

Carmarthenshire Culture

Issue 33

April 2017

Cultural Services' April 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the April edition of the Cultural Services newsletter for 2017. This is the place to keep up to date with events, services and news in the department. The newsletter highlights forthcoming and recent events in the Arts, Libraries, Museums, Archives and Theatres in Carmarthenshire and the newsletter is a fantastic opportunity to share with all the latest that Cultural Services has to offer. If you would like to include an item, please contact Caru James on cfjames@carmarthenshire.gov.uk.

Carmarthenshire Libraries

World Book Day

Halfway School Year 3 celebrated World Book day with a fun filled visit to Llanelli Library. They went home with free books and book tokens! Pupils of Coedcae School took over Llanelli Library for the morning of World Book Day, and Furnace School visited Llanelli Library to do fun activities with Communities First for World Book Day.



CARMARTHENSHERE LIBRARIES SCOOPS TOP AWARD

Carmarthenshire libraries have recently won a national marketing competition, and have been named the best in demonstrating the successful delivery of online resources at The Marketing Excellence Awards, held at The National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth.

This was a national competition for library, archive and museum services across the length and breadth of Wales. Ziptales, an online literacy library for children, is one of the key

successful online resources that has really taken off in Carmarthenshire, with user numbers going through the roof. Continual positive feedback from teachers/parents, together with weekly school visits to Carmarthenshire Libraries, all help with online services' success.



COUNTY WHEELING OUT REVOLUTIONARY MOBILE LIBRARIES

A unique to Wales "bristling with technology" mobile library fleet is about to take to Carmarthenshire's roads. It's a revolutionary 'more than books' approach embracing new technologies that will deliver digital literacy across the county from next month. (April)

The new service will provide digital services directly to community users with access online via the mobile library's free Wi-Fi, keeping users connected to the greater community and the wider world at large. County executive board member for regeneration, leisure and library services Cllr Meryl Gravell said: "Following public consultations, new routes have been agreed with the fleet of three new mobiles set to visit at least 38 communities at advertised stops on a weekly basis.

"This will extend the reach of the mobile library service operating as "pop-up libraries" with significantly more services offered at community level across the county. "It is a revolutionary development. Changing technologies helps us provide many more efficient solutions to meet user requirements as their expectations are constantly changing. "The mobile libraries will provide doorstep access to computers and life changing opportunities in rural areas with photocopying and printing facilities, a range of services including universal credit, citizen's advice and even job searching opportunities. "The current mobile service falls short on delivering key aspects of a modern library service offered at static service points.



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"The new fleet will be a flexible, fit-for-purpose and integrated mobile library service helping to address rural deprivation, encourage digital inclusion and address poverty and literacy agendas which are all critical to the wellbeing of our residents as well as a lifeline for residents who are elderly or housebound. "I am proud to say the council is ahead of the field developing an effective, modern, flexible, comprehensive and reliable mobile library service fit for the 21st Century."

County executive board member for environment services, Cllr Hazel Evans, believed the mobile library service renewal had come at an optimum time for the authority. She said: "Improved fuel efficiency, lower emissions and reduced operating costs is good news for everyone. Add to this the satisfaction of working on this particular project with Welsh companies, Euro Commercials of Cardiff and Neath Coach Builders, is the icing on the cake and affirms our commitment to supporting the local economy and spending the Welsh pound in Wales."

Partnership working is seen as key to service delivery; working with community resilience groups such as Workways +, JCP, The Hub and community groups and volunteers. This will extend the reach and improve efficiency of services by providing an effective, modern, flexible, comprehensive and reliable mobile library service fit for the 21st Century.

NEW CHAPTER FOR LLANDEILO LIBRARY

An official opening has been held at the new home of Llandeilo library. Visitors have been having their first glimpse of the new library at the Municipal buildings over the last week, ahead of the official opening on March 15, and staff say they've been overwhelmed by the amount of interest the service has attracted. iPads, new computers, a gaming station, self-service options, self-help tutorials and council cash payments are some of the new services that are on hand for users to enjoy.

During the official opening, guests enjoyed guided tours of the new facility whilst being entertained by pupils from both Teilo Sant and Llandeilo primary schools. They also had a chance to meet Carmarthenshire Therapy Dogs Millie and Ollie and their owners who volunteer at Llandeilo schools to help children relax whilst reading.

Carmarthenshire County Council Executive Board Member for Regeneration, Cllr Meryl Gravell, said: "It's wonderful to hear that this new facility is being enjoyed by so many. The library has been refurbished with a complete new stack of books which have had to be replenished due to the number of users."

Relocating the library within the same building as services such as the council's planning department, Mentrau Iaithe and the contact centre has reduced costs for the authority. The library service is looking for volunteers who have an interest in books and libraries, and who want to promote the library service within the community. For further information about applying to volunteer, contact Tracey Davies on TLDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Carmarthenshire Libraries - Easter Holidays Activities

Ammanford Library

Tuesday 11 April - Craft Session, 10-12 am

Thursday 13 April, - Lego, 10-12am

Saturday 15 April, Easter Egg Treasure Hunt, 10-12pm

Carmarthen Library

Monday 10 April, 10am-12pm - Lego: come and play, PlayStation: Games, all ages

Wednesday 12 April, 10.30am-11.15am - Storytime: Pasg Cyntaf Smot, under 5

Wednesday 19 April, 10.30-11.15am - Storytime: Six Little Chicks, under 5s

Friday 21 April, 10am-12pm - Craft Session: Decorate Easter Eggs, all ages

Llanelli Library

Sat 8th - Sat 22nd April, All Day, Easter Treasure Hunt, Age 3+

Mon 10th April, All Day, Easter Themed Crafts, Age 3+

Tue 11th April, 10:30-11:30, Pre-school Storytime Session with craft - Easter Bunnies, Under 5's

Tue 11th April, all day, Lego

Wed 12th April, 11:00-12:00 + 2:15-3:15, Active Storytime with craft, Age 2+

Thurs 13th April, 10:30-11:30, Pre-school Storytime Session with crafts, Under 5's

Thurs 13th April, 2:00-3:00, Language and Play Session with flying start, From Birth - 3 Years

Tue 18th April, 10:30-11:30 and 2:30-3:30, Pre-school Storytime session with craft - Spring stories, Under 5's

Wed 19th April, 11:00-12:00 + 2:15-3:15, Active Storytime with craft, Age 2+

Thurs 20th April, 10:30-11:30, Pre-school Storytime session with craft, Under 5's

Thurs 20th April, 2:00-3:00, Language and Play Session with Flying start, From Birth - 3 Years

Fri 21st April, All Day, Lego and Games All Ages

Carmarthenshire Arts

Dylan Thomas Boathouse, Laugharne

Summer is upon us!

Amazing as it may be, April is already here and from the 1st April we are on summer opening hours, 10am-5.00pm every day. There might be a few April showers around but that can't dampen the spirits when the view is so stunning!

In March many of our visitors enjoyed sitting on the terrace to eat their lunch or afternoon tea including some very special visitors from the Royal College of Defence Studies, senior officers from all over the world who regard their visit to the Boathouse as an important cultural aspect of their visit to Wales.

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We were also visited by a group of journalists hosted by Discover Carmarthenshire who gave us a wonderful write up in Landlove magazine along with other treats Carmarthenshire has to offer, summing up as: "All this and more awaits in Carmarthenshire. And, best of all, it's charms are a bit secret, so while many hurtle towards neighbouring coastal counties, you can soak up the very best this gem of Wales has to offer."

The start of summer hours also means the return of the summer menu, and during the winter we have been trying out local products and various recipes for our specials board, so look out for some new and delicious treats from the tea-room! Fire & Ice sorbets will most definitely be back again along with savoury treats from Patchwork Pate, locally cured meats and Selwyn's cockles and laverbread. So don't forget to pay us a visit and sample a treat. Admission to the tea-room is free and the view is fabulous!

The Gate, St Clears

Easter Workshops.

As usual this year we are offering Easter workshops for young people from 10.30-12.30 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 11th, 13th, 18th and 20th April. These are drop-in workshops and cost £3.50 per child. (Under 8's must be accompanied by an appropriate adult.) On offer are the chance to create a pottery egg container, Easter egg mobiles and a mosaic tile as well as other crafty activities. To book a place or for more information, please ring us on 01267 224963.



Conference time!

If you are looking for a small conference room for meetings, then the Gate is the ideal venue. We have two rooms available, the theatre room which seats 25 and the boardroom which seats 14. The building has full disabled access, free Wi-Fi, an on-site café and ample parking a five-minute walk away. Based in the west of the county it is very accessible for Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire making it geographically well located. Have a look at our web-site www.the-gate.org for our very reasonable rental rates.



Gifts galore!

As an alternative to Easter eggs this year, why not pop in and see the wide range of gifts available in our retail area. From books and crafts to jewellery and pottery (crafted on site) we have a selection of Welsh sourced items suitable for that special present or just as a treat for yourself! We are open Monday to Friday 9.00 – 4.30pm and 9.00-3.00pm on Saturday.

Oriel Myrddin

Make & Do

Tuesday 11 April 11am-3pm, Family workshop

Fabergésque Eggs

Join us making some fabulously opulent decorative eggs. Suitable for ages 4 years and older, but younger children are welcome. Open to all, drop in, suggested donation £2 per person.

Tuesday 18 April, 11am-3pm, Family workshop

Cherry Blossom and Birdhouse

Celebrate spring by making a cherry blossom branch or a birdhouse to take away. Add to our giant cherry blossom bough to be displayed in the studio window. Open to all, drop in, suggested donation £2 per person.

May 2017 Community project

Atgofion o'r Golchdy – memories from the wash house

A community project exploring and celebrating older women's stories and memories of washdays past. Participants will create work which will be exhibited in the shop windows of King Street. This project links with our David Jones exhibition *Angels on Washing Lines* in the gallery from 18 March-13 May.

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Carmarthenshire Theatres

April highlights @ Theatrau Sir Gâr

Ffwrnes, Park Street Llanelli SA15 3YE

0845 2263510 | www.theatrasirgar.co.uk

Main Auditorium

Ffilm@Ffwrnes

An Inspector Calls (12)

Ffwrnes, 3rd April 1pm, F: £5

When a young girl commits suicide a police inspector is sent to investigate a prosperous Yorkshire household. It emerges that each one is partly responsible for the girl's death. Alistair Sim stars in this classic drama. *Followed with a Question and Answer session by a leading practitioner about the original play*

Interactive Theatre International presents **Spoken Word**

Saturday

Ffwrnes Fach, Saturday 8th April 3pm, F: £3

Meet up, Listen Up and speak Up!

Expect to be mesmerised by wordsmiths exploring 'The Spoken Word'. Each month we will have a guest professional teller as well as our usual open floor spots. If you are a storyteller, poet, rap artist, spoken word singer, film maker or first timer, please email to book a floor spot or for more information: Eleanorshaw10@gmail.com or Like Spoken Word Saturday on Facebook.

Omnidaze presents **Romeo & Juliette**

Ffwrnes, Wednesday 12th April 2pm & 7.30pm

Shakespeare shaken up. Combining circus and theatre for audiences as young as 7 and as old as old man time himself. For those who loathe Shakespeare, those who love Shakespeare and those in between who just want a good night out. Citizenship. Civil disturbance. Conflict. Anger. Abuse. Tragic consequences. This is Britain today. This is where we lay our scene.

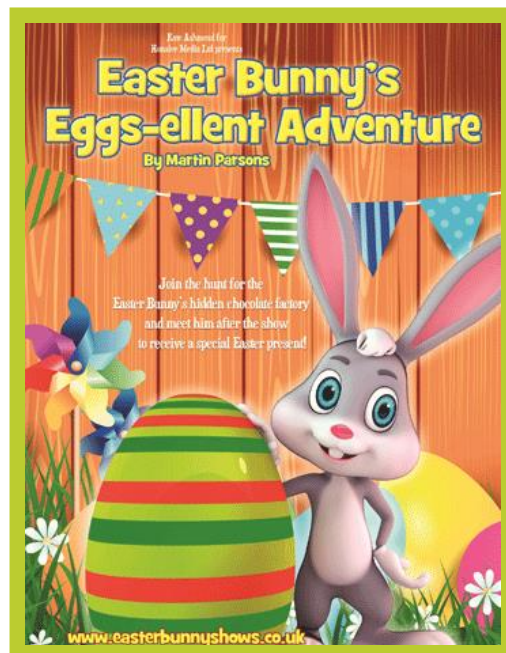


Easter Bunny's Eggs-ellent Adventure

Ffwrnes, Friday 14th April 1.30pm, Price: CH: £10 Adults: £ 8.50

From the team behind Marty MacDonald's Farm comes the chocolateiest Easter show ever...

Who is behind the mysterious Easter Egg trail? Why are there strange noises coming from beneath the hills? And what is the truth behind the tale of the Easter Bunny? Easter Bunny's Eggs-ellent Adventure is a family show particularly suitable for 2-7 year olds and kids join the hunt for the hidden chocolate factory and meet the Easter Bunny afterwards to receive a special Easter present!



The People's Theatre Company presents **Don't Dribble On the Dragon**

Ffwrnes – Wednesday 19th April 2.30pm, F: £9.50 C: £8.50 FB: £34 Lapseats: £13.50

My brother has a dragon and he keeps it secretly Within a box beneath his socks. He's hiding it from me.....

This spectacular musical adventure about a toddler, his brother and a secret dragon is about growing up and the importance of family in a feel good show for big hearted adults and loving little ones alike. With the magic designed by the legendary **Paul Daniels** and based on a fabulous new book by **Steven Lee**, this spectacular musical adventure will entertain the kids and is a must-see for the whole family.

Tea Dance

Ffwrnes, Tuesday 18th April 2.30pm, F: £5 (incl. refreshments)

Join us at Ffwrnes for an afternoon of tea, cake and dancing with Phillip and Gaynor Evans, winners of the World famous Champions of Tomorrow Ballroom section, Blackpool. Phillip and Gaynor are currently competing as professionals in Ballroom and Latin for Wales. They are based at the Dance Kingdom, Llanelli and have danced all over the world including Russia, USA, Australia and Europe.

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Franki's fun Films: *Beauty and the Beast* (U)

Saturday 22nd April, Ffwrnes, MEET AND GREET, PRICE: £7

Belle, a young girl, bored of her little town longs for adventure. When her father is locked away in a beast's castle, Belle volunteers to take his place. With a little help from the enchanted staff at the castle, Belle soon learns to look past the Beast's appearance. Including a photo opportunity with Princess Belle & the Beast!

Light, Ladd and Emberton present **Caitlin**

Ffwrnes, Times: 6pm Welsh 8pm English, F: £10, Friday 21st April Commissioned by National Library of Wales.

Winner of Best Dance Production – Wales Theatre Awards 2015

Caitlin was the wife of poet Dylan Thomas. At the start of the 70's, 20 years after he died, she started going to Alcoholics Anonymous. In an AA meeting Caitlin makes a determined effort to deal with her tempestuous past. The audience sit in the circle with Caitlin as she re-visits her life with Dylan in a relationship fuelled by love, addiction, jealousy and infidelity. As they drink, fight, love and leave each other the unoccupied chairs become part of the action in this physical and powerful duet.

Clare Hammond presents **Clare Hammond Piano Recital**

Saturday 29th April 2.30pm, Ffwrnes, F: £13 C: £11 Drama club members: £10

Winner of the Royal Philharmonic Society's 'Young Artist Award', pianist Clare Hammond gives a recital that warrants her "reputation for brilliantly imaginative concert programmes" (BBC Music Magazine). Join her in exploring an enriching, inspiring music experience by Beethoven, Debussy, Fauré and Stravinsky alongside gems by Dutilleux, Jacquet de la Guerre and Kim Ashton.



Stiwdio Stepni

Feel Good FFilm@Ffwrnes present Hail, Caesar (12A)

Stiwdio Stepni, F: £5 (incl. Refreshments), Wednesday 5th April 1.30pm

An ensemble cast guides us through the absurd, unpredictable world of 1950s Hollywood as the disappearance of leading A-lister Baird Whitlock (George Clooney) from the studio sparks off a series of events that leads trouble-shooter Eddie Mannix (Josh Brolin) to question his very place in a rapidly changing world.

An Evening with the Funny Poet

Thursday 6th April 7.30pm, Stiwdio Stepni, £6.50 C: £5 Loyalty £5, Genre: poetry / storytelling

Radio listeners, audiences and writers' groups know John Bilsborough as "the funny poet". As a Member of the Welsh Academy, Sony Award nominee, Slam Champ and winner of the "Worst Song in the World" trophy, he promises 'hilarious verse, tall tales and impossible songs', so join him and his guests for an evening of surprises.

Cabaret Coch Cymru **Comedy Club**

Stiwdio Stepni, Friday 7th April 8pm, F: £12 (EB £10), Genre: Comedy

This month's headliner will be **Steve Shanyaski**. "Absolutely stormed it!" – The Mail. Support from **Eleanor Tiernan** "Tiernan has a uniquely oblique angle on the word, fresh and original" Chortle...plus special guests and your studly host, **James Cook**

Hijinx Theatre in Association with Blind Summit presents **Meet Fred**

Saturday 8th April 7.30pm, Stiwdio Stepni, F: £10 C: £8 loyalty £5 When threatened with losing his Puppetry Living Allowance, Fred's life begins to spiral out of his control. A sell-out show at Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2016, expect it to be 'Sharp, funny and vastly entertaining' (Lyn Gardner, The Guardian). Contains strong language and puppet nudity. ***** "The humour here brilliantly black with mordant social and political relevance" (The Herald).



LMP presents, **Once On This Island Jr**

Stiwdio Stepni, Book and Lyric by Lynn Ahrens, Music by Stephen Flaherty, Based on the Novel My Love, My Love by Rosa Guy

Wednesday 12th & Thursday 13 April 7.30pm, Good Friday 14 April & Saturday 15th April 2.30pm & 7.30pm, Tickets F: £12

Caribbean adaptation of the popular fairy tale The Little Mermaid, A non-stop catchy, contemporary and Caribbean-flavoured song and dance story about a young peasant girl who falls in love with a wealthy boy for the other side of her island.

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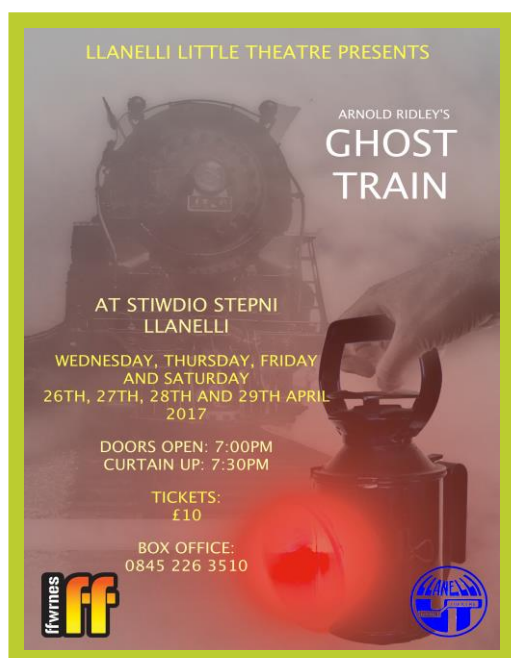
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The fantastical gods guide Ti Moune on her quest to test the strength against the powerful forces of prejudice, hatred and death. An intimate show presented in a dance/movement-driven style with colourful costumes and sets that capture your imagination.

Little Theatre presents **The Ghost Train**

Stiwidio Stepni, Wednesday 26th - Saturday 29th April 7.30pm, F: £10

Arnold Ridley's classic drama. In the most famous mystery ever written for the theatre a very silly young man accidentally strands six passengers at a small Cornish wayside station and despite the stationmaster's weird stories of a ghost train they stay the night in the waiting-room. They soon regret this decision as ghostly apparitions materialise before the true reason is revealed.



Lyric, King Street, Carmarthen SA31 1BD

0845 2263510 | www.theatrusirgar.co.uk

The People's Theatre Company presents **Don't Dribble On the Dragon**

Lyric – Thursday 20th April 2.30pm, F: £9.50 C: £8.50 FB: £34

Lapseats: £13.50

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Within a box beneath his socks. He's hiding it from me.....*

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Carmarthen Film Club presents **Millers Crossing 1990, Lyric Studio**

Wednesday 5th April 7.30pm, F: £5 C: £4.50 Members: £2.50

Tom Reagan (Gabriel Byrne) is the right-hand man, and chief adviser, to mob boss, Leo (Albert Finney).



Trouble's brewing between Leo and another mob boss, Johnny Caspar (Jon Polito), over activities of a bookie, Bernie Bernbaum (John Turturro) and they are at odds on how to deal with it. Meanwhile, Tom's in a secret relationship with Leo's girlfriend, Verna (Marcia Gay Harden), who happens to be the sister of Bernie. Tom is cast out from Leo's camp and ultimately finds himself stuck in the middle between several deadly, unforgiving parties.

Miners', Wind Street Ammanford SA18 3DN

0845 2263510 | www.theatrusirgar.co.uk

Rhodri Miles One Man Show presents **Burton**

Thursday 6th April 7.30pm, Miners, F: £10, C: £8 Arts Club members £6

WINNER OF "BEST INTERNATIONAL SHOW" AT THE HOLLYWOOD FRINGE FESTIVAL 2010.

BURTON vividly presents the life of great Welsh actor from humble beginnings to Hollywood mega-stardom. RHODRI MILES, (Game of Thrones, Eastern Promises, Atlantis) takes on the role of the younger BURTON depicting the struggles with beautiful women (not least Liz Taylor), alcohol, wealth, stage and screen which are the threads woven into this sad, happy, exuberant often hilarious one-man show.

Carmarthenshire Museums

Easter Outdoor Fun with the Museums Service

We are running two days of free children's activities in April, each day with a morning and an afternoon session. It's an opportunity to have some fun outdoors, while exploring nature through arts, crafts and play.

Carmarthenshire County Museum

Saturday, 8th April (10:30-12:30 & 1:30-3:30)

Parc Howard Museum & Art Gallery

Good Friday, 14th April (10:00-12:30 & 1:30-3:30)

The sessions are open to any age, but we do ask that adults remain with their children.

Spaces are limited to 20 children per session, so please book by contacting: Marion Male | 01267 228696 | museums@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Actif | Active
S I R G A R | C A R M A R T H E N S H I R E

