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**Update  
from the  
FUW's  
Policy team**

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*#stayhome  
#staysafe  
#staypositive*

**Here to help  
- message  
from FUW  
President**

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**Amser  
cwis -  
rhowch  
gynnig arni**

tudalen 16

# Pollution and food security truths brought home by pandemic



by Glyn Roberts, FUW President

## Food security brought into focus

Just weeks before the coronavirus lockdown, the FUW slammed leaked advice written by top UK Treasury adviser Dr Tim Leunig which claimed farmers were not needed in the UK, and that the UK could follow the example of Singapore 'which is rich without having its own agricultural sector'.

By the beginning of April, Singapore had announced new measures to accelerate local food production as disruption of global food supply chains started to hit home, including desperate plans to grow food on the rooftops of public housing estates. Officials told the press that "The current COVID-19 situation underscores the importance of local food production, as part of Singapore's strategies to ensure food security."

Whilst the pandemic has brought into sharp focus the importance of food security, we should not underestimate how short the memories of politicians can be, nor how hell-bent some civil servants are on replacing all farm support with agri-environment 'public goods' payments.

## Future payments

Responding to reports that agricultural funding could be slashed after the pandemic, the FUW made it clear that undermining an industry that has kept us fed and hundreds of thousands employed during the outbreak would be catastrophic, and that the crisis has clearly demonstrated how vulnerable we would have been to food shortages had the 'public goods' policies proposed in England and Wales been in place.

And when it comes to the ability of the Welsh Government to administer complex agri-environmental

schemes at a time when staff numbers and resources have been cut, the fact that 55 per cent of the 2,828 Glastir entry and advanced payments remained outstanding at the beginning of April - compared with around 7 per cent of BPS payments - speaks volumes.

Altogether, it is estimated that around £20 million in CAP funding is owed to Welsh farmers at a time of extreme pressures caused by the pandemic (see page 5).

In last year's Sustainable Farming and our Land Consultation, the Welsh Government proposed the replacement of the Basic Payments which make up 80 per cent of Welsh farm income with an environment-focussed scheme accessed through farmers attending 'outreach' events (i.e. meetings), then submitting Expressions of Interest (EoI), then engaging in one-to-one farm sustainability reviews. For those who fail to get in, there would be no payments.

Those who attended Glastir meetings and submitted EoIs almost a decade ago will not only recognise the process but find the proposal extremely alarming when you compare Glastir with the generally excellent track record of delivering SPS and BPS payments in Wales.

Moreover, given that this was a proposal that was consulted upon last year, it's alarming that the Welsh Government is, despite the current lockdown, moving forward with 'co-design' surveys based on the 'outreach-EoI-farm review concept'.

The survey, which is being hosted by Menter a Busnes, gives few options for farmers to suggest alternative approaches, but comments can be submitted at the end.

In the FUW's response to the Sustainable Farming and our Land consultation, we stated that the replacement of our state-of-the-art BPS RPW Online system with one based on labour intensive 'outreach' meetings, one-to-one farm sustainability reviews and complex multiannual contracts would be a massive and damaging backwards step.

Instead, we proposed the careful development of current policies and systems in a way which protects family farms and food security by ensuring all farmers continue to receive some form of baseline payment that properly rewards them for the annual provision of data through RPW Online and compliance with essential obligations.

Further details of the FUW's vision for future payments can be found under the policy section of our website, and we would urge those engaging in the co-design survey who support this principle and share our concerns to make their views clear when commenting at the end of the survey.

*Continues on page 2*



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Dani recently joined the team at Shearwell Data as a sales and technical representative covering North Wales and the West Midlands. Dani was born and raised on a Welsh hill farm near Caernarfon and now farms with her partner rearing calves and a flock of Welsh cross Lleyen ewes.

Shearwell Data is open and it's "business as usual" for the team. Most importantly please stay safe and well during this challenging time.

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# Extra time must be used to reconsider decision

THE FUW says the extra time generated by the Welsh Government's decision to postpone a decision on water quality regulations must be used to find an alternative to the draconian measures published in draft regulations.

Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Minister Lesley Griffiths announced on Wednesday April 8 that she was minded to introduce the regulations 'once the crisis comes to an end', despite the fact such a decision would go against the advice of official Welsh Government advisors Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and will cost Welsh farmers tens of millions a year.

Speaking following the announcement, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "The proposed regulation if introduced would mark a betrayal of the principles of evidence-based decision making and proportionality, a betrayal of Welsh farming and - given the experiences in other NVZ areas - a betrayal of Wales' environment."

NRW has advised the Welsh Government against the course of action currently proposed by the Minister, warning that it could have the perverse outcome of making pollution worse.

They also highlighted the fact that they may not have sufficient resources to effectively deliver the regulatory inspection regime associated with the regulations, and that the Welsh Government's Regulatory Impact Assessment - which has not been published - fails to follow the Government's own guidance, as it fails to present and assess a comprehensive range of options.

"The draft legislation, if introduced, would designate the whole of Wales as an NVZ, an area more than forty times bigger than the current Welsh NVZ area, and eleven times bigger than

what was recommended by NRW," said Mr Roberts.

In April 2018, the Wales Land Management Forum Agri-pollution Sub Group - of which the FUW is a member alongside NRW, Welsh Government and others - submitted a detailed report making 45 recommendations aimed at targeting agricultural pollution based on evidence and ensuring resources were aimed at places where pollution problems had been identified.

"Those recommendations appear to have been ignored, with Welsh Government instead opting to cut-and-paste EU NVZ rules and apply them to the whole of the country - rules which would normally only apply in a tiny fraction of landscapes such as those we have in Wales.

"The minister's announcement of a delay means the Welsh Government now has time to properly consider the 45 recommendations put forward by the Welsh Land Management Forum, time to reconsider NRW's advice, and time to produce and publish a comprehensive Regulatory Impact Assessment which complies with its own guidelines by considering a range of options rather than just the most extreme one, and the impacts of these at many levels.

"Given the severe warnings of NRW and expected crippling costs for Wales' farming industry that would run into hundreds of millions at a time of extreme uncertainty due to coronavirus and Brexit, this issue warrants a comprehensive assessment.

"The publication of a 'micky mouse' Regulatory Impact Assessment given such a huge decision would be an insult to the Welsh Assembly and the Welsh public," he added.

## Domestic food procurement process must be improved

**"It is essential that those businesses producing our most essential commodity are both supported and recognised in the short and longer term,"**

THE FUW has written to Future Generations Commissioner Sophie Howe, outlining the urgent need to safeguard domestic food security and primary producers by ensuring that the procurement process is properly aligned with the Well Being of Future Generations Act.

In his letter, FUW President Glyn Roberts stressed that it is essential that the food procurement process does not place price above all other factors and functions in a way which protects domestic food security, preserves the food supply chain and ensures the longer term viability of our food producers and their businesses.

"The current Covid-19 pandemic has placed significant pressure on the farming industry, with a varied impact on food supply chains. Whilst panic buying and other factors have led to significant shortages of certain foodstuffs, sales of produce through cafés and other outlets have plummeted. This has led to major price cuts for many of our red meat and dairy producers.

"The pandemic has brought the importance of maintaining UK food security into sharp focus and it is essential that those businesses producing our most essential commodity are both supported and recognised in the short and longer term," wrote Mr Roberts.

This, he stresses, is especially pertinent given that the Welsh agricultural sector was already under pressure from other industry uncertainties, not least those associated with Brexit and the current Welsh Government appetite for increasing agricultural regulation above and beyond that experienced by our global competitors.

"Whilst the FUW appreciates that increasing and promoting domestic food procurement is not a silver bullet to current industry problems, we believe that it is essential that the UK Government recognise our key workers and lead by example when procuring foodstuffs in order to protect the longer-term viability and sustainability of those family farms and businesses which are vital in ensuring that the UK has a secure food supply," he added.

Continued from page 1

### Climate change truth brought home

For many years, the exaggeration of the role of livestock farming in relation to climate change by the media, those wishing to divert attention from other industries and those with moral objections to sourcing food from animals has caused outrage for farmers, prompting no end of complaints and letters from the FUW to the likes of the BBC.

The coronavirus lockdown has now brought the true role of far more significant polluters into stark contrast, as satellite images from around the world have shown drastic falls in pollution caused by traffic in urban areas and along road networks, and many have commented on how wildlife has benefitted from falls in road use.

In the UK, between March 1 and 31, the number of motor vehicles on UK roads fell by almost 75 per cent, and given that transport contributes 27 per cent of UK greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, compared with a 10 per cent contribution from agriculture (5.6 per cent is from methane produced by livestock), it might be concluded that the reduction in traffic has reduced daily UK emissions by more than double the total amount produced by agriculture.

Such facts are among those used to highlight the naivety of a misguided drive to reduce GHG emissions by public sector caterers by cutting meat consumption (see page 3), and the FUW has also written to the Chair of Public Health Wales (PHW) regarding reports that staff have been told they may only order vegetarian food when arranging buffets - with the letter also taking care to thank the body for the essential work being done in relation to the current pandemic.

### NVZ dismay

Meanwhile, the decision by Lesley Griffiths to publish draft proposals for an all-Wales NVZ, rather respond to the evidence and expert recommendations (see left and page 11) highlights the degree to which governments can ignore both evidence and clear dangers.

While a significant proportion of the FUW's work is currently focussed on tackling the immediate problems of falls in market prices and the need to restore cashflow on farms, we are committed to ensuring that the evidence and these powerful messages on issues such as food security and greenhouse gasses do not become lost after the pandemic.

*Mae'r erthygl yma ar gael yn Gymraeg ar ein gwefan - Newyddion - Newyddion Y Tir: "Gwirioneddau am lygredd a diogelu'r cyflenwad bwyd yn dod i'r amlwg yn sgil y pandemig."*

## FUW Agency



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# '20 per cent meat reduction plan campaign based on spurious grounds'

THE FUW has written to the chairman of Public Sector Catering, Andy Jones, outlining concerns and objections to their #20percentlessmeat campaign.

"The grounds upon which the campaign is based are spurious, and far more effective efforts could be made by public sector caterers to address both the issues of GHG emissions and health, by focussing on sustainable local and UK procurement," said FUW President Glyn Roberts.

In his letter, the Union President points out that agriculture is responsible for around 10 per cent of UK Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, with methane from the livestock industry making up just over half of this (5.6 per cent of total UK emissions). This compares with contributions from transport, energy and businesses of 27 per cent, 26 per cent and 17 per cent respectively.

"Put simply, even if the population of the UK were somehow able to stop eating altogether while continuing their daily lives unchanged, 90 per cent of GHG emissions would continue to be produced," said Mr Roberts.

It must also be noted, Mr Roberts said, that the methane produced by global livestock farming has been estimated to be a fraction of that produced by rice agriculture, yet seldom do we hear of campaigns to reduce rice consumption to help tackle climate change.

"With the coronavirus lockdown having reduced transport on roads by up to 75 per cent, and aviation having all but ground to a halt, it might be surmised that, since February, the UK's daily GHG emissions may well have fallen by as much as double the total contribution of agriculture - thereby highlighting the huge contribution of transport to climate change; aviation alone is estimated to contribute more in the UK than methane from farm animals.

"Clearly all industries and sectors have a duty to work towards reducing GHG emissions, and agriculture is doing just this through a range of efficiencies and changes to practices and land use.

"However, it is clear that many have sought to scapegoat agriculture in order to divert attention away from more significant polluters or to further agendas which are unrelated to climate change - most notably, those relating to moral objections to the use of animals to produce food - and sadly, many within the media have been beguiled by such campaigning," said Mr Roberts.

Similar campaigns, the Union President stressed, have sought to portray vegetarian diets as inherently more healthy than those containing meat, yet the Meat Advisory Panel, which comprises impartial doctors, surgeons and nutritionists, has estimated that average red meat consumption is now well below the levels in guidelines produced by the National Health Service.

"Clearly, there are those who eat too much red meat, just as there are those who overindulge in other ways, but the health issues around eating meat are complex, just as they are with other foodstuffs, and red meat remains an important source of protein, iron, zinc, B vitamins, phosphorus and potassium," he said.

The FUW further pointed out that in previous years, those who cater for the public sector have attracted significant criticism for failing to procure food from sustainable UK sources and for using arguments relating to competition law to justify such buying, while examples in other EU countries demonstrated such arguments to be spurious.

While the FUW is unaware of the latest figures with regard to public sector sourcing of UK produce, there is little doubt that both the health value and ecological footprint of food provided by public sector caterers could be improved significantly without any cut to the proportions of red meat supplied, for example through greater emphasis on local sourcing.

"Moreover, we believe that the 20 per cent cut advocated, if achieved, would fail to deliver against the declared objectives in terms of both GHG emissions and health, and I would urge you to reconsider this campaign in light of the above" added Mr Roberts.



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# FUW Policy department update

by Gareth Parry, FUW Policy Communications Officer

OUR Staff may now all be working from home, but work in the Agricultural Policy Department continues in earnest as we labour to protect the family farms that are the heart of our food supply chain. This work is being undertaken with the great help of technology - just as it is in our County offices - with meetings being held daily via teleconference, Skype, Zoom, Google Meets and Microsoft Teams to name just a few.

Internal FUW meetings and meetings with other bodies, including the Welsh and UK Governments, have been held on a daily basis since the beginning of March, with the department often engaged in two or even three meetings with Government or other bodies at any one time. Discussions continue to focus on current and likely future market pressures for all our sectors, Government support and rule changes to protect our members businesses and their health and welfare.



## Government Support

The past few weeks have seen regular correspondence and teleconferences with both the UK and Welsh Governments outlining the pertinent issues that the industry faces during this pandemic; particularly the need for proper financial support and intervention measures.

Whilst support in the form of the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CBILS) is available to agricultural businesses, the FUW wishes to remind members that not all agricultural businesses will be eligible for the full interest and fee payments, and to look at the longer term implications of taking out an additional loan.

Unfortunately, the Welsh Government's Economic Resilience Fund, elements of which are now fully subscribed, is only available to those who have diversified their farm business away from agriculture and the FUW has urged the Welsh Government to review this whilst also lobbying for 'bespoke' support and intervention packages for farmers and sectors. Any members wishing to apply for the CBILS should contact their accountant for assistance.

As of April 6, around 98 per cent of eligible BPS claimants had received either their full

2019 BPS claim or a BPS support scheme payment and around 55 per cent of eligible Rural Development area based payments (primarily Glastir) had been processed. The FUW has been raising concerns on a weekly basis in teleconferences with Welsh Government regarding the need to make outstanding payments and balance payments (both for BPS and Glastir) and to process outstanding inspection reports in order to allow this to happen and to ensure data for the 2020 SAF can be entered correctly by members and staff.

As requested well over a month ago by FUW, there have been a number of rule changes and deadline extensions in order to lessen the burden of pressure on farmers. Most importantly, the deadline for submitting Single Applications Forms has been extended by a month to June 15, as have all post-SAF deadlines, while the entitlement trading deadline has also been extended to May 15.

However, members should be aware that the date on which land must be at their disposal for an eligible BPS claim is unaltered and remains May 15 2020. BCMS are also advising cattle keepers to make changes to cattle passports over email to avoid unnecessary travel to post documents. Other scheme related changes can be seen on page 11 under expression of interest window dates.

## Beef and lamb Markets

UK beef and lamb markets have faced major problems since the overnight closure of the foodservice sector (restaurants, pubs etc.) both in the UK and on the continent. The FUW wrote to all major supermarkets and to the British Retail Consortium highlighting the issues surrounding carcass balance and the loss of vital markets, resulting in further meetings and correspondence with supermarkets.

AHDB reports state that for the week ending April 19, the retail demand for beef mince had increased by around 40 per cent in volume, contributing £5m in additional sales compared with 2019. Whilst the demand for steaks increased by 28 per cent, roasting joints were still down by 49 per cent in volume, an average of 30 per cent over the two week Easter period year on year.

Given that higher value cuts such as roasting joints and steaks represent around 10 per cent of carcass weight, but 30 per cent of carcass value, the increased proportion of the carcass going into mince from the typical 43 per cent to current estimates of 70 per cent represents a significant fall in carcass value, estimated to be around £200 - something which is exacerbated by the loss of markets for skins, many of which went to Italy.

Many processors have chosen to bulk store steaks and joints as a result of such pressures, but some have reported that stores are now around 85 per cent full. Following strong industry lobbying, on April 22, the EU Commission announced plans to introduce Private Storage Aid for beef and lamb worth a total of forty-five million Euros in order to store excess produce for between two and five months and stabilise markets in the longer term. This should underpin a degree of security for the upcoming flush of finished lambs, but given that sheep and lamb slaughterings would normally increase by between 50 per cent and 80 per cent between the early spring and late summer/early autumn, major concerns remain in terms of how prices and throughputs will be affected - not least given the large proportion of lamb that would traditionally have been sold through the service sector both in the UK and on the continent.

In response to an FUW letter, we have received correspondence from large retailers, such as Marks and Spencer and the Co-operative, informing us of their commitment to selling 100 per cent British lamb and beef and of up and coming promotions for higher priced cuts. The appalling decision by ASDA to order consignments of Polish mince during the worst of the panic buying period resulted in a strong reaction across the industry, and ASDA has since been promoting British prime cuts. The FUW and HCC have also been running social media campaigns in order to promote the purchase of higher value cuts and the cooking of PGI Welsh lamb and beef at home.

## Dairy Markets

As has been well publicised, the loss of foodservice demand from cafés and restaurants alongside increasing spring milk yields, which was predicted to add around one to one and a half million litres of excess milk per week, has had a severe impact on dairy markets.

In addition to highlighting the immediate issues of milk collections, prices and payment delays to governments, supermarkets and others, the FUW have dialed into weekly and even daily teleconferences with stakeholders and Governments throughout the crisis.

The FUW Milk and Dairy Produce Committee met on April 16 and the FUW have written to UK Secretary of State George Eustice and Minister Lesley

Griffiths as well as holding a teleconference with Secretary of State for Wales Simon Hart calling for measures such as a production reduction scheme and intervention buying to be implemented in order to underpin the dairy industry.

The FUW welcomed moves to relax competition rules amongst the UK dairy sector to enable greater collaboration which came as a result of discussions with DEFRA, the Agriculture Resilience Group and Minister Lesley Griffiths. However, we are still lobbying for further industry support.

The FUW have sent a RABDF Impact Survey to members to provide evidence to the Government of financial impacts. The EU Private Storage Aid announced on April 22 will set aside thirty million Euros across the EU for storage of skimmed milk powder, butter and cheese.

## TB Testing

During the pandemic, the TB Hub website has been updated with advice for both vets and farmers on the protocols for TB testing which can be accessed at: [www.tbhub.co.uk](http://www.tbhub.co.uk)

Where tests cannot be completed within the testing window, due to covid-19, the herd will be under restrictions and overdue testing procedures will be applied automatically. However, the farm will not be subject to cross compliance penalties and reactors will not be subject to any reduction in compensation. In Wales, there is no change to the testing window but cattle keepers wishing to test up to 30 days before the testing window can do so by contacting their vet and the Animal and Plant Health Agency.

Above all else, the Union has emphasised that, while we certainly do not want to risk the spread of TB, the health and welfare of farmers must come first. It is imperative that TB legislation and restrictions should not make individuals feel that they have no choice but to come into close contact with potential sources of the coronavirus during testing.

## Access to Land

Since before the covid lockdown came into force, access to the countryside and the use of public footpaths was high on the agenda and was highlighted in a letter to UK Secretary of State George Eustice and Welsh Minister Lesley Griffiths on March 23. As a result, Welsh Government enacted the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020 on March 27 which enables Local Authorities to close footpaths which are deemed as high risk. Lists of the currently closed footpaths are available on your local County Council and Welsh Government websites.

Notwithstanding such legislation, it remains the case that landowners do not have the legal right to block a public right of way. However, in compliance with the UK Government lockdown guidance, displaying polite signs asking members of the public to consider the use of the path or offering an alternative and safe route is acceptable.

The FUW has produced appropriate signs for members to use and continues to discuss these matters with the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales.

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

# Minister urged to address delayed payments to safeguard the rural economy

THE FUW has written to Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Minister Lesley Griffiths, urging her to release outstanding payments to farmers to safeguard not just individual farm businesses but the wider rural economy.

In a letter, FUW President Glyn Roberts acknowledged the positive engagement from Welsh Government through the Agricultural Resilience Group and their support to the industry during the on-going Coronavirus pandemic, but stressed that as pressures have continued to

## Pwyntiau pwysig yn ymwneud â Chynlluniau Glastir

gan Euros Jones, Swyddog Cynlluniau Amaeth-Amgylcheddol FUW



GOBEITHIO bod pawb yn cadw'n iawn yng nghanol y cyfnod heriol hwn. Er gwaetha'r amgylchiadau, rydym fel staff yn gweithio oddi adra, ac felly, mae holl wasanaethau'r Undeb yn parhau yn ôl yr arfer. Cynlluniau Glastir ac agweddau amgylcheddol ydi'r prif bethau yr wyf i'n bersonol yn ymdrin â nhw.

Dyma felly dynnu sylw at ychydig o bwyntiau y dylid cofio amdany'n nhw, yn enwedig i'r rhai ohonoch sydd yn rhan o gynlluniau amgylcheddol.

1) Glastir Grantiau Bach: Beth sy'n bwysig?

Mae'r dyddiad cau ar gyfer hawlio am y cynllun hwn bellach wedi symud i ddiwedd mis Medi. Mae'r lluniau cyn, ac ar ôl y gwaith yn allweddol. Cofiwch sicrhau bod pob un llun yn 'geotagged'. Os nad ydych yn siŵr sut i gwblhau'r ffurflen hawlio, cysylltwch â mi.

2) Glastir Sylfaenol / Glastir Uwch: Pethau i'w cofio:

- Mae cadw cofnodion yn y dyddiadur o'r hyn sydd yn digwydd ar y tir yn allweddol, boed yna opsiwn rheoli ar y cae a'i peidio. Cofiwch fod sawl opsiwn rheoli yn gofyn hefyd am ddyddiadur stoc. Mae peidio cael dyddiadur yn golygu cosbau ariannol llym.
- Nid yw'n iawn i lanhau ffos ar dir cynefin rhwng 1af o Fawrth a 31ain o Awst. Mae ambell opsiwn rheoli Glastir yn datgan nad yw'n iawn glanhau ffos o gwbl ar unrhyw adeg o'r flwyddyn.
- Nid yw'n dderbyniol gwella tir cynefin,

hynny yw, aredig neu drin, boed mewn opsiwn rheoli Glastir a'i peidio. Mae'n hawdd cael eich dal allan. Os nad ydych yn siŵr, bydd yn rhaid gofyn am EIA (Asesiad Effaith Amgylcheddol).

- Mae cymaint o reolau gwahanol i bob opsiwn rheoli - cofiwch felly ddarllen eich cytundebau'n ofalus.
- Cofiwch hefyd, os oes gennych opsiwn bridiau prin (37) bydd yn rhaid i chi gyflwyno'r wybodaeth angenrheidiol wrth gyflwyno'ch Ffurflen Taliad Sengl. I'r sawl ohonoch sydd yn rhan o'r Cynllun Glastir Organig, bydd yn rhaid i chi gyflwyno'ch Tystysgrif Organig' wrth gyflwyno'ch Ffurflen Taliad Sengl.

Dyma felly grynhoi ychydig o bwyntiau pwysig yn ymwneud â Chynlluniau Glastir. Cofiwch ein bod ni fel Undeb bellach yn cynnig gwasanaeth newydd sbon i aelodau - 'Gwasanaeth Glastir'. Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn cynnwys cwblhau'r dyddiaduron Glastir, ynghyd â chwblhau'r holl waith papur sy'n gysylltiedig â'r cynllun. Mae'r gwasanaeth ar gael fel pecyn am £300. Fel rhan o'r pecyn hefyd, rydym yn fodlon profi pridd 3 cae. Mae profi pridd yn allweddol er mwyn monitro'r safon, a gweld yn union pa, a faint, o wrtaith y dylid ei ddefnyddio.

Am fwy o wybodaeth, cysylltwch ag Euros: euros.jones@fuw.org.uk / 07880 842142.

**This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Important points regarding Glastir schemes."**

grow, the proportion of farmers who have not yet received their full Basic Payment Scheme payments, or their full Glastir payments, are struggling to pay bills and others within agricultural supply chains.

"The ability of farmers to pay bills and make essential investments that will allow their businesses to function as normally and effectively as possible under the circumstances has been undermined, and there is great concern that as we enter the main period for lamb sales the proportion of those affected will grow exponentially.

"Given that the bulk of farm income is passed along agricultural supply chains to businesses and individuals such as feed merchants, contractors and mechanics, such pressures naturally have a knock on effect on other businesses and individuals in our communities, and therefore the economy as a whole," wrote Mr Roberts.

He added that whilst we have our work cut out in terms of finding means by which to tackle the pressures caused by radical changes to agricultural markets, many thousands continue to be affected by delays to CAP payments.

"The latest figures suggest that some 300 individuals have yet to receive their full Basic Payment Scheme payments, while some 1,500 are still awaiting their full Glastir payments.

"Moreover, since around two thirds of Glastir Common Land payments remain outstanding, many thousands of commoners have also not been paid for complying with restrictions on common land in 2019."

In total, the latest available figures suggest that some £18 million worth of Rural Development funding for work carried out, costs incurred and income foregone in 2019 by farmers as part of their contractual obligations remains outstanding.

"We of course appreciate the huge pressures that the Welsh Government is currently under, but we urge the Minister to do all she can to ensure that all Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 payments are released in full as soon as possible such that those entitled to receive payments, including for work and costs incurred as part of contracts agreed with Welsh Government, can, as much as is possible, continue to operate within budgets and pay bills and others within agricultural supply chains," added Mr Roberts.

The FUW further asked that where genuine obstacles exist to releasing such payments in the coming days and weeks (for example as a result of the Covid-19 restrictions), further loan/support schemes be introduced for all those who are owed CAP monies as a matter of urgency, including those who have already received Glastir support payments.

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- 4 Include your name, address and date of birth with each entry.
- 5 The FUW reserves the right to use any entry for marketing material.



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# Parchwch ganllawiau'r Llywodraeth a'r Côt Cefn Gwlad

MAE'R FUW yn annog y cyhoedd i ddilyn canllawiau'r Llywodraeth a pharchu'r Côt Cefn Gwlad yn sgil yr argyfwng Coronafirws.

Ar ôl derbyn nifer o alwadau gan ffermwyr ynglŷn â'r cyhoedd yn cerdded ar draws tir fferm, gadael gatiâu ar agor a gadael i'w cŵn redeg heb dennyn, mae Llywydd yr Undeb, Glyn Roberts, yn annog y cyhoedd i ddilyn y rheolau.

Wrth siarad o'i fferm yng Ngogledd Cymru, dywedodd Mr Roberts: "Nid oes unrhyw amheuaeth - mae llwybrau cyhoeddus a thir mewn sawl ardal boblogaidd ledled Cymru wedi bod ar gau er mwyn osgoi torfeydd yn ymgynnull, a hynny am reswm da iawn.

"Fodd bynnag, er gwaethaf arweiniad clir, rydym yn parhau i dderbyn galwadau gan aelodau bod y cyhoedd yn anwybyddu'r cyfyngiadau, gan adael gatiâu ar agor a gadael i'w cŵn redeg yn rhydd ar dir sydd â da byw.

"Beth sy'n rhaid i'r cyhoedd ei gofio pan fyddant yn defnyddio llwybrau cyhoeddus sy'n croesi tir fferm, yw bod nhw'n cerdded trwy gartref a gweithle rhywun. Mae llawer o'n ffermwyr yn y categori bregus ac yn hunan ynysu tra hefyd yn gofalu am eu hanifeiliaid.

"Petai nhw'n mynd yn sâl, fydd neb i ofalu am eu hanifeiliaid a chynhyrchu'r bwyd rydyn ni gyd ei angen."

Mae FUW yn apelio ar bobl, yn enwedig cerddwyr cŵn - i ddilyn rheolau'r Llywodraeth:

- I beidio teithio - Gwnewch ymarfer corff yn yr awyr agored, yn agos at eich cartref
- Ewch allan ar ben eich hunan neu gydag aelodau o'ch teulu
- Cadwch 2 fetr oddi wrth eraill bob amser
- Cofiwch fod angen golchi dwylo yn rheolaidd - mae gatiâu, sticlau a strwythurau allanol arall yn cael eu cyffwrdd gan eraill yn rheolaidd
- Peidiwch â gwneud unrhyw weithgareddau newydd neu beryglus - cadwch yn ddiogel yn ystod yr amser lle mae yna faich cynyddol ar ein gwasanaethau iechyd a brys
- Dilynwch y Côt Cefn Gwlad - meddylwch am ffermwyr ac eraill sydd yn gweithio'n galed i gadw stoc ar y silffoedd ac yn cynnal y rhwydweithiau
- Cadwch cŵn ar dennyn bob amser

Ychwanegodd Mr Roberts: "Cadwch at y pellter cymdeithasol bob amser, a dilynwch y Côt Cefn Gwlad. Rydym wedi cynhyrchu arwyddion postyn giât a phosteri yn atgoffa'r cyhoedd o'r rheolau a'r rheoliadau - ac mae modd eu lawrlwytho o'n gwefan - [www.fuw.org.uk](http://www.fuw.org.uk)

*This article is available in English on the FUW website: "Respect Government guidelines and countryside code FUW urges."*

"Mae llawer o'n ffermwyr yn y categori bregus ac yn hunan ynysu tra hefyd yn gofalu am eu hanifeiliaid."

## RHYBUDD COVID-19:

Ystyriwch eich defnydd o'r llwybr hwn a helpwch i leihau lledaenu'r haint

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## Addressing labour shortfall during pandemic

TWO agricultural industry registers have been set up during the Covid-19 pandemic in order to address the shortfall of farm labour resources.

Welsh Government through Lantra has set up a skills matching service for agricultural businesses across Wales to find individuals with the required skills in order to fulfil labour shortages during this difficult time.

The register with the relevant forms for businesses and potential employees can be found at [www.wales.lantra.co.uk/skills-matching-service-0](http://www.wales.lantra.co.uk/skills-matching-service-0)

If any businesses lack adequate internet access, the Farming Connect Service Centre (08456 000 813) can fill the form out over the phone on their behalf.

The National Association of Agricultural Contractors (NAAC) along with the support of industry Stakeholders including the FUW, have also set up a shearing register. As it seems likely that overseas shearers will not be able to travel to the UK for the 2020 season, it will be vital to ensure that sheep are shewn in order to prevent animal welfare issues down the line.

The FUW encourages any shearers who are able to help and farmers or shearing contractors who will require labour resources to fill in the form at [www.naac.co.uk/jobs/shearingregister/](http://www.naac.co.uk/jobs/shearingregister/)

The industry has also prepared a Covid-19 Shearing Checklist to ensure that shearers, wool handlers and farmers operate at safe distances and with practical measures to ensure safe health.

## CORNEL CLECS

## Cyfrif fy mendithion am y pethau bach

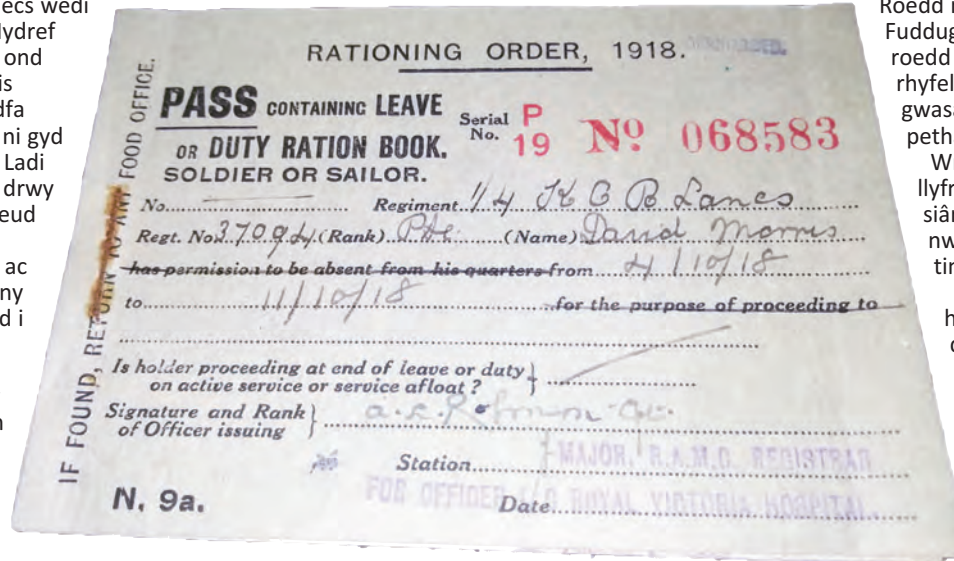
gan Angharad Evans, Golygydd y Gymraeg

RHYW ffordd neu'i gilydd, mae Cornel Clecs wedi glanio ar dudalennau Y Tir bob mis ers Hydref 2015. Mae'n dipyn o sialens ambell i fis, ond ddim cymaint o sialens a'r mis yma, y mis cyntaf i mi ysgrifennu'r golofn o'n swyddfa fach newydd, adref. Mae'n ffordd o fyw ni gyd wedi newid dros nos, gweithio o adre, a Ladi Fach Tŷ Ni bellach yn derbyn ei haddysg drwy gyfrwng y we, adref. Ond rydym yn gwneud y gorau o'r sefyllfa hyll sydd ohoni ac yn cyfri ein bendithion am gael bod yn iach ac yn ddiogel adref ac yn diolch i'r rhai hynny sy'n allweddol i gadw olwynion ein gwlad i fynd.

Ynghanol argyfwng y coronofirws presennol, rwy'n cyfaddef, ar adegau, fy mod yn edrych ar fwyd a'i baratoi mewn ffordd wahanol. Gyda phawb yn gaeth i'r cyfyngiadau symud, nid yw'n bosib picio i'r siop fel mae'r awydd yn codi. Mae ymweliad o'r fath yn gorfod cael ei gynllunio yn ofalus, dyddiau o flaen llaw, ac yn aml, yn gorfod cyd-fynd gyda mynd i'r fet, i'r syrjeri i moen presgripsiwn neu neges hanfodol arall.

Ar ddechrau'r argyfwng presennol, a phan oedd rhai nwyddau yn brin, roeddwn yn meddwl dwywaith cyn meddwl coginio ambell bryd, gan boeni mewn ffordd, a fyddai digon o hwn a'r llall gyda fi tan y 'siopa' nesaf. Rwy'n perthyn i genhedlaeth sydd erioed wedi gorfod meddwl fel hyn o'r blaen, wedi cael ein sbwylio yn ôl rhai efallai. Ond meddyliwch gorfod meddwl fel hyn am fwyd am gyfnod mwy na rhai misoedd. Dyna fel oedd pethau adeg y rhyfeloedd.

Yn ffodus iawn, daeth teulu ochr fy nhad at ei gilydd am gwpwl o oriau dros y Nadolig, ni feddyliodd neb bryd hynny, ni fyddai'n bosib dod at ein gilydd am beth amser wedyn.



Roedd mis yma fod yn fis pwysig o ran dathliadau VE, y Fuddugoliaeth yn Ewrop, a gyda sôn am hyn ers sbel, roedd Ladi Fach Tŷ Ni wedi cymryd diddordeb yn hanes y rhyfel, ac yn fwy pwysig hanes ei hen dad-cu yn gwasanaethu yn y rhyfel. Cafodd gyfle i weld rhai pethau'n eiddo i'n nhad-cu adeg y rhyfel.

Wrth edrych ar yr holl bethau, tynnwyd fy sylw at y llyfr bach dogni bwyd. Meddyliwch gorfod byw gyda'ch siâr chi o fwyd am gyfnod penodol o amser. Gyda nwyddau megis siwgr, cig, olew coginio, a bwyd mewn tin yn cael eu dogni i sicrhau bod digon ar gyfer pawb.

Meddyliwch am heddiw, sefyllfa i'r gwrthwyneb yn hollol. Dim llyfr dogni bwyd gan fod digon o laeth, a digon o gig ar gael. Ond mae gweld ffermwyr llaeth yn arllwys llaeth ffres i lawr y draen, gan fod dim galw amdano yn dorcalonnus. Mae pawb yn gorfod bwyta adref yn hytrach na mynd allan i fwya, ac yn golygu bod neb digon mentrus i goginio'r darnau gwell o gig fel y stêcs ayyb, a hynny'n arwain at ostyngiad yn y galw.

Rydym mor ffodus yma yng Nghymru o'n ffermwyr, sy'n gweithio bob awr posib i edrych ar ôl eu hanifeiliaid i sicrhau bod bwyd gwych o rhai hynny sy'n sicrhau bod digon o fwyd ar gael i ni.

Beth am gofio am aberth fy nhad-cu a'i gyd-filwyr ar ddiwrnod VE eleni wrth gefnogi'r arwyr modern, ein ffermwyr. Cofiwch am y stecen gorau o biff neu'r golwyth o gig oen sy'n tynnu'r dŵr o'ch dannedd, a chodwch wydriad o laeth i'n ffermwyr oll - lechyd da bawb!

*This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Counting my blessings for the little things."*

## Allwch chi helpu ffermwr?

GYDA Covid-19 yn fygythiad i'r diwydiant amaeth yng Nghymru, mae Menter Môn, ar y cyd gyda nifer o bartneriaid eraill wedi sefydlu 'Banc Amaeth' i helpu amaethwyr ym Meirionnydd, Caernarfon ac Ynys Môn i dderbyn cymorth petaent yn cael eu taro yn wael gyda'r clefyd yma.

Y syniad yn syml yw creu bas-data o wirfoddolwyr fyddai yn fodlon helpu ar ffermydd pe bai rhywun yn cael ei daro yn wael. Bu swyddogion Sirol Meirionnydd a Chaernarfon, Huw Jones a Gwynedd Watkin, yn rhan o'r drafodaeth am hyn drwy gyfrwng cyfarfod fideo. Dywedodd Llywydd FUW Glyn Roberts: "Mae'n gyfnod anodd ar bawb ohonom, ac o ganlyniad i hyn rhaid sicrhau ein bod yn cynorthwyo ein gilydd gorau y gallwn. Mae'r cynllun arfaethedig yma yn mynd i sicrhau fod cymorth ar gael os bydd ei angen ar unrhyw un allai fod yn dioddef oherwydd y feirws."

Felly, os oes unrhyw un am helpu, sydd â sgil amaethyddol, gellir cofrestru drwy ddatgan eich manylion - Menter Môn - 07739 948883 neu drwy e-bost sionedmc@mentermon.com

Os derbynnir cais i helpu ar fferm, bydd Menter Môn yn cysylltu â chi gyda manylion pellach. Bydd angen i chi wedyn gysylltu â'r ffermwr i drafod a chytuno ar y gwaith sydd angen ei wneud, ac i dderbyn cyfarwyddiadau pellach.

Bydd angen y ffermwr wneud y canlynol:

- Sicrhau mai gwaith HANFODOL yn UNIG sydd angen ei gwblhau
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- Egluro yn fanwl y gwaith sydd angen ei wneud gan gofio egluro am leoliadau gorïadau, tapiau, meddyginiaethau ac unrhyw offer angenrheidiol
- Cytuno gyda'r gwirfoddolwr am sawl diwrnod sydd angen iddynt weithio ar y fferm gan y gall rai gweithgareddau fod yn rhai dyddiol megis bwydo anifeiliaid.

Mae'r gwasanaeth yma ar gael yng Nghonwy hefyd drwy - Conwy Cynhalio. Am ragor o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Rhys Evans 01492 576671/07733 013 328 neu rhys.evans@conwy.gov.uk

*This article is in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Can you help a farmer?"*

## CEFNOGI AMAETHWYR MÔN A GWYNEDD

Mae COVID-19 yn fygythiad i'r diwydiant Amaeth

1. Ydych chi'n gweithio o fewn y diwydiant Amaeth, ac yn gallu helpu ffermwr mewn angen?
2. Neu, ydych chi wedi eich taro yn wael, ac angen help hanfodol i redeg eich fferm?

Oes gennych chi brofiad mewn hwsmonaeth anifeiliaid?

Godro?

Cneifio?

Gyrru Tractor?

Allwch chi helpu ffermwr?

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ebost: sionedmc@mentermon.com  
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mentermon.com/cefnogaethamaeth

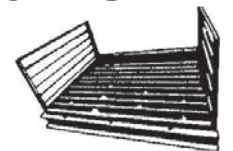


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*As a part of your membership package of the Union we offer assistance with your single farm payment form - your SAF. In order to submit your claim during this extraordinary Covid-19 period we will need you to read and agree to the disclaimer below. Your local FFW staff will be in touch with details on how we record this confirmation.*

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

O.....

.....(Cyfeiriad)

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

Arwyddwyd gan .....

(Ar ran .....

Dyddiad .....

## SAF Form Disclaimer 2020

I/We.....(Names)

Of.....

.....(Address)

Hereby confirm and declare that:

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

Signed .....

(On behalf of .....

Dated .....



# Will we see a rise in undernourishment?

by Anne Dunn, FUW Press Officer

FOR decades we have seen the number of hungry people across the world declining. That is sadly no longer the case according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. Their 2019 report on 'The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World' makes a harrowing read.

It estimates that more than 820 million people across the world haven't got enough to eat, and that about 2 billion people in the world experience moderate or severe food insecurity. Although primarily concentrated in low- and middle-income countries, moderate or severe food insecurity also affects 8 per cent of the population in Northern America and Europe.

And whilst the problems in the UK fall into the smallest category of countries suffering from food insecurity and may appear insignificant when looking at global data, if you zoom in on the data relevant to the UK, you'll quickly realise that we have a domestic problem - a problem that should not exist in the UK in the 21st century.

So what is going on in the UK? A report published last year by the UK Stakeholders for Sustainable Development, a cross-sector network of organisations working to drive action on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), highlights a number of nutrition-related challenges in the UK.

Referring to their July 2018 report, "Measuring Up", UKSSD found that, in the overall implementation of the SDGs in the UK, "while there is an enormous amount to celebrate, the most vulnerable places and people in our society are increasingly being left behind."

The report drew attention to the UK's current struggle to "address malnutrition in all its forms", with "food insecurity and obesity rising." It summarised that: *The 'average' situation in the UK hides large variations according to socioeconomic status, and two juxtaposed challenges: high and growing levels of obesity and diet related disease, and among the highest levels of household food insecurity in Europe.*

The Food Foundation estimates 1.97 million people within the UK may be undernourished. However the British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN) places the number of malnourished, specifically undernourished people at 3 million, of which 1.3 million are over 65.

Moreover, the number of people requiring food support services is growing. The Trussell Trust, which provides approximately 60 per cent of the UK's food banks, reported that in 2017-18 they alone had distributed 1,332,952 three-day emergency food supplies to people in crisis (nearly 484,026 of which went to children), compared to 913,138 in 2013-14, an increase of 46 per cent.

Looking back, the 2018 report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), averaging data from 2015 to 2017, estimated that 2.2 million people in the UK were severely food insecure - the highest reported level in Europe. That means the UK is responsible for



one in five of all severely food insecure people in Europe!

How can this be the case here in the UK, when we have an army of food producers working 365 days a year and how do you tackle such problems?

As the world seeks solutions, we must keep in mind the fragile state of the world economy and the role it has to play in the rise and fall of hunger and food insecurity. Since the sharp 2008-2009 global economic downturn, there has been an uneven pace of recovery in many countries, and the global economic outlook is set to take a nosedive - especially now that the Coronavirus pandemic is sweeping across the world.

According to experts, the UK is heading for its 'largest single-year deficit since the second world war', with public sector net borrowing

set to increase by £218bn this financial year - confirming speculation that a decade's worth of austerity measures to recover from spending during the financial crash has been completely wiped out and a staggering budget deficit reinstated.

At the heart of UK food security lie our family farms, and the dangers of

undermining these have been laid bare by the pandemic; had some of the policies being mooted in England and Wales been in place already our vulnerability to food shortages in the face of such catastrophes would have been far greater.

Our Governments must therefore recognise the importance of safeguarding family farms and domestic food security, and the FUW will continue to do everything possible to drive that message home.

Sources:

[www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition/en/](http://www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition/en/)

[www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmenvaud/1491/149105.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmenvaud/1491/149105.htm)

[shorturl.at/acnq0](http://shorturl.at/acnq0) (URL has been shortened)

*Mae'r erthygl yma yn Gymraeg ar ein gwefan - Newyddion - Newyddion Y Tir: "A welwn ni gynnydd mewn diffyg maeth?"*

Writing this at the beginning of April, it feels like spring is well and truly here. The sun is out, the grass is growing and what a change from February when large parts of the country were still under water.

What else has changed? Covid-19 is no longer just a problem for other countries, and has taken centre stage as the most important issue facing most communities in the UK today. Measures to prevent the transmission of this virus will inevitably impact on all of us, forcing some changes to the daily and seasonal routines in the farming community.

What hasn't changed? Sheep are still lambing, cows are still calving and seasonal parasites still respond to weather conditions with no regard to the other challenges we currently face.

**Lucilia Sericata** (green bottle) the main cause of blowfly strike in the UK, starts to become active when temperatures reach 9°C. Relatively few flies overwinter as pupae in the soil, but as the lifecycle can occur quickly in optimum conditions, fly populations will increase rapidly.\* Reducing the fly population early in the year has the greatest impact on the fly challenge to your flock for the rest of the grazing season. Along with prompt disposal of dead stock and keeping ewes and lambs as clean as possible (clipping out dirty back ends and managing worm burdens), NADIS also recommend early application of blowfly prevention treatments: "By using preventative treatment early on in the blowfly season, the risk of strike will be dramatically reduced." The CliK™ family contain an insect growth regulator (IGR) in a Fleecebind™ formulation which allows the product to spread and bind to give full fleece protection. As with all products, correct application is essential to get the expected level of protection. Go to [www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk/cliK-application](http://www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk/cliK-application) to see the application video.

**Nematodirus** is another threat to lambs that responds to rising spring temperatures. Confirmed cases were reported from Devon and Cheshire in March. Following the SCOPS *nematodirus* forecast ([www.scops.org.uk/forecasts/nematodirus-forecast/](http://www.scops.org.uk/forecasts/nematodirus-forecast/)), updated daily, will give you early warning of when treatment may be necessary. White drenches (Grp 1 BZ, eg Rycoben™) are still the treatment of choice for *nematodirus* with high levels of efficacy against this parasite. However, one word of caution, as on many sheep farms coccidiosis will also be a threat to lambs at the same time as the *nematodirus* challenge hits. Checking some samples to make sure you target the right parasite, with the right product at the right time will pay dividends.

Sign up now to the Elanco Parasite Matters Bulletin providing quarterly parasite updates for the coming months direct to your inbox. [www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.farmanimalhealth.co.uk/subscribe)



Matthew Colston  
Ruminant Technical Consultant, Elanco

For further information call Elanco Animal Health on +44 (0)1256 353131, or write to Elanco Animal Health, Lilly House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9NL.

**Elanco**

CLiK™ Pour On contains 5% (w/v) dicyclanil. Ricobendazole is a trademark for albendazole oxide. Rycoben™ SC for Sheep contains 2.5% w/v Ricobendazole, 1.8% w/v hydrated Cobalt Sulphate (equivalent to 3.77mg elemental cobalt/ml) and 0.19% w/v Sodium Selenate (equivalent to 0.41 mg elemental selenium/ml). [POM-VPS]. Information regarding the side effects, precautions, warnings and contraindications can be found in product packaging and leaflets; further information can also be found in the Summary of Product Characteristics. Advice should be sought from the medicine prescriber. CLiK, FleeceBind, Rycoben Elanco and the diagonal bar logo are trademarks of Elanco or its affiliates. Use medicines responsibly ([www.noah.co.uk/responsible](http://www.noah.co.uk/responsible)). © 2020 Elanco or its affiliates. PM-UK-20-0216. RDP31263. \* [www.nadis.org.uk](http://www.nadis.org.uk)

# MOT expiry date extensions: Will it affect my car insurance?

DUE to the latest rules around social distancing, the government has taken steps to protect both drivers and motor traders by extending all MOTs due from March 30 by six months.

During this period, you will still be able to legally drive your vehicle if reasonable measures are taken to keep it in a roadworthy condition.

Will the MOT extension affect my car insurance?

The Department for Transport reassured drivers that this move would not affect any insurance claims over the extension period. A spokesperson for the Association of British Insurers (ABI) said: "In this unprecedented situation, insurers will not penalise you if you can't get an MOT. Safety is paramount, so check your brakes, tyres, and lights before driving."

The ABI confirmed that drivers would not be penalised for things beyond their control as long as drivers do not ignore obvious safety issues and remain roadworthy. In short, the absence of an MOT will not in itself invalidate your cover over this period.

If you need to declare your car as temporarily off-road, want to know how the MOT extension affects your motor insurance or have any other queries, get in touch with your local FUW Insurance Services Ltd Account Executive. We'll talk you through what you need to know.

What if my MOT test was due before March 30?

If your test was due on or before March 29, you will still

need to undergo your MOT test within a realistic timescale if you need to use it for basic necessities, medical care or travel for work. In these circumstances, if you're self-isolating, you should not drive your vehicle until you're out of self-isolation and can take the vehicle to its MOT. For those who are vulnerable, you will not need to undergo your MOT until it is safe for you to do so.

If you do not need to use your vehicle over this timeframe, you will not be penalised for an expired MOT. However, if you do drive the vehicle on the road for anything but a pre-arranged MOT or vehicle repair, you may be prosecuted. If you cannot get an MOT extension and don't intend to use your vehicle for the foreseeable future, it's likely you will need to make a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN) and take your vehicle off the road.

Maintaining a roadworthy vehicle

It is a statutory requirement that all vehicles used on the public highway are maintained in a road-worthy condition. It is essential that you take the necessary precautions to ensure your vehicle is safe to drive throughout this six-month extension. This includes MOT exempt vehicles such as Agricultural Vehicles, Tractors, Telehandlers, ATVs and Limited Use Vehicles.

If you are caught driving a vehicle in a dangerous condition, you could be subject to three penalty points, up to £2,500 fine and a driving ban and potentially invalidate your insurance. More importantly, you could be putting the wellbeing of others at risk.



ARCHWILIO  
EICH  
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AM DDIM

Os ydych yn **AELOD FUW**, rydym  
yn cynnig **ARCHWILIAD O'CH  
YSWIRIANT AM DDIM**



**YDI'R YSWIRIANT  
CYWIR GYDA CHI?**



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Mae pob aelod yn gymwys i gael archwiliad yswiriANT AM DDIM,  
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cynrychiolydd lleol heddiw

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check and let our agricultural  
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representative today

# Dairy farms would be pushed 'over the edge'

DAIRY farmers in Wales have spoken of their deep concern that water quality regulations published in draft form by Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Minister Lesley Griffiths would push dairy farms 'over the edge'.

Discussing the draft legislation at an emergency meeting of the FUW Milk and Dairy produce committee, delegates were clear that a large proportion of the industry, which is already suffering severe impacts due to the knock-on impact of Coronavirus, would not survive if these regulations were to be introduced.

"Large numbers of Welsh dairy farmers have seen massive falls in the price they receive for their milk as well as delays to payments due to the closure of the service sector and other impacts caused by coronavirus," said FUW Milk and Dairy produce committee Chairman Dai Miles, (pictured right).

This has led to some farmers having to throw thousands of litres of milk away and large numbers losing vast sums of money on a daily basis, said Mr Miles.

"We are currently doing everything we can to find ways of ensuring farm businesses can survive, but whatever happens our industry will be under severe financial pressures at the end of this crisis.

"The publication of draft regulations that would require families in such a precarious situation to find tens or hundreds of thousands of pounds to comply, plus large annual compliance

**"Whatever happens our industry will be under severe financial pressures at the end of this crisis."**



costs thereafter, feels like a knife in the back to a sector already under severe pressure," he added.

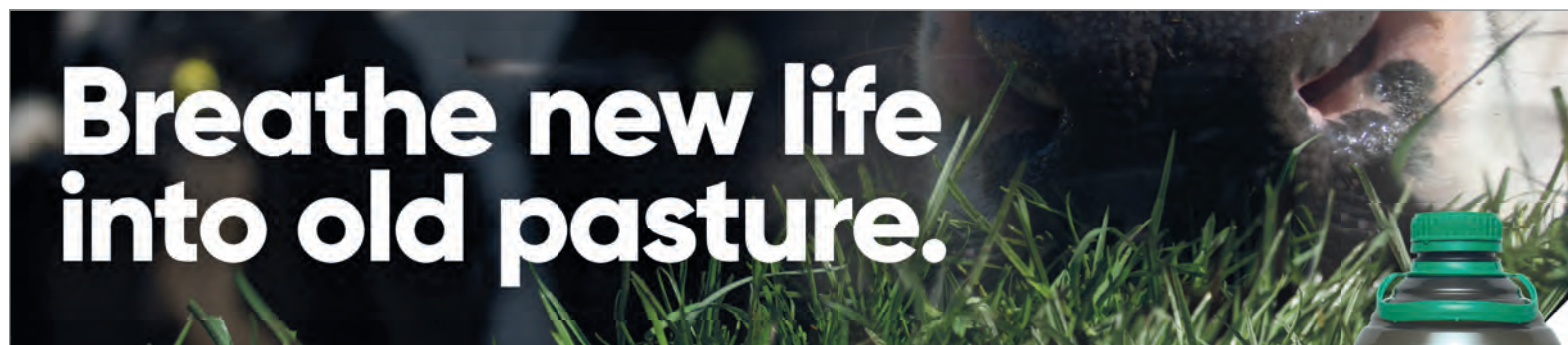
The draft legislation, if introduced, would designate the whole of Wales as an NVZ, an area more than forty times bigger than the current Welsh NVZ area, and eleven times bigger than what was recommended by NRW, making tens of thousands of farms subject to draconian rules which normally only apply in areas where pollution problems have been shown to exist.

"For the vast majority of Welsh farms there is no evidence that such measures are needed, and there is even a real risk that the regulations would actually increase pollution," said Mr Miles, who highlighted the fact that the draft regulations ignored recommendations by their own official advisors, Natural Resources Wales, as well as a detailed 2018 report by the Wales Land Management Forum aimed at targeting agricultural pollution based on evidence and ensuring resources were focussed on places where pollution problems had been identified.

"On behalf of our dairy industry and every other farmer here in Wales, I hope the Minister uses the time she has now to reconsider these regulations. For the sake of all our futures, including that of the environment which we care for deeply," added Mr Miles.

## Upcoming EOI window details

Scheme	Summary	Window closes
<b>Sustainable Production Grant Applications</b>	If you are required to submit a full Sustainable Production Grant (SPG) application and are struggling to complete the paperwork, for example the three quotations for work, as builders aren't visiting farms or consultants are delayed to undertake nutrient management plans, RPW have stated that "the current advice is that farmers should continue to submit their applications. If you are unable to submit all of the documentation required, you should notify the RPW Customer Contact Centre immediately".	
<b>BPS Greening Requirements</b>	The three crop rule crop diversification requirements for the 2020 BPS year <b>will no longer apply</b> . Seed receipts need not be submitted however Ecological Focus Area requirements remain in place. The system cannot be changed at this late date to stop warnings appearing on the SAF when the three crop rule is not met - a message will therefore appear and can be ignored.	
<b>BPS Transfer of Entitlements</b>	You can now transfer BPS entitlements through sale, lease or inheritance via your RPW online account. The recipient of entitlements transferred by sale or lease must meet the Active Farmer requirements (see SAF Rules for details). Due to the covid pandemic, the deadline has been moved from April 30 to May 15 2020.	<b>15 May 2020</b>
<b>Glastir Woodland Creation (GWC)</b>	The 9th Expression of Interest window is now open for the GWC scheme. The scheme provides financial support for capital works including planting, fencing and in certain circumstances, annual maintenance and premium payments. You must contact a registered planner to discuss your proposals and they must then complete and submit an EOI on your behalf. The land put forward to be planted must be registered with the Rural Payment Wales Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) and be under your full management control.	<b>12 June 2020</b>
<b>SAF Deadline Extension</b>	The SAF deadline has now been extended to June 15 2020 and all subsequent deadlines which follow will also be extended by a month, including for submitting supporting evidence. Please be aware that the BPS 'land at your disposal' deadline remains May 15 2020.	<b>15 June 2020</b>
<b>Glastir Small Grants: Landscape and Pollinators</b>	Due to the covid pandemic, RPW have confirmed that the deadline for Glastir Small Grants: Landscape and Pollinators capital works has been extended to September 30 2020 so that work can be conducted in September after the hedge cutting closed period.	<b>30 September 2020</b>



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# I can assure you it's possible to get

A message from FUW President, Glyn Roberts

TO say that these are strange times would be the understatement of the century. There is so much going on that it's hard to know where to be worried about first.

From beef mince imports, our dairy industry in crisis, to people ignoring Government advice and what the industry is under immense pressure.

Even though processing of food products is continuing, the loss of the foodservice market and seasonal demand is causing severe issues during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.

When it comes to dairy we know that Mozzarella, liquid milk, and products considered non-essential are all under pressure. To that a fall in the spot milk price, which reportedly is around 15ppl, the situation is dire.

We have heard of delayed payments to farmers, requests for dairy producers to pull back milk production and products disposed of on the farm. Sadly we can expect things to get worse before it gets better. Daily milk production is expected to drop to the end of March and the start of May. And as it stands there is nowhere for that extra milk to go.

The beef and lamb sectors are also not having a great time. They are feeling the strain of restaurants closing and demand going down.

We have seen consumers shift from high end cuts of beef to mince, which is impacting on beef carcasses and meat going away, with risk that hide build-up could close processors.



Tel: 0800 587 4262

Text: 07860 048799.

Email: [contact@thedpjfoundation.com](mailto:contact@thedpjfoundation.com)

The DPJ Foundation is striving to run as 'normally' as possible during these uncertain times. We made a decision early on to adapt our 'Share the load' service to ensure that our users and potential users are still able to get the support that is so needed.

Our Share the Load service provides fully funded counselling, with counselling one of the most effective ways of dealing with poor mental health we wanted to ensure this service continued to run. We now offer over the telephone counselling, text or online counselling for the time being until restrictions are loosened and we can resume with face to face.

So far we have had a number of people undertaking this option. If you are feeling low, unhappy, worried or just need someone to talk to, our call line remains 24/7 with both English and Welsh speaking call handlers. Our service is completely confidential. Whether your concern is about product prices, Covid-19, family issues or whatever it may be - we are here.

We have had to stop our mental health awareness training but we are looking at options of doing some training online - so look out for this!

As a sector we are very much used to an isolated lifestyle, however we are aware the restrictions put in place mean many farming families have been segregated, leaving the elderly and vulnerable alone.

We are offering those the option to have a weekly call from a DPJ buddy who can be a different friendly voice at the end of the phone. We are also here to help families who may need help in finding workers due to illness themselves or with usual help the ability to contact us and we can help find workers.

Although we are yet to receive many calls that are directly linked to Covid-19 we are very aware that the aftermath could be the time that hits farmers the most. With prices fluctuating, issues around milk collection and diversification projects with that extra income put on hold, the months and potentially years following this pandemic is where our community will be hit the most.

It is uncertain times, which is why it is more important than ever to talk and ask for help should it be needed. One of the most effective things you can do for others is to call someone up, ask if they are ok and listen to them. It sounds simple but in times where we are so alone a simple call can mean the world to someone who has a huge weight on their shoulders.

If you yourself are feeling low, speak to someone. Our call line is open 24/7 but it is also good to talk to those around you.

We have been working with Welsh Government and the Farming Charities group to produce the FarmWell Wales resource. This online resource and booklet has information for all of the charities in Wales able to provide support as well as information for business support. Remember - it is ok to ask for help.



Tel: 0808 281 9490

Farming charity R.A.B.I has adapted its processes in order to continue providing support to the farming community during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (R.A.B.I) is farming's oldest and largest charity and provides financial support, practical care and guidance to farming people of all ages. Office-based staff are working remotely, in line with Government guidance, whilst regional welfare officers - who provide the human link between the charity and those needing help - are manning the confidential Freephone Helpline 0808 281 9490.

R.A.B.I has three welfare officers in Wales and much of their regular work involves making personal visits. Now, in addition to providing frontline telephone support, regional welfare officers are also working hard to contact the hundreds of people the charity already assists to make sure they are OK.

Trish Pickford, R.A.B.I Head of Welfare, said: "We're calling people we already support, prioritising the most vulnerable to see if there's anything we can do for them. For some, just having someone to talk to is a huge help during this time of social distancing and isolation. Those we support long-term really appreciate receiving a call and knowing that we're here to help."

R.A.B.I is receiving many calls from people affected by the Coronavirus, both directly and indirectly. Trish added: "One issue we're seeing as a result of the pandemic is that those who earn additional money off-farm have now lost their second income stream. Many farmers' spouses have lost their jobs and can no longer provide that extra financial security.

"One couple who contacted us can no longer make meat deliveries as they both have underlying health conditions and have been forced to self-isolate. They have no other means of generating income. People are still coming to us with the same problems they had before the outbreak, but some of those everyday issues are being exacerbated by Coronavirus."

R.A.B.I provides support to farmers, farmworkers of all ages and their dependants. Although a lot of the help provided is financial, the charity strives to build personal relationships and tailors support to suit needs. If they can't provide the support required, they'll liaise with other organisations and agencies on someone's behalf.

R.A.B.I treats every application on its own merits, working with compassion and discretion. The charity's vision is that no member of the farming community should ever have to face adversity alone.

To find out what R.A.B.I can do for you call the Freephone Helpline 0808 281 9490.



How do we begin to write about the impacts of COVID-19 on farming? Support when the issues are chaotic.

This all began when the industry was reeling from the impact of flooding and storms - no one saw this storm coming.

While the general public laments the closing of their favourite coffee shop, we think about the effect on the dairy farmer. A latte may hit the spot when on the way to the office, but no-one thinks of the farmer's milk that's in it or what happens when a farmer can't buy one anymore.

Tir Dewi has had to change the way it provides support to farmers. It's not the rules on social isolating, but the way we manage to support where we can. What's changed?

From a practical perspective, we no longer visit farms, sit at the kitchen table with a cup of tea and talk problems through. We are all more comfortable with face-to-face, building the relationship to be able to admit that you are struggling. But, where farmers feel able to do so, we are there to respond.

What about the issues that we can't see? The impacts of the virus have changed the way in which farmers are sometimes struggling, it's just changed the main reason. Let's look at a just a few common issues:


- **Isolation** - the nation is struggling with three weeks of social isolation... Many farmers experience the effects of isolation continuously but when crisis hits, it's hard to make decision-making and dealing with extra pressure too much to handle.

- **Mental Health issues** - caused by this pressure and simply making the issue worse. Inability to make decisions, trust your own decision or even

# ou we're doing everything t our industry through this

ing on it is almost impossible to know what to  
alking across farmland with their dogs - the  
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ase values and the demand for hides has fallen

The loss of exports and a fall in demand from the EU is playing havoc with the lamb industry and sales haven't transferred as well into retail as other meats.  
Dairy, beef and lamb - we have a problem. Sadly that is only the tip of the iceberg in terms of things to worry about.  
Under normal circumstances we would discuss these things with friends and neighbours at the mart or over a cup of tea at home or we would pop into our local FUW office to have a chat with our county executive officer. Social distancing makes our 'normal' pretty much impossible.  
And whilst you might ask why am I telling you all of this - it is to assure you that I understand what you are going through, the stresses on you as families, food producers, members, colleagues and friends.  
Our staff and officials are fully engaged in doing everything possible to get our industry through this time without any major casualties. It is not easy but we are doing everything we can and we are only ever a phone call away.  
The county offices might be physically closed but our staff are still available via the usual phone and email options and will help you in every way they can. If you feel that the walls are closing in on you and you are in despair - call us.  
I would also like to highlight the great work that charities across Wales are doing in helping the farming community cope with these extraordinary times.



Tel: 0800 121 47 22  
Email: info@tirdewi.co.uk

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the decisions that you have to make can lead to decision-paralysis. This just makes you feel worse and the circle continues.

- **Financial pressures** - not getting the milk cheque or being asked to reduce production, not being able to sell animals to pay bills. How are we expected to cope? But the costs of farming continue.
- **Relationships off farm** - with Government, inspectors, marts, vets, customers, suppliers - all of these can begin to break down as a result of any of these things.

And COVID-19 is making all of these worse. So, what is Tir Dewi able to do? Simply put, we'll help in whatever way we can and whatever way is needed. Some of these could be:

- Someone to talk to, to break the isolation.
- To help you unravel the huge knot of issues that you have - to list them, prioritise them and begin to help you to resolve them.
- To support you in relationships off farm, act as an advocate to help resolve differences.
- Make introductions to other support networks and partners where they can help more directly.
- Along with others, we are also helping with prescriptions, medicines, shopping and even food bank delivery for farmers.

In short, there are endless ways in which we can help, but we can only help if asked. So, please, call us and talk it through - whatever it is, we've probably heard similar before. You need never be alone.

Our Freephone Helpline number is 0800 121 47 22. If it's busy, please call back. Or email us on info@tirdewi.co.uk - Don't go through it alone.



Tel: 03000 111 999  
Email: help@fcn.org.uk

Jude McCann, Chief Executive Officer at the Farming Community Network (FCN), said: "The Farming Community Network (FCN) is a voluntary organisation and charity in England and Wales that supports farmers and families within the farming community through difficult times.  
FCN has over 400 volunteers, who all have a great understanding of farming. We run a confidential national helpline and e-helpline which is open every day of the year from 7am-11pm, providing free, confidential, pastoral and practical support to anyone who seeks help.  
We recognise that the farming community will be greatly affected by COVID-19 and we are here to support those who may need help either with their farm business or personal wellbeing during this time through our national helpline/The Farming Help helpline and online FarmWell resource hub.  
We would encourage anyone in the farming community who needs support or help, to access our services, no matter what the issue may be.

**Farming Help**  
FCN is part of the Farming Help partnership, alongside The Addington Fund, R.A.B.I, RSABI and Forage Aid, supported by The Prince's Countryside Fund.  
The Farming Help charities are working together to support the Farming Community during the current Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak. The Farming Help Helpline operates on the same number as the FCN helpline, manned by FCN volunteers.  
The helpline currently offers three main aspects of support:

- If anyone in the farming community is struggling through this time of heightened anxiety and uncertainty we would encourage them to call our helpline on 03000 111 999 or email help@fcn.org.uk to speak to an understanding volunteer who will support you through this difficult time.
- Our volunteers can also help in drafting a contingency plan to ensure you and your farm are prepared if the farmer was to become ill or unable to work for a period of time.
- By calling our helpline, a volunteer can put you in contact with support contacts in your local area. Organisations who may be able to assist in doing things for you if you are no longer able: help with shopping, picking up prescriptions, feeding and managing livestock etc.



INFORMATION | SUPPORT | RESILIENCE  
GWYBODAETH | CYMORTH | CADERNID

In addition to the FCN helpline, FarmWell Wales (farmwell.wales / farmwell.cymru) has recently been created through a joint collaboration between various government bodies and rural support charities including the Welsh Government, FCN, Farming Connect, the DPJ Foundation, Tir Dewi, The Addington Fund, Mind Cymru, Mind Monmouthshire and R.A.B.I.  
The website operated by FCN, acts as a guide and support to individuals in the farming community in how they can develop their business and personal resilience during this uncertain time.  
A hard copy contact directory created through the FarmWell Wales initiative has also been posted to approximately 16,500 farm businesses across Wales, an invaluable resource for those in the farming community during this difficult and uncertain time. The directory is available on the FarmWell Wales website, hard copies can be ordered through FCN directly.

#stayhome  
#staysafe  
#staypositive

# Support for Covid-19 ravaged dairy sector a welcome step - but more must be done

THE FUW has cautiously welcomed measures introduced to aid the dairy industry, which has been impacted severely by the closure of the food services sector and the realignment of the supply chain and market prices.

The temporary easing of competition laws, which apply across the whole of the UK, is hoped to enable greater collaboration so the dairy sector, including dairy farmers and processors, can work closer to solve the issues it is facing.

The temporary suspension of competition laws for the dairy sector was one of the options the FUW discussed with the Rural Affairs Minister as part of the Agricultural Resilience Group.

Responding to the announcement, FUW Milk and Dairy Committee Chairman Dai Miles said: "This is a welcome step in the right direction. It will allow for a more accurate picture of the volumes of milk out there, which processors wanted. It will allow them to collaborate.

"However its effect on farmers could be negative and other support measures must be put in place urgently. Of course, we need a more accurate knowledge of surplus milk but with that comes the danger of it having a negative effect on the spot prices - which a lot of dairy farmers are dependent on.

"So as welcome as this announcement is, when accompanied by good will on the part of companies, there is a risk it will play into the hands of those companies least affected. Unless



this knowledge is used to implement a compensated volume reduction scheme, it could cause more harm than good."

To continue its work in supporting the dairy industry, the FUW alongside others, have written to Secretary of State George Eustice to stress that no single measure will provide a complete answer for this unique combination of circumstances.

Outlining key asks, the letter specifically asks that there is:

- A targeted grant scheme for affected famers that is similar to the Retail and Hospitality Grant Scheme;
- A fully funded, Government run voluntary national production reduction scheme;
- Engagement with the EU Commission to introduce market support measures, such as Private Storage Aid.

introduce market support measures, such as Private Storage Aid.

"Whilst it is a case of better late than never, the Government must understand that farmers play a crucial role in, not just producing food for the nation, but keeping the wheels of our rural economy going.

"Let's not forget that for every £100 generated on farm, £60 is spent within seven miles of the farm. We continue to highlight the knock-on impact of failing dairy businesses on other businesses heavily reliant on agriculture and that if our dairy farm businesses fail - so will our rural economy," added Dai Miles.

## Working from home - how the pandemic has changed everything and nothing

by Anne Dunn, FUW Press Officer

IT came out of nowhere and hit us hard from the outset. Nobody here could have fathomed the changes this global pandemic would bring in terms of the economic impact, and changes to lifestyle.

One minute we were watching scenes on the telly that could have been mistaken for a Hollywood blockbuster or a new Netflix hit, the next we were scrambling in supermarkets to get our hands on tinned peaches, mince meat, chips, nuggets and toilet roll. And not to mention the handwash and sanitizer. Crazy!

Overnight, restrictions came into place. Offices and businesses were forced to shut their doors, children were sent home with schools closed and there is no end in sight.

All of this has of course changed the way we do things. Parents are facing the challenge of working from home whilst trying to look after and home-school children, others are suffering mentally from isolation measures and the economy is set to take the biggest nosedive possibly for hundreds of years.

Watching the news terrifies me. As we see the death toll rise, people in despair, farmers in serious distress over milk and red meat sales, the predictions for the economy bleak to put it mildly and some people completely ignoring the restriction measures - I find myself muttering in the kitchen, sometimes in disgust about the sheer and utter ignorance of some, whilst in awe of others who go above and beyond the call of duty, and pondering over the financial crisis.

So when everything around me seems to fall apart, I like to look for the positives. I wouldn't call it blind optimism but a gentle reality check. When you can't go outside, go 'inside', a friend told me the other day as I was lamenting the dire situation. Take note of what's good - it might be different, but that doesn't mean it's bad.

Thinking about it, there are many things to be grateful for. The FUW was fast to act when it came to protecting members and staff. Early on, and even before the Government announced official lockdown measures, preparations for staff to work from home were in full swing.

IT and phone systems were stress-tested, and the unprecedented step to physically close all offices was put in



place swiftly. All signs of an employer that is taking the health and safety of its workforce and members seriously.

And even with the offices closed, services provided by the Union, in terms of membership support, lobbying and policy work, the creation of this newspaper and wider press and communications work has and will continue at the same level as before. Just differently.

So different isn't always all bad - it has certainly shown me that the way we communicate with each other can benefit from a bit of forced change.

I speak to friends and family more often now than I did before the pandemic, I work much much closer with other members of the team (it is now more important than ever that we are on the same page) and I have more time to think things through, usually whilst out on the allocated exercise allowance.

Working from home also means no travelling. For me the commute to work is about an hour each way. Leaving the house at 7am and usually not getting back until 6pm. Not

joining the rat race on the A487 gives me an extra bit of time to go for a walk before work starts and plan the day ahead and I have a bit more time to prepare dinner with my husband at the end of the day. It also saves hugely on fuel and dare I say it - it is better for the environment and more time efficient.

All those meetings that were done in person before still happen but via telephone and online. Zoom, Google Hangouts, Microsoft Teams, Skype, WhatsApp calling and Facetime - who knew there were so many options!

And there is a lot to be said for having virtual meetings, something we have been telling the Welsh Government for ages. At the start of March we once again wrote to the Minister for the Environment Lesley Griffiths about adopting such working practises.

In fact, for more than a decade, we have pressed successive Welsh Governments to adopt policies which ensure video conferencing is used as often as possible; to invest in whatever facilities are necessary for this to be possible; and to establish standard protocols so that we can invest in whatever facilities are needed to interact with Government in such a way.

Doing so would see a reduction in both financial and time costs and the carbon footprint. Living and travelling in a country with notoriously poor north-south public transport links, means that if you have a meeting in Cardiff you often have no choice but to spend eight hours driving, and in the process cost employers well over £100 in travel costs while burning well over five gallons of fuel.

The FUW is not alone in adopting such working practises and others, in fact millions of people, now have the chance to experience days without long commutes, or the harsh inflexibility of not being able to stay close to home when a family member is sick. This might be a chance for a great reset in terms of how we work.

Whilst I personally can't wait to see my colleagues, family and friends in person again - I do hope that we can adopt some of the lessons learnt from this experience for better work-life balances, better environmental practises and continued close working relationships.

# Industry in shock over prominent farmers fatal accident



THE farming community in Wales was in shock following news of the tragic death of one of its stalwarts Richard Tudor, (pictured left).

Mr Tudor of Llysun farm Llanerfyl, Montgomeryshire, passed away in a tragic accident on Friday April 3.

Responding to the news, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "I was deeply saddened to hear this news. It is an extreme loss to his family, to the agricultural industry, and to his local community. He was a true gentleman. Our thoughts are with his family at this very difficult time."

In 2016 Mr Tudor was named Farmers Weekly's Beef farmer of the year, he was a Hybu Cig Cymru board member and was involved in other organisations such as NFU Livestock Committee, ASFA producer group, Welsh Mule society and Welsh Federation of Grassland Society.

# Union congratulates Sir Keir Starmer MP



From left, newly elected Leader of the Labour Party Sir Keir Starmer and FUW Glamorgan County Chairman Richard Walker with daughter Meredith during the farm visit.

FUW President Glyn Roberts was one of the first to congratulate Sir Keir Starmer MP on being elected Leader of the Labour Party.

"I am delighted to say that the FUW has met Sir Keir and have already hosted a farm visit with him to the farm of FUW Glamorgan County Chairman, Richard Walker and his partner Rachel Edwards at Flaxland farm, near Barry.

"It is extremely important that the

FUW works closely with all political parties and I look forward to once again meeting with Sir Keir.

"This is a time of unprecedented challenge and the FUW wants to be fully involved, to contribute constructively and to ensure that the farming and the rural voice of Welsh communities is made strongly and effectively," said Mr Roberts.



## Cyd-ddylunio Cynllun Ffermio Cynaliadwy i Gymru Co-design for a Sustainable Farming Scheme for Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Bydd y Cynllun Ffermio Cynaliadwy yn cymryd lle'r Cynllun Taliad Sylfaenol presennol a Glastir.

I gymryd rhan mewn datblygu cynllun sydd yn gweithio i chi a Llywodraeth Cymru, bydd angen i chi gwblhau'r camau canlynol:

The Sustainable Farming scheme will replace the current Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) and Glastir.

To get involved in developing a scheme that works for both yourself and the Welsh Government, you will need to complete the following:

Cofrestru eich diddordeb i gymryd rhan  
*Register your interest to take part*

Cwblhau **AROLWNG** byr **AR-LEIN**  
*Complete a short **ONLINE SURVEY***

Datgan eich diddordeb mewn sesiwn  
**UN I UN** a/neu **WEITHDY** grŵp

*Indicate your interest in attending a **ONE TO ONE** session and/or group **WORKSHOP***

Dyddiad Cau/Deadline 30/05/20

Bydd yr holl wybodaeth ar sut i gymryd rhan a sut i gwblhau'r camau uchod ar [menterabusnes.cymru/sfs](http://menterabusnes.cymru/sfs)

All information on how to get involved and how to complete the above stages can be found on [menterabusnes.cymru/sfs](http://menterabusnes.cymru/sfs)



## Cwis Amaethyddol / Agricultural Quiz

Rhywbeth i gadw'r rhai ifanc yn fishi - rhowch gynnig ar y cwestiynau amaethyddol yma!

Something to keep the young ones busy - give these farming themed questions a go!



### Defaid / Sheep

**1** Beth yw cyfnod beichiogi dafad? / What is a sheep's gestation period?

- 5 mis/months
- 7 mis/months
- 9 mis/months

**2** Pa wlad yn y byd sydd â'r nifer fwyaf o ddefaid? / Which country in the world has the most sheep?

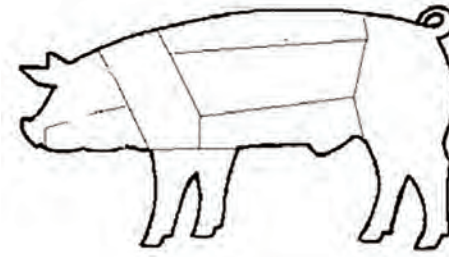
- Cymru/Wales
- Seland Newydd/New Zealand
- Tsieina/China

**3** Pa brîd o ddefaid yw rhain? / What breed of sheep are these?



### Moch / Pigs

**1** O ba ran o'r mochyn y daw'r canlynol? / Which part of the pig do the following come from?



1. Golwyth Iwyn / Loin chops
2. Bacwn / Bacon
3. Ysgwydd / Shoulder
4. Asennau / Ribs
5. Bacwn boch / Jowl bacon
6. Ham

**2** Beth yw cyfnod beichiogi mochyn? / What is a pig's gestation period?

- 3 Mis 3 wythnos 3 diwrnod / 3 months 3 weeks 3 days
- 6 Mis 6 wythnos 6 diwrnod / 6 months 6 weeks 6 days
- 9 mis 9 wythnos 9 diwrnod / 9 months 9 weeks 9 days

### Ieir / Chickens

**1** Sut mae dweud y gwahaniaeth rhwng iâr sy'n dodwy ac iâr sydd ddim yn dodwy? / How do you tell the difference between a laying hen and a hen that's not laying?

**2** Ar gyfartaledd sawl wŷ mae iâr yn dodwy mewn blwyddyn? / On average how many eggs does a hen lay in a year?

- 160
- 260
- 460

**3** Pa mor hir mae'n gymryd o iâr yn dechrau gori nes bod yr wŷ yn deor? / How long does it take from a chicken getting broody to an egg hatching?

- 10 diwrnod/days
- 21 diwrnod/days
- 50 diwrnod/days

### Ceffylau / Horses

**1** Pa ran o'r ceffyl sy'n cael ei effeithio gan Lid llafnog, a pham? / What part of the horse is affected by Laminitis, and why?

**2** Sut ydych chi'n mesur ceffyl? / How do you measure a horse?

- Modfeddi/Inches
- Traed/Feet
- Dwylo/Hands

**3** Beth yw cyfnod beichiogi ceffyl? / What is a horse's gestation period?

- 3 mis/months
- 9 mis/months
- 11 mis/Months

**4** Pa fath o geffyl yw rhain? / What breed of horses are these?



### Lloi / Calves

**1** Beth yw enw'r llaeth cyntaf mae llo yn yfed? / What do you call the first milk a calf drinks?

**2** Beth yw oedran lloi "bwced" ar gyfartaledd pan maent yn barod i ddod i ffwrdd o laeth neu "weano"? / What is the average age of "bucket" calves when they are ready to be taken off milk or "weaned"?

- 2/3 wythnos/weeks
- 6/8 wythnos/weeks
- 10/12 wythnos/weeks

**3** Beth yw brîd y llo yma? / What is this calf's breed?





# Tips ar ddefnyddio'r We yn ystod y pandemig

gan Caryl Roberts, Rheolwr Aelodaeth a Gweithrediadau FUW



FEL byddai rhywun yn disgwyl mae'r defnydd o gyfryngau cymdeithasol wedi ffrwydro yn ystod argyfwng y pandemig. Efallai bod rhai ohonoch yn cychwyn proffil Facebook am y tro cyntaf neu yn mentro grŵp Whatsapp i'r teulu. Rydym ni fel staff yr Undeb wedi bod yn defnyddio ambell raglen wahanol i gyfathrebu gyda gwleidyddion, cyrrff cyhoeddus a phawb arall er mwyn sicrhau bod eich pryderon a'ch gofynion chi yn cael eu clywed ar bob lefel.

Mae'n debygol iawn y bydd fwyfwy o gyfarfodydd yr Undeb yn defnyddio'r rhaglenni isod yn y dyfodol, bydd yn sicr yn arbed ar amser teithio. Ond, wrth gwrs, mae band-llydan neu dderbynfa 4G yn allweddol. Bues i mewn cyfarfod gyda Ofcom heddiw (16 o Ebrill) yn dadlau dros y realiti fod nifer fawr iawn o ffermwyr yn cael eu trin yn annheg ac nid yn cael eu cyfri yn gyfartal a phawb arall wrth allu cysylltu ar y we neu ar ffôn symudol.

Yn bersonol, dwi'n hoff iawn o ddefnyddio technoleg newydd a chyfryngau cymdeithasol ac yn barod i neidio mewn heb betruso. Ond mae'n gallu bod yn sialens ac yn deimlad pryderus iawn i nifer, felly dyma restr fer yn rhoi esboniad ac ambell 'tip' os ydych chi am fentro i ddefnyddio'r ffôn, iPad neu gyfrifiadur am y tro cyntaf.

## FACEBOOK

- Gyda 2.5 biliwn o ddefnyddwyr, mae Facebook yn parhau i fod yn gyfrwng hynod boblogaidd.
- Gellir cysylltu gyda ffrindiau a theulu er mwyn rhannu lluniau, fideos, negeseuon.
- Mae modd ymuno gyda grwpiau er mwyn rhannu gwybodaeth, lluniau, straeon, caneuon.

Dyma restr o'r grwpiau Cymraeg poblogaidd Facebook diweddar:



Grŵp agored i bawb gyda llwyth o bobol yn uwchlwytho fideos ohonynt yn canu neu chwarae offerynnau tra'n hunan-ynysu. Mae thema wahanol bob dydd i'r math o ganeuon y dymunir cael eu postio. Grŵp wedi ei sefydlu gan yr amryddawn Catrin Toffoc o Ynys Môn. Bellach mae dros 45,000 o aelodau yn morio canu hen emynau, alawon, pop a phopeth yn y canol. Mae'r grŵp yma yn sicr yn un i ddilyn cyn gynted â phosib.

Grŵp agored wedi ei sefydlu gan Ferched y Wawr i bawb gael rhannu lluniau o'r holl goginio a phobi sy'n digwydd tra'n hunan-ynysu. Cyfle da i fenthg syniadau am swper nos fory ac yn le da i chwilio am ysbrydoliaeth. Grŵp gyda dros 12,000 o aelodau ac yn tynnu dŵr i'r dannedd - dyma ble gawsom ni y ryeitiau ar y dde.



Grŵp wedi ei sefydlu gan y rhaglen deledu Ffermio yw hwn. Pwrpas y fforwm yw rhannu syniadau da, lluniau ddaw a gwên i wynebaw pobl, i gynnig cyngor neu gymorth i'r gymuned amaethyddol. Digon o luniau wŷn swci/llywath yn cael diod gan blant ciwt a digon o drafod amaethyddol yma.

Grŵp wedi ei sefydlu gan CFFI er mwyn creu heriau a thasgau sydd yn hwyliog ac ysgafn. Lle da i gael chwerthin ar fideos y criw ifanc.



## WHATSAPP

WhatsApp - yr anoddaf i'w ddisgrifio ond yn declyn handi.



- System i yrru negeseuon, lluniau a fideos mewn ffordd sydyn i grŵp o bobol. Mae gan sawl teulu neu grŵp o ffrindiau grŵp Whatsapp er mwyn rhannu negeseuon am ddim.

• Efallai eich bod wedi clywed rhai yn sôn am Facetime? Mae modd gwneud galwad ffôn wyneb yn wyneb fyny at 4 o bobol hefyd. Defnyddiol er mwyn gweld wynebaw ein teuluoedd a ffrindiau annwyl.

- Am ddim dros wifi.
- Dim ond rhif mobile sydd ein angen arnoch.



## zoom

Dyma'r system mae nifer o gwmnïau yn ei ddefnyddio er mwyn parhau i gael cyfarfodydd neu gynadleddau ond mae hefyd yn ddefnyddiol er mwyn dod a chriw o deulu neu ffrindiau at ei gilydd am gwis, bingo, parti neu beth bynnag sy'n mynd a'ch ffansi.

Gellir ei ddefnyddio ar ffôn, dabled neu gyfrifiadur. Bydd angen i bawb fod a camera er mwyn gallu gweld ei gilydd. Dim ond i drefnydd y cyfarfod rannu linc gyda phawb neu rannu cyfrinair a chod a bydd pawb yn ymddangos yn yr un ystafell...yn ddigidol!

**This article is available in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "Tips on using the Web during the Covid-19 pandemic."**

Cyda mwy o bobl adref a gyda mwy o amser i fod yn y gegin, mae'n gyfle perffaith i geisio gwneud pethau newydd. Dyma ddwy rysait oddi wrth Llyr ap Glyn:

### Golwythion Cig Oen gyda sbeis

Dyma rysait hawdd yn defnyddio golwythion Cig Oen. Mae cumin yn sbeis sy'n gweithio'n wych gyda Chig Oen, ddim yn rhy sbeislyd, ond yn ddigon cryf i ddod a'r blas gorau allan o'r Cig Oen.

#### Bydd angen:

6 golwyth o Gig Oen Cymreig

1kg tatws newydd

1 clof o arllwg - gratio neu dorri'n fan

1 lemwn - croen wedi ei gratio yn fan, a sudd ar wahân

2 llwy fwrdd o olew olewydd neu olew coginio ansawdd uchel (extra virgin) (mae olew Blodyn Aur yn gweithio'n dda)

Mintys ffres wedi ei dorri'n fan

1 llwy de o cumin

#### Dull

1. Berwi'r tatws am 15 munud. Ar ôl draenio, cymysgu 1 llwy fwrdd o olew, y garllwg, croen y lemwn a'r cumin gan orchuddio'r tatws. Cadwch y gymysgedd yn y sosban gyda'r caead arni mewn lle cynnes.

2. Rhwbio 1 llwy fwrdd o olew dros y golwythion cig oen, ynghyd a phinsiad o halen a phupur. Cynhesu padell addas, a choginio'r golwythion ar wres uchel am tua 4 munud ar bob ochr. Yn syth ar ôl tynnu'r badell oddi ar y gwres, tolltwch sudd y lemwn drostynt. Gadewch i orffwysu am o leiaf 5 munud cyn gweini.

3. Cyn gweini, cymysgu'r mintys i mewn i'r sosban datws a gweini'r cyfan gyda salad neu bys wedi eu berwi.



### Iogwrt Cartref

#### Bydd angen:

1 litr o laeth llawn braster

3 llwy fwrdd o iogwrt byw (iogwrt naturiol Llaeth y Llan yn gweithio'n berffaith)

#### Bydd angen y cyfarpar canlynol:

Thermometr, sosban, llwy bren, fflasg

#### Dull

1. I ddechrau rhowch y llaeth mewn sosban, a chynhesu'r llaeth i 85 gradd selsiws

2. Unwaith bydd y llaeth wedi cyrraedd 85 gradd, tynnwch ef oddi ar y gwres a'i adael i oeri, nes y bydd wedi cyrraedd 45 gradd (tua 5-10 munud)

3. Unwaith bydd y llaeth yn 45 gradd, cymysgwch yr iogwrt byw i mewn gyda'r llaeth

4. Rhowch y gymysgedd mewn fflasg sy'n selio'n dda a gadwch iddo fod am 8 awr

5. Ar ôl 8 awr, rhowch y gymysgedd mewn jariau neu botiau wedi eu diheintio a'u gosod yn yr oergell. Bydd yr iogwrt yn iawn i'w fwyta am ychydig ddiwrnodau. Cofiwch arogl i chadw golwg ar yr iogwrt cyn ei fwyta, gan fod bacteria byw yn cael ei ddefnyddio, mae'n bwysig bod yn ofalus. Fel unrhyw fwyd, os oes arogl drwg arno, peidiwch â'i fwyta!

6. Gellir defnyddio'r iogwrt ar gyfer brecwast iachus gyda ffrwythau, mewn pwdinau blasus, neu wrth goginio cyri neu gawl.



**These recipes are available in English on the FUW website - News - Y Tir News: "May recipes."**

# Meet the Carmarthenshire office team



## David Waters County Executive Officer

**How long with the Union?** Began working for the FUW in December 2013

**Previous jobs/education?** Whitland Grammar School, Dyfed County Council trained to be a Highways Technician (5 Years), Dyfed-Powys Police for 26 years, qualified to the rank of Inspector, working in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire

**Home life (married/single etc)?** Married with two children and one granddaughter, born March 2020

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** Football trainer with Johnstown Football Club, play badminton for a local club and enjoy walks and other activities with my family

**What does your job entail?** Dealing with various requests from members and endeavouring to answer, servicing their needs and furthering the objections of the Union

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Dealing with protracted enquires and challenges from members and endeavouring to obtain a solution

**What's the most important part of your job?** Being there for members and colleagues

**What would you change to make your job even better?** Flexible working arrangements and more staff within the office

**Typical day?** Discussing, reviewing and endeavouring to resolve issues and concerns raised by members.

## Joyce Owens

### Senior Administrative Assistant

**How long with the Union?** Started in April 2001 in the middle of Foot and Mouth (19 years)

**Previous jobs/education?** MMB/Genus as Administrative Assistant, Dalgety Feeds

**Home life (married/single etc)?** Married to Gerallt and have a son called Llyr

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** Farming, showing our pigs and judging at shows and also being part of the RWAS Committee

**What does your job entail?** Helping farmers to complete, submit and sort out any queries that is involved with farming today. Listening to farmers when they want someone to unload their issues

**Most unusual request?** Our telephone number is similar to Wynnstay Stores in Carmarthen so we do get some calls asking for Teat Dip or Lamb powder

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Helping members with queries and the satisfaction of being able to help them at all times

**What's the most important part of your job?** Completing SAF forms and making sure that all queries are dealt with and hopefully getting a satisfactory outcome

**Typical day?** Every day in the office is different, you could be dealing with many varied and different issues and there will always be one that you haven't had to deal with before. As in farming you learn something new every day.



## Eurgan Wyn Llewellyn Cynorthwydd Gweinyddol

**Pa mor hir gyda'r Undeb?** 3 mlynedd

**Swyddi/addysg flaenorol?** Astudio cwrs Gradd Sylfaen ac Uwch yn amaethyddiaeth yng Ngholeg Gelli Aur

**Bywyd cartref (priod/sengl ac ati)?** Mewn perthynas gyda Tom

**Diddordebau/gweithgareddau eraill y tu allan i'r gwaith?** Mwynhau bywyd fferm a cymryd rhan yn sioeau lleol yn yr Haf

**Beth mae eich swydd yn ei olygu?** Rhoi cymorth a gwasanaeth i'r aelodau

**Beth ydych chi'n fwynhau fwyaf?** Sgwrsio gydag aelodau a chael hwyl efo fy nghyd-weithwyr yn y swyddfa

**Beth yw'r rhan bwysicaf o'ch swydd?** Sicrhau bod ffurflenni taliad sengl yn cael ei lenwi

**Diwrnod 'typical'?** Delio gydag ymholiadau cyffredinol gan yr aelodau megis e-byst, RPW a BCMS.

## John Price BSc (Hons) Cert CII Senior Account Executive

**How long with the Union?** 14 Years (and counting)

**Previous jobs/education?** BSc (Hons) Agriculture and Animal Science - Aberystwyth University

**Home life (married/single etc)?** I'm the eldest of 3 siblings, (only son) brought up on a family sheep farm, still actively farming in South Carmarthenshire. I am now married with 2 children, one girl and one boy

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** We are an active family who enjoy camping holidays most weekends, as well as family walks and fun runs / events etc, I still try to play football for my local club, Drefach AFC. My daughter enjoys netball with Ser y Cwm, my son plays rugby with Cefneithin RFC and my wife is our managing agent!

**What does your job entail?** I will come and speak to you about your business, to understand what's important to you. I then use the knowledge I've gained while working for FUW Insurance Services to discuss the different ways your business could be insured to suit your needs. Once we have a full understanding of what's required, we go away, present and negotiate with our panel of trusted Insurance Companies to get you the best deal, not only on price BUT also on cover. Once you decide to Insure with us, we have developed an Insurance Office in Carmarthen to look after any queries / changes you have during the next 12 months. In simple terms, we will do the work so you don't have to

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Visiting members and new customers and building relationships, where we not only provide insurance policies but also trusted, educated advice on industry knowledge and requirements that you may not get with other companies

**What's the most important part of your job?** To ensure that we, the Carmarthen team, work closely together to help you.



## Alun Howard Account Handler/ Development Account Executive

**How long with the Union?** 2 ½ years

**Previous jobs/education?** NFU Mutual and Welsh Government

**Home life (married/single etc)?** My girlfriend and I have been together for 8 years and we live together in Carmarthen

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** I help run a local football club, Drefach AFC

**What does your job entail?** To facilitate the efficient handling of all insurance policies and to provide a quality customer focused service, assist and administer new and existing clients in a timely, professional and cost effective manner

**Most unusual request?** A donkey sanctuary and animal therapy business. The client would take donkeys into schools, hospitals and care homes to help people recovering from trauma and improve their mental health

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Meeting new customers and helping them find the right insurance for their specific needs

**What's the most important part of your job?** Providing the best possible service for customers, because without our customers the Union wouldn't be able to help the farming community as much as they do

**What would you change to make your job even better?** We've recently had a new phone system and printers so hopefully the next improvement will be some new computers. This would mean we would be able to help more people get the right cover and save money.





## Sam Evans

### Senior Account Executive (Glamorgan Senior Account Executive working from the Carmarthen office)

**How long with the Union?** 9 years 11 months (Since 1st June 2010)

**Previous jobs/education?** Studied an English and Media degree in Swansea University concentrating mainly on journalism but once I got my degree decided not to pursue a career in journalism. Worked for HSBC straight after University followed by council work in both Bristol and Kent as a Housing and Council tax benefits assessor before deciding to come

back home to work and was fortunate to be accepted for this job at FUWIS

**Home life (married/single etc)?** In a relationship

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** Obsessive Liverpool FC supporter and Scarlets Rugby fan, play football for one of my local clubs Drefach FC, I enjoy frequenting the gym and keeping fit as well as the occasional bit of gaming and socialising when I find the time. I enjoy paddle boarding, camping and hiking and I'm also on the committee at my local social club

**What does your job entail?** Looking after a portfolio of insurance clients with an enormous range of different insurance needs. I do all I can to look after my clients including shopping around for the best deals, helping with claims and advise as well as working as part of an excellent team of 5 of us in the Carmarthen insurance office. Between us we ensure that we provide the best possible service for our clients

**Most unusual request?** There are no unusual requests, nothing surprises me in insurance anymore!

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Visiting clients and building relationships with them. I am a big believer that it's important to get to know your clients as well as possible, not only because it makes the job far more enjoyable, but it also ensures that I can recommend the most appropriate insurance products for our clients

**What's the most important part of your job?** Making sure that a customer's insurance claim has been handled as well as possible

**What would you change to make your job even better?** Having more hours in the day to allow me to spend more time sat down with customers face to face

**Typical day?** Phoning clients who have policies due for renewal to review their needs, taking numerous calls from clients with queries, helping with claims, negotiating prices with insurers and shopping around, delegating workloads to the office team and visiting clients. We also try to make sure we have a good laugh in the office in Carmarthen. You have to be very good at multitasking in this job!

## Angela Williams Cert CII Senior Account Handler

**How long with the Union?** 10+ years

**Previous jobs/education?** Worked for the Coop Insurance from school for 17 years. Finished to have children then my husband and I opened our own Brokerage from home for 10 years and now we both work for FUWIS, Mark is their Life Consultant

**Home life (married/single etc)?** Married with 3 children, Ben, Sam and Rosie

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** Running, enjoy competing in 10KM runs to raise money for the FUW Charity, Yoga, Cooking, drinking wine and socialising

**What does your job entail?** Administration and dealing with the public

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Catching up with colleagues

**What's the most important part of your job?** Working 3 days solid and off for 4!

**What would you change to make your job even better?** Maybe more money!

**Typical day:** Drive to work from lovely Felinfoel to start at 9am, answer phones, change vehicles, sort out cover notes, payments and general admin work until 5pm and of course lunch :-)

**Anything else?** The challenges that we are ALL undergoing right now with Covid19 has made us all take stock and appreciate the little things, especially how lucky we are that we were all able to work from home and be able to be with our families at this time.



## Meinir Davies

### Account Executive (Carmarthen East)

**How long with the Union?** 15 years

**Previous jobs/education?** Farming, wire brush factory, shop assistant, cook in care home, Business degree as mature student, and a bit more farming on the way

**Home life (married/single etc)?** Married, 2 sons

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** No hobbies, every spare minute outside FUW is spent farming

**What does your job entail?** Arranging insurance cover

**Most unusual request?** Could not possibly divulge!

**What do you enjoy doing most?** Chatting with customers and getting them the best possible deal on their insurance products. Being able to provide customer satisfaction is what makes this job enjoyable

**What's the most important part of your job?** Making sure the cover customers get is what they actually need and is suitable for their needs

**What would you change to make your job even better?** Reduce red tape and compliance. What has made my job easier is having support from two colleagues Sian Powell and Kelly John and their hard work and support in recent years has meant we as a team can continue to provide customers with the required level of service expected of a local organisation

**Typical day?** Starts with odd jobs on the farm. Home office most days, answering calls and process a whole heap of admin, produce quotations and help sort occasional difficult claim. End of FUW working day, I'm back out on the farm. Wednesday I would be on day release from the office and normally visit Llandovery mart in the morning and a few calls with customers in the afternoon. Unfortunately, with COVID-19 I can not visit the mart at present. Hopefully this will come under control sooner rather than later and I will see you all soon. Stay safe and all the best in the future.



## Ceinwen Lloyd

### Account Handler

**How long with the Union?** 1 year

**Previous jobs/education?** I worked for Enterprise Rent a Car after leaving University

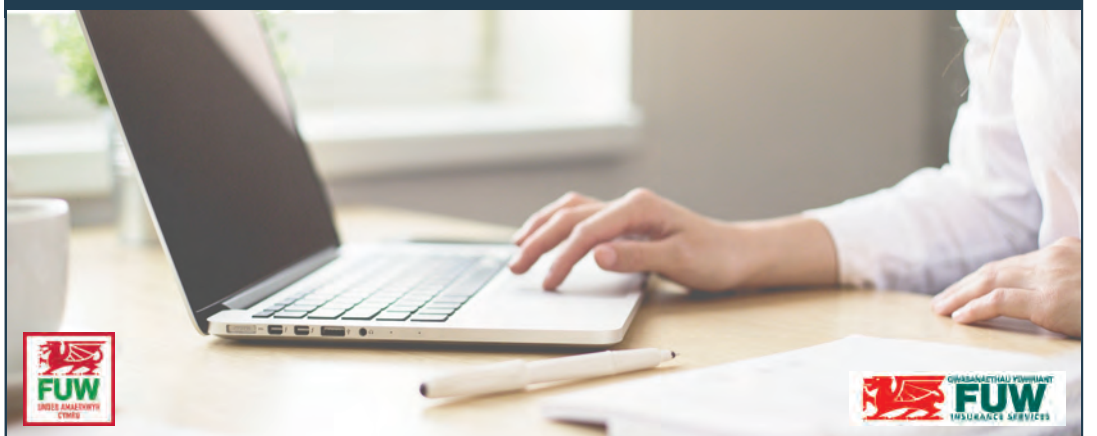
**Home life (married/single etc)?** I currently live at home with my parents on a farm outside of Newcastle Emlyn but I spend a lot of my time on my partner's farm in Rhydarsais

**Hobbies/other activities outside work?** I like to read and go to the gym or for a run. I have a dog, named Betty that I love taking to the beach or for walks on the coastal path

**What does your job entail:** Administration, cover notes, renewals and customer service

**What's the most important part of your job?** The people I work with; being new to the company, without the help of everyone in the office, I wouldn't have a clue.

Ein blaenoriaeth yw, fel bob amser, i barhau i ddarparu'r holl wasanaethau a ddisgwylir gan aelodau a chwsmeriaid, wrth ddilyn canllawiau'r GIG a'r Llywodraeth. Tra bod ein swyddfeydd sirol yn parhau ar gau hyd nes clywir yn wahanol, bydd yr holl wasanaethau a chymorth yn cael eu darparu gan staff ar e-bost, ffôn, Skype a Google Hangouts.



Our priority is, as always, to continue to provide all services expected by members and customers, while following NHS and Government guidelines. While our offices remain closed until further notice, all services and assistance will be delivered by staff on email, phone, Skype and Google Hangouts.

# Urgent support packages needed to save dairy sector

THE Covid-19 situation has led to a crisis in the dairy sector and urgent support measures are needed to save the industry, the FUW has stressed.

Following the closure of pubs, clubs and restaurants across the UK at the end of March, some dairy processors supplying the service sector found that their market had disappeared and orders have been cancelled overnight.

The Government enforced closures have led to rapid drops in the spot market price for milk and some farmers have been forced to dispose of their milk down the drain due to processors not being able to make a collection.

FUW Milk and Dairy Produce Committee Chairman Dai Miles said: "The situation is critical. Many farmers who have contracts with those dairy processors had their price cut, in some cases they are facing delayed payments and others had no choice but to dispose of their milk. Those farmers will also not be compensated by their insurance companies as 'Market Failure' is not covered by policies. Therefore all the cost and loss is borne by the producer.

"This is not just about a few dairy farmers but the ramifications it will have on the whole dairy sector are immense. There is an urgent need for support packages to be made available immediately."

Around 25 per cent of dairy farmers in Wales supply processors who have been affected by the loss of the service sector. In teleconferences with the UK and Welsh Government, the Union has stressed that there are many who are unprotected and their businesses will fail if no help is offered.

"Some of these dairy farmers are not eligible for the existing financial support packages announced by the Treasury and failure of these farms will have serious implications for the food service supply chain when the markets revert to a more normal situation," added Dai Miles.

Whilst it is hoped that the market disruption will be short term, it is essential that both production capacity through support for dairy

**"This is urgent and we need the Government to put measures in place urgently, this situation is not going to get better any time soon and we don't want to see our dairy industry decimated."**



farmers and the processing capacity in Wales is protected and maintained.

There is no one measure that will solve the problems alone and a package of measures needs to be looked at, Mr Miles stressed.

He added: "Some of the measures we have asked for include a tailored financial support package from the Treasury with farmer friendly guidance, an urgent short term financial package to reimburse those dairy farmers having to dump milk to their standard litre price, intervention and Private Storage Aid, as well as stopping the rationing of dairy products in the retail sector.

"Food security is an issue that has been brought into focus and highlighted during this pandemic with panic buying and empty shelves and we need to ensure both the producers and processors are still in business to feed the public when it is over.

"This is urgent and we need the Government to put measures in place urgently, this situation is not going to get better any time soon and we don't want to see our dairy industry decimated. All options must be on the table and be seriously considered."

## Emergency measures welcomed

THE FUW has welcomed a range of emergency measures announced by the Welsh Government in relation to the Basic Payment and Glastir Schemes.

In line with the FUW's calls, Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths announced on April 1 that the deadline by which Single Application Forms must be submitted had been extended by a month, to June 15.

In response to concerns raised about Crop Diversification requirements following the recent flooding and the added pressure and uncertainties caused by the coronavirus pandemic she also confirmed the requirements had been withdrawn completely for the 2020 Basic Payment scheme year.

An additional £5.5m in loan support has also been allocated to support farmers who have yet to receive their 2019 BPS and/or Glastir payments.

Responding to the announcement, and a letter from the Minister thanking the farming unions and their staff and members for their work in ensuring the continuation of the food supply chain, FUW President Glyn Roberts said: "We have been lobbying for these changes and interventions for some weeks now, so we welcome the Welsh Government's decision to implement them.

"We are in daily discussions with Welsh Government about other changes that may need to be introduced to ensure our industry and family farms remain viable and can continue to produce food both in the short and long term."

Mr Roberts said that the Union had also recently been in positive discussions with Secretary of State for Wales, Simon Hart, during which a range of concerns were raised.

## Focus on Feet: Reducing lameness in the dairy herd

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

LAMENESS in dairy farming is considered to be one of the most important health complications affecting animal welfare and having direct and indirect negative economic impacts on the industry. Lameness can be caused by a variety of infections or direct physical factors making it complex to manage and require integrated approaches to control.

Controls need to consider both infection risks as well as hoof quality and maintenance which is severely impacted by forces applied to feet. A key to reducing impacts of lameness is early detection as individual treatments cost on average around £320 with a high likelihood of re-occurrence within individual animals.

Tests exist to detect lameness or hoof disorders at early stages, however, very little research has been performed to compare these or determine their accuracy, particularly in on-farm situations.

Furthermore, confounding factors exist, such as evidence that cattle may have hoof disorders such as digital dermatitis (DD) but lack lameness observationally or via mobility scoring.

Currently, the Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board have a programme called the 'Dairy Healthy Feet Programme' which looks to incorporate expertise from specifically trained 'mobility mentors' who are veterinarians or foot trimming specialists in order to improve lameness in dairy cattle.



'Lameness' detection analyses are varied and include, DD scoring at the feed barrier, visual inspection during foot trimming within a crush and mobility scoring methodologies. Whilst these are assisting in our ability to diagnose cattle there are problems associated with these, particularly the consistency in results obtained between farmers and between farms and the regularity with which these are actively performed. There is, however, no gold standard lameness test available currently.

Future and current technologies which could be used to assist in diagnosis of lameness in cattle include; robotic milking system data (through evaluations of lameness impacts on milking visits and milk yield), Infrared thermography (through detection of heat changes within the hoof), parlour or platform mounted pressure plates (to detect leg based shifts in applied weight), Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking devices (through analysis of changes in movement patterns) and cattle mounted devices including many already on the market such as ICEROBOTICS, SCR heathime, Silent Herdsman and Rumiwatch (through changes in movement kinetic movement patterns).

Any automation of lameness detection would free up significant time for farmers as well as facilitating earlier treatment and potential reductions of productivity losses and treatment expenditure.

## MEAT MATTERS

## Cuts and consumer focused campaign in response to Covid-19

by Rhys Llywelyn, HCC Market Development Manager

HUGE changes in demand from the retail and foodservice sectors, as a result of the Covid-19 crisis, have caused instability in the red meat sector. Whilst there has been a surge in retail demand for cheaper cuts such as mince, the closure of the foodservice sector has meant prime cuts such as steaks and roasting joints are not in high demand.

To combat this and alleviate some of these pressures, we have launched a significant, new marketing campaign. We want to encourage house-bound families and individuals to increase their purchasing of prime cuts of PGI Welsh Lamb and PGI Welsh Beef from supermarkets, butchers and independent retailers.

To do this we will be taking a multifaceted approach. Firstly, we will be working with a network of leading Welsh chefs who will be creating DIY recipe videos to share on social media to give consumers inspiration, instruction and encouragement to cook PGI Welsh Lamb and PGI Welsh Beef at home.

Our chefs include the likes of Michelin starred Hywel Griffith and James Sommerin as well as Sam and Shauna from BBC's Big Cook Out. Recent research has shown that consumers are more likely to choose lamb as a dish at a restaurant rather than cooking it at home - so this will hopefully give consumers the confidence to purchase and cook Welsh Lamb themselves - both now and in the future. The dishes will range from simple every day meals to more complex restaurant classics and will use ingredients consumers will readily have available in their store cupboards.

We have also launched a competition with our Ambassador Chris Roberts, who we have worked with before (some of you may have seen him in the BBQ area of our stand at last year's Royal Welsh

Show). Chris is creating the Ultimate Steak Sandwich and is challenging others on social media to create their own versions. Of course, to enter the competition consumers will have to purchase and cook a steak and upload their creation onto social media, thereby encouraging sales of higher end cuts.

We will also be deploying some more traditional marketing by the way of a radio advertising campaign, digital partnerships with leading food magazine titles and print advertising in Welsh newspapers.

To see this work in action, I would urge and encourage you to follow the Welsh Lamb, Welsh Beef and HCC social media channels.

In the meantime, stay home and stay safe.

*Mae newidiadau enfawr yn y galw gan y sectorau manwerthu a gwasanaeth bwyd, o ganlyniad i argyfwng Covid-19, wedi achosi ansefydlogrwydd yn y sector cig coch. Er mwyn gwrthsefyll hyn a lleddfu rhai o'r pwysau hwn, rydym wedi lansio ymgyrch farchnata newydd, sylweddol. Rydym am annog teuluoedd ac unigolion sy'n gaeth i'r tŷ i gynyddu eu pryniant o'r Cig Oen Cymru PGI a Chig Eidion Cymru PGI gorau o archfarchnadoedd, cigyddion a manwerthwyr annibynnol.*



## PROPERTY MATTERS

## Free online seminar support for farmers

by Philip Meade of  
Davis Meade Property Consultants



FARMERS and land managers looking for support and professional guidance during the Coronavirus lock down are being invited to join a series of free web-based discussions.

At Davis Meade Property Consultants we will be holding a series of topical seminars for up to 50 people at a time using the web/phone application Zoom.

This will enable us to keep in touch with our clients and support farmers during these unprecedented times.

We know that farmers and their staff are used to working on their own but this Covid crisis has meant they cannot even have face-to-face contact at livestock markets or with their suppliers so some are feeling more isolated than ever.

The online application Zoom will enable us to reach a large number of people at once and we hope to cover subjects such as landlord and tenancy matters and rents, grant schemes, planning, natural capital and coping with the Covid crisis.

The basic idea will be a short presentation on key points relating to the subject followed by a Question and Answer session, aiming for maybe 60 minutes in total.

We are also going to invite guest speakers in the future to speak on specialised topics.

Places on the seminars will be limited to 50 and we aim to do one or two a month depending on demand, with more being put on if needed.

Interested farmers should send an application for virtual tickets to us at [oswestry@dmpcuk.com](mailto:oswestry@dmpcuk.com)

Philip Meade of Davis Meade Property Consultants can be contacted on: telephone 01691 659658 email [philipmeade@dmpcuk.com](mailto:philipmeade@dmpcuk.com)

*Gwahoddir ffermwyr a rheolwyr tir sy'n chwilio am gefnogaeth ac arweiniad proffesiynol yn ystod y cyfnod o gyfyngiadau Coronafirws i ymuno â chyfres o drafodaethau am ddim dros y we. Mae Davis Meade Property Consultants yn cynnal cyfres o seminarau amserol ar gyfer hyd at 50 o bobl ar y tro gan ddefnyddio Zoom dros y we/ffôn. Gellir cysylltu â Philip Meade o Davis Meade Property Consultants ar: 01691 659658 e-bost [philipmeade@dmpcuk.com](mailto:philipmeade@dmpcuk.com)*

## MERCHED MEWN AMAETH

## Cadwch yn ddiogel

gan Tegwen Morris, Cyfarwyddwraig Cenedlaethol, Merched y Wawr

"MAE'R wlad hon yn eiddo i ti a mi" ydyw geiriau'r gan, ac ar adegau o hunan ynysu ac aros yn ein cynefin, does unlle yn well. Mae rhywbeth arbennig iawn am Gymru, ac mae nifer fawr yn hiraethu o fod wedi gadael ein hannwyl wlad am ddiroedd gwell.

Mae natur ar ei orau y gwanwyn yma, ac oherwydd y diffyg trafniadaeth a llai o ruthr mae pawb yn sylwi mwy ar y coed yn blaguro, y blodau gwyllt yn ein cloddiau a swm anhygoel yr adar yn canu. Mae gennym goedwig yn llawn clychau'r gog, nepell o'r tŷ ac mae nifer o'r cerddwyr brwd wedi bod yn dangos lluniau "y glas lesmeiriol baent".

Dwi yn falch fod amaethwyr yn cael y gydnabyddiaeth ddyledus am sicrhau fod yna fwydd yn cyrraedd ein siopau a'n byrddau. Dwi yn gobeithio bod rhai ohonoch wedi cael cyfle ynghanol yr wyndda a'r lloia i weld ein tudalen ar Facebook "Curo'r Corona'n Coginio" gyda chynnyrch o Gymru yn cael eu hamlygu ar fyrdau'r aelodau, ac yn wir ar draws y Byd.

Mae ein cynllun "Ffoniwch ffrind" hefyd yn bwysig iawn yn y cyfnod anodd yma, ac os oes rhywun yn dymuno sgwrs codwch y ffôn 01970 611661. Hefyd, os ydych yn greadigol beth am fwrw ati i greu "Blodau Gobaith" #GartrefGydangilydd. Fe fydd yn hyfryd cael arddangosfa fawr o flodau lliwiau'r enfys flwyddyn nesaf.

Cadwch yn ddiogel a gobeithio fod Merched y Wawr yn medru cynnig ychydig o gysur ynghanol yr amseroedd anodd yma.

*I am pleased that farmers are getting the recognition they deserve for ensuring that food reach our shops and tables. I hope some of you have had the opportunity in the midst of lambing and calving to see our Facebook page "Curo'r Corona'n Coginio" with Welsh produce featuring prominently on our members' tables and indeed across the world. Keep safe and hopefully, Merched y Wawr can offer some comfort during these difficult times.*

# Farms and farmyards are not playgrounds - keep children safe

FARMS are wonderful places for children to grow up. They are a fantastic place of learning too. Many farms host organised visits for school children throughout the year, which helps them to learn about where their food comes from and how the industry is vital to everyday life, and our own children learn about independence, responsibility and family relationships are strengthened. But farms and farmyards are not playgrounds.

During these extraordinary times, with schools closed and parents having to juggle more than ever, we must make every effort to keep our children safe. Farms can be dangerous places for everyone, not just children, but children are put at great risk of injury when playing, visiting or helping out around the farm.

## The Health and Safety Executive have the following advice on how to keep children safe on farm:

- Being hit by, or run over by, farm machinery or visiting vehicles is the biggest single cause of children being killed on farms. Falling from tractors and ATVs; drowning; being crushed or attacked by animals or being hit by falling objects are the other main causes.
- Children should not be allowed in the farm work place (and for young children they should enjoy outdoor space in a secure fenced area).
- Any access to the work area by children under 16, for example for education, or knowledge experience, should be planned and fully supervised by an adult not engaged in any work activity.
- Children under the age of 13 years are not allowed to drive or ride on any agricultural machine.

## Children under 16 must not drive, operate, or help to operate, any of the following:

- towed or self-propelled harvesters and processing machines;
- trailers or feed equipment with conveying, loading, unloading or spreading mechanisms;
- power-driven machines with cutting, splitting, or crushing mechanisms or power-operated soil-engaging parts;
- chemical applicators such as mounted, trailed or knapsack sprayers;
- handling equipment such as lift trucks, skid steer loaders or all-terrain vehicles.

## It is illegal to carry children under 13 in the cab of an agricultural vehicle and it is unsafe. Children can and do:

- fall from the doorway or the rear window;
- interfere with the operator's control of the vehicle;
- distract the operator or unintentionally operate controls, eg the parking brake or hydraulics, when the operator leaves the cab, eg to open a gate.

## If you carry children or adults on trailers (e.g. for farm visits, 'pick-your-own') ensure that:

- the trailer is in good condition with all safety devices working;
- you provide seating and secure the trailer. Well-made bales, if properly secured, may be adequate;
- you fit guard rails around the trailer edges;
- you arrange safe mounting and dismounting;
- you make sure children are supervised by a responsible adult.



## If you have to leave machinery in an area accessed by members of the public, make sure you leave it in a safe condition:

- remove the keys;
- lock the cab;
- leave the controls in neutral;
- lower foreloaders to the ground; and
- apply the parking brake or chock the wheels.

Make sure that contractors and visiting drivers have clearly defined directions on where to park, load and unload and where to wait. This is particularly important if you are aware of public access routes across yards or if the delivery zone is adjacent to the farmhouse.

Farms are not playgrounds. Remember that children are naturally curious, and will often get into apparently inaccessible places. Make sure you exclude them from potentially dangerous areas, such as:

- chemical stores;
- slurry pits and lagoons (which may falsely appear safe to walk on);
- reservoirs or sheep dips (which are often isolated);
- grain intake pits and grain bins;

- machinery or building maintenance work.

## To deter access to these areas:

- use fencing, such as pig netting topped with two strands of barbed wire, to an overall height of at least 1.3m.
- sheet gates or make them impossible to climb;
- padlock gates;
- use grids (with a maximum aperture space of 62mm); or
- use solid covers that will not move or give way if children stray onto them.

Also:

- keep children away from yards or places with vehicle movements and make sure they are returned to a responsible adult if they stray into transport areas.
- make sure everyone working on the farm is aware that children may be present.
- explain that you are authorised to stop work if any children are in the work area and to send them somewhere safe.
- keep tools and work equipment secured.

For further information on managing the risks of children on farms visit: [www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/topics/children.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/agriculture/topics/children.htm)

# Making sure my girls are aware of the real dangers on their doorstep

by Rachael Madeley Davies, FUW Meirionnydd member

TO say the past few weeks have been a challenge would be an understatement, but I count myself as lucky and acknowledge that they have been challenging for everyone, more so for some.

Along with lambing and calving at home and working full-time (albeit from home) in the dairy sector, we now find ourselves juggling the children, at short notice and rather unexpectedly whilst the country attempts to control the spread of Covid-19. I'm not going to lie; I have probably consumed more chocolate and wine and not had a lot of sleep in the past few weeks, but we have managed.

Despite the peer group pressures there is simply no time for formalised home-schooling in our house, but a rough agenda of schoolwork, play and Netflix combined with mostly threats and bribery seems to get us through most days.

The good weather has meant that the girls have wanted to be outside more, and I understand the temptation for many to send farm children off out the door, but we must remember that farmyards are work places and are not safe for children.

I am really honest with both girls, even the youngest at four years, regarding the dangers that the farmyard poses. My intention has never been to frighten them but to make them aware of the real dangers on their doorstep, and the fact that farms can injure and kill both children and adults. This hasn't phased them, but they do understand where they can and can't go, and how to behave if they hear an engine.

I am also strict with them not being able to go on the quadbike or tractor explaining that it is against the law for them to go on them and that we would get into trouble if they did.

I have ensured that they have their own outside areas that are safe, tractor free and have plenty to occupy them; making a garden or backyard a suitable zone for children can help entertain them.

Despite my workload drastically increasing as a result of Covid-19 I set aside a small amount of time roughly every hour or so allowing the girls and I to check the sheep, check for eggs or walk to the post box. This brief outdoor time with me satisfies their appetite to be outside but ensures that they are supervised.

I think the main thing to remember is that despite work or farm pressures your children are your most important priority, and that their safety and wellbeing is paramount.



Kitty (7) and Betsy (4).

## Innovation under the spotlight at Cereals LIVE 2020

INNOVATION is the key to agricultural efficiencies and productivity, and Cereals LIVE will be bringing new technologies to farmers through its online seminar programme.

For the first time ever, Cereals will be delivering all of its content online, on June 10-11, bringing headline speakers into farmers' homes. The DIT Innovation and technology theatre will be focussing on how the latest developments and advice can help producers to create more from less, boosting productivity with the most cutting-edge equipment and advice.

"Whether farmers are looking to know more about data driven innovation, precision farming, plant breeding developments or sustainable crop health, Cereals Live has a range of webinars lined-up in its DIT theatre to inform and enlighten," says event director Alli McEntyre.

Seminar sessions (including some of the speakers below) will demonstrate how these cutting-edge developments are revolutionising modern farming.

### Data and digital innovation

Data is of growing importance on farm, informing decision making and helping producers to focus on efficiencies. This session will include an insight from Matthew Smith, chief product officer at Agrimetrics, into how to get the most from data, the growing market for it and how valuable it is to agriculture.

Drones are increasingly being used to create usable data, as Jack Wrangham at DroneAg will demonstrate. Its new app, Skippy Scout, gives farmers an economical and simple solution to aid crop walking, (*see picture*). "It can take farmers less than five minutes to download the app and have their drone going," says Mr Wrangham.

### Sustainable crop health

Crop health is always a priority for farmers and in this session they can explore how new technologies in crop disease and nutrient management could aid their business.



Looking at soil health will be Angela de Manzanos Guinot from Fungi Alert, explaining the importance of understanding the pathogens in your soil. Olmix's Chris Gamble will consider the benefits of biostimulants and how they could become a more routine part of the crop health armoury.

And focusing on nutrition, Natalie Wood, Yara agronomist, will be highlighting the importance of micronutrients and having a strategy in place to manage costs.

### Plant breeding innovations

Plant breeding technologies open up a whole world of opportunities for agriculture, in the form of hybridisation, gene-editing and sequencing to create more resilient, productive crops that can drive the future of arable farming.

With speakers including Kim Hammond-Kosack at Rothamsted Research and James Brosnan, chairman of the

International Barley Hub, this session will reveal how plant breeding will deliver resistance to pests and disease and how it can address issues of resilience and climate change.

### Precision farming

Already a major asset for many UK arable farmers, precision farming is progressing in leaps and bounds. Jonathan Gill at Harper Adams will provide an update on the Hands Free Farm, giving an insight into the cutting edge of autonomous farming.

When it comes to current solutions, tackling weeds is a continual bane for farmers; although mechanical weeding technologies have been developing for the past three decades, Nick Tillett at Tillett and Hague Technology will explore how they are being utilised to progress spot spraying tools.

### Applying precision technology

In this session, farmers will be able to see how precision farming techniques apply in practice. Michael Haverty at the Anderson Centre will explain the impact of precision farming on profits at its Loam model farm, while Professor James Lowenberg-DeBoer from Harper Adams University will look at the financial and practical considerations of investing in crop robots.

### Farmer-led innovations

Many of the best innovations come from farmers and this session will not only explore some of those, but will also look at research and answers emerging from them. Mike Donovan, editor of Practical Farm Ideas, will pick his top farmer inventions over the past decade. In addition, Liz Bowles, associate director at the Soil Association, will describe the impact of the work in their farmer 'field labs' and Daniel Kindred at ADAS will be discussing the key effects for farmers emerging from its farming innovation groups.

Cereals LIVE will be held online on June 10-11 2020. For more information visit [www.cerealsevent.co.uk](http://www.cerealsevent.co.uk)

# Wave goodbye to pain



#wavegoodbyetopain

A social media campaign launched by Ceva Animal Health through vets and the farming press. Look out for Twitter, Facebook and Instagram posts.

Log on to the website [www.wavegoodbyetopain.co.uk](http://www.wavegoodbyetopain.co.uk) for a comprehensive guide to lameness in dairy cattle.



- Did you know that using a NSAID, such as **Ketofen®**, alongside a trim and block results in a more complete recovery from lameness than trimming alone<sup>1</sup>?
- The 'triple works' results in **85%** of cows being cured\* after 35 days compared to just **69%** with trimming alone<sup>1</sup>

\*Mobility score 0 or 1

<sup>1</sup>Thomas H.J. et al. 2015. Evaluation of treatments for claw horn lesions in dairy cows in a randomized control trial. J. Dairy Sci. 98: 4477-4486.

Ketofen® 10% contains ketoprofen 100 mg/ml. Legal category: **POM-V**. Please refer to the product packaging and leaflets for information about side effects, precautions, warnings and contra-indications. For further information please contact your vet.

Use medicines responsibly ([www.noah.co.uk/responsible](http://www.noah.co.uk/responsible)).

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