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The Welsh Government and NRW should be working with our farmers, not against them

by Glyn Roberts, FUW President

LAST year the FUW wrote a letter to Sir David Henshaw, Chair of Natural Resources Wales (NRW), asking for clarification and reassurances regarding the purchase of farmland as part of their woodland creation programme.

The programme aims to create new woodland to compensate for areas of the Welsh Government estate used for renewable energy developments and to contribute to Wales' woodland creation targets, with - at the time - parcels of land already earmarked for purchase including many hundred acres of good quality land.

While it was understood that NRW intended to purchase no more than around 900 acres over the coming four years, the move created a concerning precedent given the recent increase in land acquisition for afforestation in Wales by companies based outside of Wales, and without a doubt added to competition in local land markets.

It had also not escaped FUW members' notice that these plans to buy and plant farmland - which cost NRW and the Welsh Government Woodland Estate (WGWE) £4.1 million between 2017 and 2021 - came at a time when NRW was and still is failing to meet its restocking targets and obligations on land it already manages for Welsh Government - despite being responsible for issuing and enforcing felling licences and having deciduous tree restocking policies that would not meet Welsh Government Glastir requirements.

Sir David Henshaw's reply confirmed that NRW were creating 350 hectares of new woodland to compensate for areas of the WGWE that had been permanently removed for renewable energy production.

In his letter, he acknowledged our members' concerns, however, he also stated



that alongside ambitions of land acquisition on the open market or by private sale, they were also looking at unplanted land that is part of their current holding and partnerships with other organisations to create woodland on their holdings.

The NRW Chair confirmed that they had already secured and planted 60 hectares, and planned to have secured the remaining 290 hectares by March 2023, and that this target still represented less than 0.1% of the overall area of farmland in Wales.

Fast forward to 2022, and it has been mooted that NRW is planning to purchase a further 260 hectares of land to compensate for the expected area of woodland to be lost to new wind farms over the coming years.

It begs the question why NRW and the Welsh Government are seeking to buy farmland in order to plant it with trees to compensate for the loss of woodland to large scale renewable energy projects, whilst on the other hand, the FUW recently called on the UK and Welsh Governments to remove barriers and enhance initiatives in order to increase levels of renewable energy production on farms as a matter of urgency in sight of current shortages.

The environmental damage caused by the acquisition of land and planting of conifers by NRW's predecessor, the Forestry Commission, and later private forestry companies (under Government tax incentives), as well as the social damage which occurred due to the displacement of rural communities by forestry should not be forgotten - the fact that curlews, which do not live in woodlands and are severely threatened - have been spotted on the 94 hectares of land they intend to plant at Llangadog hardly fills people with confidence about NRW's priorities.

As if the millions of pounds of public money earmarked for such sites and the unfair competition it represents for potential local buyers is not enough, members who routinely suffer as a result of NRW's failure to invest in their boundaries, or who suffer flooding and waterlogged fields in Internal Drainage Districts due to NRW failing to invest in the maintenance of the drainage systems for which they are responsible, will be acutely angered by such investments in afforestation projects.

Cutting down trees to produce renewable energy and then planting trees on farmland, rather than

incentivising on-farm renewable energy production in the first instance and supporting farmers to plant trees in the right places, is a fine example of backwards thinking.

The FUW will continue to question and hold the Welsh Government and NRW to account on their decisions to purchase more agricultural land, and in particular land which is now more than ever hugely valuable for food production, rather than working with our farmers to increase renewable energy production on farm without the loss of Welsh woodland.

Mae'r golofn yma yn Gymraeg ar dudalen 7: "Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru a CNC fod yn gweithio gyda'n ffermwyr, nid yn eu herbyn."

The FUW will continue to question and hold the Welsh Government and NRW to account on their decisions to purchase more agricultural land

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FUW UPDATE

Normality returns for the FUW

by Guto Bebb, FUW Group Managing Director

DESPITE the on-going Covid infection rates a degree of normality is returning to the FUW after a two-year period when we managed to learn a lot about both the Union and the Insurance business.

Two and a half years ago who could have guessed that you could support Union members whilst working from home? Who would have anticipated completing SAF forms over Zoom? Could you have imagined a scenario where 99% of insurance renewals were done without visiting the customer? Back in early 2020 staff members would have been very wary if a new Managing Director had stated that the aim was to move to such a business model in order to reduce costs. But it happened and I am sincerely grateful to the staff, both in the Union and in FUWIS, for making such a success of a huge change in working patterns which was forced upon us.

However, we do need some return to normality in the agricultural sector as evidenced by the turnouts at some of the spring and early summer shows that we have been attending. There were record numbers through the gate at Nefyn, Aberystwyth was busy and Llanrwst a clear success having moved to an earlier date in the calendar. The FUW stands were busier than ever and the feedback from staff who attended has been uniformly positive.

At our recent Annual Business Conference (ABC), which was held on June 16 and 17 for the first time since January 2020, Caryl Roberts did a great ice-breaker to try and get our new staff to get to know the 'old stagers' on the basis of "how many cups of tea" have you made for Union members and friends at shows and events? Well, what I know thus far since the shows have re-started is that we are probably making more than ever - certainly that's what Dylan Evans from FUWIS was telling me after Sioe Nefyn!

It might be easy not to take this type of activity seriously. The concept of "how many cups" raised a few laughs at the ABC and every County Officer I have spoken to (and quite a few of the FUWIS team) all highlight that a key part of the job description that was never on the paperwork is the expectation that we muck-in and be a part of these events where we can reach out to members, customers and friends. But there is a serious side to it.

At our successful business conference, we had a presentation to all the staff from the DPJ foundation. We all know of the work that DPJ do in our communities and why it's important, but it's always sobering when you consider the reasons for their existence as an organisation. Farming is more than a job for the vast majority who work on the farms of rural Wales - it's a way of life. Sometimes full of fun and a feeling of belonging but often isolated and lonely.

That is why the question "how many cups" is so crucial to the FUW. We realise that a key part of our service to members and customers alike is to be there for them and to be willing to help and support them as and when needed.

As such, despite my accountant's world view telling me that lockdown was good for the bottom line I'm also very aware that a return to normality, a return to meeting and greeting our members at shows across Wales, is not just an opportunity to meet and greet. It actually goes to the core of what we aspire to be as a Union - the glue that holds our farming community together. Whether at the Royal Welsh, large county shows or a simple village show, if you see the FUW team out and about come over for a chat and a paned. It has been too long since we were able to mix as friends and I am certain that for the FUW, it is part of what we are.



Letting criteria exemption for diversified farm businesses must be considered

THE FUW has written to Welsh Minister Rebecca Evans MS in response to her written statement published on May 24 urging the Welsh Government to seriously consider an exemption from the revised letting criteria for diversified farm businesses.

In his letter, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "To date, the FUW strongly believes that the implications for diversified farm businesses have not been fully considered while making the decision to increase the number of days a property is actually let from 70 to 182 days during any

12 month period to be eligible for business rates.

"It should be remembered that the Welsh Government has encouraged farmers to diversify over recent years to make farm businesses more resilient in light of future changes to agricultural support policies, and that in what is believed to be the vast majority of cases, the conversion of farm buildings into dwellings has only been possible for self-catered accommodation purposes under Section 106 conditions."

It is clearly understood from FUW members that for many diversified farm businesses, actually letting self-catered accommodation units for at least 182 days per year will be practically impossible given the nature of farming - which generates the largest proportion of income for such businesses - and the sheer competitiveness of the holiday let market.

"In light of the above and given that farmers who have genuinely diversified into on-farm accommodation provide the same type of accommodation as speculators from urban areas who invest in properties to let them out, and people wanting a second home who subsidise payments by letting it out as an AirBnB or something similar without reducing Welsh housing stocks or causing house prices to rise, such businesses must be supported in light of current and future challenges rather than being burdened with further barriers and stricter thresholds," he said.

"Therefore, now that the Welsh Government has decided to increase the letting criteria to 182 days, the FUW would stress the need for self-catering accommodation units which are located on agricultural holdings or subject to Section 106 conditions to be exempt from such changes.

"I urge you as Minister for Finance and Local Government to seriously consider the above as you keep measures to address the impacts associated with second homes and short-term holiday lets under review and seek to avoid any unintended consequences," he added.

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Risks and rewards for Welsh farmers from UK Emissions Trading Scheme proposals

THE FUW has repeated its concerns regarding the risks and opportunities of selling carbon removals from Welsh farmland in its response to a joint UK consultation on 'Developing the UK Emissions Trading Scheme'.

Emissions Trading Schemes (ETSs) exist to limit and reduce emissions from the most energy-intensive sectors, such as aviation, manufacturing and refining over time, through setting a cap and a price on carbon allowances within a trading market. The consultation proposed incorporating Greenhouse Gas Removals (GGRs) into this 'allowances' market within the UK ETS.

FUW Policy Officer Teleri Fielden, (pictured right), said: "Creating these greenhouse gas removal methods requires land and with 80% of land in Wales being farmland, this proposal has the potential to create both risks and rewards for Welsh farmers.

"Whilst members recognise that agriculture is a unique industry in its ability to sequester carbon, and that selling carbon into a regulated market such as the ETS could provide significant financial reward, they are strongly of the opinion that enabling GGRs to act as carbon offsets risks providing a 'licence to pollute' for those sectors that can afford them."

In its response to the consultation, the FUW made clear the implications of large-scale land use change to woodland or bioenergy crops on UK food security and meeting global food security obligations.

"If carbon pricing becomes a more lucrative land use than food production, we risk



displacing UK food production and offshoring our emissions to other countries by importing food with higher carbon footprints.

Equivalence in standards will be essential, whether through a carbon border tax on products or through the UK Government standing by its commitment to maintain environmental standards when signing international trade deals," she said.

FUW members stated that a market-led initiative focused entirely on carbon would fail to account for wider land use policies and priorities such as food production, rural economies and biodiversity aspirations. Furthermore, financing land-based GGR is likely to cause land prices to rise and increase the number of investors purchasing land to capitalise on this market, creating adverse effects for Wales' rural communities, family farms and the ability for future generations to farm in Wales.

Members also expressed concerns relating to the ability of farming in Wales to meet net zero if carbon removals generated on Welsh farmland are sold to other sectors. Whilst the consultation did not propose for agriculture to be incorporated into the ETS alongside energy-intensive industries, other carbon tax mechanisms and obligations will require farmers to demonstrate that their own business has or can reach net zero.

"Farmers are proud of the improvements they are making to their soil organic carbon levels and hedgerows and woodlands planted on farms, and are aware that they may require such GGRs for their own businesses in future.

"The FUW has therefore yet again called on the UK and Welsh Governments to implement a control mechanism to ensure a balance is struck between the need to decarbonise and ensuring that Wales' rural communities, family farms, food security and our Welsh landscapes do not suffer as powerful players seek to offset their own emissions," she added.

"The FUW has therefore yet again called on the UK and Welsh Governments to implement a control mechanism to ensure a balance is struck between the need to decarbonise and ensuring that Wales' rural communities, family farms, food security and our Welsh landscapes do not suffer as powerful players seek to offset their own emissions."

Rhywbeth at ddant pawb ar stondin UAC yn Eisteddfod Tregaron

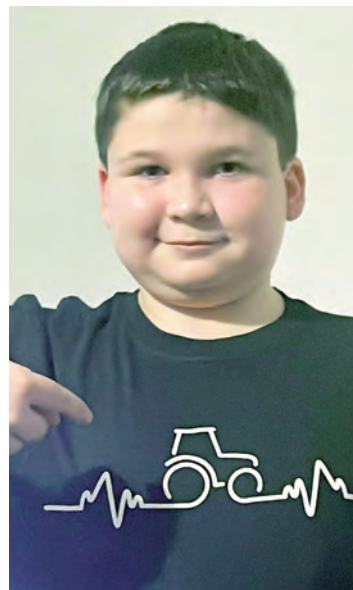
Mi fydd digon i'w weld a'i wneud ar stondin UAC yn Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Tregaron eleni, a rhywbeth at ddant bob un o bob oedran!

Bob prynhawn o ddydd Llun hyd ddydd Gwener am 2 o'r gloch, mi fyddwn ni'n hel atgofion am yr un a'r unig Dai Jones Llanilar yn ystod Dwy Awr Dai am Ddau, wrth wyllo rhaglenni Cefn Gwlad a chael clonc dros baned a chacen.

Ar ddydd Mercher mi fydd direidi a digrifwch rhwng 11yb a 12yp pan fydd Ifan a'r Strab - Tomos Lewis Bwlch (**gweler ar y dde**), - gydag Ifan Jones Evans o'r BBC yn trin a thrafod pynciau llosg y dydd fel ffwtbol, YFC Mydroilyn, ffermio, merched...a llawer mwy! Cadwch lygad allan am Tomos ar hyd y Maes dydd Llun a dydd Mawrth pan fydd e a'i 'Strabets' yn cerdded o gwmpas yn creu stŵr am y cyfweiliad a fydd yn cael ei ddarlledu ar Radio Cymru.

Welsoch chi erioed geffyl bach mor bert â Siani Shetland? Wel beth am ddraw draw i'n stondin dydd Llun a dydd Gwener i gwrdd â'r seren ei hun a chael tynnu eich llun gyda hi? Mi fydd yr awdures leol Anwen Francis draw ar ein stondin yn darllen o'u llyfrau a hefyd yn lansio cystadleuaeth lliwio ar y dydd Llun ac wedyn yn ôl gyda Siani ar y dydd Gwener i feirniadu a gwobrwyo'r llun buddugol.

Dydd lau am 11yb mi fydd y gantores leol Doreen Lewis gyda ni yn perfformio'n fyw ac wrth gwrs mi fydd cyfle i gwrdd â'n staff hefyd bob dydd dros rywbeth blasus a phaned braf.



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This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News:
"Something for everyone at the FUW stand at the Tregaron Eisteddfod."



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Report on Water Resources regulations welcomed - but its recommendations must be implemented in full

by Gareth Parry, FUW Senior Policy and Communications Officer



THE Senedd's Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs (ETRA) Committee published its review of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 on June 8 2022 having heard and read evidence from the FUW and other stakeholders.

The report came as the result of a vote in June 2021 in which Senedd Members unanimously agreed to review the regulations just months after they had been passed by the pre May 2021 election Senedd - but the publication of the report was delayed due to a judicial review.

We have welcomed the Committee's report which we believe takes into consideration the concerns raised in our written and oral evidence submissions and recommends ways in which the Welsh Government should address them, but we have also called for the recommendations to be implemented in full.

While recommendations such as 2 and 3 request for details on the support available to farmers and how the Welsh Government will seek to mitigate any unintended consequences of infrastructure improvements on the planning system, the FUW has long maintained that the regulations in their current form are disproportionate and should be

amended to target agricultural pollution issues first and foremost.

As such, moves to implement recommendations 1, 8, 9 and 10 which focus on amending the regulations with alternative measures would address a handful of issues we raised in our evidence submissions, and as recognised in the Committee's report.

Nevertheless, our attention now turns to ensuring the Welsh Government, and Plaid Cymru as part of the cooperation agreement, gives this report the attention it deserves when responding to the Committee's recommendations and seeks to mitigate the severe consequences of the regulations in their current form.

The FUW will be discussing the report in detail with Members of the Senedd during the 2022 Royal Welsh Agricultural Show ahead of a debate in the near future to ensure that the recommendations are implemented in full.

Committee recommendation:

1. The Welsh Government should re-introduce the derogation which allowed qualifying grassland farms to spread up to 250 kg/ha of nitrogen

What the FUW said in its evidence:

While EU NVZ regulations and the draft Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) 2021 regulations as published by Welsh Government included a derogation whereby farmers with holdings of more than 80% grassland could apply for a derogation to increase the total farm limit from 170kg to 250kg per ha, this was removed from the current regulations without an explanation.

This derogation would serve as a significant safety net for a number of farmers in Wales who are already above the 170kg limit where reducing stock numbers or buying/renting additional land are not viable options, and compliance with the 170kg limit will breach contracts or tenancy agreements, or compromise the ability to repay loans.

In a letter sent to the Minister on May 21 2021, the FUW requested that the Welsh Government "provides an explanation as to why the option for a derogation to increase the annual livestock manure N whole farm limit from 170kg N per ha to 250kg N per ha on primarily grassland farms was removed from the final regulations without consultation and to re-introduce it to enable farmers in Wales to maintain stock and food production levels where suitable."

Committee recommendation:

2. The Welsh Government should set out exactly what support has been, and will be, made available to farmers to meet the water quality and other various requirements of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 - both financial support and advisory services. This should include the amounts, funding delivery mechanisms and timescales, and identify the resources given to and provided by Farming Connect. In doing so, Welsh Government should set out the research, evidence and calculations made to determine the support levels required and provided

What the FUW said in its evidence:

The Welsh Government's Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) acknowledges that the regulations will cost Welsh farmers as much as £360 million in infrastructure costs alone.

This is around £100 million more than the Total Income from Farming in Wales in 2019, £38 million more than the Total Income from Farming in 2020, and £29 million more than Wales' annual Common Agricultural Policy budget for the period 2014-2020.

£360 million equates to an average of £14,600 per Welsh holding, which rises to £37,700 when only holdings with cattle are taken into account - some £11,500 more than the average Welsh farm business income in the 2019-20 financial year.

In light of these estimated costs, to date the Welsh Government has made £11.5 million of capital funding available to support farm businesses to improve on farm nutrient management infrastructure - 3% of the potential costs estimated in the RIA.

It should be noted that further funding has since been allocated to schemes which will provide support to enhance nutrient management planning.

By comparison, the Northern Ireland Executive provided an investment package of £150 million at a grant rate of 60% for capital works when a whole territory NVZ was introduced in 2007.

Committee recommendation:

3. The Minister should set out to the Committee her considerations of the impact these Regulations may have on the planning system, and how any unintended consequences of infrastructure improvement work relating to these regulations, including contributing to a backlog of planning applications or increased community tension, will be mitigated

What the FUW said in its evidence:

It should be noted that the current approach is in the process of being implemented in three stages, namely 1st April 2021, 1st January 2023 and 1st August 2024, to "provide sufficient time for planning and preparing for the additional requirements," according to the Minister.

Yet this does not come close to recognising the severe consequences the regulations will have for every farming business in Wales, including the vast majority which have not recorded a pollution incident and those in areas where no incidents have been recorded.

On January 29 2022, NRW published its response to the July 2019 ADAS Regulatory Impact Assessment of Measures to Address Agricultural Pollution sent to the Welsh Government following an NFU Cymru Freedom of Information request, which stated that "the RIA does not include the cost benefit analysis of other sectors such as planning, recycling and waste water treatment industry."

Committee recommendations:

4. Welsh Ministers should write to the Committee at the earliest possible opportunity once the service level agreement (SLA) on resourcing enforcement of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations by Natural Resources Wales has been agreed (expected by October 2022). The letter should set out the key points in the SLA, including resourcing levels; what NRW is expected to do; what outcomes the Welsh Government expects; and the evidence used to set the levels in the agreement

5. The Welsh Government should publish guidance setting out how Natural Resources Wales should approach enforcing the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021

What the FUW said in its evidence:

NRW, as the principal advisor to the Welsh Government on issues relating to the environment and its natural resources, recommended that the area of Wales subject to NVZ regulations should be increased from 2.4% to 8%.

In response to the Welsh Government's proposals to make the whole of Wales subject to NVZ regulations, NRW warned that it may have "perverse outcomes" including that it could "...exacerbate potential water quality issues. The potential impacts and costs of alternative approaches to compliance need to be outlined as part of the RIA of making water quality worse."

The Wales Land Management Forum (WLMF) Sub-group Tackling Agricultural Pollution progress report recommended a "a fair & even playing field where from the outset, all those in the voluntary scheme are building on the same common standards" and that "in the longer term, maintaining regulatory standards aligned with existing and future EU regulations is likely to be central to ensuring continued access to European markets post-Brexit."

However, with finite resources available for compliance monitoring and enforcement of the current approach, "a seamless and streamlined regulatory landscape that focuses the regulator's effort and enforcement options according to risk will ensure that the greatest positive impact can be achieved in the most effective manner."

In this context, it is notable that, to the FUW's knowledge, no additional funding has been provided to ensure NRW can undertake their duties as regulator under the Water Resources Regulations 2021.

Committee recommendation:

6. The Welsh Government should provide the Committee with more specific information on how it is taking account of the needs of tenant farmers and farms affected by bovine TB as part of NRW's enforcement regime, and what mechanisms will be used to monitor and respond to concerns that are raised either in the WLMF sub-group or by other means. The Minister should provide the Committee with further annual updates on these matters, outside the scope of the regulatory review timeframe

What the FUW said in its evidence:

The impacts of the regulations will be particularly acute for the tenant farming sector; typically, agreements under the 1986 Agricultural Tenancy Act allow the tenant to request for the landlord to provide the necessary improvements to ensure that the holding complies with statutory obligations and regulations. However, there are a number of caveats involved.

Given the substantial costs involved to comply with these regulations, there is no doubt that arbitration between many tenants and landlords will be required, adding to existing concerns regarding the timescales for improving farm infrastructure within the transition period, given the need to seek and obtain planning permission, employ contractors and complete works.

Furthermore, based on an average potential cost of £14,600 for each and every farm holding in Wales, it is estimated the total cost of ensuring the 950 Welsh council farms are compliant with these regulations could be around £14 million.

Even in scenarios where the tenant is responsible for the cost of investment, they will most likely be refused applications for finance by the bank due to the farm being tenanted and therefore the applicant owning insufficient assets for the loan to be approved.

Landlords may also refuse to permit the building of a new slurry store given that under some tenancy agreements, they will be liable to reimburse the investment of the tenant for capital improvements at the end of the tenancy. This becomes an additional issue for older tenants on smaller farm holdings without plans for succession.

For a minority of agreements, certain clauses included in the tenancy may in fact prevent the tenant from being able to comply with particular requirements of the new regulations.

Committee recommendations:

7. In the interest of goodwill and transparency, the Welsh Government should coordinate with the relevant bodies to collate and publish an update on the status of the 45 recommendations of the Wales Land Management Forum's sub-group report on tackling agricultural pollution. It should also set out, where appropriate, how those recommendations have been taken account of in the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021

8. The Welsh Government should prioritise any suitable alternative proposals that utilise technology rather than closed periods for spreading, or 'farming by calendar'

9. The Welsh Government should provide the Committee with an update on its consideration of alternative proposals by early 2023 and further regular annual updates on the consideration of alternative measures, in advance of the formal regulatory review

10. The Welsh Government should review the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 at the earliest possible opportunity, and ensure that preparatory work to improve the Regulations, including with the introduction of alternative measures, should start in good time. The Welsh Government should take account of the work of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee when reviewing the Regulations

What the FUW said in its evidence:

The FUW maintains its commitment to the recommendations and actions put forward by the Wales Land Management Forum Agri Pollution Sub-group in April 2018 and believes that the framework and approaches proposed therein remain as pertinent as ever and the best solution to tackling the broad and varying range of issues faced in different parts of Wales.

As stated in the executive summary of the 115 page report: "The report is presented in nine chapters. These cover the background to the work, the nature of agricultural pollution in Wales and the approach to tackling the problem. A total of forty-five initial recommendations span the five work areas adopted by the group. Each of these work themes has a significant role and needs to be considered as part of an integrated package:

- Ensuring that the formal regulatory regime is sufficiently robust to achieve the outcomes required;
- Developing a voluntary, farmer-led approach to nutrient management;
- Providing better advice and guidance which can then be taken up by farmers;
- Improving the existing range of investment opportunities;
- Identifying and promoting innovation.

Cabinet Secretary Lesley Griffiths acknowledged receipt of the Tackling Agricultural Pollution progress report on June 27 2018, however to this day, no further substantive response has been received from the previous or current Welsh Government.

The FUW also maintains that in failing to act on or respond to the recommendations in the Tackling Agricultural Pollution report, the Welsh Government has delayed the opportunity to work collaboratively with the agricultural industry and implement an effective targeted approach to tackling agricultural pollution.

If you have an email address but are not currently receiving the FUW's member ebulletins and would like to, please contact gareth.parry@fuw.org.uk / 01970 820820

Political Matters

by Libby Davies, FUW Senedd and Parliamentary Affairs Officer

RECENTLY, the FUW attended the Celebrating Rural Wales event at the Royal Welsh Showground which aimed to highlight the work of the Rural Development Fund, and the subsequent Taste of Wales event with the First Minister which showcased some of Wales' best food and drink.

At the event, I was reminded of the phrase; if you want to walk fast, walk alone but if you want to walk far, walk together. Former FUW Vice President Tom Jones referred to the sentiment while speaking on a panel focused on Community and Regeneration. A notion I think worth remembering in all policy development - particularly rural and agricultural.

For policy to translate from the briefings of politicians into real rural life, we must consult with real rural people. The FUW prides itself on being a democratic organisation, policy-led by the people on the ground, our members. I hope future government policy will be able to say the same.

As the RDP Fund comes to an end and given the UK's exit from the EU, the Minister for Rural Affairs has announced that £227 million will be made available to support the rural economy over the next three years. The funding is intended to complement the new Sustainable Farming Scheme and will focus on areas such as environmental improvements and food and farming supply chains.

We took the opportunity to raise post-EU funding when we met with both Gerald Jones, the Shadow Minister for Wales and MP for Merthyr and Rhymney and Fay Jones, MP for Brecon and Radnor. The FUW has repeatedly raised concerns about the Shared Prosperity Fund as details were initially slow to emerge and it then became clear the UK Government intended to administer the SPF from Westminster whereas it had been previously devolved to Wales.

The FUW believes that such a change undermines devolution and is a cause for concern. Such a change coming hand in hand with figures that suggest the funding made

"I hope to meet as many members as possible at the Summer Shows to hear both your concerns and the opportunities you see for improvements."

available by the UK Government to replace EU CAP and Structural Funds will by 2024 be £1 billion less here in Wales than what would have been received had the UK remained a member of the European Union, you can understand why we are less than satisfied with these developments.

Whilst in London we also discussed the Free Trade Agreements with Australia and New Zealand. The UK Government has introduced the Trade (Australia and New Zealand) Bill which will enable the implementation of the FTAs. As a Union we have significant concerns given that the FTAs are predicted to result in a 0.08% economic boost to the UK, but with a quarter of a billion loss to the GVA of the agri-foods sectors. This is a 0.08% increase in our GDP in exchange for £129 million lost from the GVA of agri-food sectors according to the figures compiled by the UK Government!

The FUW have consistently raised our concerns about these deals and we did so again but the facts are now there from the Government's own risk assessment.

Turning attention back to the Senedd, Peredur Owen Griffiths MS joined Gwent FUW Members at Monmouth Livestock Market to hear their concerns. Topics including NVZ regulations, the upcoming Agriculture Bill and Sustainable Farming Scheme, and the loss of Cowbridge market were discussed. Members explained that those farmers, who have lost the social wellbeing and community spirit associated with a local market whilst also facing vastly increased transport costs and time constraints in attending alternative markets further away from their farms.

The FUW also attended the Senedd Finance Committee's stakeholder engagement event in Blaenau Gwent to represent the interests of members. While discussing future budget priorities with stakeholders and Senedd Members, we highlighted the importance of family farms for a thriving rural economy. Through providing stability for our family farms, they in turn support an entire chain of related industries and ensure the stability of our communities.

As we move into Summer, I hope to meet as many members as possible at the Summer Shows to hear both your concerns and the opportunities you see for improvements. After all, I know if we want to walk far - we have to walk together.



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Diolch i Dafydd Wyn Morgan, un o drigolion Tregaron, am y llun

TREULIAIS y rhan helaeth o'r flwyddyn 1992 yng nghwmni Digion y Dolffin. Ie, rydych chi wedi darllen yn gywir...Digion y Dolffin! Digion y Dolffin oedd masgot Pasiant y Plant - "Seth Gwenwyn a'r Gwyrddedigion" Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Aberystwyth 1992 - pasiant yn adrodd hanes criw o bobl ifanc oedd am achub Cantre'r Gwaelod o warchae Seth Gwenwyn! Mae'n rhaid cyfaddef mae brith gof sydd gen i o'r cyfnod, ond mi rydw i'n cofio'r holl ymarferion am fisoedd cynt, a'r teimlad o fod yn fach fach ar lwyfan mor fawr i gymryd rhan yng ngolygfa'r Cnapan yn ystod y Pasiant. Erbyn hyn, rwy'n sylweddoli pa mor fythgofiadwy oedd y profiad a'r anrhydedd wrth gwrs o gael cymryd rhan mewn digwyddiad mor arbennig.

Symud ymlaen 30 mlynedd union, ac mae'r Eisteddfod yn dychwelyd i Geredigion, ac o'r diwedd, mae Tregaron, y dre fach â sŵn mawr (dywediad poblogaidd sydd wedi deillio o Wyl Gerddoriaeth Gymraeg Tregaron - Tregaroc) yn cael y cyfle i groesawu'r Wyl i'r fro. Ar ôl siom y ddwy flynedd diwethaf o orfod gohirio, mae'r ardal bellach yn fwy na pharod i groesawu Cymru i grombil Ceredigion!

Yn ystod wythnos gyntaf mis Awst, bydd Tregaron a'r cyffiniau'n estyn croeso i bawb, ac mae'n siŵr bod yna edrych ymlaen at weld hen gyfeillion o amgylch y Maes a mwynhau'r rhaglenni a'r sesiynau amrywiol sy'n dangos ein diwylliant a'n hiaith ar eu gorau.

Ond beth sy'n gwneud Tregaron mor arbennig? Mae Tregaron yn swatio wrth odre Mynyddoedd y Cambrian ger tarddiad yr afon Teifi. Yn y 19eg ganrif, roedd yn dref farchnad ffyniannus ac yn arhosfan bwysig i borthmyn ar eu llwybrau trwy Gymru gan yrru gwartheg, ceffylau, moch, gwyddau a defaid i farchnadoedd Lloegr. Rhoddwyd Siarter Frenhinol i farchnad draddodiadol y dref, "Ffair Garon" ym 1292.

Tafliad carreg o Faes yr Eisteddfod mae Gwarchodfa Natur Genedlaethol Cors Caron

sy'n cynnwys dros 170 o rywogaethau o adar - rhai'n lleol ac eraill yn ymwelwyr mudol o ardaloedd pellennig y byd.

Mae'n bosib iawn eich bod wedi gyrru i neu o Dregaron ar hyd y ffordd fynydd trawiadol sy'n cysylltu Tregaron a Llanwrtyd a hon oedd cam cyntaf llwybr y porthmyn yn wreiddiol. Heddiw mae'n llwybr gyrru a beicio poblogaidd ar draws mynyddoedd y Cambrian, gyda golygfeydd pellgyrhaeddol ar draws Comin Abergwesyn.

Ond mae'n bosib bod Tregaron yn fwyaf adnabyddus am ei chysylltiadau chwedlonol a diwylliannol. Un o feibion Tregaron oedd Twm Siôn Cati, ffigur mewn llên gwerin Cymraeg a ddisgrifir yn aml fel y Robin Hood Cymreig. Ar un adeg roedd y bryniau a'r dyffrynnoedd o amgylch Tregaron yn gaeau chwarae i Twm, lleidr a phranciwyr, yr oedd ei orchestion yn chwedlonol ledled De Cymru.

Yn ddydd golygus â llawer o wyneb, gallai gyfnewid rhwng gwisg gain gŵr bonheddig a charpiâu gwerinwr i weddu i'w weithredoedd direidus. Ar brif sgwâr Tregaron saif cerflun yn coffau ei fab enwocaf ac arddangosir ei ewylllys yn amgueddfa'r dref. Hefyd, mae llwybr tref wedi'i enwi ar ôl 'Twm' sy'n mynd â chi i leoliadau sy'n uniongyrchol gysylltiedig ag ef.

Wrth ddechrau ysgrifennu'r Cornel Clecs yma, gwelaf fod loris yr Eisteddfod yn dechrau cyrraedd Tregaron a dyna gychwyn y cyffro go iawn, mae'r Eisteddfod yn dod! Mi fydd criw UAC yn bresennol yn yr Eisteddfod, felly cofiwch alw draw i'w gweld. Maent yn edrych ymlaen at weld pawb wyneb yn wyneb unwaith eto a chael cyfle i gymdeithasu dros baned - beth well?!

Mae pawb wedi sylweddoli bellach mae'r pethau bach mewn bywyd sy'n cyfrif. Welwn ni chi yn Nhregaron!

This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "The long wait is nearly over."

Dylai Llywodraeth Cymru a CNC fod yn gweithio gyda'n ffermwyr, nid yn eu herbyn

gan Glyn Roberts, Llywydd UAC

LLYNEDD ysgrifennodd UAC lythyr at Syr David Henshaw, Cadeirydd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, yn gofyn am eglurhad a sicrwydd ynghylch prynu tir fferm fel rhan o'u rhaglen creu coetiroedd.

Nod y rhaglen yw creu coetiroedd newydd i wneud iawn am ardaloedd o ystâd Llywodraeth Cymru a ddefnyddir ar gyfer datblygiadau ynni adnewyddadwy ac i gyfrannu at dargedau creu coetiroedd Cymru, gyda - ar y pryd - parseli o dir eisoes wedi'u clustnodi i'w prynu gan gynnwys cannoedd lawer o erwau o dir o ansawdd da.

Er y deallwyd nad oedd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn bwriadu prynu dim mwy na tua 900 erw dros y pedair blynedd nesaf, arweiniodd y cam at greu cynsail sy'n peri pryder o ystyried y cynnydd diweddar mewn prynu tir ar gyfer coedwigo yng Nghymru gan gwmnïau sydd wedi'u lleoli y tu allan i Gymru, ac yn ddi-os, wedi ychwanegu at y gystadleuaeth mewn marchnadoedd tir lleol.

Sylwodd aelodau UAC hefyd bod y cynlluniau hyn i brynu a phlannu tir fferm - a gostiodd £4.1 miliwn i Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ac Ystâd Goetir Llywodraeth Cymru rhwng 2017 a 2021 - wedi dod ar adeg pan oedd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn methu ac yn dal i fethu â chyflawni ei thargedau a rhwymedigaethau ailstocio ar dir y mae eisoes yn ei reoli ar gyfer Llywodraeth Cymru - er gwaethaf y ffaith ei bod yn gyfrifol am roi a gorfodi trwyddedau torri coed a chael polisïau ailstocio coed collddail na fyddai'n bodloni gofynion Glastir Llywodraeth Cymru.

Cadarnhaodd ateb Syr David Henshaw fod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn creu 350 hectar o goetiroedd newydd i wneud iawn am ardaloedd o Ystâd Goetir Llywodraeth Cymru a oedd wedi'u tyngu'n barhaol ar gyfer cynhyrchu ynni adnewyddadwy.

Yn ei lythyr, roedd yn cydnabod pryderon ein haelodau, fodd bynnag, dywedodd hefyd, ochr yn ochr â'r uchelgeisiau o brynu tir ar y farchnad agored neu'n breifat, eu bod hefyd yn edrych ar dir heb ei blannu sy'n rhan o'u daliad presennol a phartneriaethau â sefydliadau eraill i greu coetiroedd ar eu daliadau.

Cadarnhaodd Cadeirydd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru eu bod eisoes wedi sicrhau a phlannu 60 hectar, a'u bod yn bwriadu sicrhau'r 290 hectar sy'n weddill erbyn mis Mawrth 2023, a bod y targed hwn yn dal i gynrychioli llai na 0.1% o arwynebedd cyffredinol tir ffermio Cymru.

Symud ymlaen at 2022, a chyfeiriwyd at y ffaith bod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn bwriadu prynu 260 hectar arall o dir i wneud iawn am yr arwynebedd o goetiroedd y disgwylir ei golli i ffermydd gwynt newydd dros y blynyddoedd nesaf.

Mae'n codi'r cwestiwn pam bod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Llywodraeth Cymru yn ceisio prynu tir fferm er mwyn ei blannu â choed i wneud iawn am golli coetiroedd i brosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy mawr, tra ar y llaw arall, galwodd UAC yn ddiweddar ar Lywodraeth y DU a Llywodraeth Cymru i waredu'r rhwystrau a gwella mentrau er mwyn cynyddu lefelau cynhyrchu ynni adnewyddadwy ar ffermydd fel mater o frys yn sgil y prinder presennol.

Ni ddylid anghofio'r difrod amgylcheddol a achoswyd gan brynu tir a phlannu conwydd gan ragflaenydd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, y Comisiwn Coedwigaeth, a chwmnïau



coedwigaeth breifat yn ddiweddarach (o dan gymhellion treth y Llywodraeth), yn ogystal â'r difrod cymdeithasol a ddiwyddodd oherwydd bod coedwigaeth wedi cymryd lle cymunedau gwledig - mae'r ffaith bod y gylfinir, sydd ddim yn byw mewn coetiroedd ac sydd dan fygythiad difrifol - wedi'u gweld ar y 94 hectar o dir y maent yn bwriadu ei blannu yn Llangadog prin yn llenwi pobl â hyder ynghylch blaenoriaethau Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru.

Fel pe na bai'r miliynau o bunnoedd o arian cyhoeddus a glustnodwyd ar gyfer safleoedd o'r fath a'r gystadleuaeth annheg y mae'n ei chynrychioli ar gyfer darpar brynwyr lleol yn ddigon, cythruddir yr aelodau sydd, yn ôl yr arfer yn dioddef o ganlyniad i fethiant Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i fuddsoddi yn eu ffiniau, neu sy'n dioddef llifogydd a chaeau gwlyb mewn Ardaloedd Draenio Mewnol oherwydd bod Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn methu â buddsoddi mewn cynnal a chadw'r systemau draenio y maent yn gyfrifol amdanynt, gan

fuddsoddiadau o'r fath mewn prosiectau coedwigo.

Mae torri coed i lawr i gynhyrchu ynni adnewyddadwy ac yna plannu coed ar dir fferm, yn hytrach na chymhell cynhyrchu ynni adnewyddadwy ar y fferm yn y lle cyntaf a chefnogi ffermwyr i blannu coed yn y manau cywir, yn enghraifft wych o beidio meddwl pethau drwodd.

Bydd UAC yn parhau i gwestiynu a dwyn Llywodraeth Cymru a Chyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i gyfrif ar eu penderfyniadau i brynu mwy o dir amaethyddol, ac yn arbennig tir sydd bellach, yn fwy nag erioed, yn hynod werthfawr ar gyfer cynhyrchu bwyd, yn hytrach na gweithio gyda'n ffermwyr i gynyddu cynhyrchiad ynni adnewyddadwy ar fferm heb golli coetiroedd Cymru.

Wyddoch chi be'?

Mae Bryn Fôn a'r Band yn dod i chwarae gig arbennig i ni ym Mhafiliwn UAC ar Faes y Sioe nos Fawrth 19eg o Orffennaf am 7 o'r gloch! Prynwch eich tocyn yn fuan er mwyn sicrhau eich lle!



Tocynnau ar werth nawr drwy Tocyn Cymru £20 yr un!

Tocynnau ar werth drwy Tocyn Cymru am £20 yr un gyda'r holl elw yn mynd at Sefydliad y DPJ a phobol Wcráin drwy law DEC.



'Operation Homestead Cymru'

AT the end of July, we welcome back the Royal Welsh Show at Llanelwedd, after a break of 2 years due to the Covid pandemic. This four-day event is the highlight of the rural show calendar, with many farmers showing their stock and the public visiting daily. It is a chance to meet old friends and enjoy the fantastic atmosphere that only this show provides.

However, the show can present an opportunity for rural thieves as some farms are left empty and unprotected when farmers are away. The police in Wales are asking farmers to be aware of the problem to ensure they can enjoy



their show visit whilst their farm remains safe and protected. 'Operation Homestead Cymru' will run for the show week and will see rural officers increase patrols of remote farms throughout Wales. Rob Taylor, (pictured left), Wales Rural Police Coordinator said: "By being cautious you can ensure that you can enjoy your show visits with the reduced worry of theft.

"Although not a huge problem, we have historically seen an increase in thefts from farms in Wales during show days or weeks, with our increased patrols we are hoping that we can reduce them further."

FUW Insurance Services becomes an official partner of the Wales Farm Safety Partnership

FUW Insurance Services Ltd. are delighted to join the Wales Farm Safety Partnership (WFSP) as an official partner after recently signing up to the official charter.

The purpose of the Wales Farm Safety Partnership is to create a network of partners and organisations who will lead on working together to promote a safer farming industry. The Partnership aspires to consistently reduce the number of fatalities and injuries caused to farmers, their families, farm employees and others who come into contact with farm activities.

"Joining the WFSP we look forward to working collaboratively to develop understanding and create awareness of Health and Safety best practice throughout the farming industry. As an official partner we will provide leadership to the farming industry in Wales on Health and Safety, challenging traditional attitudes to risk," said FUW Insurance Services Ltd. representative on the group, Rebecca Prothero.

FUW Ltd. Group Managing Director Guto Bebb added: "Changing attitudes in the agricultural industry towards farm safety and seeing a permanent change in behaviour is something we take very seriously as a group and I'm delighted that the FUW and FUWIS are official partners.

"Together with the WFSP we will do all we can to ensure that our members and customers are not just aware of best practices to avoid fatalities on farms, but also that they're aware of the dangers and life-changing injuries that can have a profound effect on their lives. One death is one too many, just as one life changing injury is one too many. Together we will continue to strive to see a meaningful change in those statistics."



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Funding success for Berriew FC thanks to Account Executive



Berriew FC ladies team.

DANIELLE Walker, FUW Insurance Services Ltd. Account Executive in Montgomeryshire received an email from Allianz advising her of the opportunity to nominate a sports club for the Allianz Sports Fund.

She thought it would be a great opportunity to nominate her local club, Berriew FC, as she trains with the ladies team and both her children train with Berriew FC Juniors. She emailed the Coach Paul Inns with the link for him to complete and advised that she wanted to nominate them for a grant of between £500 and £3,000.

Danielle said: "Berriew FC are a great inclusive club providing opportunities for many young people in the surrounding areas. They currently have 296 players, of which 101 are girls which is amazing for such a rural club and

I'm really pleased they were successful in receiving a grant.

"The application was made on March 26 and I received an email from Paul on June 7 confirming they'd been successful and were receiving a grant of £3,000!"

Head Coach Paul Inns commented: "We are so very grateful to FUW Insurance Services Ltd. for enabling us to apply for the grant with Allianz.

"£3,000 is a huge amount for a club like ours and it will enable us to purchase a new kit for our women's team - who up to now have had to borrow the men's kit, as well as purchasing a new kit for our new U10 girls team, and general equipment so as to enable Berriew FC Juniors to continue to grow the girls game in the area."



Hoffem eich gwahodd i fynychu digwyddiadau arbennig UAC yn Sioe Frenhinol Cymru 2022:

We would like to invite you to attend our exclusive FUW events at RWAS 2022:



Dydd Llun - Monday

11yb - Diogelu'r cyflenwad bwyd, carbon a choed - allwn ni gael y cyfan? Gofynnwch i'r arbenigwyr

11am - Food security, carbon and trees - can we have it all? Ask the experts

Dydd Mawrth - Tuesday

11yb - Cyflwyniad OFCOM

11am - OFCOM presentation

2yp - Lansio a thrafodaeth banel: Working Conservationists Farming Community
Ymddiriedolaeth Cadwraeth Helwriaeth a Bywyd Gwyllt Cymru

2pm - Launch and panel discussion: GWCT Wales Working Conservationists Farming Community

3.30yp - Lladradau fferm FUWIS - sut i reoli risg a chadw premiymau yswiriant yn isel

3.30pm - FUWIS Farm theft - how to manage risk and keep insurance premiums low

Dydd Mercher - Wednesday

10yb - Rheoli Tirwedd ar gyfer Atal Tanau Gwyllt

10am - Landscape Management for Wildfire Prevention

11yb - Defnyddio popeth posib - Technolegau TB a'u perthnasedd ar gyfer dileu clefydau

11am - Using all the tools in the box - TB Technologies and their relevance for disease eradication

2yp - Menywod mewn Amaethyddiaeth a'r Economi Wledig gyda UAC a Chwarae Teg

2pm - Women in Agriculture and the Rural Economy with the FUW and Chwarae Teg

3yp - Cynllun Ffermio Cynaliadwy: Beth yw cynigion diweddaraf
Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer cefnogaeth fferm yng Nghymru?

3pm - Sustainable Farming Scheme: What are the Welsh Government's latest proposals for Welsh farm support?

Dydd Iau - Thursday

11yb - Iechyd Meddwl, Menywod a'r Menopos

11am - Mental Health, Women and the Menopause

Cynhelir pob digwyddiad ar lawr uchaf ein pafiliwn yn ystod y sioe

All events are held upstairs in our Pavilion during the show

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Union warns Prime Minister to cease unilateral action on Northern Ireland Protocol



THE FUW has warned Prime Minister Boris Johnson that unilaterally changing the Northern Ireland Protocol risks adding to the extreme economic pressures already being felt by UK businesses and consumers.

In a letter to Mr Johnson, FUW President Glyn Roberts, (pictured left), said that while it is accepted that there is scope to improve the protocol, it was extremely concerning that the UK Government appeared to have shown a reluctance to negotiate changes on the basis of the numerous improvements proposed by the EU in October 2021.

"...given the international dismay in response to the UK Government's publication of the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill, which appears to seek to breach International Law by unilaterally changing the protocol, the FUW has grave concerns regarding the implications of such a rash

move. In particular, the Bill clearly risks triggering a trade war with the European Union which would add to the extreme economic pressures already being felt by UK businesses and consumers" writes Mr Roberts.

The letter also highlights the fact that the particular impacts of the Northern Ireland Protocol were very clear and fully understood by those who took the time to read the EU withdrawal agreement, and were being discussed widely at the time the agreement was signed.

"As such, the problems caused by the protocol have come as no surprise - although it must be emphasised that these are accompanied by significant advantages for the majority of consumers and businesses in Northern Ireland - advantages that are not enjoyed by those in Wales and other parts of Great Britain.

"This appears to be evidenced by the fact that Northern Ireland's economy is outperforming that of Great Britain; that numbers of Northern Irish manufacturing jobs are growing four times faster than the UK average and that Northern Irish trade bodies are overwhelmingly supportive of the protocol," the letter states.

The letter highlights that retaliatory actions by the EU may particularly target food exports which are already suffering as a result of checks at the EU border which Mr Roberts said *"...are inherent to the particular form of Brexit chosen by the UK Government-checks which the UK Government has chosen not to replicate, thereby providing a significant advantage to our EU competitors, a decision which may well also be in breach of International Law."*

The hard Brexit opted for by the UK Government is believed to be the main reason that UK food and drink exports fell in 2021 by 6% compared with pre-pandemic levels, with meat and dairy product exports particularly badly hit, falling by 15% and 24% respectively over the same period.

"Given that, prior to Brexit, around three quarters of Welsh food and drink exports were destined for the EU market, the prospect of a trade war with the EU is a major concern," said Mr Roberts, who also expresses concern that since the implications of the Northern Ireland Protocol were clear at the time of its signing, the course of action chosen by the UK Government *"...is causing great damage to the international reputation of the UK, suggesting, as it does, not only that the UK Government takes a*

"While it is accepted that there is scope to improve the protocol, it was extremely concerning that the UK Government appeared to have shown a reluctance to negotiate changes on the basis of the numerous improvements proposed by the EU in October 2021."

cavalier approach to International Law, but also that it had no intention of honouring its word at the time of signing."

Mr Roberts concludes the letter by stating: *"In light of such concerns, I would implore you to halt all unilateral actions in relation to the Northern Ireland Protocol and to re-enter negotiations with the European Union, as has been requested by a clear majority of Northern Ireland Assembly Members."*



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Gweithdy 'Hedges and Edges'



AR ddydd Llun y 23ain o Fai, cynhaliwyd gweithdy datblygu cynllun taliadau, 'Hedges and Edges' ar fferm Fedw Arian yn Rhyd Uchaf ger Y Bala. Cynigiad Coed Cadw yw 'Hedges and Edges', ac mae'r elusen yn gobeithio bydd Llywodraeth Cymru yn defnyddio'i chynigion fel rhan o'r Cynllun Ffermio Cynaliadwy newydd. Roedd y gweithdy yn cael ei chynnal i roi cyfle i Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru ac NFU Cymru ddatblygu'r cynllun ar y cyd, a rhoi adborth i Coed Cadw.

Fel un elfen o'r cynigion, fyse'r cynllun hwn yn darparu math o daliad sylfaenol ar sail mapio gwrychoedd ac ymylon coediog sy'n bodoli eisoes, gyda rhagor o bres ar gael i wella cyflwr y gwrychoedd hynny ac i blannu rhai newydd.

I'r rhai ffermwyr sydd eisoes wedi neud llawer i wella ac i ddatblygu'r gwrychoedd ar eu ffermydd, fyse na daliadau cynhaliadwy ar y gwaith sydd eisoes wedi cwblhau. Gobaith y cynllun hwn yw creu math o daliad sylfaenol ychwanegol sy'n gallu cyflawni amcanion ecolegol tra bod yn hygyrch i bawb. Mi fyse cynllun o'r

fath hwn hefyd yn galluogi i ffermwyr gynyddu'r nifer o goed yng Nghymru heb golli ffermydd na phlannu coed mewn caeau ffrwythlon.

Yn cynrychioli Undeb Amaethwyr Cymru ar y diwrnod oedd staff ac aelodau o gangen Sir Feirionnydd, Sir Drefaldwyn a'r tîm polisi yn ogystal â'r llywydd Glyn Roberts. Yn y bore fe gafon ni banded a thaith o gwmpas fferm Fedw Arian, gan ddefnyddio enghreifftiau o wahanol fathau o wrychoedd i sbarduno trafodaeth. Ar ôl cinio gafon ni sgwrs wedi hwylo gan arbenigwr Peter Jackson i drafod manylion y cynllun. Roedd y gweithdy yn un adeiladol ac yn addawol. Mi oedd hi'n braf iawn clywed bod pawb ar yr un dudalen, os nad yr un llinell.

Diolch i bawb o'r Undeb a ddaeth i'r gweithdy i gyfrannu at y drafodaeth, a diolch yn arbennig i Geraint Fedw Arian am ein croesawu ni i'r fferm.

This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Hedges and Edges workshop."



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Full list of courses and/or support on how to apply, contact your local development officer or our Service Centre on 08456 000 813 or, visit our website.



Fuel prices, food production and pollution high on agenda at meeting with Plaid Cymru MS



From left, Senedd & Parliamentary Affairs Officer Libby Davies; member of Gwent County Executive Committee Verity Vater; Gwent member Howard Vicary; Peredur Owen Griffiths MS Plaid Cymru; Gwent & Glamorgan Deputy County Executive Officer Helen Thomas; Gwent County Chairman Wayne Langford and Gwent County Vice Chairman Anne Rees.

FARMERS from Gwent recently had the opportunity to highlight the importance of agriculture and the impact of the difficulties facing the sector, during a visit to Monmouthshire Livestock Centre with Peredur Owen Griffiths MS.

It was an opportunity for members to raise concerns about several impending issues facing the agricultural industry such as fuel prices which have seen an unprecedented increase over recent months, showing no signs of stabilising due to the continuing war in Ukraine and the adverse impact that they are having throughout the industry and beyond.

Food production was another topic of concern and it was emphasised by members that land is needed for production and that large areas of land being sold off for tree planting

represents a threat to rural communities and food security, whilst it was also highlighted by FUW Gwent County Chair Mr Wayne Langford saying that: "Every farmer will have a corner or a bit of rough ground where trees can be planted. The use of farmland to plant trees and the acquisition of farmland (Gilestone Farm, Talybont) by the Welsh Government is a cause for concern."

The UK has a very productive agricultural sector that produces food to very high standards and at present about 54% of food on plates is produced in the UK, including the majority of grains, meat, dairy, and eggs. Self-sufficiency is about 54%

in fresh vegetables and 16% in fruit, as indicated by DEFRA in December 2021. It cannot be stressed enough that food security is of the utmost importance and on this topic, Mr Wayne Langford added: "The use of local produce where possible in the Free School Meals scheme by the Welsh Government is very important."

Feelings were running high on the subject of NVZs as farmers felt that they take the brunt of the blame when it comes to river pollution, when the figures showed a diverse range of factors and qualities in different areas.

It was pointed out that no-one seems to take into account the runoff from roads, vehicles on roads, not to mention the 100,000 illegal discharges of human sewerage that NRW had no intention of investigating. Members believed this was a subject that needed to be addressed in light of the evidence.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr Wayne Langford said: "I'm pleased that the serious nature of the present farming issues such as rising fertiliser costs, fuel, and animal feed were discussed at length and I'd like to thank Mr Griffiths and everyone else who took the time to attend."



Peredur Owen Griffiths MS (left), and Wayne Langford.

Urgent action required to tackle UK energy shortages and secure future energy production

URGENT action is required now more than ever to tackle the UK's energy shortages and to secure future energy production, the FUW has agreed during a recent meeting of its Presidential Policy Team.

In his letter to the UK Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, The Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP, and Welsh Minister for Climate Change, Julie James MP, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "During the previous decade, initiatives such as Feed In Tariffs were instrumental in increasing levels of renewable energy production in Wales and the UK at the fastest rate seen to date, with renewable energy produced on farms being central to this improvement in our nations' energy security."

"The risks of reliance on overseas energy are now more apparent than ever, and given this, FUW PPT members believe that urgent action is needed on both a UK and national scale in order to rapidly increase renewable energy production on farms, in a way that does not compromise food production."

"While responsibility for different elements of policy relating to energy production lie with the UK and Welsh Governments, PPT members believe that urgent action is needed at all levels of government to mitigate current and future impacts of our over-reliance on imported energy

- whether, for example, in terms of the restrictions placed on those farming in our National Parks where sources of renewable energy abound but renewable energy initiatives are obstructed, or in terms of UK-wide policies that genuinely incentivise and reward those who are contributing to reductions in carbon emissions through renewable energy production."

Given such concerns, the FUW believes that as a matter of urgency, barriers should be removed and initiatives enhanced in order to increase levels of renewable energy production on farms.

"PPT members also highlighted that one of the barriers to such renewable energy production was the cost of connection of viable schemes to the National Grid, and the fact that such connection fees often appeared to at the best capitalise on, and at worst obstruct, such initiatives despite them being in our nations' interests," he said.

In light of the above, Mr Roberts urged the UK and Welsh Governments to do all they can, and to work with colleagues in other administrations, to ensure that all actions possible are taken to further increase renewable energy production in Wales and the UK without compromising agricultural production.



Barriers should be removed and initiatives enhanced in order to increase levels of renewable energy production on farms

Diolch i drefnwyr a mynychwyr Sioe Sir Aberystwyth a Cheredigion am ddiwrnod gwych

UNWAITH eto roedd yr haul yn tywynnu ar gae llawn bwrllwm yng Nghelli Angharad ar gyrion Aberystwyth ar gyfer Sioe Sir flynyddol Aberystwyth a Cheredigion.

Pe baech chi'n ddigon ffodus i fod yno, roedd y teimlad o ryddhad a llawenydd pur o allu dod at ein gilydd unwaith eto, cerdded o amgylch maes sioe orlawn o bethau i'w gweld a'u gwneud a phrofi'r ymdeimlad o un teulu mawr yn gallu dod yn ôl at ei gilydd eto ar ôl cyfnodau clo hir ac unig yn amlwg iawn.

Os alwoch draw i'n gweld ar stondin UAC, cawsoch groeso cynnes yn ogystal â phowlen o fefus blasus a hufen ffres, ysgythaeth neu banded a bisged. Bob amser yn barod gyda gwên a chlust i wrando, bu ein tîm cyfeillgar o UAC a FUWIS yn gweini lluniaeth a threulio amser yn cyfarfod ag aelodau hen a newydd wrth fwynhau'r heulwen bendigedig.

Roedd Golygydd Y Tir, Nia Davies-Jones, yn cael diwrnod haeddiannol i ffwrdd o'r gwaith, a oedd yn bresennol gyda'i gŵr Matt a'u Morris Minor hardd Molly, oedd yn disgleirio yng ngolau'r haul, a chymerwyd rhan yn yr orymdaith o gerbydau clasurol a fu'n ein diddanu yn y prif gylch.

Ymhlith yr arddangoswyr a'r cystadleuwyr roedd trinwyr hen ac ifanc gyda digon o dda byw i'w gweld a'u hedmygu yn ogystal â gwyllo'r ceffylau'n perfformio cyn i'r ceir rali gyrraedd yn hwyrach yn y prynhawn.

Cafodd Emily Jones, Gweinyddwr Cyfrif Gwasanaethau Yswiriant FUW Cyf yn Nolgellau lwyddiant yn y sioe wrth ddangos ei defaid Cheviots pedigri math North Country Park gan ddod yn ail gyda'i hoes fenyw ac yn drydydd gyda'i oen hwrrd yn y dosbarth Unrhyw Frid Mynydd Arall.

Mae bob amser yn bleser cael y cyfle am sgwrs dros banded gyda Ben Lake AS ac Elin Jones AS a alwodd draw i'n gweld i gael sgwrs gyda Llywydd UAC Glyn Roberts.

Rhwng popeth, roedd yn ddiwrnod gwych gyda nifer dda o bobl yn bresennol. Dylai trefnwyr Sioe Sir Aberystwyth a Cheredigion fod yn hynod falch o'r hyn a gyflawnwyd ganddynt a diolchwn yn ddiffuant iddynt am eu gwaith caled eto eleni.

This article is in English on the FUW website - News: "FUW thanks the Sioe Aberystwyth and Ceredigion Show organisers and attendees for a fantastic day out."



Gweithredwr Yswiriant Gwasanaethau Yswiriant FUW Cyf Mared Hopkins (chwith), a Dirprwy Swyddog Gweithredol Sirol Mari Davies yn croesawu aelodau i stondin UAC.



Gweinyddwr Cyfrif Gwasanaethau Yswiriant FUW Cyf Emily Jones, gyda'i hoes fenyw a ddaeth yn ail yn y dosbarth Unrhyw Frid Mynydd Arall.



O'r chwith, Ben Lake AS, Elin Jones AS a Llywydd UAC Glyn Roberts.



Golygydd Y Tir, Nia Davies-Jones a'i gŵr Matt yn eu Morris Minor Molly.

Key farming concerns discussed with Welsh Conservative leader

DURING a visit to FUW Head Office at Llys Amaeth, Gogerddan last month, Wales Conservative Leader Andrew RT Davies met with FUW officials and staff to discuss key issues of concerns to Welsh agriculture.

During the meeting, a diverse range of issues were discussed, ranging from the impacts of the war in Ukraine on farming and food to the implications of Welsh Government proposals regarding bovine TB.

Speaking after the meeting, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "At the top of our agenda was the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food supplies, fertiliser and energy costs, and the serious repercussions this has for Welsh farmers and consumers.

"We have acute concerns that the window of opportunity for the Welsh Government to take action to help mitigate impacts now and over the coming year has almost closed, yet many of our political leaders have failed to appreciate the need for urgency."

Mr Roberts said that, as a farmer, the conservative leader fully understood the concerns raised and how failure to take action during the growing season would mean it's too late to take action later in the year.

The potential of an early winter was also discussed, with the associated shortages of feed and increased costs of keeping livestock indoors for longer coupled with the effects of the war in Ukraine, brought into sharp focus.

"It is no use announcing measures that will help grow more crops to avoid severe shortages that are coming down the line when the growing season has come to an end,



and if we see a harsh autumn and winter the problems are going to be exacerbated," said Mr Roberts.

The severe knock-on effects of new bovine TB rules proposed by the Welsh Government were also discussed.

"The Welsh Government appears to have adopted a 'carpet-bombing' approach to cattle TB, wanting to throw everything it has at the issue without presenting the evidence in support of the policies or taking account of the knock on effects of certain policies.

"Just one of these is the proposal to disallow the use of the annual herd test as a pre-movement test, which would basically mean every herd in Wales would be subject to a two-month lockdown."

Mr Roberts said that meanwhile vectors of the disease were being ignored, despite the clear evidence from England and around the world that controlling the disease in all species is the only way to tackle the problem.

Recent purchases of land and farms using Welsh public money - and in particular Gilestone Farm, which was recently bought by the Welsh Government to support the Green Man Festival - were also topics which Mr Davies agreed had stirred up strong sentiments within rural communities.

"When land is bought up by public money and local people are potentially outbid, this raises major concerns and demands transparency. We therefore look forward to hearing the conclusions of the various different parties which are scrutinising the purchasing of land at Gilestone Farm.

"As always, we welcomed the opportunity to discuss all the major issues of concern to our industry with the leader of the Welsh Conservatives," added Mr Roberts.

Welsh Government must adopt a 'co-production' approach to TB policy



THE FUW is calling on the Welsh Government to adopt a co-production approach when developing future bovine TB policies following a recent ETRA Committee enquiry on the latest Refreshed TB Eradication programme consultation.

The ETRA Committee report, which was published on May 20, made a total of 14 recommendations to the Welsh Government following the enquiry. These included ensuring that industry are equal partners in policy development, conducting further research on the transmission of TB between wildlife and cattle and undertaking a detailed impact assessment on potential changes to the TB testing regime.

Giving evidence at the Committee enquiry, the FUW stressed the importance of an all-

encompassing and holistic approach to disease eradication which is conducted in meaningful collaboration with industry and which recognises the important role played by both cattle and wildlife.

As part of the FUW's comprehensive response to the latest TB Eradication Programme consultation, the Union called for Task and Finish Groups involving the industry to be established to discuss the future of both TB Risk Based Trading and TB compensation.

Ms Elin Jenkins, (pictured above right), FUW Policy Officer, said: "The Government must recognise the huge emotional and financial implications that the increased testing proposals within the 'Refreshed TB Eradication Programme' will have on Welsh family farms.

"These proposals must not be issued lightly and the FUW continues its call for better conversation with industry and more detailed consideration to be given to many of the proposals prior to any changes to TB policy."

The report also highlighted the concerns raised by the FUW in its consultation response, that a detailed socio-economic impact assessment should be completed and the findings shared prior to introducing any further changes to the Welsh TB eradication programme.

However, whilst the ETRA committee report acknowledges the pitfalls of introducing a tabular payment system for cattle compulsory removed as a result of bovine TB, the FUW says the committee's recommendations only partially recognise the true implications and unfairness of such a system.

"The compensation paid to farmers for removal of livestock is the tip of the iceberg in relation to the overall cost of a TB breakdown. Even the current system of valuing stock by an independent valuer cannot factor in reductions in revenue, loss of breeding lines, reduced milk yields and movement restrictions.

"Even the loss of a single animal to TB can lead to total costs that run into tens of thousands which are not compensated for.

"Irrespective of breed or pedigree status, tabular values are unjust, would more often than not result in payments that were below the true value of animals, and merely represents a way in which the Welsh Government can reduce expenditure by paying less for the consequences of their inaction over bovine TB," added Ms Jenkins.

Ms Jenkins said that such expenditure is a direct consequence of the Welsh Government's failure to address TB over a prolonged period and that increasing the financial burden for farmers arising from such failure was completely unjust.

The FUW also welcomed the recommendation by the ETRA committee for the Welsh Government to engage with countries such as Northern Ireland and New Zealand with regards to their TB eradication programmes in order to develop a more holistic approach to TB eradication that acts upon both cattle and wildlife.



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As part of the FUW's comprehensive response to the latest TB Eradication Programme consultation, the Union called for Task and Finish Groups involving the industry to be established to discuss the future of both TB Risk Based Trading and TB compensation

Upcoming Schemes

Scheme	Summary	Window
Woodland Creation Planning Scheme	The Woodland Creation Planning Scheme offers grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 to develop plans for new woodland creation. After a plan is successfully verified by NRW it will be eligible for Welsh Government funding for tree planting. More information here: https://gov.wales/woodland-creation-plan-scheme The design of the scheme is based on the pilot which was run last year. The scheme will be open throughout the year (subject to budget) with applications selected every 6 weeks. Funding for woodland creation will be available from August 2022, with windows opening every 3 months from then onwards (subject to budget).	Open until December 31 2022
Small Grants - Environmental	A scheme to support a range of land management interventions and provide capital support for on-farm environmental improvements to enhance the quality of Wales' natural resources. This is equivalent to the previous Glastir Small Grants scheme. It is a standalone scheme providing a maximum of £7,500 funding per window for Capital Works Projects. This round will address the theme of Water. Land parcels already under Glastir contracts will not be eligible. The indicative budget for this window is £3m.	August 24 - October 5 2022
Small Grants - Growing for the Environment	A pilot scheme to encourage the growing of crops and pastures to provide an environmental benefit such as protein crops, mixed leys and cover crops for environmental, biodiversity and production benefits. The first window will be limited to establishing an unsprayed cover crop following autumn harvesting of cereals or maize. A new window for planting in spring 2023 will open this autumn. Confirmation and further details to follow.	(Autumn Sowing) June 20 - July 29 2022 Second window - August 24 - October 5 2022
Small Grants - Yard Coverings	A scheme to provide support through capital grants to enhance nutrient management through investment in covering existing farmyard infrastructure. More information here: https://gov.wales/small-grants-yard-coverings	June 27 - August 5 2022
Organic Conversion Scheme	A scheme to support farmers to convert to organic production systems. There will only be one EOI window. The scheme will include a two year conversion payment. Payment rates will be based on current land use and production system. The entire CPH has to be included and requires a total five year commitment to organic management.	July 18 - August 26 2022
Nutrient Management Investment Scheme	A scheme to provide support through capital grants for infrastructure investment to enhance on-farm nutrient management and storage.	July 4 - August 12 2022
Woodland Creation (Planting)	A scheme to support Welsh Government's commitment to create a National Forest for Wales.	Opening August 2022
The Woodland Investment Grant (TWIG)	The scheme is once again open to landowners and managers, including not-for-profit organisations. It will provide support for people to create new woodlands and/or enhance and expand existing woodlands. Grants of £40,000 to £250,000 and up to 100% capital and revenue funding. Further rounds are planned later in 2022 and 2023.	Closes July 15 2022

“Farms have to diversify”

by Teleri and Rhodri Vaughan, North Pembrokeshire dairy farmers

WE currently milk 130 Friesian cows and rear all of our own followers. Just six months ago my brother and I set up a milk vending machine, Llaeth Deri, at the bottom of our lane. Neither of us are home full time, I work as a Sister at West Wales General Hospital, while Rhodri works with a contractor during the summer months.

In this ever changing world and climate, one thing that Covid-19 has taught us is the need for local produce and how the farms of the 21st century have to diversify in order to keep young farmers and the next generation at home to carry on with the family farms.

It took ten months of planning and consulting before we were able to open the doors to the public. Thank you to the FUW, Farming connect, Landsker and Pembrokeshire lottery we were put on the right track and realised our dream.

The biggest thank you must go to Mair and Glyn (aka Mum & Dad), without their support and help we would have never been able to start up our new venture. The guidance that they gave us has been invaluable and something we will never forget.

This has added value to the farming enterprise and shown that there is support for local produce, we didn't know what to expect, or how much milk we would sell, who knew milkshakes would be so popular!

Starting up the business has meant learning a lot of new



skills along the way, such as pasteurising, managing a business, chemical training and food hygiene. But of course it hasn't come without its challenges, many sleepless nights thinking what the best thing to do is, worrying that no one would come and buy our produce.

We are both active members of Eglwysrwrw Young Farmers Club, the club competes in most competitions and we have learnt many skills through the YFC movement which has helped us establish our new venture. We have had a few clubs visit Llaeth Deri, who have enjoyed the Welsh cakes and milkshakes. We welcome any other clubs or organisations who wish to visit us to get in touch.

We've had visits to local Cylch Meithrin's recently to showcase our produce and to teach them where milk comes from. One of the main things we wanted to do while setting up Llaeth Deri was to work with as many local companies as possible.

We are looking forward to a busy couple of months, and plans for the summer have already started. We soon realised that our car park was too small, so we have been busy creating a bigger one ready for a busy summer.

We are very grateful for the support we have received from the local community. We are excited to attend several local shows during the summer, and we look forward to meeting new and old customers. If you see us at events this year, please come over to say hello.

We are very excited to announce that Llaeth Deri will be with us at the FUW pavilion during the Royal Welsh Show - so pop in for a milkshake!



Guess what?

Bryn Fôn a'r Band are coming to play a special set for us at the FUW pavilion on Tuesday evening July 19th at 7pm! Get your tickets soon to guarantee your place!

Buy your ticket now on Tocyn Cymru £20 each!

Tickets are now on sale via Tocyn Cymru for £20 each with all monies raised going equally between the DPJ Foundation and the people of Ukraine via the DEC.



“R'yn ni yma o hyd”

PAN fyddwch chi'n gofyn i Gymro sydd wedi gadael Cymru esbonio beth maent yn ei gollu am Gymru, yn ddiethriad, byddan nhw'n sôn am y 'hiraeth'.

Roedd y teimlad o hiraeth a'r dyhead am rywbeth a oedd wedi bod ar goll ers 1958, yn cael ei deimlo i'r byw gan genedl o Gymry-y Wal Goch-yng Nghaerdydd, ledled Cymru a gan y rhai o bedwar ban y byd yn ddiweddar.

Wedi'u dwyn ynghyd gan obaith, a ffydd yn y garfan orau a welwyd gan Gymru ers degawdau, a'r ymdeimlad o gyfeillgarwch a rhyddid ar ôl cyfyngiadau'r cyfnodau clo dros y ddwy flynedd ddiwethaf, roedd dros 30,000 o gefnogwyr yn Stadiwm Dinas Caerdydd yn chwifio'i baneri a chân yn eu calonnau.

Ac felly daeth y cyfnod 64 mlynedd i ben gyda gôl wych gan Gareth Bale - gyda chymorth capten Wcraïn - ond gôl yw gôl, a llwyddodd carfan Rob Page i arwain 1-0 trwy gydol yr ail hanner, gan ddod â chenedl i'w gliniau - gyda chryn ryddhad.

Mynegodd Llywydd UAC Glyn Roberts ei falchder a'i gyffro ynghylch y posibilrwydd y bydd Cymru'n chwarae yng Nghwpan y Byd Qatar gan ddweud: “Bydd serennu yng Nghwpan y Byd yn codi ymwybyddiaeth o Gymru ar lwyfan rhyngwladol. Fel diwydiant rydym wedi bod yn gweithio'n galed i gael mynediad i farchnadoedd y Dwyrain Canol ers blynnydoedd - beth well na chymryd rhan yng Nghwpan y Byd yn Qatar i gael y maen i'r wal? Mae UAC yn llongyfarch tîm Cenedlaethol Cymru ar eu llwyddiant ac yn dymuno'r gorau iddynt yng Nghwpan y Byd.”

O ran sicrhau ein lle yn y rowndiau nesaf ar ôl gemau Grŵp B yn erbyn UDA, Iran neu Loegr ym mis

Tachwedd, mae'n deg dweud bod gan Gymru gyfle teg; ac fel byddai Dafydd Iwan yn ei ddweud “R'yn ni yma o hyd”.

This article is in English on the FUW website - News: “The FUW add their congratulations to the nations’ as Wales secure their place in the World Cup for the first time in 64 years.”



Staff awarded for their hard work and achievements

Mid-June FUW and FUWIS staff attended the Annual Business Conference in Aberystwyth. During the event several staff were rewarded for their efforts throughout the year:



FUWIS Best Managed Portfolio Award: Sam Evans, Senior Account Executive, Carmarthen.



FUWIS Business Development Award: Dafydd Evans, Senior Account Executive, Ceredigion.



FUWIS Best Performer: Chris Jones, Account Handler, Ruthin.



FUWIS Best Performer: Sian Powell, Account Handler, Built.



Slaymaker Award, Best Performing County: Administrative Assistant Susan James (left) and Senior Administrative Assistant Marion Davies, FUW Pembrokeshire.



Awards for going over and above: From left, FUW Glamorgan & Gwent County Executive Officer Sharon Pritchard; FUWIS Administration Manager Hazel Eldridge and Group Operations Manager Karen Royles receive a thank you from Group Managing Director Guto Bebb.



Meurig Voyle Award: Past Office Supervisor Margaret Shepherd receiving her award for loyalty, support and enthusiasm for the Union from FUW President Glyn Roberts.

NEWYDDION O'R SIR / FUW COUNTY NEWS

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BRECON & RADNOR
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Sioe Môn 2022



Rydym yn edrych ymlaen yn arw iawn i'ch croesawu i'r stonddin yn Primin Môn ar y 9fed a'r 10fed o fis Awst. Fe fydd hi'n braf iawn cael sgwrs wyneb yn wyneb dros banded am y tro cyntaf ers tair blynedd gythryblus a bydd llawer i'w drafod. Cofiwch alw.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to our stand at The Anglesey Show on August 9 and 10. It will be a great opportunity to meet up and have a chat face to face over a cup of tea for the first time in three long years. Remember to call in.

New County Chairman

At our recent County Executive Committee AGM members present appointed Mr Alan Watson, (**pictured right**), as their new County Chairman. Alan farms near Llanbadarn Fynydd in Radnorshire and has served as Vice Chairman for the past 6 years.

Congratulations were extended to the outgoing Chairman, Mr Dwylan Davies, especially during the recent challenging times.

The position of Vice Chairman is vacant. If you would like to join us, the County Exec meets on the first Tuesday evening of the month, either via Zoom or in person at the FUW Pavilion, RWAS Showground.

Contact the office on 01982 554030 for more details. We promise not to nominate you for Vice Chairman at your first meeting!



CARMARTHEN

carmarthen@fuw.org.uk

01267 237974

Mae'r sioeau amaethyddol nôl!

Hyfryd fod nôl yn y Sioeau Amaethyddol, diwrnod grêt yn Sioe Pontargoethi a hyfryd siarad gydag aelodau wyneb yn wyneb unwaith eto.

Llongyfarchiadau i aelod UAC Mr Meirion Jones, Fferm Pantyrefail, (**gweler isod ar y chwith**), ar ennill Pencampwriaeth y gwartheg Simmental gyda'i darw Bannhill Farmlord.



Good to be back at the Agricultural Shows, we had a great day at Cothi Bridge Show, it was nice to see members face to face again. Congratulations to FUW member Mr Meirion Jones, Pantyrefail Farm, (pictured below left), on winning the Simmental Cattle Championship with his bull Bannhill Farmlord.



O'r chwith, Cefin Campbell AS, Dirprwy Lywydd UAC Ian Rickman a Swyddog Gweithredol Sirol David Waters.

Annual General Meeting



From left, County President Iwan Price Davies; Chair of Council at RWAS Mrs Nicola Davies; County Chairman Philip Jones; County Vice Chair Ann Davies and County Executive Officer David Waters.

Carmarthen AGM was held at Llanarthney village hall at the beginning of June. Thank you to our guest speaker Mrs Nicola Davies, Chair of Council at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society. Many different topics were discussed and it was lovely to have a face to face meeting again. Thank you to everyone who attended.

CAERNARFON

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Cyfarfod Pwyllgor Gwaith

Yng nghyfarfod Pwyllgor Gwaith mis Mehefin cawsom gyfle i drafod y ddogfen ymgynghorol ar "Ddatblygu Cynllun Masnachu Allyriadau'r Deyrnas Unedig". Bum yn ffodus i gael cyflwyniad ar y ddogfen gan aelod o Adran Bolisi'r Undeb sef Teleri Fielden a chafwyd trafodaeth fywiog ar y pwnc gyda sawl datganiad dadleuol.

Dyna beth yw pwrpas y cyfarfodydd yma wrth gwrs er mwyn rhoi cyfle i bawb ddweud ei farn/barn. Cytunwyd ar ymateb o'r sir i'r ddogfen wedi i Teleri roi cyfle i ni ofyn cwestiynau ac eglurhad pellach ar ambell i bwynt.

Diolchodd Cadeirydd y cyfarfod, sef Rhydian Owen, yn fawr iawn i Teleri am ein cynorthwyo.

At our June Executive meeting we had the opportunity to discuss the consultation document on "Developing the UK Emissions Trading Scheme". We were fortunate to have a presentation on the document by a member of the Union's Policy Department, Teleri Fielden, and there was lively discussion on the subject with several controversial statements. That is the purpose of these meetings, to give everyone a chance to have their say. A response to the document from the county was agreed after Teleri gave us the opportunity to ask questions and provide further clarification on some points. The Chairman of the meeting, Rhydian Owen, thanked Teleri very much for helping us.

Clwb CFFI Y Rhiw yn fuddugol

Llongyfarchiadau mawr i Glwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Y Rhiw, (**ar y dde**), ar ennill Rali Ffederasiwn Eryri a gynhaliwyd ar fferm Gwythrian yn Aberdaron yn ystod y mis diwethaf. Diwrnod llwyddiannus tu hwnt a gafodd ei fwynhau gan gynulleidfa fawr iawn ar ddiwrnod braf yno.



Congratulations to Y Rhiw Young Farmers Club, (pictured above) on winning the Eryri Federation Rally held at Gwyntrian farm in Aberdaron last month. It was a very successful fine day enjoyed by a large crowd of people.

DENBIGH & FLINT

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Sioe Caerwys



O'r chwith, Ffermwr Gyfarwyddwyr Bwrdd UAC Alan Gardner; Clwyd Spencer; Cadeirydd sir Fflint Melvyn Vaughan; Is Gadeirydd sir Fflint Tim Faire a PC Dave Allen o'r Tim Troseddau Gwledig.

Cafwyd Sioe Caerwys anhygoel yng nghanol mis Mehefin gyda'r mwyaf erioed o bobl wedi mynychu. Diolch i bawb a ddwyd heibio i ddwyd helo.

An incredible Caerwys Show took place mid-June with the largest attendance ever. Thanks to everyone who called in to say hello.

Rali CFFI Iwyddiannus

Cynhaliwyd Rali CFFI Clwyd ar ddydd Sadwrn Mehefin 18 ar fferm ein haelod John Worthington, Maes Y Groes Cilcain.

Roedd hi'n wych gweld pawb yn mynd ati i gystadlu unwaith eto. Whitford oedd y clwb buddugol.

The Clwyd YFC Rally was held on Saturday June 18 at our member John Worthington's farm, Maes Y Groes Cilcain. It was great to see everyone competing again. Whitford were the winning club.



O'r chwith, Harry Williams, John Worthington ag Alan Gardner.

MEIRIONNYDD

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Ymweliad 'National Family Farms Coalition'

Yng nghanol mis Mai cafwyd ymweliad i'r sir gan Jim a Rebekah Goodman o'r 'National Family Farms Coalition' yn yr Unol Daleithiau. Aethom ar ymweliad a dwy fferm yn ardal Llanfrothen, sef Hafod y Llyn Isaf a Ffarm y Llan. Diolch i Teleri Fielden ac Olwen Ford am y croeso.



O'r chwith, Rebekah Goodman, Olwen Ford a Jim Goodman.

Garreg. Hyfryd iawn!

Mid-May, Jim and Rebekah Goodman of the 'National Family Farms Coalition' in the United States visited the county. We visited two farms in the Llanfrothen area, Hafod y Llyn Isaf and Llan Farm. Thanks to Teleri Fielden and Olwen Ford for the warm welcome. We

discussed the experience of family farms here in Wales, and heard about the challenges facing family farms in the United States. It was a pleasure to have the opportunity to build relationships with allies from across the Atlantic, and to taste Teleri and Ned's special beef burgers at Caffi y Garreg. Delicious!

Trafodwyd y profiad ar ffermydd teuluol yma yng Nghymru, a chafwyd cyfle i glywed am yr heriau sy'n wynebu ffermydd teuluol draw yn yr Unol Daleithiau. Roedd o'n bleser cael cyfle i fagu perthynas efo cynghreiriaid o draw dros yr Iwerydd, ac i flasu byrgys cig eidion arbennig Teleri a Ned yng Nghaffi y

Cyflwyno sic



Robinson (dde) yn cyflwyno sic o £200 i Wil Jones, Cadeirydd CFFI Meirionnydd.

Representatives from the County Branch attended the Meirionnydd Young Farmers' Club Rally in early June, held at Fferm Defaidty, Cwmtirmynach near Bala. Congratulations to all the competitors, and to Cwmtirmynach Club who were the overall winners. As usual, the Union contributed sponsorship, and pictured are Administrative Assistant Haf Puw (left), County Executive Officer Huw Jones and Deputy County Officer Sam Robinson (right) presenting Wil Jones Chairman of Meirionnydd YFC with a cheque for £200.

Bu cynrychiolwyr o'r Gangen Sirol yn bresennol yn Rali Clybiau Ffermyr leuainc Meirionnydd ar ddechrau mis Mehefin, a gynhaliwyd ar fferm Defaidty, Cwmtirmynach ger y Bala. Longyfarchiadau mawr i'r holl gystadleuwyr, ac i Glwb Cwmtirmynach a ddaeth i'r brig ar y diwrnod.

Rhodddwyd nawddogaeth i'r mudiad gan yr Undeb yn ôl yr arfer, ac yn y llun gweler Cynorthwydd Gweinyddol Haf Puw (chwith), Swyddog Gweithredol Sirol Huw Jones a Dirprwy Swyddog Sirol Sam

Ymwybyddiaeth Diogelwch Fferm

Cynhaliwyd noson ymwybyddiaeth Diogelwch Fferm yn yr Eagles Llanuwchllyn, lle bu Pete Gohery yn trafod ei brofiad o gael damwain ddifrifol ar y fferm. Disgrifiwyd ei fywyd yn ymgyrchu i godi ymwybyddiaeth dros Ddiogelwch fferm yn yr Iwerddon.

A Farm Safety awareness evening was held at the Eagles Llanuwchllyn, where Pete Gohery discussed his experience of having a serious accident on the farm. He described his life campaigning to raise awareness of farm safety in Ireland.



CEREDIGION

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Sioe Aberystwyth fendigedig

Cawsom ddiwrnod bendigedig yn Sioe Aberystwyth gyda nifer wych o bobl yn bresennol, braf oedd gweld yr aelodau wyneb yn wyneb a chael sgwrs dros banded. Mae'n argoeli'n dda ar gyfer y sioeau mwy sydd i ddod dros dymor yr haf.



We had a fantastic day at Aberystwyth Show with an excellent turnout, it was lovely to see members face-to-face and have a chat over a cuppa. It was a great precursor for the bigger shows to come over the summer season.

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GLAMORGAN & GWENT

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Raglan market meeting

Farmers from Gwent recently had the opportunity to highlight the importance of agriculture and the impact of the difficulties facing the sector, during a visit to Monmouthshire Livestock Centre with Peredur Owen Griffiths MS.

Helen Thomas, (pictured right), Deputy County Executive Officer said: "It was lovely having the opportunity to meet with Peredur Owen Griffiths here at the market, and we know that the members will be very appreciative that he listened to their concerns and I thank him for his time.

"We will continue to raise our members' concerns with our elected representatives so that we can assure them that we are continually seeking support and answers for our farming community."



100 Club prize winners



Drawn by FUW Group Managing Director Guto Bebb at our last County Executive Meeting - congratulations to all who won:

Draw 1 -	1st - 48	2nd - 41
Draw 2 -	1st - 19	2nd - 24
Draw 3 -	1st - 42	2nd - 5
Draw 4 -	1st - 23	2nd - 46

PEMBROKESHIRE

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BVD consultation presentation

On Tuesday July 12 at 8pm, Dr Hazel Wright, (pictured right), FUW Senior Policy Officer, will be joining our monthly County Executive Committee meeting to outline and discuss the proposed legislation with regards to BVD. If you would like to join us for this virtual meeting please contact the county office to book your place.



200 Club winners

June saw the first of our new quarterly draws for the 200 Club with bigger cash prizes.

If you're interested in joining the 200 Club or would like an extra number for only £5 per year, contact us in the county office and you will be in time for the next draw in September.

£60 - John, Y Gorlan
£30 - Evans, Penrallt
£20 - Thomas, Llwynceilyn Lan

The DPJ Foundation Grand Summer Raffle

by Elen Williams, Charity Marketing & Engagement Assistant, The DPJ Foundation

THE summer show season is here, and we are pleased to announce that this brings our GRAND SUMMER RAFFLE!! If you would like a chance to win a vintage Fordson Tractor worth £6,000, (pictured below), come over to see us this year at one of the summer shows including the Royal Welsh Show, the Pembrokeshire Show and the Gower Show to purchase a ticket.

We will be near the main ring at the Royal Welsh so look out for the blue tractor. We will also be at a number of other shows through the summer, if you see us there please say hello, we should have some raffle tickets for sale as well as some giveaways.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the sponsors - FM Caine & Sons; Harlech Foodservice; Agri Advisor; NFU Mutual Crymych, Fishguard and Narberth; Noble foods; TBS Skip Hire; Trewayne Farm; Llaeth Y Llan and Signspeed.

This wouldn't be possible without them all and we are very grateful for this support. This raffle not only generates essential funds for the DPJ Foundation to be able to provide much needed mental health support for the agricultural community in Wales, but also raises awareness of what we do (by attracting people to the tractor).

If we are to encourage people to get help when they need it through our fully funded counselling service and free, confidential helpline, it is essential that they know we exist.

The big draw will be done during Ag Mental Health Week in October (10th - 16th of October) along with a tractor run of our own, so keep an eye out for more details on our social media pages and in future issues of *Y Tir*.



We're on the move!

We have some exciting news, the DPJ Foundation office is moving! We have new premises at Carmarthen Livestock Market, on the outskirts of Carmarthen directly off the A40. We think that being based here at the Mart will be beneficial for us, being in the middle of the farming community reminding people that we are there.

We will be based in the Rural Business Development Centre which is a separate building to the Mart itself but on the same site.

Another move we've had is a North Wales office based at the Anglesey Showground and I will be working from the office a few days a week.

Can you help us?

We are on the lookout for a sound cattle lorry that we can refurbish to accommodate an outreach health and wellbeing hub. We have secured some funding to purchase a vehicle that we can take into mart to carry out blood pressure and other health checks. We're now looking for a suitable vehicle (not an artic!) If you have something that we might be interested in, please contact kate@thedpjfoundation.co.uk

Look after yourself

All these shows, events and general farm work this time of year can be overwhelming for some after the pandemic, and we understand that some might be feeling anxious and maybe not quite ready to be out and about again at the moment, and that's ok. There is no rush to be back out in full swing this summer, you can enjoy the little things that make you happy.

However, if you are not feeling quite like yourself and need someone to talk to please remember that our Share the Load helpline is open 24/7, and it's completely confidential. Call us on 0800 587 4262 or by text only 07860 048799. You are not alone.

Call Share the Load

I siarad / to talk:
0800 587 4262

neu testun / or by text:
07860 048799

Ar agor / open: 24/7

#ShareTheLoad
#RhannwchYBaich

Awrygylch hwyliog yn Niwrnod Chwaraeon CFFI Cymru



CFFI Caerfyrddin - Enillwyr dodgeball.

YN ffodus iawn, ni lwyddodd y glaw i gyrraedd Diwrnod Chwaraeon CFFI Cymru ar Ddydd Sul 19eg Mehefin eleni, pan ddaeth llawer o'n haelodau talentog i gystadlu yng Nghanolfan Hamdden Aberhonddu.

Gan ddechrau am 10, roedd y bore yn cynnwys y cystadlaethau tîm; Rygbi Cymysg, "Ultimate Frisbee", Hoci "Rush" Merched a "Dodgeball" Dynion.

Daeth Sir Gaerfyrddin yn gyntaf yn y "Dodgeball", lle buom yn ddigon ffodus i gael cynrychiolwyr o Glwb Dodgeball Dreigiau'r Rhondda i wirfoddoli eu hamser, eu cit a'u harbenigedd. Roedd y gystadlaethau yn llwyddiant ysgubol, ac er yn gystadleuol, roedd yr awrygylch yn un hynod o hwyliog! Aeth yr ail safle i Ffederasiwn Gwent, a'r trydydd i Frycheiniog.

Ar yr AstroTurf, cynhaliwyd hoci "rush" y merched, gyda Brycheiniog yn ennill y safle cyntaf gyda'u hergydion cyflym a manwl. Daeth Maesyfed yn ail agos, gyda Gwent yn dilyn yn drydydd.

Aeth yr "Ultimate Frisbee" llawn adrenalin i lawr yn dda gyda'n haelodau iau, gan brofi eu hystwythder a'u sgiliau dal mewn cystadlaethau newydd a chyffrous. Cyrhaeddodd Brycheiniog y brig, a Cheredigion yn ail, felly bydd y ddau dîm yn mynd ymlaen i gynrychioli Cymru ar Ddiwrnod Mabolgampau FfCCFFI fis yma.

Enillodd Sir Benfro'r trydydd safle. Nid dyna'r olaf a welsom o gyflawniadau

Brycheiniog, gan fod eu tîm rygbi cyffwrdd hefyd wedi dod yn gyntaf, Sir Gaerfyrddin yn ail a Sir Benfro yn drydydd.

Unwaith roedd y cystadlaethau tîm wedi'u cwblhau a'r aelodau a'r cefnogwyr i gyd wedi'u llenwi â byrgys blasus o'r Hungry Hut a hufen iâ adfywiol o Laethdy Llanfaes, dechreuodd y rhan Athletau o'r diwrnod. Nid yw athletau erioed wedi bod yn rhan o raglen Mabolgampau o'r blaen, fodd bynnag roedd safon talent ein haelodau yn amlwg i'w weld.

Dechreuon ni gyda'r digwyddiadau maes, lle bu'r aelodau'n cymryd rhan mewn cystadlaethau shotput, discus, naid uchel a naid hir. Rhannwyd y rhai hyn rhwng merched a bechgyn, a phob oed; rhai dan 14 oed, dan 16 oed, dan 21 oed, a dan 28 oed. I gael y canlyniadau llawn, ewch i'n gwefan cffi.cymru

Yn dilyn ymlaen o'r cystadlaethau maes, ymlaen i'r trac i'r cystadlaethau, gyda'r cystadlaethau 100m, 800m a ras gyfnewid, gyda llwyddiannau ysgubol.

Rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn i glwb Athletau Aberhonddu am wirfoddoli eu hamser a'u harbenigedd yn ystod yr holl ddigwyddiadau athletau, ac i ganolfan Hamdden Aberhonddu am eu cymorth a'u cyfleusterau gwych i'n haelodau gystadlu mewn lleoliad mor broffesiynol.

This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Fun atmosphere at Wales YFC Sports Day."



CFFI Brycheiniog - Enillwyr ultimate frisbee.



Mwynhau gêm o rygbi.

MEAT MATTERS

Helping young people to get creative in the kitchen

by Elwen Roberts, Hybu Cig Cymru/Meat Promotion
Wales Consumer Executive

HCC launched our new resources for children and schools in September - along with the www.redmeathub.wales website - but our work to promote cooking and red meat's part in a healthy diet has been much wider than that over the past few months.

With the easing of Covid restrictions, the Urdd's highly successful CogUrdd competition was back in 2022, with HCC as the main sponsor.

After local and regional rounds involving hundreds of children and young people from primary school age to their early twenties, the best came out on top at the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Denbigh in June, under the supervision of judges Rebecca Lyne-Pirkis and Bryn Williams.

Menna Jones from Cardiff was successful in the primary category, while Erin Cole from Ysgol Canol Cymru in Powys won the award for years 7-9. Emily Carlson from Ysgol Gyfun Gŵyr near Swansea won the senior secondary section, while Catrin Manning from Llandeilo came out on top in the under-25 competition.

As part of our sponsorship of CogUrdd we have been actively promoting tasty and nutritious recipes using local produce such as Welsh Lamb and Welsh Beef.

Research shows that, in the last two years, more people have become interested in cooking at home again as a family from scratch, so our aim at Hybu Cig Cymru is to take advantage of this trend and continue to encourage young people to enjoy being creative in the kitchen.

To continue this work, we are looking forward to launching a new book to help children cook at home

and in school - *Our Kitchen*. The book will be seen for the first time at the Royal Welsh Show, and includes a number of simple and delicious recipes, top tips for the kitchen, and ideas on how to create dishes that bring flavors of the world to the family dining table.

HCC's stand at the Royal Welsh Show will showcase strongly our work with children - including our resources to promote cooking at home, information on balanced diets, and the sustainable story of farming in Wales. We look forward to seeing you there!

Lansiodd HCC ei hadnoddau newydd i blant ac ysgolion ym mis Medi - ynghyd â gwefan <https://hwbcigcoch.cymru> - ond mae'r gwaith i hybu coginio a rhan cig coch mewn diet iach wedi bod yn llawer ehangach na hynny dros y misoedd diwethaf. HCC oedd prif noddwr cystadleuaeth coginio'r Urdd, CogUrdd ac maent yn edrych ymlaen at lansio llyfr newydd, Cegin Ni yn Sioe Frenhinol Cymru sy'n helpu plant i goginio adref ac yn yr ysgol.



PROPERTY MATTERS

Succession on Death - Procedure in the Agricultural Land Tribunal (Wales)

by Kathryn Williams, Director,
Davis Meade Property Consultants

AS part of the application process, the applicant must, before making his/her application to the ALT, send notice to all interested parties of his/her intention to make a formal application. An interested party is defined as "every person who appears to the applicant to be an interested party." This could include anybody whom the applicant believes would possibly meet the eligibility or suitability criteria and who has a connection with the subject holding, the personal representatives of the deceased tenant and the Landlord.

The ALT issue standardised forms upon which the applicant enters his/her application details. These include standard correspondence details as well as statements concerning why they meet the eligibility rules and why they consider themselves a suitable applicant.

The applicant will also need to submit an array of documents to support their claim for eligibility and suitability. This list may include but is not limited to: the deceased tenant's death certificate, the applicant's birth certificate, partnership agreements, farm accounts, land letting agreements and plans in relation to any other land owned/occupied, a plan of the subject holding, a medical certificate, a copy of the notice to quit and a copy of the subject holding tenancy agreement. The list can be extensive, but an applicant should not delay in making their application within the statutory time limits for the sake of gathering the supporting documents. Most of the supporting documents can be provided subsequently.

If more than one application for succession is received by the ALT, the Tribunal will look to see if one of the applicants was a person designated by the deceased in his will as the person he wished to succeed to him as the tenant of the holding. The ALT will consider alternative applicants if the applicant designated in the will does not meet the eligibility / suitability tests. It is always recommended that a tenant nominates a successor in his will if he feels there may be future disagreements.

Where nobody is designated within the deceased tenant's will, the ALT will consider all of the applicants and firstly determine which meet the eligibility and suitability criteria. Consideration of the process is vital in order to plan ahead for succession.

For further information please contact Kathryn Williams: kathrynwilliams@dmpcuk.com / 07971583638.

Fel rhan o'r broses ymgeisio, cyn gwneud ei gais/chais i'r Tribiwnlys Tir Amaethyddol, rhaid i'r ymgeisydd anfon hysbysiad o'i fwriad i wneud cais ffurfiol at y rhai sydd â diddordeb. Yna mae'n rhaid i'r ymgeisydd gyflwyno casgliad o ddogfennau er mwyn cefnogi'r cais.



MERCHED MEWN AMAETH

Edrychwn ymlaen at y cystadlu a'r croesawu

gan Tegwen Morris, Cyfarwyddwraig Cenedlaethol, Merched y Wawr

DO fe fuom yn brysur iawn yn nyffrynnoedd hardd Dyffryn Clwyd yn Eisteddfod yr Urdd yn croesawu Cymry ben baladr draw atom. Bu dros 3,500 o ymwelwyr i'r stonin am baned a sgwrs, droes ryfedd i mi golli fy llais! Roedd yn gyfle cymdeithasol i deuluoedd a chyfle i sgwrsio yn Gymraeg gydol yr wythnos a llawer o ddysgwyr brwd yn ymweld am sgwrs.

Cafwyd arddangosfa ar hanes yr Urdd yn y Fro dros y ganrif a aeth heibio. Trefnodd Merched y Wawr fod gweddill bwyd CogUrdd yn mynd i'r banciau bwyd lleol gan gynnwys i Hwb grŵp Cynefin Dinbych ac i'r Groes Goch yn Wrecsam.

Buom hefyd yn cynorthwyo'r Ffoaduriaid - gwnaethpwyd casgliad sylweddol o adnoddau meddygol ac eitemau misglwyf gan sicrhau eu bod yn mynd i ffin Wcráin trwy bartneriaeth yn Sir Benfro.

Rydym wedi trefnu cyfarfodydd Hybrid, mae heriau technoleg ar eu gorau yn rhai o ardaloedd gwledig Cymru a'r cymunedau yn ddifreintiedig o ran adnoddau technolegol, erfyniwn ar y llywodraeth i fuddsoddi ar draws Cymru gyfan i wella'r ddarpariaeth. Bu rhai o'r aelodau ar gwrs tiktok ac edrychwn ymlaen at fod yn greadigol.

Bellach mae ein Enfys o Obaith yn cael ei greu yn

barod at gael eu harddangos dros yr Haf yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol.

Mae yna frwdfrydedd mawr i weld pawb yn dod ynghyd i Sioe Llanellwedd - cystadlu brwd yn y rowndiau rhanbarthol - edrychwn ymlaen at y cystadlu, y croesawu, arddangosfa Eden Werdd.

Bydd gennym gystadleuaeth Genedlaethol yn y babelld arddwriaethol hefyd. Cofiwch alw draw am baned a sgwrs groesawgar.

Merched y Wawr have been busy welcoming over 3,500 visitors to their stand at the Urdd National Eisteddfod. They are now looking forward to the Royal Welsh Show and invite you to their stand for a cuppa and a chat.



Never take a chance that could cost a life or change one forever

ON a warm summers' evening at Yr Eagles in Llanuwchllyn, we were treated to a visit from a County Galway farmer who kept us all enrapt with the harrowing tale of his 2009 farm accident which saw him lose one leg, strip the other to the bone and also break two bones in his arm due to an unguarded PTO shaft.

Such an account in anyone else's hands would be the stuff of nightmares and not your average night out in your local. However, Peter Gohery is not your average man.

We were spellbound and held enthralled by his Gallic wit, his sincerity and his honesty whilst recounting the events building up to his near-fatal accident and of his life since.

Choosing to take an incredibly positive slant on what happened to him and his family, Pete turned an adverse situation into one that now sees him travelling around the UK, speaking about his experience and the importance of farm safety as well as the unspoken ripple effect that such an accident has on the family and community that surrounds the victim.

His innate belief that farmers listen to farmers has seen him deliver his presentation to those young and old and he strongly believes that by talking openly about what happened to him - an experienced farmer with over 30 years' knowledge of using

machinery - that the message will get through about the dangers of taking shortcuts, trying to save a few pounds or just sheer ignorance when using and being around potentially life-changing farm implements.

Speaking at Yr Eagles of the reaction from his peers following his accident, he said the overwhelming response was: "He worked all his life with machinery - what the hell's the matter with him!"

Their reaction demonstrated succinctly the underlying issues with attitudes towards peoples' own safety, with the tendency to be far more stringent and mindful with the safety of others, than your own.

He strongly believes that a greater level of training should be offered by relevant bodies and that more should be done in the way of addressing farm safety with children and agri students in particular. He stressed the need to both empower and educate - particularly young men, who he sees as being the most vulnerable demographic.

Speaking again the following day at the excellent Farming Connect Innovation and Diversification Wales event at the Royal Welsh Showground, Pete held yet another audience in his hand with his sincerity and wicked sense of humour shining through the important, life-saving message he was delivering. Working now with Embrace FARM, the Farm Accident Support Network, he delivers

his life-saving message across his social media accounts and in his talks.

If you live or work on a farm or know someone who does, I urge you to take heed of this charismatic giant's story and never, ever take a chance that could cost a life or change one forever. Remember his wise words - "It's better to lose a minute in life than lose your life in a minute."

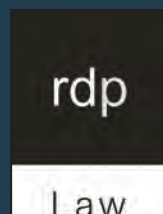
"It's better to lose a minute in life than lose your life in a minute"



Pete Gohery (left), at Yr Eagles, Llanuwchllyn.



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www.fuw.org.uk

Why are ecosystem function and resilience important concepts for agriculture?

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

THE agro-ecosystem is historically biodiverse due to the multiple environment and habitat types found on a traditional farm, but the intensive approaches of modern agriculture, and the resulting simplification of agricultural landscapes, have had adverse impacts on farmland biodiversity.

As a society we rely on the agro-ecosystem for the necessary production of food. However current food production practices can negatively impact agroecosystem health and function, which in turn will limit the potential for ecosystem resilience.

This fact presents an increasingly pressing problem for the vitality of farmland environments in the future, as ecosystems which have low biodiversity will have low potential resilience, making them more susceptible to the impacts of environmental change. In this context, where future environmental change affects how these ecosystems function, then this could have direct influence on our potential to produce food, with significant implications for future UK food security.

In order to maintain food production in increasing variable climatic conditions, increasing ecosystem resilience will be essential to ensure the impact of disturbance from factors such as extreme weather, or pest and pathogen outbreaks, can be absorbed by systems with sufficient functional diversity.

A key approach to ensure ecosystems are

resilient and able to maintain function is to increase the biodiversity of systems which have been simplified, or where monocultural cropping strategies have been promoted. In ecological terms, environments which have high biodiversity, will be more resilient, and therefore more able to absorb the influence of environmental change, allowing the continued potential for agricultural production.

Increasingly the benefits of farmland wildlife and biodiversity are being recognised, and in more recent years strategies have been implemented to enhance farmland biodiversity levels. For Wales, the primary approach must centre on increasing species richness in grassland, as this is the largest agricultural environment type.

This action will improve the biodiversity of the grassland systems directly, and the biodiversity of associated systems, such as the soil, consequently. Such a management intervention will also improve the potential for production more generally, by reducing the need for inputs like fertiliser or pest control agents, and by improving soil fertility and the potential for plant growth.

Enhancing biodiversity and the potential for ecosystem resilience and ecosystem service provision is therefore an essential strategy, which will also benefit farmers by improving farm production potential.

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*References available on request

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