



REACH



For comments, articles & info
contact your Organiser or
opalreach@opalservices.org.uk

MARCHING FORWARD

The announcement this week of a plan of action out of the lockdown no doubt brings many of us all a feeling a positivity and hope. At OPAL we will of course be following the guidelines but we do hope that our garden visits will be able to commence again soon. We will keep you updated on changes to any of our services when we are able.

ST DAVID'S DAY

Happy St David's Day to our Welsh readers! Will you be wearing a daffodil or a leek on 1st March? Traditionally it was a leek that was the emblem of Wales and it is believed this dates back to 1346 when the then Prince of Wales, Edward the Black Prince, defeated the French at the Battle of Crécy. Welsh archers are said to have fought bravely in a field of leeks and as a reminder began to wear a leek in their caps every St David's Day. It is unknown when daffodils started to be worn, but as they are in flower in early spring, they have gained prominence in the last century. (bbc.co.uk)



• BLAST FROM THE PAST - this week in history...

- 1616 Roman Inquisition demands that Galileo abandons his belief that the Earth and planets revolve around the Sun.
- 1875 Georges Bizet's opera "Carmen" premiers in Paris.
- 1896 Henri Becquerel discovers radioactivity.
- 1964 Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) wins world heavy weight boxing title for first time defeating Sonny Liston.
- 1974 Grand jury concludes President Richard Nixon is involved in the Watergate cover-up.
- 1978 Cricket all-rounder Ian Botham scores his first Test century, 103 v New Zealand in Christchurch.
- 2011 "The King's Speech" wins Best Picture at the 83rd Academy Awards (Oscars).

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!



Those of us who are able to get out for walk as part of our daily exercise will no doubt have noticed the spring bulbs pushing up green shoots and we will all soon be enjoying the snowdrops and splashes of colours from the early spring flowers. Daffodils have been grown on a farm in Whitegate near Winsford for over 120 years. In 2007, they opened the fields for a charity "daffodil walk" and raised £330 for Macmillan.

The daffodil walks became an annual fundraiser, raising thousands of pounds for the cancer charity, but like many things, have been cancelled for the second year due to the pandemic but for more information visit www.daffodilwalks.com



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS



Following on from last week where we reported that a random act of kindness can spread happiness, Margaret, an OPAL member, told us about how waving at a family walking past her home led to a note through the door addressed to "the lovely lady who waves", and then onto a socially distanced chat and new friendships.

What's On - Line?

ONLINE

Thursday 4th March - join OPAL for their 'Knitting Zoom Group' at 10am &/or 'Elevenses' at 11am (topic is quirky museums'). All welcome, for info & links please email julie.ennis@opalservices.org.uk

Quizzical

- 1) Name the highest Mountain in Wales.
- 2) What was the original name of Richard Burton?
- 3) Where was Shirley Bassey born?
- 4) Name the setting for the TV series *The Prisoner* ?
- 5) Who is Wales' most famous poet and playwright?
- 6) Name the TV presenter who sang "Walking in the Air"

LAST REACH ANSWERS: 1) HANDSHAKE WITH LEFT HAND.
2) TENDERFOOT 3) BIND ROPES/TIE PACKAGE 4) CAMPING
5)SYMBOLIC OF BROTHERHOOD OF SCOUTING 6) 1910.
WHO AM I: SIR SIDNEY POITIER

This is Your Life.....

SIR TOM JONES

Birthplace

Thomas Jones Woodward was born in Pontypridd, South Wales on June 7, 1940 to a father who worked the coal mines of the Rhondda Valley.

Before he was famous/early memories

As a child in school, he struggled with dyslexia but enjoyed listening to music, including BBC radio, which featured American blues, R&B and rock—genres which later influenced him. After quitting school at 15, working a variety of manual jobs, singing in the clubs at night and marrying at 16, Jones went on to sign with **Decca Records** in London.

Career

Tom has been recording and performing for over 6 decades and is equally well known for his earlier songs like "Delilah" and "What's New Pussycat?" in the 60s and "Sexbomb" and "Mama Told Me Not to Come" in the 90s.

Tom was knighted in 2006, and in 2012 he performed at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee concert at Buckingham Palace. Drawing on his extensive musical experience, in 2012 Jones became a judge on the BBC musical-competition reality show *The Voice*.

Personal Life

Jones married his childhood love Melinda "Linda" Trenchard in 1957 at age 16, and together they had a son, Mark, born the same year. They remained together for nearly 60 years until her death from cancer in 2016, even though Jones was well known for his infidelities.

Quote

First of all, I love singing. I mean, I get out of bed and I sing. I can't help it.

(source – www.biography.com)



[Wikipedia.com](#)

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Think about me, not my age



What's On?

Billy Connolly- Made in Scotland, Sat 27th Feb, BBC 2, 9pm.

Miss Potter, Sun 28th Feb, C5, 3.10pm

Drawers Off- Life - drawing competition with Jenny Éclair, Mon 1st March, C4, 5.30pm

My Unique B and B, Monday 1st March, BBC2, 6.30pm.

Masterchef, Monday 1st March, BBC1, 9pm.

Who Am I?

27th February 1930

I was nine years old when while attending the premiere of *Gone with the Wind* in Atlanta, I rushed into the parade of stars and sat on the lap of Laurence Olivier.

Twenty years later I asked him if he remembered and got a positive yes. I married a most handsome actor and we stayed together for 50 years: we were regarded as one of the most successful and enduring love stories of Hollywood.

I worked with Yul Brynner in *The Sound and the Fury*, and with Marlon Brando in *The Fugitive Kind*. My most well-known film was *The Three Faces of Eve*.