

# The Big Move



Cynfelyn community shop and café opened in 2013 with dreams and plans to buy and develop the Cletwr premises for the community. Fast forward to January 2017 when work on the new building commenced. The team of builders, plumbers, carpenters and electricians worked in all weathers but mostly rain...until September 2017 and the fabulous new Cletwr was ready for us to occupy and make our own – the dream was coming true!

Moving from the old to new site was a huge logistical challenge, completed over two phases and requiring an army of volunteers who cheerfully rolled up their sleeves and worked their socks off. Phase 1, named Cletwr Clutter, started with preparations for the move. Over several weekends volunteers helped clear, sort and despatch accumulated clutter from the old premises. Anything of value, surplus to requirements, was sold to buy new equipment and other objects were recycled. People generously offered the use of their vehicles from flat bed to sack trucks. Phase 2, Moving Mountains, involved transferring the stock, equipment, furniture and computers to the new Cletwr. Much of the heavy moving was achieved in the first two hours of closing Siop Cynfelyn on Sunday but work continued right up until late on Wednesday evening. Folk prepared the interior - cleaning windows, labelling shelves and sweeping floors. In Karen's words, "We sweated, we laughed, we joked and we had enormous fun and then before you could blink, we toasted in the new. We shed a tear watching the old Cynfelyn shop and café disappear. WOW! What an achievement for our small community. You should all be proud, I sure am!"

Thursday 28th September, the grand opening of Cletwr, was a special day for our community. It is a beautiful and welcoming space, designed to be used by us all along with visitors to the area. Why not come and enjoy breakfast with the family? Afternoon tea with friends or a lunch with your toddler whilst they play in our brand new Kiddies'

Corner? You could rent the Cwtch (our little meeting room); join our knit and natter group; shop for local produce or everyday goods; buy local walking books and maps; attend our many and varied events or even rent the space for a private function, almost anything is possible.

Finally, a word from the staff, "None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary effort of our volunteers. A big thank you from all the Cletwr staff. We are so passionate about what you as a community have driven forward. We feel privileged to be a part of this wonderful project."

## Christmas at Cletwr

Our Christmas stock is beginning to arrive, and we've got a wonderful selection for you this year. As well as your favourite homemade goodies we'll be extending our range of great Welsh products for you to give. Once again our famous Welsh hampers will be available, and we'll also be bringing you a fab "make your own hamper" pack, for you to personalise your presents. In the cafe everyone's favourite "Christmas dinner in a sandwich" will have the starring role, & there will be seasonal twists on old favourites in the cake counter.

Cletwr Christmas Fair will be on Friday December 8th, 5-8pm. You can taste samples of Christmas goodies and browse local craft stalls. You'll be able to pre-order your Christmas meats from the local butchers and order your fruit and vegetable boxes for collection on Christmas Eve. There'll be mulled wine and festive cheer to warm a December evening.

We'll be running our popular Christmas raffle throughout December, raising money for Taliesin Playgroup. Buy some tickets in the shop for a chance to win Jane's fabulous boozy Christmas cake and other prizes.

We're all trying to reduce our plastic consumption, so at Cletwr we're offering paper shopping bags and compostable straws. Our range of environmentally friendly alternatives has been extended for you to make the best choices for a cleaner, greener household.

# Cletwr Knit & Natter

We started Cletwr Knit and Natter 8 months ago when a group of friends decided to get together for a bit of 'time out'. We meet in the cafe between 3 and 5 every Tuesday afternoon, share ideas and patterns, learn new skills and, of course, have a natter.

This couple of hours over tea and needlework has been a good way to get people out to meet others. We generally do our own work but we've all made cushion covers in recent months for Cletwr which are now in the cafe.

I feel, however, that we are missing out on more senior people in the area. It would be good to welcome anyone who could tell us of their handicrafts and of the woollens they made our brave lads who became soldiers and of stories of them unraveling old jumpers to make new smaller garments for their families. Maybe you could show us some of the work you did too?

Anyone interested in coming for chat and a free cup of tea would be most welcome. New people: ladies, gentlemen or children with parent/s please do join us. Pre-arranged transport is possible.

You can contact me via email:  
solomon.anne@rocketmail.com  
or Tel: 01970 832873.



## Staff Profile Julieann

After a 20 year career in child care, Julieann's love of cooking, baking & paperwork led her to join the Cletwr team as a chef in 2016. Her studies in Business Administration were followed by work as a children's entertainer - she was a Haven Mate in the Brynawen Holiday Park which suited her sense of fun & strong work ethic. Living in Machynlleth with her 3 young children, Julieann then helped in the Nursery & After School Club. In 2013, her son wanted to go to Scouts so she set up the Machynlleth Beavers, Cubs & Scouts Troops which now number 60 members...she remains Akela and attends all meetings. For the past 6 years Julieann has also found the time to run "Julieann's Glitter & Paint" her face painting & glitter tattoo business, a talent she first developed as a Haven Mate.



With her boundless enthusiasm, Julieann says that she loves being a member of the Cletwr team working with staff members and volunteers alike. She is the true definition of a 'people person' and particularly enjoys meeting visitors from all over the world who call in at Cletwr. Julieann says, "I wake up & am happy to come to work, looking forward to the daily challenges".

### New Opening Times

Due to demand we will be extending our opening times from 4th December (we hope to have the car park by then)

#### Shop

Saturday to Monday 8.30am - 5pm  
Tuesday to Friday 8.30am - 6.30pm

#### Cafe

Saturday and Sunday 9am - 5pm  
Monday to Friday 9.30am - 5pm  
Hot food will be served until 4pm every day.

## Cletwr Garden Group

Volunteers are meeting regularly to design and manage the green areas around Cletwr. We want to make spaces that are wildlife friendly, easy to maintain and accessible to all. So far we've planted daffodils along the grass verge and sent for saplings of suitable hedging plants from the Woodland Trust. The Board has agreed the plan and we have been offered a membrane and chippings to initially cover and suppress the weeds in all areas. The garden plan includes a wildlife hedge, herb bed, accessible path, raised beds, children's area, seat and rose arbour, small trees, sensory beds and shrubs. We are hoping that most of these will be sourced from the community and have already had some offers. We'll need funding to provide the path, seat, tools, compost bins etc. and the group is seeking avenues for this. Other areas around the car park have yet to be planned but will follow the same ethos. There will be regular working parties to carry out the work. If you would like to join us and help in any way please contact Juliet Regan 07739808142 or email juliet.c.regan@gmail.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT CLETWR

Contact the shop 01970 832113 [cletwr@cletwr.com](mailto:cletwr@cletwr.com)



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