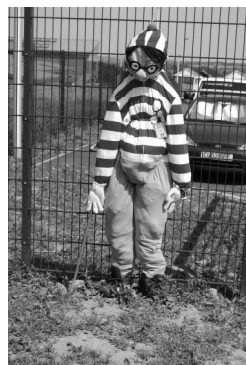


# LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 38 November 2013

## 2013 - an epic year for Llangwm!



Thriving societies, new groups, summer  
scarecrows, live music events, history projects  
- and the brand new Cleddau Reach School

## Good news for the Village Hall...

**We now have 80 smart blue and very comfortable chairs. Anyone who has spent more than an hour sitting on the 'old plastic' ones will agree these are a great improvement. However the committee are very protective and not allowing their new chairs to venture outside!**

So now we have new toilets AND new chairs! The next stage is to put in an efficient heating system. Since this will be expensive to install, and the cold, damp hall has been a major issue for many years, much consideration is being given to the various types of heating system, their efficiency and running costs. We are seeking lots of advice, quotations etc before applying for a grant. I am sure it will be worth the wait!

Use of the hall has increased with regular use now by the *Village Voices Choir* and most recently a *Parent and Toddler group* has been set up.

In July we were entertained by the very successful and amusing *New Rope String Band* and once again the tickets were a sellout. No-one knew quite what was going to

happen next, it was a performance full of surprises, comedy mixed with musical talent.

I think Llangwm may have been mentioned in their next few shows, with reference to an electrical malfunction-not our fault! As we were plunged into darkness, everyone sat there presuming it was part of the act! Pimms and cucumber sandwiches were served before the performance, particularly appropriate as it was a beautiful summer's evening.

Another sunny summer's day in July, saw tea and scones being served in the hall on Festival day.

The committee plan to continue to provide various performances in the hall, following on from the successful shows so far. Once further refurbishments have been completed, we hope it will provide many more opportunities.

**Full details about hiring the hall for parties, functions, classes etc are available from Pat in the shop. The old chairs can be used outside for functions or borrowed together with crockery, for a donation. A deposit is required.**

*Gail Kelly*

*Llangwm Community Centre*



*(Above and centre) Flashback to this year's annual St David's Day supper, with hosts Val John and Liz Beresford introducing the choir and quiz, after the audience enjoyed a hearty meal of home-made soups, bread and cheeses.*



*(Below) Silent Movie Night in the Village Hall, Feb 2013. History, music, theatre combined. See p.5.*



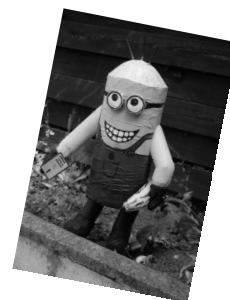
### A note of thanks:-

It has been a real adventure producing this edition of Llangwm News - never knowing which items were going to pop up on my email next! All very interesting to read. There are many past and present reports to catch up with, together with news of future events for all the many societies and groups which give the village its unique character from day to day. Old contacts renewed, and several new correspondents to welcome.

Many thanks to all the contributors who have willingly written and sent in their articles and news items. Also to those who helped with proofreading and design-checking - their prompt help has made the job of assembling the newsletter that much easier. You'll see their names as you read through the newsletter. Many include contact details if you are interested in joining any of the groups. But if you are unable to contact the person you need, or if you are unsure about an event which is mentioned, ring 891580 or email [m.brace@btinternet.com](mailto:m.brace@btinternet.com) and I will try to put you in touch.

*Margaret Brace*

# Wurzel Gummidge has nothing on us...



## LLANGWM FESTIVAL REPORT

We were so lucky with the weather this year - a fine sunny week brought out well over 40 scarecrows, and we had blue sky and brilliant sunshine for Carnival Day. Lots of people, lots of stalls, activities and refreshments made it a fantastic success in the field, followed by an equally enjoyable evening up at the Cottage Inn. Thank you, Matthew, for all your help and support.

Thanks too to all those who worked hard to make it a good Festival Week, making scarecrows, sponsoring and hosting events, catering, compiling quizzes, selling tickets... there is always an endless list of things to do and it is good when people do them with a willing heart. Pat and Jeff James opened the "Museum of Scrimpinology" for a day raising funds for the Festival, and

Sue Howley brought her two choirs together for a Sunday night concert of fine music in the Methodist Chapel. Thank you to the singers of *Cantabile* and *Llangwm Village Voices* and the soloists who took part. You can read about the momentous *Comedy Night* in the Village Hall report (see page 2 opposite).

Congratulations to the winners of this year's prizes, notably Adam Nurse for the *Cat in the Hat* scarecrow (not forgetting the *Fish in the Dish*), and Mandy Davies's *Wallace and Gromit*.

We were all very sorry to hear the sad news that our giant scarecrow maker Shirley Mathias has passed away. Shirley was a dedicated worker and very creative - she once colour-dyed eleven pairs of charity-shop

curtains and sewed them together to make the giant Hagrid's coat. She was always coming up with fantastic ideas for costumes and carnival, and we will all miss her.

Looking towards next year's festival, We have already held an initial meeting of the new committee and have already set a date for the 2014 Llangwm Festival - for the week beginning on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June and ending with Carnival Saturday on 5<sup>th</sup> July. Make a note for next year's calendar now. If you think you can offer help of any kind, please make yourself known to Pat in the Shop, Laurie Kent, Tasmin Nash or Claire Holland.

Watch out soon for details of Christmas fundraising events and raffle.

Pat Morris

## Beautiful Gifts at Early Bird Christmas Fayre

If you are keen to start your Christmas shopping early this year, go along to the **Early Bird Christmas Fayre** being held on **Saturday 9th November from 10am to 2pm** at the **Mission Hall, Hill Mountain**. St Mary's Toddler Group is becoming well known for holding

sales of interesting and exquisite art and crafts. There will be cupcakes on sale and a **'Merry Berry' Bake Off** for youngsters to bring along a festive bake on the day and show off their budding cookery skills.

Anna Wilson

### SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE PROVIDERS THIS CHRISTMAS...



THE COTTAGE INN

Watch for restaurant and opening times

### CHRISTMAS IN THE SHOP

December 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m.  
 December 24<sup>th</sup> 7.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.  
 Christmas Day CLOSED  
 Boxing Day CLOSED  
 December 27<sup>th</sup> 7.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.  
 28<sup>th</sup> normal  
 29<sup>th</sup> normal  
 30<sup>th</sup> normal  
 31<sup>st</sup> 7.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

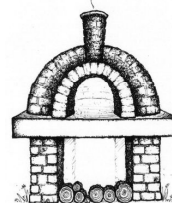
New Year's Day CLOSED

I would like to wish all customers a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Pat Morris

### SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE PROVIDERS THIS CHRISTMAS...

THE COOKHOUSE  
@ 3 MAIN STREET



Scrummy Wood Fired Dinners

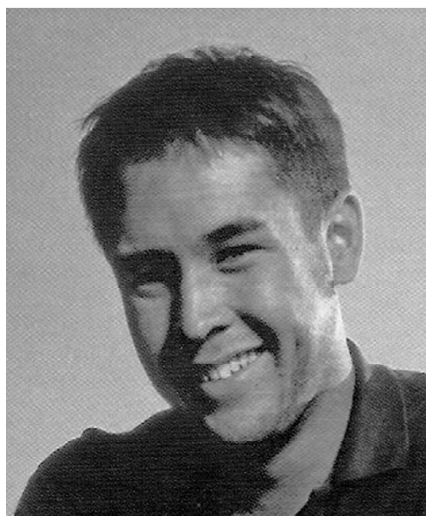
Tel: 01437 899880

## Llangwm & District Gardening Club News

### Growing Your Own

In the Gardening Club I guess most of us grow at least some of our own fruit and vegetables, not to mention flowers, but everywhere you turn nowadays we are being urged to reduce food air miles and try growing our own. Not everyone has the time, space or inclination to enter wholeheartedly into this mantra, but it was nice to see that the Llangwm Allotments association has got off the ground (and into the ground!) this year. Families are rightly interested in how and where their food is grown – how much more local can you get than your own garden! Nothing beats a tomato straight from the greenhouse, warm and sweet, or an apple crisp from the tree.

I recently went to a Grow Your Own Day at the Botanical Gardens of Wales, mainly because the guest speaker was author and broadcaster **James Wong** (Author of "Grow your own Drugs" book and Radio and TV Gardening programme presenter).



A very entertaining speaker, he encouraged us to try alternative fruit and veg – many of which are more suited to our climate than the regular plants we normally grow in

the veg plot – and he certainly inspired most of us to try something different.

He encouraged us to grow what we *liked* to eat, rather than things that we were told to grow by magazines and TV programmes. Although some of the things he suggested sounded slightly exotic, apparently they were commonly grown in Victorian times, but seem to have dropped out of most seed and plant lists nowadays, (still available if you look for them), and widely used in Continental and Asian food. His Welsh grandparents started off his interest in gardening, and being a botanist had a natural interest in plants generally.

The Botanic Gardens will be starting some courses in February next year – various topics and levels, and some held in Pembrokeshire, so get onto their website [www.growingthefuture.co.uk](http://www.growingthefuture.co.uk) to find out more, and also on Facebook.

**The Club Programme** started in September this year with suggestions for using up Surplus Produce – 101 Ways to Use Courgettes!

October's meeting – "Fun with Apples" – was a really informative and entertaining evening, with apple tastings (Guess the Variety), a quiz on apple knowledge (not so easy), and "Identify the Disease" (impossible!) The tie breaker was which team could eat the most apple on a string in 5 minutes – great hilarity, as you can see above!

Next meeting, November 4<sup>th</sup>, has guest speaker Malcolm Berry ( who has worked at the National Botanic Gardens) on "Saving Seeds – Saving Money!"

**Meetings** are held on the 1st Monday of the month (with allowance for Bank Holidays!) at The Cottage Inn, Llangwm, at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

*Maureen John, Chair*



*"First catch your apple..."  
October's meeting of the Gardening Club  
was full of surprises.*

### Future Programme

#### November 4<sup>th</sup>

Saving Seed – Malcolm  
Berry  
ex Botanic Gardens

#### December 2<sup>nd</sup>

Christmas Dinner

#### January 6<sup>th</sup>

Quiz & Nibbles

#### February 3<sup>rd</sup>

Garden Planning

#### March 3<sup>rd</sup>

The Old Fruit Trade of  
Pembrokeshire

#### April 7<sup>th</sup>

Alternative Planting

#### May 5<sup>th</sup>

Garden Treasure Hunt

#### May/June

Plant Sale  
Date & Venue to be  
arranged

#### June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Perennials suited to Pems  
Jennifer Matthews,  
Moorland Cottage Plants

#### July 7<sup>th</sup>

AGM & BBQ

# LLANGWM ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 we finally took over the site on Deerland Rd. There had been six months of site visits, meetings, phone calls and paperwork but we finally signed the lease, thanks to Dave Scoble, Huw Jones, Neil and especially Tim Bullock from the Council.

With the site now ours, the access done, everyone got together one weekend and we were able to start work just after Easter. The first cut was done, the plots marked out and we were ready to start.

It's been a surprisingly hot summer and to see the site go from one large field to an allotment site has been amazing. Sheds have gone up, and everyone has helped and supported each other and we've all made new friends.

A few decided that an allotment wasn't for them, these plots were reallocated

and we no longer have a waiting list. Pupils of Cleddau Reach are due to visit, and together with an abundance of produce it has been a good year on the allotment. Many of us are already reading our seed catalogues ready for next year.

However we finish on a sad note, Shirley Mathias one of our founder members recently passed away. Shirley loved her allotment and in between treatment and hospital visits Shirley was always there, with offers of cups of tea and ice lollies when it was hot. Our thoughts are very much with Dave and the family.

If you would like more information or would like to put your name on the waiting list please contact Kim Sandford on 891127.

*Kim Sandford*



*Setting up the new allotments, April 2013*



## LLANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**"YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU..."**

2014 sees the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War; a war that changed the world for ever. Never before had so many people been involved in a conflict that proved to be a turning point in world history. It claimed the lives of over 16 million across the globe, including 13 young men from Llangwm, and had an impact on the lives of everyone.

The Llangwm Local History Society is planning to commemorate this major event through an audio visual exhibition in the Village Hall in the autumn of 2014 and a series of 5 performances involving the Cleddau Reach School. The basis of both the exhibition and performances of our living history will be stories from families in the village and the impact the War had on those who volunteered, those who fought, died, returned or stayed behind. We aim to make the whole project very personal to Llangwm and not just another exhibition on the First World War. The culmination of the exhibition and performances will be the creation of an iPad Application which would be free to download by schools and/or individuals and will be our lasting legacy. The History Society has applied for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to help finance this project.

Members of the Local History Society are currently conducting research for this project and we would sincerely encourage people to come forward to give us information about their family's involvement in the First World War. For example, did you know that on Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 1916, Llangwm women achieved a major victory as they protested about the high price



of butter, organised a butter boycott, with the result that there was a sensational drop in the price of the commodity.

Anyone who has undertaken family history research may have information, or those who have heard family stories, not just on those who went away to fight, but those who stayed at home to work in vital occupations, such as farming, the mines, dockyards and so on may have stories which could form part of this story. So please contact Jane Mills on 01437 890147, Liz Beresford on 01437 891500, Margaret Brace on 01437 891580 or any member of the committee and help make this a commemoration which will make a lasting legacy for future generations in Llangwm.

*Jane Mills*

### Visits and Talks

As well as history research, which has sent all our committee members scurrying behind the scenes, we have also been holding occasional events which have proved both interesting and entertaining.

In February Jeff James of Edwards Pill engineered (literally) an old-fashioned film night in the village hall, demonstrating arc lighting (though not to be looked at directly!) and other paraphernalia of the silent film era. Highlight was a series of short films made by pioneering cinematographer William Haggar of Pembroke Dock, explained by his great granddaughter Vicky Haggar and accompanied in true 'silent movie mode' by Sue Howley on the piano. Memorable stuff!

In April we visited Dale Airfield courtesy of Yvonne Evans and the Dale history group, to see the famous murals of dog fights and life in the bleak windswept camp of WWII.

Beryl Davies gave an interesting talk in the Village Hall in July on the folk and folk history of Freystrop. And at the time of writing we are looking forward to an after-dinner talk by Chris Rushton, producer/director of Time Team and the recent poignant BBC programme on the Senghenydd Mining Disaster.

*Margaret Brace*

## Cleddau Reach VC Primary School News

We are very pleased to report that the staff and children have settled quickly and well into working at the new school site. The building provides a bright, modern and well equipped learning environment which is motivating for all who work here.

The site was officially handed over to the Local Authority by the contractor on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. This allowed the move from the former school Bases to be completed during the Easter holiday and the new school site to open on the first day of the summer term, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

The hard work and dedication of the staff was vital in ensuring a successful move and a smooth transition for the children into the new site.

The staff have also supported the Headteacher in organising and running Open Evenings for Governors, Parents and members of the local communities. These evenings have been well attended and appreciated by all who came. Many visitors have commented on both the wonderful facilities at the school and the efforts of staff to establish the different learning areas in such a short period of time.



*The new Cleddau Reach VC Primary was officially opened by the Chairman of Pembrokeshire County Council, Councillor Arwyn Williams on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. At present the school has eight classes with 211 children attending Cleddau Reach Primary.*

### **Cleddau Reach VC Retain the Pembrokeshire Primary Schools Cricket Cup**

The Cleddau Reach cricket team enjoyed another very successful season, winning twelve of their thirteen matches. The team were Pembrokeshire champions for the second year running and the



photograph shows the Pembrokeshire Cricket Development Officer Matthew Freeman presenting the Pembrokeshire Schools Cup to the team.

Once again the school were proud to represent Pembrokeshire in the South Wales Finals in Cardiff where they were runners up in their group of five teams.

### **Bishop Wyn Visits Our New School**

We were delighted to welcome the Bishop of St Davids, the Right Reverend Wyn Evans into school on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September.

Bishop Wyn led the school in worship during assembly and spent the rest of the morning visiting each class and viewing the facilities of the new school.

### **Cleddau Reach VC Christmas Market Evening**

The school will be holding a Christmas Market on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November. There will be a large variety of festive stalls, carols and refreshments. The Christmas Market will open at 6pm. We are hoping that Father Christmas will be able to join us in his specially designed Winter Wonderland



## Children Raise Money for Clean Water in Uganda

The children of Cleddau Reach VC Primary School have recently held a sponsored 'Zumbathon' to raise money to provide clean water for villages around Masindi in the African country of Uganda.

A terrific amount of £1423 was raised to support the work of Pembrokeshire Scouts and Hampshire Scouts who visited Masindi in August. The visit further developed links with the area and supported the development of new wells to provide fresh water for local communities.

The fund raising was inspired by an assembly led by school site manager and Pembrokeshire Scout Leader Mr. Steve Richards. He explained to the children about the work undertaken during previous visits by Pembrokeshire Scouts and told the children and staff about the difficulties encountered by a lack of clean drinking water in many villages around Masindi.

The Cleddau Reach children took part in different Zumba Dance workshops to raise funds. The workshops were kindly and enthusiastically led by Mrs Brenta Pearn who is a professional Zumba teacher.

On behalf of the Pembrokeshire and Hampshire Scouts Mr Richards extended many thanks to the

children, parents, staff, families and friends who had supported the tremendous fund raising effort. Mr Nick Groves the Headteacher of Cleddau Reach added that the school was delighted with the response to the fund raising and that Cleddau Reach



was looking forward to developing strong links with local schools around Masindi.

On his return from Uganda Mr Richards explained how the funds raised were being used to provide a clean water well for over two hundred people in Masindi. He thanked the children, staff and parents of Cleddau Reach School saying 'This is a fantastic achievement by everyone at Cleddau Reach and one which they can be very proud of. There is now a slate plaque kindly donated by Paul Owen Williams of St Davids which has been placed near the well.'

## A look at life at Cleddau Reach VC Primary School...



# The Pills are Alive with the Sound of Music...

If you are walking around Llangwm and maybe hear a child humming the tune of 'Another Openin', Another Show', you'll know to blame it on the parents.

Started in 2011 by a group of Llangwm mums, *Village Voices* came to halt when Hilary, who had infected everyone with her enthusiasm found herself sadly unable to commute from Dale every week along with her other numerous commitments although she did lead us through some songs for a garden fete in aid of SANDS at Honey Hook Farm in the summer.

November 2012....Sue Howley rode to the rescue and our feet hit the ground running after that. The first week found a solitary brave man amongst us....Nigel, who was renamed Nigella for the evening but he was soon joined by quite a few other tenors and some bassists. Rumour has it that some of the men do extra practice during the week but a fat lot of good it seems to do them and they get threatened with the naughty step when they misbehave, particularly at full moon.

So if on a Thursday evening between 7pm and 9pm you are passing the village hall and hear singing and raucous behaviour, blame it on our revered and esteemed leader Sue Howley and come and join us. You don't have to have a



fantastic voice, you don't have to be able to read music because Sue emails out MP3 recordings of the soprano, alto, tenor and bass parts. Fees are £1 a week, where else will you get a bargain like that? But you have to pay five weeks in advance. Reasonable we think.

Our first performance was in the Cottage Inn singing carols to customers and where Matthew laid on his usual good grub. We think the singing surprised the doubters. The first proper performance was in the Village Hall for St David's Day Supper. There was a bit of Vivaldi, Karl Jenkins, pieces from musicals (*Les Miserables*, *Cabaret*), *Rhythm of Life* and it finished with *Mae Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau*.

We wore black (after quite some discussion) for the

fundraising concert in St Jerome's in May debuting *Who is Sylvia?*, music by S. Howley, words by a little known writer W. Shakespeare - and then wore more normal clothes for another SANDS garden fete in June on the Rugby Field. July saw us back in black for the concert



with Haverfordwest choir *Cantabile* in the Wesleyan Chapel in July as part of the Llangwm Festival. The season finished with an appearance at the Williamston Nursing



Home Summer Fete in July and restarted with performing at a Sausage and Mash Supper in aid of St Jerome's in the VH in October.

We are currently rehearsing more Vivaldi, some Cole Porter, an excerpt from *The Messiah*, *The Anvil Chorus* and *Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves*. We've also got in our repertoire *Moon River*, *Let it Be* and *Thank you for the Music*.

And just a word to Sue....we are STILL waiting for the long promised *Bohemian Rhapsody*!

Fiona Cutting

## How they used to sing (100 years ago):

"During the ministry of the Rev. D. M. Pryse, the radio had not yet materialised, and the Christmas Night Concerts continued to be a popular and well patronised feature of chapel life. On Christmas Evening 1912, the building filled to capacity long before the time of commencement to savour the bright and lively programme. Under the leadership of Mr. T. Hitchings and with Miss Lavinia Owen as accompanist, the choir performed with great credit. The Male Voice section delivered a very impressive rendering of 'Crossing the Bar', and a succession of songs and solos were sung by the Misses Lavinia Owen, Marion Pryse, Hilda Saies, Ivy Morgan and Gladys Llewellyn.

Taken from "The People of the Covenant", a history of Galilee Baptist Chapel by W.G. Thomas.



## Quality music and drama events are taking place at Llangwm Church...

### A Concert for Remembrance

The Concert for Remembrance in aid of The Royal British Legion returns to Llangwm for its 7<sup>th</sup> year with a special performance by Goodwick Brass Band under the baton of Matthew Jenkins. This year they are joined by soloists Corey Bullock and Louise Hales.

With 2014 marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War 1 and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of World War 2, the concert focuses on those two conflicts and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. This year is also the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the famous Dam Busters raid on the Ruhr Dams and there will be a special performance of Eric Coates's "Dam Busters March" accompanying some remarkable film footage of the training and undertaking of that raid. Llangwm's own Sue Howley has composed a special medley of WW1 songs and it will be premiered by Louise Hales and Corey Bullock. Then those who remember last year's finale can expect something bigger and more amazing this year.

The Concert will be performed at St. Jerome's Church on Friday 8th November at 8.00pm. Tickets are £5.00 and £3.00 for children and can be obtained from Llangwm Village Shop or by calling 01437 899966.



*Goodwick Brass Band have recently been awarded the prestigious title of UK National Champions after an outstanding performance in competition at Cheltenham.*

### A Child's Christmas

*Dylan Thomas and Richard Burton are icons of twentieth century Wales. They produced stories about Christmas in Wales that rival Dickens' short stories about Christmas in nineteenth century England.*

*Dylan Thomas's "A Child's Christmas in Wales" is full of uncles, aunts, family and friends; full of snow, smoke, sea and sand. It has delighted people for decades with its invocation of Christmas' past - a peculiarly Welsh Christmas.*

*"A Christmas Story" by Richard Burton takes us back to a Christmas Eve in the valleys, a Christmas of miners and hardship, but a Christmas of love and joy. A Christmas when the true story of Christmas is brought wonderfully to life.*

*Lighthouse Theatre's adaptation of these two classic Christmas stories is full of humour, warmth and love, and – using their story-telling style - will take you back to a time when Christmas in Wales really was Christmas.... If it ever existed at all...*

*The two stories are enacted by award-winning actors Adrian Metcalfe and Rhodri Miles, and accompanied by the original music of concert pianist Rob Marshall.*

*A Child's Christmas is being performed at St' Jerome's Church on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Tickets are £7.50 (adults) and £3.50 (children), available from Llangwm Shop or by calling 01437 899966 or email [pamela-hunt@btconnect.com](mailto:pamela-hunt@btconnect.com)*

#### Press Reviews

*'Metcalfe makes the characters come alive and bite you on the nose' Camden New Journal*

*'A towering performance by Miles' South Wales Evening Post*

Please attend the **SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE**  
to be held at the Memorial on Llangwm Village Green  
on **SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER at 10.00 a.m.**

2013 marks the 99th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I -  
remembrance becomes more poignant as we approach its centenary in 2014.

## ST. JEROME'S NEWS

It has been quite a while since we have had a village newsletter and it is wonderful it is back. Thank you Margaret.

### ***Cathedral Ordination***

St. Jerome's has celebrated lots of things this year, but I think the biggest event was Reverend Victoria's Ordination on 29th June in St. David's Cathedral. The Cathedral was packed and Reverend Victoria chose to take her vows in Welsh. It was a very joyous occasion, with many supporters there, both family, friends and parishioners. There was a bus organised and it stopped off on the way back for lunch in Newgale.

### ***Fun in the Sun***

In August we held our annual Sunday School Beach barbeque on Nolton Haven beach. This year the weather was kind to us and had great fun building a "volcano" on the

beach. I think Mike enjoyed it the most! There were 30 of us altogether, tucking into hot dogs, pop and cakes!

### ***New Time***

In September we moved the start time of Worship Time to 10 am. It was felt that it gave parents/grandparents that little extra time in the morning. To launch the new time Bacon Butties were served afterwards, which went down extremely well! In October, in theme with Harvest fresh fruit was served as well as biscuits with their refreshments. The new time has been received very well.

### ***Social Evening***

Recently, we held a Sausage & Mash Night in the Village Hall. It was greatly attended with many different types of sausages and mash on offer. To round the evening off we were entertained by the Village Voices choir and a surprise flute soloist, Abi Price, a pupil in Tasker Milward School. All

superbly conducted by Sue Howley.

### ***Remembrance***

Our next event will be the Remembrance Concert, to be held in St. Jerome's Church on Friday 8th November with Goodwick Brass Band once again providing the wonderful music. Please check for details on the posters and as always in the shop and Post Office.

### ***Watch for details***

There will be information on the Church Notice Board giving full details of all the Christmas events at St Jerome's.

### ***Christmas Wishes***

Reverend Jane, Reverend Victoria and everyone from St. Jerome's Church would like to wish everyone a joyous Christmas and peaceful New Year in 2014.

*Debbie Lawson-Earley*

## Llangwm and Freystrop Mothers' Union

Our Mothers' Union branch meets on the first Monday of each month with the exception of Bank Holidays and in August.

We enjoy a variety of activities including inviting guest speakers, having demonstrations, knitting and craft sessions and social evenings. We have a short service at St. Jerome's church, Llangwm, in March and at St. Justinian's church, Freystrop, in September.



In July we have our Mystery tour which culminates in a meal at a restaurant and is an outing enjoyed by members and friends alike. Christmas lunch is also an event to which we look forward.

Anyone wishing to join our branch would be made most welcome.

Please contact Trixie (Treasurer) on 01437 890436, Jane (Secretary) on 01437 891026 or Janet (Meetings Secretary) on 01437 890819 for further details.

*Janet Childs*

## Heritage Llangwm

In 1879 St. Jerome's Church went through a major renovation to make it fit for the future. Sadly in Victorian times heritage was regarded as unnecessary, redolent of a bygone age and with 'modernity' being the name of the game, people should be looking to the future, not the past. So while St. Jerome's became a church to make Victorian Llangwm proud, much of its medieval past was lost. Today we take a different view, to blend our past with our present and future, as that is what we are.

Little was done to the church during the 20<sup>th</sup> century save for the installation of electricity, a central heating system and a lot of patching up to attempt to keep the building dry. That last battle has become a losing one and more drastic action is required. But the funds required today are well beyond the reach of a small community like ours, so the decision was made to approach Heritage Lottery and make a bid for financial support.

There is one small almost forgotten part of Llangwm's past that provides a calling card that will, we hope, appeal to the Heritage Lottery Board and significantly improve our chances for support. That is the story of the Flemish settlers who came here between 1105 and 1150 and made

Llangwm their home. It was Flemish craftsmen who built the present church and they brought with them a language and culture.

So in September we submitted a bid that will provide funds to renovate St. Jerome's Church and improve its facilities. In the bid we've also asked for funds to allow the community to undertake archaeological and documentary research into the lives of the De la Roches, Llangwm's Lords of the manor until the early 15<sup>th</sup> century and of the ordinary Flemish families who also lived here, and with that information gathered to establish a state of art digital exhibition that tells the story of our Flemish past.

It will be a mammoth task and requires development money simply to enable us cost out the whole project, itself hopefully starting in January 2015. The development period will last from January to September 2014, when we bid for the bulk of funds to deliver the project.

We will hear just before Christmas if we are to receive the development funds. Should we get the green light, then the Heritage Llangwm Team will be holding meetings and briefings in the New Year to inform the community what exactly is planned and how they can help when the delivery phase starts in 2015.

Pam Hunt



*Extract from 'Old Haverfordwest' by W.D. Phillips, a collection of articles from the Pembroke County Guardian of 1924/5:-*

### Political Fireworks at Llangwm

From Llangloffan we drove back to Haverfordwest. I attended several other meetings, and one of them I have occasion to particularly well remember. This was at the celebrated village of Llangwm, on the river Cleddy, about six miles from Haverfordwest.

The meeting was an evening one, and in conjunction with Mr. J. Howard Davies, the second son of the Liberal candidate, who practised as a solicitor for some years in Old Jewry, London,

(and now a clergyman of the Established Church of England), we purchased an ample supply of fireworks, consisting of squibs, sky rockets, Roman candles, etc, to enliven the village. After the meeting in the schoolroom, we proceeded down the village and distributed the fireworks among the villagers, and Mr. Howard Davies and I assisted in making things "hum".

A few days after, I received a summons to appear before the Haverfordwest Bench of magistrates for setting off fireworks in the village "contrary to the Act in that case made and provided". I duly appeared and found that a young lady, named Palmer, had also been honoured with a similar summons. The sessions

room was crowded, Mr. William Vaughan James was magistrates' clerk at the time, and, as usual, he elicited roars of laughter by his witticisms. P.C. Webb appeared to give evidence, which he did in a very solemn and impressive manner, and Miss Palmer and I were fined 5s. each, without costs, both of which penalties I, of course, promptly paid. The local Press made great fun of the matter, and had a flaming heading to its report of the case as "Political Fireworks at Llangwm". The election resulted in a largely increased majority for Mr. Davies of about 1,400, if I remember correctly.

*(Thanks to Mike Bennett of Nolton, history researcher and writer, for providing us with this archive piece.)*

## **Autumn Report from Llangwm Community Council**

The Community Council would like to thank Margaret Brace for stepping into the breach and volunteering to restart the Llangwm Newsletter. The following include some current issues being dealt with by the Council:

### **Black Tar Public Toilets**

The Community Council, in conjunction with Llangwm Rowing Club, is considering ways in which the public toilet at Black Tar can be saved. Pembrokeshire County Council has to save money and have earmarked 28 public toilets for closure, Llangwm being one. A financially viable plan has to be submitted to the County Council from the partnership otherwise the toilet will close permanently next year. As a small Council we cannot over commit ourselves, but we would very much like to keep the toilets open.

### **PAVS Membership**

We have taken out membership of PAVS for a year on behalf of all the different groups in the village. This will entitle any committee to ask for support in finding suitable grant-making trusts etc. They can also offer advice on form filling. A selection of audio-visual equipment is also available on loan. During this first year, we will be tracking the usage in order to decide whether to continue with membership, so please let us know if you use their services.

### **Bus Service**

You have probably heard on the news about the reduction of bus services in Aberystwyth. There are changes on the way in SW Wales, which could potentially have an impact on our bus service from the village. We have recently completed a questionnaire relating to possible changes, and the Community Council will endeavour to ensure that our bus service will remain. This is an integral part of

our village life, and the loss of the bus service will lead to more rural isolation.

### **Common Land at Black Tar**

For information only: the land next to Quay House is common land, and therefore cannot be used for parking vehicles, or for the placement of any other objects without the permission of the Community Council. The Community Council is looking at how to develop this land for the benefit of the Village. All suggestions gratefully received.

### **Remembrance Service**

The annual Service of Remembrance will be held around the memorial on the Village Green at 10 a.m. on Sunday 10th November. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend, in memory of the fallen of the village from the two world wars and in respect for those who have fought in these and other conflicts.

### **Fly Tipping in Guildford Pill**

A few weeks ago, about 30 pieces of metal, each with 4 two inch nails inserted, were found in the mud at Guildford Pill just to the north of Swan Corner. This was potentially very dangerous as children play and swim in the Pill. If anyone has any further information, please can they notify a councillor. The matter has been referred to Natural Resources Wales.

### **Dog fouling**

Dog fouling remains a problem on the playing fields. The LCC wish to remind all dog owners that is an offence to allow their dogs to foul in and on public spaces. If this problem persists stronger measures may put in place. Please enjoy using the Playing Fields but remember to remove dog faeces to ensure that your Public Play Area remains "dog poo free".

A new Dog Waste Bin is being purchased by LCC to replace the now damaged bin at the Playing Fields. In the meantime dispose of dog waste respectfully and carefully. Thank you.

## **"Hold on, I'll lean a bit further over..."**



### **What lengths do you go to in order to get a signal on your mobile phone?"**

Llangwm is not the best known village for mobile phone reception, it has to be said.

Even at the top of the village people sometimes struggle to get a signal - and if you live lower than half way down Main Street, you're likely to have to walk to the top of your garden or hold the phone up at a bedroom window in order to receive your texts.

Why not email in (to [m.brace@btinternet.com](mailto:m.brace@btinternet.com)) and let us know your hints and tips for getting a signal, where you have to be in the village to receive calls, or whether you have any problems at all on this score.

Perhaps we can 'map the signal' or give some hints and tips in a future issue of the newsletter.

MB

## **LLANGWM METHODIST CHURCH**

**MINISTER:** Reverend Hugh-John Wilson

**SECRETARY:** Mrs Jane Brock

**TREASURER:** Mrs Hilary Hitchings

### **Sunday Services:**

**Morning - 9.30am every Sunday**

**Sunday School - 9.30am every Sunday**

**Sunday School - please come and join us.**

**Children of all ages welcome. We meet every Sunday morning 9.30am - 10.30am. We read bible stories, sing, do 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**

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## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013**  
**Mince Pies, Coffee & Carols - 7pm**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2013**  
**9.30am Carol Service**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2013**  
**United Christmas Day Service at**  
**Methodist Chapel – 9.30am**

**A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO**  
**ALL TO JOIN US AT THE ABOVE**  
**SERVICES & EVENTS**

## **NEWS FROM GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL**

### ***Galilee welcomes a new Minister***

An important date to remember is

**FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2013**  
**at 6.30 p.m.**

when the **Reverend Roger Hart** will be welcomed to the ministry of **Galilee**.

A **Service of Induction** will be held that evening and will be attended by well-wishers from Rev Hart's former congregation at Bethany, Pembroke Dock, as well as other local churches and chapels.

**Everyone is invited to attend this service, a major milestone in the history of the chapel.**



Rev. Hart has had many years of service in the ministry, serving in Wales, Canada, Scotland and England before returning to Pembroke Dock just under fourteen years ago. He looks forward to getting to know his congregation and the people of Llangwm, and offers a warm welcome to all.

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Another occasion to watch out for is the **Service of Lessons and Carols** to be held on the **Sunday before Christmas, 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 10.30 a.m.**

**Mr Nigel Thomas** will take the pulpit at this service of celebration.

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Galilee members and friends will also join with Llangwm's other places of worship in the **United Christmas Day Service**, which is being held this year at the Methodist Chapel on the Green at 9.30 a.m.

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The Women's League hold their fortnightly meetings at 2 p.m. in the schoolroom at Galilee on alternate Thursdays. (Please note that these meetings are now once more being held on Thursdays, not Wednesdays as was recently the case.) Regular speakers deal with interesting topics of all kinds, an invitation is extended to all to attend.

# BOOKS...BOOKS...BOOKS

## Do you know when the Library comes to Llangwm?

Are you aware that Pembrokeshire County Council's Mobile Library comes to Llangwm once every three weeks?

It has a choice of about 2,000 books of all types - you can order specific titles - as well as Talking Books on CD and large print books. You can use your existing Library card, or join through the mobile service.

Two very pleasant young men, David Lewis and Adrian Clague, run the service to a fairly strict timetable, with several stops around the village (again, you can request a certain stop if you cannot get to an existing one).

The remaining dates of their visits for this year are:- 31 October, 21 November and 12 December. Next year's dates are still to be confirmed at the time of writing.



|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| The Kilns  | 11.25-11.35 |
| Gail Rise  | 11.40-12.00 |
| Black Tar  | 12.05-12.15 |
| The Green  | 1.05 - 1.25 |
| Glan Hafan | 1.30 - 1.55 |



You can't miss the brightly coloured vehicle, decorated with familiar scenes from children's books.

Don't miss the chance to enjoy literature literally on your doorstep!

## The Book Corner

It's good to be back.

Since the last edition, between us, we will have read millions of words. Some of that reading, I hope, has been rewarding and, not a little, entertaining. I have gone back to some old favourites as well as 'having a go' at authors unfamiliar. Alexander McCall Smith must be the most prolific writer of his generation. Every time I wander into Waterstones there seems to be something new. **'The Saturday Big Tent Wedding Party'** is well worth a few hours of your time. There are few surprises with him but a consistency of performance that is impressive.

From an earlier age **'Diary of a Nobody'** by George Grossmith is different from any book that I have read. It will raise a regular smile throughout.

The Scandinavians seem to be dominant in the world of crime fiction - Jo Nesbo, Stieg Larsson, Haken Nesser, the list goes on. If you haven't tried Camilla Lackberg why not start with **'The Ice Princess'**?

I recently had an interesting chat with Bobby Richards at the Macmillan fundraising event put on by Matthew at the Cottage Inn. He spoke about some of his favourite authors and types of writing, some known, some unknown to me. This has prompted me to suggest that if there are any books that you would like mentioned in this part of the Newsletter don't hesitate to let me know.

Two further points. I raised the issue of Books v. Kindle some issues ago. My strong sense is that whilst appreciating the virtues of electronic books most would miss the appearance, construction and feel of 'real' books if they were ever to disappear. Finally, I can't not mention the passing of the great Elmore Leonard, a giant of American writing. His advice to writers was, 'Try to leave out the part that readers tend to skip.' Wise words.

*Barry Childs*



# World War One and Llangwm

In advance of events planned next year in commemoration of the First World War, it is interesting to see how the progress of the war and its effect on life in Pembrokeshire was reported in our local newspapers.

It would appear that by 1916 the repercussions of the Great War were impinging on life at home to a greater degree. Daylight saving (or 'summer time') was first implemented here on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1916, following its introduction in Germany the previous month.

Probably the biggest change at home was the introduction of the conscription under the Military Service Act 1916. Every male British subject, ordinarily resident in Great Britain, aged 18-40, was to be conscripted into military service. Exemptions were granted to four categories of men – those engaged in work 'expedient in the national interest', those whose families would suffer 'serious hardship', ill-health or infirmity and conscientious objectors. Lists of certified (or exempted) occupations were revised from time to time. These occupations included those working in agriculture, various types of manufacturing and metal-working, food production and coal mines. There were also exemptions for categories such as policemen, lifeboat men and harbour pilots, ministers of religion and, apparently, accountants.

Appeals against conscription were heard at local tribunals and reported in the local newspapers. From these appeals, information can be gleaned about life in the Llangwm area at that time. The following examples are taken from the 'West Wales Guardian' in July and August 1916.

Alfred James, aged 39, was a water bailiff at Little Milford and married with five children. He was granted a conditional exemption provided he went to work in a munitions factory.

Edgar Stanley Thomas, aged 28, was the son of John Thomas of Deerland, farmer and butcher. Until 12 months previously, Edgar had been in the Metropolitan Police Force but he had returned home to help his father in slaughtering animals for the butchery. He was granted a conditional exemption for 3 months.

Joseph Thomas, aged 40, of 'The Poplars', Hook, was an insurance agent with the Prudential. He was married with two young children and stated that his mother-in-law Alice Macken was also dependent on him. As his occupation was considered analogous to a one-man business, he was granted a conditional exemption.

Albert George Thomas, aged 18 and employed as a teamsman [caring for a team of working horses], was one of the five sons (and four daughters) of James Thomas, farmer, of Tally-Ho. As none of his five adult sons had enlisted, the appeal was dismissed.

James Stanley Anstee, aged 26 and a baker, of Main Street, Llangwm, claimed that there would be "no-one to manage the business if called up". He stated that he baked every day of the week and used 10 sacks of flour a week. As there were three other bakers in Llangwm village at that time, he was given one month's exemption with no right to appeal. At this appeal, it was reported that the village of Llangwm was very prosperous as compared with the neighbouring village of Hook.

At such a serious time in the history of Britain, the 'West Wales Guardian' was happily able to report that, in September 1916, Trooper David Harries George, son of George Pritchard George of Nash, had won the 100 yards boot-lacing race in his regimental sports recently held "somewhere in France".

*Nikki Bosworth  
Pembrokeshire Archives*

## Some sporting snippets...

### Horse-riding prowess

In October, **Charlie Hunt** of Gail Rise competed in two dressage classes at the Championship of Great Britain held at the David Broome Centre, Chepstow.

Entrants came from all over the country and the competition was fierce.

Charlie narrowly missed out on medals coming fourth in both classes. Her goal is to represent Wales in British Dressage.

She had previously competed in the Pony Club Novice event at Kelsall, Cheshire, in a team of four which also included **Emily Carrington** of Gail Rise.

The girls came fourth overall at the Kelsall event, with Charlie taking third place in the individual rankings.

### 'Jubilee moment' for Llangwm Rowers

A glimpse back to the Thames River Pageant of 2012, a major event in the Queen's Jubilee Year.

**The ladies of Llangwm Rowing Club**

were proud to be invited to take part, and donned full regalia (as Welsh daffodils) for the prestigious occasion. No mean feat...they were on the river for 7 hours, and rowed 15 miles in all – in a right royal rainstorm.





## Llangwm Cricket Club News



2012 saw many enforced changes for the Cricket Club following the deaths of Club Officers Randall Lewis, Brian James and stalwart member Merle Inward. Billy Marchant was welcomed as **Secretary** and William Beresford as **Treasurer** and worked well alongside **Chairman** Dai Davies to ensure the Clubs rebuilt a steady footing.

The outlook for 2013 was optimistic after the 1<sup>st</sup> XI came 3<sup>rd</sup> the **previous season** in Division 1, their **highest finish** for twenty six years. However with three senior players out long term injured from the start including Captain **Jonathan Twigg** and non-availability, momentum for the season was slow. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI under new captain **Sean Waller** felt the brunt of these withdrawals as the side often struggled for numbers and consistency.

Matthew Evans of the **Cottage Inn** undertook the task of supplying **teas for home fixtures** which the Club are grateful for, alongside his sponsorship of the weekly chicken for the **Saturday raffle**. The support of Pat in the shop in the selling of these tickets is also appreciated. **Pill Parks** on a warm Saturday is as welcoming as any ground in the County and the hard work of groundsman **Ian Gow** and his hardy troops is well appreciated as is the

time of **Jeremy Brock** in keeping the outfield and surrounding area in tip top condition.

Both teams struggled to challenge in their respective leagues flirting around the relegation zone from start to finish; the 1<sup>st</sup> XI experienced some outstanding success by **reaching the final** of the **DR Morris** and the prestigious **Harrison Allen Bowl** losing on both occasions to Neyland. The Harrison Allen Bowl featured in a **documentary for Sky Sports**, entitled **Club Life - the Rivals**, which was broadcast to a **worldwide audience** during the **lunch interval** of the final **Ashes Test match** (DVDs of the programme are available from the **Club Secretary**).

An **outstanding display** by opening batsman **William Beresford** saw him produce a **century** in the Harrison Allen **semi final** against Whitland and **again** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> innings of the **final**, a feat not many in Pembrokeshire can lay claim to. With this being the highlight unfortunately both teams suffered relegation as the commitment and interest of players wavered in the final month of the season.

Club Captain Jonathan Twigg has stood down after 3 years at the helm and will be replaced by  
(continued on following page)

### Llangwm Cricket Club Harrison Allen Bowl & DR Morris Cup Finalists 2013



Back row: [L-R]: Bill Marchant [Secretary]: Ollie Davies: Joseph Kiff: Chris Inward: Darren Brick: Andrew Harries: James Venables: Chris Thomas: Steve Inward: Luke Brock: Dai Davies [Chairman]: Martyn Inward [Vice Chairman]: Front row: [L-R]: Gary Phillips: Phil Llewellyn: Jonathan Twigg [Captain]: Matthew Kiff: Huw Brock: William Beresford (photograph: Bill Carne)

**Joseph Kiff** for the 2014 season with **Sean Waller** continuing as 2<sup>nd</sup> XI skipper for a second term. The **continual support** of sponsors, the Community Council and local residents is appreciated as cricket is played and enjoyed by many people in the Village and surrounding area.

One of the highlights of the social calendar for the Club continues to be the **Annual Golf Day**, co-ordinated by hard working Chairman Dai Davies, with main sponsor Richard Palmer. Held for the first time in 2013 at **Haverfordwest Golf Club** it continues to be an event where old adversaries can once again don a competitive stance with one and other whilst replenishing lifelong friendships post match. The Club is grateful to all those who provided sponsorship on that day. The date for **next year's tournament** has already been set - it will be held at Haverfordwest Golf Club on **Friday 18 July 2014**.

### Award winners 2013

|                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Batsman       | William Beresford |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI Batsman       | Sean Waller       |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> XI Bowler        | Chris Inward      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI Bowler        | Dave Richards     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> XI fielder       | Matthew Kiff      |
| Tom Parker [Clubman of the Year] | Sean Waller       |
| Jamers Cup [Players player]      | William Beresford |
| Penry Esmond [Special Award]     | William Beresford |
| Howard Rees [Youth Player]       | Phil Llewellyn    |
| Lester Brock [Junior Player]     | George John       |

The **AGM** will be held in the early part of the **New Year** when it is hoped all associated to the Club will make an effort to attend. Further details will be posted in due course at the **Clubhouse** and on the **Club website**:

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwmcricquetclub](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwmcricquetclub)

**Thanks to all sponsors for 2013 is expressed on behalf of the Officers, Committee and Members of Llangwm Cricket Club**

| <u>1<sup>st</sup> XI</u> | <u>Sponsor</u>                             |          | <u>2<sup>nd</sup> XI</u> | <u>Sponsor</u>                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Narberth                 | In memory of Brian James & Merle Inward    | 28 April | Narberth 2nds            | In memory of Brian James & Merle Inward |
| Haverfordwest            | Talbot Timber                              | 4 May    | Crymych                  | Sean Waller                             |
| Lawrenny                 | Dai Isaac                                  | 11 May   | Hook                     | Huw Brock                               |
| Neyland                  | Rob Summons                                | 18 May   | Saundersfoot 2nds        | Chris Inward                            |
| Cresselly                | Bob Chesmer                                | 25 May   | Camrose                  | Joan Brock                              |
| Llanrhian                | Time Is                                    | 1 June   | Llechryd                 | Stuart & Liz Beresford                  |
| St Ishmaels              | Tony Philpin                               | 8 June   | Herbrandston             | Helmut Taxis                            |
| Whitland                 | Nigel John                                 | 15 June  | Pembroke Dock            | Barry Childs & James Venables           |
| Carew                    | Ossie John                                 | 22 June  | Johnston 2nds            | Stan & Shirley Evans                    |
| Narberth                 | KO Carpets                                 | 29 June  | Narberth 2nds            | Cllr Mike John & Jonathan Twigg         |
| Haverfordwest            | Don Twigg MBE & family                     | 6 July   | Crymych                  | David Mills                             |
| Lawrenny                 | LBS & John Skyrme                          | 13 July  | Hook                     | James Tuckwell                          |
| Neyland                  | Darren Brick Carpentry & Deerland Garage   | 20 July  | Saundersfoot 2nds        | Dickie Settersfield                     |
| Cresselly                | Colin Phillips & family                    | 27 July  | Camrose                  | Bill Marchant & Jeff Clout              |
| Llanrhian                | Rod England & John Palmer                  | 10 Aug   | Llechryd                 | Andrew Harries                          |
| St. Ishmaels             | Roger Lewis & Peter Rees                   | 17 Aug   | Herbrandston             | Chris Thomas                            |
| Whitland                 | Julian Platten Llangwm Plastering Services | 24 Aug   | Pembroke Dock            | Wil Beresford                           |
| Carew                    | Neville Lewis                              | 31 Aug   | Johnston 2nds            | Dai Davies & family                     |

Matthew Evans Cottage Inn: HARRISON ALLEN BOWL

Jonathan Kiff & Talbot Timber DR MORRIS CUP  
Steve Thomas & Co, Deerland ALEC COLLEY CUP

(Thanks to Jonathan Twigg for providing these reports)



# News from Llangwm Rugby Club



There have been several changes in personnel at the Rugby Club since the last edition of the Llangwm Newsletter. Steve Poole has taken on the role of secretary following the passing away last September of Brian James.

“Jamer” had served rugby and cricket in the village for many years and he leaves a large void to fill. The Rugby & Cricket Clubs will shortly be installing a new bench at Pill Parks in memory of Jamer, which will be fitting of the time and effort he spent at Pill Parks, and the dedication he gave to running sport in the village.

Steve is joined on the committee by his uncle, Owen John, who has taken on the role of Club President. Owen and Steve are son and grandson respectively, of the late Osmond John from the club, who served as district representative on the WRU for many years, culminating in his election to the office of President of the WRU. There is little doubt therefore that rugby, and the club, are in their blood, and they are sure to be hardworking in their duties.

The Club also has a new Chairman in Keith Lawrence. Keith has been a long standing committee member at the club, previously serving as president himself, as well as running the youth team for many years in the 80's and 90's.

The committee is small but hard working in promoting and running rugby, and would like to invite all those who may be interested to come along and sample a match or two, and maybe take up membership.

Fixtures are printed on the following page.

Rod England is still running the 100 Club if anybody wishes to join, and with 10 monthly cash prizes, plus the £500 Summer, and £1000 Christmas draws to be won, it's well worth a flutter. Contact the club or Rod England for further information if you would like to take part.

## Senior XV

At time of writing, the Senior XV has had a poor start to the season, losing their first 4 matches. There have been some encouraging signs though that the team can improve, and with a relatively young squad, should get better once they have had a time to settle and gain more experience.

Jeremy Brock continues to coach the team with Richard Scrivens as team manager, and Scott Gregory assisting. Dan Chesmer is in his second season as captain and always leads by example. Let's hope the boys can rally round and curtail the losing streak soon.

A date for your calendar is **26<sup>th</sup> December** when it is Llangwm's turn to host the annual encounter with Haverfordwest for the **Bishop Cup**. Always a hard fought battle, Llangwm will be looking for that extra advantage at home provided by a large vocal support.

**Please come along and support your local team! ...Kick-off is at 2.30pm.**

*Llangwm RFC would like extend sincere thanks to all its sponsors for their kind support which helps to maintain rugby in the village.*

## Youth XV

Unfortunately the club is not running a youth team this season, due to the low number of players available.

It is hoped to field a team in the future when there are sufficient playing numbers, so if you are interested in playing or coaching youth rugby, please contact the club's web site and leave a message.

If there are enough numbers in the coming seasons, then the club would love to field a side.

[www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm)

## Junior section

Despite good intentions and intending to start training early this year the Junior Rugby stuck with tradition and began the season in September.

We currently have over 75 junior members playing on a regular basis and a few more who don't play so regularly.

We have 6 mini sides and 1 junior side (under 13s) playing on a regular basis, our under 9s, 10's, 11's and 13's play tackle rugby and the under 7's and under 8's play tag rugby. All sides have got off to an enthusiastic start this season.

The junior section is supported by a small committee and a group of dedicated coaches. Without our volunteers we could not run the junior section, we are also fortunate to have the support of many local businesses. Most recently Hook Construction Partnership have sponsored our under 13s kit. It is, we believe, the first time HOOK has been emblazoned on a Llangwm Shirt and we are delighted to receive this generous support, it is particularly apt as many of our Junior members join us from Hook. Also Matthew at the Cottage Inn has provided some generous support towards our Presentation evening at the end of last season.

Home matches take place in Llangwm at 11am on Sunday mornings and on most occasions teas, coffees and bacon rolls are available. On these occasions there are a lot of visitors to the village and we try our best to keep disruption to a minimum. We are also grateful to Cleddau Reach School who have supported us on a number of occasions by allowing us to play some of our matches in their grounds. Information regarding Junior fixtures are posted on the junior section of our website [www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llangwm)

All positive support for our teams is very welcome out on the field on a Sunday morning. Such a large number of enthusiastic children provide an exciting atmosphere at the ground. And I would encourage anyone in the community to come along and watch our home games (it will only cost the price of a cup of tea).

Training takes place on a Wednesday night at 6pm at Llangwm pitch and, after half term, Moor farm from 6pm to 7pm for the younger age groups, and 7pm to 8pm for the older children.

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.

## SENIOR FIXTURES

1st XV Captain - Dan Chesmer Esq

### September 2013

|        |               |        |
|--------|---------------|--------|
| Sat 7  | Bynea         | A..... |
| Sat 14 | Pantyyffynnon | H..... |
| Sat 21 | Penygroes     | A..... |
| Sat 28 | Pontyates     | H..... |

### October 2013

|        |                     |        |
|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Sat 12 | St Clears           | A..... |
| Sat 19 | Neyland             | A..... |
| Sat 26 | SWALEC Bowl Round 2 |        |

### November 2013

|        |                      |           |
|--------|----------------------|-----------|
| Sat 2  | Pembroke             | H.....    |
| Sat 9  | Wales v South Africa | KO 5.30pm |
| Sat 16 | Wales v Argentina    | KO 2.30pm |
| Fri 22 | Wales v Tonga        | KO 7.30pm |
| Sat 23 | Cefneithin           | A.....    |
| Sat 30 | Wales v Australia    | KO 5.00pm |

### December 2013

|        |                            |            |
|--------|----------------------------|------------|
| Sat 7  | New Dock Stars             | H.....     |
| Sat 21 | Llangadog                  | A.....     |
| Fri 26 | Haverfordwest (Bishop Cup) | H(F) ..... |

### January 2014

|        |                     |        |
|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Sat 4  | Pembroke Dock Quins | H..... |
| Sat 18 | Bynea               | H..... |
| Sat 25 | Pantyyffynnon       | A..... |

### February 2014

|        |                 |           |
|--------|-----------------|-----------|
| Sat 1  | Wales v Italy   | KO 2.30pm |
| Sat 8  | Ireland v Wales | KO 2.30pm |
| Sat 15 | Penygroes       | H.....    |
| Fri 21 | Wales v France  | KO 8.00pm |
| Sat 22 | Pontyates       | A.....    |

### March 2014

|        |                  |           |
|--------|------------------|-----------|
| Sat 1  | St Clears        | H.....    |
| Sun 9  | England v Wales  | KO 3.00pm |
| Sat 15 | Wales v Scotland | KO 2.45pm |
| Sat 22 | Neyland          | H.....    |
| Sat 29 | Pembroke         | A.....    |

### April 2014

|        |                     |        |
|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Sat 5  | Cefneithin          | H..... |
| Sat 12 | New Dock Stars      | A..... |
| Sat 19 | Llangadog           | H..... |
| Sat 26 | Pembroke Dock Quins | A..... |

## And Finally a polite plea...to all dog owners.

The main field at Pill Parks is owned by the Community Council who have for some time requested that all dogs be kept off the playing areas, and on leads on the public paths only. These are shown on notices at each entrance to the field.

This ruling was imposed at the Rugby Club's request, due to many incidents of matches having to be stopped for dog mess to be cleared up. The Club is grateful for their support in addressing this problem.

Whilst this is largely followed, there is still a problem with dog mess on the pitch and the club would respectfully ask that the health and well being of all players, young and old, as well as the many families who use the field for their leisure and recreation, is put first.

**IT IS AN OFFENCE not to clear up after your dog and you could be liable to a fine.**

The bottom field is private property owned by The Club and The Committee has decided on a **no dogs policy**. The field was bought by the club to enable children and adults to enjoy sport in a safe environment.

**It is not a dog exercise area.**

The committee and players of Llangwm RFC would like to thank all dog owners for their consideration in ensuring that the Pill Parks are a safe place for all users to enjoy.

**Please contact the Clubhouse for any information on membership, events or participation in rugby for Llangwm RFC. Tel: 01437 890462**



## WHEN FRIDAY NIGHT IS MUSIC NIGHT... Live Music for all tastes at Llangwm Rugby Club



For two years now, the live music nights at Llangwm Rugby Club – generally held on the last Friday of each month - have brought a wide range of quality performers to the village, not only providing great music and social events but also helping to raise funds for the sporting activities here.

From the very first 'gig' featuring Llangwm's own Symphony Sid (aka Tim Pounder) and his accomplished jazz and soul band The Swing Kings there has been a great variety of music. No one will forget ace blues guitarist Joe Harvatt and his band Burnt Curtains – or ex-Darts lead singer Bob Fish (on autoharp) with country singer Ian Cal Ford performing as "White Doves".

Other prominent names have been Chris Rees (singer songwriter), guitarist Ben Edom, husband and wife duo Honey Fungus, Cottonmouth, Sarah Benbow, and SaxPax,

south Wales-based and as good a combo as you'll find anywhere in the UK.

A highly successful fundraising event, the Party in Pill Parks, was organised one evening at the end of August by Julian and Gaynor Platten, with family entertainment and three live music acts playing to an appreciative audience. A relaxing atmosphere and a good way to round off the summer.

The Club's entertainment team rely on your support to maintain this high standard and firmly establish Llangwm Club as a venue for quality music. If you've not already sampled what we have to offer (not to mention the guest ales) watch for posters and emails, and mark down the monthly 'Friday Night Music Nights' as red letter days on the diary.

*Graham Brace*

# LLANGWM NATURE NOTES

**2013 has, most certainly, been a year of contrasts. The first four months brought severely cold weather which lasted until early May. This resulted in spring arriving very late indeed.**

## **Hard winter**

Nesting songbirds were caught out by the cold and this combined with the late emergence of insect food resulted in many failed first broods. Rooks suffered a particularly poor breeding season. The rookery along the Mill lane had the fewest occupied nests that I can remember. Only two of the six nests in our garden were successful. Trees were late coming into leaf with some ash and oak not breaking out fully until late May and early June.

## **Blossoming spring**

However, when spring did arrive it did so with some panache. Countrywide we saw phenomenal swathes of buttercups with some meadows appearing almost solid yellow. The same applied to roadside verges. Also, bluebells gave us the best display for many a year.

## **Nature in abundance**

Spring rapidly turned to summer... and, oh, what a summer! Everything suddenly flourished. Butterflies were in great abundance and the extended warm weather has enabled the much-reduced population of *small tortoiseshells* to re-establish themselves. There were occasions when I counted seven different species of butterfly on our buddleia tree at one time... including *peacock*, *red admiral*, *comma*, *small tortoiseshell*, *speckled wood*, *large white* and *green-veined white*. The only

species noticeable by its absence in our garden this summer was the *painted lady*.

## **Fruits of the earth**

It has also been a bumper summer for fruit production including possibly the best crop of blackberries I've ever witnessed



*A bumper season for blackberries—is your freezer full?*

which fruited in profusion from mid-August to early October. Picking said blackberries was also an opportunity to familiarise myself with the insect life that thrives in bramble patches...including a fascinating variety of spiders, beetles, bugs and flies. One very attractive species of spider that I encountered was the *comb footed spider* with its beautiful green, cream and brown stripes and the small pale green *crab spider*.

## **In the Pill...**

Throughout the year the water bird populations in the Pill followed their usual patterns. By mid-April all the waders and wildfowl had left for their breeding grounds leaving a couple of non-breeding *mallards* and occasional *curlew*.

In late June the first of the *redshanks* re-appeared. By late July there were a couple of dozen redshank accompanied by a small flock of 9 *dunlin*, sporting their summer plumage, present on most days. The first (female) teal arrived

back in late August and the numbers of all wintering species have increased steadily since. For some reason the male teal always arrive around six weeks after the females. I am writing this on the 10<sup>th</sup> October and early this morning, with the tide half in, there were large numbers of *redshank*, *teal*, twenty one *mallard*, a *little egret*, three *little grebes*, half a dozen *curlew*, our two resident *mute swans* and a dozen *Canada geese* in addition to a host of very noisy *black headed gulls*. Last Sunday afternoon there was a *great crested grebe* in its winter garb fishing off Llangwm Ferry and a solitary *spotted redshank* at Port Lion. Over the last year I've seen *kingfishers* in the Pill and around the shore on many occasions. Their numbers seem to be pretty healthy at the present time.

## **Flocks of geese**

The *Canada geese* have been much in evidence over the last 2 months with possibly in excess of 300 being present in the Pill on several days back in September. Among this throng were also a pair of *greylag geese*. These geese provide the most wonderful wake-up call in the mornings at this time of the year as they take off from the Pill and fly low over our house calling loudly to each other.

## **Observation**

If any readers should see anything at all out of the ordinary relating to wildlife please let me know by email [grahambrace@btinternet.com](mailto:grahambrace@btinternet.com) or by phone on 891580. If you should find any injured birds or wild animals please call the RSPCA on 03001238902 or for large birds contact Maria Evans at Tinkers Hill Bird of Prey and Swan Rescue on 01834 814397. *Graham Brace*

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Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this newsletter is accurate and up-to-date, but we regret we cannot accept responsibility for any errors which may have occurred.