1pm. You can order using the library website <https://libraries.ceredigion.gov.uk/> . Contact us for a PIN number. Or order by emailing [library@llandysul.cymru](mailto:library@llandysul.cymru) Or call us on 01545 574236 but only on a Tuesday or Thursday between 10am-1pm. You can also post your order through our letterbox. Please make sure that you include your library membership number.

During this time there are no fines, but we would still like our books back. A great time to return any of those late returns! Return items on a Tuesday and Thursday, 10am-1pm.

## **WELCOME**

Welcome to Llandysul a Phont-Tyweli Ymlaen's (LPY) Edrych Ymlaen newsletter. We hope you find this edition interesting and informative. Since the lockdown started in March, LPY staff have been working from home. We have been keeping in touch with each other and the outside world via zoom meetings. This has been a challenge, not only with issues regarding Broadband / internet signal but many of us have never used zoom before. I am sure many of you can relate to these challenges' in the present climate. However, after a few teething problems, and weeks later everybody finally got to grips with it and now we have regular digital meetings.

Over the last few weeks we have also kept in touch with all our clients ensuring they are keeping well and are staying safe, but also informing them that LPY/Dolen Teifi is still there, and we hope to resume our normal activities as soon as possible. During the lockdown we have taken advantage of this less active period and have been busy redecorating the office in Llandysul, a job that's been talked about and on the cards for a while and which has finally been achieved.

However, we have not only been just decorating, we have continued working on our business plan, fleet management processes and other policy updates and whilst our buses are not currently fully utilized, we have a couple of them out in our communities, supporting their needs and responding to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Supporting Communities

We have made available one bus to be at the disposal of Help Llandysul, a group that has been set up in response to the challenges posed by Covid-19 to assist individuals or families that have to shield or need support in accessing shopping or to the hospital.



**HELP! Llandysul and area** was formed in order to help the community and a network of over 30 volunteers was created in the first few weeks. Matt commented that the minibus “has been very useful when it was not possible for people to share a vehicle in the usual way. We have been collecting people living outside Llandysul to take them to the surgery. We have arranged to collect people who need to go to hospital in Carmarthen for treatment. We

have distributed food, children’s clothing, and other household goods to people on behalf of Llandysul Food Bank and a new organisation ‘Plantos’. One pensioner was not able to get to the post office, to receive his pension or pay his rent. We were able to collect him every two weeks which enabled him to do these essential things.



In addition, we used the minibus to help a young homeless family move to an emergency hostel in Aberystwyth. Without the minibus this would not have been possible, this has all been done by local volunteers and is testament to the close-knit community we have in Llandysul”.

Image of Matt Adams using the loaned Dolen Teifi minibus to “Help Llandysul a’r Ardal” with support of his children responding to the needs of Llandysul and hinterland communities

## FEEDING THE COMMUNITY

Another of Dolen Teifi Community Transport minibus based in Llanelli is being used by Llwynhendy Food Bank. During the Covid-19 the Llwynhendy and Pemberton forum crew have been busy using the Transport for All minibus to collect medication and deliver food parcels from their food bank to residents throughout Llanelli. Jason Heart, who organises the 20 volunteers with Cllr Sharen Davies, said “that the kindness of large stores such as Morrisons, Marks and Spencer, Burns Pet Foods and the general public etc has been immense. We have been overwhelmed with the kindness from them all and are thrilled to be able to distribute these food parcels to people in the community who really need it”. Congratulations to all those involved and keep up the good work



Image of Tom Jones (centre) who has not missed a day supporting the local Food Bank even on his eighteenth birthday!

## **THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERING IN THE COMMUNITY**

Have you thought of volunteering in your community, but you are not sure how you could help? Well, if you have a few hours to spare a month and want to get out of the house and meet people, why not consider becoming a volunteer. LPY are looking for more drivers in the Llandysul and surrounding area to take people to hospital and dentist appointments, shopping or just a trip out.

If you are not interested in driving, we have other volunteering opportunities such as:- administrative tasks, cleaning the minibuses, marshalling at events, putting up posters for events and other activities.

If you are interested in any of the above opportunities, and require more information, we would like to hear from you. Please contact the office on 01559 362 403 or send an email to [info@dolenteifi.org.uk](mailto:info@dolenteifi.org.uk) so that we can arrange an informal chat.

For further information about our minibuses or MPV accessible cars, i.e on how they operate, how to book, pricing structure, MiDAS training (*Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme*) and general volunteering opportunities, why not visit our website.

## **REJUVENATING BUSINESSES IN LLANDYSUL AND PONT-TYWELI**

As well as having a serious implication for people's health and wellbeing and the healthcare services, COVID19 is having a significant impact on business and the economy. LPY are working closely with businesses in Llandysul to try and help them adapt to the various changes in people's shopping habits during lockdown.

Recently, a zoom meeting was organised by LPY with business in Llandysul and Pont-Tyweli to find out how they have coped during lockdown, how they adapted their business so that they could continue to trade and what, if any significant changes will they be implementing so that they can continue to operate successfully. We are aware that many businesses during the lockdown period have utilised social media, such as Facebook and Instagram or Web presence to promote, market and sell their products, which has proved successful and may well continue to do so in the future as people's buying habits have changed. LPY also invited a representative from Ceredigion County Council, Arwyn Davies (Corporate Manager Growth and Enterprise) to the meeting, who spoke specifically about the various Covid-19 related grants and loans that were available for businesses to apply for and how the council could assist in providing advice / guidance and help if any business required it.

If you have a business and have an idea or just want to be part of rejuvenating Llandysul and Pont-Tyweli please get in touch or better still joins us at the next business zoom meeting. Your views and opinions are important for sustaining and developing our business community.



I am pleased to say that the **Connect To Kindness** Campaign is now live!

Please share this with your contact networks, colleagues, family, and friends and join us in our mission to make our community a kinder, better place - **it all starts with YOU.**

Also one of the ways we are connecting people to Kindness is through the Connect platforms. These are available in each County and the web addresses are

[www.connectpembrokeshire.org.uk](http://www.connectpembrokeshire.org.uk), [www.connectcarmarthenshire.org.uk](http://www.connectcarmarthenshire.org.uk),

[www.connectceredigion.org.uk](http://www.connectceredigion.org.uk)