

Press Release for the Cambrian News, reporting the success of the open day event at Caffi Cletwr, 21st April.

On Saturday 21st April, the Cletwr Café Tre 'r ddôl had a special open day, serving home made cakes, soup and bread, for free, all day. This was a 'pilot' event to launch the community's project to raise the funding to buy the premises from current owner Huw Lewis and reopen the village shop, café and petrol station as a community enterprise.

The event was backed by Cynnal y Cardi, the body which directs funding to support grassroots ideas coming up from the community. This certainly seemed to be a good idea, as the café was packed all day with locals and visitors enjoying the excellent food and having a friendly chat. The food was freshly prepared by Coleg Ceredigion catering students, represented on the day by Callum Pritchard, Caio Wilmot and Rhiannon Jennings, who served the constant stream of diners tirelessly, helped by their lecturers Jo Pearce and James Ward.

Two local bands and their friends provided traditional Welsh folk music to give the event a lively festive atmosphere: A Llawer Mwy and Cerddcegin.

Welsh Assembly member Elin Jones dropped by to show her support, as did local council member Ellen ap Gwyn, who is closely involved with the initiative.

The newly-formed village company, Cwmni Cletwr, was delighted with the event which was a success on every level: a spontaneous rota of volunteers from the surrounding villages pulled together to make it happen, nearly three hundred visitors came from near and far, and gave extremely generous donations to pay for their free lunch!

This is the kind of team effort which Cwmni Cletwr wants to sustain in their efforts to buy and run the services by the community, for the benefit of the community.

mariehockenhill@yahoo.co.uk