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# DIRECTORY



ISSUE 58

JULY/

AUGUST 2019



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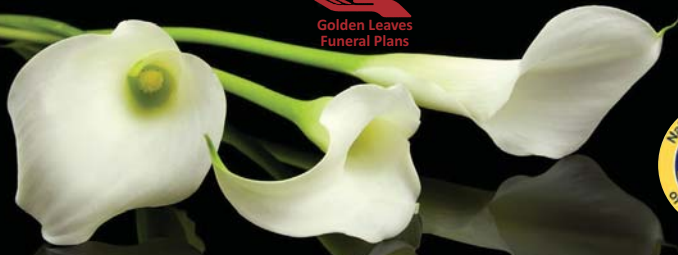
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# Welcome!

A big thank you to all the community groups who kindly responded to our recent email regarding the *What's On* pages. A full list of local events, activities and groups are now available on our website - [swdirectories.com](http://swdirectories.com).

We are a small independent business and make a huge effort to produce and deliver the magazines to as many people as possible, it takes a great deal of commitment and dedication to keep the production going and we always value and appreciate the positive feedback we receive.

Our aim is to provide an informative and interesting magazine that positively contributes to both community life and local businesses.

We rely totally on the revenue from the advertising to keep the magazine in production and need local businesses to support us as much as they possibly can. Please get in touch if you would like to advertise with us.

Advertising in the Directories has proved successful for so many of our advertisers, some have been with us since the very first magazine in May 2006.

**A huge thank you to all our advertisers - we are grateful for all your support.**

Best wishes

Susan  
x

Advertising enquiries:

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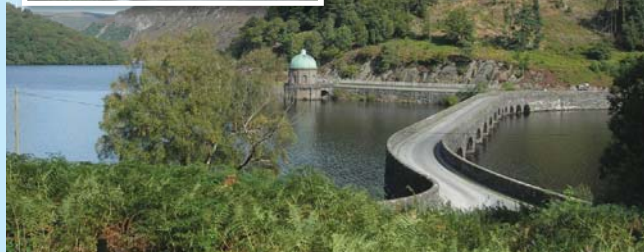
## Reservoirs in Wales

# The Garreg Ddu Dam

Although looking like a viaduct, it is actually a submerged dam. Its role is to maintain a sufficient level in the Garreg-ddu reservoir so water can enter the Foel Tower and the gravity-driven aqueduct to the Frankley Reservoir in Birmingham. The dam is only required to operate during times of extreme drought.

The water flows to the Severn Trent water treatment works, where it is cleaned by rapid gravity filter sand beds.

Chlorine, fluoride and lime are added. The Foel Tower stands 52m above the Frankley Reservoir in Birmingham. The gradient of the aqueduct which links them averages 1 in 2,300,



which allows the water to flow by gravity alone.

It also supports masonry pillars carrying the access roadway to the neighbouring valley of the River Claerwen which were

clearly visible on our trip in September 2010 but when we visited the dam in February of 2014 it was full. Well worth and trip and only 1 ½ hours from Newport.

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# Warm Weather, Longer Days & Attractive Houses

**Summer is here and it's a great time of the year to think about selling your home. Even here in Malpas the weather is warmer; you can enjoy the longer evenings and generally we all tend to be in much better moods.**

Houses look at their best with blue skies, green lawns and colourful flowerbeds. Both when photographed and in person and although they say you shouldn't judge a book by its cover, it is the first impressions that will attract potential buyers, so the joys of the summer do help.

## Our Top Tips for Selling Your House in the Summer

### Keep the Colours Neutral

Everyone has their own tastes and don't try to please all. When you are preparing your house to go on the market use neutral paints as this will not only make the property look light, bright and fresh it will help any potential buyers to picture themselves and their belongings living in your home.

### De-Clutter

Clutter makes rooms look smaller, might well distract your viewers and means you must pack even more items when you move!

### Fresh Air and Sunlight

Open all your curtains and blinds and if safe to do so, leave your windows open. Fresh air and sunlight will help bring your house to life and help to show off the size of your rooms.

### Deodorise Your House

You will love your family pets and be accustomed to their smells, but your potential buyers might not be so keen. If you can, ask friends/family to look after them before the viewing so you can air your house and don't to empty your house bins regularly in the summer months and try to avoid cooking strong smelling foods shortly before a visit.

### Added Extra Tip

According to NAEA Propertymark freshening up your bathroom is a small but inexpensive job which could have a huge impact on viewers.

Add a green, leafy plant or a new white shower curtain to revitalise the room. Then clear away toiletries from view and store them in a cupboard whilst ensuring the toilet, bath, shower, sink and mirrors are spotlessly clean. Put a new toilet roll in the holder and hang out a clean hand towel as a finishing touch.



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# Beaches in Wales

Caldey Island is a small island just off the coast near Tenby in Pembrokeshire. It is one of the holy islands of Britain, a number of traditions inherited from Celtic times are observed by the Cistercian monks of Caldey Abbey, the owners of the island. It is separated from the mainland by Caldey Sound. A ferry service from Tenby goes to Caldey Island in the spring and summer months when the weather allows, although it is

closed on a Sunday. Boats depart every half hour from the harbour at high tide, while at low tide they depart from Castle Beach.

Tourist attractions on Caldey Island include the 13th-century church of St Illtyd, a Norman chapel, Caldey Abbey and Caldey Lighthouse, which was built in 1828 and automated in 1929. The light stands 210 ft above high-water mark.



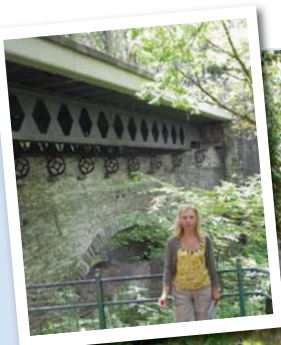
# Waterfalls in Wales

**Devils Bridge Falls is a world famous tourist attraction in the heart of the Cambrian Mountains. It is 12 miles from Aberystwyth and 85 miles from Newport along the A470.**

Today, the Falls Nature Trail provides a unique opportunity to see this great natural feature in the Rheidol Gorge. The set of stone steps, still open to tourists, leads down to the lowest bridge at the waterfall, they are known as Jacob's Ladder.

If you are passing or want a full day trip, the Bridge and the Falls Nature Trails are well worth it.

**The Waterfall Wanderer**





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# Big Bertha and Other Ghost Stories

**There is a fabulous ghost story recounted by the comedian, Dave Allen, which I came across recently. He told of a haunted house in Ireland that contained a so-called bad room: a chamber with a heavy atmosphere of foreboding and evil.**

A visitor to the property dismissed its reputation and insisted that he be allowed to spend the night inside. As morning arrived, however, there was a terrible scream and the room was found to be empty save for the smell of brimstone and a solitary shoe. A local priest was called and endeavoured to solve the mystery by staying overnight himself. He told the owners he would disclose all that he saw but promised that, were he to disappear in the same manner as the previous occupant, he would leave a message on the sole of his remaining boot. At sunrise, an inhuman shriek was heard once more. The owners raced to the bedroom that was now filled with the same sulphurous stench and discovered the priest had vanished, leaving only the single item of footwear. Nervously, they picked it up and searched for his message. And there, on the sole, they saw two words had been scorched onto the surface...Size 9!

It's a cracking yarn, especially when performed by the late Mr

**by Paul Minton**

Allen and I was reminded of it as a friend and I sat in The Rising Sun in Rogerstone, swapping tales of the supernatural. I had begun by telling him the pub was meant to be haunted. There had been several occasions when wine glasses at the end of the bar had tumbled to the floor without being touched. More disturbingly, a member of staff staying alone in one of the bedrooms was suddenly awoken as if a bucket of water had been thrown over her. Her night attire, including the dressing gown she slept in, was drenched and yet the rest of the room was entirely dry. No plumbing defect or other cause was ever identified.

My friend countered with a story of his own, which concerned an acquaintance of his who had been a trainee nurse. She was covering the night shift in a hospital ward when she became aware of another nurse dressed in an old fashioned uniform walking through the corridor. The trainee thought it peculiar but took no

action. When she described her experience to colleagues the following morning, she was assured the uniform had long since been abandoned but that a phantom dressed in such a style was said to roam the building.

While on the subject of female apparitions, I took the opportunity to tell my friend about Big Bertha Ramsey. She was a six foot tall matron, who worked at what later became the Caerleon Campus of the University of South Wales. She died there in January 1962 after toppling over the banister of a high staircase. There have long been rumours that she may have been pushed but no matter, her ghost, wearing brown overalls and with hair arranged in a bun, has reputedly been seen ever since. Security staff also reported odd sounds during the night and observed the lift coming down of its own accord with no one inside. On another occasion, two men watched in horror as a newly hung portrait swung violently from side to side as if moved by an invisible force. Even the Principal was certain Bertha had returned from the grave when she appeared in his office shortly after her funeral. Fortunately, on this occasion, it was just Bertha's twin sister paying him a visit. If only all ghost stories could be explained so easily.

# SUMMER FUN



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# The Twmbarlwm Glass Collection

*Positive proof that the iconic mountain-top has been a popular destination for picnickers since Victorian times*

Our litterpick at the end of April was very well attended, which allowed us the opportunity to split the group of volunteers and get a gang to the top of the mountain to do a job we have been planning on doing for the past few months.

That task was to pick up the vast amount of broken glass that was uncovered by the wildfires of last summer. Clearing away the glass was needed for both public safety and the fact that it presents the potential of starting more fires with its magnifying effect in the summer sun.

Half a dozen of us spent a couple of hours up there and each of us collected half a bucket of glass shards. I must stress here that we all used pick-up sticks and thick gloves – picking up broken glass can be an extremely hazardous task if not tackled with care and it's not an exercise for small children.

When we got the glass back down the hill I just couldn't bring myself to simply dump it all in the recycling for collection, so we sifted through it and found that each shard must reveal a part of our social history. To our inexperienced eyes much of the glass was quite thick and with a green hue to it, suggesting it is of considerable age and giving us further proof that people have been climbing Twmbarlwm with their picnics for many generations.

The bottles were all shapes and sizes – there were some flagons with vulcanite screw-in tops and there was also some examples of Codd-Neck bottles – a type of bottle that used a glass-marble as a stopper.

On many pieces you can make out parts of words such as: "...aber...", "...rtons...", "...ercar...", "...BRO...", "...miner..." – and we spent a while guessing what some of these could be.

The most common wording we could decipher on the shards was "Newport and Merthyr Bottle Co." and

**Gang of CTS volunteers clearing away decades of broken glass from the top of Twmbarlwm**



**A few examples from the "Twmbarlwm hoard"**

a quick Google search reveal that many of those could date from the early part of the 20th century.

One of our group later identified the piece with "...ERCAR..." on it. It was probably a bottle from the Gwyddon Vale Mineral Water Company that operated in Abercarn from 1880-1920. The bottle itself would have been a Codd bottle made by Cannington & Shaw in St. Helens, Lancashire.

None of us is an expert on the history of glass, so Cadw put us in touch with an expert in this field. We have since met with him and he has already identified much of the glass, and confirmed that some could date back to Victorian times.

We have also had a second foray onto the hill with him and found a great deal more. Together we will be compiling a more thorough report on our findings and will publish it on our website in due course.

I can promise you we won't be pursuing the person who dumped any of these bottles, or their descendants, for littering – and I wonder, if we find a complete bottle, will we still be able to claim back the deposit?

*Terry C. Evans, Chairman CTS*

**CTS meet at the car park** below Twmbarlwm's summit for a litter pick and volunteer workday on the last Sunday of every month to which everyone is invited, it's not all hard work and it's a great opportunity to find your way around up there. We organise walks and other events up the mountain and at Crosskeys RFC throughout the year so watch our website and Facebook page for details.

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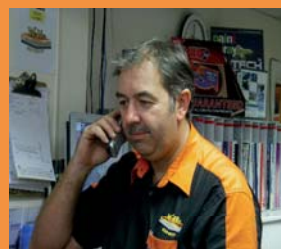
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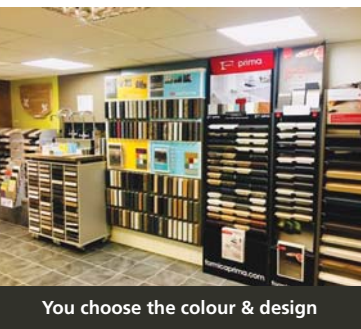
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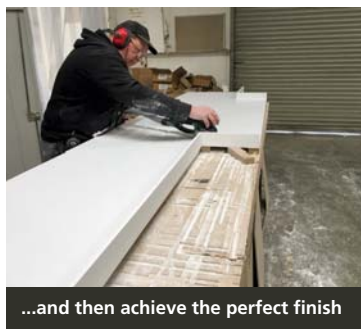
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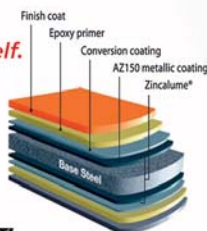
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\* full terms & conditions available online

# Newport U3A's Music Groups

## Newport U3A has several musical groups.

A Ukulele Group was instigated only a few years ago and has grown so much in ability and size that there are now three groups - Beginners, Improvers and a Technical Class.

Ukulele Daze is a band formed by members and it is available to perform at social and public events. It has had many engagements and raised a lot of funds for Saint David's Hospice Care.

Playing the ukulele doesn't need prior musical knowledge to get started. It is increasingly popular in schools so it could be just the thing for keeping up with the grandchildren!

All That Jazz Group's Convenor, Greg, has had over 60 years experience of playing live Jazz.



For each session he chooses a themed programme of recordings to explore Jazz from its roots in New Orleans to Swing, Latin and through to the more Modern.

He also organises a regular live lunchtime session as he is able to call upon his musical associates to form some great little bands for the

entertainment of all our members.

Greg is also an accomplished artist with a wicked sense of humour, as you can see from his illustration for an advertising poster here.

Who would have thought that our U3A had so many 'Cool Cats'?

Anyone interested can have a two week taster before committing to join.

### Date for your Diary -

Come along to our Annual Open Day at Shaftesbury Street Methodist Church on Thursday 15th August from 10.00am until noon.

**For more information about the other musical groups and so much more visit [www.newportu3a.org.uk](http://www.newportu3a.org.uk) or phone Angela Robins on 07980 970967.**

## THE NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME

**Sunday 18th August 1.30pm-5.00pm**

Croesllanfro Farm, Groes Road, Rogerstone, Newport NP10 9GP

The National Gardens Scheme has donated over £42.5 million to nominated beneficiaries since it was founded in 1927. Please come along and support the NGS.

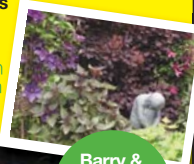
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For more information on gardens open go to: [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

Directions: From Cefn Walk go over canal bridge at the 14 Locks, stay on the lane for 1/4 mile, white stones on island, Croesllanfro Farm is in front of you.



Barry & Liz Davies  
01633 894057



**ADMISSION £4.50 CHILDREN FREE**

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Email:

[malpas.library@newport.gov.uk](mailto:malpas.library@newport.gov.uk)

### OPENING TIMES

Monday	2.00pm - 7.00pm
Tuesday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Wednesday	2.00pm - 6.00pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Saturday	9.00am - 1.00pm

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# What's On



See our website for a full list of what's on locally.

[www.swdirectories.com](http://www.swdirectories.com)

# Places of Worship



See our website for a full list of local church services and activities.

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# Yoga Classes

## **Introduction/Beginners Class** **Every Monday**

5.45pm - 6.45pm - Malpas Community Centre,  
Pillmawr Road, Newport NP20 6WF

## **General Class (Iyengar)** **Every Monday**

7.00pm - 8.30pm - Malpas Community Centre

## **General Class (Iyengar)** **Every Tuesday**

Swansea University, Digital Technium, Singleton Park  
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## **General Class (Iyengar)** **Every Wednesday**

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# Blaen-y-Pant Centre

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## **Bingo & Lunch club**

**Tuesday 1.00pm** Contact: 01633 263031

## **Whist club**

**Tuesday 6.30pm & Saturday 6.30pm**  
Contact: 01633 853348

## **Art Classes**

**Monday Art Group 11.00am -1.00pm**  
Life Drawing 4.45pm-6.45pm  
Adult Art Class 7.00pm-9.00pm

**Wednesday Adult Art Class**  
11.00am-1.00pm & 2.00pm-4.00pm

**Saturday Children's Art class**  
11.00am-1.00pm & 2.00pm-4.00pm  
Please contact: 07772 064424

## **Art Group**

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## GRACE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

gathers for public worship on Sunday at the **Malpas Community Centre**, Pillmawr Road, at **3 pm**.

Sermon excerpt from: *A KINGDOM WHICH CANNOT BE MOVED*

In light of the recent earthquakes in the Philippines and the continuing aftershocks, as well as the terrorist attacks in New Zealand and Sri Lanka, our text today should be a great encouragement to those of us who are trusting in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And let us continue to pray that God would turn the tragedy there into a triumph by shaking the affections of people loose from the world and putting those affections on the kingdom of God. So, let's pray together.

What is it that God is saying to us in such an earthquake as this in the Philippines? To find out, we turn to the Holy Bible. God's written Word is given to help us interpret His voice in nature - whether it is the voice in the wind and rain and floodwaters of Cyclone Idai, or in airplane crashes, or in auto accidents, or in the voice of the earth in the Philippines. Holy Scripture is not silent about earthquakes. And when earthquakes awaken the attention of the world, we need to go back and remember what they mean.

There are **four points that I consider helpful**.

**First**, God has appointed a great earthquake to bring this world to a close - **a great final shaking** of the earth and the heavens someday that will end this fallen creation as we know it and usher in eternity.

**Second**, long before that great shaking comes - even before the Tribulation - God has also appointed that **there'll be an increasing frequency and intensity of earthquakes and other calamities**.

**Third**, God in His great mercy is offering to everyone who trusts in His Son **a kingdom that cannot be moved** and will never end.

**Fourth**, therefore, let's worship and serve God with reverence and godly fear, because our **God is a consuming fire**.

So, let's take these one at a time and I'll try to unfold them from our text and elsewhere in Scripture and, hopefully, plant your feet upon a Rock for your own encouragement and for your free and willing service for Jesus Christ. I invite every believer to pray that there would be an irresistible attraction to the gospel of Jesus Christ in these days so that more people here in Wales and around the world in places like the Philippines and New Zealand and Sri Lanka and Mozambique would pass from spiritual death to spiritual life, because the shaking will increase as the coming of Christ approaches. And I cannot help but think that everybody would want a place to stand and that everybody would see the reasonableness that Almighty God - redeeming people through His Son - is the safest place in all the world to stand.

God has appointed **a great final shaking** of the earth that will mean the end of the world as we know it and the beginning of something infinitely better - the consummation of His kingdom.

Look first at verses 26 and 27 of our text: ...whose voice then shook the earth (referring to the shaking at Mount Sinai when He came to give the law, Exodus 19:18): but now he hath promised (an allusion to Haggai 2:6), saying, **YET ONCE MORE I SHAKE NOT THE EARTH ONLY, BUT ALSO HEAVEN**. (And then comes the interpretation of this prophecy.) And this *word*, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Now then, what you have here is a biblical prophecy that there's coming a day in which there'll be such a violent shaking in creation that the world as we know it will be removed. It simply will not be anymore. Finally, there'll come a new heaven and a new earth on which righteousness dwells, but this world is going to come to a cataclysmic end someday, and there'll be a removal of the world as

we know it, and what cannot be shaken will remain - the kingdom of God and everyone who dwells in it.

There are other places in the Bible where this is made clear. For example, take Isaiah 13:13, "I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger."

So, there's coming a day of fierce anger and retribution and justice upon the earth for its sin, and the earth will be shaken out of its place.

Yes, it is a painful admission for a Texan, but I was born in California (or Caal - ee - for - nee - uh as Arnold Schwarzenegger pronounces it). If you spend much time around Californians, you find that they like to joke about "the big one" that's coming someday. Yes, there is "a big one" coming someday. It is going to be bigger than anyone can imagine. Christian friends, the desire of our heart ought to be that flippant Californians, Filipinos, and everybody else would realize just how big "the big one" that's coming is really going to be! It is so ginormously bigger than anybody realizes! Our imaginations cannot conceive of what it'll be like when the stars are falling, the skies are rolled up like a scroll, and the earth comes out of its foundations and collapses, and all the islands and the mountains vanish, and there is only God with whom we must deal. Listen to me now - if you feel secure and safe outside of Jesus Christ, I pray that you'd tremble at this thought, because you're most definitely going to face God someday with nothing to stand on but what was in your heart when the great quake came!

But long before this end comes, God has appointed that **this great final shaking will be preceded by smaller earthquakes and other calamities of increasing frequency and intensity** to give notice of something awesome, the way contractions and labour pains precede the birth of a child and tell us that it is coming.

This particular point is not found in our text from Hebrews. It is found in the words of Jesus to His disciples in Matthew 24:6-8. The disciples ask Jesus in verse 3 what will be the sign of His coming and the end of the world. He answers beginning in verse 6: **"Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows."** The word "sorrows" there is the Greek word ὠδίν (odin) for "birth-pangs". Notice three things: **first, there's an end coming ("the end is not yet"); second, before it comes there'll be wars, famines, and earthquakes; and third, these calamities before the end are called "sorrows" or "birth-pangs"**.

Calling the wars and famines and earthquakes "birth-pangs" is important for two reasons. **First**, it means that **there'll be an increasing frequency of these things as the end comes near and that the intensity of them will increase**, because that's the way it happens with labour pains before the birth of a child. **Second**, it means that **what these earthquakes are leading up to is something wonderful**, like the birth of a child. The labour may be painful, but it is full of hope. They're the birth-pangs of a kingdom. That's what the meaning of increasing frequency of calamities will be as this age draws to a close.

We should, then, hear in every rumour of war and every famine and every earthquake, first of all, the voice of the Lord saying, "I reign! And I am a God of holiness and justice and wrath and I will not condone sin." We should also hear in this great shaking, "I am a God of mercy, a God of hope; I am bringing in the kingdom; I don't want it to happen suddenly without warning, so I have warned again and again and again with shakings that should have broken you loose from your love of the world." That's what the real meaning of this earthquake is. Believe in God. Put your trust in Him...

(to be continued in the next issue)

## And Now for Something Completely Different....

As I'm sure you appreciate 'it' almost always starts with a telephone call; 'Is that Swan Rescue?', to which the answer is, of course, 'Yes'. Usually, what follows is perfectly straightforward; help is needed for a swan, a goose, a duck, or at this time of year, a multitude of ducklings. Occasionally the question asked is surprising; 'will you help - my dog (or cat) needs rescuing. This one is followed by a pause for breath and then the statement 'we're very sorry, but the clue is in the name SWAN RESCUE, which tends to bring the conversation to an abrupt end! On this occasion, second half of April, it really was completely different, a first; an Osprey. The caller is an employee of Welsh Water based at the string of reservoirs to the west of the A470 between Merthyr Tydfil and Brecon. It was reported to be unable to fly, but instead was fluttering helplessly behind the dam wall of the middle reservoir.

Because of other commitments it was left to the locals to catch the casualty, which they were able to do quite easily. We then met their driver at Pwll-y-Pant to the north of Caerphilly, and from there to



*Examination of Osprey at ICBP*

the only organisation capable of carrying out the necessary assessment and follow-up treatment, the International Centre for Birds of Prey (ICBP) at Newent in Gloucestershire (very well worth a visit).

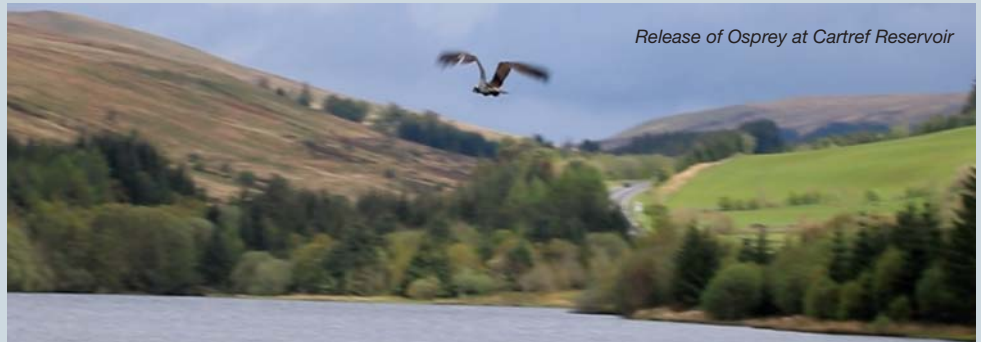
The initial assessment was mildly encouraging, a few primary feathers damaged and some strain to the wing, but no broken bones. This was confirmed the following day on a visit to a world renowned bird of prey vet at Swindon. Once back at Newent, work was started on repairing all but one of the damaged flight

feathers. This involved cutting them and inserting into the shaft and gluing in place bamboo slivers, obviously very carefully aligned and waiting for the repair to set.

The next development was a phone call just five days after the rescue to announce the bird really was raring to go, simply astonishing. As with the rescue itself, it was disappointing not to have been part of it, so with the release, but for obvious good reasons it was right and proper that ICBP staff should take control of this. The release went very well, actually on the sixth day. Those who work on the reservoirs report the bird stayed around for most of the rest of the day, but there was no sign of him the following day.

This bird was ringed, so we know a bit more about him. He was ringed as a nestling on 2nd July 2014 on The Black Isle, Inverness. This species migrates for the winter to The Gambia, West Africa, and so must have been returning to the breeding grounds when some accident befell him. It is so gratifying to have been involved, and to have the hope we may have contributed to securing a long and healthy life.

Text: Peter. Photos: ICBP & Welsh Water.



*Release of Osprey at Cartref Reservoir*

# These Days, it's a Computer with Four Wheels and a Spare

*(and the spare's often an option!)*



By Mike Joenn, Founding Director of AJ Garage Services, Ponthir

**When I finished my apprenticeship as a HGV mechanic, we were living in a different century and from where we stand now it has never seemed so far away.**

Back in the 1960s, cars came in one flavour – petrol. Only HGVs & buses ran on diesel and the only thing on the road that was powered by batteries was the dairy's milk float. In 2019, we can look back in awe. We've seen the rise *AND THE FALL* of the diesel car and more recently, the dawn of the age of the electric car (and Hybrid). But it's going to take time for us to go all electric. There's a LOT of conventional vehicles out there to be maintained and serviced, so we certainly don't see the need for our skills declining in the foreseeable future.

That said, life in vehicle servicing and repair isn't what it used to be. The car today is tantamount to a fancy computer with four wheels and whilst the fundamentals remain the same... pistons, gearboxes, wheels, brakes, they have become 'computer peripherals'. The modern vehicle is governed, controlled and enabled by computers. Consequently, the modern service centre must employ new technology to service and maintain them and believe me,

it's expensive. Our business, for example, has invested over £45,000 in just the last two years tooling up with new computer systems and the software to analyse customers' vehicles to identify problems and fulfil other specialist functions. And just like your home computer, the software needs constant updating, upgrading and replacement. Troubleshooting a vehicle fault these days often starts with a technological diagnosis before we can get down and dirty with the nuts and bolts.

And have you noticed, we're no longer 'mechanics'. We are 'Vehicle Technicians' reflecting the fact that it's simply not good enough to be able to use a spanner. We've got to be 'systems analysts' and we have to understand technology as well as know how to use a socket set. Training is both essential and on-going.

The introduction of Technology to the workshop has also been instrumental in opening up the market for vehicle servicing. Vehicle manufacturers can no longer 'tie you in' to their service regimes with proprietary diagnostics and threat of invalidated warranty. Software and system diagnostic tools are available to non-franchise garages.

Few motorists realise that

today, they have the option to have their vehicle diagnosed and serviced by an accredited garage of their choice - without invalidating the warranty. So long as you choose an accredited garage, you can rest assured that the work will be carried out to the manufacturer's standards using genuine parts. ***And here's the thing, it can be a highly cost-effective choice – particularly on premium brand motor vehicles.***

So, look out for the accreditations that offer assurances that you are dealing with a professional garage which has invested in the technology, equipment, the tools and the training to offer you the service that you need. And here's the plug... Our business – **AJ Garage Services** is affiliated to the **Retail Motor Industry Federation, The United Garage Services Group, the Trust My Garage Network** and we are members of the **Guild of Master Craftsmen**. When you are looking for your next motor vehicle service and start to compare pricing, give me a call.

**Mike Joenn, AJ Garage Services, Star Trading Estate.  
01633 431305**

**Find us on Facebook**

# GRACE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

gathers for public worship on Sunday afternoons at the **Malpas Community Centre, Pillmawr Road, Newport, at 3pm** and **fourth Sunday mornings of the month at the Libanus Centre, Libanus Road, Blackwood, at 10.30am**

## What do we believe?

### We seek to be Word-centred and gospel-driven.

The Word of God is crucial! The ministry of Grace Baptist Assembly will, we trust, always keep God's Word central. Why? The Holy Bible is God's written Word; it is how He has chosen to communicate to us who He is, what He has been doing, and what He expects of us. The Bible alone holds the ultimate, most trustworthy, most authoritative answers to the questions of life and eternity. Thus, rather than magnifying the ideas of mere human beings, we look instead to God, trusting that He inspired and preserved His Word for His glory and our good. We believe that the written Word is a reflection of the Living Word, Jesus Christ, and that its contents are our reliable, sufficient rule of faith and practice. When a moral question is raised, or when we face a difficult circumstance, we choose to resort to the Bible for guidance, correction or comfort, rather than falling back on our own experiences and opinions.

### We seek to be traditional in our message.

We hold to historical Baptist distinctives. Specifically, we are fond of The First London Baptist Confession of Faith, 1646 edition. We gladly accept broken, unaccomplished, needy sinners like ourselves; but we are not seeker-driven. We do not believe that 'doing church' is what God requires of people, and we do not believe that it is this or any other local church's responsibility to water down, nor add to, the gospel of Jesus Christ in order to create a more 'comfortable' environment. Do we want that gospel [good news] to be understandable? Yes. Do we ourselves want to be compassionate and inclusive? Yes. We want broken people - people like us - who know their sinfulness. We are here for those who know that they need something more than what this life has to offer. We seek not to offer more of the same, but to offer something different. The person and work of Jesus Christ is enough for us. We invite you to come see why.

### We seek to be relevant in our vision.

We maintain that the Bible is more than a collection of ancient writings, but rather, it contains everything we need to face the problems of life in today's culture. Consequently, our teaching and preaching will include practical application to help us live as we ought to live. We are not an elite group of those who have 'arrived' and we are committed to continual change. We rest on and submit to the absolute, unchanging truth of the Bible; and it in turn changes us. We hear and meditate on God's Word - and while we do that, we try to be doers of that Word, and not hearers only. We have found that the unchanging truths of the Bible affect our everyday lives, and we pray that we will become more and more like Jesus Christ as we submit to and obey His Word.

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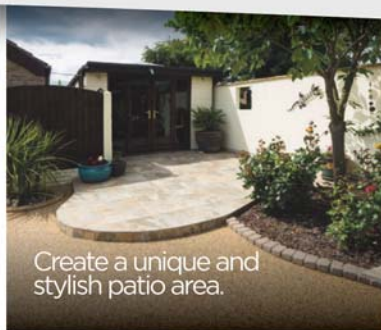
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