

LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 29 September 2008



***“There’s nothing quite like it...
just messing about on the river.”***

BUMPER FESTIVAL ISSUE!

Inside:

Pages of SEAFAIR and the LLANGWM FESTIVAL

More ideas about the origin of the LLANGWM name

News about your societies, clubs and organisations

Sponsored by Llangwm Community Council



Rain fails to dampen Festival Fortnight

It seemed for a while that the odds were against any success for this year's Llangwm Festival. Firstly it was emerging out of Seafair Haven down on Black Tar and by the time it had started, people were already feeling "Festivalled" out. Then the Festival Committee were confronted with an insurance bill that was jumping from £250.00 to £700.00. On top of that, the long range forecast threatened bad weather during the second week of the Festival. And for once the forecasters got it right.

Then just days before the festival started, step forward Murco Oil Refinery who offered to sponsor the event and came up with both donations of prizes for the raffle and a generous cheque for £500.00. Things were undoubtedly looking up. They were followed by Chevron who have offered to sponsor the Christmas event.

With next year being the 10th festival and this year's event being dominated by Seafair, the Festival Committee saw an opportunity to try out some new ideas to see what worked and what didn't. There were a few changes with the **scarecrow competition**, a simplified number of classes and the scarecrows being judged by those who took part in the competition.

There were also a string of **new events** taking place each evening throughout the festival. A series of dance and performance workshops achieved a mixed response with only two children taking part in the **Fame Academy**. The **Stomp Percussion and Belly Dance workshops** (see below) fared slightly better and as a result, the Festival Committee will look at these events and consider whether they continue next year and if so, how to make them more popular.



The ticketed events were generally a success. The **Comedy Night at the Rugby Club** and the **Merlinares** night at the Village Hall were well attended and the committee will look to see how these could be developed. St. Jerome's Church ended its series of eight concerts, enchanting its audiences with performances by **Cantabile** choir and **La Volta**, the medieval orchestra.

The weather had already threatened the **Mid Summer Dance** with the Merlinares on the Friday night and by Saturday morning it was obvious that the **Fete** would either have to be cancelled or curtailed to fit into the Village Hall. The decision was made to shrink the event and squeeze into the hall. Even so this still resulted in having to cancel all of the planned outdoor events. The Methodist Chapel tried bravely to put up a gazebo in the shadow of the Village Hall to sell their hot dogs and burgers, but the wind and rain proved just too much for them, so they retreated and set up stall in the chapel.



Fortunately, the weather eased up enough for the final gig to take place at the Cottage Inn with music by **Preseli Pete**.



The Festival Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed in so many ways to this year's festival and after a short break will start to plan next year's event. Since it will be the 10th, we want to make it something very special. To that end, we will be having an **Open Evening on Tuesday September 2nd at 8.15pm** in the **Village Hall**. Come along, share a glass of wine and a nibble and take the opportunity to air your ideas. (There will be posters in the village giving this date and time, too.)

Thanks again for all your support.

Llangwm Festival Committee

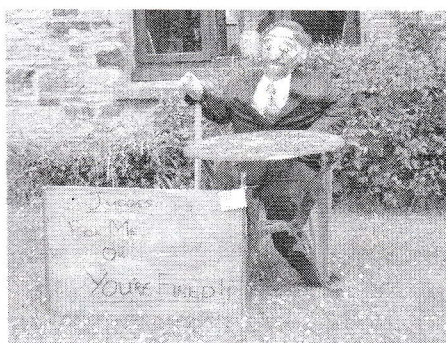
Competition Results:-

Adult built Scarecrows:

- 1st Paul and Nicky Jones with "Elvis, King and Queen"
- 2nd Marilyn Owen with "Coleen & Wayne Rooney"
- 3rd Graham and Joan Stephens with "Boris Johnson"



Child built scarecrows:



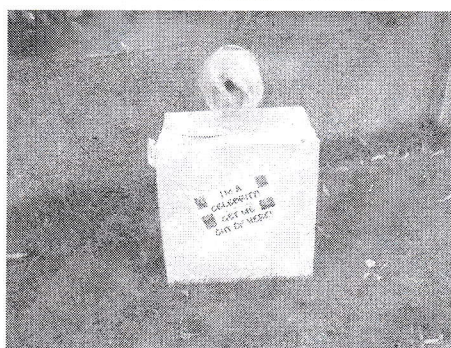
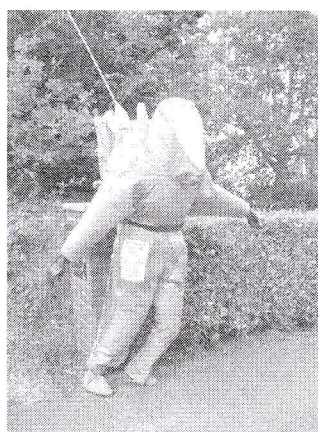
- 1st Will and Sam Cauill with "Alan Sugar"
 2nd Beth Meopham with "Johnny Depp"
 3rd Sarah Hall with "Amy Winehouse"

Guess The Scarecrow Competition:

Winner: Nikki Bosworth

Carnival King and Queen:

Connor Hancox and Hannah Venables



Llangwm Festival 2008

For those of you who are interested, here is a rough breakdown of how the Festival money is made and spent.

Income:

Percussion stomp workshop sales	£ 55.00
Belly Dance workshop	£ 16.00
Quiz Night entry fees	£ 55.00
Sales for Comedy Night	£ 375.00
Sales for Merlinares	£ 285.00
Sales of Buffet tickets	£ 285.00
Income from Scarecrow competitions	£ 27.00
Raffles	£ 281.00
Bottle Stall	£ 101.00
Donations	£ 13.00
Total Sales	£ 1,493.00

Sponsorship:

Murco	£ 500.00
Chevron	£ 250.00
Wales Arts Council (For Merlinares)	£ 565.00
Total Sponsorship / Support Funding	£ 1,315.00

Total Income £2,808.00

Expenditure:

Stomp Percussion	£ 40.00
Belly Dancing	£ 40.00
Quiz Night prize	£ 25.00
Comedy Night Fee	£ 300.00
Mid Summer Dance Fee	£ 850.00
Cottage Inn Buffets	£ 228.00
Face Painter	£ 75.00
General costs, Stationery, licence etc	£ 242.29
Donations	£ 75.00
Cost of Last Night Music	£ 187.50
Raffle Prizes	£ 34.45
Festival King / Queen prizes	£ 30.00
Festival Insurance	£ 700.00

Total Expenditure £ 2,827.24

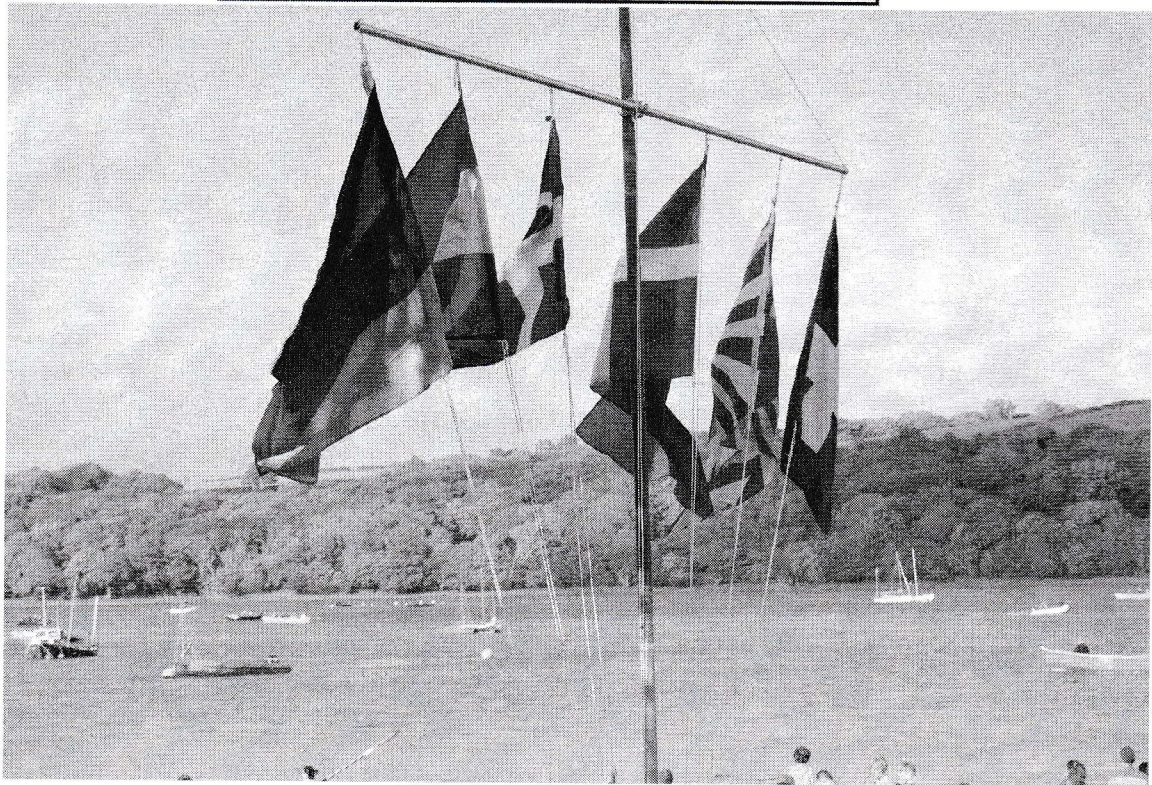
New Council

In the recent election held on 1 May 2008, the following were appointed to serve on **Llangwm Community Council**:

Chairman:	Mr Neville Lewis	(01437 890834)
Councillors:	Mr Barry Childs	(01437 890819)
	Mr Dilwyn George	(01437 891192)
	Mr Jeff James	(01437 890841)
	Mr Michael John	(01437 890175)
	Mrs Liz Jones	(01437 891706)
	Mrs Pat Morris	(01437 891288)
	Mrs Margaret Watkins	(01437 890556)

Congratulations to **Mr Michael John of Main Street** who was also elected to represent Llangwm Ward (Llangwm, Freystrop and Hook) in **Pembrokeshire County Council**.

SeaFair 2008 - a huge success!



The whole of Llangwm can be proud of its SeaFair 08 achievement, from the many village organisations that took on essential tasks, to members of the community who simply came to Black Tar to support the event. All contributed to the welcome that was so appreciated by our 225 visiting crew and their 77 Sail and Oar boats (plus additional crews from Classic Bermudan and Old Gaffer boats that also made it to Llangwm). The numerous letters, e-mails and phone calls received afterwards showed that what really struck our visitors was the warm, voluntary nature of the help and hospitality offered on top of the achievement of providing all the infrastructure, entertainment and other organisational arrangements from a start of just a foreshore, narrow slipway, one lamp-post and a field.

Was SeaFair 08 the first 14-nation event staged at Llangwm? (We had representatives from Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Holland, Irish Republic, Japan, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland, and Wales.)

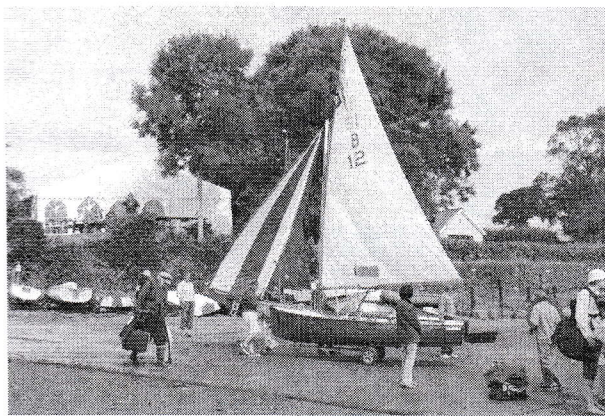
As depicted by the Flag of the World flying above all the national ensigns at Black Tar, **Llangwm was indeed the centre of the universe from the 18th to 25th June!**

Bill Keppel-Compton—SeaFair Skipper



Above: (left) the coveted village trophy fashioned in pewter by Llangwm craftsman Paul Morafon, which was presented by Llangwm Community Council to the 'Church Boat' (right) for its hardworking crew and international spirit.

SEAFAIR at LLANGWM 2008 was...



first and foremost ...a shore thing

The preparations, planning, laying temporary moorings, putting up flagpoles and a myriad of other things were done. Wednesday arrived along with the largest and most varied number of sail and oar craft and crew Black Tar had seen in many a year. Throughout the day the slip and foreshore bustled with activity as we helped our visitors to launch and moor their boats. Thanks are due to those who helped on the foreshore without whose efforts we could not have coped during this busiest period of the week. These included everyone who helped ferry visiting crews back from their moored boats. Llangwm Rowing Club for bringing ashore the multinational crew of one of the more unusual rowing craft using their longboat, and also to the member of Llangwm Boating Club who kindly lent us their moorings to accommodate the visitors during the event.

Towards the close of the arrival day all of our planning and preparation were put well and truly to the test when the evening brought a South Westerly gale with horizontal driving rain (glorious June!) Two sets of soggy oilskins late, and with the help of Dee and Pippa Demengal in a RIB battling the elements to sort out a mooring tangle out on the water, we were at last able to relax until the following morning's High Water and the Skipper's briefing.

The following morning after a good breakfast in our catering tent, the visiting crews assembled in the marquee for the daily Skipper's briefing. The sailing and plans and the weather for the day were discussed, and the foreshore activity centred on ensuring all our visitors got away safely to take part in the day's sailing activities before they became marooned by our fast ebbing tides. Similarly in the evening, foreshore activity centred around ensuring all visiting boats were all safely tucked up on their moorings before crews engaged in the planned evening entertainment and festivities.

This set the pattern for the week, where despite a few days of inclement weather all the visiting crews got out on the water and thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful sailing and scenery of the Cleddau, and the hospitality and welcome they received from one and all. With these daily foreshore duties, and a few unplanned forays out on the water the very busy Seafair Week seemed to pass very quickly.

On the day of departure the foreshore proved equally busy and challenging, but every one of the visitors I spoke to had really enjoyed the week at Llangwm and were very impressed with the friendly welcome and hospitality they had received.

Viv Thomas - Beachmaster

...rocking and rolling

"Seafair Llangwm opened on Thursday 19th June in fine style with entertainment provided by the 'Vagrants Crew' and continued on Friday 20th June with local band 'Symphony Sid' where feet tapped and even danced the night away

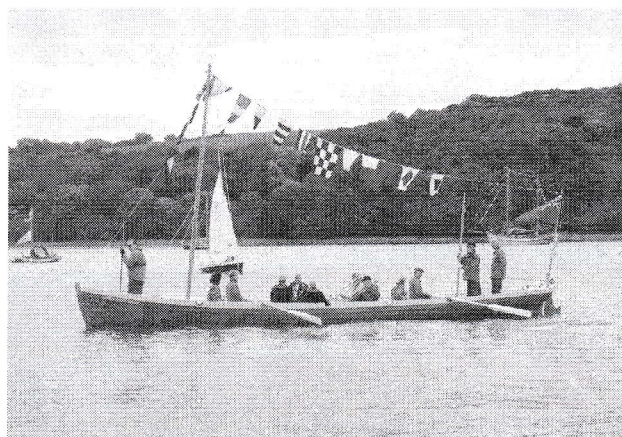


Saturday 21st June saw the welcome return of 'Strumble Head' giving excellent renditions of sea shanties, folk and many favourites for audience participation.

To ring the changes and offer a broad musical experience Monday 23rd June brought us Jazz by the 'Celtic Saints'. A popular choice and once again the marquee was packed.

To end in the style to which we were becoming accustomed the 'Celtic Saints' returned, rowed ashore by the Pembrokeshire Gig for the final party on Tuesday lunchtime. The strains of ragtime from the water approaching Black Tar will be a hard act to follow."

Jacqui Wordsworth - Entertainment



...positively buzzing

"The Seafair Bar was even more popular than in 2006 as bar staff, all volunteers associated with the rugby and cricket clubs, would testify! For four nights and two lunchtimes the marquee was the hot spot of Llangwm and even the downpour of Saturday night did not dampen the buzz. Thanks to all the entertainers (especially Symphony Sid!) for helping to create a great atmosphere and to all visitors and locals for supporting the bar towards such a worthwhile cause."

Owen John - The Bar

(SeaFair continues overleaf.)

...mouthwateringly delicious

"After a welcome drink served by the Seafair Committee members at Black Tar, the task of feeding all the visiting crews and local people began.

A Continental Breakfast was served early every day by members of the Seafair Committee, their cheerful smiles were much appreciated by the crews especially on some very wet mornings!

The evening meals began with a Pig Roast served by the "Three Little Pigs", The Saturday evening was a fantastic fish supper prepared and served by the Rowing Club.

One other evening meal, a Mexican themed menu was



prepared by the Cottage Inn, who also served a Mediterranean barbecue at lunchtime the last day.



I received both written and verbal thankyou's from many of the crews for their excellent hospitality during their stay in Llangwm. We all enjoyed the meals and I would like to thank all the people who helped make it happen, especially Pat Morris who helped keep the supplies coming!"

Christine Jacob - Catering

...environmentally friendly

"It was good to see that everyone cooperated by keeping the SeaFair site generally tidy and rubbish-free.

There was lots of help each day from the various volunteers, for which I was most grateful, and which helped things to run smoothly.



In many ways, I had the best job - as long as I collected the bins and delivered the rubbish to the tip, I was finished for the day by 11am!"

Richard Palmer - 'Environmental Matters'

...cosy and comfy (!)

"From all the enthusiastic feedback, it is clear to me that the SeaFair campers were warmly appreciative of the camp.

The hot showers were especially praised, (even though the gales occasionally extinguished the burners!) and many thanks are due to Mervyn and Sue Hopkins, who so helpfully supplied their water and electricity.

I couldn't possibly have set up and run the camp without the help of Graham Tucson, David and Gill Bowen, and Patrick Wordsworth, and we couldn't have kept the gateway useable, without the noble efforts of Brian Meopham and his car-parking helpers, and Dorian Davies, who gave us plenty of straw.

Thanks are also due to the team, who did an inch-by-inch clear-up of the field, collecting over ten tent pegs, some of which were found with the help of Fiona Cutting's metal detector.

Finally, many thanks to Mrs Morris for her kindness in letting us use the field, and, last but by no means least, a special thanks to Dick and Penny Palmer for so selflessly taking care of the rubbish - quite a job, every day.

Despite the winds and lashing rain, everyone remained very cheerful and friendly, and only one tent collapsed. The accounts ended up sufficiently 'in the black', for me to think that we ought to go for more luxurious toilets in 2010. Otherwise, I doubt we need to make any changes, except perhaps to use a bit more of the field, if the event continues to grow in fame and popularity, at its present rate.

Tim Cripps - Campsite

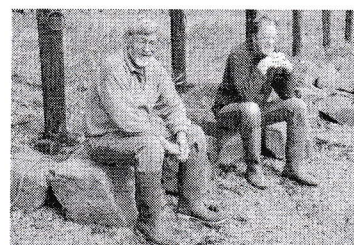
...a balancing act

Let's not forget all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes. SeaFair's resident FCCA, Treasurer Rhiannon Highman, was busy throughout the event, and before and after, in the 'Head-in-Hands Department'!

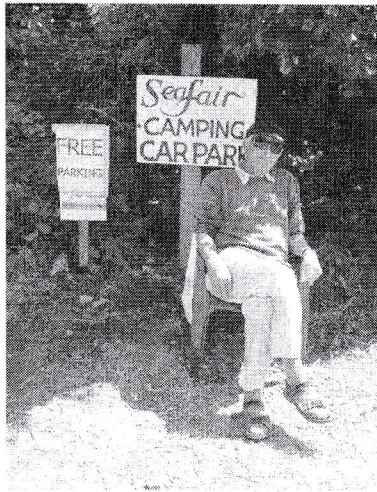
...always helpful

"The SeaFair Committee would like to extend our thanks to all those 30+ volunteers who gave their time and effort to make SeaFair a success. This involved preparing breakfasts; helping organise the launching and mooring of boats; driving the mini-bus; providing teas and coffees; directing traffic and filling the car park etc. Without this support SeaFair would not happen, so a very, very BIG THANK YOU!!

Liz Jones - Volunteers



...neatly parked up



"Past experience has shown that all too easily parking at Black Tar can degenerate into chaos.

For this year's SeaFair a group of volunteers drawn half from the village and half from the Friends of the National Park laboured all week 12 hours a day in shifts of 4 hours to ensure all went well.

Despite the weather, and with the aid of much straw and stone filling, no one stuck in the slurry (not even the visiting classic cars).

Upwards of 200 cars were accommodated with good humour and little profanity, whilst when departing the sailing participants seemed all to be saying "see you in 2010".

Brian Meopham - Car Parking

...but in the end, it was A Walk in the Park!

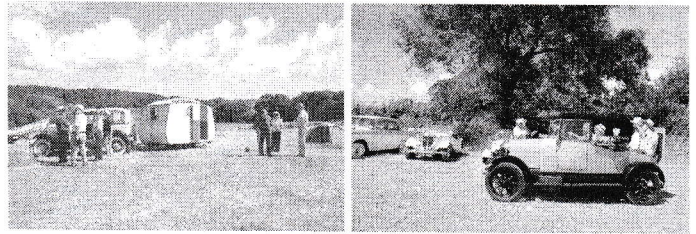
"Part of the SeaFair festival was a village walk led by the two Grahams (Stephens and Brace) and accompanied by resident National Park Ranger, Haydn Garlick.

After two days of rain and strong winds, most SeaFair sailors used the warm sunny day to get on the water, but that didn't stop both Llangwm residents and visitors turning out in good numbers to stroll around the village and learn about its unique history and the importance of the flora and fauna around the estuary shores.

Covering subjects as diverse as Flemish chimneys, salmon fishing and how to recognise otter spraint, the walk also took in the parish church. Thanks must go to the Reverend Jane who gave everyone a guided tour of St Jeromes and explained the importance of the stone tombs of the De la Roche family and the many other historical features which make the church such an important building in the community.

After a delightful few hours which took in the shorelines of Llangwm Ferry, Guilford and the Cunnigar, it was back to Black Tar to take some well earned refreshment in the marquee and reflect on how fortunate we all are to live in such a special place."

Graham Stephens



Not SeaFair campers, but a unique 1939 caravan and a 1920s Bull Nose Morris (complete with scarecrow passengers) visit Black Tar as part of the Vintage Car Club's outing to the Llangwm Festival.



"We had a great time despite the weather. We were astounded by the friendly welcome from you and your neighbours. Please convey our thanks and best wishes.

We'll look forward to seeing you again in 2008."

Graeme Peart ('Paolo de Marco') and Pearson Clarke ('Elizabeth')

I was amazed how many helpers you had (and had to have to keep everything running smoothly as it did) and how they always they had a smile on their face even during the decidedly inclement interludes and for long hours of duty.

I am sure we will be back! Thanks again

John Mason (of 'Dinah')

Muehlenbuschweg 5 A, 41470 Neuss



"Our thanks to Bill, Tim, Ian and the rest of the team for organising such a wonderful event at Black Tar.

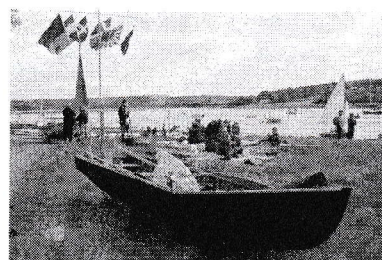
Our best wishes to you all.

Alan & Liz Hollis (of 'JL Seagull'), Vincent House, Fishguard.

"Clearly a lot of behind the scenes work was put in that we do not know about. It was clearly a case of 'Proper Planning and Preparation Preventing Poor Performance'.

Llangwm should feel proud of itself."

Frank and Jan Argall ('Cirrus')



...VILLAGE NEWS...VILLAGE NEWS...VILLAGE NEWS...

Friends of Llangwm School will be holding an **Auction Evening** at the **Rugby Club** on **Thursday 25th September** to start at **7.00pm**.

Offers of lots to be added to the auction will be gratefully received. Everyone is welcome to attend the evening, which promises to be an exciting event!

Please contact Jane Brock at the school if you are able to offer a prize for the auction.

The Post Office and Shop

Llangwm postmistress Pat Morris continues to open the post office counter for many more than her contracted hours, for the benefit of all in the village who use its facilities and those of the village shop.

So far Llangwm has avoided the recent cuts in post office premises, and Pat hopes that will be the situation for a good while in the future. But these are uncertain times - be sure to support Pat and her staff in the village shop as much as you are able.

PILL PARKS

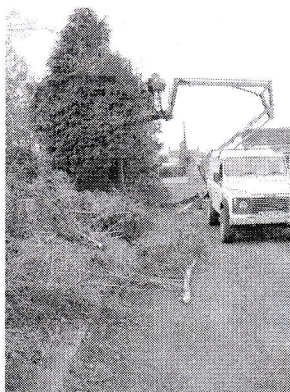
Llangwm's Sports and Recreation Ground Gets a 'Makeover'

Following the great clear up of accumulated litter and debris in May '07 the Pill Parks has been kept clean by a weekly pick-up and emptying of the bins provided by the PPGRG. My thanks to the majority of Pill Park users who use the bins correctly but a request to the minority of dog users who deposit something different to use the proper dog bin at the entrance to the field! An application to Keep Wales Tidy to fund the clear up and carry out a programme of much needed tree maintenance was successful. Following advice from the P.C.C. tree specialist and with the authorisation of the Community Council work began at the end of the '07 cricket season and had been completed by the beginning of the '08 season. The work comprised the removal of 7 dead/dying trees and their replacement with new staked and guarded stock.

For those interested there are 2 new Oaks between the Village Hall and the playground, 3 Mountain Ash between the grandstand and field gate and 2 Scots Pine between there and the cricket nets. Many trees had large branches overhanging the cricket surface, some of which were perceived as dangerous to the public. These were removed and overgrown hedges trimmed. The pervasive blackthorn thicket near the playground which prevented proper access to the official footpath was removed, the long seat rediscovered and the ground reseeded. The bushes threatening to overgrow into the playground itself were cut back. Finally the old floodlighting system, concrete posts and barbed wire between the cricket and new rugby pitches were removed in the public interest.

The Pill Parks recreation ground, being a fantastic asset for our village, looks splendid due to the efforts of those involved with its maintenance.

Owen John PPGRG



Pill Parks Grandstand Redevelopment Group (PPGRG)

Architects, introduced by the Sports Council of Wales, were briefed to investigate a number of proposals for the Grandstand. This extensive work was funded by PPGRG mainly from funds donated by Llangwm SeaFair. The architects presented their plans and estimated costs to the Rugby and Cricket Clubs Management Committee, captains and coaches in September '07.

Both clubs have decided that because major grants are unlikely to be available and loans difficult to obtain, in the present economic climate, the proposed redevelopment cannot be funded. An interim scheme of essential work involving the repair of the leaking roof, replacement of rotten windows, replastering walls and the fitting of a new shower system is being costed and fundraising investigated. The plan for extra changing rooms and possibly a gym is being put on hold until more favourable conditions prevail.

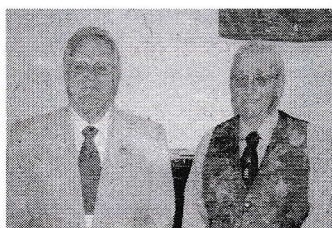
Owen John – Treasurer PPGRG

A Hall that Suits Everyone!

News from the multi-functional Llangwm Community Centre

St. Davids Day seems an age ago, but as the celebration of this important day in the Welsh calendar should not go unrecorded, we begin with a brief report and thanks to those who helped with the St.David's evening in the Village Hall last March.

A group of **Llangwm School junior children** began the evenings' entertainment, singing a mix of traditional, humorous and seasonal songs. The audience particularly liked 'When the month of March comes marching in...' sung to the tune of 'When the Saints'..... With clear singing, where every word could be heard and the choir looking as though they were enjoying themselves as much as the audience, it was a splendid start. A big thank you to all the children and adults involved. Further impressive Llangwm musical talent followed (including some moving renditions of songs from Under Milk Wood) by **Jill Bowen, Derek John and Bobby Richards**, superbly accompanied by **Nigel Thomas**. The whole evening proved very popular and this year demand for tickets exceeded supply!



Use of the Hall has increased and widened this year with **regular classes run by Pembrokeshire College for Quilting, Patchwork and Sugarcraft**, the latter continuing privately into the Summer term due to its popularity. **Ellie Rees** has run several weekly classes and for the **Autumn Term** will do **Tap and Exercise classes** on Monday nights and on Thursdays a **ballet class** for younger children plus a **modern dance class** for teens. **History Club, SeaFair** committee meetings and **Cricket teas** have also been held in the Village Hall as well as **children's parties**. A very successful & interesting evening was held by a **local Hedgehog charity**. Further, the Hall hosted the '**End of Llangwm School**' **disco party** and several **Llangwm Festival** events including the **Posh Frocks ball** - truly a venue suitable for all!!!

The committee are now looking at ways of improving and extending the facilities and because of the expanding use of the Hall and the revenue thus raised the committee have recently been able to employ a cleaner once a month to top up the

necessary post-use cleaning carried out by all those who use/hire the Hall. Some painting/cleaning has also been carried out by the committee, helping to keep this valuable village resource in good condition.



Diary Dates:

Harvest Supper: **Friday 17th October**

Christmas Market with good quality local arts and crafts: **Saturday 29th November**

For classes & meetings held in the Hall: see notices around the village & in the shop.

Hire charges are as follows:

Community group activities: £7.50 per session

Parties: Adult: £35 Children: £20

*Many thanks to Pat in the shop for overseeing all the bookings!

Do you take an active interest in what goes on in your local area?

Do you have computer skills and a knowledge of accounts?

LLANGWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

wishes to appoint a

C L E R K

c£100 per month
(average 12 hours)

If you are interested in applying, please enquire with

Pat Morris at

Llangwm Shop 01437 890128
or ring 01437 891288 (evgs)

LLANGWM METHODIST CHAPEL

Minister: Reverend Alan Jenkins
 Secretary: Mrs Jane Brock
 Treasurer: Mrs Hilary Hitchings

Sunday Services: Every Sunday morning - 11am
 Sunday School: Every Sunday morning - 11am
 Women's Fellowship: Every other Wednesday - 2pm

Sunday 21st September 2008 Harvest Festival Services -

Morning Service 11am Mrs L Hallams
 Evening Service 6pm Reverend Alan Jenkins

Friday 26th Sept 2008 Harvest Supper in Sunday School room at 7pm

Sunday 21st Dec Carol Service—6pm

Dates to be confirmed:

October—Autumn Fayre in Sunday School room

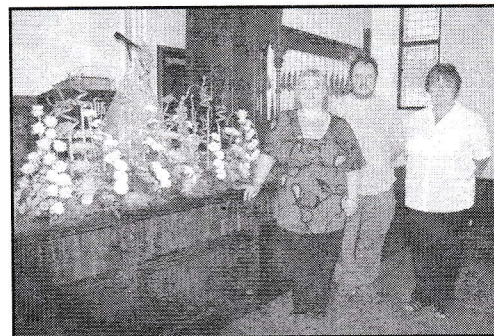
December—Mince pies/coffee and Carols

A warm welcome is extended to all to join us at the above services and events.



Many thanks to the children of Hook and Llangwm Schools who submitted paintings and drawings for the Flower Festival junior art exhibition at Galilee's Flower Festival this summer. They made a bright and colourful display!

"Over the Rainbow" at GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL



Pictured are: Gaynor John Davies with her husband Hayden and her mother Dorothy John of River View. All three worked tirelessly towards the "Rainbow" flower festival at Galilee Baptist Chapel in June this year, along with many helpers from Galilee, family, friends and well-wishers.

The event raised a magnificent sum in the region of £2,000 to be shared by Ward 10, Withybush Hospital, and Portfield Special School.

Looking forward to Harvest at Galilee

Services of traditional worship are held each Sunday morning at 10.30am, with evening services at special times of year also, such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter and on Anniversary dates.

Galilee considers itself fortunate to have a wide variety of visiting ministers and lay preachers who each deliver the Christian message in a unique and different way.

All are welcome - this summer for example the congregation has frequently been joined by holidaymakers from the village and beyond.

Harvest Services 2008 Sunday 28 September at 10.30am and 5.00pm

The **Women's League** welcomes new members for organised talks, outings and times of friendship and fellowship together. Meetings are on alternate Thursdays at 2pm, commencing October.

ST JEROME'S CHURCH, LLANGWM

Weekly Services

Sunday	Holy Eucharist	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	Said Eucharist	9:30 a.m.

Autumn Services

1st Sunday of the Month	Family Worship followed by refreshments	9.00am
28th Sept	Said Eucharist	9.45am
	Patronal Festival	9.00am
	Harvest Praise	6.00pm
26th October	Confirmation Service	

30th November	Advent Service
14th December	Carol Service at Freystrop Church

Other Events

6th Sept	Garden Party at the Rectory (Proceeds split between Ward 10 Withybush Hospital and St Jerome's)
15th November	Christmas Fair in the Village Hall

A warm welcome is extended to all wishing to attend any of the above services and events. Please refer to the church notice board for more details.

St. Jerome's Concerts To Become a Regular Village Event.

Over the last year, St Jerome's Church has hosted a whole series of concerts ranging from Choirs, Jazz, Opera, Gospel music, even a medieval orchestra and the support has been tremendous. We have now raised enough money to fully install the PA and hearing aid loop system, hopefully by Christmas. We'd like to thank everyone who has supported these events.

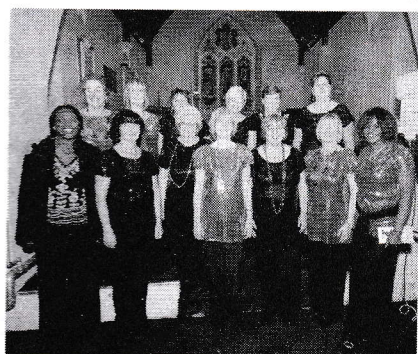
Nevertheless, there is still a lot of work to get done, the heating, electrics and the installation of a proper toilet. With the Reverend Jane's support, we are now planning to make the concerts a regular feature of life in Llangwm and a new series of eight concerts are being planned.

The season kicks off with a concert by the Haverfordwest Ladies Choir on 10th October. Then it is the turn of the Haverfordwest Male Voice Choir to give a special concert to mark Remembrance Day on Friday November 14th.

Once again there are plans to have a very special concert to tie in with the visit of Father Christmas and the lighting up of the Christmas lights in the village. Planning is still underway and we can't reveal what the concert will be yet, so watch out for the posters.

We hope to have a programme outlining details of every one of the eight concerts available by the start of this year's concert season and the good news is that in spite of price rises everywhere, the price of the concert tickets will remain the same as last year.

Once again, thank you for your support and we look forward to greeting you to the next season.



Above: (top) The musicians of *La Volta* - with fascinating medieval instruments, great voices, great costumes, good communication - and a sense of humour.

(below) The *Ely Ladies' Gospel Choir* who also performed this summer at St. Jerome's. A fine sound and a sense of mission.

Links with Lawrenny - and a Visit to the Dockside

Report from Llangwm Local History Society

The Local History Society continued its varied programme of talks and visits this year. Events included a fascinating visit to Milford Museum and a talk by David Lort Phillips on the connection between the Lawrenny Estate and Llangwm. Milford Museum proved to be a real treasure with a wealth of information about this "new town". Along with the Carew Control Tower and the Pembroke Gun Tower, it is a real must to visit to find out more about the history of Pembrokeshire. So often, places on our doorstep are overlooked but prove to be well worth a visit.

David Lort Phillips's talk proved very popular, especially as he brought along some very interesting documents and photographs concerning properties in Llangwm. He also learned a great deal from those attending and has agreed to pay us a return visit in the future.

Exhibition Plan

The Society is hoping to put on a joint exhibition with the Pembrokeshire Museums Service next year to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Llangwm Festival. The emphasis of the exhibition will be on the uniqueness of Llangwm and will include areas such as fishing, the Llangwm fisherwomen as well as many other topics. The Society has already been able to increase its archive with this exhibition in mind and has some new material which should interest everyone. We are always looking for further material and would like to be able to copy any photographs or documents which you may have. Please contact one of the following if you would be able to help in this way: Jane Mills 890147, Christine Jacob 899350 or Liz Jones 891706. We will also be holding sessions in the Village Hall when you can bring along any material and it can be scanned and copied on the spot. We are hoping to make this an exhibition to be proud of and would welcome any input you can make at our meetings.

Can anyone help with information about William Alec Evans?

The History Society has been contacted by his daughter Glenna asking if we could help trace any contact he had with either the Methodist Chapel or Galilee Chapel. He came to Llangwm from Merthyr Tydfil in 1927 to work in Hook Colliery, where his two uncles were working. Having married in Merthyr, he returned to live in the shack/bungalow at the top of Vinegar Hill and was a lay preacher in one of the chapels. He left approximately 15 years later to work in Big Pit. If anyone has any information about him, we would be grateful if you would contact us so that we can pass it on to his daughter.

Jane Mills

Schooldays are the happiest days...

LLANGWM VC SCHOOL NEWS

School Sports

Our School Sports was held on Tuesday 24th June at our school field. The day was packed with fun and competition between the two teams, Skomer and Caldey. The 'James Brock Cup' was presented by Mr Kevin Brock this year to the winning team - Caldey.

Shades for a Day

The children supported the above event on Wednesday 18th June. They wore their sunglasses and paid £1 towards the charity. This charity event highlights how important it is to protect our eyes against ultra-violet radiation and hopefully by wearing sunglasses will prevent a range of visual impairments in later life.

Summer Concerts

After the success of our two Summer Concerts in 2007, we again this year held Summer Concerts for both infants and juniors. It provided an opportunity for the children to perform musical items they have been working on this year. Both concerts were held on 10th July. The Infant Concert was performed in the school hall and the Junior Concert in Llangwm Methodist Chapel. Both concerts were well attended and we hope everyone enjoyed listening to the children.

CD Recording

On Friday 20th June we professionally recorded a CD of our favourite songs and instrumental pieces. The CD which is entitled 'Rock Llangwm Rock' is available to purchase at £6.50. Please contact the school office for any further information about ordering.

Friends of Llangwm School Autumn Auction

The Friends of Llangwm School (FOLS) have planned for an Autumn Auction to take place at Llangwm Rugby Club on Thursday 25th September starting at 7.00pm. It is hoped that the evening will be an enjoyable social event and also one that raises funds for additional resources at the school.

At this stage we are looking for offers of interesting items to auction on the evening. If anyone wishes to donate to the evening, please contact the school office.

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

Our traditional Leavers Assembly for our Year 6 children was held on the last day of term, Friday 18th July. The children recalled their memories of their time at school to a packed hall. All Year 6 children were

presented with a certificate for all their contributions to the school and each received a dictionary which had been given to them from the Friends of Llangwm School.

The following received prizes:

Llangwm Community Council Achievement Shield - Hannah White

Hooper Music Cup - Rose Sinclair-James and Fen Smith

Jamie Smith Victor Ludorum - Scott Townley

Natalie Smith Victrix Ludorum - Emily Carrington

Single Wicket Winner - Jamie Rothery

Single Wicket Runner up - Reece Bullock

Dates for Llangwm School

Friday 18 th July 2008	Break up for Summer Holidays
Wed 3 rd September	Autumn term commences
Thurs 25 th September	Harvest Festival - St Jerome's Church
Thurs 25 th September	Friends of Llangwm School Auction at Llangwm Rugby Club - 7.00pm
Friday 3 rd October	Jeans for Genes Day Charity
Monday 27 th October - Friday 31 st October inclusive	Half Term
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need Appeal
Wed 26 th November	Christmas Fayre at School 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Tues 9 th December	Foundation Phase (full-time children)
Wed 10 th December	Christmas Presentation 2.15pm at Llangwm Methodist Chapel
Thurs 11 th December	Key Stage 2 (juniors) Christmas Presentation - 6.30pm at Llangwm Methodist Chapel
Wed 17 th December	Foundation Phase (part-time children)
Thurs 18 th December	Christmas Nativity - 10.50am - refreshments 11.10am - performance at school
Friday 19 th December	Friends of Llangwm School Christmas Raffle draw
Friday 19 th December	Whole school to Torch Theatre to watch Christmas Production of 'Cinderella'
Monday 22 nd December - Friday 2 nd January inclusive	Christmas Carol Service 9.30am at St. Jerome's Church
Monday 5 th January 2009	Break up for Christmas Holidays
	Christmas Holidays
	Children return to school - Spring Term 2009

A New Season in the Garden

Llangwm Gardening Club News 2008

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken!"

(James Dent)

Autumn starts here, and we are all preparing for the "new term" and a new programme of meetings in the Gardening Club. Over the last year the club has had an increase in membership – welcome to all our new members! – and a good range of meetings and events.

We toured National Parks all over the world with Haydn Garlick, National Park Ranger, in October, wandered the Double Walled Garden at the National Botanic Gardens guided by Malcom Berry, Head Gardener in February, and chased Bats and Moths in Pembs with naturalist Peter Brown in March. We decked our gardens with Wickerwork Garden Ornaments after Helen Campbell's talk in April, and were amazed by the secret lives of Cacti and Succulents disclosed by Paul Bond in June.

Our summer bus trip to Cae Hir Gardens near Lampeter really showed us what could be done with a few hilly fields and a boggy stream – a really lovely garden and water garden full of interesting planting and features at every turn. They knew the Garden club had arrived when there was a clap of thunder, lightening, and the heavens opened (having left Llangwm in hot sunshine!). But it soon cleared and we had a lovely day out.



Social events included a really good Christmas Dinner at Lamphey Hall Hotel - with bus transport so we didn't have to worry about driving home after a few glasses of wine! - and a New Year Nibbles and Quiz, with thanks to all who organised the questions and buffet.

The Village Summer Festival events were supported by club members – the "Posh Frock Dance" was almost like a club meeting! And very enjoyable, as well as energetic! The Club had a Plant Sale with the Stalls in the Village Hall which raised over £100 – many thanks to the Club members who donated plants, set up and cleared away, and manned the stall. The Club did not open gardens this year, for various reasons, but over the years the Club has supported other village groups financially, giving a total of £1,500 to the Village School, the Village Hall, the Youth Club and the History Society.



Gardening Club Plant Stall at the Village Hall during the Summer Festival.

A Pumpkin-growing Competition was started by Jane Mills, to be judged in October – in time for Halloween! I don't know how others are faring, but my two plants are taking over the garden!

The year finished with the AGM (short!) and Barbecue (leisurely!). The business reports showed the club was thriving and financially healthy ready for the start of the next year's programme. We were all sorry to see Harry and Jo Parry leaving Llangwm for pastures new in Northamptonshire, where they will enjoy seeing more of their family. Harry was one of the founder members of the Club, and his contribution will be missed greatly.



Harry Parry judged the competition and presented the Joe Neal Cup to winner David Mills for his burgundy leaved Begonia Rex.

"Thank you" to The Cottage Pub staff for supplying the ample and tasty food in pleasant surroundings for the Club Barbeque.

The next Club meeting will be September 1st, 7.30pm at the Cottage Inn, and the programme to Christmas will be :

Sept 1 st 08	Nigel Dix – Mencap Gardens
Oct 6 th	Pumpkin Growing Competition (Heaviest) plus Q&A on Veg Growing
Oct (tbc)	Trip to Westonbirt Arboretum
	Autumn Colours (<i>Sunday-date</i>)
Nov 3 rd	Christmas Decorations from the Garden
Dec 8 th	(tbc) Christmas Dinner

The Gardening Club meets at the Cottage Inn on the first Monday of the month at 7.30 pm, and all are welcome.

Watch Out for Us on TV!!

Several Llangwm people will make an appearance, to a greater or lesser extent, on TV this autumn.

The BBC have been busy filming **Laura Scale**, of Highfields, Nash Road, and her partner Pete who compete in the new series of "**The Restaurant**", a working-reality show which gripped the imagination of thousands of viewers last time round.

The intense and frantic atmosphere of the bustling restaurant kitchen contrasts with our other Llangwm-linked TV show - part of which was actually filmed on the peaceful shore at Llangwm Ferry. In this, photographer **David Wilson** of Williamston Terrace, Llangwm, explains what it means to him to live and work in Pembrokeshire, as part of a BBC2W series on **Wales' secret places**. He will be seen talking to the elderly owner of a cottage which figures in one of his iconic photographs - and also to Llangwm artist (and our own Llangwm News 'Wildlife' columnist) Graham Brace, bringing into focus the constantly changing light and landscape of the Cleddau estuary.

Laura writes...

"Pete and I were lucky enough to be part of this year's "The Restaurant" Series.

Nine couples, with a different restaurant concept, competed to win the ultimate prize of entering into a business partnership with Raymond Blanc.

For us, it was a fantastic opportunity as we were avid watchers of the show last year. We are both keen amateur cooks and love entertaining. We had always toyed with the idea of running our own restaurant so this was the perfect opportunity for us.

Although a truly fantastic experience it was incredibly hard work and tested all our resources! We learnt as much about ourselves and our abilities to cope under immense pressure as we did about running a restaurant. Overall it was truly a unique opportunity though a very steep learning curve!

The show is on BBC and will be screened in September."



David writes:-

"I contributed to a programme a couple of years ago for BBC2W and when they asked if I'd do it again I was more than happy to. This programme is about two parts of Pembrokeshire that maybe not a lot of people in the county or indeed from away know about - the estuary running past Llangwm and the old cottages and derelict farms that dot the landscape particularly in the north of the county.

As a landscape photographer I love photographing these subjects and it was great to be able to make a short programme about them."



Kate Bevan, of 16 Foxhall, Llangwm, has been selected to go on the **OZ Experience**, a trip which is organised by the **Joshua Foundation**. She has to raise £2,600 for this. Kate has to raise £1,300 for the Joshua Foundation and the rest goes to fund the trip to Oz where they will do conservation work organised by CVA, Australia's leading conservation organisation. At the end of the trip they will meet up with other teams and spend a few days in Sydney, during which time they will visit a paediatric oncology unit. You could visit the Joshua Foundation website on www.theozexperience.co.uk. Kate went to Burton and Llangwm schools and is now a member of Thomas Picton School. She is in the lower sixth form studying business and economics and hopes to go on the trip after her exams next year.

SUMMER NATURE NOTES

As many of you will have noticed during the early summer months of April, May and June, the Pill and adjacent shores are pretty much devoid of birdlife.

The last few **teal** and **redshank** had departed to their breeding grounds by the end of the first week of April leaving the entire Pill to three or four non-breeding **mallard** and a few **herring gulls** and **lesser black backed gulls** and the occasional **little egret** and **curlew**.

My first **swallow** sighting of the spring was on 3rd April when one passed our house in the early evening. I don't know if it's my imagination but it seems to me that there are fewer **swallows** and **house martins** around the area this year.

On 9th April Graham Stephens saw an **osprey** up river at Slebech, and Vernon Davies is convinced that one crossed in front of him when he was driving along Nash Lane. After 32 years of living in Llangwm and hours spent scouring the skies and riverbanks during the time when ospreys are in passage in Spring and Autumn I still haven't been lucky enough to see one.

As a consolation though on 17th April I was fortunate enough to see a **red kite** circling trees near the entrance to Clareston Hall, getting much unwelcome attention from a gang of jackdaws. Sue and Mervyn Hopkins also saw it between Moor Farm and Troopers Inn at around the same time.

After an absence of 3 months there were 4 **black headed gulls** and 9 **redshank** around Llangwm Ferry on 30th June. Since then numbers of both have steadily increased and at the time of writing (14th August) there are now a couple of dozen **redshank** and several dozen **black headed gulls** most of which have, by now, moulted their splendid black heads that they have during the breeding season, leaving just a dark 'ear spot'. The **Canada geese** are also back with several skeins flying noisily over our house in the early mornings. **Whimbrel** are also passing through at present.

On the mammal front, in mid-April Graham and Joan Stephens watched a **weasel** hunting among the flowerpots on their patio at Llangwm Ferry. Although this is the smallest of the marten family they are, none the less, ferocious hunters preying on mice, voles, birds (and birds' eggs) as well as prey often much larger than themselves, such as rabbits.

Judging by the amount of spraint found at the three local sprainting points, **otter** activity has been sporadic in the Llangwm area. Between mid-July and mid-August there was no sign of fresh spraint at all.

The wet summer last year and once again this year seem to have taken their toll on the butterfly population and throughout this entire summer I have seen only one **small tortoiseshell butterfly** in our garden and I don't recall seeing one anywhere else. This is alarming as the small tortoiseshell has until recently been one of our most common and familiar butterflies. However, there has been fairly consistent butterfly activity in our garden this year with numerous **orange tips** around in April and May. **Speckled woods** and the three 'browns' (**wall brown**, **hedge brown** and **meadow brown**) appear to have enjoyed the small area of our garden lawn that I left to grow into a 'meadow' this

summer. Dreaded by gardeners, the **large whites** have also been much in evidence. On August 14th there was some respite from the rain, and I was delighted to see that warm sunshine brought at least half a dozen **red admirals** and a couple of **peacock butterflies** to feed on our buddleia bushes.

The meadow experiment in our garden yielded a surprising variety of wild flowers including **chickweed**, **daisy**, **bird's foot trefoil**, **white clover**, **meadow buttercup**, **cat's ear**, **hawkweed**, **red dead-nettle**, **ribwort plantain**, **thistle**, **sorrel**, **common ragwort**, **perforate St. John's-wort** and **self-heal** (which although a real problem when it spreads in lawns is a very attractive flower when allowed to grow to its full height with its intense blue-purple closely packed flower heads).

Please ring me on 891580 or email me on grahambrace@btinternet.com if you have something of interest to report regarding wildlife in and around Llangwm.

50 years ago - in & around Llangwm in 1958

At Llangwm School bazaar, "such was the quality and demand that in a very short time the stalls were emptied and a grand sum collected".

At a cricket match between Hook and Llangwm, Mr Penry Esmond was hit in the eye by a cricket ball and received 9 stitches for the wound.

A piece of a giant cake, cut by Princess Margaret on her tour of Canada, had been sent to Mr Owen Jones of Glanhafan. The 5-tier cake was 18 feet high, weighed 10,000 pounds and was sold for charity.

At the funeral of ex-Welsh Guardsman Aubrey Thomas of Foxhall, there was a "seemingly unending line of cars".

Haverfordwest received 6 inches of rain in August 1958.

"Carry on Sergeant" was showing at the Palace Cinema.

There was a hula hoop competition at a dance in Milford Haven.

A council survey revealed that there were 1690 caravans in Pembrokeshire.

A lorry carrying 16 tons of steel plates, bound for the Esso Refinery, began to run backwards down High Street, Haverfordwest, on a busy Saturday morning. A butcher's van was crushed and the wall of the telephone exchange was cracked, but no-one was hurt.

The Milford Haven Tidal Barrage Bill was introduced into Parliament. The barrage was intended to be sited between Cosheston and Burton.

From "Western Telegraph" July-December 1958

Thanks to Nikki Bosworth at the Haverfordwest Records Office for the above.

RUGBY NEWS

At the end of last season Llangwm RFC held its annual dinner/dance at the Cleddau Bridge Hotel which was very well attended and a great night was had by all.

After an excellent meal, guest speaker Bill Carne kept the audience entertained recounting tales of many who were there and giving his toast to Llangwm RFC. He was followed by Chairman Michael John who gave a report of the season and thanked all those who had worked for the club over the year. Phil Sutton (senior coach) and Jeremy Brock (youth coach), also gave their respective reports for the season.

The following awards were then made.....

Youth....

Best forward.....S.Rees

Best Back.....M.Kiff

Brian John award.....N.Proctor

Player of the year.....A.Brock

Dedications shields..A.Brock,J.Brock,L.Brock,J.Venables.

Senior....

Clubman of Year.....Jeremy Brock

Top Try Score.....G.Badham/M.Hughes

Players' Player of the Year....G.Jones

Llangwm RFC would like to thank the Cleddau Bridge Hotel for their hospitality and to guest speaker Bill Carne.

SENIOR

At time of writing, pre-season training has been going well under coach Phil Sutton who is continuing at the club for the coming season. Phil has recently completed the WRU level 3 coaching course which is a very stern test for any coach. Llangwm RFC would like to congratulate Phil on this achievement and look forward to further success on the field this season.

Ian Griffiths is continuing for a second season as 1st team captain and Alistair Platten has taken over the reigns as team manager from Simon Brick. Simon has served the club well during his 3 years in the post and I am sure Alistair will continue the good work, using the experience he has build up over a number of years with the junior section.

YOUTH

The club will once again be fielding a youth team this season and, after the experiences gained last year, will be a much stronger outfit. Last year's team performed admirably during the course of the season despite being of younger average age than any other team in the league.

The club was singled out at the County Youth AGM by the secretary Steve Jones and praised for their efforts and sportsmanship during the season which was endorsed by District Director of Rugby, Kim Norkett.

In fact Llangwm were the first team to complete their fixtures, a feat which some teams did not manage.

Jeremy Brock is to continue as coach but with his assistant Bill Brant moving away, will be looking for a suitable replacement to help coaching.

If anybody is interested in playing or coaching youth rugby please contact the club for more information.

Also, if you wish to support the team, please come along on Saturday afternoons. Fixtures are advertised in local press, in the club and the village shop.

UNDER 16

An addition to the club this year will be an Under 16 team playing in the county league set up last year. This group of boys have been with the club many years, some since starting at the age of 7. They have stayed with the club and with several new additions over the years, have become a very useful side. In fact last year there were notable wins over Neyland, Pembroke and Tenby (twice) and coaches Alan Williams and Martin Hughes should feel confident going into the season as the team should compete well.

As with the youth any new players are welcome and should contact the club if interested.

JUNIOR

This season, the club will once again be fielding teams across a variety of age groups.

The rules have been altered this season to allow tag rugby to be played at under 7 as well as under 8. Tag rugby is enjoyed by all and this is a welcome change allowing more games to be played with the younger children being split to their respective age groups.

The club also intends to field teams at Under 9, Under 10 and Under 14 age groups which is a great achievement for a village club. Please contact the club or your relevant coaches for details of training and matches.

All new players are most welcome to join this flourishing section of the club.

As always any help with the Juniors is appreciated from cooking food to putting out flags as it is always busy on match days with plenty to be done. If you are able to assist in any capacity, please contact the club. Finally a reminder to all sections of the club that membership for the 2008-09 season is due on the 1st September. All members, especially players, are urged to renew their membership at the earliest opportunity. If you wish to become a member, or can help in any way please contact the club for details....01437 890462.

*Michael John
Chairman Llangwm RFC*

The club would once again ask all people associated with sport at Pill Parks to please drive in a reasonable manner. There are residents who need to be considered and also pedestrians walking to and from the field whose safety is paramount. The club appreciates your co-operation.



(Back Row) M John (Chairman), J Venables, A Brock, S. Rees, L Brock, B Carne (Guest), M. Kiff, (Front Row) N. Proctor, Je. Brock, Jo. Brock.



(Back.Row) J.Brock, M.John, B.Carne
(Front.Row).S.Picton,(on behalf of top try scorer), G.Jones.

LLANGWM CRICKET CLUB

**Successes all round - batting, bowling ,
teeing off and putting!**

Llangwm Cricket Club Golf Day held at Milford Haven Golf Club on Friday 25th July was another resounding success with 31 teams of four taking part in a Stableford Competition. The Club would like to thank all the players taking part, the Hole Sponsors, the Main Sponsor – TALBOT TIMBER Ltd - and Milford Haven Golf Club.

The winners were – 1st Chevron, 2nd Ian Smith Builders, 3rd The Plumbers and 4th Cleddau Insurance Ltd.

Congratulations to our 3rd XI who are in the final of the KEN MORRIS MEMORIAL CUP to be held at Narberth Cricket Club on Sunday August 10th. In fact all our teams are doing well in the leagues this year. The Llangwm Cricket Club Dinner will take place later in the year when all the various awards will be made.

Our Youth side (u17s) have also been quite successful in the ORMOND CUP competition reaching the semi-finals this year before losing to Whitland who always have a strong side. In fact we lost to them in the final last year.

Llangwm Junior cricket training nights were re-started this season on Wednesday evenings, 6 - 7pm at Pill Parks to build up teams to enter the County Junior Leagues in the 2009 season. We have always had teams at under 11, under 13 and under 15 in previous years, and the Club intends to do so in future to ensure the continued success at senior Club level. Llangwm School has a great record in the Schools Kwik Cricket competitions and all boys and girls interested in continuing to play cricket are welcome to come. We will need all age-groups next year.

With the Club's quite young 1st XI holding their own in the County 1st Division, the 2nd XI currently in 3rd place in the 4th Division and our 3rd XI topping the sixth Division it is crucial that our village youngsters carry on our tradition of cricket in Llangwm. It has yielded many tremendous County players over the years, none more prestigious than our own Stephen Inward who is currently in Glamorgan's Cricket Academy and part of the England under 16 set up. We're sure there are others in and around our village who can follow him.

Club Junior Cricket Training will start in early April next year with the intention of re-entering the 2009 County Junior Leagues. In the meantime there are indoor Dragon Cricket Coaching Courses (five levels - ages range from 8 to 15 years old) available starting early in October this year. These courses teach all the cricket skills with the higher levels including game strategy and captaincy among their modules. Ring Stuart Beresford on 01437 891500 if you want any more information on either Llangwm Juniors or Dragon Award Cricket Coaching courses.

Dai Davies - Chairman

Books on Sport

Have you noticed the number of celebrity 'autobiographies' that are produced these days? This is obviously big business for publishers. An important part of that business is the sportsperson's account of his/her life and career. The problem with this is that such books are almost never written by the person concerned but by a 'ghost' writer. This presents a real problem because we never know if what is written are the real thoughts of the sportsman/woman or the promptings of the 'ghost' writer to sensationalise events so that more books will be sold.

That having been said, there are a few good reads in this sort of writing. J.P.R. Williams's 'Given the Breaks' provides some interesting insights into the playing days of one of the greatest and certainly, bravest of players to wear the Welsh jersey. Fearless on the field, he is as fearless in print – 'the WRU has consistently been the worst run governing body in the world of rugby'. Those of you with long memories will find it hard to disagree with this statement and many others made in this book. It is a great shame that he could not have been relied upon to write his own book – that was done with the help of Miles Harrison, the Sky commentator.

If you prefer a different shaped ball then Alex Ferguson's 'Managing My Life' is well worth a few hours of your time. It's a fascinating account of his life and times. Here is a very successful man from a working class background who is deeply proud of his origins and has never forgotten where he came from i.e. the tough side of Glasgow.

To finish on a Welsh note Ian Woosnam's not very originally entitled 'Woosie' is worth a look, particularly if you like golf.

If you decide that books like these are for you one thing is certain – you will have plenty to choose from.

Barry Childs



It might not be sport but walking the dog is certainly good exercise! Pets (and their owners) gathered at St Jerome's during Festival Fortnight for a special **Pets Service**, led by Reverend Jane.

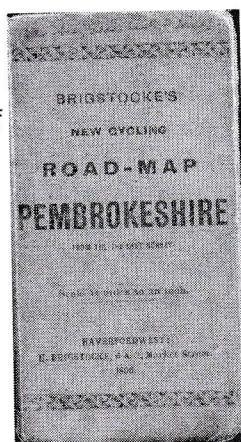
MORE ABOUT OLD 'LANGUM'

Interest continues in the ever-changing village name 'Llangwm' or 'Langum'. Note that the views expressed in the following pages are those of the authors concerned!

After reading Harry Parry's account of the Welsh-derived version in the Easter issue of Llangwm News, Mike Evans of Port Lion contacted us with the following:-

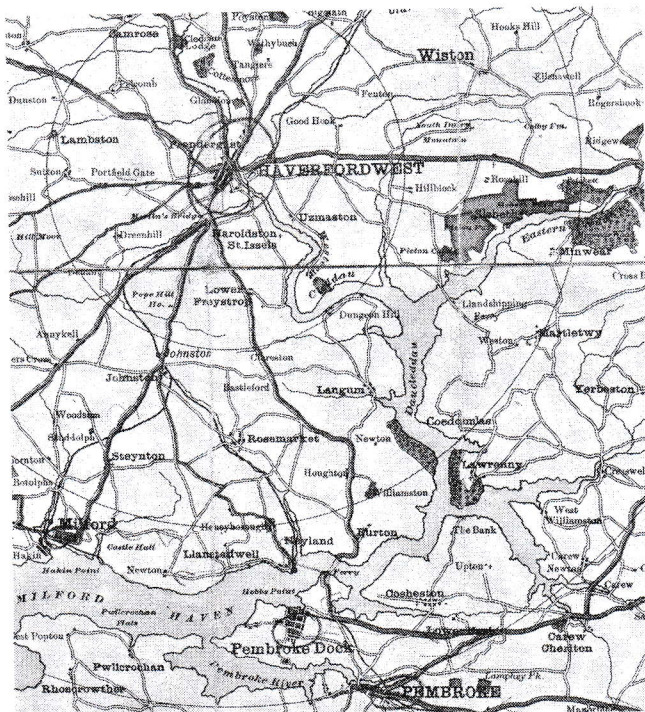
"I noticed with interest the article in the last issue which said that there was a plaque on the school with the spelling of Llangwm as 'Langum'."

Recently, I unearthed an old cycling map of Pembrokeshire dated 1896 - I didn't buy it new!! The map was originally bought from H. Brigstocke of 6/7, Market Street, Haverfordwest, and is titled "Brigstocke's New Cycling Road-Map Pembrokeshire (from the last survey)".



On this map Llangwm is spelt as on the school "Langum".

I thought this may add to the confusion - perhaps Llangwm is only the Politically Correct version."



Editor's Note:-

Thanks to Mike (who originally founded the well known cycling store Mike's Bikes) not only for the variant spelling usage but also for an interesting look at the roads and tracks around the area.

You can see that there was no New Road, Hook, in those days - that opened as late as 1922. Not even a mention of Hook, which was to all intents and purposes cut off from the outside world before that date - well, without a road to Haverfordwest at least.

And we note the spelling of 'Llandshipping' - perhaps a type error? or perhaps Langum's missing 'L'!

4 Kingswear Court
Castle Road
Kingswear
South Devon
TQ6 0DX

26th June 2008

Dear Sir

I was given a copy of the March edition of Llangwm News, by Faye Keppel-Compton of The Cottage, Llangwm Ferry.

Having lived at The Cottage for nine years, I was interested in the speculation about the name of the village.

I have copies of two old maps of Pembrokeshire:-

1. Map by T. Kitchin for Sir Will Owen, Lord Lieutenant for Pembroke (date unknown)
Spelling - LANGHAM

2. 1578 Saxtons
Spelling - LLAUGUNI

While we lived in Llangwm Ferry, the local people all spoke of the village as 'Lang(h)am'

I hope this may be of interest to you.

Yours faithfully

Pamela McKibbin

What's in a name?

In the last issue of Llangwm News, it was suggested that our 'Llangwm' has an origin in the Welsh language, meaning 'a church in a valley'. In Welsh-speaking Wales this may be the case, so although we may never be definitively certain, the Welsh interpretation is improbable, no matter how many times it is repeated.

Not only is 'Langum' set in stone in the late 1800's, but 'Langham' was in use in the mid 1800's, and, more interesting, 'Langholme' is used in the early 1800's. It should be noted that in Welsh-speaking areas, a mono-cultural desert, there is NO alternative spelling.

The balance of probability, therefore, is that our 'Llangwm' does not have a Welsh root, no matter how much the Welsh Assembly would like it so. Our 'Llangwm' has historically had its feet in the sea, and local sailors and seamen will know that every significant navigational feature in the Irish Sea has a Viking name. Skomer, Skokholm, and Milford itself are all consistent, so Langholme being the highest point on the Haven that Viking trading ships could reach at all states of the tide would be very important for the Viking traders. As would, doubtless, a settlement called 'Haverfordwest' have significance as the highest point inland reachable at high tide.

Even a casual glance at a map of Pembrokeshire shows the overwhelming number of Viking names locally, so to suggest that our 'Llangwm', alone in a belt of Viking names and influence, has a Welsh root simply defies not only logic but common sense.

I have found 'West-Viking' by Farley Mowat (ISBN 0-7710-6579-5, Publ. McClelland and Stewart Ltd.) a useful source of information about Viking trading culture, although the book is primarily about the Viking settlement and colonisation of Greenland in an earlier period of global warming about a thousand years ago.

Steve Mantle

...and last but by no means least (and doubtless not the last submission we will have to 'Llangwm News' on the tantalising subject of the name derivation of "Llangwm") here's a veritable thesis on the subject, one for the history buffs, from **Dai Stephens** of Llangwm Ferry and Sussex University.

We look forward to receiving your replies or challenges to any of the 'Llangwm Name' theories submitted in this issue!

The origin of the village name

I have been inspired to write by the recent suggestion in the Llangwm News that the name Llangwm derived from Llan Gerome, thus accounting for the coincidence that the churches in all three Llangwms in Wales have the same dedication. This suggestion is not new, and in his article "Llangwm through the Ages" (1991), W. Grenville Thomas explicitly rejects the possibility. Grenville didn't have access to the web, and spent years following up his historical sources in archives in Aberystwyth, St Davids, and Haverfordwest, not to mention more distant documents in Oxford and London. These days, a few hours spent delving into the web can give us additional information supporting his view.

The other Llangwms

A major source of documentary history is the Book of Llandaff. According to this source, the village of Llangwm (Gwent) was granted to Llandaff in the 9th century, and in 1071-5 land in Llangwm was granted by Caradoc ap Rhiwallon to the church at Llandaff and to the "four saints of Llangwm", Migint, Cinfigg, Huuy and Ereuen. Among the witnesses to this deed was Elinui "monachus de lancum" (monk of Lancum)". This grant has been interpreted to mean that Llangwm (Gwent) was a pre-Norman monastic settlement, that was then integrated into the influence of the church (later cathedral) at Llandaff (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-769-1/ahds/dissemination/pdf/voll6/16_130_133.pdf). Llangwm (Gwent) is made up of two settlements (Llangwm Uchaf and Llangwm Isaf). Although there is evidence that two churches existed in 1119, I have been unable to identify their names at that time. The current church of St. Jerome was not erected until the 13th century. Since Elinui was already living in Lancum in 1075, it seems the village name may predate dedication to the saint. St. Jerome's church in Llangwm, Clwyd, was first dedicated to this saint in 1720. The original church in the village was originally dedicated to Saints Gwnnod and Noethan, the dedication being transferred to the subsequent church. When this subsequent church was restored, the dedication was transferred to St Jerome (<http://people.bath.ac.uk/liskmj/living-spring/sourcearchive/ns1/ns1jcb1.htm>). So in that village, too, the village name precedes the church name. Interestingly, the spelling of the village name has also evolved over time. The foundation charter of Oswestry Hospital in 1210 - 1215 refers to it as 'Langum'. The Norwich Taxation of 1254 has 'Ecc'a de Langun' at a value of £2, while 'Ecclia de Llagwm' is recorded in 1291 at £7 13s 4d.

Our Llangwm

As to our own Llangwm, an obvious possible derivation is "church in the hollow", and that would be consistent with its physical location. Further, Welsh churches frequently had no saintly dedication, so the location could well serve instead of a dedication to specify the church. The dedication to St Jerome dates from only 1786 (<http://www.saintsandstonesriverside.org.uk/stjeromes.html>), the last of the three Llangwms to have its church given the name, and well after the old name of the village had been established. Indeed, the first known appearance of the form "Llangwm" for the village, dates from the Episcopal Register of St Davids in 1489, nearly three hundred years before

the dedication to Jerome. Lewys Dwmm in his Heraldic Visitation of Wales in 1613 also uses the form Llangwm. The name was written by the Rev James Higgon, the rector, in Llangwm church records of 1768, preceding the dedication to St Jerome.

The medieval village appears to have been based on the medieval mesne (land that is granted by a tenant to subtenants instead of being reserved for the tenant's direct exploitation; the opposite of demesne) lordship of Llangwm, a holding of the de Vales until a Roche kinsman, Gilbert de la Roche, acquired it in the late 13th century. The claim in <http://www.saintsandstonesriverside.org.uk/stjeromes.html> that the church was built by the de la Roche family in the 12th century seems unlikely given that Gilbert had not acceded to the lordship at that time. No church was listed in 1291 and the current church seems to have been a new foundation of the early 14th century (<http://www.cambria.org.uk/HLC/milford/area/347.htm>). Thus the village name not only predates the name of the church, but quite possibly the church itself.

Why, then, are the churches in all three Llangwm villages dedicated to St Jerome. The simple answer to that seems to lie in some churchman's sense of order (Holy Orders?). When it came to providing a dedication to Llangwm's un-named church, he simply reached into his register of Welsh churches and pulled out the saint to whom the church of Llangwm Uchaf was dedicated. Our church received a dedication, order was preserved, and the seeds of a 21st century myth sown.

Welshmen and Vikings

So where does the village name come from? One account is that the name derives from Old Norse, implying that Llangwm is an old Viking settlement. George Owen, the 'Pembrokeshire' historian, writing at the turn of the 17th century, spells the name 'Langom' or 'Langome', and the name on the school is 'Langum'. As a boy, I was told by my father that the translation from Old Norse "lang heim" means "long street", which is, of course, until very recently, an excellent description of Llangwm, but also many other villages of the Welsh style. However, a cursory perusal of an Old Norse dictionary suggests that a more accurate translation of "lang heim" might be "a long way to home". Can we imagine some homesick Dane with his mates after a Carlsberg or two, too many in the Viking equivalent of the Rugby club, leaning up against the dark ages equivalent of the Methodist chapel, on the Back, and pining for his home on the Baltic with its flat pack furniture and stainless steel cutlery? Perhaps not.

Llangwm's own historian, W. Grenville Thomas, in his book "The People of the Covenant" (1988), outlines the case proposed by George Owen that the name is derived from the Old Norse "Land heimr" (region of the heath?), and the subsequent view that the name was Welshified during the rectorship of the Welsh-speaking Rev Henry Evans (1901-1919). Grenville Thomas rejected this view, pointing out that the first known occurrence of the spelling Llangwm is found in the church register as early as 1768, well before the date the school was founded, and well before the Rev Evans. Medieval records show the name in various 3- or 4-syllable forms, Landegunnie (1244), Landigan (1287), Landegam (1303) Lantigorn (1376), Landegom (1383)

(Dai Stephens' account continues overleaf.)

(continued from previous page)

and Landegon (1441), abbreviated in Tudor times to two syllables, Langome (1535), and becoming Langom, Landgome or Langoom by 1603, but the origins of these forms, when spelling was not a precise science, remains unknown. Do they reflect the poor attempts of some Norman clerk to render a Welsh or Norse name into French, or an Englishman doing the same thing into English? And what was the medieval Welsh or Norse word he rendered into writing from hearing it spoken by the locals? We will probably never know, but there are clues.

The old Welsh word "llan" did not originally mean church, but rather, a clearing or level space, with no suggestion of any church, or, indeed of any building. It denoted merely the area within which the founder had decided to make his home, and would be demarcated by the customary means of a fosse (ditch) and vallum (rampart), and consecrated by a burial" (Circle and the cross: a study in continuity, vol 2 (1927), page. 83). From the sixth century onwards, Welsh Christianity became overwhelmingly monastic in form, and the word "llan" became associated with the monastic settlements made in the form described, budding off successively from their parent "llan". (Establishments with proper church buildings were given the proper church name, "eglwys"). These monastic settlements often developed subsequently into churches, frequently named after the founding "saint" (see accounts for the other Llangwms, above; Celtic saints were simply holy men, not necessarily miracle workers, or paymasters for the pope of the day). As the community grew around the llan, that, too, adopted the same name. Thus the prefix "llan" may indicate a church based on an original monastic settlement (which would make the foundation of Llangwm sometime in or after the 6th century). Llangwm might then be the monastic settlement in the valley. But what about those strange three- or four-syllabic names from the middle-ages?

Another Speculation

My own pet theory links the name Landigan, the thirteenth century name of the village, to the name Kentigan, or Kentigern (as old Llangwms will know, the name of the steep wood on the opposite bank of the river). "Tigern" is old Welsh for lord or king (see, for instance, the name of the Romano-british king, Vortigern (fawr tigern, great lord)), who in 446, invited a few Saxons to come and help out in keeping the Picts at bay, in return for a bit of land in Lincolnshire; they liked what they saw, and got all their relatives to join them, despite demands that they should go back where they came from.) Similarly, "Kentigern" is old Welsh for chief lord, and the origin of a high-born Celtic boy's name (e.g. St Kentigern (d. 612), the first bishop of Glasgow, grandson of King Lot of Gododdin (in south-east Scotland, the present Lothian, after Lot)). So Kentigan wood, may derive from some important individual's name. (It's not clear to me how "chief" you have to be as a chief lord before you become a prince or a king). In this case, should we be looking to the older use of "llan", perhaps making the origin "llan tigern", or the lord's, or even the king's enclosure? If so, who was this lord, or chief lord, whose estates straddled the Cleddau? And when did he establish his settlement? Of course, even if this account has some validity we don't know if Llangwm's lord was the same as the lord from Kentigan, or perhaps a client. Or perhaps the names date from quite different times. But let's push the speculation even further. Kentigan is adjacent to Coedcanlas, and the claimed origin of Coedcanlas is Cynlas' wood. So perhaps the lord could be Cynlas.

FROM THE RESIGNING EDITOR...

Dear All,

I am sorry to say that pressure of work is forcing me to give up my duties on the editorial team of Llangwm News.

It has been very enjoyable to receive all your reports and photographs, and to put them together over the past few years in what I hope has been a lively newsletter.

It is always the aim to make it as wide-ranging as possible and I hope that as many of you as possible will continue to contribute to and maybe take an even greater part in what is, after all, your unique village newspaper.

We now have a Contact List of over 30 regular writers and contributors, 16 on-foot distributors and various occasional items of interest sent in from readers all over the country!

Margaret Brace

If you are interested in working on or helping with the newsletter, please do get in touch with co-editors Lorraine and Jeff. Basic computer skills are essential but we have all learned 'Microsoft Publisher' software as we have gone along.

Alternatively contact any member of Llangwm Community Council (see above) which funds the newsletter, offering your support. Thanks.

Can you get weaving - on the web?

Llangwm also needs your skills to take over some of the duties from our present webmaster John Ewart, who set up our site (www.llangwm-villages.org.uk) in fine colourful style a couple of years ago.

Basically we need to keep the 'Events' list up to date, and post any new details concerning the Rugby Club, Cricket, and so on. There won't be too much work involved, just some input now and again.

Please get in touch if you have the skills and are sitting back waiting for the opportunity to help your community. Contact one of the editors or anyone on Community Council or ask at Llangwm Shop.



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Deadline for contributions for the next (Dec) issue will be:-
Wednesday 5 November - easy to remember!

Apologies - due to a technical error, the final important paragraphs of Dai Stephens' in-depth look at the derivation of the 'Llangwm' name and history of the area were omitted from the September 2008 issue of 'Llangwm News'. They are given below, continuing from his last paragraph on page 20...

"....let's push the speculation even further. Kentigan is adjacent to Coedcanlas, and the claimed origin of Coedcanlas is Cynlas' wood. So perhaps the lord could be Cynlas.

It couldn't be, could it, that this Cynlas is Cynlas Goch of Rhos, Cynlas the Red, Bloody Cynlas, Cynlas the Butcher, who abandoned his wife Gwenhwyfar in favour of his sister-in-law Gwenhwyfach, who had become a nun to avoid Cynlas, and who he dragged from her convent to marry her? Cynlas, who in 520 became King of what later became Powys. Cynlas, one of the five major British kings, named by St Gildas in 546 as the five tyrants for diverting their energies away from fighting the heathen Saxons into petty feuding. Cynlas who was forced to take up battle with his nephew who was so outraged by Cynlas' actions as King that he raised an army against him. That really would be something. That really would be a chief lord. Indeed, maybe even THE chief lord, for Cynlas is thought by some to be the birth name of the chief who later came to be called The Bear. And for those of you who don't know who The Bear was, you might recognize him by his more familiar name. Arthur. You know the one! Married to Guinevere. The one with the round table and all those knights. Now what could he have been doing having a wood named after him across the other side?

Well, the Mabinogion, the collection of tales from Arthurian

legend, has Arthur entering the Cleddau in pursuit of the Twrch Trwyth, a magic boar, and his seven piglets, who caused havoc in Dyfed after landing in Porth Cleis. Although the Mabinogion portrays the Twrch Trwyth as a mythical creature, it is clearly a poetic caricature of a powerful and vicious invading force, possibly Irish, which Arthur pursued in several battles across Pembrokeshire. Following a skirmish near St Davids, the Twrch Trwyth fled south and into Milford Haven. Arthur pursued them up (along the banks of?) the Cleddau, overtaking him at Canaston Bridge, as the Twrch Trwyth was destroying cattle. The Twrch fled further, up into the Presellis. The British warriors drew themselves up on the banks of the Nevern, and met with the Twrch Trwyth close to Preselli Top, where several of Arthur's men were killed. Some memories of these events are, perhaps, retained in the names of the nearby prominence, Moel Dyrch, and the neighbouring farm, Tre Dyrch. Arthur regrouped and the pursuit went on via Cardigan, down to Loughor, on the Carmarthenshire-Glamorgan boundary, up into the Black Mountains, and down to Chepstow, before the boar was eventually driven into the Severn, only to reappear briefly in Cornwall before being driven into the sea and disappearing. Is there some ancient memory of the part of the chase along the Cleddau to be found in the names Coedcanlas and Kentigan?"

Dai Stephens