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Cofio'r cymeriad unigryw - Dai Jones Llanilar

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Impacts of the Russian war on Ukraine discussed with Minister



REPRESENTATIVES of the FFW have had a constructive meeting with Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd Lesley Griffiths to highlight and discuss actions the Welsh Government could take to mitigate the impacts of the Russian war on Ukraine.

Speaking after the meeting, FFW President Glyn Roberts, (pictured left), said: "The FFW wrote to the Minister on March 4 highlighting the impacts of the war and to ask for an emergency roundtable meeting with stakeholders to be arranged.

"The war is having and will continue to have major impacts on our food supply chains and input costs. The UK relies on Ukraine and Russia for around thirty per cent of its maize as well as a number of other ingredients used for animal feed, and fertiliser is now hitting around a thousand pounds per tonne.

"The real impacts will not be felt in the UK for months as Welsh and global food production falls due to shortages and unaffordable input prices."

While the actions the Welsh government can take to mitigate such impacts are limited, maximising crop and fodder production in Wales this year will be crucial for the 2022-23 winter and well into 2023 and beyond.

"With this in mind and following successful meetings during the recent Welsh Labour Party Conference, we proposed that the framework of the Welsh Agriculture Bill needs to be flexible enough to allow changes in response to global events such as this, and for food production to be considered as a public good given concerns over food security.

"Furthermore, we asked the Minister to consider derogations for Glastir scheme rules to help mitigate impacts."

The FFW also once again highlighted the need to review the Water Resources 'NVZ' regulations in order to allow Welsh farmers to increase their fodder production this year and take account of the escalating costs of construction.

"We also called on the Welsh Government to lobby the UK Government to reduce VAT on fuel and fulfil its commitment to cut tariffs on imports of grain from the USA to substitute Ukrainian and Russian imports - as well as tariffs on other important materials such as steel.

"We'd like to thank the Minister for her time and constructive engagement during the meeting," he said.

Australia trade deal concerns

THE FFW has repeated its concerns about the current Australia trade deal and its impacts on UK agriculture when giving evidence to the Welsh Senedd's Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee.

Speaking at the evidence session, FFW Senior Policy and Communications Officer Gareth Parry, (pictured right), said: "There's a natural concern that the full liberalisation of the trading of agricultural goods does risk the displacement of Welsh and UK food production."

Mr Parry told the committee that although the UK Government impact assessment implies an estimated loss of gross output for Wales's beef and sheep sectors of £29 million, this needs to be considered in the context that the UK-Australia deal is likely to set a precedent for future trade deals.

"The cumulative effect that we would expect from trade deals with countries such as New Zealand and others within the CPTPP means that that £29 million then becomes much greater, in the longer term at least."

Mr Parry further highlighted that there's also the potential for trade deals such as this to impose further barriers on UK exports to the EU, particularly when considering the differences in production standards between the UK and Australia.

"Although a number of UK products enter niche and specialist high-end markets, we need to be realistic and consider how important mainstream commodity markets are. Even for those producers who aim for such high-end markets, there will always be a proportion of those products or carcasses that enter mainstream markets, such as our red meat export market in the EU."



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FUW UPDATE

Inflation and a changed world

by Guto Bebb, FUW Group Managing Director

NOT many politicians are remembered let alone for anything they actually said but there are exceptions not least the response of Prime Minister Harold Macmillan when he was asked what was the greatest challenge faced by a statesman - "*events dear boy, events*" came the reply.

His comments have resonated with me over recent weeks as the terrible scenes from Ukraine have dominated our television screens. I have no doubt that FUW members would want to extend their sympathies to the people of Ukraine as they struggle against a military attack from a neighbour and from the impact of that attack on basic human rights such as shelter, heating, food and clean water supplies.

The longer this harsh war continues the greater the humanitarian crisis that we will face and whilst world leaders debate how they should support the Ukrainian Government it's been uplifting to see the willingness of ordinary people in Wales, the UK and Europe to simply help the people of Ukraine who have been displaced by War.

I'm pleased that the FUW and FUW Insurance Services have decided to support the efforts of Bryn Fôn and others in an effort to raise funds for humanitarian support for the Ukraine with a music festival on Saturday April 9 at the Mona Show Ground in Ynys Môn. As always, when there is a need for practical support to help those in need the Welsh agricultural community is ready and willing to help.

Turning back to Macmillan it's worth noting that over the past few weeks the FUW have attended both the Welsh Labour and Plaid Cymru spring conferences and we will also attend the Welsh Conservative Conference in May.

From the two conferences attended it's apparent that the events in Ukraine are, at least for now, making people question some of their assumptions about food security. I do not need to explain the impact of current inflation rates to *Y Tir* readers but it's fair to say that most farmers would be delighted if inflation rates on input costs were running at only 7%.

What was a crisis in the making well before Putin decided to gamble with the lives of others is fast becoming a reality check for many UK politicians who have been of the view that UK public policy should not be concerned about food security. That is now looking, at best, a misguided view.

Since the Brexit vote there has been a real urgency within DEFRA, supported by

many politicians who should have known better, to move agricultural support from encouraging high quality food production to the funding of 'public goods'.

As readers will know, these policy priorities do not, bizarrely, see food as a public good. And yet, all of a sudden food inflation, fertilizer shortages and even potential animal feed shortages are focusing the minds of those who, until recently, were happy to repeat the assumptions of those who appear more concerned with fighting the CAP as it existed in the late 1980's rather than trying to create a farming support structure for the 2020's and 2030's.

So, has anything actually changed? I think there are some early indicators that some politicians are starting to question their assumptions.

At a time of increasing world tensions, with energy prices and food staples showing significant inflationary pressures, is there a need to think again on whether producing food is actually a public good rather than a side-issue to the environmental schemes pursued by the Westminster Government and originally the basis for the Wales Agricultural White Paper?

Whilst the new agricultural support scheme in England, with its disdain for food production, is undoubtedly creating challenges to farmers on the other side of Offa's Dyke, we still have a few weeks left to influence the direction of travel here in Wales. What I heard at both the Labour and Plaid conference was the sound of some of our elected politicians here in Wales finally realising that food production is a reasonable core part of any future farming strategy for Wales.

If the 'events' in Ukraine and the global fuel crisis leads to some politicians re-thinking their priorities then I will applaud such a change. After all, a politician willing to think again as the facts change is a politician worthy of respect.



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Mr Parry said that inherent to an increase in food imports as a result of this deal would also be a reduction in the UK's food security, either through the displacement of our UK production or through an increased reliance on food produced thousands of miles away, and that the UK Government's own figures confirmed this was likely.

Drawing attention to the timescale of potential impacts, Mr Parry stressed: "If we look over the last ten years, we've seen much lower prices for beef and sheep in Australia, and that's been evident in how much Australia has filled their quotas in the past. Australia is currently relying heavily on the Chinese market, and there's always the potential for that market to close overnight. So, although we may not see these potential impacts in the near future, there is of course the likelihood of those impacts being harder felt in the long term," he said.

Mr Parry further added: "There's been a big focus

and a lot of effort going into signing trade deals such as this one with Australia since we left the EU, rather than improving and making the current UK-EU trade deal more efficient.

"We have seen a 25% reduction in our sheep meat exports to the EU since the introduction of post-Brexit checks and bureaucracy at borders, so there are obviously improvements to be made in terms of our current trading arrangements with the EU, which we mustn't forget is our biggest export market for UK red meat."

Mr Parry additionally stressed that the UK and Welsh Governments need to postpone the introduction of any additional red tape that could further undermine the agricultural industry at home.

"Additional red tape in any form, whether it's livestock transport regulations, the NVZ regulations, or anything else that would put our producers at a further disadvantage compared to our competitors in countries such as Australia, has to be avoided," he added.

"There's been a big focus and a lot of effort going into signing trade deals such as this one with Australia since we left the EU, rather than improving and making the current UK-EU trade deal more efficient."



Cysylltwch â ni / Get in touch

Golygydd/Editor: Nia Davies-Jones - ytir@fuw.org.uk

Pennaeth Cyfathrebu/Head of Communications (dros gyfnod mamolaeth/maternity cover):
Carwen Davies - carwen.davies@fuw.org.uk

Pennaeth Marchnata/Head of Marketing: Meryl Roberts - meryl.roberts@fuw.org.uk

Cydllynydd Marchnata/Marketing Coordinator: Angharad Thomas -
angharad.thomas@fuw.org.uk

Swyddog Cyfathrebu'r Iaith Gymraeg/Welsh Language Communications Officer:
Angharad Evans - angharad.evans@fuw.org.uk

www.fuw.org.uk



Importance of maintaining our food security

by Glyn Roberts, FUW President

IN documents submitted to successive governments over the decades, the FUW has highlighted the importance of maintaining our food security given how rapidly matters can change on the global stage.

Prior to the covid-19 pandemic, the last extreme shock to global food supplies came in 2007 and 2008, when collapses in harvests around the world led to food shortages and massive increases in prices - causing political and economic instability and social unrest in poor and developed nations alike, catalysing the bloody revolutions now known as the Arab Spring.

While the relatively mild nature of the covid-19 virus (compared with other more deadly types of coronavirus) meant it caused far less disruption to global food supplies than might otherwise have been the case, the pandemic came as a reminder of how it is not just crop failures that can rock global food supplies, and how important food security is.

But clearly not for our own UK Government, which spent much of the pandemic negotiating trade deals with major food producing countries such as New Zealand and Australia - deals that its own analyses make clear will undermine UK production and increase our reliance on food imports.

Aside from water, food is the most essential commodity required for life, but our modern lives also depend on fuel - not only for essentials such as heating and electricity, but also to transport food and - in terms of gas - to make the fertiliser that ensures harvests are sufficient to feed our nations and the world.

The FUW has repeatedly highlighted the parallel between our reliance on Russian gas and the dangers of increasing our reliance on imported food, yet with ironic timing the UK Government signed its trade deal with Australia in December, at a time when it was also negotiating a deal with CF Fertilisers' Billingham plant to allow it to continue production while global gas prices remained so high.



Two months on, the announcement of a UK trade deal with New Zealand came just four days after Russia's move to invade Ukraine, meaning we now have a war between two countries that between them provide around 30% of the world's wheat and some 30% of the UK's maize, as well as being major suppliers of many other important foods and feeds.

Russia's action led to an almost immediate £20 per tonne increase in the UK's May 2022 feed wheat futures price, and by March 7 it had risen by more than 30% compared with before the war - a figure which had not changed when *Y Tir* went to print.

While the horrific actions of Russia, their impacts on people in the Ukraine and the dangers to world peace are rightly at the forefront of minds, it is also essential that our governments take actions to bolster us against a tsunami of impacts, not least in terms of our food production, given how input prices and shortages that were already unsustainable have now gone off the scale.

Whilst the UK Government seems hell-bent on making us more vulnerable to such impacts by signing liberal trade deals that will undermine UK farmers and food producers, the Welsh Government also has a role to play in ensuring that the Welsh policies for which it is responsible take account of current and possible future events on the global stage.

In terms of current events, I wrote to Rural Affairs Minister Lesley Griffiths in early March asking for urgent meetings to take place with farming organisations and others involved in the supply chain, to identify what actions are possible to protect our farms and food production against the knock-on effects of the war - and I sincerely hope my further calls to host such discussions in a face-to-face meeting with Lesley Griffiths in mid March will have led to some action by the time you read this column.

But in the longer term, whatever the outcome of the crisis in the Ukraine, the Welsh

"The pandemic came as a reminder of how it is not just crop failures that can rock global food supplies, and how important food security is."

Government must ensure that its plans in terms of Welsh policies are outward looking and future-proof, taking account of the volatility that can suddenly affect global markets and food production and availability - whether in terms of it's all-Wales NVZ, proposed TB regulations or the Agriculture Bill and Sustainable Farming Scheme.

Such policies should ensure that Wales' family farms continue to be important producers of top quality food for populations in the UK and further afield, as we have been for hundreds of years.

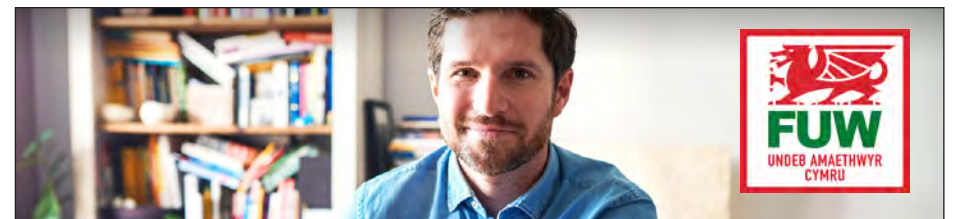
However, it is also essential that the value and quality of Welsh food is reflected in the buying policies of our Welsh local authorities.

With such local procurement policies a focus of the Labour-Plaid Cymru agreement, it is essential that candidates in the forthcoming Local Authority elections are quizzed and held to account regarding supporting Welsh produce.

But we should also recognise that supplying Wales alone can never support more than a tiny proportion of our farming industry, because our population is so small.

As a final thought this month, personally and on behalf of the FUW, I'd like to express my deep condolences to the family of Dai Jones Llanilar, who passed away at the start of March. He was a man of the people and one who has contributed immensely to agriculture and the countryside, as well as selling the values of the countryside to the people. He was an icon of Welsh farming that few have come close to, and will be sorely missed.

Mae'r golofn yma yn Gymraeg ar dudalen 15: "Pwysigrwydd diogelu'n cyflenwad bwyd."



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Cofio Tywysog Cefn gwlad - Dai Jones, Llanilar

Er gwaethaf yr haul braf ar ddydd Gwener cyntaf mis Mawrth, gorchuddiwyd Cymru gan gwmni du wrth i'r newyddion trist dorri am farwolaeth Dai Jones, Llanilar. Ac yntau'n 78 mlwydd oed, cyfrannodd oes o wasanaeth, i'w gymuned leol yn Llanilar a'r cyffiniau, i Geredigion, i Gymru ac yn wir yn rhyngwladol.

Roedd yn berson hynod o gymdeithasol ac yn ddydd y bobl - ni fyddai dim yn rhoi mwy o bleser iddo na chael sgwrs gyda hwn a'r llall, ac yn trin pawb gyda'r un parch ac anwylydeb - dyna beth oedd yn gwneud Dai'n unigryw.

Mae'r diwydiant amaethyddol wedi colli llysgennad angerddol, gwych a gwreiddiol, a fyddai bob amser yn sicrhau bod ffermio yn rhan o bob sgwrs, boed hynny'n sgwrs gyda chymydog neu un o lefelau uchaf y llywodraeth. Fel Undeb, cydymdeimlwn yn fawr a'i briod Olwen, ei fab John a'r teulu i gyd.

Hoffwn rannu rhai o'n teyrngedau ni i Dai, a diolch i'r nifer sydd wedi cyfrannu'i hatgofion personol nhw o Dai Llanilar.

Glyn Roberts, Llywydd UAC

Gan fod cymaint wedi ei ddweud am Dai eisoes mae'n anodd gwybod beth i'w ddweud, am yr enwog Dai Llanilar. Yn sicr roedd wedi cyflawni llawer, yn eu maysg roedd yn ddiddanwr, canwr, dyn cŵn defaid, ffarmwr, ond i mi ei ddawn fwyaf oedd ei fod yn ddydd pobl a meddu ar ryw allu naturiol o gael pawb yn ei gwmi i ymlacio ac i deimlo'n gysurus.

Rwy'n cofio iddo fo ddweud wrthyf un tro pan fyddai yn trafieilio o amgylch Cymru, er yn mwynhau'r golygfeydd, y peth fwya' fyddde'n mynd drwy ei feddwl oedd ... tybed beth fyddai hwn ar llall yn ei wneud heddiw. Roedd yn nabod cynifer o bobl wrth deithio'r wlad, ia dyn pobl oedd Dai yn benodol.

I ni, yn y diwydiant amaeth, ei fawredd oedd ei allu i argyhoeddi cynulleidfau ehangach o'r gwerthoedd a'n ffordd o fyw yng nghefn gwlad Cymru, roedd yn wir Lysgennad i godi proffil ein diwydiant, a gyda dawn i gyd-berthnasu a'r werin a gwrêng.

Ar ambell i raglen gwelir elfen braidd yn drwsyl yn cael ei amlgygu! Ond, yn bendant ychwanega hyn at ddifyrrwch y rhaglen a Dai yn ymateb yn ei ffordd ddihafal ei hun.

Anghofia i na Beca y croeso twymgalon a gawsom yn Berthlwyd gan Dai ag Olwen, a bydd hyn yn para yn ein cof am byth. Mae cymaint o bobl Cymru a thu hwnt wedi mynd dros drothwy drws Berthlwyd ac wedi cael croeso tywysogaidd, tra bod Olwen yn porthi gydag ymborth bendigedig byddai Dai yn

porthi'n eiriol. Byddai blas bendigedig ac unigryw ar y bwyd a'r sgwrs.

Fel y gellwch ddychmygu, cafodd Dai gynhebrwng teilwng iawn gyda Chapel Carmel a phentref Llanilar yn orlawn o bobl. Roedd y gwasanaeth yn adlewyrchiad cyflawn o bwy oedd Dai ac yn ddathliad o'i fywyd, cafodd y defosiwn ei arwain yn afaelgar gan y Parchedig John Gwilym Jones, mor wir y cyfeiriodd at y tair teyrnged fel tri dimensiwn o fywyd Dai.

Charles Arch yn ffrind personol iddo ers hanner can mlynedd a'n bod wedi colli rhywbeth yng Nghymru heddiw na welwn i byth mohono eto.

Huw Tudor yn cyfeirio ato fel ffrind arbennig i'w deulu yn enwedig mewn cyfnod o gyfyngder, ac yn cyfeirio ato fel Tywysog Cefn gwlad.

Beti Griffiths yn sôn am y pwysigrwydd o'r graig y naddwyd Dai ohoni a hyn yn dylanwadu ar ei gymeriad a'i ddyfalbarhad a chyffelybu hyn "a pha beth bynnag a wnêl efe a lwydda" Salm 1af adnod 3.

Rwy'n credu bod Manon Steffan Ross, yn *Golwg* wedi dweud y cwbl, "Diolch i Dai, mae Cymru'n adnabod ei hun yn well".

Dai

*Dai'r ardal hyd y dalar, - Dai â'i lais
Hyd y wlad, Dai'r cymar,
Dai frenin ei werin wâr...
Llawn o hwyl yw Llanilar.*

Tudur Dylan Jones



Elin Jones AS Ceredigion

Mi chwaraeodd Dai Llanilar dwy rôl hollbwysig wrth hyrwyddo amaethyddiaeth Cymru - mi oedd yn gronicyldd i newidiadau cymdeithasol amaeth ac yn bencampwr dros y ffordd wledig o fyw. Fel cronicyldd, mi ddefnyddiodd ei raglen Cefn Gwlad i ddal ar ffilm y cymeriadau hynny oedd yn byw yn negawdau olaf yr 20fed ganrif - y rhai na chafodd eu dylanwadu gan yr oes ddigidol, y cymeriadau naturiol hynny. Mi roiodd Dai Llanilar y cyfle iddynt adrodd eu stori ac mae hynny yn drysor gwerthfawr ar gof a chadw i'r genedl i'r dyfodol. Ffordd o fyw nad yw bellach yn bod.

Ond, i fi, fel pencampwr cefn gwlad y byddaf yn diolch yn bennaf i Dai Llanilar. Pob cyfle y cawsai, mi fyddai yn dadlau achos y ffermwr, yn enwedig y rhai ifanc. Mi fyddai yn cymryd pob cyfle i sôn wrth bawb am bwysigrwydd y fferm deuluoel i Gymru a'r Gymraeg. Ac mi fyddai yn barod i rannu ei farn gydag unrhywun mewn awdurdod - doedd dim dal nôl arno!

Mi oedd Dai yn gallu siarad gyda phawb ac yn trin pawb yr un fath. Mi oedd yn tynnu fy nghoes i drwy ddweud mod i yn werth fy nghefnogi gan iddo fe gael pris da am loi gan fy nhad-cu Tim Moelfre ym mart Tregaron unwaith! Pobol a pherthyn oedd yn bwysig i Dai - a gwreiddiau. Diolch iddo am oes o wasanaeth i fywyd amaethyddol Cymru.

Emyr Jones, cyn-Lywydd UAC

Aeth ton o dristwch trwy Gymru benbaladr pan ddaeth y newyddion am farwolaeth Dai Jones Llanilar ar Fawrth 4ydd eleni gyda llawer un, wrth glywed am y golled, yn teimlo bod darn o gefn gwlad Cymru wedi diflannu am byth. Roedd Dai yn gymeriad unigryw a ffraeth, yn ŵr bonheddig ac uchel iawn ei barch.

Rwy'n cofio'r adeg pan ddaeth Dai a chriw rhaglen Cefn Gwlad acw i Riwaedog i ffilmio rhai blynyddoedd yn ôl - pawb ohonom ar bigau'r drain ac yn ofni'r gwaethaf, ond buan iawn yr anghofiwyd am y camerâu a hynny oherwydd cynhesrwydd Dai a'i ddawn naturiol i fedru tynnu'r gorau allan o bobl.

Roedd cyfraniad Dai i Gymru, i gefn gwlad ac i amaethyddiaeth yn amhrisiadwy, ac os bu llysgennad dros Gymru ryw dro, Dai oedd hwnnw, ac ni welwn fyth mo'i debyg. Fe gofiaf amdano fel ffrind a chymwynaswr heb ei ail, roedd bob amser yn bleser cael bod yn ei gwmi a braint oedd cael ei adnabod.



Alun Elidyr, Cae Coch, Cyflwynydd Ffermio

Roedd Dai Jones, Llanilar yn berson hollol unigryw. Ble bynnag ewch chi yng nghefn gwlad Cymru, mi fydd gan bobl stori gadarnhaol amdano oherwydd ei bersonoliaeth agored, ffraeth, a'i allu rhagorol i drin pawb yr un fath.

Yn fy nghartref i, roedd wastad angen ceisio dal rhaglen Sion a Sian, i glywed pa gân fyddai gan Dai ar y diwedd, ac yn ddiweddarach, Cefn Gwlad oedd conglfaen darpariaeth gwyllo fy rhieni ar S4C, a diwedd pob haf, wrth ddychwelyd o ornestau cneifio gwellaif hwnt ag yma, mi fyddai nhad a straeon hwyliog am dynnu coes a direidi Dai Llanilar. Roedd o ymhobman ble roedd diwylliant gwledig yn llewyrchus, ac yn dyrchafu statws y digwyddiadau hynny.

Mi ddois i i'w nabod pan ddaeth ataf fi mewn arwerthiant Gwartheg Duon ym mart Dolgellau, finnau newydd gymryd yr awenau yng Nghaecoeh yn dilyn marwolaeth ddisymwth fy nhad. "Ga'i ddod acw i ffilmio dipyn o dy hanes di 'rhen hogyn?", oedd ei gwestiwn. "A chroeso", meddwn innau, ac fe drefnwyd tridiau ar gyfer Cefn Gwlad fis Mehefin. Roedd y sgwrs mor rhwydd, ar ôl diwrnod, roedd deunydd y rhaglen "yn y can!" A'r adeg hynny sylweddolais i mor alluog oedd o ym

maes adloniant. Ar ddiwedd y rhaglen aethon ni ati i gneifio 'chydig o hyrddod, a Dai oedd i roi'r E las fel nod ar ochr yr hwrdd gorffenedig. Wel, mi gododd yr hwrdd a throtian allan gyda'r rhif 3 mewn glas ar ei benol a phawb yn ei dyblau a finna'n diawlio!

Ymhen 'chydig fisoedd, daeth gwahoddiad gan Lowri Gwilym, comisiynydd rhaglen Ffermio i mi fod yn un o gyflwynwyr y gyfres, ac mi wyddwn yn iawn mai i Dai roedd y diolch. Ond yr hyn a seliodd fy mharch ato oedd ar ôl y cyfarfyddiad sydyn cynta hwnnw, mi fyddai wastad yn holi am fy mam. Dyn fel yna oedd o, roedd ganddo gof eithriadol, ac mi fyddai'n gallu ailafael mewn sgwrs yn hollol rugl ar ôl gofod o flynyddoedd. Pobl, a'i hanes oedd ei bethau.

Oherwydd hynny, roedd yr un mor gartrefol ac uchel ei barch mewn arwerthiant gwartheg Limousin yn Ffrainc, ag yr oedd yn un o'i hoff lefydd, maes y Sioe Fawr yn Llanellwedd, a hyd yn oed yno, byddai ffermwyr o'r Alban i Gernyw yn awchu i'w gyfarch, a bob tro mi fydda Dai'n eu gadael a gwên ar eu hwynebau. Does dim dwywaith iddo osod Cymru ar y map ble bynnag y bu, ac mae darlledu Cymreig wedi cael bendith fawr o'i allu rhagorol i ddathlu bywydau gwladwyr cyffredin, ac mae'n gadael gwaddol cyfoethog ar ei ôl. Diolch amdano.



Dai Jones gyda Yr Arglwydd Elystan Morgan.

Nicola Davies, Cadeirydd y Cyngor, CAFC

Roedd Dai Jones yn llais i gefn gwlad ac yn ymgorfforiad o'r hiwmor, agosatrydd a thalent y bu i'r Cymry a phobl y tu hwnt i'w ffiniau ei werthfawrogi a'i fwynhau am flynyddoedd.

Heb os bydd gan bobl y Sioe eu hatgofion lu ohono ac roedd yn adnabyddus i holl arddangoswyr, o bedwar ban y byd. Bu'n Llywydd ar y Sioe yn 2010 adeg Sioe'r Cardis ac anodd oedd iddo ef ac Olwen fynd unrhyw le yn gyflym am fod pawb am siarad â hwy!

Roedd y Sioe yn ei waed a chystadleuaeth y Tîm o bump yng nghylch y gwartheg yn un o'i hoff gystadlaethau gan iddo nid yn unig sylwebu ar y gystadleuaeth ond ei beirniadu hefyd.

Gwelwyd ei wyneb a chlywyd ei lais yn darlledu o faes y Sioe a chylch y Ffair Aeaf am dros 40 mlynedd ac nid oedd yn syndod iddo ennill un o wobrau mwyaf y Sioe sef Tlws Goffa Sir Bryner Jones. Nid oedd yn unrhyw syndod iddo dderbyn ei MBE am ei wasanaeth i gefn gwlad a ffermio drwy'r cyfryngau.

Er na fyddwn yn clywed ei lais mwyach dros yr awyr bydd gan bob un ohonom atgofion penodol ohono. Bydd ei gyfraniad i fywyd cefn gwlad heb ei ail.

Peter Roberts, past Y Tir Editor

Dai Jones Llanilar was a Welsh farming and broadcasting legend in the same league as Welsh rugby legend and broadcaster Ray Gravell.

On his "milltir sgwar" Dai was a champion of the village show and local sheepdog trials and Eisteddfod. Yet throughout the world he constantly championed Welsh farming and culture in all its various forms.

I first met him 50 years ago, soon after I moved to Llanilar, when he knocked on our door with Elystan Morgan and asked us to support Ceredigion's former MP in the forthcoming general election. Ever since then, when I told someone I lived in Llanilar, I was invariably asked: Do you know Dai Jones? I was always proud to say I did. But to those living in the village he was affectionately and simply known as Dai Berthlwyd.

He will be long remembered as the energetic man who helped run the annual show and all things to do with the village's farming and cultural life.

Gareth Vaughan - cyn-Lywydd UAC

Roeddwn wedi mwynhau gwyllo Dai Jones ers blynyddoedd ond erioed wedi ei gyfarfod nes i mi gael galwad ffôn oddi wrtho yn dweud ei fod eisiau dod i'n ngweld ar y fferm ar gyfer rhaglen Cefn Gwlad - fe ei hun oedd yn ffonio, nid rhywun arall o'r tîm.

Mi ddaeth y criw ffilmio i'r fferm, ac er bod yr ardal yn ddi-Gymraeg, mi ffitiodd Dai i mewn yn dda iawn. Roeddwn yn teimlo'n bryderus am wneud rhaglen hanner awr gyda'r dyn pwysig yma ond mi aeth yr amser yn gyflym iawn. Fuodd Dai o gwmpas y fferm, yn y pentref ac i ymweld â'r ysgol fach lle'r oedd y plant wedi dysgu caneuon Cymraeg ar ei gyfer, roedd Dai wrth ei fodd gyda hyn, roedd pawb yn mwynhau ei gwmmi, y plant a'r athrawon.

Dyn y bobl yn amlwg oedd Dai a chefn gwlad yn bwysig iawn iddo, amaethwr cyffredin. Roedd yn ddyn hwylus ac yn hawdd sgwrsio gyda, ond peidiwch â meddwl ei fod yn 'pushover' - dim o gwbl!

Cofiaf y fraint o dreulio tri diwrnod yn ei gwmmi, person hoffus, diddorol, gwrandawr da ac yn gwneud pawb i deimlo'n gartrefol, gan drin pawb yr un peth.

Campaigners and Unions take on myths around meat consumption

CAMPAIGNERS have been taking on some of the myths around meat consumption to highlight how producing and eating Welsh red meat sustainably can be part of the solution to tackling climate change.

The Countryside Alliance, Farmers' Union of Wales, NFU Cymru, The Association of Independent Meat Suppliers, Tenant Farmers Association and The National Sheep Association Wales are backing a campaign from Hybu Cig Cymru (HCC) arguing that we don't have to turn vegan if we want to do our bit for the planet. Through careful land management and low-intensity farming methods, red meat can be produced, and eaten, in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way.

The campaign, which includes a video, informational website, and social media awareness raising makes clear there is a huge difference between sustainable red meat produced in parts of the UK and the high-carbon, high-intensity and processed options seen elsewhere in the world

The campaign, which includes a video, informational website, and social media awareness raising makes clear there is a huge difference between sustainable red meat produced in parts of the UK and the high-carbon, high-intensity and processed options seen elsewhere in the world

intensity and processed options seen elsewhere in the world, with the former being #ACutAbove.

Wales is one of the most sustainable places on Earth to produce red meat. It is low-intensity and the grasslands used for grazing act as carbon stores. Over one third of farm emissions are offset through existing on-farm carbon sinks such as grassland, hedgerows and trees, while the grasslands which make up most of the Welsh agricultural land, sequester twice as much carbon as croplands. That means around 318 million kg of carbon is taken out of the atmosphere every year thanks to Welsh farming.

It produces significantly fewer greenhouse gases than other systems around the world, and relies overwhelmingly on abundant grass and rainfall rather than energy-intensive imported feed. 80% of Welsh farmland is unsuited for uses other than raising livestock. Welsh beef's carbon footprint (11-16kg of CO2 per kg) is less than half compared to global average figures (37kg CO2 per kg).

This means we shouldn't just 'offshore' our emissions: supporting livestock production in the UK avoids consumer demand for red meat being met by additional imports, which would drive up global emissions by sourcing from countries with less sustainable farming practices.

The campaign comes ahead of the publication of the Government's long-awaited white paper response to Henry Dimbleby's National Food Strategy, and follows the IPPC report setting out the scale of the climate crisis.



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CORNEL CLECS

Y llon a'r lleddf mewn un mis

gan Angharad Evans, Swyddog Cyfathrebu'r Iaith Gymraeg

Ni fyddai'n bosib ysgrifennu Cornel Clecs y mis hwn heb gyfeirio at Dai Llanilar, (**gweler isod**). Fel un o blant yr 80au, gwyllo Cefn Gwlad ar S4C fyddai'r hanner awr euraidd bob wythnos. Sicrhau bod swper wedi gorffen, a fiw i neb ffonio adeg Cefn Gwlad, byddai'r ffôn yn cael ei gadael i ganu!

Un o'r troeon diwethaf i mi weld Dai oedd mewn maes parcio yn Aberystwyth cyn cyfnod Covid. Roedd yn eistedd yn y *Discovery* yn aros i Olwen ddychwelyd o siopa, ac er nad oeddwn wedi ei weld ers tro cyn hynny, wyddech chi byth o hynny, oherwydd roedd y sgwrs mor ffres a petai ni wedi gweld ein gilydd y diwrnod cyn hynny.

Un o rinweddau anwyllaf Dai oedd wastad gofyn am y teulu, ac am eiliad byddech yn anghofio eich bod yn siarad ag un o gewri byd darlledu Cymru. Diolch Dai am fod yn ffrind i bawb ac am sicrhau bod ffermio a chefn gwlad wastad yn cael y sylw cyntaf, hyrwyddwr cefn gwlad heb ei ail, dim ond un Dai Llanilar fydd.



Rhydian Meilir Pughe (chwith) gyda Ryland Teifi yn dathlu'r fuddugoliaeth.



Mae'n ddi-ddorol darllen teyrnged Elin Jones AS Ceredigion i Dai ar dudalen 4 wrth iddi gyfeirio at y ffordd y byddai Dai'n dadlau achos y ffermwr, yn enwedig y rhai ifanc, ac ymfalchïai Dai yn llwyddiannau bobl ifanc gyda balchder mawr.

Ar y penwythnos pan fu farw Dai, cynhaliwyd y gystadleuaeth Cân i Gymru, ac mae'n briodol tu hwnt mae mab fferm o Sir Drefaldwyn oedd enillydd haeddiannol eleni.

Mae'r ymadrodd 'Dyfal donc a dyr y garreg' yn hollol wir i Rhydian Meilir Pughe o Gemaes gan iddo gystadlu a chyrraedd rhestr fer y gystadleuaeth yn 2012, 2019 a 2020, ond 2022 oedd blwyddyn Rhydian wrth i'w gân, a berfformiwyd ar y noson gan Ryland Teifi 'Mae Yna Le' ddod i'r brig.

Gyda Rhydian yn gyn aelod o staff UAC a'i rieni yn aelodau ffyddlon o'r Undeb, mae'n bleser gan Gornel Clecs longyfarch Rhydian ar ei lwyddiant a gofyn iddo sut brofiad oedd cystadlu ac ennill cystadleuaeth gerddorol mor bwysig.

"Mae ennill Cân i Gymru i mi yn ganlyniad o'r lluo o brofiadau diwylliannol yr wyf wedi eu cael o fyw yn fy Mro - Bro Ddyfi," esbonia Rhydian.

"O fod yn rhan o bartion a chorau, a pherfformio ar lwyfan yn ysgol Gynradd Glantwymyn, yn ogystal ag ysgol Uwchradd Bro Ddyfi (Ysgol Bro Hyddgen bellach), ac yn hwyrach, gydag Aelwyd Bro Ddyfi.

"Fel cyn-aelod o Glwb Ffermwrwr Ifanc Bro

Ddyfi hefyd, dwi'n ddiolchgar iddyn nhw hefyd am yr holl brofiadau dwi wedi eu cael efo nhw dros y blynyddoedd. Bum yn ddigon lwcus i ennill cadair yn Eisteddfod y Sir, Llanidloes nôl yn 2011 am ysgrifennu cerdd. Rwyf wastad wedi ymddiddori mewn grym a chynildeb geiriau, ac ysgrifennu'n greadigol, boed yn gerddi, neu yn eiriau/lyrics i ganeuon yr ydw i'n eu cyfansoddi.

"Mae profiadau eraill drwy'r ffermwrwr ifanc yn cynnwys trefnu a chwarae mewn bandiau ar gyfer cystadlaethau hanner awr adloniant a pantomeims dros y blynyddoedd, yn ogystal â chyfansoddi caneuon ar eu cyfer, a pherfformio a bod yn rhan o gorau a phartion canu. Yr holl brofiadau yma yn cyfrannu at fy natblygiad cerddorol, ac at gyrraedd fy uchafbwynt diweddaraf o ennill cystadleuaeth Cân i Gymru 2022.

"Cefais fy ysbyrdoli gan lecyn tawel ar y ffarm ddefaid teuluol yng Nghemaes i ysgrifennu'r gân. Hwn yw hoff le'r defaid hefyd i gysgodi pan fydd tywydd mawr!!

"Cân ydi hi yn sôn am yr 'hoff le' sydd gen i, a phawb arall dwi'n siŵr, ac am y pwysigrwydd o lonyddu bob yn hyn a hyn ynghanol bwrlwm a phrysurddeb bywyd.

"Yn ddiweddar hefyd, ces y fraint a'r her o ysgrifennu arwyddgan newydd o'r enw 'Byw i'r Dydd' i'r elusen 'Nerth dy Ben' sy'n gofalu am iechyd meddwl yn y byd amaeth yng Nghymru.

"Fel mab fferm fy hun, teimlaf ei bod yn hollbwysig codi ymwybyddiaeth am iechyd meddwl ym myd Amaeth, ac er mor ffodus yden ni fel ffermwrwr i gael byw a gweithio tu allan ynghanol tirwedd tlws cefn gwlad, mae oriau hir a blinedig allan yn yr awyr iach yn gallu bod yn unig iawn i lawer, yn enwedig pan fo'r ysbryd yn isel."

Longyfarchiadau mawr i ti Rhydian a diolch am rannu'r ysbryddiaeth tu ôl i'r gân fuddugol. Mae'n braf gweld cymaint o ddylanwad mae cefn gwlad ac amaethyddiaeth yn ei gael ar bobl ifanc sy'n arwain at gyflawniadau mawr fel un Rhydian yn ddiweddar.

This column is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "The joy and sadness of one month."



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Ymwadiad SAF disclaimer 2022



Fel rhan o becyn aelodaeth pob aelod o'r Undeb, rydym ar gael i'ch cynorthwyo i gwblhau eich Ffurflen Cais Sengl (SAF) 2022. Er mwyn ein caniatáu i gyflwyno eich cais bydd angen i chi ddarllen a chytuno i'r ymwadiad isod (yn berthnasol i apwyntiadau dros y ffôn). Bydd staff yr Undeb yn egluro i chi sut byddwn yn cofnodi eich cadarnhad.

As a part of your membership package of the Union we offer assistance with your Single Application Form (SAF) 2022. In order to submit your claim we will need you to read and agree to the disclaimer below (this applies to phone appointments). Your local FUW staff will be in touch with details on how we record this confirmation.

Ffurflen Ymwadiad SAF 2022 (dros y ffôn)

Rydw i/Rydym ni.....(Enwau)

O.....

.....(Cyfeiriad)

Drwy hyn yn cadarnhau ac yn datgan bod:

- Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru (UAC) wedi esbonio i fi/ni na fydd yn derbyn unrhyw gyfrifoldeb o ran ei hun neu unrhyw aelodau o'i staff (drwy'r gyflogaeth) boed mewn cytundeb, camwedd (gan gynnwys esgeulustod) neu fel arall mewn cysylltiad â'r broses o gwblhau fy/ein ffurflen cais sengl.
- Deallaf mai fy/ein cyfrifoldeb ni yw darparu gwybodaeth lawn a chywir yn ôl y gofyn er mwyn cwblhau'r ffurflenni sydd o dan sylw ac ni fydd UAC yn derbyn unrhyw gyfrifoldeb am wybodaeth anghywir a roddir.
- Deallaf bod UAC yn gallu cynorthwyo gyda chwblhau a chyflwyno y ffurflenni.
- Fy nghyfrifoldeb i/ni yw edrych dros y ffurflen sydd wedi ei chyflwyno a sicrhau ei bod hi'n gywir ar ôl ei chyflwyno ar-lein i Lywodraeth Cymru.
- Unwaith mae'r ffurflen wedi ei chwblhau ac wedi ei chyflwyno rydw i/ni yn cadarnhau ein bod yn ymwybodol bod cyfnod o 30 diwrnod (yn cychwyn o'r ddyddiad cau i gyflwyno y ffurflen) lle gellir gwirio am unrhyw gamgymeriadau amlwg. Rydw i/ni yn cytuno i wirio y ffurflen sydd wedi ei chyflwyno o fewn yr amser perthnasol ac y byddaf i/byddwn ni yn hysbysu UAC am unrhyw gamgymeriadau yn y wybodaeth ar y ffurflen a gyflwynwyd neu os oes unrhyw wybodaeth wedi ei hepgor o'r ffurflen a gyflwynwyd.
- Fy/ein nyletswydd i/ni yw sicrhau fy mod/ein bod yn sicrhau fy mod/ein bod yn derbyn llythyr/e-bost sydd yn cynnwys gwybodaeth am fanylion y caeau a chynlluniau sydd i'w hawlio oddi wrth Lywodraeth Cymru (o fewn 10 diwrnod o gyflwyno'r ffurflen) ac mae'n ddyletswydd arnaf/arnom i edrych dros y wybodaeth sydd ar y llythyr/e-bost yma er mwyn darganfod unrhyw gamgymeriadau, a byddaf/byddwn yn hysbysu UAC yn syth.
- Fy nyletswydd/ein dyletswydd ni yw edrych dros y wybodaeth ar gopi caled/electroneg o ffurflen y cais sengl a gyflwynwyd er mwyn darganfod unrhyw gamgymeriadau a byddaf/byddwn yn rhoi gwybod i UAC yn syth a dim yn hwyrach na'r 15fed o Fai o'r flwyddyn berthnasol neu unrhyw ddyddiad arall a benodir yn lle y dyddiad hwn gan yr awdurdod perthnasol.
- Rydw i/ni yn cydnabod oherwydd lledaeniad o'r coronafeirws a mesuriadau y Llywodraeth sydd mewn grym neu yn cael eu cynghori sy'n rhwystro fi/ni rhag cyfarfod wyneb yn wyneb gyda UAC, fy mod i/ni yn cytuno i'r holl gymorth a roddir dros y ffôn a/neu trwy e-bost. Rydw i/ni yn cydnabod ac yn cytuno bod y penderfyniad i gynnig cymorth dros y ffôn a/neu trwy e-bost o fewn disgrisiwn llwyr UAC ac fy mod i/ni yn cytuno i barhau yn unol ag unrhyw ofynion a osodir gan UAC sydd wedi ei gymryd er mwyn amddiffyn iechyd cyhoeddus.
- Rydw i/ni yn caniatáu i UAC gwblhau a chyflwyno y ffurflen ar fy/ein rhan ac yn cadarnhau bod yr holl wybodaeth sydd wedi ei gyflwyno i UAC yn gyflawn a chywir. Rydw i/ni yn cydnabod a chytuno na fydd gan UAC unrhyw atebolrwydd i fi/ni mewn achos lle rydw i/ni wedi darparu gwybodaeth anghywir neu gamarweiniol neu os ydw i/ni heb ddarparu unrhyw wybodaeth perthnasol i UAC.
- Rydw i/ni yn cytuno i indemnio UAC yn erbyn unrhyw golledion a ellir ei ddioddef gan UAC neu ei ennyn o ganlyniad i wybodeth anghywir neu gamarweiniol a ddarparwyd gen i/ni i UAC neu os ydw i/ni yn hepgor gwybodaeth i UAC.
- Rydw i/ni yn cydnabod boed bynnag y dull o gymorth a roddir i mi gan UAC bod yr ymwadiad yma yn weithredol ac na fydd gan UAC unrhyw atebolrwydd am unrhyw wybodaeth anghywir yn y ffurflen nac fod gen i/ni unrhyw hawl am ddigolledu yn erbyn UAC am unrhyw wybodaeth anghywir, camgymeriadau neu unrhyw wybodaeth wedi ei hepgor ar y ffurflen a gyflwynwyd.
- O ddarllen y ffurflen yma, rydw i/rydym ni yn ymwybodol o'r ymwadiad uchod ac yn cadarnhau fy mod/ein bod yn ymwybodol o'n hawl i gael cyngor cyfreithiol annibynnol ac wrth barhau i gyfarwyddo UAC yn cadarnhau fy mod/ein bod yn derbyn yr ymwadiad uchod ac yn deall ei ganlyniadau.

Arwyddwyd gan

Ar ran (teitl masnachu'r busnes)

Dyddiad

SAF Form Disclaimer 2022 (phone appointment)

I/We.....(Names)

Of.....

.....(Address)

Hereby confirm and declare that:

- It has been explained to me/us that the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) accepts no responsibility on the part of itself or any members of staff (through their employment), whether in contract, tort (including negligence) or otherwise in connection with the assistance provided in completing my/our SAF form.
- I understand that it is my/our responsibility to provide full and accurate information as requested for the completion of the said forms and that the FUW do not accept any responsibility for incorrect information given.
- I understand that the FUW is able to assist with the completion and submission of the forms.
- It is my/our responsibility to check the completed forms for accuracy after the form is submitted online to the Welsh Government.
- Once the form has been completed and submitted I/we confirm that I/we am/are aware that there is a 30 day period (running from the date of the deadline to submit the form) in which the form can be checked for any obvious errors. I/we agree that I/we will check the submitted form within the relevant period and that I/we will notify FUW if there is any incorrect information on the submitted form or if any information has been omitted from the submitted form.
- It is my/our duty to monitor and ensure that I/we receive a SAF acknowledgement letter/email including details of field and schemes claimed data from the Welsh Government (within 10 days of form submission) and that it is my/our duty to check the data on this letter/email in order to identify any errors of which I/we will then immediately notify the FUW.
- It is my/our duty to check the data on the hard/electronic copy of the submitted SAF in order to identify any errors of which I/we will then immediately notify the FUW no later than the 15th of May of the relevant year or any other date that might be issued in place of this date by the relevant authority.
- I/we acknowledge that due to the outbreak of coronavirus and the Government measures either in place or advised prevent me/us from meeting in person with FUW and that I/we agree to all assistance being provided by telephone and/or email. I/we acknowledge and agree that the decision to provide assistance by telephone and/or email shall be at FUW's sole discretion and I/we agree to proceed in line with any requirements imposed by FUW that are taken with a view to protecting public health.
- I/we consent to FUW completing and submitting the form on my/our behalf and confirm that all information provided to FUW will be full and correct. I/we acknowledge and agree that FUW shall have no liability to me/us in the event that I/we provide incorrect or misleading information or if I/we omit any relevant information to FUW.
- I/we agree to fully indemnify FUW against any losses that FUW might suffer or incur as a result of incorrect or misleading information provided by me/us to FUW or if I/we omit relevant information from being provided to FUW.
- I/we acknowledge that regardless of the method of assistance provided by FUW the disclaimers in this document apply and that FUW shall have no liability for incorrect information in forms nor that I/we have any recourse against FUW for any inaccurate information, errors or omissions on submitted forms.
- By reading this form I/we am/are now aware of the above disclaimer and confirm that I/we am/are aware of my/our right to obtain independent legal advice and that by continuing to instruct the FUW confirm that I/we accept the above disclaimer and understand its consequences.

Signed

On behalf of (trading title of business)

Dated

Do your cows need liability insurance?



THERE are many fields with unrestricted access, as public or private rights of way, and often cattle can be seen grazing nearby. Whilst passers-by can usually walk past a herd of cows without any problem, cattle can be unpredictable and many wouldn't know how to react if the herd began to stampede towards them.

Tragically, cattle-related deaths do happen sometimes, whilst many others have been subject to injuries including fractures from actions such as kicking, head-butting and trampling from the offending bovine. Farmers and farm workers are particularly at risk due to their frequent exposure to their herd and make up the majority of fatalities, but a number of ramblers have also been injured and killed in cattle-related attacks.

Are you responsible if your cattle attacks someone?

The Animals Act 1971 states that owners are 'strictly liable' for most injuries caused by their animals meaning that in most cases, you will be liable if your herd attacks a member of the public. In 2016, a farmer was ordered by the court to pay £30,000 in court costs after a walker was killed by his herd after ignoring numerous warnings to keep them under control. His herd had attacked ramblers on four occasions prior to the fatality, one attack resulting in a broken neck.

The farmer was given a 12-month jail sentence on top of his fine. His insurance paid out what was thought to be a six-figure sum to the partner of the deceased and £200,000 went out to the four who were previously injured by the farmer's herd.

Building a line of defence

In commenting on the case, the HSE suggested that most farmers will have other groups of stock that can graze fields containing rights of way, so can reduce the risk of incidents by "putting sheep in them", or they could "take fodder crops from them", while "cattle and calves can be put in fields without rights of way, or segregated from walkers".

The lack of understanding this shows regarding the number of rights of way on farms and the reality of what is practical in terms of farm management has angered farmers, and the FUW has invited an HSE representative to a meeting of its livestock and hill farming committees to explain the reality of everyday farming.

However, farmers are advised to wherever possible minimise risks to the general public by choosing carefully where stock can be kept.

While 70% of deaths caused by cattle are down to bulls, and cows protecting newborn calves, this statistic appears to include farmers and their workers who make up the majority of those who are at risk; when it comes to members of the general public, young stock can also be a particular danger, especially to walkers with dogs.

So do you need liability insurance for your herd?

If you own cows which roam in public fields there will always be some element of risk to the general public, so it's a good idea to ensure you are covered for public liability insurance. It's best to check your current insurance policy to see if you're covered.

To check you're covered or to arrange additional cover, call your local FUW Insurance Services Account Executive and speak to one of our team, office telephone numbers on the right.

There are many fields with unrestricted access, as public or private rights of way, and often cattle can be seen grazing nearby. Whilst passers-by can usually walk past a herd of cows without any problem, cattle can be unpredictable and many wouldn't know how to react if the herd began to stampede towards them

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am not one who usually complains but I am concerned about the lack of information regarding insurance claims during the pandemic.

We had insured for loss of earnings from a holiday cottage, but the company brokered by FUW Insurance Services Ltd, AXA, would not pay because exact wording on the cover did not mention pandemic.

I now see through Farmers Weekly that NFU members are equally not satisfied with their own Mutual insurance and are challenging it through the courts.

Is there a chance such a group could be formed with FUW Insurance Services Ltd?

Diolch yn fawr

M L Thomas, Haverfordwest

A response

M L Thomas is right to highlight the fact that there are many policy holders who are unhappy with the Business Interruption element of their policy as impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic.

Throughout the insurance sector there has been a great deal of uncertainty on the issue of Business Interruption claims not least due to the decision of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) to challenge some of the policy wordings in Court. Whilst the outcome of the test case was favourable to policyholders the number of cases declined remains very high due to a variety of circumstances including, but not limited to the following;

1. General Business Interruption Cover will, in most cases, provide no cover against Business Interruption costs arising out of Covid. This is because the Cover is based upon interruption to the use of a building or property due to damage (such as fire) which does not allow you to make economic use of the property. The pandemic/lockdown did not cause damage to the property and thus a claim under this cover will be rejected.

2. General Prevention of Access Cover. Prevention of Access Cover applies when damage to another property in the vicinity of yours prevents access to your property to make economic use of the said property. Access being prevented due to the pandemic/lockdown was not access being prevented due to damage to another property impacting upon yours and as such the Cover would not apply.

3. Disease cover where a specific range of diseases are listed that can trigger cover. If Covid-19 is not listed then the cover will not apply.

In specific cases where cover was in place for an unspecified disease the FCA test case proved useful in clarifying some of the more general wordings that existed within insurance policies. However, even as a result of the FCA test case only around 5% of Business Interruption Claims made by FUW Insurance Services Ltd. customers have proved successful.

FUW Insurance Services Ltd. are aware of efforts being made to challenge insurance claims rejected by insurers which were unaffected by the FCA Test Case and we would not be opposed to any FUW Insurance Services Ltd. client joining such an action. However, we would caution against spending any money up-front on such a challenge.



Office telephone numbers

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Llangefni | 01248 750462 |
| Builth Wells | 01982 553406 |
| Caernarfon | 01286 675136 |
| Lampeter | 01570 422556 |
| Carmarthen | 01267 222570 |
| Ruthin | 01824 702912 |
| Cowbridge | 01446 773108 |
| Abergavenny | 01873 859833 |
| Llanrwst | 01492 642683 |
| Dolgellau | 01341 421290 |
| Newtown | 01686 623093 |
| Haverfordwest | 01437 783969 |

Political Matters

by Libby Davies, FUW Senedd and Parliamentary Affairs Officer



At what I know is the busiest time of year for many of our members, we have also been busy with our political engagement on behalf of members. At the start of March we were in Westminster to attend the Secretary of State for Wales' 'A Taste of Wales' event celebrating Welsh produce and raising the profile of the food our farmers produce for us every day. Whilst we were in London it was announced that the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the UK and New Zealand had been signed.

We immediately took the opportunity to discuss this with Members of Parliament, including Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) George Eustice MP, the Chairman of the EFRA select committee Neil Parish MP, the Shadow Secretary of State for Wales Jo Stevens MP and the Shadow Secretary of State and Shadow Minister for EFRA Daniel Zeichner MP and Ruth Jones MP. We also raised concerns over the FTA with Australia whilst Parliament can still scrutinise the agreement before ratification.

Crucially, the UK-Aus FTA is only estimated to increase the UK's economy by 0.08%, whilst lower standards and production costs enjoyed by Australian farmers, and the ultimate abandonment of agricultural import quotas significantly undermine UK standards and Welsh farmgate prices. A concern only worsened by the signing of other deals with major agricultural producing nations such as New Zealand.

As well as FTA's, conversation also included the loss of family farms to tree planting and the action that can be taken to prevent such loss with Liz Saville-Roberts MP and Ben Lake MP, Chris Elmore MP, Tonia Antoniazzi MP, Jonathan Edwards MP and Lord Dafydd Wigley. In addition to this, we highlighted the opportunities to export lamb to the US following the amendment of the small ruminant rule but reiterated the importance of effective marketing for our produce.

This month, we have also met with the Minister for Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths MS, emphasising rising input costs, food security concerns and the impact of bovine TB on the mental health of farmers - all of which were acknowledged by the Minister. Constructive discussions also took

place on the importance of a flexible Agriculture (Wales) Bill that can adapt to changing demands and a Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) that provides stability and support for family farms.

Further engagement took place at the Welsh Labour Party Conference in Llandudno where we contributed to roundtable discussions on renewable energy and agroecology, as well as at the Plaid Cymru Conference in Cardiff where we presented, alongside NFU Cymru, our shared vision for the Sustainable Farming Scheme to politicians and stakeholders, on how future funding can support farmers to continue to produce our food, whilst aiding appropriate environmental actions and protecting our rural communities.

Further political engagements on behalf of members this month also included meetings in the Senedd with Leader of the Opposition Andrew RT Davies MS, Shadow Minister for Rural Affairs Sam Kurtz MS, Shadow Minister for Climate Change Janet Finch-Saunders MS, Preseli Pembrokeshire MS Paul Davies and Brecon and Radnor MS James Evans to discuss the SFS ahead of the Draft Bill being published this Spring. In our discussions we stressed that the Scheme must include mechanisms such as payment capping or redistributive payments to ensure that support reaches active farmers.

Also on the agenda was tree planting where we reiterated that productive agricultural land should not be used for blanket tree planting - the importance of which is evidenced by the current concerns over food security. As well as FTA's and the Refreshed TB Eradication Programme - a consultation on which is currently being considered by the Welsh Government.

Given the judicial review of The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations has now been dismissed, with the Judge finding that the Welsh Government had not acted unlawfully, we can expect the Minister for Rural Affairs to give evidence to the Senedd's Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee, who are currently drafting a report on Agricultural Pollution Regulations. It will also allow discussions between the Minister and Designated Member, Cefin Campbell to take place under the Cooperation Agreement and we will continue to engage with Senedd Members on the matter going forward.

Over the upcoming weeks, we look forward to welcoming Peredur Owen Griffiths MS and Delyth Jewell MS back for their second farm visit in Gwent to discuss the rising cost of fuel and fertiliser, the Sustainable Farming Scheme and NVZ regulations, and attending the Senedd Cross Party Group on School Food to discuss local procurement, ensuring the voice of agriculture is heard by our elected representatives.



From left, FUW Senedd and Parliamentary Affairs Officer Libby Davies, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs George Eustice and FUW President Glyn Roberts.



Glyn Roberts and Labour leader Keir Starmer.



Glyn Roberts and Liz Saville-Roberts MP.



From left, Shadow Secretary of State for Wales Jo Stevens MP, Glyn Roberts and FUW Deputy President Ian Rickman.



From left, Shadow Secretary of State for EFRA Daniel Zeichner MP, Glyn Roberts and Shadow Minister Ruth Jones MP.



Glyn Roberts and Chairman of the EFRA select committee Neil Parish MP.



First Minister Mark Drakeford and Glyn Roberts at the Welsh Labour Party Conference in Llandudno.



Minister for Education and Welsh Language Jeremy Miles and Glyn Roberts.



From left, NFU Cymru President Aled Jones, Mabon ap Gwynfor MS and Glyn Roberts at the Plaid Cymru Conference in Cardiff.



FUW Policy Officer Teleri Fielden giving a presentation at the Plaid Cymru Conference.

Environmental work only possible due to stability provided by basic payment hears Senedd Member

MID and West Wales Senedd Member Cefin Campbell has heard how comprehensive environmental work undertaken on farms - including through cooperation between farmers - has only been possible because of the firm foundation and stability provided through the current basic payment scheme.

That was the clear message from a range of organisations during an FUW Meirionnydd farm visit to Cae Coch, Rhydymain, which is farmed by Alun Edwards.

During the visit, Mr Campbell saw at first hand how a broad range of actions had been undertaken at Cae Coch both by Mr Edwards individually and as part of a group of farmers supported by Parc Eryri National Park and Gwynedd County Council, to improve habitat and carbon sequestration, control, flooding downstream and prevent pollution from the nearby A494 entering the river Wnion.

Speaking after the visit, Mr Edwards said: "There is no part of the farm where some form of action is not being taken to address environmental issues and deliver public goods, but we do not get paid for this work. Where payments are available from the Welsh Government or the National Park, these only pay for materials or costs incurred, so we rely on the Basic Payment to effectively pay us to undertake that work and without it it would not be possible.

"The most important public good we provide is food, and failure to recognise this would be a massive mistake - especially given escalating production costs and the impacts on essential supplies already being felt as a result of the war in Ukraine."

Mr Edwards said that while Wales' system of rural payments was going to change - and should change to better meet Welsh goals - it was essential that the current system is evolved into something that retains a 'stability payment' that provides genuine income to allow food production and the type of environmental work undertaken at Cae Coch and in the Wnion valley to continue.

"While there is always room for improvement, Wales has an excellent track record of administering schemes and getting payments out on time compared with other countries - especially England - and we also have a state of the art online mapping system that has been working well for almost a decade.

"We do not want to see that good track record jeopardised through



reckless optimism about the practicality of running a highly complex and costly to run scheme," said Mr Edwards.

Cae Coch extends to approximately 735 acres, the vast majority of which is mountain land, with only around 36 acres of fields available to gather silage for winter fodder. The farming enterprise comprises a flock of 500 Welsh mountain ewes with 130 ewe lamb replacements in a closed flock, and 18 Welsh Black suckler cows. All the young stock are sold as stores through Farmers Marts at Dolgellau. The farm has been in successive environmental schemes and joined Tir Gofal in 2004.

"Most farms in the area continue to participate in these local and national schemes, and there is a great deal more we can do - but we need a solid financial foundation upon which to continue that work," he said.

Mr Edwards also highlighted the serious implications for farms in the area if the Water Resources 'NVZ' Regulations were not reviewed. "We live in a county where more than 90% of the water pollution is non-agricultural. We have never had a pollution incident here but the tens of thousands that complying with the new rules will entail mean I have to question whether to continue to keep cattle," he said.

"There is no part of the farm where some form of action is not being taken to address environmental issues and deliver public goods, but we do not get paid for this work."



From left, Alun and Catrin Cae Coch, Emlyn Roberts and Cefin Campbell MS.



bwyd yn lleol.

MAE UAC wedi cyfarfod â chynrychiolwyr o Gyngor Sir Ynys Môn a Chartwells i drafod sut y gall y sir wasanaethu anghenion maethol plant ysgol yn well, wrth anrhydeddu ei hymrwymiad i gyrchu

Cododd UAC bryderon am y polisïau caffael ar gyfer prydu ysgol gyda Chyngor Sir Ynys Môn ym mis Hydref y llynedd yn dilyn eu cytundeb gyda'r cyflenwr arlwygo Chartwells i gyflenwi prydu ysgol ar draws y sir.

Wrth siarad ar ôl y cyfarfod dywedodd Swyddog Gweithredol Sirol UAC Ynys Môn Alaw Jones, (**gweler uchod**): "Mae'n galonogol bod Chartwells wedi ymrwymo i gyrchu 30% o'r holl cynnyrch yn lleol ac o fewn radiws o 60 milltir. Mae ein ffermwyr yn cynhyrchu bwyd rhagorol yma yn Ynys Môn a ledled Cymru. Mae ein bwyd yn cael ei gynhyrchu i safonau iechyd a lles anifeiliaid o'r radd flaenaf, yn cael ei gynhyrchu'n gynaliadwy gan ystyried yr amgylchedd. Mae ein plant yn haeddu elwa o hynny."

Cododd swyddogion yr Undeb bryderon ymhellach ynghylch sut y bydd ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cymru i

ddarparu prydu ysgol am ddim o 2023 ymlaen yn dylanwadu ar allu Awdurdodau Lleol i gyrchu cynnyrch lleol.

"Byddwn nawr yn monitro sut y bydd Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn yn ymgorffori polisïau yn y dyfodol i ddarparu prydu ysgol am ddim. Fel bob amser, rydym yn awyddus i barhau i weithio gyda Chartwells a Chyngor Sir Ynys Môn ac yn gobeithio y byddant yn rhoi ei harian ar ei gair. Mae'r Cyngor a Chartwells hefyd wedi ymrwymo i gyrraedd sero net erbyn 2030, a'r ffordd orau iddyn nhw gyflawni hynny yw trwy gyrchu eu cynnyrch o Ynys Môn a chadw'r milltiroedd bwyd i lawr," meddai.

Holodd swyddogion yr Undeb ymhellach sut y bydd Chartwells yn sicrhau na fyddai dylanwadau'r farchnad megis costau mewnbyn yn effeithio ar eu gallu i gynnal yr ymrwymiad i gyrchu cynnyrch lleol.

Ychwanegodd Uwch Swyddog Polisi a Chyfathrebu UAC Gareth Parry: "Yn sgil costau cynhyrchu bwyd cynyddol yng Nghymru a ledled y byd, ac o ystyried bod yn rhaid i gyflenwyr Chartwells 'sicrhau bod yr holl gig a brynir o darddiad y DU o fewn cyfyngiadau deddfwriaethol ariannol ac ymarferol', pwysleisio ni bod rhaid i'w polisi caffael, i gyrchu o ffynhonnell uniongyrchol gan gynhyrchwyr i helpu i liniaru effeithiau dylanwadau marchnad gael ei orfodi."

This article is in English on the FUW website - News: "FUW stresses importance of sourcing local food in meeting with Anglesey County Council."



Pwysleisio'r pwysigrwydd o gyrchu bwyd lleol mewn cyfarfod â Chyngor Sir Ynys Môn

Carbon Trading - what does it mean?



by Teleri Fielden, FUW Policy Officer

TO reach Net Zero emissions by 2050, a combination of emissions reduction and carbon removal will be needed. All industries and businesses will need to make significant changes to reduce their emissions.

For many farmers this means focusing on reducing their own business emissions, carbon auditing, working with their supply chain, improving productive efficiency and increasing carbon sequestration on-farm.

However, farmers and landowners also 'control' most of the opportunities for land-based carbon sequestration through woodland and hedgerow creation, soil carbon and peatland restoration, and therefore the supply of carbon credits into the now booming, voluntary carbon offset market.

Definitions

A Carbon Offset or Carbon credit

A carbon credit represents an emission reduction equivalent of one metric tonne of CO₂, which can be used to compensate for or 'offset' an equivalent tonne of emissions elsewhere. A company can purchase an offset/carbon credit to help compensate for some of their emissions output.

Carbon markets

| Compliance market | Voluntary market |
|---|---|
| For the biggest emitters (e.g. aviation, oil and gas industries) who have compulsory emission reduction obligations. This is regulated by regional/national Emission Trading Schemes. They have limits to how much they can offset (Cap and Trade). | For any other company that wishes to purchase carbon credits to offset their emissions, or for 'corporate social responsibility' reasons to demonstrate their green credentials. (Any type of company can purchase as many offsets as they want) . This is the market farmers in the UK can supply, however it is far less regulated. |



| Carbon store or stock | Carbon sequestration (CO ₂ e) |
|--|---|
| A carbon stock is the quantity of carbon stored in, for example, soil, or ancient woodlands. A permanent pasture with a very high Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) content could act as a large carbon stock but may not be actively 'sequestering' as it is nearly at SOC saturation or equilibrium. However, it is important to protect and maintain these stocks to ensure that they don't emit carbon again if, for example, they are eroded/ploughed/burnt. The world's soils are the largest terrestrial carbon sink storing 3.5 times more carbon than in the world's plants. | The process of actively capturing or removing CO ₂ from the atmosphere and depositing it. For example, woodlands capture CO ₂ from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and store it in their biomass. The rate of sequestration is what is converted into credits through 'tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent' (CO ₂ e) E.g. one hectare of newly established broadleaf woodland is expected to sequester around 400 tonnes CO ₂ e over 100 years. |

Types of offsetting

| Emission reduction | Emission removals |
|---|--|
| Created by reducing or avoiding emissions that would otherwise have happened. For example, restoring peatland to prevent it from releasing carbon, capturing methane gas at landfill sites, or opting for a 'no till' system rather than ploughing to prevent SOC loss. | Absorbing (sequestering) carbon from the atmosphere and storing it, such as through woodland creation or increasing Soil Organic Carbon. |

Governance and schemes

These Government recognised standards are tailored to the UK but also meet the requirements of international carbon standards. They provide assurance and a process to ensure quality offsets.

Woodland Carbon Code (WCC)



Registration: This can be done through carbon advisors or brokers e.g. Forest Carbon. The farmer or landowner must register with the WCC before planting starts, then decide on a project or group scheme. (Free).

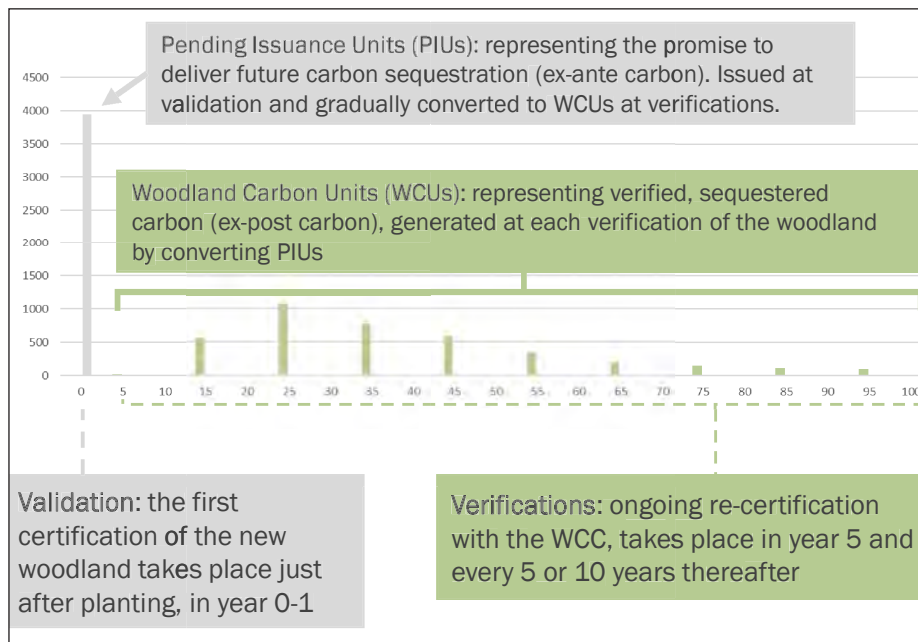
Validation: Within three years of registration. An independent validator checks the predicted carbon sequestered and general standards. Cost of approximately £1,000 depending on project size. Pending Issuance Units (PIUs) can be sold at this point.

Monitoring: Field survey in year five.

Verification: In year five and every ten years thereafter, an independent validator verifies the standards and the amount of carbon sequestered, thus creating Woodland Carbon Units. These can then be sold, held, or used against farm emissions. Cost of approximately £1,500 depending on size and complexity.

See <https://www.woodlandcarboncode.org.uk/landowners-apply> for more details.

| Pending Issuance Units (PIUs) | Woodland or Peatland Carbon Units |
|---|--|
| A 'promise to deliver'. PIUs are a calculation of how much carbon is expected to be sequestered over the entire lifetime of the project. It is possible to sell these upfront for a lump sum, however they will be worth less. Companies cannot use these as offsets. | At each verification the PIUs are converted into carbon units in line with how much carbon has been sequestered, providing a guarantee to the purchaser. |



Example of a ten hectare broadleaf plantation - total tonnes of CO₂. Forest Carbon

Peatland Carbon Code

The Peatland Carbon Code follows a similar process to the Woodland Carbon Code. However, validation must occur before and immediately after the restoration works take place. Due to the cost of restoration and the additional biodiversity and water retention benefits peatland provides, such projects tend to be funded by a mix of public and private money.



Codes under development

UK Farm Soil Carbon Code

This is currently being developed by the Sustainable Soils Alliance with funding from the UK Government. They aim to develop a Code to enable farmers to quantify reduced greenhouse gas emissions and soil carbon capture through soil management, enabling farmers to sell offsets, use them for their own carbon footprint measurements or demonstrate biodiversity improvements.



Hedgerow Carbon Code

This is currently being developed by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust to recognise the potential of hedgerows for carbon sequestration and encourage hedgerow habitat management.

Principles

Additionality

For an offset to work and genuinely reduce CO2 in the atmosphere, it needs to be **in addition** to current CO2 sequestration. Otherwise, they are simply providing businesses with a licence to pollute. It must prove that the emissions reduction or removal wouldn't have occurred in the absence of the carbon market. Therefore large timber plantations may not be eligible in the future, as they are financially viable without the need for a carbon payment.

This is why only new tree planting is currently eligible, as the sequestration of existing trees and soils is already being calculated in global emission levels.

Permanence

An offset should be as permanent as possible, or at least be in place for a lengthy period of time to guarantee that CO2 is kept out of the atmosphere over that period. However, this can be difficult for soil carbon as it can be emitted easily.

Similarly, a fire could reverse the carbon sequestration of a woodland. Therefore contracts tend to be long term to ensure a degree of permanence (>30 years for peatland, >30-100 years for woodland with a commitment to replant if any are removed/damaged).

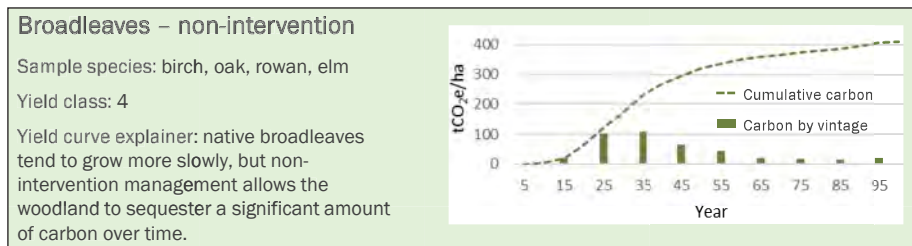
Contracts also include buffers to allow for disease or establishment failures.



Price examples

Disclaimer: Due to the uncertainty around prices, the immaturity of the market and the evolution of regulations, these are estimations of prices and sequestration rates. Verified Woodland Carbon Units are currently worth around £10-£25 per tonne. Pending Issuance Units are worth less, generally £5-£12 per tonne. Prices are expected to rise but it is not guaranteed.

Broadleaves per hectare example



(Yield curve graph model from Forest Carbon publications)

| Broadleaf woodland example per hectare (high quality and well managed) | | | | | |
|--|------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Verification years | tco2e/ha | £12 a tonne | £25 a tonne | £50 a tonne | £100 a tonne |
| 15 | 20 | £240 | £500 | £1,000 | £2,000 |
| 25 | 100 | £1,200 | £2,500 | £5,000 | £10,000 |
| 35 | 110 | £1,320 | £2,750 | £5,500 | £11,000 |
| 45 | 60 | £720 | £1,500 | £3,000 | £6,000 |
| 55 | 50 | £600 | £1,250 | £2,500 | £5,000 |
| 65 | 15 | £180 | £375 | £750 | £1,500 |
| 75 | 15 | £180 | £375 | £750 | £1,500 |
| 85 | 15 | £180 | £375 | £750 | £1,500 |
| 95 | 15 | £180 | £375 | £750 | £1,500 |
| Total | 400 | £4,800 | £10,000 | £20,000 | £40,000 |

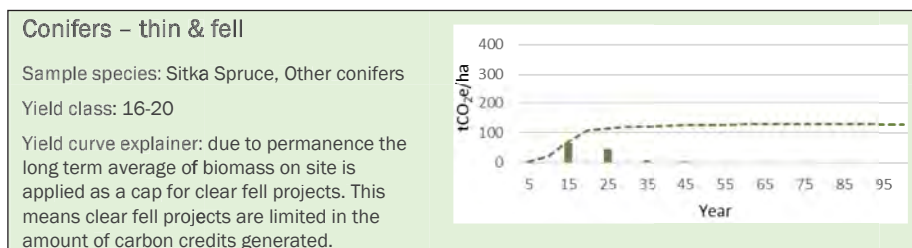
| Glastir Native Woodland Carbon Creation for 12 years | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Establishment | £4,500 |
| Annual maintenance pa | £60 |
| Annual premium pa | £350 |
| & BPS | (? dependent on SFS changes) |
| x 12 years | £4,260 |
| Total | £8,760 |

This example does not include costs for verification, brokers or maintenance

Conifers & Timber example per hectare

If a site is completely clear felled, the amount sequestered is capped according to how long the trees are growing for. The carbon payment is only eligible on the first rotation of timber within the Woodland Carbon Code. However, some sites will retain a percentage of broadleaves, allowing for a higher carbon crop, such as in the examples below (based on high quality plantations), in addition to the timber return.

| Carbon & Timber totals per rotation | Enhanced Mixed Woodland per rotation (50:50 broadleaf to conifer) | High proportion Conifer per rotation (75%) |
|---|---|--|
| Rotation length (years) | 50 | 30 |
| Total CO2e | 350 | 380 |
| Total Timber volume | 440 | 475 |
| Timber payment (at £75/tonne standing) | £33,000 | £35,625 |
| Carbon: £12 a tonne | £4,200 | £4,560 |
| Carbon: £25 a tonne | £8,750 | £9,500 |
| Carbon: £50 a tonne | £17,500 | £19,000 |
| Carbon: £100 a tonne | £35,000 | £38,000 |
| <i>(Not including costs of maintenance, thinning and WCC validation, nor land value increase)</i> | | |
| & Glastir Enhanced Mixed Woodland grant | | |
| Establishment | £3,600 | |
| Annual maintenance | 60 | |
| Annual premium payment | 350 | |
| x 12 years | 4920 | |
| Total | £8,520 | |



Frequently Asked Questions

What methods of carbon sequestration can I use in my own farm carbon calculator?

This depends on the calculator and reason(s) for completing a carbon audit. Many supply chains only focus on emissions (in order to calculate CO2 per kilogram of product) therefore on farm sequestration is not taken into account. However, other calculators (e.g. Farm Carbon Toolkit and Agrecalc) do include carbon sequestration such as from on farm woodland planted after 1990, hedgerow length and width and average soil organic matter content. There is no need (currently) for these to go through a process of verification as the credits aren't being sold.



How do I know if I can generate carbon credits?

Currently, any new woodland creation or peatland restoration projects can register and sell credits in the future once they have been validated through their corresponding Carbon Codes. **It is wise to check your own carbon footprint first, in case you need to offset some of your own emissions to become Net Zero in future.** The Soil and Hedgerow Carbon Codes may provide future opportunities to generate credits on farms.

What about the carbon already stored in my soils?

This is a valuable carbon store, and is included in national emission calculations, but carbon markets require additional (new) sequestration to create an offset. Future Government payments may value maintaining and protecting this store. The ability to increase SOC depends on the type of soil, the current level of SOC and past and present management. For example, sandy soils will have less potential to capture more SOC, but clay soils with depleted levels will have a better potential.

Who can claim the carbon on my farm?

Currently, if you decide to sell carbon credits from **new** woodland planting (see *Additionality and Woodland Carbon Code*), those credits can only be used by the purchaser, and then the credit is 'retired'. So, the buyer has an exclusive claim to that sequestration the tree did as it appears on their carbon balance sheet. **You cannot use it against your own farm carbon footprint - that would be 'double-counting'**. However, that woodland will also be counted within Wales' national emission calculations. Any credits **not** sold can be used within your own farm carbon audit.

Can an international company buy carbon credits generated from land in Wales?

No, in the UK, they have decided not to allow credits generated through the Woodland and Peatland Code to be sold and used to offset emissions created overseas. However, companies based elsewhere in the UK can buy and use them, or international companies could purchase them to offset their UK based emissions.

How are some farmers accessing finance for their soil management or regenerative farming before there is an official soil carbon code?

Some schemes can create verified emission 'reductions' or removals that are not sold as official offsets. Companies cannot use them to offset their own emissions, however, they can make claims about having contributed to decarbonisation of the economy. E.g. Soil Capital, Gentle Farming.

What is the Welsh Government's position on this?

The Welsh Government supports the Woodland Carbon Code therefore woodland established through Glastir Woodland Creation or other schemes can be registered on the code to sell carbon units (see *Pricing*). The Welsh Government also have their own national targets on woodland creation (180,000ha of new woodland by 2050, the equivalent of 10% of agricultural land) and peatland restoration (deliver 600-900ha of peatland restoration per year) as part of Wales' route to net zero.

They recognise that this will not be possible through public sector support alone, but will require attracting private sector investment into woodland creation and forestry (which includes carbon finance). They have established an expert working group to 'consider models to attract investment into woodland creation without disrupting existing communities and patterns of land ownership'.



Summary

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Long term income stream (lengthy contracts of 30-100 years) * Tax free (this is developing) * Market likely to grow significantly * Contributing to reducing the impacts of climate change on future generations * Minimal upfront cost - establishment and planning often paid for by grants * Possible to blend public and private finance e.g. Glastir Woodland Creation, timber return and carbon * Additional funding stream at a time of Government cuts * Provides an income stream for future generations on the farm * Can offer farm production benefits in addition to carbon (e.g. hedgerow carbon code = shelter for livestock, or increasing soil carbon improves soil health and fertility, production and water infiltration) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Only covers new woodland planting and new peatland restoration currently - soils and hedgerow Codes in development * Permanent land use change once the woodland is planted * Uncertain prices dependent on supply and demand * Length of contracts and ownership of 'carbon assets' creates barriers for tenants * Expensive validation costs - better suited to larger or group projects to share costs over * Increases land acquisition by companies wishing to generate their own credits * Net zero will not be achieved if companies use offsets to avoid reducing their emissions * Additional demand on land * Any credits sold from the farm can only be used by the buyer, therefore the farm business will not be able to claim the sequestration themselves * Doesn't reward existing good practice, e.g. depleted soils have the largest capacity for increasing soil organic carbon which could generate credits |
| <p><i>"If the price of carbon rises to £50/tonne, Carbon sequestration payments could be worth up to £1.7billion per year in the UK, half of total value of public support payments for agriculture."</i></p> <p>Green Alliance report, "Natural Capital - the battle for control"</p> | <p><i>"At least 1.6bn hectares - an area five times the size of India, equivalent to all the land now farmed on the planet - would be required to reach Net Zero for the planet by 2050 via tree-planting alone."</i></p> <p>Oxfam report "Tightening the net: Net Zero climate targets implications for land and food equity"</p> |



What are the FUW doing about the threats around carbon trading?

THE FUW formulated a policy on Carbon Trading using the Land Use and Parliamentary Committee proposals for Carbon Quotas, which was refined during a subsequent meeting of the Presidential Policy Team and passed by the FUW Grand Council at the end of 2021.

The Policy Team have since conducted research into the scale of land acquisition, afforestation and Glastir Woodland Creation funding leaving Wales. Policy Staff have contributed to numerous media interviews and journalist research requests from BBC Radio Cymru to Radio Four's Costing the Earth, from Byd ar Bedwar to Countryfile. In January the FUW hosted a well received webinar on 'Preventing Wales' Corporate Land Grab: Balancing Carbon Trees and Communities' which is available to re-watch on the FUW Members website. Members and staff have also received presentations on the process of using carbon calculators.

The Union continues to raise and lobby these issues during meetings with politicians and other industry stakeholders. Our 'Call to Action on Carbon Trading' was launched at the 2021 Royal Welsh Winter Fair - you can read the full document on our website under 'policy reports'.

Key recommendations:

- 1) Offsetting must complement not replace lowering emissions
- 2) Welsh farmland must not become a dumping ground for other industries and countries seeking to offset their emissions
- 3) Communities not corporations should be in control of Welsh land
- 4) Sales of carbon credits from farmland must not undermine the ability of farm businesses to become Net Zero themselves in future
- 5) Effective governance is needed to ensure the Voluntary Carbon Market is regulated
- 6) Contracts must be transparent and protect the landowner
- 7) Other land uses (as opposed to solely new woodland) should be recognised and rewarded
- 8) A singular Soil Carbon Code is required
- 9) Carbon calculators need to be accredited and standardised
- 10) 'LULUCF' (on farm sequestration) and renewable energy production on-farm needs to be recognised within farm emissions

Union Policy:

Whilst it is recognised that carbon credits could potentially become important income for some farms in the future, given:

- a. The sale of carbon credits from Welsh farmland risks undermining the ability of farms, Welsh agriculture or Wales as a whole to become carbon neutral
- b. The concerning rise in the sale of Welsh farmland to individuals and companies from outside Wales in order to create carbon for sale outside Wales or offset their own footprints
- c. The fact that in at least some instances such non-Welsh entities and individuals are being funded by Welsh Government to plant such areas

The Welsh Government and Senedd should take urgent action to tackle this issue through some form of control mechanism, and that while carbon quotas may not be the best way forward it is among a range of measures that should be considered in order to prevent growing adverse impacts for Welsh family farms, Welsh communities and Wales as a whole.



UK Government's pursuance of liberal trade deals shows reckless regard for food security and agriculture

THE FUW has described the UK Government's approach to food security and agriculture as reckless in response to the announcement that a liberal trade deal has been signed with New Zealand.

Speaking after raising concerns with UK Government Ministers at St David's day events in Westminster, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "Farmers are extremely angry that the UK Government is pursuing trade deals that their own figures confirm will be damaging to our food and farming sectors and undermine our food security.

"We need look no further than what is happening in Ukraine and in relation to gas and fuel supplies to see how rapidly things can change on the global stage, yet the UK

Government's trade policy is recklessly undermining our food security by shifting reliance to countries that are tens of thousands of miles away."

The agreement would see the amount of beef that can be imported tariff-free from New Zealand rise immediately to 12,000 then gradually to 38,820 tonnes in ten years time. Further rises would occur in the subsequent five years, after which there would be no limit.

For lamb, the amount that could be imported tariff-free would increase by 35,000 tonnes per annum in years one to four, then by 50,000 tonnes per annum in years five to fifteen, after which there would be no limit.

Tariffs on cheese and butter will be phased out over five years.

"The impact assessment for the New Zealand deal estimates it will lead to a fall in the GVA of the sector categories into which food and farming fall of £129 million - which they admit is 'primarily driven by increased import competition in beef'. This would be on top of an estimated fall in the GVA of those sectors of £278 million as a result of the equally liberal deal signed with Australia in December.

"Meanwhile, the benefits to our economy as a whole would be miniscule - an estimated increase of 0.03% in our GDP, meaning we would need around 130 similar deals to make up for the reduction in our GDP anticipated as a result of Brexit," said Mr Roberts.

The UK Government's impact assessment suggests that UK wages could rise by 18 pence a week in the long run as a result of the UK - New Zealand trade deal.

"The cumulative damage to our food and farming sector of these deals and others that are in the pipeline at a time when rural budgets are being slashed and regulations for our own farmers are being hiked up hardly sends out a positive message about the UK Government's support for agriculture.

"There is a growing feeling within the industry that these policies represent an existential threat to our rural communities and food security," added Mr Roberts.



North Wales farming family highlight Bovine TB stress in meeting with local politicians

A DENBIGHSHIRE farming couple and FUW officials have highlighted their concerns about Welsh Government's recent Bovine TB proposals and wider farming matters when they met with Clwyd West Member of the Senedd Darren Millar and Regional Member of the Senedd for North Wales Sam Rowlands.

Opening the gates to their farm were FUW Denbighshire County Chairman Alun Owen and his wife Marian. Together they run Gallt-y-Celyn, an upland farm producing store cattle and fat lambs on the Foelas estate in the Uwchaled area.

Addressing the recent bovine TB proposals FUW Denbighshire County Chairman Alun Owen said: "The consultation lacked any suitable and thorough evidentiary support, whilst not even providing an assessment of how the proposals could impact on cattle welfare or cattle culling levels."

Marian Owen added: "No assessments have been made either on the impact on human health and safety for both farmers and veterinarians of increasing testing, nor mental health - Tb testing is a very stressful time, both during the test and awaiting results."

Union officials further stressed that the consultation lacked an impact assessment on the potential costs and administrative burdens placed upon livestock keepers resulting from the proposed changes.

The consultation included proposals to reduce compensation



From left, FUW Denbighshire County Chairman Alun Owen, Sam Rowland MS, FUW President Glyn Roberts and Darren Millar MS.

payments, additional testing requirements, longer movement restrictions and risk based trading proposals which could discriminate unfairly against some livestock.

FUW Policy officer Teleri Fielden said: "It is the belief of FUW members that the Welsh Government are dangerously close to presiding over the demise of the Welsh cattle sector - and its associated industries - due to a costly, bureaucratic and flawed TB eradication programme which fails to protect farm businesses and cattle from bovine TB."

Whilst not in the Welsh Government's direct control, the Union also discussed the potential threats arising from the Australia trade deals struck by Conservatives in the UK Government.

Mr Owen said: "Official Government figures estimate the deal will increase the UK's economy by only 0.08% and increase wages by just 60p per week based on 2019 figures. The same official figures estimate the deal will result in a fall of a quarter of a billion pounds in the GVA of agri-food sectors."

"In addition, potential adverse impacts on natural resources have been identified at a time of grave concerns regarding our environment and climate."

Speaking after the visit he added: "We are facing an unprecedented amount of uncertainty as a farm business and most of these issues are beyond our, the Senedd or the Welsh Government's control. The UK Government is undermining our food and farming industry by striking trade deals with foreign countries, and feed and fertiliser prices have gone through the roof and are now rising further as a result of the war in Ukraine."

"But the Welsh Government and the Senedd do have control over future payment systems and the regulations we face on a day-to-day basis, whether in terms of what the future Welsh Agriculture Bill looks like, or overhauling the NVZ and bovine TB rules."

"Tb testing is a very stressful time, both during the test and awaiting results."

Pwysigrwydd diogelu'n cyflenwad bwyd

gan Glyn Roberts, Llywydd UAC

MEWN dogfennau a gyflwynwyd i lywodraethau dilynol dros y degawdau, mae UAC wedi tynnu sylw at bwysigrwydd diogelu'n cyflenwad bwyd, o ystyried pa mor gyflym y gall materion newid ar y llwyfan byd-eang.

Cyn pandemig covid-19, cafwyd y sioc enfawr ddiwethaf o ran cyflenwadau bwyd byd-eang yn 2007 a 2008, pan fethodd cynaeafau ar draws y byd, gan arwain at brinder bwyd a chynnydd aruthrol mewn prisiau - gan greu ansefydlogrwydd gwleidyddol ac economaidd ac aflonyddwch cymdeithasol mewn gwledydd tlawd a gwledydd datblygedig fel ei gilydd, oedd yn gatalydd i'r chwyldroadau gwaedlyd a adwaenir erbyn hyn fel y Gwanwyn Arabaidd.

Er bod natur cymharol fwyn y feirws covid-19 (o'i gymharu â mathau eraill o goronafeirws) yn golygu ei fod wedi amharu llai ar y cyflenwadau bwyd byd-eang nag y gallai fod wedi fel arall, roedd yn fodd i'n hatgoffa nad methiant cynyddu'n unig all siglo'r cyflenwadau bwyd byd-eang, a pha mor bwysig yw diogelu'n cyflenwad bwyd.

Ond nid felly, mae'n amlwg, gyda Llywodraeth y DU, a dreuliodd ran helaeth o'r pandemig yn trafod cytundebau masnach â gwledydd sy'n cynhyrchu bwyd ar raddfa fawr megis Seland Newydd ac Awstralia - cytundebau y mae ei dadansoddiadau ei hunan yn dangos yn glir fydd yn tansellio cynhyrchedd y DU ac yn cynyddu'n dibyniaeth ar fewnforion bwyd.

Ar wahân i ddŵr, bwyd yw angen mwyaf hanfodol bywyd, ond mae ein bywydau modern hefyd yn dibynnu ar danwydd - nid yn unig ar gyfer hanfodion fel gwresogi a thrydan, ond hefyd i gludo bwyd ac - yn nhermau nwy - i wneud y gwrtaith sy'n sicrhau bod cynaeafau'n ddigonol i fwydo'n gwledydd ni a'r holl byd.

Mae UAC, dro ar ôl tro, wedi tynnu sylw at y tebygrwydd rhwng ein dibyniaeth ar nwy o Rwsia â pheryglon cynyddu'n dibyniaeth ar fwyd sydd wedi'i fewnforio, ac eto, gydag amseru eironig, arwyddodd Llywodraeth y DU ei chytundeb masnach ag Awstralia ym mis Rhagfyr, ar adeg pan roedd hi hefyd wrthi'n ffurfio cytundeb â safle CF Fertilisers Billingham, i ganiatáu i'r safle ddal ati i gynhyrchu tra bod prisiau nwy byd-eang yn parhau i fod mor uchel.

Ddeufis yn ddiweddarach, daeth y cyhoeddiad bod y DU wedi ffurfio cytundeb masnach â Seland Newydd, a hynny cwta bedwar diwrnod ar ôl i Rwsia ymosod ar y Wcráin, gan olygu bod gennym ryfel erbyn hyn rhwng dwy wlad sydd, rhyngddydd nhw, yn cyflenwi tua 30% o wenith y byd a tua 30% o india-corn y DU, yn ogystal â bod yn gyflenwyr mawr nifer o fwydydd a phorthiant arall.

Arweiniodd ymosodiad Rwsia at gynydd bron ar unwaith o £20 y dunnell yn yr 'UK's May 2022 feed wheat futures price', ac erbyn y 7fed o Fawrth roedd wedi codi dros 30% o'i gymharu â chyn y rhyfel - ffigur oedd heb newid pan aeth Y Tir i'w argraffu.

Er mai gweithredoedd dieflig Rwsia, eu heffaith ar bobl Wcráin, a'r perygl i heddwch byd sydd ar flaen ein meddyliau, fel y dylent fod, mae hi hefyd yn hanfodol bod ein llywodraethau'n cymryd camau i'n hamddiffyn rhag y don enfawr o effeithiau, nid yn lleiaf o ran ein gallu i gynhyrchu bwyd, o ystyried sut mae prisiau mewnbyn a phrinder, a oedd eisoes yn anghynaliadwy, wedi cynyddu tu hwnt i bob rheswm.

Tra bod Llywodraeth y DU i'w gweld yn benderfynol o'n gwneud ni'n fwy agored i effeithiau o'r fath drwy arwyddo cytundebau masnach rhyddfrydol a fydd yn tansellio ffermyr a chynhyrchwyr bwyd y DU, mae gan Lywodraeth Cymru rôl i'w chwarae hefyd o ran sicrhau bod y polisïau mae'n gyfrifol amdanynt yma yng Nghymru'n rhoi ystyriaeth i ddigwyddiadau presennol a phosib ar y llwyfan rhyngwladol.

Yn nhermau digwyddiadau presennol, ysgrifennais at y Gweinidog Materion Gwledig, Lesley Griffiths, yn gynnar ym mis Mawrth, yn gofyn am gyfarfodydd brys gyda sefydliadau ffermio ac eraill sy'n rhan o'r gadwyn gyflenwi, i nodi pa gamau y gellir eu cymryd i amddiffyn ein ffermydd a'n gallu i gynhyrchu bwyd rhag effeithiau cynyddol y rhyfel - ac rwy'n taer obeithio y bydd y cyfarfodydd hyn ar droed erbyn ichi ddarllen y golofn hon.

Ond dros y tymor hirach, beth bynnag fydd canlyniad yr argyfwng yn Wcráin, rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru sicrhau bod ei chynlluniau yn nhermau polisïau Cymru yn

eangfrydig ac yn diogelu tuag at y dyfodol, gan roi ystyriaeth i'r anwadalrwydd all effeithio'n sydyn ar farchnadoedd byd-eang ac ar gynhyrchu ac argaeledd bwyd - p'un ai yn nhermau ei chynllun NVZ

ar gyfer Cymru gyfan, y rheoliadau TB arfaethedig, neu'r Bil Amaethyddiaeth a'r Cynllun Ffermio Cynaliadwy.

Dylai polisïau o'r fath sicrhau bod ffermydd teuluol Cymru'n parhau i fod yn bwysig fel cynhyrchwyr bwyd o'r ansawdd gorau ar gyfer poblogaethau'r DU a thu hwnt, fel maent wedi bod am gannoedd o flynyddoedd.

Fodd bynnag, mae'n hanfodol hefyd bod gwerth ac ansawdd bwyd Cymru'n cael ei adlewyrchu ym mhobolysïau prynu awdurdodau lleol Cymru.

Gyda chytundeb Llafur-Plaid yn canolbwyntio ar bolisïau caffael lleol o'r fath, mae'n hanfodol bod ymgeiswyr yn yr etholiadau Awdurdodau Lleol sydd i ddod yn cael eu cwestiynu a'u dwyn i gyfrif mewn perthynas â chefnogi cynnyrch Cymru.

Ond dylem hefyd gydnabod na all cyflenwi Cymru'n unig fyth gefnogi mwy na chyfran fach iawn o'n diwydiant ffermio, am fod y boblogaeth mor fach.

I gloi y mis hwn, hoffwn yn bersonol, ac ar ran UAC fynegi fy nghydymdeimlad dwys â theulu Dai Jones, Llanilar, a fu farw ddechrau mis Mawrth. Roedd yn ddyn y bobl ac yn un a wnaeth gyfraniad aruthrol i amaethyddiaeth a chefn gwlad, yn ogystal â hyrwyddo gwerthoedd cefn gwlad i'r bobl. Roedd yn eicon y byd ffermio yng Nghymru, nas gwelwyd mo'i debyg o'r blaen, a bydd colled fawr ar ei ôl.

This column is in English on page 3: "Importance of maintaining our food security."



Farming women take centre stage at FUW International Women's Day webinar

THE FUW hosted a special webinar to celebrate the women who work in the agricultural industry and to shine a light on the issues that many are still facing today.

The webinar 'Women in agriculture', was held on Tuesday March 8 and coincided with International Women's Day, the theme of which was #BreakTheBias.

The webinar heard from Kate Miles, Charity Manager at The DPJ Foundation; Nicola Davies, Chair of Council at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society; Caryl Hughes, Regional Vice Chairman of the National Sheep Association and FUW member; and Gwenno Davies, Senior Account Executive at FUW Insurance Services.

The panel drew upon their experiences within the agricultural industry to discuss the mental health of women in agriculture, the change in attitudes they've witnessed over time and the organisations that have supported them in their careers.

Chairing the event, FUW Policy Officer and North Wales beef and sheep farmer, Teleri Fielden, said: "According to DEFRA women represent 55% of workers on family farms but only about 16% own or manage that farm.

"We have a long way to go before that figure is equal. It's very obvious that there are a lot fewer women in leadership and management roles in the industry."

"I hope that the discussions will inspire more women to take up farming and also feel more confident in the role they play in the industry."

Nicola Davies, chair of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, who outlined her personal journey with the Society from the sash to the chair told the audience: "I'm a mother, a wife, a daughter and proud to be living in rural Wales and all that it entails. The definition of agriculture is wide and varied. When I was born in the 1970s things were very different but they were also not so different. Different as far as technology and machinery is concerned but not so much in the sense of history and community and camaraderie.

"But where do we as women fit into all of this? As women, if I asked you, you would tell me about the factual things like your height, age, where you live and if you have family. What does that say about us? It doesn't cover half of what we actually are. But it gives us a perception of who we are."

The family farm, she told the audience, has been passed down from generation to generation and it was passed down to her grandmother, the daughter of the farm, even though she had an older brother. "This was back in the 1940s. That was quite a big step at the time. My grandmother then had 2 sons, one of which was my father. Then it comes to my generation. My father continued the farming tradition but shock horror he had only one child - a daughter.

"Being younger there was that perception that you had to be male and that farms are inherited by the son. I asked my parents time and time again, why don't you have another child, try for a son? But they told me it makes no difference. If you have a passion for rural life, it makes no difference. You can do anything and I firmly believe that the belief against that traditional stereotype stems from my grandmother in the 1940s.

"I was never treated differently, I was plonked on a tractor and told to go out and roll the field. That was my first job. I was always encouraged to do exactly the same as everyone else on the farm. I'm still told today by family members, especially my father who is now in his 70s, that physical strength isn't everything. You sometimes have to think your way out of it. Use different techniques and never stop learning. Always show stock, when you handle them, the ultimate respect that they deserve because they will sense it out if you don't. That was a very important lesson I learnt when handling stock," said Nicola Davies.

The career service back when Nicola was in school was very different, she explains. "I was okayish at school but when I mentioned agri courses and equine, the glare I had was unbelievable. They didn't think that I would entertain the idea of going into the agricultural field. However, I was always encouraged to get my education in whatever I wanted. The farm was always there and I could come back if I wanted. I enjoyed college life and went to Uni in Swansea and I'm glad I did. Going away you often appreciate what's at home. I missed the rough and tumble of farming life. That's probably why I joined the University rugby team. It put me in good stead catching ewes and lambs, I was quite a good tackler. On graduating I came home and immersed myself in the YFC movement."

Nicola has always been a member of Felinfach YFC and recalling her time with the local branch, she said: "I had so much out of the YFC movement and I was the chair of my club. Even though we are a competitive county, I've always stressed that what's important is the taking part. Correspondence came through from the Royal Welsh looking for Miss Royal Welsh. Nobody wanted to take part but they said I should go for it. At that point I gave them every reason why I shouldn't go for it. And then my own



mantra, 'you need to take part, it's not the winning that counts', came right back at me."

That's how her journey with the Royal Welsh started and she recalls: "The sash bit didn't sit well with me but you've got to put it in the context of the time. You have to look at your situation in the timeline that you're in. It was the 1990s, Miss World was pretty popular on TV and fairly accepted. The sash and the image it portrayed kept dragging us back decades. But my role as Miss Royal Welsh was not to preach to the converted but on behalf of the converted. That remains the case for all of us as women. Often I found myself explaining what the role involved and people would question why I was called Miss Royal Welsh if it wasn't just a beauty pageant. The image of what we as women were doing was incorrect for what we were doing."

Nicola relayed her experiences to the society many times and was then asked by the chair of the council Mr Meurig Rees to address the Society's AGM regarding her views of the Miss Royal Welsh and its titles future. "The society embraced the change. The role in itself was modern and it was relevant. But the title wasn't. Within 2 years, our first Lady Ambassador was appointed. She was given the option of wearing the sash or not. It was after gaining the Miss Royal Welsh title that I became part of the Royal Welsh committee in Ceredigion and stewarding structure of the Show.

"Today is about celebrating the role of women but for us to do what we must do, we must embrace the opportunities that come our way. I initially went on the board of management and the council of the Royal Welsh 15 years ago. I had my son in February and attended my first Board meeting in March representing my county Ceredigion. Never indeed was a prouder moment," she said.

When you look at it, Nicola says, Ceredigion has a high percentage of farmers, steeped in tradition and what you might think is an old way of thinking. "But it was that community that asked a woman in her early 30s, a farmer's daughter, to represent them on the Board. And because of their foresight I became one of the youngest elected members of the Board at the time. Very often you have to have faith in the communities that you're in to take and drive that forward," adds Nicola.

Nicola then became part of the real inner workings of the Show. Her experience of attending the Board and Council was positive and welcoming. Speaking about the changes she inspired, Nicola says: "The purpose of the Miss Royal Welsh and Lady Ambassador and what it can bring to the Show continues to this day. However, it's only the last couple of years that the role has been open to both male and female. It is now an Ambassador not a Lady Ambassador. Why has it taken so long for that equality to come through so that it now includes both genders? Discrimination can work the other way round.

"The Society during the years has felt that there was a positive need to positively discriminate to promote the female in agriculture so that they could promote the female and also the younger female. The woman was very much the unsung hero and the unsung support system. Through the system that we had we gained so many young women who worked tirelessly for the Society and have integrated into our committee structures and had their voice heard. Change doesn't happen overnight, it creeps up on you slowly like the mist does. It engulfs you and then it lifts very slowly to reveal a new way of thinking," she told the audience.

The webinar is available to watch here:
<https://youtu.be/wGLdqwU7jjc>

#BreakTheBias

#RhwygoRhagfarn

FUW Insurance Services Ltd. Senior Account Executive Gwenno Davies, who has been working for the FUW Group for nearly 5 years now from the Dolgellau office, was clear that her mum was the inspiration she needed to get a foothold in the farming world.



"I'm a farmer's daughter from Cerrigydrudion area and I'm one of four children from a beef and lamb farm. I have grown up with agriculture. I have a brother but if dad wanted help to move the sheep we all had to help. All of us were out in all weather dealing with stock. We were out because our parents were out.

"I've grown up with my mother as a role model. She still runs her own farm up in Harlech, brought up 4 children and also runs a cake business. My sister works as a vet, another area which is seen as a male dominated field. But that is quickly changing as the years go by. We've all grown up seeing how determined and successful mum is and she is the reason why me and my sister are where we are today in agriculture. My brother is still the first choice to help on the farm but as dad gets older he realises that he can't do without us girls. I hope that slowly people's perspectives are changing, even old fashioned men such as dad," she said.

The YFC movement also plays an important role in Gwenno's life. "I have been fortunate enough to be chairman of the Clwyd Young farmers and it's only my third year this year because of Covid. I have grown up with the YFC. Dad has been chair of Clwyd and now I'm doing the same thing 40 years later. At the time dad was doing it you'd only see men's names in names of chairs. Today that has changed. However, in our area there is still a tendency to have more male stock judges but you can see by now that girls do just as well if not better in the stock judging competitions. The year I was the Queen of Clwyd's county and I had also won stockman of the year, but notice how it's stockman and not stockwoman," she says.

Working for FUW Insurance Services Ltd. brings Gwenno in touch with many members and customers. Whilst some might find the task of talking to farmers about their insurance daunting, Gwenno has always found there to be mutual respect. "In my work with insurance there is a good balance of women and men doing the jobs. Although I usually deal with men about insurance. I feel quite comfortable talking to them about all manner of things including Brexit, the price of stock, whatever comes up."

One thing that continues to make her nervous is attending the local mart. "I do feel very nervous about attending the mart. You feel like everybody's eyes are looking at you. It's an overwhelming feeling. There's work to be done to change the feeling that women get when they go there, as it still feels very much like a man's place to be," she says.

However when it comes to women's role at home, the picture is quite different. Gwenno says: "I see how much pressure there is on farm income these days and I come across many wives and partners who develop the business of the farm through diversifying. Usually you look at caravan parks or camping and you see how women play such an important role on the farm without having the acknowledgement for it.

"I'm sure most women do the paperwork and computer work. I know at home mum does all that and dad would be lost without her. Technology changes so quickly and it's a big part of life on the farm now. Women are a key part of that. There are sadly still occasions where women get asked by a man if they want them to reverse a trailer for them or move some machinery. It's not necessary, women can and do, do these jobs. A lot has changed but there is still much work to be done to change the stereotype.

"I was lucky to grow up with a strong mother as a role model and to grow up on a farm but not everybody has that opportunity and there is much work to be done."

Kate Miles, Charity Manager at the DPJ Foundation, who despite being born and brought up on a farm, never considered herself a woman in agriculture, told the audience. "It's not necessarily something I've recognised as a teenager; it was always said that you can do more than farming. As an industry we need to recognise that farming is enough. Bringing talent into the industry is now vital, male or female it doesn't matter."

Addressing bias in the workplace, Kate said: "In terms of bias, it's something we all have. We all have unconscious bias based on what we've seen and learnt no matter what sex, gender or race we are. A bias I have is that I'm pro farmer. Some biases can be less than helpful especially if we don't know they're there. That's where there's room for discrimination. Challenging bias can be a bit of a challenge.

"When I worked as a solicitor in Bristol I encountered bias and discrimination. People made assumptions about colleagues not wanting to pursue their career after having children for example. It also felt strange that people were making assumptions about my own family planning ambitions because I was young and that it affected my chances of promotion. As a trainee solicitor in Cardiff I also came across situations which were questionable in that sense and also not appropriate. I can say that I had never experienced that in agriculture, not when I was working with the YFC or with the DPJ. But just because I haven't experienced this in agriculture doesn't mean that it doesn't exist."

Kate further highlighted that what she noticed as part of her work with the DPJ Foundation is that there continue to be issues around succession, which often causes problems. "In my family the farm has come down the female line, my great grandmother inherited the farm from her father despite having an older brother. So I've always assumed being male or female doesn't make any difference. But that's one of my biases. When it comes to succession today it is not always easy and farming families face stress and anxiety over it."

A recent report by the RABI also highlighted that more women than men experience anxiety and women were more likely to be depressed. Kate says: "Why are women more likely to be anxious and depressed? That's something we must explore further, especially in my role with the DPJ Foundation. From our own experience at the DPJ Foundation, more women than men come along to the training. What the women tell us is that they worry about the men in their lives and their wellbeing. They want to know how to make things better.

"There certainly is a visibility gap, despite women being able to drive the tractor or combine harvesters, shear sheep and do pretty much everything that men do. We have to address that. I see some inspirational role models, especially in the younger generation, which we can see on social media. For a vibrant industry and a sustainable future, we need men and women to be part of it, regardless of what jobs they do in agriculture."



The final speaker at the FUW's webinar was Caryl Hughes, who farms in partnership with her parents and grandmother in North East Wales on the edge of the Berwyn Mountain range. "I'll be the fifth generation to farm and am now in partnership with my father, my mother and my grandmother. So dad is very lucky to have three women in this partnership with him. We are farming around 1,000 acres at the moment, with it being 50/50 owned and rented. We have expanded since I've come on board as a partner. Another farm came up for sale down the road and it was a 900 acres farm and the landlord decided to split it up into 3 lots of 300 acres. With that land coming up so close to home, within 4 miles, it was an opportunity we couldn't miss out on. That's when I took the plunge and became a partner. I'm now farming full time," she explains.

Caryl went to school in Wrexham, a school she describes as a very towny school and agriculture not being very high on the agenda. Describing her school experience she told the audience that: "I was very much a tom-boy in primary school but that got questioned in highschool and people didn't understand why I'd want to go put my wellies on. For us at home it was a case of if you want your tea you go and help dad on the farm, finish the jobs and then we have tea together.

"At school they didn't understand that and there was no pressure on them to understand agriculture either. There was no emphasis on agriculture as a career. I wanted to be a vet, which was what the school liked. But with A Levels and becoming more involved with rural life, I decided to cut my losses and went to Aberystwyth University to study agriculture and animal science."

Whilst studying at Aberystwyth, Caryl was offered a placement in New Zealand and went out there to work in the dairy industry. "Interestingly when I spoke to my boss out there and said I noticed a lot of women calf rearing, he told me he preferred women in that role as



they were better with the calves. Whilst that is a bit biased, for him it was about having the best person in the job and that was a woman. If you look at the dairy industry now, you will see a lot of women being farm and herds managers out there," she says.

Caryl says she was never pushed into farming, but that her parents were supportive and encouraged her to try everything once. "I did the AgriAcademy, the Llyndy Isaf Scholarship, travelled to Norway a bit for some shearing work, and I will give everything a go once. And as soon as the tenancy came up here at home, I thought yes I want to do that and be home here and farm."

The YFC movement is also a big part of Caryl's life and she is proud to have been the first Montgomery chair to live in Clwyd. "I climbed my way up through the YFC and became county chair. In Montgomeryshire there wasn't really any bias, our best stock judges are our female stock judges. Yes the trophy is called Stockman of the year and I hadn't really thought about it. It probably needs to be changed.

"I work a bit in the YFC office now and help organise events and I don't think there is any bias there. The best person for the job does it regardless of male or female. I'm now vice chair of the NSA Cymru region and looking forward to becoming a Board member for the NSA representing Wales. I'd want to be the chair of a committee not because I'm a woman but because I'm good enough to do the job and that what I say is relevant. It can't be a tick box exercise," she said.

Going to the mart, she agrees though, can be a bit difficult at first. "At the start it was a bit difficult when I took over a job for my dad and the old drover asked me if I wanted help reversing. I don't take any nonsense from the buyers and men at the mart. Sometimes you have to play devil's advocate and respond with humour to some odd comments. For me the performance of my livestock is what matters and I hope that's what gets noticed," she told the audience.

Speaking after the webinar, Teleri Fielden said: "During the webinar we have explored how to further empower women in the agricultural industry, addressed bias, stereotypes and discrimination and discussed how agriculture in Wales and the UK has the potential to lead the way in creating a sustainable industry that is diverse, equitable and inclusive.

"I thank our speakers for their valuable contributions and hope that the discussions will inspire more women to take up farming and also feel more confident in the role they play in the industry."

ANGLESEY

anglesey@fuw.org.uk

01248 750250

Ymunwch â ni am frecwast

Yn sgil y sefyllfa gyda'r Coronafeirws nol yn mis Ionawr penderfynwyd gohirio'r brecwast ffermdy elusennol am y tro. Mae'n bleser cael cyhoeddi bydd y digwyddiad yn mynd ymlaen **fore Llun y 23ain o Fai** yng nghaffi Marchnad Morgan Evans, Gaerwen o 9.30yb ymlaen.

Cost brecwast fydd £10 y pen, gyda'r holl elw yn mynd i Sefydliad y DPJ. Bydd angen archebu eich lle drwy alw 01248 750250, edrychwn ymlaen at eich gweld am lond bol o frecwast blasus a digonedd o sgwrsio!



As a result of the Coronavirus situation back in January it was decided to postpone the charity farmhouse breakfast for the time being. It is a pleasure to announce that the event will take place on Monday May 23 at Morgan Evans Mart Café, Gaerwen from 9.30am onwards. The cost of the breakfast will be £10 per person, with all proceeds going to the DPJ Foundation. You will need to book your place by phoning 01248 750250, we look forward to seeing you for a delicious breakfast and plenty of chats!

Ynys Môn a Gwynedd yn chwarae rhan i helpu trueiniaid Wcráin

Ar Ddydd Sadwrn y 9fed o Ebrill cynhaliwyd digwyddiad arbennig ar Gae Sioe Môn i gasglu arian i drueiniaid Wcráin sydd wedi gorfod dianc o'u cartrefi yn sgil yr ymosodiad gan luoedd Putin. Roedd yn ddiwrnod llawn hwyl i'r teulu cyfan, gyda pherfformiadau gan artistiaid megis Bryn Fôn a'r Band, Bwncath ac Elin Fflur, i enwi dim ond rhai. Tra bod llawer ohonom yn mwynhau ein hunain, nid oedd erchylltra'r sefyllfa yn y Wcráin ym mhell o'n meddyliau, ac roedd yr Undeb yn falch iawn o allu cynnig cefnogaeth drwy nodd i'r digwyddiad.



On Saturday April 9 a special event was held at the Anglesey Showground to raise money for the Ukraine refugees who have had to flee their homes following the attack by Putin's forces. It was a fun day for the whole family, with performances by artists such as Bryn Fôn and the Band, Bwncath and Elin Fflur, to name just a few. While many of us were enjoying ourselves, the horrors of the situation in Ukraine were never far from our minds, and the Union was delighted to be able to offer support by sponsoring the event.

CAERNARFON

caernarfon@fuw.org.uk

01286 672541

Cyfarfod gyda gwleidyddion etholaeth Arfon

Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod yn ddiweddar gyda gwleidyddion etholaeth Arfon, sef Siân Gwenllian a Hywel Williams, a chafwyd cyfle i drafod nifer o'n pryderon gan gynnwys Papur Gwyn Amaeth a chapio ac ail ddsbarthu taliadau i'r dyfodol, y sefyllfa bresennol gyda'r rheolau arfaethedig ar gyfer rheoli tail a phiswail, cytundeb masnachu gydag Awstralia a goblygiadau'r cytundeb hwnnw i amaethwyr Cymru, pryniant tiroedd ar gyfer plannu coed a'r dogfennau ymgynghorol ar ail gartrefi a thai gwyliau.

Yn bresennol roedd cadeirydd y sir sef John Hughes, Tudur Parry a David Williams ynghyd â Gareth Parry o Adran Bolisi'r Undeb a Gwynedd Watkin.

Yn ogystal cymerodd Siân Gwenllian y cyfle i gyfeirio at y cytundeb rhwng y Blaid Lafur a Phlaid Cymru, a phwysleisiodd pa mor bwysig ydyw i gymryd y cyfle i geisio dylanwadu ar bolisiâu'r Llywodraeth o ganlyniad i greu'r bartneriaeth.

A meeting was recently held with Arfon constituency politicians, Siân Gwenllian and Hywel Williams, and we had the opportunity to discuss many of our concerns including the Agriculture White Paper and the capping and re-distribution of future payments, the current position with the proposed rules for manure and slurry management, a trade agreement with Australia and the implications of that agreement for Welsh farmers, the purchase of land for tree planting and the consultation documents on second homes and holiday homes. County Chairman John Hughes, Tudur Parry, David Williams, Gareth Parry of the Union's Policy Department and Gwynedd Watkin were present. Siân Gwenllian also took the opportunity to refer to the agreement between the Labour Party and Plaid Cymru, and emphasised the importance of taking the opportunity to influence Government policies as a result of the creation of the partnership.

CARMARTHEN

carmarthen@fuw.org.uk

01267 237974

Reopening of Carmarthen mart



Carmarthen mart reopened on March 2nd, FUW Carmarthen County Executive Officer David Waters said: "We had a successful day, it was great to meet members face to face again." FUW Insurance Services Ltd. Account Executive Gwion James added: "FUW Insurance Services Ltd are very happy to return to their mart office to provide a personal service to new and existing clients."



CEREDIGION

ceredigion@fuw.org.uk

01570 424515

Enillwyr Clwb 200 Club winners

Ionawr/January

- 1 - Haydn Lewis, Gorsaf Dawel, Aberaeron - £20
- 2 - T.J & M Davies, Blaengwenllan, Henllan - £10
- 3 - I & MD Evans, Aneddwen, Llanarth - £5

Chwefror/February

- 1 - Lewis Griffith, 66 Maesceinion, Aberystwyth, £20
- 2 - Dafydd Jones, Brynceiro, Ponterwyd - £10
- 3 - Mr & Mrs Davies, Gorswgan, Llanilar -£5

glamorgan@fuw.org.uk / 01446 774838

GLAMORGAN & GWENT

gwent@fuw.org.uk / 01873 853280

Cowbridge Livestock Market relocation discussions



A positive and progressive meeting was held recently with the Vale of Glamorgan Council. It felt great to be moving the conversations forward for the industry.

We welcome all input from farmers, younger farmers and those in the surrounding communities, we want to enable the surrounding areas to benefit from an asset which will form part of a Rural Hub or Agri Hub.

We envisage this to have a meeting room, hot desk facilities for all types of business, catering facilities and the building being multi-functioning if possible. We welcome all feedback with what visions our members have for this. Please feel free to call Sharon at the FUW Glamorgan Office or email with information regarding this project.

MEIRIONNYDD

meirionnydd@fuw.org.uk

01341 422298

Cefin Campbell AS yn ymweld â swyddfa'r Undeb yn Nolgellau

Braf iawn oedd croesawu Aelod o Senedd Cymru Cefin Campbell atom i swyddfa sirol yr Undeb yn ystod ei ymweliad a Meirionnydd yng nghanol mis Chwefror.

It was great to welcome Welsh Member of the Senedd Cefin Campbell to the county office during his visit to Meirionnydd in mid-February.



O'r chwith, Cadeirydd UAC Meirionnydd Edwin Jones; Cefin Campbell AS; Sam Robinson, Dirprwy Swyddog Sirol Meirionnydd; Guto Bebb, Prif Weithredwr yr Undeb; Gareth Parry, Uwch Swyddog Polisi a Nick Fenwick, Pennaeth Polisi Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru.

Ymweliad fferm lwyddiannus

Cynhaliwyd ymweliad fferm lwyddiannus yn Cae Coch, Rhydymain ger Dolgellau ar ddiwedd mis Chwefror drwy garedigrwydd Alun a Catrin. Cafwyd cyfarfod gwych iawn yn trin a thrafod materion amaeth a chefn gwlad gydag Aelod Senedd Cymru Cefin Campbell, gyda thaith hynod ddiddorol oddi amgylch y fferm. Roedd cynrychiolwyr o nifer o gyrff a mudiadau yn bresennol.

Diolch arbennig i Alun am y croeso cynnes, a'i gyflwyniadau bywiog fel arfer, a diolch yn fawr iawn hefyd i Catrin am y lluniaeth blasus. Diolch hefyd i'r holl gynrychiolwyr ddaeth ynghyd.

At the end of February, a successful farm visit was held at Cae Coch, Rhydymain near Dolgellau courtesy of Alun and Catrin. An excellent meeting was held to discuss agricultural and countryside issues with Welsh Member of the Senedd Cefin Campbell, and an interesting tour of the farm. Representatives from a number of organisations attended. Many thanks to Alun for the warm welcome, and his lively presentations as usual, and a big thank you also to Catrin for the delicious refreshments. Also, thank you to all the delegates who were present.



Arwyddion newydd



Yn ystod y mis diwethaf gosodwyd arwyddion newydd ar fynedfa ein swyddfa sirol. Gyda'r logo diweddaraf, mae hyn yn gwella ein presenoldeb ar y stryd yn Nolgellau ar gyfer gwaith yr Undeb a'r yswiriant.

During the past month new signs have been placed at the entrance to our county office. With the latest logo, this enhances our street presence in Dolgellau for the Union and insurance work.

Siom am ddiddymu Ffordd Osgoi Llanbedr

Yn ystod y pwyllgor sirol diwethaf ym Meirionnydd, mynegwyd siom difrifol am benderfyniad Llywodraeth Cymru i ddiddymu cynllun Ffordd Osgoi Llanbedr yng ngorllewin Meirionnydd. Roedd dadleuon cryf yn yr ardal o blaid y cynllun, a bellach mae yna ddeiseb ar-lein i Lywodraeth Cymru gyda'r nod o gael dros 10,000 o lofnodion er mwyn gallu trafod y cynllun ar lawr y Senedd yng Nghaerdydd. Gellir cysylltu â'r ddeiseb trwy'r linc yma - <https://deisebau.senedd.cymru/deisebau/245002> ac rydym yn annog pawb sydd â diddordeb i gymryd rhan. Mae croeso i unrhyw un gysylltu gyda swyddfa sirol yr Undeb os am fwy o wybodaeth.

During the last county committee meeting in Meirionnydd, grave disappointment was expressed at the Welsh Government's decision to withdraw the Llanbedr Bypass scheme in west Meirionnydd. There were strong arguments in the area in favour of the scheme, and there is now an online petition with the aim of getting over 10,000 signatures in order to discuss the scheme in the Senedd in Cardiff. You can access the petition via the link here - <https://petitions.senedd.wales/petitions/245002> and we encourage all interested parties to get involved. Anyone is welcome to contact the Union county office for more information.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE

montgomeryshire@fuw.org.uk

01686 626889



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ffion Wright Evans, Montgomery YFC Development Officer and Huw Jones, past County Chairman on their recent wedding at Garthmyl Hall on Saturday February 26 2022.

PEMBROKESHIRE

pembrokeshire@fuw.org.uk

01437 762913

Monthly County Executive meeting

In early March members of the County Executive Committee welcomed Cefin Campbell MS, Regional Member for Mid & West Wales, to their monthly meeting to discuss the issues currently affecting members in Pembrokeshire.



The issue of TB and its continuing negative impact on the industry was discussed along with concerns surrounding the proposals put forward by the Welsh Government in their recent TB Refreshed Eradication Programme consultation document, with assurances being sought that Plaid Cymru would fight against the proposals.

Discussions also took place regarding the Labour-Plaid Cymru co-operation agreement with members seeking re-assurances that it would not have a negative impact on agriculture and the wider rural community. In addition, issues such as the upcoming Agriculture Bill, the impact of the Agriculture Pollution Regulations, increasing input costs and the changeover to fibre telephone lines in the county were discussed.

200 Club

Following a recent meeting to discuss the future management of the Pembrokeshire FUW 200 Club it has been agreed that from June 2022, the monthly prize draws will be replaced by quarterly prize draws with increased prizes of £60, £30 and £20 each quarter.

Entry into the draws is only £5 per number for the whole year, so if you have not yet signed up or would like an additional number in the draw contact the county office on 01437 762913 to get yourself registered in time for the first quarterly draw in June.

March Results

£25 - Evans, Maes y Ffynnon
£10 - Evans, Penrallt
£10 - Williams, Fagwrfran East



Lantra Cymru Awards



Bryn Perry.

DUE to the Covid 19 restrictions, which necessitated the prestigious Lantra Cymru Awards 2021 having to be judged remotely, the Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales & Trefnydd, Lesley Griffiths pre-recorded a short message which was transmitted during the actual ceremony, held on February 24, 2022 at the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells.

The Minister congratulated winner of the Brynle Williams Memorial Award. This award, now in its 11th year and donated by the late Mr Williams' widow Mrs Mary Williams, who was an FUW member, recognises the achievements of a young farmer who has found their way into a farming business through Farming Connect's Venture programme. It was awarded to first-generation farmer Bryn Perry who lives in Pembrokeshire.

"Bryn's academic and professional background was in the business sector, but since moving to Wales just two years ago, he has established himself as a highly professional young farmer and businessperson, he is already making a name for himself and his 'sheep dairy' business, and I'm delighted to announce that he is the winner of the prestigious 2021 Brynle Williams Memorial Award," said the Minister.

Also congratulated was FUW member Sarah Evans, Tyla Morris Farm, Pentyrch, Cardiff for being Farming Connect Young Learner of the Year Award runner-up.

The judges agreed that Sarah had demonstrated a huge appetite for learning and personal development. She has undertaken an impressive list of courses through Farming Connect which she's putting to good use by developing her existing business, an urban fringe farm on the outskirts of Cardiff.

Having progressed through Hartpury College followed by the Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester, Sarah is currently studying a BASIS soil course and is already planning her next training opportunities. Sarah has already set her sights on learning more about agri-tourism, environmental and educational opportunities.



Sarah Evans.



Glamorgan county are actively looking for FUW members to sign up to Farmer Time - Run by LEAF Linking Environment and Farming

Farmer Time is all about inspiring, engaging and educating young people about not only the journey from farm to fork but also the ever changing, diverse agricultural industry.

We want to pair up Welsh farmers with Welsh schools.

Children can chat live to their matched farmer from their classrooms through FaceTime or Skype, discuss ideas, ask questions, share knowledge and gain a 'real-time' understanding of the issues farmers face every day.

Call Sharon Pritchard at either the Gwent office: 01873 853280 or the Glamorgan Office: 01446 774838 for more information



Safe transport on the farm

BECAUSE of the wide variety of activities involving transport in agriculture, it is easier to identify problems and take action if you break your transport activities into areas:

Follow Safe Stop:

- before leaving the driver's seat/operating position;
- when anyone else approaches;
- before anyone carries out maintenance, adjustments or deals with a blockage.

NEGESUON ALLWEDDOL:
CERBYDAU SY'N SYMUD

KEY MESSAGES:
MOVING VEHICLES

Peidiwch byth â mynd at neu gerdded tu ôl i gerbyd sy'n symud. Os oes rhaid i chi fynd ato, tynnwch sylw'r gyrrwr yn gyntaf (pan fydd yn ddiogel) a'i gael i stopio.

Never approach, walk behind or beside a moving vehicle. If you must approach, attract the driver's attention first (when safe) and get them to stop.

- Dylai gwaith gael ei gynllunio i gadw pobl draw oddi wrth gerbydau sy'n symud
- Dylai llwybrau cerbydau gadw oddi wrth lwybrau cerddwyr/drysau/giatiau/allanfeydd ac ati
- Rhaid i yrrwyr gael hyfforddiant
- Gwnewch yn siŵr bod drychau'n cael eu gosod, eu haddasu'n briodol a'u glanhau

- Work should be planned to keep people away from moving vehicles
- Vehicle routes should be away from pedestrian routes/doors/gates/exits
- Drivers must be trained
- Ensure mirrors are fitted, properly adjusted and clean

www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture

Safe vehicle

Check that vehicles, machines and handling equipment are:

- suitable for the work and capable of safely performing the jobs to be done, with reversing aids such as mirrors;
- inspected daily and faults repaired promptly;
- properly maintained, paying particular attention to braking systems.

Check that your vehicles, or any machines with workers riding or working on them, are fitted with roll-over protective structures (ROPS) and seatbelts if there is a risk of overturning.

Check that:

- drivers of lift trucks and loaders are protected from falling objects;
- loads are stable and secure;
- trailers have adequate brakes designed for the maximum loads and speeds at which they will operate;
- keys are kept secure when vehicles are not in use.

Safe driver

Check that drivers:

- are medically fit to drive;
- are properly trained and unauthorised people are not allowed to drive;
- know how to safely enter and exit the vehicle.

Never allow passengers to ride on or in vehicle cabs unless they are sitting on a passenger seat in a safe position and cannot impede the driver, accidentally contact the machine controls, or obscure the driver's vision. No-one should mount or dismount a moving vehicle.

Safe site

Check that:

- vehicles and pedestrians are separated where possible;
- visiting drivers are aware of your rules, including parking areas, one-way systems etc;
- vehicle routes reduce the need to reverse, eg by adding turning circles, or using one-way systems;
- traffic routes are properly maintained and adequately lit;
- warning and speed limit signs are clear and consistent with the Highway Code;
- locate silos and stores in a safe place away from OHPLs to reduce risks during feed deliveries.

Never approach or walk behind or beside a reversing vehicle. If you must approach, attract the driver's attention first when it is safe to do so and get them to stop especially if you need to speak to the driver or mount the machine.

More information on www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture

MEAT MATTERS

Worldwide trends set to impact red meat sector

by Glesni Phillips, HCC Data Analyst

IT'S rarely been clearer how world events can impact on the fortunes of our lamb, beef and pork sectors here in Wales.

Despite the disruption of Covid, red meat exports in 2021 were still worth over £200m to the Welsh economy. At the same time, rising fuel and energy prices are hitting farmers' and processors' input costs, and this situation may be made more acute by the war in Ukraine. Also, the signing of new trade deals by the UK potentially mean greater exposure to international competition.

With this in mind, HCC has released a report looking at the production trends of other major red meat producing regions - the USA, South America, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

In short, the outlook for beef supplies on the global market may provide support to UK trade and farmgate prices. As far as lamb is concerned, there may be an increase in supply due to production trends in the southern hemisphere and China.

Although we are unable to export lamb to China and the market for UK beef has only just opened, the country's vast population exerts a considerable influence on global price trends.

In recent years, the prevalence of African Swine Fever in Asia has meant that China has imported a great deal of protein - not only pork but also beef and lamb, particularly from Brazil, Australia and New Zealand.

There are signs that the size of the Chinese pig herd is recovering more rapidly than expected. If trends continue, the growth of meat imports to the country may slow.

Weather patterns also continue to have an impact on production, particularly in arid countries.

Australia's red meat production has been badly hit by droughts in recent years but latest forecasts show a recovery in the flock size, which may lead to the country looking for increased export sales.

Supplies of beef cattle, however, continue to be tight in the sector's global superpowers - the USA, Brazil and Europe.

This would suggest that, although there will be a limit to the prices that consumers are willing to pay, demand for beef will continue to be strong in relation to global supply, which should give confidence to Welsh farmers.

HCC's Global Red Meat Production Trends report is available at www.meatpromotion.wales

Mae HCC wedi rhyddhau adroddiad yn edrych ar dueddiadau cynhyrchu rhanbarthau cynhyrchu cig coch mawr eraill - UDA, De America, Ewrop, Awstralia a Seland Newydd. Yn fyr, efallai y bydd y rhagolygon ar gyfer cyflenwadau cig eidion ar y farchnad fyd-eang yn rhoi cymorth i fasnach y DU a phrisiau wrth gât y fferm. Cyn belled ag y mae cig oen yn y cwestiwn, efallai y bydd cynnydd yn y cyflenwad oherwydd tueddiadau cynhyrchu yn hemisffer y de a Tsieina.



PROPERTY MATTERS

Case G - Death of a tenant

by Kathryn Williams, Director, Davis Meade Property Consultants

UNDER the Agricultural Holdings Act (AHA) 1986, upon the death of the tenant, the tenancy does not automatically terminate, but rather, under common law will vest in the personal representatives of the deceased tenant and continues as before until terminated.

The appropriate notice to terminate a tenancy governed by the AHA 1986, is a Case G notice to quit. This must be served by the landlord, following the death of the sole or sole surviving tenant and must be done within 3 months beginning with the date of any relevant notice.

The relevant notice includes written notification of the tenant's death from an executor or administrator of the tenant's estate or notice of an application for succession. The 3 month period used to run from the date of death, however this produced an injustice where a landlord was absent.

There have also been many situations in which the landlord is fully aware of the tenant's death, in some cases the Landlord has even attended the late tenant's funeral, however this is not sufficient to start the 3 month time period and as such written notice must be given.

A landlord does not have to wait to receive a relevant notice before a Case G notice to quit can be served. In practice a landlord will often look to establish whether an application for succession is going to be made before serving the Case G notice. An application for succession must be made within 3 months from the date of death of the late tenant.

The Case G notice should be served on the personal representatives of the tenant if they have obtained a grant of probate. In addition to this or alternatively service can be made on the person responsible for the management of the holding and thirdly if in doubt service on the Public Trustee can be made. In practice covering all avenues is advisable.

If the landlord fails to serve a Case G notice and no application for succession is made, the tenancy continues but is vested in the personal representatives.

There is no option for Arbitration to challenge a Case G notice, the only option or means of challenge is through the court.

For further information or advice please contact Kathryn Williams, Davis Meade Property Consultants on kathrynwilliams@dmpcuk.com

O dan Ddeddf Daliadau Amaethyddol 1986, ar farwolaeth y tenant, nid yw'r denantiaeth yn dod i ben yn awtomatig, ond yn hytrach, o dan gyfraith gwlad bydd yn breinio yng nghynrychiolwyr personol y tenant ymadawedig ac yn parhau fel o'r blaen hyd nes y daw i ben. Am ragor o wybodaeth neu gyngor cysylltwch â Kathryn Williams, Davis Meade Property Consultants drwy e-bostio kathrynwilliams@dmpcuk.com



MERCHED MEWN AMAETH

Beth am ymuno a'r daith?

gan Tegwen Morris, Cyfarwyddwraig Cenedlaethol, Merched y Wawr

RYDYM yn gyffro i gyd - mae gennym wefan newydd - diolch i gymorth gan y Loteri Genedlaethol sy'n mynd i hwyluso ein gwaith fel elusen, ac mi fydd modd siopa yn ddiogel a hefyd diweddarau gwybodaeth am y mudiad yn fwy cyson. Diolch am y cydweithio hapus gyda chwmni Delwedd wrth fynd ati i greu'r wefan newydd.

Hefyd mae wedi dod yn amser i gyhoeddi prosiect ein Llywydd Jill Lewis - fel merch sy'n enedigol o Mynachlogddu mae Jill yn caru cefn gwlad ac yn hoff iawn o gerdded yn ei milltir sgwâr a thu hwnt. Felly mae'r prosiect eleni yn seiliedig ar "Cerdded, Cerdd a Chynefin".

"Gan fod cynifer ohonom wedi cael tipyn o flas ar gerdded dros gyfnod y pandemig ac wedi teimlo ei fod wedi bod o les i'n hiechyd corfforol a meddyliol, - meddyliais y byddai'n braf i barhau a'r cerdded ac i wneud hynny yng nghwmni aelodau Merched y Wawr, darpar aelodau a dysgwyr o fewn pob rhanbarth yng Nghymru."

Bwriad Jill yw ymweld â phob rhanbarth yn ystod y Llywyddiaeth a mynd 'Am Dro' a honno yn 'wâc' hamddenol a rhwydd. Fel y dywed "Y gwmiâeth fydd yn bwysig a dod i adnabod yr aelodau ar draws Cymru gan fwynhau'r golygfeydd a dod i adnabod yr

ardal yn well." Fel rhan o'r prosiect byddwn yn chwilio am gerddi addas i gyd-fynd a'r daith ac efallai y bydd rhai yn cael yr awen i greu wrth gerdded, does dim rhaid iddo fod yn soned swmpus na chwydd nac englyn, pennill neu ddau cystal â dim!

O ran 'cynefin' yna braf fyddai nodi enwau'r blodau ac adar o fewn ein cynefinoedd er mwyn i ni gael eu defnyddio a'u trosglwyddo i eraill.

A dyma air pellach gan Jill am eu chynlluniau: "Ar ôl y daith wedyn, braf fydd cael ymuno i gael paned, neu bicnic, gan estyn croeso i unrhyw aelodau na fu'n cerdded i ymuno â ni am sgwrs. Efallai y dylid cynnwys un gair arall - Cerdded, Cerdd, Cynefin - Cacen?" Bydd hyn eto yn fodd o gefnogi ein diwydiant lletygarwch o fewn ein cymunedau ar draws Cymru a gobeithio blasu rhai o ddanteithion y fro. Ein gobaiith mawr ydyw y byddwn oll yn dod i adnabod Cymru a'n cynefinoedd yn well."

Cadwch lygad allan am y dyddiadau o fewn eich ardal - a beth am ymuno ar y daith?

Merched y Wawr have launched a new website supported by the National Lottery and designed by Delwedd. They have also launched the President's Project, under the guidance of the President Jill Lewis, "Cerdded, Cerdd a Chynefin".

Living with poor mental health

FARMING is known for its challenging working conditions, including isolation and long hours and survey results from the RABI Big Farming Survey have highlighted that more than one farmer a week takes their own life.

Less visible, the survey pointed out, are high rates of mental ill-health and poor quality of life. As farmers have to manage their working conditions, many are also put under immense pressure as uncertainty about the future casts a long shadow over their farm yard.



Opening up about the struggle of living with poor mental health are Glamorgan beef and sheep farming couple Richard Walker and Rachel Edwards-Walker, (pictured above). Together they run Flaxland Farm - a 120 acre beef and sheep holding just outside of Barry, Glamorgan.

Richard was diagnosed with depression and suicidal thoughts in 2001 and was placed on strong antidepressants. He also saw a psychiatrist, with treatment lasting for almost 2 years.

"I didn't really know I needed help. You don't know until you're told that you do. In yourself you don't recognise that you're getting depressed. It needs someone outside to look in and say there's something wrong with you, you're not right. But the weird thing is that you are still the one who has to decide to go and get that help. You can't be forced into it," he recalls.

First to realise that Richard needed help was his mum. "She knew there was something wrong and that I needed help. I suppose now it would be my wife to spot that. My mother noticed a change in my personality. Mood swings, less chatty. If you're close to someone, in a relationship, husband, wife, mother, father, son whatever, you just know. Good friends can probably tell there is something wrong too," says Richard.

Figures released by the RABI point towards a problem that runs deep in the farming community with almost half of those surveyed stating that they are experiencing some form of anxiety, with a smaller group (12% and 16% respectively) experiencing either moderate or severe anxiety.

Recalling the early stages of his poor mental health, Richard says: "It was a very dark time. I didn't want to get up in the morning. Being on a farm you have to. You have to feed the livestock, it's a case of suck it up and get on with it. It was very dark.

"People say reach out when you feel down, but that's the last thing you want to do. When you're that low, going to talk to someone it's the last thing you want. You can't ask for help. You just don't do it. That's where seeing a psychiatrist helped. It was a complete stranger and you sit in a room and talk. They don't judge you.

"Unless you have suffered from it or know someone who has, you will never truly understand but how do you explain that to someone who has never had to deal with

it. You can have all the good will in the world but it's not going to prepare you for it. It's a disease that's so underestimated. It's not the same for every person. You can't see it, and yet it is so dangerous."

Whilst farming isn't the only cause for Richard's poor mental health, research has highlighted that there is a link between poor mental health and a specific farming sector, especially for those in the grazing livestock and lowland grazing livestock sectors.

"If you've got livestock and the farm, you have to keep going. The animals don't understand if you're having a bad day, they'll just know they haven't been fed. Farming is what keeps me going and also what causes a lot of anxiety and stress.

"Farming isn't made any easier by everyone telling you what you should do. It certainly is not easy at the moment and the Government throws everything at you including the kitchen sink. I wouldn't say it's the root cause of my mental health problems but it certainly doesn't help. I couldn't and wouldn't want to do anything else but there are days where I don't want to do anything at all," says Richard.

Talking about your day-to-day problems and worries is often encouraged to deal with stress and anxiety, but for Richard it wasn't that straightforward.

"You can give someone as much advice as you want, it's up to them to get the help in the end. For those who are going through this now, do go and talk to someone. And if you are that low that you can't, I hope there is someone there who understands and sees that you need help but you can't ask for it," he says.

Wife Rachel adds: "It is very difficult because you are never cured from poor mental health. On a daily basis you are watching that person. Richard does his best to cover his feelings and he doesn't always talk. The more he won't talk the more I realise that there is something wrong.

"When he's worried about something he shuts down. It could be something like an animal falling ill, a bit of machinery breaking down - they are triggers for him. It could be a gate or a door left open and that whole day is then not a good day anymore because of one thing."

Describing how he felt when his mental health was at its lowest, Richard says: "It's as if you're handcuffed; you want to reach out but you can't. It is just not possible. It is then down to those close to us to spot that and help get the help that you don't want. You can hide how you feel quite easily.



"Even today I can hide how I feel, I could be having a really bad day and you wouldn't know it. My wife will know. She can see if there is something wrong and I'm not having a good day. She has to take me aside on those days and really have a go at me for me to tell her. You get into a pattern where you can hide it. People wouldn't know. It's the wrong thing to do of course but it's easy to

cover up and not accept what the problem is. It's an easy way out."

Whilst talking therapy is an essential element in dealing with poor mental health, medication is also often relied upon. No stranger to prescription drugs to help him deal with his poor mental health, Richard says: "The drugs are not nice. My wife knows how they affected me. I can't deal with emotions very well and sometimes it gets extreme. I think it has also affected my memory quite badly over the years. I don't think I was that bad before I started on the medication but I was on it for 13 years. That's a long time to poison your body. Of course, the medication is a lifeline and I don't think I'd still be here if it weren't for the medication."

Rachel adds: "When I first met Richard he was on antidepressants. He wasn't able to show any feelings or emotions, that's how the drugs affected him. He struggled to talk, he still does to a degree. When we found out we were expecting our first child Rhydian, we made a joint decision and he spoke to the doctors and they were happy for him to come off the medication. He has now been off the medication for over 7 years and I know it's hard for him sometimes but he is more present than he is on the drugs."

Richard adds: "I'm not sure how I cope now with the everyday. I've got 2 young kids, a wife; they give me a reason to be here. If I'm not feeling great I try to think what it would be like for them if I wasn't around. What's the alternative?"

"I don't think I want to go back on the drugs again. I know they will just knock everything out again. I didn't have emotions, I was there but only in body. I'm not sure if the medication is always what you need, talking is a good start if you can bring yourself to do it.

"I know I'm not in a good place but then it's having the acceptance that you need help. I often try to block it out, I'm ok, I can get through it on my own, no one will notice. It's denial really. Supposedly I'm cured but I don't think you're ever really cured. I get by but without the support I don't think I'd manage."

Though it is not only Richard who struggles to put on a brave face. Rachel, who supports her husband, works part-time off the farm as well as helping with the home farm, also has primary responsibility for looking after the children and running the household. Finding time to look after herself can be a challenge.

Aware of the signs of poor mental health, Rachel knows how important it is to look after her own mental health.

"I'm very lucky that I've got good friends, so when I'm not having a good day I can call on them and have a joke and a laugh. Sometimes I just need a bit of normality.

"We've run on empty a lot and it's not so easy to look after myself. There is always something going on, lambing, losing a calf. I have a job off the farm now, which is my escape and release and I enjoy it. I do also enjoy going for a coffee with friends, not that that was possible much over the last few years. If something is worrying me I write it out and make a list to manage my own stress. What's not always easy is making sure that Richard is ok because we live in separate homes," she says.

The future is something that Richard and Rachel have mixed feelings about. They're not alone in foreseeing complex challenges though. Despite farming communities in general being quite optimistic about the future, uncertainty and change does play on their minds.

"We don't know where farming will be in a few years, and that plays on our minds a lot. The ever increasing costs of living, input costs on the farm and general uncertainty are serious cause for concern. We have some lovely days, we have some very dark days. I can't make Richard better but on a grey day I will try to make him realise why he matters and why he's important for us. The challenges farming throws at us, we will deal with them together, for richer for poorer," she says.

"It was a very dark time. I didn't want to get up in the morning. Being on a farm you have to. You have to feed the livestock, it's a case of suck it up and get on with it. It was very dark."

Farming bison in the UK: The good, the bad and the ugly

by Dr David Cutress, Farming Connect Knowledge Exchange Hub, IBERS, Aberystwyth University

The good

INTEREST in bison is increasing with regards to their use in regenerative landscape management and species conservation across Europe. Projects are being discussed to re-introduce European Bison bonasus in interactions with the wildlife trust and woodland trust in the UK.

The American Bison bison is more readily utilised from a farming and wildlife management perspective in the US and Canada and boasts a range of benefits as a food source. Bison are adapted for converting lower-quality feeds into high-quality protein and are adapted to colder temperatures. This could make bison an interesting meat system when evaluating inputs and outputs.

Lower inputs should lower environmental impacts associated with winter supplementary feed, as well as energy, space and bedding used in over-winter housing. Alongside these benefits, there may be emission reductions related to enteric fermentation (currently a big emission factor in UK agriculture) as some studies show that bison may produce around one third less methane a year than cattle.

Besides the environmental benefits of bison meat, it also has highly nutritious meat profiles, being lean with low fats and cholesterol for red meat (but higher healthy polyunsaturated fatty acids).



US studies of bison economics showed that overall profit can be as much as £1,132 per head, despite high initial upfront animal costs. It is currently a niche market in the UK with only a handful of farms rearing bison for meat, achieving direct sales prices equivalent to or higher than direct sales of grass-fed beef.

The question then becomes would price and profits survive increased uptake of this livestock option?

The bad and the ugly

Bison are larger animals and come with a range of new issues surrounding management and concerns with slaughter and processing for meat, with legislation indicating the need for trained riflemen to perform slaughter on farms.

Furthermore, bison are highly susceptible to, currently untreatable, malignant catarrhal fever which leads to high mortality rates.

This disease is caused by a virus that occurs in sheep, cattle, water buffalo and deer but has little impact on these species but they then act as a transmission reservoir.

This adds extra complications to bison farming where high biosecurity is essential to avoid contact between bison and other reservoir species.

An ongoing EIP Wales project at Rhug Estate is investigating the potential of a new vaccine which could help to make bison a realistic diversification option for other farmers.

Openreach ALL-IP Programme



OPENREACH is the branch of the BT Group which owns all of the phone lines that lead to and from telephone exchanges. Customer providers (CPs), such as Sky and Talk Talk for example, rent the lines from Openreach in order to provide telephone and broadband packages to households.

The Openreach ALL-IP Programme aims to switch from the 1980's 'digital' systems which use copper cables due to issues with sourcing replacement parts to modern fibre technology.

The programme started in 2018 and hopes to switch all of the old systems off by the end of 2025. According to Openreach, currently 95% of UK premises have access to part or full fibre connectivity, however, this does not mean that it is being used.

To date, around 2 million premises have switched to full or part fibre connection since the programme started in 2018, with a remaining 13 million to switch before the end of 2025.

Although it is entirely up to the CPs to decide when they contact their customers to explain how and why they must move to fibre technology before the 2025 deadline, a mass migration is expected soon given how many are yet to switch, hence the numerous adverts on TV for fibre broadband packages.

Old copper phone lines carry around 50 volts to power the line which meant that telephone exchanges still worked even when there was a power cut. This will not be the case for fibre technology as such power cannot be transmitted through glass. This means that battery backups will be required for the new technology.

Alongside this programme, there is also an Exchange Exit Programme which in the long term aims to reduce the number of telephone exchanges in the UK from 5,500 to 900. What will happen to all of the old copper cables is undecided.

According to Openreach, fibre technology will be available to "most" UK premises by 2025.

The Arson Reduction Team - linking in with the rural community



THE Arson Reduction Team is a successful collaboration between Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Dyfed Powys Police that has recently marked its 20th birthday. Established in January of 2002, in the wake of a report produced by the Welsh Government following the tragic death of a firefighter at an incident of arson, the Arson Reduction Team works in partnership with other agencies and local communities to reduce the number of arson and anti-social fires in mid and west Wales.

Utilising all agencies combined knowledge and resources, the Arson Reduction Team work to reduce the amount of fuel available to start anti-social fires and engage with local residents and schools to help them recognise opportunities to reduce deliberate fire risk within their own communities.

Police Sergeant Terri Harrison from Dyfed Powys Police and seconded to Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service said: "A large part of the Arson Reduction Team's work is to link in with our rural communities through our Farm Liaison Officer, Jeremy Trew, who is equipped to educate and advise landowners on the issue of controlled burning.

"The 1st March saw the launch of our annual Operation Dawns Glow Campaign, a multi-agency taskforce of specialists from key agencies across Wales which has reformed to reduce, and where possible eliminate the impact of grass fires across Wales.

"The task force, which was initially established in 2016 to tackle incidents of deliberately set grass fires across Wales, will also be turning its attention to the increase in accidental fires, often caused as a result of our own careless behaviour when out enjoying the countryside."

Every year, fire is responsible for the destruction of thousands of hectares of countryside, open space and wildlife habitats. We want to work with our communities to build a healthier and resilient countryside and to develop a more biodiverse countryside for the future.

Find out more about #DawnsGlow 2022 via Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service's website www.mawwfire.gov.uk/DawnsGlow

During 2021, Fire and Rescue Services across Wales dealt with 2,089 grass fires. Whilst this was a slight decrease on 2020, the number of accidental fires in 2021 had increased by 24%






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*References available on request

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