



# Llangwm Village News

**ISSUE 37**  
**May 2012**

**SPONSORED BY LLANGWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
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# Llangwm Gardening Club

By Maureen John

**Can you remember your very first garden? Perhaps it was a corner of your parents or grandparents garden, or a school garden maybe – even a pot or window box. Whatever it may have been, hopefully it sparked an interest in growing things that you may still have, as I do. My first patch was a small border above a lower back yard – (our terraced house was on a slope, and the back was split into two levels). I planted some nasturtiums and as they grew they fell like an orange waterfall down over the grey stones – a blaze of sunshine in the shady yard!**

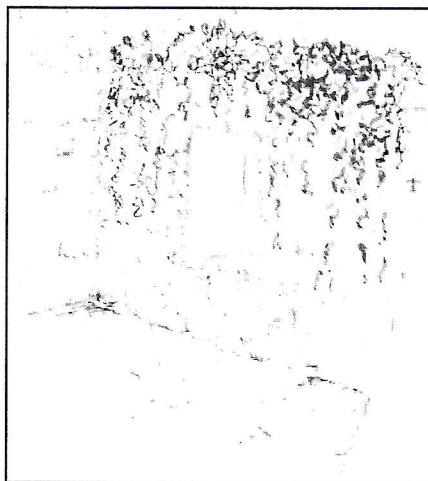
I've always remembered it because I haven't been able to grow nasturtiums so well ever since – that bit of coal-dusty soil must have been just to their liking!

Another gardening club member said they were given some tomato plants to grow as a youngster, and sowed some marigold seeds all mixed up with them – they all grew prolifically, and probably clear of whitefly as well, as this mixture is now suggested for 'companion planting'!

I now try and encourage my grandson to enjoy growing things – a giant sunflower, a sprawling pumpkin, and juicy strawberries he can pick without having to ask permission!

The RHS is this year trying to get the 'growing bug' to children – mainly through schools, but also through community schemes and parents (and grandparents –who may have more time and patience and forgiveness of mistakes!)

The Gardening Club is encouraging this interest by having a 'Kiddies Corner' stand at the Llangwm Festival Carnival Day, where they can make a small jamjar wormery to watch the work the worms do in mixing up the layers of soil, so see you there!



worked hard with Madeline on the Programme.

We have had a good mixture of meetings this year, starting with our New Year Quiz and Nibbles in **January**.

In **February** advice on **Propagation Techniques** from Paul of Lydstep Nurseries – useful tips from a professional.



Since Christmas we have lost two friends of the Gardening Club – Graham Tuson and Stella Stroud. We miss them both, and our thoughts have been with their loved ones left behind. I would like to offer them any support we can give from all the club members. Graham was a keen musician and boat man, and Stella brought a breath of fresh air to the Committee, and

Our **March** meeting was an illustrated talk on **Ethiopia**, given by Madeline Tasker, one of our club members who had visited some family working there. It was a real insight into the country and local people, from a very personal point of view rather than TV programmes.



April saw lighter evenings, - we had a **"Foray along the Hedgrows"** with medical herbalist Lara Bernays, who works as a herbal practitioner in Newport, north of the county. Coming back, armed with new knowledge and lots of samples, Lara helped us make a hair tonic/ conditioner from nettles and cider vinegar – I have yet to use mine, but have every faith it will do what it says on the bottle!

The rest of the **Summer Programme** is as follows :

**May 18<sup>th</sup> (Sat)**

Plant Sale – see posters in the village

**June 11<sup>th</sup>**

Debbie Drewett, Manager of Stackpole Walled Gardens (Mencap)

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

AGM & BBQ

**August**

Summer Break

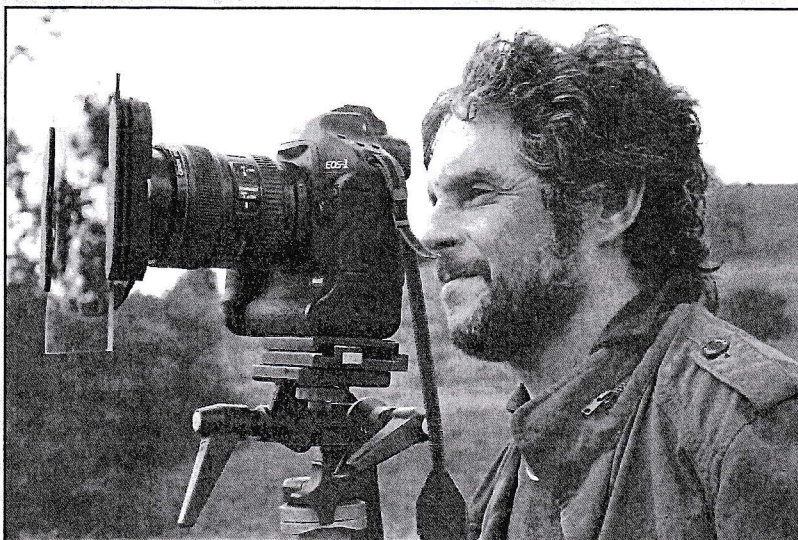
**Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>**

New Season begins

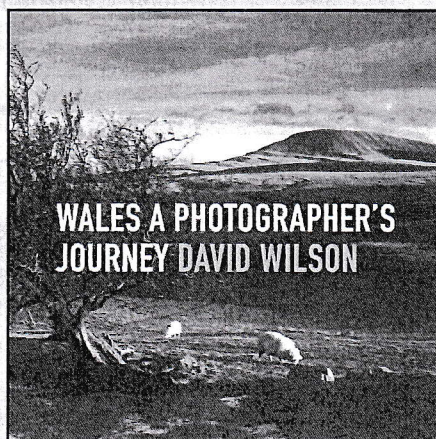
The Llangwm Gardening Club meets in **The Cottage Inn in Llangwm, at 7.30pm**, on the first Monday of the month.

All are welcome, not only Llangwm residents, but all the local area - come and join us if you like gardens and gardening and a sociable evening.

## Llangwm Photographer Launches New Book



Llangwm based photographer David Wilson will be launching his new book 'Wales: A Photographer's Journey' in July and to celebrate he will be holding a special book signing at the Cottage Inn in Llangwm.



Containing over 150 photographs of the Welsh landscape, this latest publication follows on from the success of his first book 'Pembrokeshire'.

With a foreword by Griff Rhys Jones, the book takes the viewer on a visual journey from Snowdonia in the north to Gower in the south,

Pembrokeshire in the west to the Brecon Beacons in the east and numerous locations in between.

It took eighteen months to compile the photographs and write the accompanying text for the book.

*"We are lucky to live in a stunning country which made photographing it an absolute joy," said David, of Williamston Terrace. "It was a huge challenge but a real pleasure to work on."*

The book signing at the Cottage Inn will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July between 6pm and 9pm. If you would like to reserve a signed copy before the event, please phone David on 01437 890647.

[www.davidwilsonphotography.co.uk](http://www.davidwilsonphotography.co.uk)



# Llangwm Scarecrow Festival 2012



**Yes, it's nearly that time of year again and the Festival Committee have been hard at work liaising with all societies, groups and individuals within the village to bring a Festival week of events that has lots of variety and fun for everyone!**

This year's Festival will start on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June and has a packed programme of events that takes us through the week, culminating with the Llangwm Carnival on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July. Carnival day activities will be held at Pill Parks Sports-field in the afternoon and celebrations will conclude with a family evening, with live music at The Cottage Inn. Summer Teas will be available in the Methodist Chapel every day from noon to 6pm from Monday

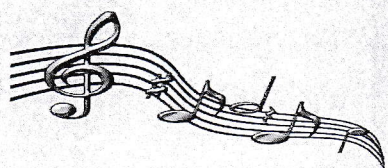
25<sup>th</sup> June, running through the festival celebrations, until Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July.

We hope to see lots of scarecrows displayed around the village again this year. Let your imagination run wild in creating whatever you like! Please put out your scarecrow at the beginning of the festival celebrations (registration will be available at Llangwm shop for just £1). They will be judged during the

week and results will be announced on carnival day.

The scarecrow competition's charm, is that 'anything goes' – topical, humorous or traditional, everything adds to the community spirit that the Village Festival promotes so well.

Festival Committee Scarecrow quiz, available from the shop... on sale soon!



## Village Voices

If you like to sing, please come and join us - whether you consider yourself to have a good voice or not, if you like to sing in the shower, in the car (or even if you just like to mime and listen to the rest of us!). We sing all types of songs such as: The Beatles – Let it Be, Dusty Springfield – Son of a Preacher Man, Abba – Mamma Mia, I know him so well (from Chess)

We are also trying folk songs, traditional Welsh songs and maybe even a little Italian – who knows where the mood takes us! It's quite addictive

once you get started. At the moment we are accompanied by Hilary Anderson who inspires us and aims to keep us in tune.

### **We need new leadership from July!**

We would love to hear from anyone with a musical background who has aspirations to set up a choir/singing group. We already have about 20 members, so the initial recruitment is done. At the moment we only meet once a month but would like to make it more often.

We need someone **inspirational** and a bit musical to sort out the technical things (like notes and keys!).

If you would like to spread some happiness by getting people to sing, this may be your opportunity!

For more information, contact **Cheryl on 01646 603697.**

**Look out for our fundraising activities for SANDS (Stillbirth and Neonatal Deaths Charity) during June.**



# FESTIVAL EVENTS

## Summer teas available at the Methodist chapel throughout the festival

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June - The festival will begin with an evening of live music at The Rugby Club - Details available from The Rugby Club (01437 890462).

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June - The Llangwm Rowing Club have organised a 'Duck race' for family fun in the afternoon. It will take place at the 'sea-wall'/'stepping stones'- Guildford/Rectory Road....details to follow

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July - a Gospel Choir will be performing at St Jerome's Church in the afternoon ...details to follow.

Family pub quiz at 6.30pm at the Cottage Inn - fun for all the family

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Cleddau Reach (Llangwm Base) School Sports at 1.15pm (weather permitting)

An Early Evening Family Walk - an informative guided walk through our beautiful village, and a chance to see the scarecrows ...more details to follow..

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July - Live comedy evening. 'Three Men in a Bow Tie' - performing '*Silly songs and manic monologues*.' at Llangwm Village Hall, 8pm. Tickets available from Pam Hunt or Village Shop.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July - Edwards Pill Little Museum opens. A chance to visit the museum to see the wonders and nostalgia that lie within and this year is the 10th anniversary of the museum opening. Refreshments available with all proceeds donated to local charities. Pat and Jeff ask that all children are accompanied by an adult to this event:

The book launch of 'Miss Daisy' at the Cottage Inn .... details to follow.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July—Friends of Cleddau Reach School Car Boot Sale. To be held in the early evening in the school grounds . - Come and grab a bargain or sell your unwanted items.....details to follow

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July CARNIVAL DAY

A traditional village carnival, starting at 2pm at the Pill Parks field with FREE ENTRY.

The carnival will commence with the crowning of the Carnival Queen, Carnival King, Fairy queen, Fairy king and their attendants. There will be a wide variety of stalls, games, raffles, and children's entertainment and much more! - Carnival fun for all ages! Anyone wishing to hold a stall at the carnival - please contact The Festival Committee or Pat at the shop.

There will be a carnival 'fancy dress competition' - Entrants will be viewed and judged on the field. 'Fancy dress' categories are :-  
up to 7 years old  
7 to 11 years old  
11 - 18 years old  
Adults

Also new for 2012 - prizes awarded for 'best decorated' bicycle, pram or scooter!

The Carnival Night concludes the festival with a family evening at The Cottage Inn from 6pm, with a children's disco followed by live band entertainment. A traditional carnival evening celebration with basket meals available.

Information regarding each of the above events will be available nearer the time and may be subject to change. Watch out for posters and leaflets!

Join in the 2012 Festival Fun!

## Newsletter News

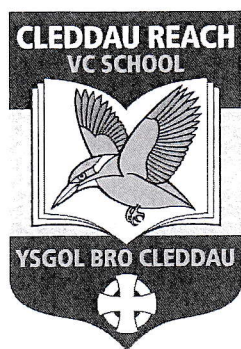
If you enjoy reading the Llangwm Newsletter and would like it to continue, would you consider taking over the role of editors? Lorraine is unable to continue due to other commitments and Janice is restarting her graphic design business, Direct Design, in Llangwm, offering quality design at affordable prices to local businesses and organizations.

We hope that there are other people in the village who have the time and inclination to carry on this publication and are willing to step into our shoes. It would be very sad if this were to be the last edition of the Llangwm Newsletter.

Anyone interested, please contact:

**Lorraine on  
01437 890180  
s.grange201@btinternet.com  
or Janice on  
01437 891209  
janicecasey@hotmail.co.uk**





# Cleddau Reach VC Primary School News

Welcome to the Cleddau Reach VC School section of the newsletter. The children have settled very well into the summer term and there continues to be a positive and hardworking atmosphere within each of our eight classes.

## The New Cleddau Reach School Building

Work on the new Cleddau Reach School building began in November 2011. The contract for the construction of the new school was awarded to Dawnus Construction. It is anticipated that the building will be completed and operational during the spring term 2013.

Members of the School Council joined the Working Party of the Governing Body on their recent visit to the construction site. The children and governors were able to meet the site manager and ask a range of questions linked to the timetable for the project. They were also able to view the current work.

## Celebrating and Remembering Llangwm V.C. Primary School 1871-2010

This term the children and staff at the Llangwm Base of the school will be working hard to produce material that records and celebrates the long history of Llangwm VC Primary School. The aim is to create an interactive DVD and to make this available for purchase within the local communities.

The school will be holding an Open Afternoon on Thursday 24th May starting at 1.30pm. During that afternoon we would be delighted to see anybody who would be willing to share their memories of either attending or working in the school. There will be a display of photographs, school log books and other materials linked to the history of Llangwm School. There will also be a cup of tea and a cake for all who attend!

If you are able to attend the afternoon could you please inform the school secretary Mrs. Jane Brock on 01437 890528. If you unable to attend that afternoon but are able to come in on another occasion please let Mrs Brock know so that we can arrange a mutually agreeable time.

If anybody is unable to visit the school but would be willing to write down their memories we would be very pleased to receive them in school.

We are also very keen to discover any early photographs or illustrations of the school. At present we have many photographs from 1960 onwards but I was hoping that there might be some from before that time. If you are able to help please contact the school so that we can make copies.

There are so many characters and stories linked to the history of the school and now, before the move into the new school building, would be a wonderful opportunity to preserve them.

At the school we hope to have gathered all the interviews, photographs and information by the end of June. The aim is to have the interactive Llangwm VC Primary DVD available shortly before the school breaks up for the summer holidays.

## School Council News

The Cleddau Reach School Council has met once every half term to discuss ideas raised in the Class Councils. All meetings have alternated between the Llangwm and Burton Bases. Over the past term the meetings have focused on ideas from the



Pembrokeshire Anti-Bullying Conference and the construction of the new school building. Representatives from the School Council recently attended the Cleddau Reach School Governing Body Meeting to provide School Governors with more detailed information about their recent meetings.

### **Cleddau Reach the First Primary School in Wales to achieve the Healthy Workplace Award**

Cleddau Reach VC Primary School has been congratulated for being the first primary school in Wales to attain the Small Workplace Health Award. The award is given to employers who demonstrate that they invest in the health and safety of their staff, and address particular health issues in the workplace.



Mary Macdonald, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator with the Pembrokeshire Public Health Team, praised the school, saying: "I am proud of the success and achievement gained by the school, which reflects the hard work and dedication to improving the health of the whole school community."

"As you would expect, promoting health, safety and well-being for the children was well established in the school, but now all staff are considering their own

well-being."

She said the assessor for the award was pleased to see how the two primary schools at Llangwm and Burton had worked together to achieve the award, having recently amalgamated to form Cleddau Reach VC Primary School. The assessor said there was comprehensive documentation and clear involvement of all staff in the award, which follows on from their work within the Healthy Schools scheme.

The Small Workplace Health Award is a pilot between Health at Work, the Welsh Government and the Pembrokeshire Healthy School Scheme.

The award is the national mark of quality for health and well-being aimed at organisations employing fewer than 50 people.

### **Fund Raising Activities**

This school year the children, staff and parents on both Bases have undertaken a wide range of activities to raise funds and support the following charities: Children in Need Appeal - £1040.33

Operation Christmas Child - 97 boxes sent for children suffering through war, poverty, natural disaster and disease in Eastern European countries.

Burton Church Collection and Llangwm Church Collection for Withybush Hospital Children's Ward - £102.36

### **Tesco Vouchers**

Cleddau Reach School is collecting Tesco vouchers. There is no limit on the number of vouchers we can collect and there is a wide selection of equipment we can exchange them for. The scheme runs until the end of May. If any community members are able to collect for the school any vouchers will be gratefully received.

### **Sporting Success**

Last term the school competed in the Urdd Pembrokeshire Schools Swimming Gala at Haverfordwest Leisure Centre. The Cleddau Reach team came 2nd out of the eighteen schools competing. Recently the school swimming squad won the boys relay at the Sladen Gala. The picture shows the boys relay team with the silver tray that was presented to them at the gala.



I am also delighted to report that on Friday 4th November the Cleddau Reach football team won the Pembrokeshire Festival Shield at Haverfordwest County Football Club. The team won each of their six matches and have been presented with a trophy and individual medals. The school team progressed to the West Wales finals in Swansea where they won several of their matches.



# 100 years ago

## from the pages of the 'West Wales Guardian'

*22<sup>nd</sup> March 1912*

"Visitors to Llangwm have for many years found great difficulty in obtaining refreshments in the village. To meet this want, on and after 1<sup>st</sup> April next, tea and refreshments will be obtainable at Mrs Palmer's, Holloway House, Llangwm. Charges moderate."

*5<sup>th</sup> April 1912*

"A lecture explaining the National Insurance Scheme was given by Mr Howell James B.A. of Narberth on Saturday night in the National School, Llangwm."

*19<sup>th</sup> April 1912*

"A very pretty wedding was solemnised at Llangwm Church on Saturday morning, when the contracting parties were Mr James Brock, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Brock, and Miss Mary Jane Palmer, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Palmer. The bride was attired in a cream serge costume with a hat, containing a large white feather, to match. The bridesmaids were Miss Martha Brock, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Amy Downing, Pontardulais, cousin of the bride, whilst the best man was Mr Edgar Thomas."

*24 May 1912*

"At last, we are able to announce to the inhabitants of Llangwm and district that enterprising young tradesman, Mr E R Palmer, has opened his new establishment. The stock consists of fancy and general drapery of every description, including casement cloths, towellings, gentlemen's neckwear, etc. Provisions of almost every domestic article can be purchased at extremely moderate prices. We are also informed that one of the leading specialities this splendid shop will be stocked with is a great and varied assortment of footwear including the latest styles in boots, shoes and slippers, straight from the factory."

*Nikki Bosworth (Miss)  
Pembrokeshire Record Office*

## Special Theatre Supper

"Stately as A Galleon"

An Evening with  
Joyce Grenfell

Featuring West End Star  
**Rowena Petty**  
accompanied by  
**Sue Howley**

Friday 12th October at 7.00pm  
In Llangwm Community Centre

Admission (to include supper )  
£10.00 per person

## Calling all Parents

Do you think there should  
be better play park provision  
for older children in  
the village?

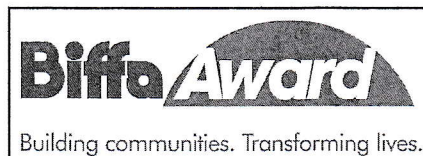
If you are interested in  
creating a parent's group to  
fundraise and organise for  
new play equipment and  
perhaps to start a youth club  
then please contact Janice  
Casey on 01437 891209 or  
email me at  
janicecasey@hotmail.co.uk

## Missing from the Community Centre small plates, dinner plates and saucepans

If you know their  
whereabouts, please tell Pat,  
one of the Committee  
members or return to the Hall.  
Thank you



# Llangwm Community Centre News



## Biffa Award to the Rescue

**Llangwm Community Centre was in the doldrums. The toilets were in a grim state and had not been altered since the 1950s: they were damp and cold. They were formerly public conveniences attached to the Community Centre, and were gifted by Pembrokeshire County Council to the community.**

Conversion to eco-friendly and up to date facilities to include a disabled toilet seemed financially out of reach to the Management Trustees. Until Biffa Award came to the rescue.

Biffa Award is a multi-million pound fund which awards

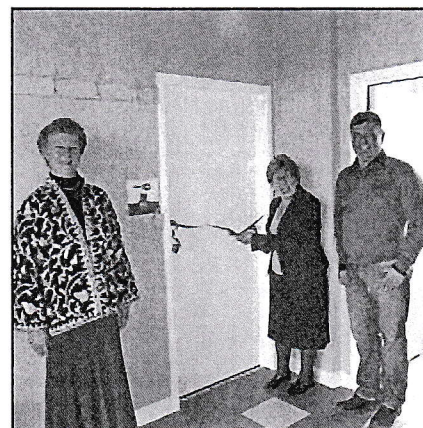
grants to community and environmental projects across the UK – [www.biffa-award.org](http://www.biffa-award.org).

The fund's money comes from landfill tax credits donated by Biffa Waste Services. Biffa Award is managed by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT) on Biffa's behalf.

With the help of local builder, Nicky Hughes from Hook, the area has been transformed.

Mrs. Maureen Kiff, who opened the Community Centre in 1974, cut the ribbon on the new toilets on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

Residents of the village and everyone linked to the project were invited for tea and cakes – a wonderful day of celebration.





# St Jerome's Special Events 2012

Fri 18th May 7.00pm	Coffee Evening	Hi Noon, Deerland
Sun 1st July 6.00pm	The One Voice Gospel Choir— Admission Free	St Jerome's
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> August 1.30pm	Garden Party	The Rectory
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept 4.00pm	Harvest Service and Tea	St Jerome's
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct 7.00pm	Pudding Party	Hook Sports & Social Club
Nov Date TBC	Remembrance Concert The Goodwick Band in aid of The Royal British Legion	St. Jerome's
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 1.30pm	Christmas Bazaar	Hook Sports & Social Club
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm	Christmas Concert Dickens & Dylan with The Lighthouse Theatre Company In association with Night Out	St. Jerome's

We will be hosting a Teddy Bear's Picnic Extravaganza on as part of Llangwm Villages' Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. There will be fun and games for all. A special picnic tea and drinks will be provided for everyone – all diets catered for. SO bring along your Teddy Bear dressed in its "Diamond Jubilee" best! There will be a prize for the best-dressed "Diamond Jubilee" Teddy Bear. It will be held at St Jerome's, starting at 4.00pm until 5.00pm. We hope to see lots of excited Teddy Bear's bringing their owners with them!

Sun 3rd June WORSHIP TIME  
St Jerome's 9.00-10.00am

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> June SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Sun 17<sup>th</sup> June SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Sun 24th June SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Fri 29th June "PIZZA @ JANES"  
5.00 pm - 7.00 pm For YEARS 5,6 & 7

Sat 30th June KRAFTY KIDS  
Village Hall 4.00-5.00pm

Sun 1st July WORSHIP TIME  
St Jerome's 9.00-10.00am

Sun 8th July SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Sun 15th July SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Mon 13th August  
SUNDAY SCHOOL BEACH  
BBQ 11.00 - 1.00pm on  
NOLTON HAVEN BEACH

## CHILDREN'S CALENDAR

Sun 20th May SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Fri 25th May GOD4KIDZ

Sun 27th May SUNDAY SCHOOL  
St Jerome's 9.00am

Fri 1st June GOD4KIDZ - LAST ONE

Sat 2nd June TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC  
EXTRAVAGANZA



# **GALILEE**

## *Baptist Chapel*

Forthcoming events at Galilee include:

**Chapel Anniversary on Sunday, 27 May 2012**  
with Rev William Owen of Fishguard. Services at 10.30am and 5.00pm.

**Sunday School Anniversary on 17 June 2012**  
Services at 10.30am and 5.00pm, with Mr Gareth John of Pembroke and Mrs Melanie Ablitt of Camrose presiding.

Looking further ahead to autumn...

**Harvest Festival services at Galilee will be held on Sunday 23 September at 10.30am and 5.00pm. The visiting minister will be Rev Paul Mercy of Llanddewi Velfrey.**

Alongside these special services, weekly worship is held every Sunday at 10.30am, and the Women's League meets fortnightly on Wednesdays at 2.00pm in the chapel vestry.

# Llangwm

## **Methodist Church**

**MINISTER:** Reverend Alan Jenkins  
**SECRETARY:** Mrs Jane Brock  
**TREASURER:** Mrs Hilary Hitchings

**Sunday Services:**  
Morning 11am  
Sunday School 11am  
Special Services at 11am and 6pm  
Chapel Anniversary,  
Sunday School Anniversary and Harvest Festival

**Sunday School** - please come and join us at 'Sunday School'. Children of all ages welcome. We meet every Sunday morning- 11am - 12noon. We read bible stories, sing, crafts, drama, puzzles & games and colouring, but most of all we have an enjoyable hour and have fun.

**Women's Fellowship:**  
Fortnightly on Wednesdays - 2.00pm

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May**  
Spring Fayre - Sunday School Room 11am - 1pm.  
Stalls include cake, fancy & bric-a-brac, savoury and refreshments served

**Sun 20<sup>th</sup> May**  
Chapel Anniversary Services - 11am and 6pm

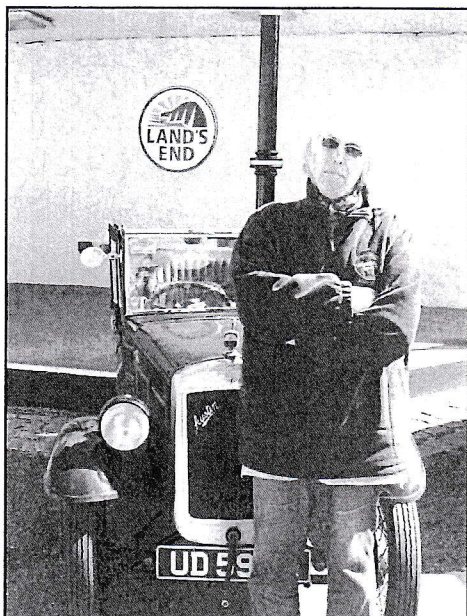
**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> June**  
Morning Service at 11am  
Sunday School Anniversary Evening Service at 6pm - items given by the children and adult choir.

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> June - Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July inclusive**  
12 noon - 6pm daily  
Summer teas served during the Village Festival

**Sun 16<sup>th</sup> September**  
Harvest Festival Services 11am and 6pm

**A VERY WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED  
TO ALL TO JOIN US AT THE ABOVE  
SERVICES AND EVENTS AT ALL TIMES**





**An enormous 'thank you' to everyone who pledged support for Miss Daisy's attempt to drive from John O'Groats to Land's End in aid of the renovation fund for St. Jerome's Church.**

**As many of you know, in spite of several breakdowns, she made it and thanks to your kindness, we received pledges for £650.00 and others have given money since.**

You are also invited to the book signing at The Cottage Inn for **Miss Daisy's Diaries** on Thursday 5th July at 7.00pm.

## **'Thank you' from Pam** (and Miss Daisy)

We left Llangwm on 4th April and gathered with other South Wales cars at Llandeilo before heading north. Within a few hours we hit first sleet and then snow, which packed itself on to the windscreen requiring a number of stops to clear it. We all reached John O'Groats by midday on 7th April and then headed south, arriving in Land's End at 11.30 on 11th April.

Numerous problems arose for all the cars on that trip and two had to drop out because of engine problems. In spite of problems with her cooling fan, requiring it to be disconnected, and a cracked petrol pipe which was dribbling petrol on to a hot exhaust, Miss Daisy made it. As I explained to her the John O'Groats to Land's End bit was all down hill... well, look at all the maps!

The journey home was also not without difficulty. Miss Daisy was now suffering from problems caused by all the vibration - a headlight nearly fell off, the windscreen mounts

shook loose, two plug leads shook loose from the distributor, but the potentially most dangerous was the petrol pump which is bolted to the crank case vibrated loose, allowing six pints of oil to spread itself along the M5.

But we made it home safely to Llangwm at 5.30pm on Friday 13th April. Funnily enough, that morning when I realised the date, I was expecting trouble. I just didn't know what it would be.

Thank you all again for your generosity and finally I have to say that I am so proud of that little car, which was designed just after World War One and had a price tag of just £100.00. She was never designed for a gruelling run, which amounted to driving for nine hours a day for ten days and completing a distance of 1,994 miles. So in reality, she completed the JOGLE twice.





# New Tricks for Old Dogs

Did you see "Britain's Got Talent," with Ashleigh and Pudsey, her dog, doing their routine? Have you ever wondered how to teach your dog to do movements like that? Perhaps you remember Tina and Chandi in 2010 in the same program, or maybe you just want to teach your dog to obey you without pushing, pulling or shouting at him/her and having fun at the same time. If so read on.

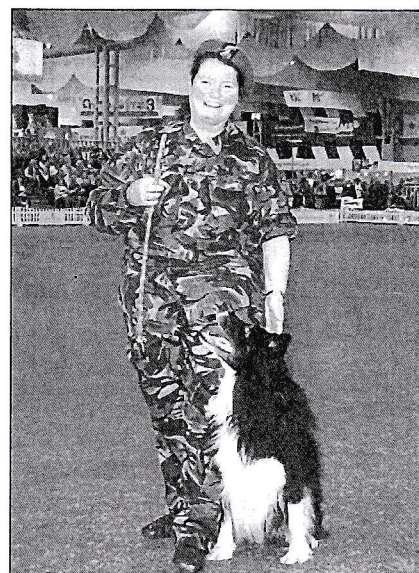
We have an opportunity to have one of the most respected trainers in the country come for a weekend workshop locally. Her name is Lynda Edmondson (dog friendly training.net) She trains people and dogs all over the country, is a judge, does heelwork to music and is an obedience competitor, has competed at Crufts and won her class many times. Victoria Stilwell of 'It's me or the dog' fame, has praised her

on her web site (google Victoria Stilwell or Lynda Edmondson and follow the links). All Lynda's classes are fun and enjoyable for people and dogs alike. Look her up on YouTube to get an idea of what fun this is.

We do not expect our children to read and write without being taught, so why then do we expect our dogs who do not speak our language to understand what it is we want them to do without teaching them?

So, if you would like to know how to set your dog up so he cannot make a mistake and enjoy himself in harmony with you, or do some dancing with him/ her, please let us know.

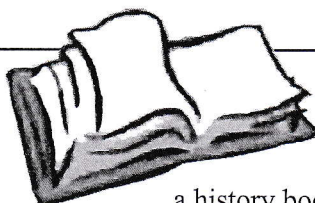
We are hoping to hold a weekend workshop in the autumn,



depending on Lynda's availability and the level of interest. There will be an opportunity to come for either 1 or 2 days and depending on numbers, the cost will be in the region of £50 per day depending on numbers.

Anyone interested, or for further enquiries please telephone Jane Mills on 01437 890147 or Margaret Lewis on 01437 891126.

## Fact and Fiction



In October's edition of the Newsletter I mentioned a history book with a difference – well if you enjoyed that one you will certainly like '**1000 Years of Annoying the French**'. It's informative and funny, in fact very funny. Stephen Clarke takes you from 1066 to the present day and though it is about 650 pages in length don't let that deter you because you will get through it pretty quickly. The throw away details are fascinating such as the one about Mary Queen of Scots who apparently enjoyed golf and is credited with inventing the term 'caddy' – her clubs were carried by the young French sons of noblemen, known as *cadets* which is pronounced 'caddy'. You learn something new every day!

Reginald Hill is up there with the best of modern crime writers. If you like his work then you will be spoilt for choice given that he has written something like thirty books. Among the best are 'On Beulah Height', 'Bones and Silence' and 'The Death of Dalziel'. His most recent book, '**The Woodcutter**', certainly doesn't disappoint and will keep you reading when, perhaps, you should be doing something else!

As the cricket season is getting under way '**My Favourite Cricketer**', a collection of choices from nearly fifty contributors, is a book you can dip into as you please. Each portrait is only about four pages long and there are many obvious inclusions (Garry Sobers, Fred Trueman, David Gower) and some less so. The only disappointment is that there is no Welsh/ Glamorgan player included though there are plenty of candidates – Don Shepherd, Gilbert Parkhouse, Alan Watkins Matthew Maynard, Robert Croft to name but a few.

Finally I'd like to say a big thank you to Lorraine and Janice who have put in considerable time and effort to produce a significant number of Newsletter issues over recent years. They deserve a rest from what is far from the easiest of tasks. Thanks for your patience.

Barry Childs



# LLANGWM RFC

## SENIORS

The season started out with some enthusiasm, and come the end of September, Llangwm's 1 XV's league position was joint second, albeit with three other clubs. Having won three of their first four fixtures it could have been thought that the Wasps were in for a reasonable season, however as the gained wins were against teams who had finished below them the previous season, the position might not give too much optimism for the rest of the season.

Losing the next eight fixtures, the Wasps finished the year fourth from the bottom of the league with only those teams they had beaten in September below them. By the close of the season Llangwm had only managed two further wins, which meant that they finished the

season still fourth from the bottom. This was not from the lack of effort shown by the team management, consisting of Coach Jeremy Brock assisted by Richard Scriven and Scott Gregory.

During the season the club had held a fund raising day and rugby match against a Huw Jones' select XV, to raise funds for the club's nominated charity SANDS. The day proved

highly successful raising over £1,000.

The Second XV although not playing regularly, entered the Junior Union Cup competition, beating Pembroke Dock and Neyland Second teams to get to the semi-final, where they narrowly lost to Pembroke, 24 – 31. Team Manager Julian Platten must have one of the best records at the club with a 66% success rate.



**Llangwm RFC 1<sup>st</sup> XV with Match Shirt Sponsor : Dan Owen & Son.  
Casual Shirt Sponsor : Scott @ Caddies**

## YOUTH

After not having a youth team in 2010/11 and players either playing for other clubs or taking up other interests, a big drive was made to get players together. Clem Meehan became the manager, Alan Williams the coach with Alastair Platten and Aled Morgan assisting whenever possible. The squad was fairly large with older players returning from other clubs such as Milford Haven and Haverfordwest and the U16s stepping up to make up the majority of this seasons youth team.

Pre-season games were arranged and a very promising start was made, when both matches, against St Davids and Pembroke both ended with wins and 50 points being scored by Llangwm Youth, the coaches, manager, players and fans all expected a season to remember.

To keep momentum up, a training session by Jonny Llewellyn with Scarlets personnel was scheduled. On the evening Jonny was unavailable but the Scarlets Academy coach and Daffyd Jones, Welsh International and Scarlets

back row player ran an excellent training session, enjoyed by themselves as much as ourselves. This proved very beneficial with, even more players coming out of the woodwork.

Official league matches began with very close, tightly contested games against Whitland and Pembroke, both ended with losses for Llangwm and big lessons were learnt where discipline was concerned. In the second match our captain, Adam Williams, was disciplined, he received a Yellow and then instantly a red card from a young referee. His actions cost him his season as a ban of 24 weeks was issued to him.

Louis Murphy took on the role as captain, with Ryan John and Josh Morgan filling his boots as the vice captain. Week after week, home and away, Llangwm



**Llangwm Youth with new strip sponsored by:  
TBS Skips-Taj Mahal-The Huntsman-West  
Coast-Dave & Pam Dowling.**



continued to play their league fixtures but were never rewarded with a win for their efforts.

Most games have ended with close scores and a few games slipped out of our grasp due to the bounce of the ball going the opposition's way. The younger players have really developed this season with some exceptional performances by Tom Mehaan, Mike Phillips, Rhys Mason and others in both the youth league and especially in the Griffiths Cup U18s after the Christmas break. Our seasons best performance was against top of the table and league winners Tenby. Both the older and younger players stepped up against a much older, experienced side. Tackling and attacks by both teams was superior to other games played this season, however, Tenby came out on top and won by 30 points.

Several older members of the squad have gone on to represent Llangwm senior and second sides, these include Ryan John, Adam Williams, Josh Morgan, Louis Murphy and Josh Pearson. The younger players have continued to play, ending the season with friendly fixtures against Haverfordwest and a touring side from Bedwas.

A young team have stood their own this season, with a similar will and several new players to get up to the test - a better season is to be looked for by coaches and players alike. The aim is to lick our wounds over the summer and return to Pill Parks around the end of July – beginning of Aug to start our training and the season for 2012/13.

For all information about the rugby club, including details of the Regular Music Nights, please log onto

<http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm/>

## JUNIORS



Congratulations to our recent medal winners

The Junior section of Llangwm Rugby Club began training way back in September this season, and we kicked off the season with a very successful 'Welcome Day'. The Welcome Day was an opportunity to have some fun whilst introducing the game to new players. 'Cleverly' we managed to choose the same day as Wales were playing an all important match in the World Cup in New Zealand. However with a good radio reception and a supply of drinks, crisps and sweets, (and a few wet sponges) we managed to keep everyones attention.

There was a lot of excitement surrounding this season, as thanks to very generous sponsorship from many local businesses (most either based in Llangwm or with Llangwm connections) we managed to supply all our teams with a new set of shirts. We are also fortunate to have a number of new coaches stepping forward to help out. We started the season with at least two coaches at each age group, and with a few more volunteers to undertake the coaching course we hope this will continue into next season.

We currently have 5 junior sides playing. The under 9s, 10s and 11s play tackle rugby and the under 7s and 8s play tag rugby. All sides got off to an enthusiastic and successful start to the season, and have continued to grow in confidence with each game. Highlights of the season included very successful away trips to both Pembroke Dock and Narberth. Details of all our matches can be seen on the minis section of the Llangwm RFC webpage on [www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm).

The junior section relies heavily on the enthusiasm and support of the parents and also a group of dedicated coaches

who supply seemingly unlimited levels of encouragement and patience to all the children. We are also supported by some local teenagers who regularly help out. A junior committee meets once a month to try and help organise the section and more volunteers are always welcome.

Various events take place throughout the year, including a Halloween party, a children's Christmas party, and the all important presentation evening on the 4<sup>th</sup> May. This presentation evening we had a guest appearance from Wales' Triple Crown. All teams will also be attending a rugby festival in Kidwelly in mid May.

Matches generally take place in Llangwm at 11am on Sunday mornings and on most occasions teas, coffees bacon rolls and the obligatory raffle tickets are available. There is often a small but vocal group of parents and family providing encouragement and support to the children. All positive support for our teams is very welcome. We currently have around 70 children who are registered to play for Llangwm junior section. Training takes place on Wednesday evening weather permitting.

In addition to our current age groups, next year we will also be running an under 12s team, so any children between the ages of 6 and 12 regardless of previous rugby experience are more than welcome to join the junior section and help Llangwm junior rugby section to continue to grow.

*The editors apologise to Joseph Kiff for the omission of his name as contributor of the rugby photos in the last edition of the newsletter.*





# Winter & Spring Nature Notes

Since I last wrote at the end of October 2011, Llangwm

Pill has been occupied or visited regularly by the usual species of waterbirds including teal, mallard, shelduck, wigeon, Canada geese, little grebe, dunlin, redshank, curlew, greenshank, black tailed godwits, lapwing, snipe, heron, little egret and our resident mute swans.

Although numbers varied over the winter months, some species were present in larger numbers than usual. Teal peaked at c.150, lapwing at c.350 and dunlin at c.150. Redshank numbered around 40 birds. These numbers varied depending on conditions of tide and weather.

Apart from our two mute swans, two mallard drakes, a single shelduck and a few gulls, all had departed by 5<sup>th</sup> April rendering the Pill virtually devoid of birdlife...until the redshank and black headed gulls return again at the end of July into August.

Noticeable by its absence last winter was the spotted redshank which had overwintered in Llangwm for seven consecutive years. Presumably it has migrated to that great estuary in the sky!

Despite the general mildness of the weather throughout the winter the feeders in the garden continually attracted a variety of birds, most commonly chaffinches and goldfinches on the nyjer seeds. We also had visits from great spotted woodpeckers and nuthatches most days who, along with various members of the tit family, made short work of the nuts. Unfortunately, we did not see any siskins or bramblings at all throughout the winter. The blackthorn and hawthorn berry crop was rapidly decimated by an influx of redwings and occasional fieldfares during November.

Notable sightings over the winter months included:-

- A female black redstart at Llangwm Ferry on 26<sup>th</sup> November
  - A fine goshawk skirting the top edge of Benton Woods on 30<sup>th</sup> November.
- Another goshawk (or maybe the same bird) was seen flying along the tideline at Llangwm Ferry on 9<sup>th</sup> January spooking all the lapwing into the air. Someone described the goshawk as resembling a

sparrowhawk that has been on a course of steroids!

- A black necked grebe off Llangwm Ferry on 28<sup>th</sup> December
- A whooper swan flying downstream on 28<sup>th</sup> January
- 3 Slavonian grebes off Llangwm Ferry on 2<sup>nd</sup> February
- A merlin on the Cunnigar on 3<sup>rd</sup> February

I was pleased to see two yellowhammers in the lane to Ashdale House on 5<sup>th</sup> February. These lovely, once common buntings are now rarely seen or heard, their numbers having been decimated by radical changes in agricultural and hedge clearance and topping. Their distinctive call resembling the phrase "a little bit of bread and no cheese" was synonymous with country lanes when I was a youngster.

- Ospreys have already been sighted in the vicinity of Sprinkle Pill. Are they just passing through or are they going to stick around all summer, as they did last year? The burning question is...will they eventually decide to nest and breed? Wouldn't that be just marvellous?

Very cold weather in mainland Europe caused a huge influx of starlings into Britain in early February. Over a period of a couple of weeks, a flock numbering a few thousand birds used the trees surrounding the Old Rectory for roosting. Sitting at my desk near the window I was treated to some spectacular aerial displays during the half hour or so at dusk before they settled down for the night. One evening, they settled in the trees surrounding our garden for 15 minutes or so. What a sight! All the trees were completely encrusted with what appeared to be sinister black fruit. Their collective chattering created an amazing sound...more a cacophony than a "murmuration" (the collective term for starlings). As the month progressed they moved on and their numbers dwindled.

A rather intriguing incident took place on or around 7<sup>th</sup> February... "The Mystery of the Headless Swan"! I found the headless and neckless carcass of a young mute swan early one morning on the Guildford shore of the Pill. Its demise had been very recent but despite the body, loose feathers and a trail of blood, the head (presumably still attached to the neck) was nowhere to be seen. Who or what had perpetrated this dastardly deed...a fox, possibly? Or could it have been one, or both, of our

resident swans who are very, very territorial? They have been seen mercilessly attacking unsuspecting intruders in the past. Anyway, in the absence of witnesses or damning evidence we have to be content with an open verdict on this one.

The rookery at the Mill has significantly fewer nests this year. I counted 45 as opposed to 70+ last year. We initially had 12 nests built in the trees surrounding our garden. However, excessive wind and rain in April has reduced this number to 8.

The unusually warm March resulted in spring arriving very early with horse chestnut buds breaking on 13<sup>th</sup> March, sycamore buds on 21<sup>st</sup> March. I saw my first bluebell in flower in Port Lion on 18<sup>th</sup> March and more bluebells, cow parsley and alexanders in flower along the lane to Edwards Pill on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. I heard my first chiffchaff singing near Dumbledale on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Small tortoiseshell, peacock and common blue butterflies were evident in our garden between 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March together with numerous ladybirds on the dry buddleia flower spikes. During this last week or so I have seen several orange-tip and small white butterflies on the wing. Bumblebees were also about in the garden as early as the second week of March.

Then everything went haywire! April turned very cold, wet and often windy with several morning frosts down here at the bottom of the village. Spring seemed to come to an abrupt halt and everything slowed down, particularly leaf growth on trees. As I write this on May 5<sup>th</sup> there are still many trees, particularly ash and oak, that are barely showing any signs of their buds breaking. I saw my first swallow of the year on 14<sup>th</sup> April (late by normal standards) and it is only now that they and their house martin cousins are beginning to arrive in significant numbers.

The way things are weatherwise at present, we had all best heed the advice: "ne'er cast a clout 'til May is out"! I'm never sure if the old wives are referring to the hawthorn blossom or the month of May.

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