



PENNANT WELCOME PACK



**ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED**

Welcome to Pennant and congratulations – you have probably chosen one of the most friendly villages in the area!

Members of Cymuned Pennant Community hope that this leaflet will help you to settle into your new surroundings and feel at home here.

Registered Charity No. 1144653
Company Registration No. 7307691

A bit of background



The Black Lion on the crossroads in Pennant at the end of the 19th Century

Some 400 million years' ago, during the Ordovician period, Ceredigion was under a deep sea but evidence of human settlement in Pennant only goes back about three thousand years, to the Stone Age.

Since then, the area has survived occupation by Romans and Normans with frequent attacks by Vikings in between!

In 1164, Strata Florida Abbey was founded and a hospitium (guest house) built at Monachty. This offered a good stopping point for pilgrims making the journey between St. David's and Strata Florida. When the Black Death swept through Europe in 1349, the road through Pennant would have been busy with pilgrims making the religious journey which they hoped would save them from the plague.

Commerce and shipbuilding in Aberarth and Llanon would have meant traffic moving inland to connect the highway of the sea to the hamlets and towns of the Ceredigion interior, resulting in a crossroads at Pennant around which a small village would eventually cluster.

The river Arth runs through the village and some residents remember a time when the lower part, near the bridge, was known as Pennant Isaf. In English, Pennant means "at the top of the stream".

At one time, Pennant boasted a corn mill, several pubs, a shop, a garage and a school but regrettably these have now all closed.

At the time of writing, there are about 150 houses within the curtilage of the village, with a population of about 600 compared to 731 in 1891.

For those who have not grown bored by now, there is a chronology and attribution at the end of this leaflet!

Other useful stuff

Banks

Nearest is in Aberaeron, Barclays with an ATM situated in Alban Square and Spar Shop in Bridge Street. Cash withdrawals can be made from the Post Office in Market Street, Aberaeron.

Bottle Bank

The nearest glass recycling skip is in Cross Inn (2 miles). There is also a bottle bank in Aberaeron by Conti's Café on the seafront by rugby/football field off Lower Regent Street.

Bus

The X50, T5 and 554 shuttle up and down the coast road regularly each week day (reduced service weekends). Nearest bus stop is in Llanon (3 miles). Timetables are on the Ceredigion County Council website www.ceredigion.gov.uk.

Bwcabus

On request, this little bus will pick you up in Pennant and take you to one of the main bus routes, eg down to Llanon (for connections to Cardigan/Aberystwyth) or to Ciliau Aeron for connections to Carmarthen/Cardiff). You can also use the service to travel between local towns and villages in the Bwcabus zone. The service is chargeable (free if you have a bus pass) and is subject to availability. For more information contact their bilingual call centre on 01239 801601 or visit the website www.bwcabus.info

Car Wash

There is a drive-through at the garage in Llanrhystud and a jet wash in Aberaeron (Aeron Coast garage on right just before you enter the town).

Chapel

The Methodist Chapel is in the village by the bridge. There is a service every Sunday. Contact Ceinwen Edwards 01545 570072 or Dilys Jones 01545 570245 for more details or visit www.cymunedpennantcommunity.org.uk

Charity Shop

British Red Cross in Market Street, Aberaeron.

Chip Shop

Nearest chip shop is in Llanon, closed on Sundays. There are others in Aberaeron, The Celtic and Lond Plat, open on Sundays.

Church

Llanbadarn Trefeglwys (Church in Wales) is on the left, leaving the village towards Aberarth. Service at 2pm first Sunday of each month. Contact Rev. John P. Lewis for details 01545 570433 or vicar@aberaeronparish.org.uk for more details.

Clothes Recycling

Nearest collection point is on the seafront in Aberaeron and there is also another bottle bank there.

Council Offices

Nearest Council Offices are in Penmorfa, Aberaeron (main entrance is well signed on the outskirts of town, going south). Phone no. 01545 570881

Councillor

Our local councillor is Dafydd Edwards, Bethania, standing as an Independent for Llansantffraed ward. Contact him on 01974 272528. Dafydd is also the Chairman of our Community Group, Cymuned Pennant Community.

Dentist

The nearest dentist presently taking on NHS patients is in Aberystwyth: Denticare in North Parade – 01970 612266. There is also a Denticare in Lampeter.

Doctor

The nearest GP surgery and pharmacies are also in Aberaeron. Contact Tanyfron Surgery on 01545 570271.

Garage

The nearest garage (selling fuel) is in Nebo, Cross Inn (turn left at the five-point crossroad in Cross Inn) about 3 miles.

Hospital

Nearest hospital is Bronglais, Aberystwyth (head north along the A487 coast road until you reach the outskirts of town, then follow signage). There is an A&E department there. Phone: 01970 623131, postcode for your satnav is SY23 1ER.

Library

There is a library in Aberaeron with an IT suite in operation.

Mobile Library

Visits Pennant every 4 weeks at 3pm. This year's dates not yet posted on their website www.ceredigion.gov.uk. Contact them on 01970 633716.

Post Office and Shop

The nearest shop and post office is Glanarthen Stores in Cross Inn (2 miles). The store will deliver to your home tel. no. 01974-272505.

Public House

Nearest one is in Cross Inn, Rhos yr Hafod. At the time of writing, they are not serving food.

Recycling

We have four containers for each household – small green bin for outside food waste, smaller green bin for inside food waste, clear plastic bags for plastic,

cardboard, paper and tins and large green wheelie bin (or black plastic sacks) for everything else. The dustmen come every week for the food waste and clear bags but will only collect the other stuff every other week (Thursday mornings). You can get more clear plastic bags, free of charge, from the Town Hall Library in Aberaeron (opposite the harbour in the town) or by putting out the yellow tag at the next collection. You can also acquire green bags for garden refuse from the same office – the council will then compost these if you leave them out for collection.

Supermarket

The nearest supermarket is Costcutters in Aberaeron (5 miles).

Tourist Information

The local office is at the end of the harbour in Aberaeron. They are usually closed during the winter months. Contact no. during the season 01545 570602 or go to the website www.ukinformationcentre.com or www.tourism.ceredigion.gov.uk

Towns

The nearest big town is Aberystwyth (13 miles) where you will find a range of supermarkets, out of town stores, Arts Centre, National Library of Wales, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and a pharmacy which is open late at night and on Sundays (in Morrisons).

Other places to shop: Lampeter (13 miles), Cardigan (approx. 30 miles) and Tregaron (approx. 13 miles).

Train

The nearest railway station is in Aberystwyth – there are connections to Machynlleth, Shrewsbury, Birmingham, London, etc. from there.

Vet

The nearest vet is Aeron Vets Ltd. in Ciliau Aeron phone 01570 470100.



Pennant in 2011

Two nice short walks:

Round the Block (1.5 miles)

At Pennant crossroad, take the turning to Cross Inn (signposted). Walk up the road, keeping an eye out for traffic, and take the first turning left. At the next T junction, turn left (look out for sea views at the top) and keep walking until you get back to the crossroad.

River Bridges Walk (approx. 1 mile)

At Pennant crossroads, take the turning into the village, towards Ciliau Aeron, going downhill, passing Chapel on right and crossing the first river bridge. Walk on up the hill and take the first turning right (signposted with a public footpath sign). Follow the track along and down the hill a little way, veering off the track on to the footpath to the right about halfway down. Follow the footpath through the woods and cross the second river bridge. Picturesque views of the River Arth here. Once across the bridge, walk straight up the hill on the other side and through the kissing gate into the lane. Turn right and keep walking until you get back to the crossroad.

Pennant Car Boot Sale

Run by Guy and Joannie Sansom for over 25 years, the car boot sale is one of the busiest and most successful in the area. Opening first Sunday in March to last in October, gate opens at 8am, £6/car - see their website for more information www.pennantcarboot.co.uk

Cymuned Pennant Community

In June 2009, the village school closed following a decline in the number of children attending and sadly the premises were left empty. The village came together to establish the site as a community centre and the group is going from strength to strength. A Big Lottery grant meant that we could go ahead with gathering surveyor, architect and building quotes with a view to purchasing the premises from the County Council and developing the building to modern standards and use. Applications to

various organisations are going ahead to purchase the building from the Council and the Committee are working hard to achieve a successful outcome.

In the meantime, there's always a lot going on. For instance, in August 2011, we constructed a float for Aberaeron Carnival and came first winning a lovely cup and £100 in prize money which went into the community kitty.

If you are new to the village, why not come along to one of the coffee mornings in our new community centre? They take place every Thursday morning between 10am and 11.30am and for £1 you can enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits and a chance to chat. This is the place to find out who we all are and what's going on.

Membership is £5 for the year which entitles you to the monthly newsletter and to reduced rates at community events and film nights. At the time of writing, the Community Centre is hosting weekly yoga classes, art classes, stitching group, coffee morning, photography club and more.

Cymuned Pennant Community is an incorporated charity and the Company Secretary is Malcolm Sumner. Contact him on 01545 571547 for more information. Website www.cymunedpennantcommunity.org.uk and email info@cymunedpennantcommunity.org.uk

Pennant Chronology

400 million years' ago: Ceredigion under a deep sea

110,000 – 10,000 years' ago: Ceredigion under deep ice

3000 years' ago first signs of human habitation – Bronze Age hammer axe found in garden of Bronwydd in 1988

Pennant lay in hands of Ordovices lead by Caradog who was defeated by Romans between 78 and 84 AD

6th Century Church of Llanbadarn Trefeglwys founded by bishop St. Padarn

908AD Battle fought near Pennant – Vikings were driven out but kept returning until 989 when Maredudd ab Owain raised a poll tax and bribed them to stay away!

1093 Rhys ap Tewdor died leaving room for Norman expansion into Ceredigion.

1164 Strata Florida founded and hospitium (guest house) built at Monachty. The fishponds of the hospitium can still be seen on the shore between Aberarth and Aberaeron. Pilgrims used the hospitium to break their journey between Strata Florida and St.David's.

1349 Black Death – 50% of the population of Europe died during the outbreak and the road through Pennant would have been busy with pilgrims at this time, hoping that their piety would protect them.

1539 Strata Florida was dissolved during the reign of Henry VIII.

1630 John Vaughn buys Anhuniog (the name of the commote containing Pennant). Point of interest: a labourer would be earning about 6d/day during this period and it would have taken 10 days to travel from West Wales to London.

1734 The first circulatory school was established, focusing on religious education, and enrolled 137 pupils in the area.

1754 The Ship Inn was built.

1768 The Methodist Chapel was built.

1845 The old bridge was washed away. It was restored in 1851 and is still there today.
1856 Church of Llanbadarn Trefeglwys was rebuilt
1873 The school was built and the range of education expanded
1896 The Black Lion was built and subsequently closed in 1942.
1920 Felin Cwm, originally an 18th Century water-powered corn mill, was rebuilt and extended.
1937 Water piped to 7 points in the village – one of the old stand pipes is still in existence today near the crossroad.
1950s Water piped into houses.
1950s Bro Arth built.
1960s Electricity arrives
2001 Bryn Hyfryd built
2008 Nant floods. School, shop, chapel and various houses affected.
2009 School closes.
2009 Cymuned Pennant Community is formed.
2010 Post Office closes in June of that year.
2011 Cymuned Pennant Community becomes an incorporated charity.

Acknowledgements

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With thanks also to the people of Pennant who took an interest in this document and helped to correct and review it.

The pack was written by Annmarie Butlin on behalf of Cymuned Pennant Community. If things change or you can think of any additions or amendments, please contact her on 01545 574600 or annmarie-pitt@hotmail.com

Author cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.

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