



Llais y Goedwig Members' Update 10 April 2011

Where to next?

The Annual conference and AGM in Denbigh were both very successful and you should have received the reports and minutes of both. Please do contact Jo if you need copies of either. The new Board met for the first time on the 13th April to consider the ideas presented and discussed in Denbigh and the mandate for LlyG in 2011-12. These will be put into the Action Plan for this coming year and will be the subject of the next Update.

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LlyG staff

Due to reductions in funding the Board has decided to reduce the number of staff employed by LlyG, and shortly following the conference a decision was made to bid a sad farewell to Chloe who then left at the end of March. Jo will be staying for the next six months, and will be usually be in the office in Machynlleth on Tuesdays (9.30-5.30), Thursdays (9.30-5.30) and Fridays (10-3). The contact number there is 01654 700061 (or 0845 456 0342) or email info@llaisygoedwig.org.uk

New Directors

Following the AGM we are pleased to welcome two new directors; Adam Thorogood and Ruth Stafford. An introduction written by each of them follows:

Ruth

My life so far has included (in no particular order):

Being Brought up on farm near Welshpool and Montgomery then studying Business and French at Aberystwyth University, though I felt I should have done Geography! I then had various jobs with local employers before running away with the Circus. I taught in France and Greece before coming home to manage Oxfam shops in Welshpool and Llandrindod Wells and singing in pubs for money! I then moved over the border to live in Worcester for 3 ½ years, was involved in Green groups there and worked in Sustainable Transport for over 7 years. I am currently in the Bishop's Castle samba band, run every day and do fell races regularly. I'm trying to improve my archery skills and make time to re-start martial arts and learn guitar!

I am currently a member of/involved with:

- Transition Town Shrewsbury
- Transition Town Newtown
- Newtown Community Orchard
- Bishop's Castle Household Energy Service
- Llanidloes Energy Solutions (Trustee)
- Montgomery Energy Group
- Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust
- Oswestry Friends of the Earth
- Bishops Castle Friends of the Earth

I love my life and the people in it. In the future? I want to farm well, plant trees, make music and keep bees :-)

Adam

Adam is a co-founder of Coetiroedd Dyfi Woodlands, a social enterprise working in the Dyfi Valley to deliver volunteering and educational projects in woodlands. He is currently involved with other local people in setting up a community woodland at Ty Gwyn, a Forestry Commission woodland close to Machynlleth. He became involved in Llais y Goedwig through studying Forestry at Bangor University when he volunteered to help produce the Climate Change Reader, a digital resource of climate change literature relating to woodlands. He likes playing the guitar, second hand bookshops and being busy.

Support for LlyG

We have just received news that the Forestry Commission are able to continue to support the development of LlyG for this coming year with a grant of £25,000. So we are now looking forward to being to deliver even more. But our most important resource is people and ideas and for this we need more people willing to help – do let Jo know if there is something you think you could help with from translation, manning a stand, writing project proposals or mentoring someone thinking of taking the plunge into starting a community woodland group.

International forest film showings

The first day of the “Funding Sustainable Community Woodlands” conference ended with a showing of some the films from the International Forest Film Festival, held earlier on this year in Jackson Hole in the United States. Llais y Goedwig has managed to acquire seven of the huge list of films that were shown at the festival. These seven are united by their focus on community woodlands and

represented forest communities and community woodlands from around the world. We were all particularly impressed by the film “Satoyama” a beautiful portrayal of the relationship between a woodland and a village moving through one year. Other films in the set focus on forest issues in different countries such as Indonesia, Russia, and the UK.

Member groups at the conference expressed a wish to host their own screenings and the plan is to help groups who come forward to do this. Please get in contact with Adam Thorogood if you would like to host your own screening: adamthorogood@llaisygoedwig.co.uk .

JACKSON HOLE WILDLIFE FILM FESTIVAL



Publications

Those of you who came to Denbigh should have received paper copies of the first of the three new series of Llais y Goedwig publications which have been keeping us busy over the winter. To keep costs down we are publishing these documents in the form of pdf files on the website for you to download. We are looking to provide a free hardcopy of AN1 and CS1 (see below) for each member but will need to ask for a publication subscription if you would like to receive hardcopies of all publications. We are therefore introducing an annual subscription of £20 to cover the costs of printing and posting out paper copies of all publications produced by LlyG. Downloaded copies from the website are free, and will be available soon (note not all publications are completed yet). Please use the order form at the end of this Update or contact Jo if you would like to take out a print subscription. Please also do get in touch if there are any topics you would like to propose as the subject of future Advisory Notes or groups who could contribute interesting Case Studies.

Advisory notes	English	Welsh	Status
AN1 – Getting to know your community	Yes	Yes	Complete
AN2 – Getting to know your woods	Yes	No	With translator
AN3 – Woodland management planning	No	No	With editor
AN4 – Defining objectives	Yes	Yes	Complete
AN5 – An introduction to climate change	Yes	No	With translator

<http://llaisygoedwig.org.uk/what-we-do/advisory-notes/>

Case studies	English	Welsh	Status
CS1 – Responding to opportunities: Blaen Brân Community Woodland	Yes	Yes	Complete
CS2 – Ruperra Conservation Trust	Yes	No	With translator
CS3 – Coed Marros	No	No	Under preparation
CS4 – Llangattock	No	No	Under preparation
CS5 – Coed y Bobl	No	No	Under preparation

<http://llaisygoedwig.org.uk/what-we-do/case-studies/>

Promotional leaflets

To support community woodland groups, and get out the message about Llais y Goedwig we have prepared a series of Promotional leaflets that we hope you will find useful:

- What we can do for community woodland groups
- What we can do for local authorities
- What we can do... publications
- What we can do... website
- What we can do... climate change reader

These are all available as downloadable pdf files from the website <http://llaisgoedwig.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Jo is also happy to put together promotional packs to include multiple copies of the promotional leaflets and a stack of postcards for you to spread the message about Llais y Goedwig. Do get in touch with Jo if you will be attending any events where you could distribute leaflets.

LlyG T-shirts

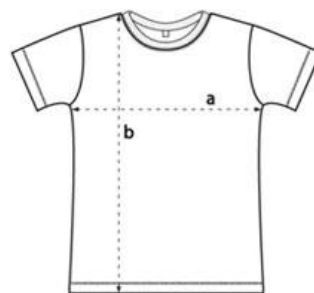
At the AGM we also launched our first LlyG branded clothing range.



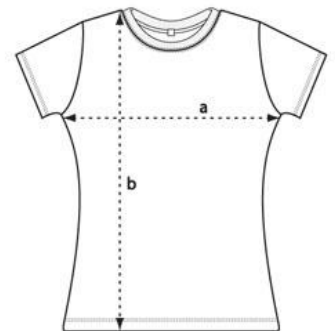
The new Llais y Goedwig t-shirts are made with cotton that is organic and fairly traded, and are available to buy for just £10 in mens (M, L & XL) and women's (M, L) styles. The sizes do come up a little small, so it may be advisable to order a size larger than you are used to.

To order use the order form at the end of this Update or send a cheque payable to Llais y Goedwig, stating the style, size and number of t- shirts you want to Jo at: Unit 6, Dyfi Eco Park, Machynlleth SY20 8AX

T- shirts shown are Women's L and men's XL



	S	M	L	XL	XXL	
a	19 3/4	20 3/4	22	23 1/2	25 1/4	inch
	50	53	56	60	64	cm
b	27 1/2	28 1/4	29 1/4	30	30 3/4	inch
	70	72	74	76	78	cm



	S	M	L	XL	
a	16 1/4	17 1/4	18 1/2	19 3/4	inch
	41	44	47	50	cm
b	22 3/4	23 1/2	24 1/2	25 1/4	inch
	58	60	62	64	cm

Climate change reader

The Climate Change Reader is a collection of 40 articles and papers on all aspects of the interaction between climate change and woodlands. This many documents are a lot to wade through so at the heart of the Reader is an annotated bibliography with star ratings for difficulty so you can quickly assess the contents of a paper.

Topics featured in the Reader include:

- (a) Predicted changes to woodland structure and function resulting from climate change in Wales
- (b) Recommendations for enhancing adaptation and resilience of Welsh woodlands and biodiversity
- (c) Contribution of community woodlands to carbon sequestration.

The Reader is available to purchase for £10 on a wooden USB drive (it's FSC wood in case you were wondering) using the order form at the end of this Update or by calling Jo. The files it contains are also available free on the website:

<http://llaisygoedwig.org.uk/ccreader/>

Woodland events

LlyG are keen to get out and about more and meet new and existing members to let all know about what we are doing. We would like to explore an opportunity to have a presence at events planned by our membership. If your group is holding an event(s) this summer please let us know if we can come along or you are able to display LlyG promotional materials. Also you are welcome to send notices of your events to Jo to go in future Updates and onto the new 'Members news' webpage on the LlyG website. <http://llaisygoedwig.org.uk/who-we-are/members-news/>

Here are a few upcoming events to whet your appetite:

Eco Panto

Golygfa Gwydyr & Theatr Cynefin, April 21 – May 2 (www.golygfagwydyr.org). It's Panto – but not as you know it! Pantomime has gone green and is finding its roots in the forest. A handcrafted outdoor performance combining the fun of pantomime with re-cycled goods and materials. Interactive performance, art, music and much more.

Professional artists and community volunteers from Wales, UK and Europe will re-interpret stories and characters from this most eccentric of traditions. Featuring The Fairy Godmother, Sleeping Beauty and The Golden Goose. Repeated performances between 4pm and 8pm. To book phone Menter Iaith Conwy on 01492 642357

Coed y Bobl - Woodland Fair – Saturday 14 May, 10 - 4.30 – Free and all welcome. Email coedybobl@hotmail.co.uk for more details

Although the following is not from a member it may be of interest:

Woollen Lines

Pip Woolf has a project to place material made of waste woollen felt from Pen Trumau, Brecon, to control erosion and she has just obtained funding for a further project. She has asked for volunteers

to make up the felt into usable shapes and also in placing the material. Pip will be running sessions to make wool sausages, at her studio on April 7th , 8th, 13th from 2.30-4.30 and at Arts Alive on 20th and 29th April 10.30-12.30.

If you are interested and want to get involved you would be very welcome!

You can contact Pip Woolf directly to register your interest:
Email: gilpip@googlemail.com or telephone 01874 730995

For more background about the project please do look at the blog, where there are also some photos <http://www.woollenline.wordpress.com>

Funding news

A funding database is currently being developed, and should be available on the website soon so watch this space! More details in the next update and see www.llaisygoedwig.org.uk

LlyG – Policy working group

At the recent AGM the membership asked the LlyG Board to develop a manifesto for the forests of Wales. The manifesto would propose new access and management principles; empower local governance; tackle planning woodland for future needs; and stimulate woodland related enterprise. A few members have already signed up to a working group to develop the manifesto. We need more participants from our membership so if you want to help us develop a new relationship between our woodlands and communities please contact us ASAP. We will, of course, be consulting with you on the manifesto as it develops.

Llais y Goedwig is a voluntary association of community woodland groups that formed in November 2009 to provide a voice for community woodlands. We want to share experiences, support each other and enhance local woodlands to benefit the people of Wales.

Contact us:

Llais y Goedwig
Unit 6, Dyfi Eco Park
Machynlleth, Powys
SY20 8AX
Tel: 0845 456 0342

www.llaisygoedwig.org.uk



INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF FORESTS • 2011



Tear off order slip

Just return this slip to Jo at Unit 6 with a cheque payable to "Llais y Goedwig" and we'll send you the merchandise.

Name:

Address:

Group:

	Price	Quantity (and size if applicable)	Total
Annual printed publications subscription	£20		
Climate Change Reader on USB stick	£10		
T-shirt – men's style	£10		
T- shirt- women's style	£10		
<i>Add postage:</i>			
Climate Change Reader	50p		
T – shirt(s)	£2.50		
TOTAL:			