

# ST HILARY NEWS

NEWS, VIEWS AND WHAT'S GOING ON IN ST HILARY



## WELCOME

Reports in last month's St Hilary News that Spring had arrived proved to be premature with two editions of the "Beast from the East" sweeping through the village in March. The drifting snow reminded villagers of previous winters when St Hilary was completely cut off including once when a helicopter was on standby to help a heavily pregnant Gill Harris reach hospital! This time, the last "main" road to reopen fully was Llantrithyd Road, between Morawelon and Coed Hills, which was finally cleared of drifting snow on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Church services were cancelled on 2 out of 4 Sundays in March along with the Monday whist group. The meeting of Llanfair Community Council scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup> had to be postponed!



One victim of the first visit from the "Beast" was the St David's Day Supper, cancelled following concerns about the safety and welfare of attendees.

This event, as well as being a great social evening, is a significant fund raiser which helps us to maintain the village hall. Recently you may have noticed a skip outside the hall being used by the builder carrying out ongoing repairs to the hall. You may also be aware that over the past 2 years, a significant amount of money has been spent repairing the floors in the toilets.

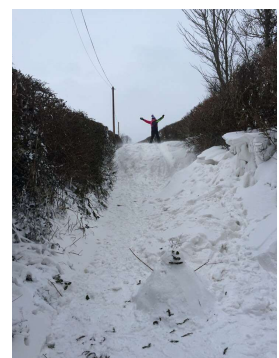
Luckily the Committee managed to sell most of the food, both prepared and fresh, so very little went to waste. The generosity of villagers who made donations ensured that a much needed £300 was still raised for the village hall. The cancellation of the St David's Day Supper meant that the St Hilary Choir did not get to perform for the village after many weeks of rehearsals.

## Thanks from community council

**T**HE members of Llanfair Community Council would like to thank all the farmers who cleared the country roads around Llandough, St Hilary and St Mary Church of snow during the recent inclement weather. This action made a huge difference to residents and the wider community who had to venture outside in their vehicles. Everyone is very grateful to all who assisted.  
**Jackie Griffin**  
 (Clerk to Llanfair community Council)

Letter from Llanfair Community Council published in the Cowbridge Gem, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Many intrepid villagers, their children and dogs were able to enjoy the snow, despite the arctic conditions!



## ST HILARY NEWS - HAVE YOUR SAY

If you have an event coming up or a project you would like to tell the community about, you can send your item to Liz Loch at Glebe Farm, St Hilary, CF71 7DP or [newsletter@sthilary.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@sthilary.org.uk). Deadline for the May newsletter is Tuesday April 24th.



Publication of this newsletter has been made possible by a grant from Creative Rural Communities.

## RECENT EVENTS

### WI - "SPRING INTEREST IN THE GARDEN"

St Hilary WI members enjoyed being distracted from the cold weather, by a warmly received talk entitled 'Spring Interest in the Garden'. Kevin Thomas entertained members with beautiful pictures, top gardening tips and jokes! His love of horticulture and his bountiful knowledge about plants and local gardens meant the talk was sadly over too quickly. Kevin has worked in a range of garden nurseries and amazed members with some statistics from his experience e.g. approximately 80, 000 primroses were sold in Bryncethin Nursery, for some early Spring colour. He suggested numerous places in and around Cardiff where signs of spring were emerging and could be enjoyed, and recommended a visit to Klyne Gardens, Swansea, between now and mid-May. Kevin could have talked for hours and as a big Ken Dodd fan, he was granted additional time to tell some jokes (in homage to the comedian).



### LLANFAIR PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

The recent Bag2School collection raised £120 towards school funds. Thank you to everyone who donated items, the next collection will be on Monday June 18<sup>th</sup> with a collection being arranged in St Hilary the preceding week.

### BUSH INN EASTER EGG HUNT



Children and adults alike braved the gloomy weather to take part in the 8<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt at the Bush Inn on Easter Saturday. The Eater Bunny had hidden gazillions of eggs and chocolate treats which the children found. They also enjoyed colouring competitions, egg & spoon races and face painting by the amazing Victoria Davis.

### JUNIOR REPORTERS REQUIRED

We are looking for junior reporters for the newsletter from among the children living in or around St Hilary. Contact [newsletter@sthilary.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@sthilary.org.uk)

## IN OTHER NEWS

### WHAT IS THE "SAFARI SUPPER"?

The St Hilary Safari Supper will take place on Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup>. For many years this event has been the highlight of the social calendar in the village and the Village Hall Committee are sure that this tradition will continue to be supported enthusiastically. For the uninitiated, the format of the evening is as follows: At 7pm participants gather at a house in the centre of the village for canapés and fizz. Once there, everyone is told where they will be going to eat their main course. Hosts head off home to make their final preparations, with their guests (4 to 6 in number) arriving shortly after. The hosts then let diners know where they will be moving on to for their dessert. Once again participants move on to another village house, usually sharing their dessert with a different group of people to the previous course. The evening ends around 10.30pm with coffee and mints in the Village Hall. Tickets are priced at £25 which includes the 3-course meal and accompanying wine. If you are interested in attending the event or hosting a course, please contact Ewa Thomas on 01446 771728 or [ewathomas@btinternet.com](mailto:ewathomas@btinternet.com).

### ST HILARY LOGO COMPETITION



The de Wilde family showing their framed copies of the prize winning logos (children's category), winner Pippa with runners up Tom and Alice.

### ST HILARY PHONE BOX

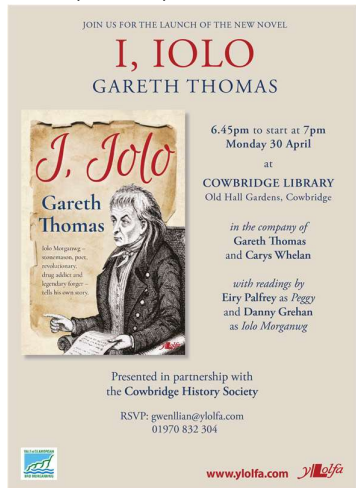


A survey has been carried out to identify the work required to renovate the phone box for future village uses. Subject to all of the approvals being in place, here are some diary dates for future work: clean & preparation on April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> and painting on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>.

**I, IOLO – LAUNCH EVENT**

Gareth Thomas, well-known local author, invites villagers to the launch of his historical novel *I, Iolo* at the Cowbridge Library, Old Hall Gardens, on Monday April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6.45pm (to start at 7.00pm).

The evening will include dramatised readings from the book with Carys Whelan asking probing questions. The evening is presented in partnership with the Cowbridge History Society and the Cowbridge Library.



The novel is a first-person retelling of the story of Iolo Morganwg; a story of mystery, love, revolution, violence, drugs, passion, spies and betrayal set in places you know and places that will astound. The action moves from a wild night at The Bush to the society drawing

rooms of Mayfair, from druidic ceremonies on wild hillside to the luxurious bordellos of Covent Garden, from a cottage in Flemingston to a hearing before the Privy Council in Downing Street. The closing years of the C18th are, in Iolo's words, an age of 'unparalleled eventfulness' and he is in the thick of it; a young man of prodigious talent and boundless energy, drunk with words, outraged by injustice and in thrall to the spirit of liberty sweeping across Europe.

**ST JOHN AMBULANCE "SAVE A LIFE"**

St John Ambulance (Cowbridge Division) will be providing a free "Save a Life" training session in the village hall on Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. This training is designed to raise awareness of the importance of first aid and will

equip attendees with basic skills they could use to be the



difference between life and death. This should complement and reinforce the training delivered when the defibrillator was installed.

**THE BIG 50 MILER - JACK BERRY FIJIAN TRUST**

Liz and Andy at the Bush Inn would like villagers to know that the first big event for Jack's charity will take place on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Jack's family will be attempting the unthinkable and running a gruelling 50 miles from Jack's family home in Abergavenny to his place of work at the Bush Inn. Following their arrival at the Bush Inn around 4pm, Andy and Liz will be throwing a fantastic after-run BBQ. Help the runners keep from collapsing and join us for a Bank Holiday celebration post this horrendous challenge!

[www.jackberryfijianfoundation.com/upcoming-events-info](http://www.jackberryfijianfoundation.com/upcoming-events-info)



**ST HILARY CHURCHYARD – HELP NEEDED**

A message from Simon Lait: The churchyard is a pleasant place appreciated by locals and visitors alike. For many locals, it is associated with the turning points in life: christenings, marriages and, more somberly, laying loved ones to rest. The headstones provide a record of villagers stretching back many generations. The tranquility of the place is a continuing testimony not just to those who lie there, but also to those who have and who will cross it in joy, sorrow or just in simple enjoyment.

Keeping the grass neatly trimmed between Easter and the onset of winter is done by a splendid team of villagers many of whom are long serving. Each has a "patch" not much bigger than a suburban front lawn. Mowing equipment is stored in shed in the churchyard. The team use this, or their own equipment, to tackle each plot every 0 - 12 days in the peak growing season, a little less frequently when grass growth slows. Simon organises this and needs some additional volunteers. The commitment is flexible: you simply cut your bit when you feel it needs it and you can spare half an hour or so. If you can't commit as a regular grass cutter but could "stand in", by arrangement, for a regular during holidays etc that too would be helpful. If you can help please contact Simon Lait on 07929575506 or [simonlait@aol.com](mailto:simonlait@aol.com) for a guided tour of the tool shed!

## WHAT'S ON IN APRIL & MAY

### THE BUSH INN QUIZ NIGHT

The current round of quiz nights will come to an end on April 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 8pm. Entry costs £1 per person.

### CUT, CLEAN & CLEAR (3CS)

Wednesday April 4<sup>th</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup> meet outside the village hall at 10am.

### DROP IN COFFEE MORNING

Coffee, cake and a chat - Wednesday April 4<sup>th</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup> between 10.30am and noon in the village hall.

### YOGA@ST HILARY



Mondays at 6pm in the village hall except when there's whist! No classes April 2<sup>nd</sup> or May 7<sup>th</sup> - contact Ann Culverwell on 07855 448356 for more information.

### LLANFAIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Dates and venues for next meetings:

Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm in Llanfair Primary School.

Thursday June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in St Hilary village hall.

**The Public and the Press are cordially invited to be present and provision is made for any member of the public to address the Community Council for a set period of time.** Further information can be obtained from

Jackie Griffin, Clerk to the Council, on

[jackie.griffin1@btopenworld.com](mailto:jackie.griffin1@btopenworld.com) or from the St Hilary Community Councillors – David Hawkins, Mary Llewellyn and Heather Shaw.

### ST HILARY WI

The next meeting of St Hilary WI will be held on Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. The topic will be: 'A Talk on the Rockies Challenge'.

### LLANFAIR PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Summer Term** starts on Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> and ends on Friday July 20<sup>th</sup> (tbc). Half term is from Monday May 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### MONDAY WHIST

Next sessions on Monday May 7<sup>th</sup> and June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the village hall.

### ST HILARY CHURCH

Regular Sunday service at 11am each week. Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> – All Age Worship – everyone welcome.

### VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The Safari Supper will take place on Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> – see article on page 2. If you would like to attend or to host, please contact Ewa Thomas on 01446 771728 or [ewathomas@btinternet.com](mailto:ewathomas@btinternet.com).

### QUIZ & CURRY EVENING

St Hilary Church Social Committee will be holding a Quiz and Curry evening in the village hall on Friday May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. More information to follow.

### COWBRIDGE PHYSIC GARDEN PLANT SALE



### LLANFAIR PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE

The school Summer Fayre will take place on Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 1pm. There will be a selection of craft stalls as well as the usual fayre games and refreshment stalls. Everyone is welcome!