



Talybont Matters

Find this newsletter in full colour at
www.talybont.org/our-newsletter.html

200 Club Latest Winners:

£10 - Alastair Mackeown & Anne Jeans
£15 - Donna Darbyshire & Annie Dixon
£25 - Alan Keevil
£35 - Barbara Anglezarke
£50 - Jean Lawrence

For information on how to join
Henderson Hall 200 Club visit:

www.henderson-hall.com/fundraising



10.30 am: Watch the King's Coronation on our new high definition projector & big screen.

2.30 pm: Free Coronation Ceilidh with dancing for locals, visitors and Ukrainian guests

Bring your own snacks, drinks or picnic lunches

Free teas and coffee

Bring a cake to share

Thanks to Powys County Council and PAVO for supporting this event



Talybont Energy – Community Hydro

The Talybont Energy directors are delighted to announce that our community hydro is back in action, happily generating 33kW of electricity day and night. It's been a long journey from 2016, when the need for maintenance work at the reservoir dam meant we had to close operations. We're very grateful for the helpful collaboration with Dŵr Cymru staff over these many years to get us back up and running. As the hydro engineering specialist on our Board, Nick Willson has put in a huge amount of time and expertise to overcome all the technical and administrative hurdles we've encountered.

As our income stream for the electricity we generate starts to rebuild, we are thinking about activities and projects for either generating or reducing energy in new and exciting ways in our community. If any community members, particularly those in their late teens or 20s, have ideas or are interested to get involved in some way, please get in touch with us at: info@talybontenergy.co.uk

Alison Kidd

www.talybontenergy.co.uk

Issue 81
Spring 2023



Talybont WI

On the second Wednesday of each month Talybont-on-Usk and District WI meet in Henderson Hall to be entertained with a variety of speakers. The February meeting welcomed Mr Deano from Powys County Council to talk to us about our waste and the process of recycling. He informed us that Powys currently recycle 75% of our rubbish with the aim being to increase this to 95% by 2025. Our food waste goes to Carmarthen to be made into compost, glass is made into fibre for loft insulation and some of our plastic is recycled into plastic benches. Black plastic bag waste goes to Merseyside for incineration to make electricity and steam. We were offered a site visit to view some processes so perhaps a future outing.

Unfortunately the March meeting – a talk on Victorian Gardeners by Pat Wilkie – was postponed due to the inclement weather conditions and has been rearranged for September.

Our April meeting invited Jasmijn Muller from Llanfrynach to talk about her cycling expedition. Jasmijn grew up in the Netherlands with the bicycle as a daily part of her life. In her early 30s whilst living in the UK she took up cycling as a serious sport, focusing initially on time trials. She became the British and World 24-hour time trial champion, as well as the Zwift static bike distance record holder. Over the past few years Jasmijn has taken part in multi-day, supported ultra-endurance events and races. Her most recent was from North Cape to Tarifa, a distance of 7,400km from the most northerly to the most southerly tip of Europe, and this was the basis for her presentation. Jasmijn has made a significant mark on the ultra-distance cycling scene and now works to impart her knowledge through her coaching business, 'Be The Egg Cycle Coaching'. We would recommend you make time to go to one of her talks, which was not only fascinating but exceptionally inspiring.

Future WI meetings:

11th May – Tour of the BBC in Cardiff

14th June – 'Circle Dancing' with Andria Jarman

12th July – 'Boudicca to Sarah Siddons at the Gaer' Carla Rapoport

Come and join us as a guest – contact **Penny Morgan** 01874 665283

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Sunday 25th June: Extending a Community Welcome – Join us, Join in!

Working alongside Hay, Brecon and Talgarth Sanctuary for Refugees, and with support from PAVO and Powys County Council, on Sunday 25th June Henderson Hall will be welcoming a visit from 120 asylum seekers and refugees who are in South Wales, including around 60 local Ukrainians. We would very much like your help to extend a warm Talybont and community welcome to make their day a special one.

The programme for the Welcome Day will run between 11am and 4pm, and include drinks and snacks on arrival, lunch, and tea and cakes. For activities we are considering a walk through the Community Orchard or to the Henry Vaughan Garden, crafts and face painting for children, a toddlers' area, possible pony rides and a football match – plus any other good ideas you come up with!

We are looking for the involvement of as many members of the community as possible, so if you have any skills that match these activities or have other skills you would like to share, or if you would just like to be there to help on the day, please don't hold back from getting in touch. We would also value any contributions of cakes or food for the day.

Your involvement, however large or small, will be very much appreciated by those who have had to leave their own homes under very difficult circumstances and who have uncertain futures. Together, we can show our hospitality and give our guests a day to remember.

Rhiannon Davies

rhiannon.aber@btinternet.com

01874 676617 / 07940 961006



The Talybont Tombles



What a fantastic turnout for the first Talybont Tombles litter pick of 2023! Saturday 18th March didn't turn into the sunny spring day we had hoped for; however, it was mainly dry with only a few showers to dodge. I was joined by 15 other adults, and over a few hours we managed to tackle the village and surrounding areas. Being the first arranged community pick of the year and with no organised pick since November, there did appear to be significantly higher levels of litter than usual.

Gareth and Eirona collected a very full bag of rubbish through the village and along Station Road to the A40, which is the most they have collected along this route for some time. Clare and Mike Wright had almost two bags on the road from the drawbridge, past Cui to Cross Oak, and back to the village.

Areas along the canal were also particularly bad, with sections of the canal from Ashford Tunnel to Cross Oak being completed by Mike Smith, Huw Morgan, and Linda and Kerry Windham. In addition to the usual food cartons, cans, tissues etc. there were significantly more full 'poo bags', especially between bridges 145 and 146, which is really disappointing given the poo bins provided in the village and the ability to put poo bags in the general litter bin. Further signage may be required and is something I will raise with the Community Council. Dawn and Rob Goodwin and I tackled the area around Henderson Hall, the playing fields and Penpentre. These areas did not appear as bad as some.

Craig and Julie Burdon covered the Dram Road, across the dam wall and back through Aber Village, picking up just under half a bag, which is much lower than usual and a good sign (but likely to increase significantly over the summer months). However, there were the usual food wrappers, plastic cups and remnants of an organised outdoor sport event. Again, there was evidence of full and empty poo bags. Mark Windham covered the area from Pwllwhead Farm to Aber, collecting approximately half a bag.

Ellen Walsh Moorman covered the areas outside the Canol Pentre and behind the bus stop, and Sue Large covered Maesmawr Close and Maesmawr Lane, collecting only small amounts of litter. Linda and Kerry Windham covered the Orchard Trail, where they stumbled across a gas mask concealed in the undergrowth as part of an SAS experience event taking place at Gilestone! Luckily, they sussed what was taking place and linked in with the organisers so as not to spoil their experience. We collected 11 bags in total. A big thank you to everyone who took part.



Over the next few months our scheduled litter picks will be supplemented by friends Frankie and Cameron from Penpentre, who are both working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. As part of this award they have decided to contribute to caring for their community by litter picking each week. They will be covering different parts of Talybont and the surrounding area, so if you spot them give them a smile and a wave.

Our next Talybont Tombles litter pick will take place on **Saturday 20th May at 10am**. Please contact me for further information or if you would like to join us. Equipment will be provided.

Fiona Morris (Organiser)

Fionam25@btinternet.com

07971 787817



Talybont-on-Usk Community Council

Spring has sprung and we are blessed to live amongst the blossoms, birdsong and little lambs in our local Welsh wonderland. With every season comes the opportunity for growth and regeneration. Your council is moving forward and would love your feedback. Drop us a line and let us know what changes you would like to see at talybontcc@gmail.com

Gratitude

The Community Council wishes to extend our thanks to Keren Bender for her work as clerk and to Regan Jones, Simon Baldwin and Fiona Morris for their generous contribution of time, thought and effort as members of the Community Council. Your hard work has changed the community for the better in so many ways. Diolch yn fawr!

Biodiversity Plan

We are organising a working group to develop a 3-year biodiversity plan for the community. If you are a forward-thinking nature lover and would like to participate, please contact us at talybontcc@gmail.com It will be a voluntary position.

Co-option of Councillor

Do you care passionately about your local community? Are you concerned about the future? Is there something you would like to change? Are you ready to take on challenging decisions?

Information is available about joining the council on our website at www.talybont.org/community-councillor-vacancy.html Old or young, big or small, woman or man: be a councillor. Be the change.

Meetings and Results with our Partners

We have alerted Powys about large potholes in the roads near the canal bridges and met with Powys County Council Highways Department to develop a plan for re-marking the roads throughout the community. The nationwide 20mph plan is due to go into effect in September.

We are coordinating with Bannau Brycheiniog National Park to create and establish a Place Plan for the future of our community. If you have ideas, please contact us!

Bridge 143 has been repaired and the ramp has been repaved. We have adopted the canal between bridges 142 and 144. The process, which is managed by the Canal and River Trust, involves volunteer activities such as litter picking, management of the dog waste bins and pulling invasive species. If you would like to help, please contact us.

The Old Railway Station

The Community Council was given a presentation by Karl Speed for his plans at the Outdoor Activity Centre. The intent is to provide 'year-round' tourism, with lots of fun and a healthy lifestyle. Joel and Hayley Ingram will be running the hub on a day-to-day basis. They project 15 to 20 participants for boot camps, yoga, cycling, weight-loss camps and survival bushcraft, with accommodation at the bunkhouse, carriages and summer glamping. A 'hard as nails' event is planned for this year (date tbd).

Q&As from the presentation are posted on our website.

(Cont.)



Gilestone Farm

The Council Chairman and County Councillor met with members of the Welsh Government, Powys, Bannau Brycheiniog and Fiona Stewart for more information about the plan for the farm. A summary of the proposal and minutes from the meeting are available on our Facebook page and our website. We have submitted a list of further questions and are coordinating a follow up meeting.

Nepali Village Project

We have requested a presentation of plans for the proposed project at Aberclydach Fach at the June community council meeting.

NOTICE: There will be shuttle buses with 200 people throughout the day on 21st May, driving to Aberclydach Fach from Brecon.

Facebook

We will be sharing more regularly on our Facebook page to keep you abreast of information that might benefit the community. Give us a follow if you would like to be kept in the loop.

Zoom Facility

We hold the Zoom Facility that any community group can access for your meetings. Contact us for more information.

All of the agendas and minutes can be found on our website – www.talybont.org

Public Meetings

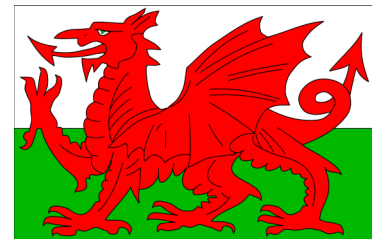
Our next council meeting will be held on **Monday, 15th May 2023, 7.15pm** at Henderson Hall. If you would like to speak at a meeting or attend via Zoom, please contact us at talybontcc@gmail.com

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

WELSH LEARNERS' CORNER - CORNEL Y CYMRAEG

Croeso pawb

Siop Siarad Talybont celebrated its 10th anniversary last month on Saint David's Day. Ten years on and we are still going strong. We meet every Friday morning in the White Hart at 10.30am. Croeso cynnes i bawb, come along to practise and use your Welsh – all levels welcome.



Here are some lines to practise in the meantime. Saying you never will or never do something...


- Dw i byth yn bwyta cig coch – doo-ee-bith-un-boy-ta-ceeg-cor-ch – I never eat red meat.
- Faswn i byth yn rhedeg marathon – fas-oon-ee-bith-un-rhed-eg-marathon – I would never run a marathon.
- Dw i erioed wedi gweld opera – doo-ee-er-ree-oid-wed-dy-gweld-opera – I've never seen an opera.
- Dydy hi byth yn yfed coffi yn y prynhawn – dud-dy-he-bith-un-ur-fud-coffee-un-ur-prin-hawn – She never drinks coffee in the afternoon.
- Dydyn nhw byth yn gallu cofio y ateb – dud-din-knew-bith-un-gall-ee-corf-your-ur-ah-teb – They can never remember the answer.
- Bydd y gynllun byth yn gweithio – bee-th-ur-gun-llin-bith-un-gway-th-your – The plan will never work.
- Dyn ni erioed wedi bod i'r Eisteddfod – done-nee-er-ree-oid-wed-di-bord-eer-a-steth-ford – We have never been to the Eisteddfod (a major Welsh cultural festival).




Talybont Matters - Twentieth Anniversary Edition!

Talybont Matters turned twenty this Spring so we thought we would look back at the very first edition:

Newsletter for Talybont-on-Usk, Powys



Talybont Matters



Issue 1

Spring 2003

Take Part

- Be a journalist, send in articles, news, and what's on in Talybont.
- Next issue, your advert to buy and sell.
- Challenge in this issue, can you count the ducks?

Inside this issue:

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Sand and gravel threat to Talybont? Important meeting for local residents.

The Community Council has confirmed plans of the Welsh National Assembly to preserve land around the village for possible future sand and gravel mining.

This alarming fact has been uncovered over a period of months of research and the potential consequences might be quite serious for residents, businesses and people wishing to invest in the area.

The Assembly's plans are in two stages:

- First, land is safeguarded against any other development through the Planning Process.
- Secondly, if the national interest requires it, then the safeguarded sites are available for mining, subject to local planning procedures and any appeal. The appeal is heard by an inspector appointed by the Assembly!

Whilst the Community Council has received assurances couched in terms of 'only in exceptional circumstances', it remains sufficiently concerned to invite all local residents to a special meeting. This will offer the chance for a briefing on the situation and suggest a course of action which individuals may choose to select. If you are a resident of Talybont itself, or Cross Oak, then you and your property may be affected.

You are invited to the meeting which will take place at the Henderson Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 31st March 2003.

PUBLIC MEETING
organised by
Talybont-on-Usk Community Council
"The Assembly's plans for GRAVEL AND SAND MINING around Talybont"
Henderson Hall
7.30pm Monday 31 March 2003
All Welcome


Newsletter for Talybont

This is the first newsletter in a quarterly series, one for each season. We look forward to more news and views in the next edition.

It is a free and independent publication, funded by the Talybont-on-Usk Community Council. The newsletter will provide the opportunity for residents to communicate what is going on in the area, share good news and continue to build on the community spirit of Talybont.

The content does not necessarily reflect the views of Talybont-on-Usk Community Council

Please take time to contribute articles, photos, news and your views.



Talybont Matters would like to thank Sandra Briskham for bringing this anniversary to our attention as well as providing a copy of the original newsletter.



In addition to leading with a significant local news story, Issue 1 featured the newly-formed Talybont Energy outlining their plans, many of which have since been implemented. In a happy coincidence we were pleased to report on the community hydro being back in action from this month.

Talybont-on-Usk Energy

Talybont-on-Usk Energy is a newly constituted group with exciting plans and big ideas in the Talybont-on-Usk Community Council area!

What's it all about then?

Currently, more than two thirds of our energy comes from fossil fuels which will run out eventually, or become uneconomic to extract. We urgently need to find alternative, renewable sources of energy.

What will this mean in practice?

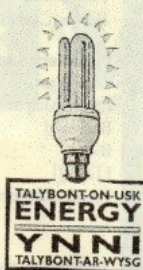
We're looking at three potential schemes to start off with:

1. Restoration of **Talybont Reservoir hydro-electric scheme**. All of the money raised from the sale of electricity produced by this scheme would be spent on a range of local projects (e.g. further community energy schemes, education projects, insulation and energy saving measures for households). Renewable energy experts, Dulas Ltd., based in Machynlleth, have been funded by a National Park Sustainability Challenge Fund grant to undertake an in-depth feasibility study into the hydro scheme. This study is nearing completion – copies will be available for everyone for comment.
2. The possibility of installing **solar panels** on local community buildings to produce free hot water.
3. A **car-sharing** scheme for the Community Council area is also being investigated.

At the same time, we need to find ways of reducing our consumption of it. We can all do something as individuals to start reducing our use of energy. **Together we can do much more.** This is where Talybont-on-Usk Energy comes in.

We're aiming to contribute to a more sustainable way of living through the following energy related objectives:

- to investigate the potential to generate energy locally from renewable sources
- to develop and manage viable local renewable energy projects
- to manage any funds generated by the sale of energy or from other sources
- to help locals cut down on energy wastage through the provision of advice, information and resources
- to educate and raise awareness about energy generation, use and wastage.
- undertake a range of local energy related environmental projects.



TALYBONT-ON-USK ENERGY
YNNI
TALYBONT-AR-WYSG

We can all do something as individuals to start reducing our use of energy. Together we can do much more.

Also included was the first Gareth's Patch column, reproduced here for its evergreen tips. We have been informed that Gareth Davies was Chair of the Community Council in 2003 and, at the suggestion of Peter Seaman, then Clerk, gained the Council's approval for the creation and publication of Talybont Matters. Andrew Gray (then of Buckland) was appointed as editor, followed until very recently by Richard Abram.



Gareth's Patch – gardening topical tips

1. March is good month for **pruning bush roses**. Use a sharp secateur, cut out all dead wood, trim off very thin spindly growth and shorten main stems back, cutting just above a prominent bud.
2. **Dogwoods**, grown for their bright stem colour in winter should be pruned back hard this month.
3. **Sow hardy annuals** like Calendulas, Nigella, and Godetia to fill gaps in borders, by lightly raking the seed into the surface of loosened soil.
4. **Snowdrop clumps** can now be lifted and split, and the smaller portions re-planted in places around the garden.
5. Ground in the **veg patch** can now be raked down in readiness for planting
6. **Mulch** between rows of raspberries with garden compost or well rotted manure. Sprinkle some organic fertiliser, e.g. chicken pellets, between rows of strawberries and around the plants



Most importantly, for the eagle-eyed among you this retrospective finally provides an answer as to where all those muddy, webbed footprints come from!

OPEN GARDEN

and

Apple Blossom



ENTRY £5
CHILDREN
FREE ❁

TEA and
SCONES

PLANT
STALL

NATURAL
FORMAL
GARDEN



at
Cui Parc

Talybont-on-USK
LD3 7YW

SUNDAY 2-5pm

30th APRIL 2023

- ALL PROCEEDS TO
LLANFEUGAN CHURCH
& BRECON MOUNTAIN
- RESCUE -

GUIDED
ORCHARD
WALK

WOODLAND
STREAM
WALK



rhododendrons
and
azaleas



USK VALLEY GARDENING ASSOCIATION



The latest indoor meeting of the Usk Valley Gardening Association was held in Llangynidr Village Hall on Tuesday 18th April. There was a very good attendance, including several members from Talybont, and the guest speaker was Richard Higgins, Chairman of Good Gardeners International, an organisation dedicated to maintaining good soil management through a 'No Dig System' to produce the best results for the cultivation of nutritious vegetables. The system relies on improving and maintaining the soil population of useful fungi, bacteria and other micro-organisms which play an important part in making essential nutrient elements in the soil available to produce healthy and beneficial crops.

During the months of May, June and July the group have arranged visits to the following gardens:

19th MAY – a conducted tour of Llysdinam Gardens, Newbridge-on-Wye, led by the Head Gardener, starting at 11am. These gardens are well established, and rhododendrons and azaleas should be starting to flower at this time.

16th JUNE – an evening visit to a local garden in Talybont, by kind invitation of Nina Krauzewicz.

20th JULY – an afternoon visit to the Neuadd Gardens, Llanbedr, Nr Crickhowell, starting at 2pm. This garden regularly opens under the National Garden Scheme and there will be a tour of the garden under the guidance of one of the gardeners.

If non-members are interested in attending any of these visits they will be very welcome. For attendance and payment details contact either of the following Officers:

Gareth Davies (Chairman), 01874 676200 gebdavies@btinternet.com

Linda Windham (Programme Secretary), 07513 099747 lindawindham9@gmail.com



Talybont Stores, Canal Side Cafe & Post Office

01874 676663

www.talybontstores.co.uk enquiries@talybontstores.co.uk

CAFÉ

Monday to Sunday 9am until 4pm

SHOP

Monday to Friday 7am until 6pm

Saturday 8am until 6pm

Sunday 8am until 5pm

By Regan

Craftycraftshop21@gmail.com

Handmade gifts and cards, also personalised items to order, available in the shop now.

POST OFFICE

Monday to Saturday 9am until 1.30pm



Some snippets of Buckland history

A manor house, now vanished, thought to have been near Llanfellte Farm, was built at Buckland in the early 1600s by Meredith Games, scion of a famous Breconshire family. By the early 18th century this house had passed to the last of the Joneses of Buckland, Roger Jones, who died in 1741. His widow, Elinor, was courted by the eccentric Sir John Pryce to become his third wife. She was reluctant because his two previous wives, although deceased, were not yet departed – he kept their embalmed bodies by his bedside. On Elinor's insistence they were decently interred. The marriage took place in 1742 and Sir John moved into Buckland, dying six years later. His widow sold the house and extensive estate to Roderick Gwynne, of a notably rich family of Glanbran, Carmarthenshire, who paid £13,026 for the properties.

Roderick Gwynne had come into even more money by a judicious marriage. He built the mansion in the photograph. On his death in 1774 he left the Buckland Estate to his second son, Thynne Howe, whose will in 1826 enabled his grand-daughter, Anna Maria Elinora, to purchase the manor, farms and lands near Buckland for £7,000. Now James Price Holford, of Cilgwyn in Carmarthenshire, enters the story.

J P Holford had joined the Army as an Ensign in 1809 at the age of 19. He served as a Lieutenant in the 1/52nd Light Infantry all through the Peninsular War. Wounded in 1814 at the Battle of Orthez, he transferred, by careful commission purchases, into the Grenadier Guards with the rank of Major. He and Anna Maria were married in Talgarth in 1830. The family name became Gwynne-Holford by Royal Grant.



The 1771 Buckland Hall, destroyed by fire in 1895.



He then went on half-pay from the Army and became active in local politics, representing the Whig, or Radical, interest. It was the time of political unrest that led to the Great Reform Act of 1832. The Major stood for Parliament in 1837 but was well beaten by the Tory candidate. He was promoted to Lt Colonel in 1841.

Although he had missed the Battle of Waterloo, James remembered his comrades in the Peninsula who had later fought at Waterloo by famously planting copses of trees on Buckland Hill to represent the British line of battalions on Mont-Saint-Jean where Wellington had placed them.

Shortly before his death in 1846, James was the plaintiff in a celebrated trial, Holford v Bailey. Sir Joseph Bailey, having purchased Maes Mawr Farm, disputed Colonel Holford's manorial fishing rights on the Usk. Sir Joseph lost the case. The owner of Buckland was judged to have established his right to fish on both sides of the river.

– Seamus Hamill-Keays

Church Notes

THANK YOU to everyone who has supported various initiatives, including:

- The Canal Side Cafe for providing free hot drinks on Wednesday mornings in early Spring, and for continuing to collect donations for Brecon Food Bank.
- Everyone who enjoyed an excellent Lent Lunch in Henderson Hall on 1st April, after which just over £200 will go to Christian Aid to help people in dire need.
- Bringing your families to the joyful Easter Morning service and filling Llandetty church.
- Recently hosting the Gwent Chamber Orchestra in Llanfeugan and the Henry Vaughan memorial evensong in Llansantffraed churches.

Future Events:

April 30th 2pm – 5pm Open Garden and Apple Blossom at Cui Parc, with tea and scones, in aid of Llanfeugan Church and Brecon Mountain Rescue.

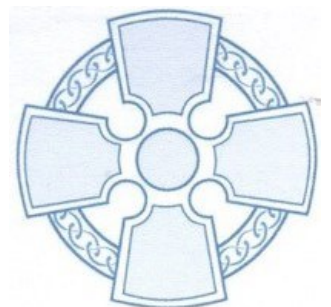
May 21st 2pm Celebration Service at St David's Church, Llanfaes, to launch our new Ministry Area, as we join with churches in Brecon, Epynt and Blaenwysg (around Sennybridge).

July 16th 4pm 'Starlight Order' at Llansantffraed Church – readings from the poet David Jones accompanied by harp music from Wales (linked to the David Jones exhibition at y Gaer, Brecon).

Regular Pattern of Church Services:

First Sunday	Llanfrynach, Holy Communion 10am
Second Sunday	Llanfeugan, Holy Communion 10am Henderson Hall Family Church 11am
Third Sunday	Llansantffraed and Cantref, Holy Communion 10am
Fourth Sunday	Llandetty and Llanhamlach, Holy Communion 10am
Fifth Sunday	April 30th Cantref, Ministry Area Communion 10am July 30th TBC

– Revd Liz Bramley, for Revd Kelvin Richards, Priest in Charge



Usk Valley Conservation Group (Registered Charity)

UVCG is developing its engagement with wildlife and environmental projects:

Gylfinir Cymru (Curlew Wales) is a national initiative set up to monitor and hopefully conserve the iconic Curlew. Many will know this magnificent bird through its thrilling call, once a common occurrence in the skies of Talybont and surrounds in early Spring and Summer, when they arrived to breed here. Sadly, today the numbers have dwindled to such an extent that the species is now critically endangered.

We in the Usk Valley are at least fortunate in being included in one of the 12 national designated Important Curlew Areas (ICAs), where extra effort is being focused on trying to establish the true numbers of the birds here. The ICA extends from the Usk Reservoir to Abergavenny. Our local bird recorder, Andy King, together with the National Park Authority, is spearheading a concerted effort to establish the true picture of curlew numbers on our doorstep, as well as hopefully helping to conserve any nests by establishing protective electric fencing around them to deter predators (obviously with the blessing of the relevant landowners). UVCG has recruited local people – Curlew Scouts – who are helping with monitoring the birds and report their sightings.



Calling any budding Hamza Yassins! Dancing is optional, but the UVCG Facebook page would love to promote any naturalists who are documenting our local wildlife in pictures or videos. UVCG is particularly (but not exclusively) looking out for those under 16s who have an eye for all things wild – we'd love to share your work on our Facebook page. Anyone interested, please apply to join the UVCG group Facebook page and then just post your pictures, either in an ordinary post or by finding the 'Your Wildlife Pictures' album.

Captions are optional, but we'd love to credit your name and age where appropriate.

Environmental work. Finally, UVCG is in touch with and encouraging a landowner at Buckland who is carrying out various environmental projects, including planting about 2km of hedgerows to restore bat routes, and planting about 1,000 trees to restore woodlands, promote tree diversity and help to restore the banks of the Usk. Other work includes the installation of three sondes (water quality sampling devices) in the Usk, restoring and repairing Victorian water canals running from a farm down through Buckland and to the Usk in order to reduce run-off pollution, and avoiding the use of fertilisers to promote biodiversity with a move to organic only farming.

Peter Seaman, UVCG

**Talybont Matters is a Community
Council Publication**

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.

**This edition edited by:
David MacDonald**

Please email articles and suggestions to:
talybontmattersnews@gmail.com

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.

