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## Welsh farmers must be protected: FUW responds to UK Internal Market White Paper

IN response to a UK Government white paper on internal markets, the FUW has stressed the importance of protecting Welsh farmers against unfair competition from other parts of the UK and countries across the globe, and that Welsh devolution must be respected.

In his introduction to the UK Internal Market White Paper, Alok Sharma MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, highlights how increasing differences between rules and standards applied by different Governments in the UK's four nations after Brexit could cause market distortion, discrimination and unfair competition for businesses in a way not seen for hundreds of years.

The White Paper therefore proposes measures to prevent such impacts based on the principles of 'non-discrimination' and 'mutual recognition'

FUW Head of Policy, Dr Nick Fenwick, (pictured right), said: "We are glad the UK Government has woken up to the need to take this issue seriously as it has previously been kicked into the long grass because it is so politically contentious."

Dr Fenwick said that the FUW had been highlighting the need to address this issue since the EU Referendum in 2016, and in July 2018 the FUW had published a detailed paper considering the matter entitled 'Filling the Void - Steps towards a post-Brexit UK policy framework'.

"While we welcome the UK Government's recognition of this issue, we are extremely concerned at the suggestion that rules could simply be dictated by London, rather than there being a means by which to reach agreement between UK Governments."

Dr Fenwick said such a move could undermine devolution and work to the disadvantage of Welsh farmers.

"The consideration of such matters in a White Paper within months of the end of the Withdrawal Agreement period gives us very little time to hold proper detailed discussions and introduce the type of structures and bodies we truly need to make recommendations, enforce regulations, arbitrate on matters etc. in a way that is fair.

"It also gives us very little time to sort out what are huge constitutional issues which also happen to be crucial to the running of Welsh businesses," he added.

In response to the White Paper, the Union further stressed that while the UK Government is right to recognise the dangers of direct and indirect discrimination, unfair competition, market distortion

and other issues that could arise within the GB/UK internal market, it should also recognise that the same issue exists across international borders.

"Given the current trade negotiations with the EU and USA, for example, the UK Government should also recognise the likelihood of such adverse impacts occurring as a result of inappropriate or ill-considered trade deals which expose us to different standards or unfair competition," said Dr Fenwick.

"This is a particular concern with regard to agricultural produce produced to environmental, health and welfare, social and other standards that do not meet those required of UK producers, and subsidy and support regimes that differ significantly to those introduced in future in the UK's four nations."

At present, while significant differences between the UK and the EU is allowed under Single Market, Common Agricultural Policy and related rules, these are within strict boundaries aimed at minimising market distortion and unfair competition while recognising regional and national needs.

If a trade deal with the EU is reached, there is potential for market distortion and unfair competition for UK producers as a result of the fact that the EU will continue to pay farmers direct support, but Wales and England want to move over to environmental 'public goods' style payments - with many lobbying for farm payments to be cut altogether.

"The EU's reaffirmed commitment to maintaining direct support for active farmers through CAP payments, coupled with a move in Wales and other parts of the UK to get rid of direct farm support in favour of environmental payments, would clearly introduce the kind of unfair competition the UK Government refers to in this paper.

"This danger is no different in principle to the dangers recognised in the Internal Markets White Paper, so also should be recognised by our Governments - not only in the context of unfair competition from the EU, our most important trading partner in terms of food, but also countries like the USA if we are to strike a deal with them.

"We need a trade deal with the EU to avoid massive damage to farms and other businesses, but we also need our governments to recognise the self inflicted damage that could be done by radically changing our own farm support systems while our main competitors twenty or thirty miles away over the sea continue with direct farm support," he added.



The FUW's *Filling the Void - Steps towards a post-Brexit UK policy framework paper* can be found at: <https://rb.gy/xwsmq8> (URL has been shortened).

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Welsh Government launches consultation on Basic Payment and RDP changes. See page 4 for more details.

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# Welsh Government must act quickly to protect our communities and wildlife

by Glyn Roberts, FUW President

IN the April edition of *Y Tir* I wrote about members' widespread concerns over the risk to rural areas posed by those visiting the countryside and using rights of way at a time when the coronavirus was spreading rapidly within communities, hospitals and care homes.

We now know that, in the context of Great Britain, the Welsh Government performed well in terms of introducing controls that saved lives, with standardised Office for National Statistics data showing Welsh excess mortality rates by the Week ending May 29 2020 to be just over a third of the rates in England, and around half the rate of Scotland.

However, comparisons with other European countries paint a less rosy picture: Welsh excess mortality rates for the same period are the fifth highest in a league table of 23 European countries in which England takes the lead.

Thankfully, most of Wales' rural and farming communities have been relatively untouched by the virus, but we shouldn't forget that many farming families in other areas have not been so lucky, and far from being a source of comfort, the low levels of disease in rural communities potentially leaves us more exposed, not only because we have not attained a degree of so called 'herd immunity', but also because it leaves us complacent.

In fact, for understandable reasons, many have come to regard the disease as an almost uniquely urban phenomena, to the extent that while we remain extremely concerned about the risk posed by hordes of tourists now wandering our streets and countryside, our guards have come down completely when interacting with those from our own community.

One example of this is how we behave in our livestock markets, with many slipping back to their old habits when coming into contact with others.

Perhaps the risk is lower in our rural markets than in some of the scenes that have attracted so much media attention, such as the street parties and overcrowded pubs, but one infectious person in any crowded environment where social distancing rules are being ignored risks spreading the disease to scores, or even hundreds of others. And let's be honest, the age profile of our industry means many attending the local mart are firmly in the high-risk category.

For those looking from the outside, it makes no difference whether it is a livestock market full of rural people or a pub in a city centre: If coronavirus rules are being ignored it

represents a risk, and there is ultimately the possibility that the venue will be forced to close down - something that, aside from the essential need to protect our communities from the virus, we cannot afford to let happen to our marts at this important time of year for trading.

Nevertheless, the fear of contracting the virus from visitors from areas where the disease is more prevalent is logical, and as lockdown restrictions have eased, and people have chosen not to take their usual foreign holidays, the numbers visiting parts of Wales has reached unprecedented levels, leading to chaos in many rural communities and prompting politicians to call on the Welsh Government to intervene.

The situation stands in stark contrast to that at the beginning of the lockdown, when the ban on travelling led to tourism businesses - including many run by FUW members - losing vast sums of money, highlighting the importance of the tourism industry to our economy.

Yet it's clear that a balance needs to be struck for a range of reasons, and a recently published report by Snowdonia National Park, National Trust and Natural Resources Wales makes it clear that protecting wildlife is amongst those reasons.

The *Wildlife in Lockdown* report considers the results of a three-week study of wildlife on Snowdon, Cader Idris and the Carneddau, and in Cwm Idwal, Coed y Brenin, Ceunant Llennyrch and Niwbwrch/Llanddwyn during June, when visitors were effectively banned from visiting these popular areas.

Not surprisingly, the study found that wildlife flourished during the lockdown due to fewer disturbances and less litter, with birds such as meadow pipit and wheatear in far greater abundance around paths and common sandpiper and ring ouzel nesting close to what are usually busy areas they choose to avoid.

The study also suggests that less litter and picnic leftovers led to fewer predator species such as herring gulls and foxes being attracted to potential nesting areas, giving breeding birds an additional helping hand during their most important time of year.

Such findings come as no surprise, and it's clear that parts of Wales have not only reached visitor saturation point but gone well past it, causing all sorts of damage.

Yet the Welsh Government is not only oblivious to such problems but is actively pursuing policies that will make

**"As lockdown restrictions have eased, and people have chosen not to take their usual foreign holidays, the numbers visiting parts of Wales has reached unprecedented levels, leading to chaos in many rural communities and prompting politicians to call on the Welsh Government to intervene."**

matters worse: Their Access Reform Programme aims to 'boost Wales as a tourism destination and a magnet for walkers, cyclists and thrill-seekers' by allowing mountain bikes and horse riders to use public footpaths; hang-gliding and para-gliding on open access land; swimming and canoeing on rivers and lakes; and extending open access to coast and cliffs.

One of the intentions of the programme is to improve the health of Welsh citizens by encouraging exercise - yet as the FUW pointed out in evidence submitted to the Welsh Government in July, a threefold increase in access rights since 1998 and the opening of 4,700 miles of rights of way under improvement plans has had no noticeable impact on standards of health in Wales, and levels of obesity have actually increased.

It seems no coincidence that the types of activity the Welsh Government wants to facilitate through such reforms are most popular amongst the urban middle classes, while the intention of allowing such access 'as of right' and therefore for free takes no account of the true cost to our wildlife and those who live and work in the countryside.

Alongside such concerns are the social and cultural impacts of tourism, and while the conversion of houses and buildings to holiday accommodation provides important and much needed income for many farming families, as an increasing proportion of our housing is taken out of local circulation and given over to self-catering accommodation and second home ownership, the availability of homes for our rural families falls, and the rents and costs of what is left becomes increasingly beyond the reach of those on rural incomes.

In a recent letter to Lesley Griffiths I highlighted the need for Welsh Government to take action to address this issue - not least given that such negative impacts are likely to go through the roof in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, as huge numbers of people seek to escape, permanently or temporarily, from their urban environments.

Politicians from across the political spectrum have for decades used tourism as an easy 'go-to' solution which allows them to avoid tackling far more difficult and complex issues relating to indigenous industries such as farming, and the numerous references to income from tourism in the Sustainable *Farming and our Land* proposals continue in this tradition.

Yet the evidence of the damage done when the scales are tipped too far is now clearer than ever, and the Welsh Government must act quickly to correct this and protect our communities and wildlife.

***Mae'r erthygl yma yn Gymraeg ar wefan yr FUW - Newyddion - Newyddion Y Tir: "Rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru weithredu'n gyflym i ddiogelu ein cymunedau a'n bywyd gwylt."***



If we have published anything that is factually inaccurate, please contact the editor on 01970 820820 at [ytir@fuw.org.uk](mailto:ytir@fuw.org.uk) or at FUW, Llys Amaeth, Plas Gogerddan, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3BT and once verified we will correct it here as soon as possible.

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# Farmer Directors re-elected to FUW board

THREE farmer Directors have been re-elected on to the FUW board, at a virtual meeting of the Council of the Union.

The Board of Directors is made up of FUW President Glyn Roberts, FUW Deputy President Ian Rickman, Finance Director Simon Longworth, farmer Directors Darren Williams, Iwan Jones and Richard Vaughan, as well as Non-Executive Directors Nerys Evans and Sara Jones, which bring to the table diverse expertise in terms of business and governance.

“Our farmer Directors bring the much needed grassroots element to the table with their wealth of expertise from farming to business, and I thank all three of them for the work they have already done over the years and their continued commitment to the future of this Union.

“I look forward to creating fresh strategies for the FUW and I am excited to work with such a great team. Our strategies will continue to be driven by effectiveness, better governance, transparency and efficiency,” said FUW President Glyn Roberts.

## Darren Williams

is a tenant farmer on a 270 acre farm outside Brecon. Together with his wife Rachel and two young sons, they run 500 ewes, 100 ewe lambs and 100 cattle. After gaining a BSc in agriculture at Aberystwyth, he began farming on a county council holding in Glasbury and was then fortunate enough to move to a larger tenanted farm 9 years ago. The farm is a mixed farm, growing their own corn for finishing cattle, and fattening their lambs from forage crops and grass and red clover leys. He also represents the FUW on the Agricultural Advisory Panel dealing with Agricultural Wages.



Iwan Jones farms with his wife Menna and parents at Groes Bach, Denbigh, a dairy farm of some 140 cows, producing organic milk for Arla. Since graduating from Aberystwyth with a degree in Agriculture with Business along with farming at home with his parents, he has previously been a Director of a dairy co-operative, worked on agricultural statistics for the university and held a number of voluntary positions.



Richard Vaughan runs Pall Mall Farm, north of Tywyn. The farm is one of two holdings, totalling 550 acres, and is farmed by Richard and his wife Dwynwen. Most of the land is at Pant y Panel and Prysylwyd at Rhydymain near Dolgellau which has an abundance of natural resources and Richard has invested in a 100kw Hydro Scheme to make use of that as well as providing valuable extra income for an upland farm. A flock of 750 Welsh Mountain Sheep is kept, together with 150 ewe lambs as replacements. Approximately 30 store cattle are kept and fattened over the summer as well as around 100 cattle on contract on a large finishing unit in Northamptonshire.



## Covid-19 Update: Our offices are still closed; however we are still operational and here to help

by Caryl Roberts, FUW Membership & Operations Manager

WE want to update you on our position regarding COVID-19. The health and safety of our employees, members and customers is our first priority and we are continuing to follow and monitor official guidance from the Welsh Government carefully. Following the latest advice, our offices are currently closed as it remains possible for our staff to work from home.

People are still contracting and dying from this disease. We may not feel the dire impact of the disease in rural areas compared with more urban areas, but that doesn't mean we should become complacent.

Our offices are usually small spaces with shared facilities and therefore not suitable to open to the public.

However, we are still very much open for business with our team working remotely and using digital technology to continue to provide a high-quality service to our customers and members. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we do our best to keep people safe.



*Rydym am roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i chi am ein safbwynt o ran COVID-19. Iechyd a diogelwch ein gweithwyr, ein haelodau a'n cwsmeriaid yw ein blaenoriaeth gyntaf ac rydym yn parhau i ddilyn a monitro canllawiau swyddogol gan Lywodraeth Cymru yn ofalus. Yn dilyn y cyngor diweddaraf, mae ein swyddfeydd yn parhau ar gau ar hyn o bryd, gan ei bod yn dal yn bosibl i'n staff weithio o gartref. Mae pobl yn parhau i ddal yr afiechyd hwn ac yn marw ohono. Efallai na fyddwn yn teimlo effaith enbyd y clefyd mewn ardaloedd gwledig o'i gymharu ag ardaloedd mwy trefol, ond nid yw hynny'n golygu y dylem ddod yn hunanfodhaol. Mae ein swyddfeydd fel arfer yn fannau cyfyng gyda chyfleusterau yn cael eu rhannu, ac felly nid ydynt yn addas i'w hagor i'r cyhoedd. Fodd bynnag, rydym ar agor i fusnes gyda'n tîm yn gweithio o bell ac yn defnyddio technoleg ddigidol i barhau i ddarparu gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel i'n cwsmeriaid a'n haelodau. Rydym yn gwerthfawrogi eich amynedd a'ch dealltwriaeth wrth i ni wneud ein gorau i gadw pawb yn ddiogel.*

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# Policy Department Update

by Gareth Parry, FUW Policy Communications Officer

## Future of Agricultural Support

Whilst we continue to work remotely from home as all FUW offices remain closed, we must consider the positive implications that relying almost entirely on technology for regular communication has. One of which includes the opportunity for the FUW to meet virtually with Lesley Griffiths, Welsh Government's Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs on a fortnightly basis, whereby physical meetings in Cardiff had only been possible every three months.

Despite the task of reshuffling busy calendars, these meetings have provided us with the chance not only to discuss the long-standing burdens such as Brexit, the UK Agricultural Bill, the UK internal market and the future of agricultural support, but also to highlight many of the underlying issues that we currently face as an industry in Wales.

Many of you will be aware that Welsh Government published a consultation entitled *Sustainable Farming and our Land: Simplifying Agricultural Support* on July 31. However, despite it not being a one hundred page plus MK III edition of the 2018 *Brexit and our Land* and 2019 *Sustainable Farming and our Land* consultations on shaping a Sustainable Farming Scheme based on the principles of 'public money' for 'public goods', do not be fooled by it's subtle heading.

Schedule 5 to the UK Agricultural Bill includes powers for the Welsh Ministers to amend and extend retained direct EU legislation and modify legislation relating to the Rural Development Programme (RDP). Welsh Government is proposing to continue with the existing CAP regulatory framework until new agricultural support schemes are available - probably after 2023 - while making some changes that are in some areas relatively minor, and in others significant - particularly with regard to Pillar 2 and the principles which underpin the RDP.

The first half of the consultation document - up to question seventeen - sets out eleven proposals for making adjustments to the current Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) from the 2021 scheme year until the new Sustainable Farming Scheme is developed and implemented. Despite the consultation document providing for an 'easy' read, many of these proposals such as setting the BPS ceiling annually, separate cross-border payments, changes to requirements for late supporting documents and the abolishment of Greening rules and the Young Farmer Scheme raise important questions and concerns which must be considered and addressed before any changes are made before the end of the year.

The second half of the document - arguably the most important - sets out proposals to rewrite the objectives and priorities of the RDP to be in line with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and the United Nations definition of sustainable land management, including a framework for the sustainable management of natural resources.

As a result, there are grave concerns associated with how these changes to the long-established EU definition of Rural Development (RD) will impact farm businesses and rural communities, with the changes clearly designed to pave the way for Welsh Ministers to shape it in a way that reflects the principles that underpin their proposed Sustainable Farming Scheme. Such changes could result in damaging consequences - not only to farmers and land managers, but to all sectors within rural communities that receive support through the RDP, particularly if our competitors in EU Countries continue to base RD schemes on a broader set of principles that better assist rural businesses, including farms.

The consultation will be discussed in FUW County Executive meetings throughout September and a response based on the views of committees will be prepared and sent on behalf of the FUW by the closing date of October 23.

## BPS Support Scheme 2020

Welsh Government has recently announced that the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) Support scheme will return for a third consecutive year in order to provide claimants with loans that minimise the adverse impact of delayed payments.

The scheme will pay a loan of up to 90% of the business' anticipated BPS claim value from December 7 to successful applicants and to those whose full BPS claim is not processed.

The scheme will follow an 'opt-in' process and will be open for applications via RPW Online from September 1 to November 27 2020.

The Welsh Government says there are some instances where a support scheme payment will not be possible and these are highlighted in the guidance on RPW Online - for example, where there is an outstanding grant probate or if penalties applied to the claim will not be covered by the balance payment.

However, while the FUW welcomes the scheme, it has repeatedly lobbied for the maximum number of payments to be processed to allow payments to be released in early December, and where this is not possible for the percentage that is made available in the form of a loan to be variable, so it takes account of potential penalties rather than there being a strict cut-off of 90%.

Rural Payments Wales (RPW) says it will ensure that claimants whose support scheme applications are rejected are prioritised for processing to ensure that everyone receives either a full or support payment as early as possible.

The FUW would encourage all members to apply for the support scheme or to contact local FUW County staff if they want us to submit the application on their behalf.

## Commodity Markets

### Lamb

Latest Hybu Cig Cymru - Meat Promotion Wales (HCC) figures show that up to the week ending August 15 2020, average New Season Lamb (NSL) liveweight (lw) prices in Wales had fallen by 2p per kg on the previous week but remained around 40p per kg above the same time last year and the 5 year average due to the gradual return of demand from the foodservice sector. GB prime lamb deadweight (dw) prices stood at 468p per kg, 0.7p below week earlier prices but similarly remained around 70p per kg above 2019 and 5 year average prices.

Total UK lamb throughput for July was up by nearly 17% and average lamb carcass weights were 0.3kg lighter compared with 2019 levels, suggesting that more lighter lambs are coming onto the market to take advantage of strong prices.

Volume of UK lamb exports totalled 38,570 tonnes for the first 6 months of 2020, down by 13% on last year as a result of Covid-19 however in terms of value, exports this year so far have been worth £191.1 million compared to £187.4 million for the same period in 2019.

### Beef

Despite heavy disruption caused to the beef industry as a result of Covid-19, average deadweight prices for England and Wales have returned to levels of normality and remain strong for all categories. For the week ending

August 15 2020, steer throughput fell by 4.8% as average prices increased by 2.2p per kg dw. Weekly throughput of heifers, young bulls and cull cows rose by between 2 and 3% as prices continue to increase on the week - despite for cull cows which fell by 1.5p per kg - and trend significantly above year earlier and 5 year average prices.

Total prime cattle throughput during July stood at 177,300 head, up by nearly 10% on last year, despite June exports being down by 13.7% in volume compared with 2019.

### Dairy

The UK average milk price for June 2020 was 26.89 pence per litre (ppl) according to Defra, 0.21ppl up on the previous month, and prices paid on non-aligned contracts were 0.78ppl below those for aligned contracts in June.

According to figures from AHDB, Welsh milk production is estimated to be 1,976 million litres for 2019/20, 0.2% higher than the level estimated in 2018/19. Of the milk produced in Wales, just 52% is estimated to be processed in Wales - 902 million litres into cheese and 134 million litres into other products including liquid milk - leaving 939 million litres to be transported into England.

With help from the £1 million Milk Your Moments industry campaign, Kantar data shows that at-home dairy sales were 18.7% higher than in 2019 in the 12 weeks leading up to the middle of June.

## BVD

The RDP funding for Gwaredu BVD has been extended until March next year. The Union has previously disseminated information on this extension and continues to encourage members to engage in this free testing programme.

BVD continues to be one of the most important diseases of cattle; both for economic and welfare reasons. Cattle that are diagnosed as Persistently Infected (PIs) will shed high levels of virus throughout their lives and will never recover.

BVD management and elimination strategies focus on removing these animals from the herd. Alongside free testing to help cattle keepers know their BVD status, Gwaredu BVD also aims to help farmers identify PI animals where they exist so that they can be removed from the herd. More than 7,500 herds have now engaged in this testing programme.

Over the past few years, the FUW has also been working with other organisations to examine the possibility of BVD legislation in Wales. A draft legislative proposal was presented to Welsh Government last year and work on the rules and regulatory requirements is ongoing. The FUW had hoped for a smooth transition from the end of the RDP funded programme to legislation but this now looks unlikely due to both Brexit and covid-19.

The FUW continues to wait for the consultation on future BVD legislation and will update members when it is published.

If you have an email address but are not currently receiving the FUW's member ebulletins and would like to, please contact [gareth.parry@fuw.org.uk](mailto:gareth.parry@fuw.org.uk) / 01970 629461



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# Anrhydedd fawr yr athro, amaethwr ac arweinydd o Gwm Senni, Glyn Powell

gan Angharad Evans, Golygydd y Gymraeg



Glyn Powell gyda'i wryon Beca Mair a Dan a'i wraig Gwenllian, heb anghofio Twm y ci.

BRAINT ac anrhydedd yw cael rhannu ychydig o newyddion da, a hynny am un o hoelion wyth Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru. Er bod Eisteddfod Ceredigion wedi cael ei gohirio am flwyddyn oherwydd coronafeirws, cyhoeddodd Gorsedd Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru yn ddiweddar ei bod nhw am anrhydeddu Glyn Powell, Pontsenni, un o aelodau oes yr Undeb gyda'r Wisg Las yn ystod Eisteddfod Ceredigion 2021 yn Nhregaron.

Yn draddodiadol, mae'r Wisg Las yn cael ei chyflwyno i'r rhai sydd yn amlwg ym myd y gyfraith, gwyddoniaeth, chwaraeon, newyddiaduriaeth, y cyfryngau, gweithgaredd bro/neu genedl, ac heb os nac oni bai, mae Glyn yn llwyr haeddiannol o'r anrhydedd yma. Ond sut mae mynd ati i ddisgrifio cyfraniad oes Glyn mewn ychydig eiriau? Ysgolhaig, awdur, athro, amaethwr, arweinydd a chofnodwr hanes ei bobl - mae'r rhestr yn ddi-ddiwedd, a hynny wrth gwrs heb sôn am ei gyfraniad amhrisiadwy a ffyddlon i Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru.

I ddweud ychydig mwy o hanes Glyn ac i estyn ei longyfarchiadau personol, dyma ein Llywydd Glyn Roberts: "Fel Llywydd mae llawer o bethau y byddaf yn mwynhau ei gwneud, ac i fod yn onest, weithiau mae pethau pur anodd i'w gwneud. Ond pleser pur yw cael llongyfarch Glyn Powell ar dderbyn y wisg las fel cydnabyddiaeth o'i wasanaeth i'w ardal ac i Gymru, ac edrychwn ymlaen at Eisteddfod Tregaron y flwyddyn nesaf i'w weld yn cael ei dderbyn i urdd derwydd, y wisg las, gwasanaeth i'w Genedl yng ngorsedd Cymru.

"Mab i fugail ar stad Cnewr gyfagos oedd ei dad, a'i fam o'r Epynt. Er i Glyn ddringo i lefel uchel yn y byd addysg drwy fod yn Bennaeth Ysgol Uwchradd Aberhonddu, (gobeithio bod astudio ym mhrifysgol yn y gogledd wedi cael dylanwad arno!), ni anghofiodd ei wreiddiau, gan iddo fod yn weithgar iawn gyda phob peth yn ymwneud a'r Epynt, a brwydrodd i arbed boddi Cwm Seni. Mae wedi bod, ac yn dal yn gymwynaswr mawr i'r iaith Gymraeg a diwylliant Cymru.

"Fel llysgennad i'r byd amaeth rwy'n sicr fod y rhan fwyaf o ddarllenwyr Y Tir yn adnabod Glyn, gan iddo fod yn Is Lywydd i ni fel Undeb rhwng 1995 a 2000, ac yna'n ddirprwy o 2000 i 2002. Yn ystod y cyfnod yma un o'i heriau mwyaf oedd yng nghyfnod y Clwy Traed a'r Genau. Pleser oedd clywed Glyn yn trin a thrafod materion dybryd y byd amaeth ar y cyfryngau, drwy godi safon y drafodaeth ac ymwybyddiaeth o'r byd amaeth i lefel uchel iawn.

"Un o'r troeon cyntaf i mi glywed Glyn yn siarad yn gyhoeddus oedd yng Nghyngor yr Undeb ym 1995 pan gafodd ei ethol yn Is Lywydd. Roedd rhywbeth yn

urddasol yn y ffordd y cododd o'i set i'n hannerch a pharhaodd yr urddas hynny nes iddo eistedd ar ddiwedd ei anerchiad. Cawsom araith i'w chofio gan orffen drwy ddyfynu Saunders Lewis "Gwinllan a roddwyd i'm gofal yw Cymru fy ngwlad: I'w thraddodi i'm plant: Ac i blant fy mhiant: Yn dreftadaeth dragwyddol", hawdd iawn dyfynu darn gyda cymaint o arddeliad, peth arall yw gwireddu'r weledigaeth, ond dyna wnaeth Glyn, drwy sicrhau dyfodol i Gwm Senni ac hefyd gosod ei fferm i berson ifanc.

"Fel mae'r llyfr Mawr yn dweud "yn ôl ei ffrwythau yr adnabyddir hwynt". Llongyfarchiadau Glyn, rydych yn llwyr haeddu'r anrhydedd."

Trwy gymorth ei ferch Bethan, cefais gyfle i holi i Glyn shwt deimlad yw derbyn anrhydedd y wisg las: "Mae'n braf cael bod mewn cwmni anrhydeddus yn y wisg las gyda Bob Parry, Emyr Jones a Glyn Roberts. Mae'r anrhydedd hon yn deyrnged i gefnogaeth cyfeillion a chymunedau fu'n gymorth ac yn gefn i mi dros y blynyddoedd."

Pan ddechreuais weithio i'r Undeb bron iawn deunaw mlynedd yn ôl, Glyn Powell oedd un o'r pobl gyntaf i fi gyfarfod, yn y Brif Swyddfa yn Aberystwyth. Roeddwn yn ymwybodol o'i gyfraniad helaeth, a'i wasanaeth i'w ardal leol ac yn genedlaethol, ac felly roedd hi'n hyfryd iawn cael cwrrd a'r dyn ei hun.

Ymgyrchodd i wrthwynebu defnyddio mynydd Epynt fel safle difa yn ystod cyfnod heriol Clwy'r Traed a'r Genau, a phan oedd Cwm Senni dan fgythiad o'i foddier mwy cyflewni dŵr i Gaerdydd, arweiniodd Glyn y ffordd, fel Ysgrifennydd Pwyllgor Amddiffyn Cwm Senni, brwydr a barodd o 1963 i 1972. Mae'n hawdd iawn gweld sut oedd yn llwyddo i ennill cefnogaeth y gymuned oherwydd mae pobl yn bwysig iddo, ac yn rhoi'r un barch i bawb sydd yn ei gwmni.

Rwy'n siwr y cytunwch bod hynny'n cael ei adleisio yn ei eiriau uchod, wrth iddo ddiolch i bawb arall. Felly dyma'r diolch ni i chi Glyn. Ychydig sy'n gwybod effallai bod Glyn, yn dawel bach, yn parhau i gadw cysylltiad agos gyda beth sy'n digwydd o fewn yr Undeb. Yn bersonol rwy'n gwybod ei fod yn codi'r ffôn i gael sgwrs ac i drosglwyddo canmoliaeth am gynnwys Y Tir, ac mae ei eiriau a'i annogaeth yn mynd ymhell ac yn rhoi hyder i ni gario ymlaen i wneud yr hyn allwn ni er mwyn sicrhau bod yr Undeb yn mynd o nerth i nerth.

Felly, yn syml iawn, ar ran pawb yn Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru, diolch i chi Glyn.

This article is available in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "The greatest honour for the teacher, farmer, and leader from the Senni Valley, Glyn Powell."



CORNEL CLECS

# Mynd ar dramp i Frianne

gan Angharad Evans, Golygydd y Gymraeg

DYDD Sul, Awst 2 2020. Diwrnod reit hanesyddol. Ond pam, rwy'n clywed chi'n holi? Wel, mentrwyd allan ymhellach na'r ffiniau lleol am y tro cyntaf ers 20 wythnos. Roedd pawb yn barod i weld golygfa wahanol, ond i rywle lle nad oedd eisiau poeni rhyw lawer am brysurdeb a phellhau cymdeithasol. Felly bant a ni gyda'n picnic ar drywydd antur fach, a dilyn ein trwynau i raddau!

Mynd i gyfeiriad Tregaron, a sylweddoli pa mor dawel oedd y dref, gwahanol iawn i beth ddylai wedi bod yn ystod wythnos gyntaf mis Awst 2020, wythnos Eisteddfod Ceredigion wrth gwrs, ond mi ddaw eto haul ar fryn, a fydd Tregaron yn fwy na pharod i estyn croeso cynnes i bawb yn 2021.

Ymlaen wedyn ar hyd ffordd Abergwesyn, gan gyrraedd y bocs teliffon coch eiconig cyn cyrraedd hen gapel bach hanesyddol Soar y Mynydd. Er bod ni'n ceisio dianc oddi wrth Covid-19 am ddiwrnod, buan y sylweddolom fod dim modd dianc yn llwyr ohono, hyd yn oed yn lle cynnau anghysbell mynyddoedd Tregaron, wrth weld poster ar giât y capel gyda'r geiriau 'Dim Mynediad, Coronafirws'. Mae'n siŵr mae hen arwydd oedd hwn, ond allan o barch i'r bobl leol, edmygu'r Capel o'r tu allan y gwnaethom y tro hyn.

Erbyn hyn, daeth yn amlwg bod ni'n anelu am Lyn Brianne, sef cronfa ddŵr ym mlaen afon Tywi yn Sir Gaerfyrddin, lle adeiladwyd argae i greu llyn ym 1972 er mwyn rheoli llif yr afon ac i gynorthwyo tynnu dŵr o Nant Garedig yn rhan isa'r afon. Bellach mae'n cyflenwi dŵr yfed i Abertawe a rhannau eraill o'r de hyd at gyffiniau Caerdydd.

Wrth edmygu'r golygfeydd godidog, daeth yn amlwg iawn hefyd, bod yna dipyn o hanes yn gorwedd ar waelod y llyn, gan fod yna dai a fferm, Y Fannog wedi cael eu boddi er mwyn llunio'r

gronfa ddŵr. Yn y 70egau, cyn i'r lefelau dŵr godi'n raddol, roedd hi'n bosib cerdded i'r Fannog, a pan fydd y lefelau dŵr yn isel heddiw, sydd ddim yn digwydd yn aml iawn oherwydd hinsawdd wlyb unigryw Cymru, mae'n bosib gweld top y tŷ yn ystod cyfnodau sych o dywydd.

Arweiniodd hyn i mi feddwl am y nifer o gronfeydd dŵr arall sydd yma yng Nghymru, a'r hanes oedd yn perthyn i'r ardaloedd cyn llunio'r cronfeydd. Sut newidiodd ffurf a gwead cymdeithas? Beth am yr effeithiau ieithyddol, a'r sgilleffeithiau trwy'r cenedlaethau?

Does dim amheuaeth bu newid mawr ym mywydau'r rhai yr effeithiwyd arnynt pan orfodwyd nhw i adael eu cartrefi, bywoliaeth, a'i ffermydd, a oedd, o bosib wedi bod yn nwylo'r teulu ers sawl cenedlaeth. Ond nid dyma'r canlyniad bob tro. Achubwyd Cwm Senni wrth gwrs, a ni foddwyd y cwm. Mae ymgyrch ardal Cwm Senni wrth gwrs o ddiddordeb mawr i ni yn yr Undeb, gan mae ein haelod oes Glyn Powell, arweiniodd y ffordd mewn ymgyrch ffyrnig, ond llwyddiannus i atal y boddi.

Ac felly, wrth fynd ati i offren ysgrifennu Cornel Clecs mis hwn, roedd hi'n hyfryd clywed bod Glyn yn derbyn anrhydedd y Wisg Las gan Orsedd y Beirdd Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Ceredigion 2021 yn Nhregaron (darllenwch mwy ynglŷn â'r anrhydedd honno yn yr ethyl 'Anrhydedd fawr yr athro, amaethwr ac arweinydd o Gwm Senni, Glyn Powell' sydd ar dudalen 6).

Rydym yn hynod o lwcus bod cymaint o hanes, treftadaeth, prydferthwch naturiol a llongyddwch ar stepen drws - oes mae gan Gymru fach lawer i'w gynnig i bawb!

*This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Exploring Brianne's beauty."*



## Agriculture industry must abide by coronavirus rules in marts - or risk lives and market closures



THE FUW is warning the agriculture industry to abide by coronavirus rules in livestock markets - or risk outbreaks in the farming community and market closures.

FUW Livestock, Wool and Marts Committee Chairman Morgan Jones-Parry said: "Markets play a key role in our supply chains. They are an essential outlet for our finished and store animals, and also play a central role in terms of buying and selling breeding animals."

Mr Jones-Parry said that while the overwhelming majority attending markets were abiding by coronavirus rules, a minority were slipping into old habits in terms of contact with others.

"When you've been attending markets for decades, it's easy to slip into old habits and forget we are still in the grips of a dangerous pandemic - especially in many of our rural communities which have been relatively untouched by the pandemic.

"We need to keep it that way, and shouldn't be lulled into a false sense of security - and we mustn't forget that many farming families have lost loved ones to the virus," said Mr Jones-Parry

Mr Jones-Parry said a single case in a market represented a major risk if people did not abide by the rules.

Writing recently in the Irish Independent, GP Dr Derek Casey described at-risk farmers attending markets where individuals fail to abide by coronavirus rules as 'sitting ducks' to the disease.

Mr Jones-Parry said: "Failure to abide by the rules also risks seeing the authorities closing markets down at a critical trading time for the farming industry.

"This cannot be allowed to happen and for the sake of our industry and the welfare of those who work in it I would urge everyone to act responsibly and abide by the rules."

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# Getting the right insurance for your farm is essential when battling with rural crime

by Dave Bates, Business Development Manager, FUW Insurance Services Ltd

DESPITE having to contend with the multitude of other challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, farmers across Wales and the rest of the UK have continued to battle against rural crime - putting extra pressure on their already strained workload and finances.

## Cost of rural crime in 2019/2020

According to insurers, rural theft has cost the UK £54.3m in 2019 and despite overall thefts reducing in 2020 due to the coronavirus, criminals continue to target those working in the countryside. When lockdown was in full force between March and July, there were significant spikes in crimes such as livestock rustling alongside other non-theft related incidents including increased dog attacks on farm animals and fly-tipping. Another major concern is the theft of costly tractor GPS equipment.

## Organised criminal gangs

Unfortunately, the people targeting farmers aren't often opportunistic part-time criminals, but instead these crimes are increasingly being committed by organised criminal gangs targeting expensive tractors, quad bikes and livestock. In 2019, agricultural vehicle theft cost the UK £9.3m, quad/ATV theft £3.1m and livestock theft £3m.

## Protecting your farm

Here are some things you should consider when finetuning the security for your farm buildings, equipment and livestock.

### Safeguard your property

- Consider the physical security of your farm buildings and land including fencing and security gates, including yard entrances
- Ensure that you remove and store keys safely and that you lock away equipment and vehicles when not in use (where possible)
- Use heavy duty locks and specialist devices to lock down equipment and properties
- Keep tractor GPS stored in a secure place

### Join a wider community

- Seek out local rural watch groups to join and participate in chats and forums for quick updates on suspicious activity
- Speak to your rural crime police team and report any suspicious activity to them
- Anonymously report crime using Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

### Invest in better technology

- Consider fitting inconspicuous tracking devices to vehicles
- Use CCTV and sensor lighting to deter and help capture criminals
- Consider technologies such as geo-fencing and Tec-Tracer
- Mark vehicles with CESAR to deter criminals



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## Fine tune your insurance

Getting the right insurance for your farm is essential and conducting regular reviews of your cover is equally so. Even if your cover was adequate when you took it out, it may be that you've expanded areas of your farm, diversified, invested in new vehicles or made significant changes off the back of the coronavirus and now, it doesn't quite hit the mark.

At FUW Insurance Services Ltd, not only do we specialise in finding tailored Farm Insurance solutions for rural businesses, but we also ensure to maintain a long-term relationship with our clients that goes beyond just finding you cover.

We will conduct regular reviews as and when you need them and be on hand to provide any advice and support you need along the way. If you need to make a claim, we will be there to support and fight your corner each step of the way.

For a no-obligation review of your existing cover or to source a new policy, just get in touch on 0344 800 3110 or contact your local FUW Insurance Services Account Executive.



## Office telephone numbers

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Builth Wells	01982 553406	Abergavenny	01873 859833
Caernarfon	01286 675136	Llanrwst	01492 642683
Lampeter	01570 422556	Dolgellau	01341 421290
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References: 1. Phillippe-Reversat *et al.* (2017) *Acta Vet.* BRNO 86: 325-332 2. Andrews AH (2000) Calf Pneumonia Costs! *Cattle Practice* 8(2)

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# Mental health - what has changed?

The FUW made a commitment at the Royal Welsh Show in 2017 to keep the spotlight on mental health issues for as long as it remains a problem in our rural communities. We are now approaching the fourth year of awareness raising and doing everything we can to help break the stigma, so once again, together with the leading farming charities in Wales - we took a look at what has changed, how far we have come and what issues still remain.

Whilst some progress has been made in raising awareness, what has changed over the last 10 years when it comes to mental health? How many people are now affected, that we know of, compared to 10 years ago?

## Emma Picton-Jones, founder of the DPJ

**Foundation** said: "Mental health is only just starting to be recognised. In the 1980s people started to recognise that it was a medical issue that needed to be looked at. A lot of research has been done in recent years and looking at it statistically, there are a lot more mental health issues now than there have ever been before. But is that because we're now more aware of it, that we're far more understanding of it and that we recognise it far more now than we did before?"

"Over the last 10 years things have changed dramatically, as wonderful as it is being online, it is very different from being face to face with people. We moved very quickly into a world where we're run by social media and we're living very isolated lives. Things that years ago would have been done in large groups of people are now quite easily done by 1 or 2 people.

"We are leading very different lives to what we did 10 years ago. There has been such a rapid change and we're not meant for that. We're not meant to live isolated lives, we're not meant to do everything through technology, as human beings we are meant to be in groups and live in packs with people and communicate and socialise. Our circumstances have got a lot to play in this in how our mental health is affected.

"The social aspect of agriculture has changed the sad news of some agriculture marts closing with some of them getting no entries at all during the week. People are just not going to markets the way they used to with a lot of things being done privately. So, I'm not sure if things have got worse or if we are just more aware of the problems than before."

## David Williams, Wales Regional Director for the Farming Community Network,

added: "Statistics have been put out there saying that a quarter of the population suffer from mental health issues at some time in their lives. There is much more awareness of the mental health issues in society at large and particularly in the agriculture sector.

"Farmers have always been the kind of people who just get on with stuff, rather than sharing the problems they might have. We are ironically much more connected than we used to be but in many ways more alone. Whether it's a worse problem or just more highlighted is something we don't know.

"What we are also finding is that there are more organisations now designed to support people through mental health issues that are non-NHS. If you've ever tried to get support through the NHS it's very difficult to get help in a reasonable period of time. The waiting list is so long. What we need to ensure as a group of people, is to develop these facilities ourselves and not worry about what we think ought to be happening.

"You can talk to people who you think have no issue at all with their mental health, but when you delve deeper into it there are a lot of people hurting out there who need our support."

## But have we come far enough to deal with this issue?

## Gareth Davies, Chief Executive Officer, Tir Dewi

said: "There is a huge proportion of those who are struggling with their mental health who still don't recognise they have an issue - and that's step 1. Farmers will see it as the normal stresses of the job, because it's a very intensive, long job.



"We conducted a survey recently in Powys and 51% of farmers saw mental health as an issue affecting them. If that was a car parts factory in Bridgend or a call centre in Swansea there would be an outrage. But because it's farmers, who are a group of people who are naturally isolated and known for just getting on with it, there seems to be little said.

"The second step, when you recognise that you have a mental health issue, is asking for help. And that is huge. Again, our survey showed that 67% of farmers might not ask for help because of embarrassment, the risk of shame, or their reputation. That's two-thirds of farmers who might not ask for help and 58% said they don't know what help is available!

"We have an awful lot of work to do in raising awareness of who we are, what we're able to do and that there is help out there. And that's help in English and Welsh. Because another barrier is that people think there isn't any provision in Welsh. Between us we have a lot of work to do to show farmers that we are here for them and that there is help."

To find out more about mental health and what you can do to help yourself and others, listen to our recent seminar again here: [www.fuw.org.uk/en/rwas-seminars](http://www.fuw.org.uk/en/rwas-seminars)



## Meet Kate Miles, DPJ Foundation Charity Manager

THERE have been lots of changes at the DPJ Foundation over the summer. Our founder Emma Picton-Jones is taking a step back (but will still be volunteering) and I have joined as the new Charity Manager. To introduce myself a little, I grew up on a beef and sheep hill farm near Neath and despite stints in various cities working as a solicitor I always come back to farming and now live on a sheep farm in Gower. You might have seen me before at Wales YFC or Penderyn Market (where I assist at the busier sales).

I am also joined by a new Training Manager, Kay Helyar who will be developing and delivering our mental health training. Kay's last role was as the Head of Housing in a Housing Association in Cardiff. She devised training for their staff and contractors to help them spot the signs of poor mental health amongst tenants. Kay is from the Newport, Gwent area but is in the process of moving to Pembrokeshire with her husband and dogs.

We have also recruited two new trustees to our Board: Gwynfor Thomas and Maralene Griffiths, both from Montgomeryshire and both well known within their respective communities.

We have really missed the shows this summer. From the local shows to the Royal Welsh they provide a much-needed opportunity to catch-up and let off steam; without them the farming

calendar has seemed almost empty. We have been keeping in touch with our volunteers and delivering training using Zoom and Social Media. However, it's not the same as being in the same space, rubbing shoulders and shaking hands.

We had planned a tractor run which wasn't able to take place in the usual sense, so instead we took it online and received videos and photos from across Wales as well as from the rest of the UK, Ireland, Canada and even New Zealand. If you haven't had a chance to watch it, you can find it on our Facebook page.

We have been overwhelmed by the support that we have received from supporters undertaking individual and group challenges to raise funds. Thank you everyone who has partaken in an egg, sugar and shot, daily press-up or other challenge as well as everyone who has donated. Our next challenge will be calling for knitters to knit our very popular bobble hats. If you can knit, then please get involved.

This summer we received more calls to our Share the Load call line than over the same period last year. We know that this year has been especially difficult for many with the weather extremes and Coronavirus. However, talking to someone independent can be the release that is needed: all calls and texts are confidential and our volunteers are available 24/7.

I would like to end by thanking Emma for her energy and drive in creating the DPJ Foundation and making it what it is today. I personally don't feel we can thank her enough for founding this service which has already provided a lifeline to farmers and their families across Wales.

**Samaritans:** 116 123 or  
Welsh Language Line (Llinell  
Gymraeg): 0808 164 0123



**DPJ Foundation:**  
Call 0800 587 4262  
/ Text 07860 048799



**Mind Cymru:** 0300 123  
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# Be vigilant following increase in dog thefts

THE FUW is urging farmers to be vigilant following alerts by South Wales Police that there has been an increase in dog thefts across the UK. FUW Glamorgan County Executive Officer Rachel Saunders said: "Whilst recent statistics don't show an increase in the South Wales policing area and these crimes are extremely rare, vigilance is the best policy.

"Dog theft is very distressing for both owner and pet and we urge our members and the public to not just be aware of the problem, but to take active steps to reduce the risk of their dog being stolen. Please also report all suspicious dog sales to the police on 101 or Trading Standards."

Advice from South Wales Police urges dog owners to avoid leaving dogs in the garden or outside kennels if you are not home, to think twice before leaving your dog alone, secured outside a shop or any other location, to ensure your dog's microchip information is up-to-date and to have a current photo of your dog.

## Prevent your dog being stolen while out walking

Beware of strangers asking you questions about your dog.

Vary your times of walks and routes; to avoid dogs being targeted during walks.

## Tips to reduce the risk of dog theft

1. Avoid leaving dogs in the garden or outside kennels when not at home.

Ensure rear garden gates are locked at top and bottom with a shoot bolt and padlock. Consider fitting a bell or gate alarm as well. Do the same to any outside kennels.

2. Make sure the garden boundary (fence, hedge etc) is secure so that no one can gain entry or pull your dog out or your dog cannot get out on its own. Keep your dog in view in the garden, don't leave him outside unsupervised.

3. Consider driveway alarms to alert you of visitors or use monitored CCTV/Alarm systems to areas around any outside kennels. These will alert you if anyone is close by.

4. Never leave your dog secured alone, outside a shop. This makes them vulnerable and a tempting target for opportunist thieves.

5. Avoid leaving dogs in cars alone and NEVER leave a dog in a car on a warm/hot day.

6. Your dog should be microchipped and registered with current information. Use a collar and dog tag displaying contact details (don't put your dog's name on the tag use your surname).

7. Take plenty of good, clear photographs of your pet so that it can be easily identified. Take photographs of your dog from various angles, and update them regularly (ie with groomed coats and when not recently groomed). Make a note of any distinguishing features. Also take lots of photographs of yourself with your dog, to help you to prove ownership if needed.

8. Train your dog to come back when called and never let them off the lead if you are not sure they will come back to you. If in doubt, use an extending lead, especially if you are in an unfamiliar area where your dog may get easily lost.

9. Be aware of and report all suspicious vehicles or people to 101. Ask your neighbours to do the same. There have been a few reports of dogs being called and dog owners being distracted by someone, whilst the thieves try to take the dogs.

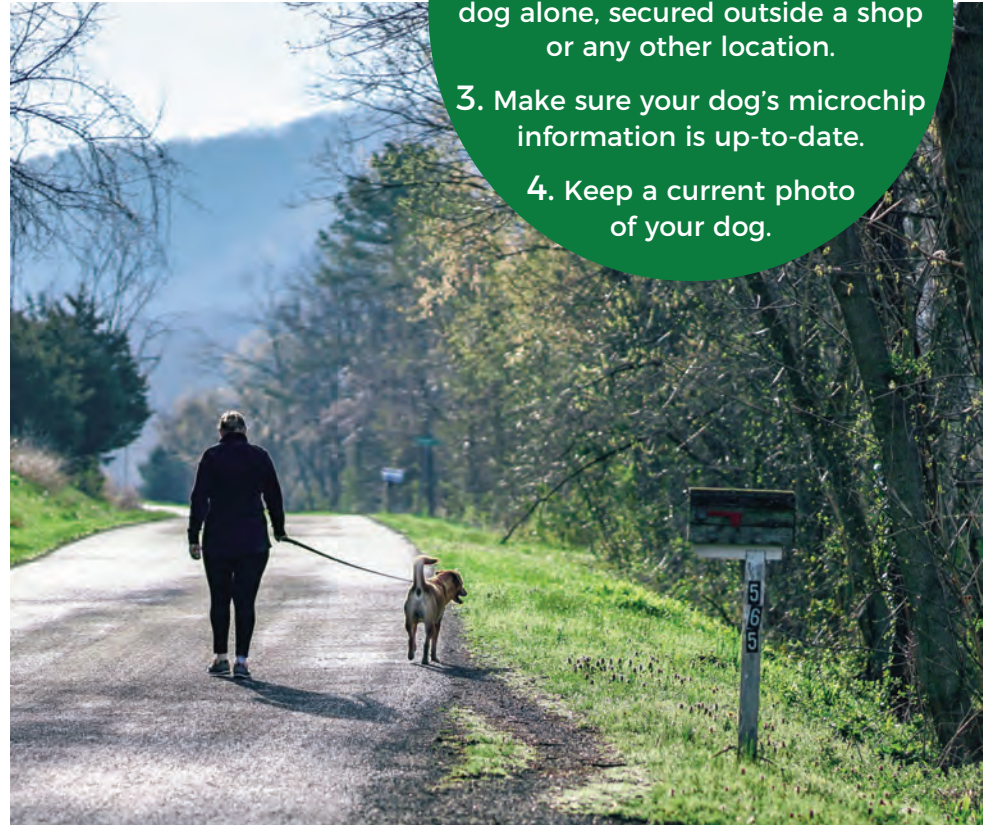
## Top Tips

1. Avoid leaving dogs in the garden or outside kennels if you are not home.

2. Think twice before leaving your dog alone, secured outside a shop or any other location.

3. Make sure your dog's microchip information is up-to-date.

4. Keep a current photo of your dog.



10. Don't buy any dogs from social media sites or any person where appropriate documentation (ownership etc, pedigree papers etc) cannot be provided. This increases the demand for stolen pets.

11. Report all suspicious dog sales to the police on 101 or Trading Standards.

12. Don't give details of your pets, your location or your walking locations out on your social media platforms.

13. Take care when choosing someone to care for your dog if you are going away from home or need a dog walker whilst you go to work. Use a reputable company or boarding kennels and check references for people who provide dog or house-sitting services.

14. If you breed puppies for sale, take details of anyone you are inviting in to view before they arrive. Try to have two people present from your home whilst viewing takes place and limit the numbers of people you allow in at a time. Show the puppies in one secure area, limit access to other areas of your house or property.

## If your dog is stolen

If your dog is lost or suspected stolen, it is important to act quickly.

Report all missing/stolen dogs on 101, so if found they can be reunited with their owners. After reporting it stolen to the police also advise your local authority and all other neighbouring local authorities.

If you believe your pet has been stolen, report it to the police and ask it is recorded as a theft and not a lost animal and note the crime reference number provided.

Notify the microchip database provider and also consider reporting it to doglost.co.uk or their Facebook page. They coordinate thefts for each county and offer advice and support.

Visit places where dog walkers go such as local parks and public places and talk to people, asking them to keep an eye open for your dog

Make posters and display them in areas local to your home and also in relevant places such as vets, local parks etc. The poster should include a clear photograph and details of the circumstances.

Make sure local vets are aware in case someone takes your dog in for treatment.

Report the loss on as many missing animal websites as possible - there is no single national missing animal database, so you will have to place the same information on all of them to ensure a widespread appeal.

Contact local animal shelters and rescue charities and send them posters to display.

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Yn ein harolwg aelodaeth yn 2019 dywedodd 85% o aelodau eu bod nhw'n fodlon iawn â gwasanaethau'r Undeb, felly beth am awgrymu eraill i ymuno?

**Po fwyaf o aelodau sydd gennym, y cryfaf yw ein llais.**

**Ask your friend, family or neighbour to join the Union and we'll send you £40 as a thank you!**

In our 2019 membership survey 85% of members said they were very satisfied with the services of the Union so why not suggest others to join?

**The more members we have, the stronger our voice is.**

**#AmaethAmByth**

**#FarmingMatters**



# Welsh lamb is a family affair that must be protected

'PGI Welsh Lamb is a family affair that must be protected' was the FUWs' key message during Love Lamb Week (1-7 September). Love Lamb Week was set up in 2015 by the late Rachel Lumley, a passionate Cumbrian sheep farmer who campaigned for lamb to get the attention it deserves.

Speaking from his North Wales farm, Union President Glyn Roberts said: "Our Welsh lamb is a family affair from start to finish. From the Welsh family farms who produce it, to our consumers who enjoy coming together round the table to eat. But we must protect our family farms if we want to continue enjoying this wonderful sustainable, nutritious, food."

With trade negotiations and Brexit on-going, as well as new farming policy and schemes in the making that could have potentially negative consequences for the sector, Mr Roberts stressed that it was in all our interests to safeguard the family farms of Wales.

"Our farmers do so much more than just produce sustainable, quality food for us - they take care of our environment, create value in the rural economy, keep our heritage and culture alive and so much more. All of this is under threat and we must work together to ensure that our family farms can continue to produce sustainable, nutritious food for us all to enjoy," he added.

The FUW, Mr Roberts said, will continue its mission to advance and protect Wales' family farms, both nationally and individually to ensure there are thriving, sustainable family farms in Wales.

"This Union will do all it can to address the political issues that could threaten our farming sector but I ask our consumers to stand by our side as well. By buying Welsh lamb you know that it has been produced to standards which are second to none in the world, that it is traceable right back to the farm, and environmentally friendly. By eating Welsh lamb, you are helping to sustain jobs, keep the economy going, safeguard our heritage, culture, and language."



## PGI Welsh Lamb noisette with citrus laver butter and potato cake

Noisette is a boneless, lean cut from the loin and is full of flavour. Welsh Laverbread complements the sweetness of the Welsh Lamb, as discovered by the historian and traveller George Borrow in the 19th century.

Serves 2 | Prep 20 minutes | Cook 30 minutes

### Ingredients

- 4 lean Welsh Lamb noisettes
- Halen Môn Sea Salt and pepper
- 50g salted butter, at room temperature
- Zest of half a lemon and half an orange
- 1 tbsp Welsh Laverbread
- 250g cold mashed potato
- 2 tbsp rolled oats
- 1 tbsp each of oil and butter



### Method

- 1 Preheat the oven to 200°C/Gas mark 6.
- 2 Mix the butter, laverbread and citrus zest in a small bowl and shape into a cylinder. Wrap in greaseproof paper and refrigerate until required.
- 3 Heat the oil in a heavy based, oven-proof frying pan, season the meat on both sides with the salt and pepper and sear for 2-3 minutes on both sides. Slice half the butter and pop on top of each noisette, then transfer to the oven and cook for a further 10-12 minutes depending on how pink you like your lamb. Remove from the oven and leave to rest in a warm place.
- 4 In the meantime mix the potato with the laverbread and oats, season with pepper and shape into 4 potato cakes of about 2-3cm thickness. Leave them at room temperature. In another frying pan, heat the butter and oil and fry the potato cakes until they are golden and crispy on all sides.
- 5 To serve, slice the remaining butter and put a slice on each cooked noisette and plate with the potato cake along with any lamb juices.

Credit: gov.wales/foodanddrinkwales

## Public sector food procurement practices under the spotlight

THE FUW has welcomed calls from the Welsh Conservatives' Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Energy and Rural Affairs - Janet Finch-Saunders MS - for a review into public sector procurement practices.

Other political parties, such as Plaid Cymru also have a long-standing commitment to addressing the crisis in the food industry in Wales, which they say starts with a local procurement policy and Welsh Labour AM Jenny Rathbone, has also previously questioned the Government on what progress it has made in reshaping public procurement to enable more fresh food for schools, hospitals and nursing homes to be procured locally.

FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "We have long called for changes to be made to public sector procurement policies in Wales and discussed the issue only a few weeks ago with a panel of experts in our food supply chain seminar. It is good to see that cross-party support for this is growing.

"We believe that our schools, hospitals, armed forces and all other public services deserve access to the nutritious, quality food grown here in Wales and farmers deserve recognition for what they produce.

"When it comes to procurement policies it's essential that price doesn't get placed above all other factors when it comes to sourcing that food."

Mr Roberts said food procurement policies must be introduced which protect domestic food security, preserve the food supply chain and ensure the longer term viability of our food producers and their businesses.

"We know that our farmers take great pride in producing sustainable food for us all to enjoy but they need our support to keep doing that - from a procurement point of view, a consumer point of view and a policy maker point of view.

"During the covid-19 pandemic our farmers filled a gap when supermarket shelves were empty. Not only did they continue producing sustainable food, they made buying local easy.

"We think one of the biggest lessons to take away from this is that localism and the resilience of our local communities is key in moving forward and public procurement has a key role to play in that."

## FUW Agency



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We understand that farmers don't always have reliable access to the internet to be able to monitor their online accounts. We offer a **COMPLETE SERVICE** from local county offices to ensure you receive all messages and access all functions in your RPW online account



# Rhaid cyd-weithio i sicrhau gwelliant i'r byd amaeth

Ian Lloyd yw Cadeirydd Pwyllgor Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid yr Undeb ac mae'n byw yn Hafan Hedd, Beulah ers 1977 gyda 115 erwau o dir ym Meulah a Bwlchgroes, Ffostrasol. Mae wedi bod yn cadw tua 30 o wartheg magu ynghyd â lloi blwydd ac erbyn hyn wedi torri 'nôl ar stoc. Dyma brofiad Ian o fod yn Gadeirydd Pwyllgor FUW.



## Yr heriau dros y blynyddoedd?

Clwy'r Traed a'r Genau, TB a BSE ynghyd â phris y farchnad.

## Pam bod chi'n ffermio?

Fferm deuluol ar gael felly penderfynu ffermio.

## Pam FUW?

Wedi ymuno â'r Undeb gan fod fy nhad a fy nhadcu wedi bod yn aelodau ers 1955.

## Barn ar y dyfodol?

Edrych ymlaen at y dyfodol, pwy all ddweud beth ddaw, ond gobeithio'r gore' a bod yn galonogol. Yn bersonol 'rwyf yn falch fod y mab a'r ferch wedi cael gradd o'r brifysgol ac erbyn hyn y ddau mewn swyddi dysgu a ddim yn dilyn ôl fy nhraed i ffermio.

## Beth ydych chi wedi'i ddysgu o fod yn Gadeirydd?

Drwy fod yn Gadeirydd gyda'r Undeb 'rwyf wedi cael y fraint i gwrrdd â dod i adnabod aelodau a phobl o siroedd eraill drwy Gymru.

## A fydddech chi'n argymhell aelodau eraill i ddod yn Gadeirydd?

Dewis yr unigolyn yw cymryd at fod yn Gadeirydd ond rhaid bod ganddynt ddiddordeb a gwybodaeth o'r pwnc. Rydw i yn Gadeirydd Pwyllgor Iechyd a Lles Anifeiliaid sydd o ddiddordeb mawr i mi.

## Ydych chi'n teimlo bod chi'n gwybod mwy am fusnes FUW o fod yn Gadeirydd?

Drwy fod yn Gadeirydd credaf fy mod yn cael gwybodaeth dda am wahanol bynciau o fewn yr Undeb.

## Sut ydych chi'n gweld rôl y Cadeirydd yn datblygu yn y dyfodol?

Ni welaf lawer o wahaniaeth i rôl Cadeirydd yn y blynyddoedd i ddod, ond rhaid i bawb gydweithio gyda'i gilydd i sicrhau gwelliant i'r byd amaeth ac i ffermwyr iau'r dyfodol.

*This Q&A is available in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "We must work together in order to improve agriculture."*

Advertorial

## STOP MAIZE SILAGE WASTING AWAY WITH MAGNIVA INOCULANTS

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**MAGNIVA**  
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**MAGNIVA Platinum Maize inoculants help reduce aerobic spoilage in clamps meaning more valuable silage is available to feed as Roy Eastlake from Lallemand Animal Nutrition explains.**

Typical dry matter losses in maize clamps from aerobic spoilage are around 15%, leading to higher purchased feed bills. As we know a great deal about the causes of waste in maize silage, we know what to do to reduce the impact.

Waste in maize is a consequence of the action of yeasts and moulds found on all crops. When exposed to air the yeasts grow, leading to a loss of the acidic conditions vital for the preservation of silage and so causing waste.

They also burn off energy and feed value, leading to the clamp heating up which can reduce palatability.

Moulds and other opportunistic micro-organisms then become active, adding to the spoilage process and resulting in a second increase in silage temperature.

To reduce waste, we need to reduce the number and activity of yeast and moulds.

### Step 1. Reduce the numbers of yeast and moulds present

By reducing the initial populations, we reduce the opportunity they have to multiply. MAGNIVA Platinum Maize inoculants combine two strains of heterofermentative bacteria, *L. buchneri* NCIMB 40788 and *L. hilgardii* CNCM I-4785 which are proven to reduce the problems caused by yeast and moulds.

During the fermentation they quickly produce powerful antifungal compounds which significantly reduce the level

of yeasts and moulds, improving both immediate and longer term aerobic stability, protecting the silage while the clamp is open.

Fewer yeasts and moulds mean less risk of waste.

### Step 2. Reduce the activity of any remaining yeasts and moulds

To further reduce wastage you need to keep oxygen out both before and after the clamp is opened. This means a combination of good consolidation, covering and sealing the clamp effectively and keeping the face tight and clean at feedout.

Successful strategies to reduce waste begin and end with stopping yeasts and moulds by reducing their numbers and restricting their access to oxygen.

### Steps to reduce waste

- Clean all clamps before harvest
- Harvest the crop at 32% DM, crops over 35% dry matter are harder to consolidate.
- Use MAGNIVA Platinum Maize or MAGNIVA Platinum Maize Elite to reduce spoilage organisms and increase aerobic stability
- Consolidate thoroughly to reduce access to oxygen. Inadequate rolling results in increased DM losses and reduced silage quality.
- Seal the clamp securely using a proven oxygen barrier and new plastic sheeting before being fully weighted down, particularly on the shoulders.

**MAGNIVA inoculants will help maximise your return on investment in maize.**

**For more information contact:**

Anwen Jones - 07866 315684

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# Planning the job could well be a life-saver



WHEN we leave the house in the morning and say “see you later” to family, or friends, we presume that we will come back at the end of the day and be able to ask how their day was. Of course we’re going to see our children and wife or husband before we go to bed. Why wouldn’t we? The idea of us or them not being there is absurd, right?

Sadly, 3 families from Wales have lost loved ones over the last year (April 2019- March 2020). Those 3 cases included:

A 56-year-old self-employed farm partner was killed by a rotavator with poor guards. He had driven to a field and had stopped to make some adjustments. He was pulled underneath the machine and later found dead with the tractor engine running.

A 78-year-old self-employed farmer was killed when a telehandler stalled on a farm track. He was riding on the steps on the side of the telehandler, which was being driven by his grandson. He fell onto the grass verge as the machine started to roll backwards down the track before it overturned. He died from multiple injuries.

A 44-year-old self-employed farm partner was killed when he was struck by a tree. He had left the farmhouse to trim hawthorn with a chainsaw and was found trapped underneath a fallen tree.

On paper we see the figures. We see the statistics flash across news channels, a short clipping in the local paper. You might sigh thinking, oh not another one, poor family, and carry on with your day. Jump on the quad or tractor, life goes on. No further thought is given to those who have gone.

The truth is that farming is a hazardous industry. We work with potentially dangerous machinery, vehicles, chemicals, livestock, at height or near pits and silos.

It is also pretty clear that as an industry we must get so much better at keeping ourselves and family members safe from harm. The numbers confirm the

most tragic of incidents, but don’t include the little accidents, which maybe should serve as a warning.

So please, when you leave the house in the morning and say ‘see you later’ - mean it. Mean it right down to your very core. Pay attention to what you’re doing, slow down a bit and check that the break is on, wear that helmet when you’re on the quad bike and be safe.

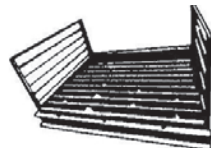
Of course it’s easier said than done, especially on a busy farm where there is never enough time to sit back, but planning the job - whatever that may be - could well be a life-saver.

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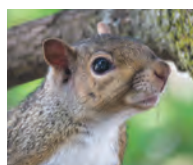
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# Welsh Government's Clean Air Plan must not betray farmers

THE FUW has responded with concern to the recently launched Welsh Government Clean Air Plan, stating that it must not betray farmers.

The plan, launched last month, aims to improve air quality and reduce the impacts of air pollution on human health, biodiversity, the natural environment and the economy by working jointly across sectors to put in place evidenced based policy, legislation, regulations and investment to reduce air pollution in line with international air quality standards.

Furthermore, the Welsh Government stated it will introduce a new law to tackle agricultural pollution by in effect introducing EU Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) legislation for the whole of Wales, as well as a National Minimum Standards based on the verifiable standards in Cross Compliance.

Responding to the announcement, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "As farmers we take the state of our environment very seriously. It affects everything we do and it is in our interest to work together with Governments and others to achieve the best possible standards. Whilst this plan is focussed in the main on urban areas, where the worst pollution by far exists, the elements relating to our rural areas would in fact undermine the good work that is already being done by our farmers while also devastating businesses.

"By referring to the introduction of an all-Wales NVZ in the paper the Welsh Government is once again failing to respect

the scientific evidence and their own advisors, while also ignoring the drastic and devastating impacts on businesses and families such draconian and disproportionate measures would have.

"They're also failing to take account of the evidence of detrimental or negligible impacts from other NVZ areas," he added.

The draft legislation, if introduced, would designate the whole of Wales as an NVZ, an area more than forty times bigger than the current Welsh NVZ area, and eleven times bigger than what was recommended by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) - the Welsh Government's own official advisors.

"Given the severe warnings of NRW and expected crippling costs for Wales' farming industry that would run into hundreds of millions, and the extreme uncertainty due to coronavirus and Brexit, this proposal is wrong and warrants a comprehensive impact assessment so Ministers, politicians and their constituent can truly gauge the likely impacts.

"In addition, the introduction of the Cross Compliance Verifiable Standards into National Minimum Standards - a future regulatory baseline, needs to be given much more thought in terms of suitability for the industry as there are serious concerns about how our farmers will absorb the costs if the Basic Payment Scheme is phased out," added Mr Roberts.

**"By referring to the introduction of an all-Wales NVZ in the paper the Welsh Government is once again failing to respect the scientific evidence and their own advisors."**

# What is the BeefQ project?

THE BeefQ - Beef Eating Quality project, funded through the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Fund Programme 2014-2020, will increase the eating quality and value of Welsh Beef production through the testing and demonstration of an enhanced carcass quality grading system based on the Meat Standards Australia (MSA) model.

The project is pre-competitive, and the project team of IBERS, Aberystwyth University (coordinating); Queens University Belfast; Hybu Cig Cymru - Meat Promotion Wales (HCC); Menter a Busnes; Celtica Foods Ltd and Birkenwood International (Australia), are working closely with PGI certified Welsh Beef processors and wider industry stakeholders to ensure industry ready outputs. These outputs include:

1. A BeefQ carcass eating quality grading system based on the Australian MSA model, validated for PGI Welsh Beef.
2. Carcass eating quality grader training so that a pool of grading expertise exists in Wales.
3. A prototype web-based system for sharing and benchmarking carcass eating quality grading data between processors and producers.
4. An agreed industry strategy for taking the carcass eating quality grading system forward in Wales post BeefQ.

To learn more about the BeefQ project please go to the BeefQ project website [www.beefq.wales](http://www.beefq.wales) where you can also register to receive the newsletter. You can also follow us on Twitter @BeefQWales

# Helping clients get on top of their hidden costs

LOCKDOWN has meant different things to different people and for some it has meant an opportunity to take a fresh look at life and business. Llandeilo based vet, Dr Sotirios Karvountzis of Mendip Vets, (*pictured right*), said life became busier, but the ban on preventative visits gave him time to review and research ongoing problems.

Dairy farmers submit production, clinical and other data to various specialised websites as part of their milk contract. Lockdown meant that, in the downtime between call outs, Sotirios had the chance to study the data and pursue his interest in eradicating 'hidden costs'.

He analysed farm performance, while reviewing their submitted data. It meant he was able to establish common themes and to come up with some answers to the 'hidden costs' borne by so many herds.

He explained: "I wanted to help clients get on top of their hidden costs. They can be when cows calve, how many retain their foetal membranes. When the cows calve, how many cows get ketosis - a type of diabetes that cows get when they calve, so making sugar unavailable for the first few weeks before they get over it. Then how many cows they get with mastitis.

"Is the herd at risk of infectious disease, such as IBR, BVD, Leptospirosis, Liver Fluke and Neospora? Or even, is the offspring robust enough, what is the incidence of mastitis, lameness or tuberculosis between various genetic lines on the farm?

"So let's say they're getting 5% of their cows with retained foetal membranes, or they get 4% of their cows with ketosis, or 35% mastitis. If we manage to reduce that by 2% with retained foetal membranes, half of it almost, there's instantly a minimum £2,000 a year saving in a 300/400 cow herd.

"If you go to mastitis and you drop it from 35% down to 20%, it still sounds a lot but it's a massive improvement and you're looking at an approximate £12,000 a year saving for the same 300/400 cow herd."

And because the various conditions, foetal membrane retention, ketosis, mastitis, have a defined number of

causes, we can make a start in our investigation. Some of the commonest causes can be an incorrect transition diet, milk fever after calving or, in the case of mastitis, we start with the milking parlour, then the milking routine or the environment.

Sotirios added: "I don't want to over simplify a complex situation, but usually there are a number of areas that, if you rule them out, then in my experience there is a good chance of reducing the problem.

"So the extra time during Lockdown allowed me to use it productively. I appraised performance, looked at hidden costs and then started discussions over the phone or teleconference. It's incredible how the teleconferencing technology has come such a long way.

"I had discussions with clients and showed graphs to say where we are and why we are there, giving a few possible reasons. Then I suggested visiting the farms and taking a closer look at those once restrictions were eased.

"The reduction in the time that milking takes can have wide reaching consequences, including a reduction in the incidence of lameness. This should be coupled with helping them select the most suitable bulls that combine the most appropriate production, management and type traits with the likelihood of reducing lameness and overall disease in their offspring.

"It can also mean having a conversation with the owners about monitoring infectious and parasitic disease in the herd, through ordering appropriate bulk tank milk samples, all by the click of a button and without us having to visit the farm initially.

"All these hidden costs can be there and the farmer aware of them. But really you don't know where to start unless you have the data and the research."

Sotirios says the savings mean that suddenly there is then money released for other investment on the farm. A simple backing gate, for instance, the gate that gently pushes cows towards the parlour frees up time for the milker.

  
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# Reasons to increase tree and hedgerow cover in UK Agriculture

by Dr William Stiles, Farming Connect Knowledge Exchange Hub, IBERS, Aberystwyth University



WOODLAND patches, lone trees, and hedgerows are essential components of the agri-ecosystem, yet this resource has declined in the UK in the twentieth century due to agricultural intensification, which has driven the creation of larger more simplified field systems.

The re-establishment of hedgerows and woodland patches on farms remains an area for development yet has great potential to deliver multiple benefits in economic, ecological and environmental terms.

As an example, the benefits derived from the availability of shelter and shade can be huge for livestock. Extremes of heat and cold are a feature of the seasonal UK climate which can affect production. Shelter can increase lamb survival rates, by reducing the effect of wind chill and thus hypothermia, particularly in the early stages after birth, and can reduce feed requirements in the winter months as cold livestock will require greater feed inputs in order to keep warm.

**“The provision of hedges and woodlands on farms can also increase the delivery of ecosystem services. This can happen directly, as hedges and woodland patches can increase carbon capture and sequestration and reduce the potential for flooding.”**

In the summer months, heat stress can reduce milk yield in dairy herds and can adversely affect numerous biological functions relating to production in both sheep and cows, including fertility.

Animal health may also be improved through reductions in standing water, from increased infiltration rates associated with greater tree and hedgerow cover, as reductions in damp conditions in fields can reduce the incidence of lameness and liver fluke.

The provision of hedges and woodlands on farms can also increase the delivery of ecosystem services. This can happen directly, as hedges and woodland patches can increase carbon capture and sequestration and reduce the potential for flooding, and indirectly, as they can increase the habitat resource availability for essential wildlife, including species that undertake pollination or act as natural controllers of pest species.

Hedgerow and tree resources increase habitat and forage availability for these important wildlife groups. Improvements in the availability of habitat or food resources means larger populations of species throughout the food chain, as energy is transferred from the bottom up to higher trophic levels; or in simpler terms: more forage and habitat means more bugs, which means more birds (or other animals).

By planting trees and hedges farmers have an opportunity to future-proof landscapes against shifts in weather and climate, such as increased precipitation, expected with future environmental change, and by doing so can simultaneously reduce current environmental impacts of agricultural activities.

## Broadband funding welcomed, but it must reach rural communities

THE FUW has responded positively to news that there are plans to bring full fibre broadband to an additional three million homes and businesses in some of the UK's most isolated rural communities, but stresses it must really reach them.

The connection to 3.2 million UK premises, which was given the go-ahead after an Ofcom consultation, is reported to be part of a £12bn investment by Openreach to build full fibre infrastructure to 20 million premises throughout the UK by the end of this decade.

Places set to benefit include Aberystwyth in west Wales, Millom in Cumbria, Thurso in north-east Scotland, and Ballycastle in County Antrim. Openreach is due to publish the full list of the 251 locations, referred to as Area 3, where it will build the new network. Ofcom has estimated there are 9.6 million homes and

businesses situated in this final third of the UK.

Responding to the announcement, FUW Ceredigion County Chairman Morys Ioan said: “The last few months have served as a stark example of how vital connectivity is. Our own Union staff, many of whom live in rural areas, have been working from home and we have continued to assist members with digital paperwork for their farm businesses. Without an internet connection this would not have been possible.

“It is really good news that this extra funding is being directed at rural communities but we must make sure that it really does go to those premises who currently are not benefitting from full fibre broadband. The FUW has stressed on many occasions that those without a connection cannot diversify their businesses, that they cannot support their children's education and that they cannot connect readily with Government programmes for advice and support payments as they are mandated to do.”



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## MEAT MATTERS

## Love Lamb Week 2020

by Rhys Llywelyn, HCC Market Development Manager



LOVE Lamb Week is back for 2020 and ran from 1-7 September this year.

Love Lamb Week is a week-long celebration of home-produced lamb which see farmers, retailers, consumers and the whole industry come together to celebrate fresh, sustainable lamb.

Consumer data from Kantar

Worldpanel showed that earlier in the summer there was an increased demand for fresh lamb from GB consumers. The data also suggested that this rise was most likely from new consumers purchasing lamb or consumers returning to buying lamb.

This is obviously very heartening news and shows how lockdown has impacted on people's shopping and cooking habits. We fully intend to build on this momentum over the coming months and exploit key lockdown trends such as more cooking from scratch and utilising leftovers in our campaign efforts.

At Hybu Cig Cymru, we of course lead the Love Lamb Week celebrations. Our work largely concentrated on engaging with consumers through supermarkets and retailers. As part of our UK market development strategy, we engage with all of the supermarkets - however for Love Lamb Week we have got special September promotions with Tesco, Morrisons and Waitrose where we have special PGI Welsh

Lamb recipe cards in store amongst other activities and promotions.

We are also supporting independent retailers during this time; our Welsh Lamb and Beef Butchers Club members have also received promotional packs containing special recipe cards, social media guides and other materials to help them celebrate Love Lamb Week and promote Welsh red meat.

This work is also being reinforced by our digital consumer campaign which will this month see us take over Delicious magazine's website and the BBC Good Food website - two of the most popular and trusted recipe and food websites in the UK. We also had key 'foodie' influencers sharing PGI Welsh Lamb recipes throughout Love Lamb Week and throughout September to their followers to reach new audiences.

We hope you were able to join in the celebrations. Remember to follow the Welsh Lamb social media channels and head to [www.eatwelshlambandwelshbeef.com](http://www.eatwelshlambandwelshbeef.com) to find your own Love Lamb Week celebration recipe.

**Roedd y 1-7 o Fedi yn dynodi Wythnos Caru Cig Oen sy'n wythnos o ddathlu cig oen Cymru ac yn gweld ffermwyr, manwerthwyr, cwsmeriaid a'r diwydiant cyfan yn dod at ei gilydd i ddathlu cig oen ffres, cynaliadwy. Canolbwyntiodd gwaith HCC i raddau helaeth ar ymgysylltu â chwsmeriaid trwy archfarnadoedd a manwerthwyr. Fel rhan o'i strategaeth datblygu marchnad yn y DU, mae HCC yn ymgysylltu â phob un o'r archfarnadoedd - fodd bynnag, ar gyfer Wythnos Caru Cig Oen, mae gan HCC hyrwyddiadau arbennig ym mis Medi gyda Tesco, Morrisons a Waitrose lle bydd cardiau rysäit Cig Oen PGI HCC ar gael yn yr archfarnadoedd.**

## PROPERTY MATTERS

## Changes on the cards for agricultural tenancies

by Edward Page, Associate Director, Davis Meade Property Consultants



THE UK Agricultural Bill includes amendments to the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 where it will remove the commercial unit occupation test and amend the Test of Suitability relating to the succession of these protected Farm Tenancies.

Welsh Government policy is focused on improving farming productivity by encouraging the transfer of land into the hands of skilled commercial farmers. The Tenancy Reform Industrial Group has consulted with the Welsh Government, as well as Defra in

England, and the UK bill sets out a path to significant reform of this historic tenancy legislation.

A point of direct conflict with current Welsh land management policy is the commercial unit test which prohibits a successor's application if he or she is an occupier of an agricultural unit of land. The UK Agricultural Bill repeals the sections of the Law relating to this test.

The separate Test of Suitability is a section due to be amended. It currently states that The Tribunal will take into account "...all relevant matters" including the applicant's age, experience, training, health and financial standing".

The Test of Suitability will include new criteria to be set out in regulations by the Welsh Ministers. These prescriptions will evolve over time but will test business acumen, with the Bill criteria requiring, "the successor's capacity to farm the holding commercially to high standards of efficient production and care for the environment".

The tenancy reform consultation identified that removing the minimum age of 65 for a retiring farmer would allow holdings to be passed on sooner, unlocking potential productivity improvements. This amendment proposal has made its way into the Bill.

The UK Agriculture Bill is in the House of Lords for its second reading and we anticipate Royal Assent by the end of 2020. We expect further wider ranging considerations for the rights of Welsh Tenant farmers to be part of the Agriculture (Wales) Bill, the same piece of legislation that will set out the transition from Basic Payment Scheme in Wales.

If you are planning an Agricultural Tenancy succession then please do contact Davis Meade for professional advice in this changing environment. You can view our guidance note on succession on our website [www.dmpropertyconsultants.com](http://www.dmpropertyconsultants.com)

Edward Page, MRICS, can be contacted on 07496 914731 email [edwardpage@dmpcuk.com](mailto:edwardpage@dmpcuk.com)

**Mae Bil Amaethyddiaeth y DU yn cynnwys diwygiadau i Ddeddf Daliadau Amaethyddol 1986 lle bydd yn dileu'r prawf meddiannaeth unedau masnachol ac yn diwygio'r Prawf Addasrwydd sy'n ymwneud ag olyniaeth y Tenantiaethau Fferm warchoddedig hyn. Mae polisi Llywodraeth Cymru yn canolbwyntio ar wella cynhyrchiant ffermio trwy annog trosglwyddo tir i ddwylo ffermwyr masnachol medrus. Mae'r Grŵp Diwydiannol Diwygio Tenantiaeth wedi ymgynghori â Llywodraeth Cymru, yn ogystal â Defra yn Lloegr, ac mae bil y DU yn anelu at ddiwygio'r ddeddfwriaeth tenantiaeth hanesyddol hon yn sylweddol. Os ydych chi'n cynllunio olyniaeth Tenantiaeth Amaethyddol yna cysylltwch â Davis Meade i gael cyngor proffesiynol yn ystod y cyfnod cyfnewidiol hwn. Ewch i'n gwefan [www.dmpropertyconsultants.com](http://www.dmpropertyconsultants.com) er mwyn darllen ein Nodiadau Cyfarwydddy.**

## MERCHED MEWN AMAETH

## Daw, fe ddaw eto haul ar fryn

gan Tegwen Morris, Cyfarwyddwraig Cenedlaethol, Merched y Wawr

MAE wedi bod yn haf rhyfedd o ran y tywydd, gydag amryw wedi cael llifogydd, nifer wedi heidio i lan y môr ac ambell un wedi llwyddo i gael afalau a mwyar duon aeddfed ar ddechrau'r haf.

Mae'n siŵr fod y tymhorau yn newid rhywfaint, ond arweiniodd cyfnod y clo mawr i nifer ohonom werthfawrogi'r byd o'n cwmpas trwy lygaid newydd. Llai o deithio, llai o lygredd, mwy o natur a mwy o sér yn yr awyr uwchben.

Fe welsom ni fel mudiad gyfle i ehangu ein darpariaeth, ac felly ar Fedi'r cyntaf fe gyhoeddwyd rhifyn dwbl o gylchgrawn Y Wawr, gyda fersiwn, glywedol, digidol a nifer o'r erthyglau ar ffurf pod-lediadau am y tro cyntaf erioed. Yr un diwrnod fe lanswyd ein llyfr "Curo'r Corona'n Coginio" sy'n deillio yn uniongyrchol o'n tudalen gweplyfr.

Roedd yn fraint i gydweithio ar y llyfr a braf iawn oedd cael cefnogaeth Hybu Cig Cymru a



Cywain yn ogystal â Gwasg Carreg Gwalch. Gobeithio y daw a phleser i nifer dros fisoedd y gaeaf - gydag ysbrydoliaeth, ryseitiau a nifer o gynghorion!

Ydi mae wedi bod yn anodd ar gynifer o sectorau a diwydiannau, ac mae'r gaeaf yn argoeli i fod yn hir a phryderus, ond mewn undod y mae nerth - gobeithio y medrwn fel elusen gefnogi ein cymunedau lleol a bod yn glust i wrando ac yn frwdfrydig o ran ein diwylliant arbennig. Rwy'n hyderus y "Daw eto Haul ar Fryn".

**On September 1 we published a double issue of Y Wawr magazine, with a digital audio version, with many articles through the medium of podcasts for the first time. The same day we launched our book "Curo'r Corona'n Coginio" which comes directly from our Facebook page. As a charity, hopefully we can support our local communities, be a sympathetic ear, and I am confident that things will get better.**





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## ANGLESEY

## Tir Dewi here to support

by Delyth Owen, Tir Dewi North Wales Volunteer Co-ordinator

When I heard about this little charity called Tir Dewi over a year ago it was my dream to either become a volunteer or to work for them. Well, my dream has come true. I've recently been appointed as the North Wales Volunteer Co-ordinator and began working for them at the beginning of August.



This little charity which was established over 5 years ago by Rev Canon Eileen Davies has now begun to grow into something much bigger. A charity that started by offering support to farmers in the three counties of Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Carmarthen has now helped over 200 farmers and has recently expanded to Powys. The results of a survey carried out recently on farmers there clearly showed that there is much need for more support for farmers and their families.

From September 23 onwards, this support will also be available to all farmers in Gwynedd, Conwy and Anglesey. The whole foundation of the charity is held up by our committed, passionate, dedicated team of volunteers. If you would like to be part of this team to help support the North Wales farming community then please contact me: delyth@tirdewi.co.uk or visit our website www.tirdewi.co.uk for further information.

You can provide support in many different ways from answering the Tir Dewi helpline, helping to promote Tir Dewi by visiting local markets, giving talks to clubs such as Merchaid Y Wawr, YFC etc, and becoming one of our translators. I'm also looking for volunteers who are compassionate, empathetic and non-judgmental that farmers can confide in and feel supported by through face to face contact on the farms or in a place where the farmer feels comfortable talking in confidence.

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**Our office may be closed but our service remains the same, remember to contact us on 01286 672541 or via email caernarfon@fuw.org.uk for any queries. An increasing number of you are experiencing difficulties in notifying BCMS of any movements. Remember that the Union's BCMS agency service is included within your membership fee. Contact us at the office for more information.**

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ceredigion@fuw.org.uk

## CEREDIGION

## Cyfarfod y Bwrdd Gwlân



Yn ddiweddar cynhaliwyd cyfarfod ar Zoom gyda John Davies, Aelod De Cymru ar y Bwrdd Gwlân, (*gweler ar y chwith*). Cafwyd trafodaeth ddiddorol iawn am waith y Bwrdd Gwlân.

**A meeting, via Zoom, with John Davies, British Wool's Welsh Southern Regional Board Member, (pictured left), was held recently. It was a very informative discussion on the work of the Wool Board.**

01267 237974

## CARMARTHEN

carmarthen@fuw.org.uk

## County Executive meeting

We held a very successful Zoom County Executive meeting on Thursday August 6 with guest speakers John Davies from the British Wool Board and Dr Hazel Wright, FUW Senior Policy Officer, (*pictured below*). A variety of topics were discussed. Thank you to those who joined us.



## Upcoming EOI window details

Scheme	Summary	Window closes
Glastir Contracts	Glastir Advanced contracts whose initial period ends on December 31 2020 will be offered contract renewals to commence on January 1 2021. Glastir Organic contracts whose initial period ends on December 31 2020 and Glastir Advanced and Commons contracts where their contract renewal period is due to end on December 31 will be offered an annual extension to commence on January 1 2021. It is anticipated these contracts will be offered in the autumn.	Autumn
Farm Business Grant - Window 7	Claims along with supporting invoices and an accountants letter - in respect of contracts with a start date of May 29 - will need to be submitted by September 25 2020 via your RPW Online account.	25 September 2020
Glastir Small Grants: Landscape and Pollinators	Due to the covid pandemic, RPW have confirmed that the deadline for Glastir Small Grants: Landscape and Pollinators capital works has been extended to September 30 2020 so that work can be conducted in September after the hedge cutting closed period.	30 September 2020
Farming Connect funding application window	The next funding application window for training opens on September 7. Those registering for the first time during this window to apply for funded training or to update their account should contact Farming Connect before 5pm on October 26. Despite restrictions and the uncertainty around when face to face training will resume, Farming Connect Development Officers have continued to work, assisting those wishing to apply.	30 October 2020



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meirionnydd@fuw.org.uk

## MEIRIONNYDD

## Pwyllgor Gwaith y Sir

Cynhaliwyd pwyllgor gwaith y Sir drwy gyfrwng Zoom ar ddechrau mis Awst, gyda nifer dda iawn wedi troi mewn.

Croesawyd Gareth Jones, Rheolwr Rhanbarthol y Bwrdd Gwlân, (*gweler ar y dde*), ynghyd a Huw Evans, cynrychiolydd gogledd Cymru ar y Bwrdd, ac Emlyn Roberts, cynrychiolydd Meirionnydd. Cafwyd cyflwyniad llawn am sefyllfa'r sector, gan gyfeirio yn gyntaf at effaith Covid-19 ar y farchnad wllân, ac yn arbennig lleihad yn y galw o Tsieina am wllân.

Amlinellwyd hefyd effaith y cyfnod clo ar y farchnad wllân yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Yn y drafodaeth, pwysleisiwyd rhinweddau gwlân fel deunydd naturiol, a bod angen mwy o ymgirchoedd marchnata effeithiol a chynhwysfawr. Diolchwyd yn fawr iawn i'r ddirprwyaeth am ymuno gyda ni.

Yna aethpwyd ymlaen i groesawu'r Cynghorydd Dyfrig Siencyn, arweinydd Cyngor Gwynedd, a oedd wedi ymuno gyda ni i sôn am y grantiau y mae Cyngor Gwynedd wedi dosbarthu/gweinyddu. Yna aeth ymlaen i sôn am y feirws a'i effaith, a'r peryglon mawr bellach o weld ton enfawr o ymwelwyr yn dod i'n hardaloedd. Aeth ymlaen i sôn am sefyllfa'r Cyngor gyda chyllid, a phryder difrifol am y rhagolygon.

Cyfeiriodd hefyd at ei waith fel Cadeirydd y Fforwm Wledig, a oedd yn cynrychioli 9 o awdurdodau lleol Cymru - ac a oedd yn gorff lobio sylweddol. Diolchwyd yn fawr iawn i Dyfrig am droi mewn, ac am ei gyswllt parhaol gyda'r Undeb.

Yn olaf, croesawyd Gareth Parry o Brif Swyddfa'r undeb yn Aberystwyth, ac aeth ymlaen i amlinellu ei swydd, sef i gyfathrebu polisïau'r Undeb i'r aelodau, ac i'w diweddarau gyda newyddion amaeth. Soniodd am ei holl waith gyda'r bwletinâu rheolaidd sy'n cael eu danfon allan. Soniodd hefyd am farchnata gwaith yr Undeb, y wefan newydd, a'r wybodaeth arbennig a fyddai ar gael i aelodau gyda'r cyfrinair arbennig.



*The county's executive committee was held through Zoom at the beginning of August, with a very good turnout.*

*We welcomed Gareth Jones, Regional Manager of the Wool Board, (pictured left), along with Huw Evans, North Wales representative on the Board, and Emlyn Roberts, Meirionnydd representative. A full presentation was given on the position of the sector, with reference firstly to the impact of Covid-19 on the wool market, and in particular the decline in China's demand for wool. The impact of the lockout period on the UK wool market was also outlined. Discussion highlighted the merits of wool as a natural*

*material, and the need for more effective and comprehensive marketing campaigns. We thanked the delegation very much for joining us.*

*We then proceeded to welcome Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn, leader of Gwynedd Council, who joined us to talk about the grants that Gwynedd Council has distributed/administered. He then went on to talk about the virus and its impact, and the dangers that accompany seeing a huge wave of visitors coming to our areas. He went on to talk about the Council's position with funding, and the serious concern about future prospects. He also referred to his work as Chairman of the Rural Forum, which represented 9 local authorities in Wales - which was a significant lobbying body. Dyfrig was thanked for joining us, and for his continued contact with the Union.*

*Finally, we welcomed Gareth Parry from the Union's Head Office in Aberystwyth, who went on to outline his role, which is to communicate the Union's policies to members, and to update them with agricultural news. He mentioned all his work with the regular bulletins that are being sent out. He also mentioned the Union's marketing work, the new website, and the members' only information which is available with a special password.*

## Cyfarfod gyda ffermwyr ardal Llanfrothen

Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod gyda ffermwyr ardal Llanfrothen ynghyd a swyddogion Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ynghanol mis Awst i drafod difrod llyfogydd ar dir amaethyddol, ac i egluro'r gwaith sydd ei angen i wella'r sefyllfa. Trafodwyd yr angen i dorri canghennau a choed sy'n amharu ar lif yr Afon Croesor, yr angen i gryfhau cloddiau, a rhoi sylw brys i ffosydd o fewn yr Ardal Draenio Mewnol.

Cafwyd cyfle hefyd i ymweld a thrafod gwaith sydd ei angen ar yr Afon Ddwryd. Rydym yn diolch i bawb am eu cydweithrediad yn trefnu'r ymweliadau a bydd y gwaith yn parhau o fonitro'r datblygiadau, gan fod hyn o bwysigrwydd mawr i amaethyddiaeth yn yr ardaloedd yma yng Ngogledd Meirionnydd.

*Mid-August a meeting was held between farmers from the Llanfrothen area and Natural Resources Wales officials to discuss flood damage to agricultural land, and to explain the work needed to improve the situation. The need to cut branches and trees that interfere with the flow of the Afon Croesor, the need to strengthen hedgerows, and urgent attention to ditches within the IDD were discussed. There was also an opportunity to visit and discuss the work needed on Afon Ddwryd. We thank everyone for their co-operation in arranging the visits and work will continue to monitor the developments, as this is of great importance to agriculture in these areas of North Meirionnydd.*



Trafodaeth gyda staff Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ger Afon Croesor, o'r chwith, Meirion Evans, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru; aelod FUW Lewis Williams; aelod FUW a Chadeirydd Grŵp Ardal Draenio Mewnol Dwyfor Meirionnydd Glyn Griffiths a Ian Hughston Roberts, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru.



Enghraifft o foncyff coeden sy'n rhwystro llif dŵr mewn ffos o fewn yr Ardal Draenio Mewnol.



Tir fferm o dan ddŵr ger afon Ddwryd, Maentwrog.

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## PEMBROKESHIRE

## Land Transfers and Changes

Please remember that you need to notify RPW of any changes to land within 30 days of the change taking place in order to avoid penalties. A **Manage My Land form** needs to be submitted via RPW Online when you:

- Buy or sell land
- Rent new land in that you have the management control of at May 15
- The boundary of a field is changed on a permanent basis
- A field is amalgamated or divided on a permanent basis
- A field is being registered and mapped for the first time
- The permanent feature area recorded in a field increases or decreases e.g. you put in a new track.

In addition, don't forget that when you buy or sell land, or rent land in or give it up, you need to ensure that the land is added or removed from your CPH number accordingly, by completing a **Manage My CPH form** on RPW Online. If you need any assistance with any of the above please get in touch.

## Dairy Contract Meeting

In August we held a virtual meeting to discuss proposed legislation in relation to dairy contracts. A big thank you to those members who joined us, your input was invaluable in helping us put together the response from the county.





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