

The next edition of the newsletter will be out at the beginning of March so please send articles, photos etc by 23rd February. Send to: nita.duff@btinternet.com



## What is our Community Shop?

It might seem a strange question but the Shop is almost "all things to all men" (and women and children). We presume more and more that it will have that obscure item that you would before have had to get in the car to obtain. We expect that it will have, at a reasonable price, the everyday essentials like papers, milk and eggs etc or the little treats that we can spoil ourselves with every so often. It's become the place where you meet people who you learn have lived in the village for 5 years and you've never met them before. It's a place too where you meet people that you know well but who you never bumped into before the shop opened. You probably know that delivery drivers rely upon the shop for directions or for a safe place to leave your parcels when you are out. In what is quite a short space of time the community have come to rely upon the Shop being there. So it's not just a "convenience store" or a "corner shop", it can be within reason, just what you want it to be.

The Shop is run on a business basis and by careful management makes a profit – some being retained for trading, repairs & maintenance and for future growth. This year again £1500 was donated to the Memorial Hall from that profit. You will have noticed we hope that once again the Shop was open every day of the year except Christmas day. We can ask "What is our Community Shop" but plainly without committed volunteers there would be no shop. If you have read previous Newsletters you will know that we struggle to maintain enough volunteers, often due to other commitments, health and moving away. Chris & Jean Sutton, who joined the Shop at its inception, will shortly be moving away- we wish them well, but we hope that residents old & new will take an interest in their place. We have extended not just our product range but without mentioning names we have also extended our age range behind the counter. Not all volunteers are retired and interestingly not all volunteers

work behind the counter but also behind the scenes. It's a mistake to think that volunteers have to work set days and times. We want to be flexible enough so that we can be inclusive. All volunteers are fully trained and work with others until they and we feel confident in their working on their own initiative.

Unfortunately despite the fact that Community Shops have a very low failure rate despite current austerity, our sister shop at Trefeglwys went into receivership last year. Llanfechain Community Shop and another in Herefordshire were able to purchase stock and equipment at knockdown prices at the clearance sale thus giving the benefits back into other communities. This has enabled us to expand our display area and to broaden the range of products on sale. We continue to have plans for our future to avoid becoming complacent and stale. Please join us if you can, we really need you.



### SHOW AGM

Village Hall

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7.30pm

The Show committee desperately needs new members to help organise our village show. Due to ill health some members have now had to give up helping which will leave us desperately short of people. Being a committee member is not a very onerous task as we only have around seven meetings a year. We need new ideas and younger members to ensure that the show survives. If you can help please come along to the AGM on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm.



### ARE YOU AN IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER?

The vast majority of dog owners are very responsible when exercising their dogs in our village.

Unfortunately it only takes one or two irresponsible owners to make dog fouling an unpleasant and health & safety issue for us all.

There is an increasing number of complaints from parents, from children, from visitors to the village, from residents all around the village and even from dog owners themselves about the unacceptable dog fouling on the village field and play area.

If you're one of those irresponsible owners, don't let your dog loose unattended in public spaces. Clear up any mess and stop giving a bad name to every dog owner in the village.



## Village Hall Quiz Night—The place to be!



Quiz night was on the 19th December in the village hall. There were 9 tables taking part ably assisted by Question master Doug Holmes .

Martin Shaw's table won with 98 points (we only got 83!) .The next Quiz is on the 16th Jan. Come and join us—bring your own picnics and have a laugh as well as a groan! Thank you Ron for the questions!! From Haf .

## News from Llanfechain Friendly Club

At our November meeting the Club welcomed Abi Crutcher from the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust who gave an interesting talk on encouraging and keeping wildlife in our gardens. We also held another successful coffee and cake morning in the Village Hall which was well supported with plenty of chat and laughter but it would be nice to see some new faces.

The Christmas dinner this year was held at the Green Inn and was attended by 25 members, husbands and friends. It was a good opportunity for the last get together before the hectic arrangements of Christmas.

Our first meeting in 2015 is on Tuesday 6th January at 2 pm. in the Village Hall and new members will be made very welcome.

May all the members take this opportunity to wish everyone in Llanfechain a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

If you would like to join the club or want further information please contact Elizabeth Yorke on 828614.



With minimal scenery and props, the performers of the Lighthouse Theatre company created an atmospheric set and played the varied cast of the Dickens novel, the Chimes. With its concentration on the plight of the poor and working classes it seemed particularly relevant again in these times of austerity. This rather dark tale was however lifted by the wonderful unaccompanied singing which flowed throughout the play.

This was professional theatre in our own village hall made possible by the Arts Council of Wales Nightout scheme and Powys County Council.

As an added bonus the evening also raised £125 towards Hall funds.

Thanks to Dick, Elizabeth, Richard, David and Doug who helped on the evening and also to all those who gave raffle prizes

June Row

## News from the Gardening Club

On Dec 18th Llanfechain gardening club held their Christmas Dinner at the Stumble Inn in Bwlch y cibau, 24 members, partners, friends enjoyed not only the meal but also enjoyed working out a gardening quiz devised by Doug Holmes. Thank you Doug !

Next meeting is Jan 15th in the village hall "Hints by members--Successes and failures" We'll see you there at 7-30pm in the hall. Issidy 829232.

From your secretary Issidy Hafner -01691 829232.

Llanfechain Memorial Hall Committee

## AGM

**7.30pm on Monday 16 March at Llanfechain Memorial Hall**

## Christmas Fair

On a bright cold day villagers flocked to the Village Hall to do some Christmas shopping and to support the nominated charity, which this year was Severn Hospice. There really was a wonderful array of crafts and produce for sale and a lovely friendly atmosphere. Thanks to Sue for playing the Christmas tunes.

The morning raised £251.10 for the Hospice and we also made over £100 on the sale of their Christmas cards.

Thanks to everyone who came along and supported the event, to all those who helped on the day and also to those who gave raffle prizes.

June Row

# Diary

•**EVERY Monday Pilates at Llanfechain Hall**  
9.00am-11.00am For more information—Rebecca T:  
07791892821. E: sashas\_mum@yahoo.co.uk

•**EVERY Monday MD Warriors, Martial Arts at Llanfechain Hall**  
**5.30pm—6.00pm** session for under 5 year olds  
**6.00pm-7.00pm** session for 6 to 14 year olds  
**7.00pm-8.00pm** session for adults  
T:Ron on 01691 828802

•**Every Tuesday Stretch and Relax with Yoga**  
7.00pm-8.30pm at Llanfechain Hall. T: Linda Ward on  
01691 831427

•**First Tuesday in every month Llanfechain Friendly Club**  
2.00pm at Llanfechain Hall. T: Elizabeth 828614

•**Every Wednesday Pilates**  
9.00am-10.00am at Llanfechain Hall, class for Mixed Ability. For more information—Rebecca  
T: 07791892821. E: sashas\_mum@yahoo.co.uk

• **Every Wednesday until the end of March Indoor Bowls**  
From 7.30pm at Llanfechain Hall

• **Second Thursday in every month Llanfechain WI**  
&.30pm at Llanfechain Hall T: Sarah on 07970 625405.

• **Third Thursday in every month Llanfechain Gardening Club**  
7.30pm at Llanfechain Hall. T: Issidy 01691829232 .

•**Last Thursday in every month Community Lunch**  
Llanfechain School during term time, £4 to book call  
01691 828537

•**First Friday in every month Whist Drive**  
7.30pm at Llanfechain Hall. T: 01691 829081. All  
proceeds go to support Llanfechain Hall.

•**Third Friday in every month Quiz Night**  
&.30pm for 8.00pm start at Llanfechain Hall. Bring your  
own drinks and nibbles. £5 per table of 5. Proceeds to  
Llanfechain Hall

•**First Saturday in every month St Garmons Church Coffee Mornings**  
10.00am—noon at St Garmons Church

•**Tuesday 6 January**  
Llanfechain Community Council at Llanfechain Hall,  
7.30pm. T: 828542.

•**Tuesday 13 January**  
Llanfechain Show AGM at Llanfechain Hall, 7.30pm.

•**Monday 16 March**  
Llanfechain Memorial Hall AGM at Llanfechain  
Hall, 7.30pm.



## New Year's Celebrations at Llanfechain Hall

A few villagers gathered in the hall to see in the New Year. Everyone Brought drinks and nibbles for an enjoyable evening of music, chat, laughter, a brainteaser quiz and of course a raffle (in aid of the hall funds).

A great way for all to welcome in 2015.