

NEWSLETTER 2025



clerk@yscircc.org.uk

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From our chair, Jane Price

Yet another year has gone by since our last newsletter. Firstly, I would like to thank all our community councillors for their hard work and commitment, attending meetings in their own time and supporting me as chairman.

The role of Clerk remains unfilled (see below). Maybe you know someone who would like to take on this paid role?

We still have our concerns regarding the closure of Cradoc school. The three schools have now amalgamated and are known as Golwg Pen Y Fan.

We celebrated the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, held on 6th June 2024, at Cradoc Golf Club. It was a great success with the lighting of a Beacon which was kindly constructed by Kevin and Michael Gore. Music was provided by Edward Price and catering by Maureen Prosser. Our chairman read a poem, followed by the two-minute silence and the playing of the last post. Yscir Community Council presented a portrait of King Charles 111's new reign, to Cradoc Golf Club which will be put up shortly. This was kindly given by the UK government to public institutions across the country. We felt that this would be the most suitable of places as it is the place where we meet in Yscir CC.



Litter picking continues in our community and thank you very much to those who regularly keep our area clear from litter.

I would like to wish all of you within the Yscir Community the very best, and remember those residents who are no longer with us.

Best wishes Jane

Yscir Community Council—Vacancy for Clerk

A permanent paid position of up to 180 hours per annum, working mainly from home. There are six evening meeting per year plus additional planning meetings held at Cradoc Golf Club.

Further details are available on the website or from clerk@yscircc.org.uk

Yscir Community Council Annual Report Year to 31 March 2025

Yscir Community Council consists of 7 councillors, elected by the local community every 5 years (with an election due in May 2027). The Council meets 6 times a year with additional meetings, if required, to consider planning applications. Although not a member of the council, county councillor Iain McIntosh has attended its meetings and been very active in helping the council to get work done in the area, by Powys County Council.

Almost all the income of the Council comes through the precept, £1,344 being received in 2024/25. The Council spent £1,749 in 2024/25. The precept and expenditure was low because we currently have no clerk. No concerns were raised by the internal and external audits for the 23/24 year.

The Council are maintaining 2 defibrillators in the community in Aberbran (outside Ty Torlan) and Battle (opposite Heol y Garreg). In addition, there are defibrillators at Cradoc School (near front entrance) and at Cradoc Golf Club (rear of clubhouse).

Speedwatch has continued to try and make the roads safer in our villages.

Clerk to Yscir Community Council

Church of St Cynidr & St Mary Aberyscir



I write this in the week before Easter – a time when we are reminded that Love is stronger than Death, as anyone who has read Harry Potter will know as that is why he was able to defeat Voldemort! We also know it from our own lives.

If you are still reading this I guess you have at least a passing interest in our church. Well, we are at something of a crossroads in the history of this lovely building, because the existing congregation simply doesn't raise enough money to pay for the upkeep and maintenance of the building. This building, and previous buildings on the same site, have served the needs of the community for centuries. If that is to continue for future generations then change is needed.

A small step towards change was to hold our carol service in Cradoc Golf Club where we were made most welcome. Rather than asking the local community to join us in the cold church we came to the local community club house.

What do you think? Perhaps you don't think the Church is relevant any longer? Love and Hope will always be relevant and you should always be able to find those in any gathering with our church members.

If you would like to help us decide the future for Aberyscir Church *please* get in touch. The church warden is Huw Marshall, rhmarshall@hotmail.co.uk. The priest in charge of the Ministry Area, of which Aberyscir is a part, is Revd Gill Todd, GillianTodd@cinw.org.uk The website address is <https://breconandepyntma.org.uk/>

Local Policing

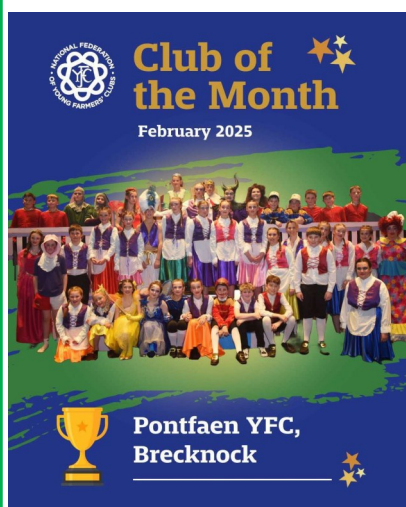
To a great extent, residents of Yscir are fortunate in that, according to our local police, crime is relatively low. There have, however, been instances of the theft of quad bikes from farms, mainly in the adjoining areas. Yscir residents are encouraged to be vigilant and take note of unusual activities on the part of unknown persons or vehicles. In the latter case, details of relevant registration numbers would be of use to police: it is unwise to approach such individuals.

Our local police are offering a DNA marking system for privately owned machinery, such as mowers and other mechanical garden equipment. Any resident who would like their equipment marked should contact PCSO Laura Morgan at Laura.Morgan@dyfed-powys.police.uk

Pontfaen Young Farmers

It's been a busy and exciting few months for us at Pontfaen YFC! Over Christmas, we brought festive cheer to the area with our Illuminated Tractor Run, which lit up the local roads and ended at the high school with Santa handing out gifts and refreshments served to the crowd. We were over the moon to raise an amazing £8,000 for Wales Air Ambulance and Brecon Mountain Rescue—a massive thank you to everyone who supported the event!

January saw us getting stuck into rehearsals for our Pantomime and One Plus competitions. Our junior band came out on top, Mollie Hughes scooped Best Performance in the Senior One Plus, and Darcy Davies was awarded Best Actress Under 18 in the Pantomime.



We were also incredibly proud to be named National Club of the Month in February—a real honour and a testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of all our members.

Now, we're looking ahead to Rally Day on Saturday 7th June at Llwynstyffilin Farm, Sennybridge. Come along for a great day out and see what we're all about!

Community Green Lane

Community Volunteering

Members of the community gathered one Saturday morning in April to clear and trim back a stretch of the Green Lane. The aim was to clear the ground so that later in the year it will be possible to trim back the bracken. As many know it does get very overgrown and difficult to navigate.

We would like to extend our thanks on behalf of the community and if anyone is interested in volunteering just let the clerk know.



Sports Committee



The Aberbran, Aberyscir, Battle, Cradoc & Fennifach annual sports and BBQ returned on Saturday 17th August 2024. Fine weather and an excellent venue kindly supplied by Messer's D & T Walters saw a wonderful turnout of visitors to take part in an afternoon of fun, frolics and entertainment. The rounders and sports events were well supported, with the Wibbly Wobbly Race providing its guaranteed light-hearted silliness to proceedings!

The rodeo was a first-time event for 2024 and very popular and will return 2025. The evening finished with the BBQ. As always, the committee would like to express their sincere gratitude to all those who helped in organising the day.

Planning for 2025 is already underway for the 16th August 2025 and any ideas for new events would be most welcome. If anyone wants to help, then the Sports Committee would be happy to see new faces to bolster our ranks.

In the early hours of 6th June 2024 we lit a beacon to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. The Service of Remembrance was conducted by Cllr' Iain McIntosh and Rev' Rick Wootton and the beacon was lit by Paratrooper Steve King. The event was more poignant against the backdrop of gun fire and flares over the Epynt Ranges.

The community quiz night was held at Cradoc Golf club on the 7th February 2025. The winners were 'The Alpacas'. We would thank Gomer and Linda Probert for returning as quiz masters, Cradoc Golf Club for providing the venue and catering and committee members for raffle donations. Most of all our thanks go to those attending who made it such a wonderful event.

Cradoc Golf Club



18 hole Golf Course/Clubhouse/Driving Range/Practice area & Putting Green.
01874 623658 / www.cradoc.co.uk

Spring has truly arrived here in Cradoc, and we couldn't be happier to see so many of you enjoying the course, the clubhouse, and the company. Whether you're a seasoned golfer, a casual player, or just love the view from the bar terrace, there's something for everyone at Cradoc Golf Club with the beautiful Brecon Beacons as our backdrop.

We're thrilled to welcome Lindsay Dean as our new Bar Manager. Lindsay has already made fantastic improvements to the bar offerings and introduced new opening hours to better suit the needs of our members and the local community. Whether you're popping in for a coffee or a pint, you'll be greeted with a smile and a welcoming atmosphere.

Our new caterers, Ian and Elen Kelly, have now been with us for four weeks and are already a huge hit!

Did you know that if you live in the Yscir community, you're entitled to free social membership at Cradoc Golf Club? This gives you 10% off all food and drinks — perfect for enjoying a meal out, catching up with friends, or joining us for one of our many social events. It's our way of saying thank you for being part of our community.

Whether you're here for golf, food, events, or just a place to relax, Cradoc Golf Club is your local hub. We're proud to be part of the Cradoc and wider Brecon community, and we're always looking for ways to be more involved. Come and say hello.

With best wishes for a bright and active spring,

B C Stuart General Manager

Kelly's at Cradoc Golf Club

Hello, we are Ian and Elen Kelly and have recently taken over the catering at Cradoc Golf Club. We pride ourselves on using local and Welsh produce wherever we can, and cook fresh meals every day! We cook breakfast, lunch and dinner from 10am until 9pm, 7 days a week! Our Sunday roast is also not to be missed but we do recommend booking. We look forward to meeting you all very soon. 01874 623658 (option5)



Internet Connectivity

Back in 2018/19, I was proud to help bring an internet service to our area through Dyfed IT, a project that made a real difference to many homes and businesses in our community. Unfortunately, since Dyfed IT was taken over by Voneus, I've been receiving an increasing number of complaints about poor reliability and delays in resolving technical issues. I want to reassure residents that I'm regularly contacting Voneus to press for quick resolutions to the problems being reported. I fully understand the frustration this is causing, particularly for those who work from home or rely heavily on a stable internet connection.

In response to these ongoing issues, I'm now actively exploring alternative solutions to improve our local internet infrastructure. One promising route is the development of a more reliable full fibre network, and I'm currently working to secure funding that could make this possible. This is very much a team effort. I've been working closely with the five Community Councils in our ward, and we recently held a meeting with a potential service provider. They are now carrying out a scoping exercise to assess the viability of installing a new fibre network in our area. If this proves feasible and we're able to secure the necessary funding, we hope to move forward and deliver a service that meets the needs of our communities for the long term. I'll continue to keep residents updated as this work progresses.

Concerns Over ESTYN Report on Powys Education Service

Like the vast majority of Powys residents, I was deeply alarmed by the recent damning report from ESTYN regarding Powys County Council's education service – particularly its criticism of the service's political leadership. Fellow members of my County Council group and I have been very vocal in calling for urgent change. We believe the current Cabinet structure is not fit for purpose and have insisted that the Council must act swiftly to implement ESTYN's recommendations in full. While the Chief Executive has taken the step of establishing an 'Accelerated Improvement Board' to begin addressing some of the issues raised, it is telling that this has been done without the involvement of the current Cabinet Member for Education. Despite this, there has still been no indication of any changes being made at Cabinet level. I will continue to press for meaningful reform and accountability to ensure our children receive the standard of education they need and rightly deserve.

Cllr Iain McIntosh

Reform UK County Councillor Powys County Council

cllr.iain.mcintosh@powys.gov.uk 07870 655669

