

Llangwm Village News

Issue 49 Spring/Summer 2019



Llangwm Sunrise by Jenny Ambler

Looking back over the last 20 years...

2019 is a landmark year in many respects.

It was **20 years ago** when a steering committee met to revive the village Carnival and this has been a highlight of the summer season ever since, as it was in days gone by. Insurance restrictions may have put paid to the lorries, vans and tractors which used to parade, but the walking procession is still good fun. In fact the Fete and the Festival are greatly anticipated and enjoyed.

20 years ago scarecrows first appeared in the village, as a one-off fundraiser for the Millennium festivities the following year. It has actually lasted two decades (admittedly not as popular now as it was in the beginning when TV and press interest were at their height) but there are still plenty of people willing to stuff straw and rags together to amuse the children - and make adults smile too. This year they can have their say in choosing the theme - see the Festival News page.



First newsletter - all four pages - distributed in June 1999

It is **20 years ago**, too, we believe, since the first St Davids Day Supper was held in a newly refurbished village hall. This is always a very popular occasion - as are the summer cream teas, pop-up cafes, charity functions and popular entertainment of all kinds held in the hall.

The Llangwm newsletter also first appeared **20 years ago**, announcing all the new events of the Millennium.

But whoever would have dreamed of all the activities that take place in Llangwm now? Medieval history unearthed. A church restored. Two choirs. A Literary Festival. And all graced by a Royal Visit. Read all about the latest developments right here.



Linda Thomas's classic scarecrow from 1999

Llangwm Website

<http://www.llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk/>

Re-launched in January 2019 and backed by Llangwm Community Council, the website provides villagers and visitors with useful information about the village and village life in an accessible format, including:

Llangwm Community Council – councillors and how to contact them as well as minutes and agendas from previous meetings.

News – a News page, a What's On page, and a page featuring downloadable copies of Llangwm's own newsletter, the Llangwm Village News.

Village Amenities – including the shop and pub, village hall, health services, mobile library dates and transport links to and from Llangwm.

Clubs and Societies including Llangwm's several sports teams.

Arts & Crafts – Llangwm is home to many creative people, some of whom are featured on the site.

Places of Worship – information about St Jerome's church, Galilee Baptist Chapel and the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel.

Festivals and Music – details of Llangwm's festivals, choirs and music groups.

Accommodation – listing holiday accommodation within the village.

Local Services – details of individuals and companies providing services in the Llangwm area.

This is a community website and submissions are welcome. Maybe you have some news to share or an event you would like to advertise, or perhaps you run, or are a member of, a club or society that you think would benefit from having a presence on the website? Do you own a business or holiday accommodation in the village that you would like listed on the website? Please send any submissions to webeditor@llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk and we will endeavour to get you online as soon as possible.

Don't miss the Fourth Llangwm Literary Festival!

9 - 11 August 2019

Following the great success last year of the LitFest, we are back this August with a programme to inspire and entertain!

There will be lots to do for all the family and by popular demand, we'll be repeating the children's 'Soap Box', where the future of tomorrow can give a microlecture on their special area of interest. Does Llangwm have its very own Greta Thunberg?

For the first time, we'll be welcoming Fiona, Countess of Carnarvon, who will talk about her latest book 'At Home at Highclere: Entertaining at the Real Downton Abbey'.

Leif Bersweden 'The Orchid Hunter' will also be joining us to talk about his journey around Britain in a clapped-out Renault 5 to document every species of British native orchid.



Downton Abbey comes to Llangwm - Lady Carnarvon tells what it is like to be the host of the real-life Highclere Castle.

We're also delighted to welcome Rian Evans who will launch her book 'The Light and The Dark' about one of the world's most original painters, Kyffin Williams. Festival favourite, Ferdy Mount, will be talking us through the remarkable lives of his 'Prime Movers' ranging from Jesus Christ, Pericles, Mahatma Gandhi, Thomas Jefferson and Chris Grayling (oops, spot the deliberate mistake!)

For those with a taste for the exotic, Isambard Wilkinson, former Telegraph correspondent in Pakistan will regale us with tales of warlords in the tribal areas of Pakistan from his acclaimed book 'Travels in a Dervish Cloak'. Pam Hunt and Heather Payton will be launching their new talk 'Podcasts, films and TV: how to grab an audience by the eyes, ears and balls'.

Creative writing guru, Ashdale's Pippa Davies has kindly agreed to unbotle her secret formula at a workshop to help budding writers trap those ideas on the page and deliver them to a wider audience. And no Llangwm LitFest would be complete without Pembrokeshire's answer to Bear Grylls (Julia Horton-Powdrill) inviting you to 'Come Forage' around the hedgerows and shores of Llangwm.

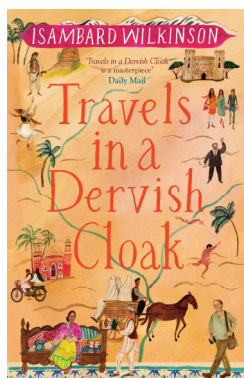
Llangwm's artists are preparing to dazzle all with their superb array of arts and crafts.

There will be plenty of good food and drink. The Cottage Inn will be cooking up a storm and we very much hope that the Methodist Chapel will continue to serve its outstanding range of delicious teas, bacon rolls and cakes (perhaps including some recipes from Lady Carnarvon's book).

Penny Reed will be announcing the results of the Children's Competition at a prize-giving ceremony on 9 August. More details of the competition can be found at: <http://www.llangwmlitfest.co.uk/competition>

Anyone who'd like to be involved or has any suggestions should email: llangwmlitfest@gmail.com; or call Michael on 07970 812050 or let your usual contact know. We need more B&Bs in the village, so feel free to get in touch if you fancy running a B&B or hosting a writer for the weekend. For more details about the festival in general, please click on www.llangwmlitfest.co.uk

Michael Pugh





Huge support for Tirion's Rainbow playpark appeal

Tirion's Rainbow has had a wonderful first year of fund-raising and we are so grateful to everyone who has shown their support for what we are trying to achieve. We would also like to say a huge thank you to everyone on our committee who has made all our fundraising events happen.

Currently we have managed to raise just over £14,000, which is an incredible achievement. We are hopeful to have plans to share with you very soon. We have taken into consideration lots of ideas that were shared with us at our consultation last year. We will be keeping the swings and horse, as well as installing a zip wire, which was one of the most requested pieces of equipment. We would like to thank Llinos and Neil Martin, along with the Wrong Direction Male Voice Choir for their fabulous Christmas concert that raised an incredible £650. And also want to thank Rachel Price and Penny Nash for the incredible



Christmas Market they organised which raised an astonishing £1,050 for us. It was a pleasure to be part of both of these wonderful events and to see so many from our community come and show their support. St Jeromes Church also very kindly donated £75 from their Breakfast with Santa event, for which we are very grateful.

Christmas will always be a difficult time for us as a family and the support shown from all who organised and supported these events was so very heartwarming and welcome.

The new year was kicked off with January's Rainbow Miles, an event where you set yourself a mile challenge to complete throughout the month. This was such a well supported event and it sounds as though it really motivated people to be active after the indulgences of Christmas. This raised a further £685, which included £200 match funding from Local Giving. We decided to do March Rainbow Miles after some interest was expressed and this is ongoing as I write. It's been a stormy month which hasn't made it easy to get out to accumulate miles but hopefully this will improve, and I hope all taking part are enjoying.



Up and coming events for this year include a cake sale at Cleddau Reach School on Thursday 11th April. If anyone would like to donate cakes for this event it would be very much appreciated.

Alongside the cake sale we will be raffling a beautiful Crocheted Easter Bunny along with some other Easter treats. A pop-up cafe is being organised for the Sunday 26th May, which will include craft activities and I'm sure we'll have the football goals down the field as well. Hopefully we will also have some plans to share with you and would love to hear your views on the day.

Finally, after the success of last year's 'Cardiff Half' we will once again have a team of runners taking on the 13.1 mile challenge. The team has grown in number and currently has around 30 people planning to run for us. If there is anyone else wishing to join us and help raise funds for the park you will be very welcome, so please do get in touch. Alongside our fundraising we will be focusing a lot of our energies this year on applying for grants and lottery funding.

If you would like to keep up to date with our events and to support what we are doing please 'like' our Tirion's Rainbow page on Facebook or follow us on Instagram and if you would like to contact us please feel free to do so either via Facebook or via email on tirionsrainbow@gmail.com We are also registered with Local Giving and anyone can set up a fundraiser through them on our behalf via this link - <https://localgiving.org/tirions-rainbow>

Thank you everyone in advance for your continued support!

Mike Preddy

Watch out for the man who points and shoots!

Photographer David Wilson will be capturing images of the village and its residents during 2019. He hopes to put on an **exhibition of the images** early next year. David, who lives in Williamston Terrace said, *"I just want to record the people and this extraordinary village for posterity so that future generations will know who we were and how the place looked. A bit of a historical document I suppose."*

An invitation...

COFFEE AND CAKE AT ST J'S

Come along to St Jerome's on the **third Wednesday** of every month for coffee, delicious cakes and a chance to have a chat with friends.

Drop in any time between 10.30 am and 12.00 noon.

Llangwm Carnival Committee News

After the "Rockstars and Popstars" Carnival in July, the Carnival Committee took a well-earned rest from events over the summer but returned in time to host the Hallowe'en party in October. Over 60 children in amazing fancy dress arrived, despite abysmal weather, to enjoy the music and hotdogs (and sweets!) in the Rugby Club. Thank you to all the families who came along to make it such an enjoyable, and spooky, evening and a special mention to the volunteer Rugby Club members who opened the club during the day for us to put up decorations and then returned in the evening to man the bar - thank you so much!

December kicked off with a comedy night (Phil Evans and Friends) in the Village Hall, supported by Night Out, an Arts Council of Wales scheme that takes away the financial risk of bringing professional shows to community venues in Wales. Everyone who attended was having a good time - judging by the takings on the bar!

Later in the month, Carol Singing on the Green with mulled wine and mince pies also proved popular. Thank you to Sam Howley and Village Voices for leading the singing and to everyone who took part and helped us get in the festive spirit. (Serving the mulled wine proved more tricky than usual as "our" streetlight had chosen that night to go out and a lamp had to be found at high speed to enable us to see where we were pouring it!). A big thank you also to Father Christmas for squeezing in a visit to Llangwm at this busy time of year!

Looking forward, preparations are now under way for the 2019 Festival Fortnight beginning on Saturday 29th June with a re-enactment of the life of Adam de la Roche and Mediaeval Banquet organised by the Friends of St Jerome's. Festivities will culminate in Carnival Day on Saturday 13th July.

If you would like to help with the planning and organisation of the carnival, please do get in touch either on Facebook or email llangwmfestival@gmail.com

Judy Rose



Saturday 29th June

9.00am A re-enactment of the Legend of Adam de la Roche. His shrouded body will travel from Roch Castle to Llangwm, this time on horseback via the old bridleways with a stop in Haverfordwest to raise some money. People will be able to join the parade at various points along the route and raise money through sponsored walks, arriving 4.00pm in Llangwm
7.00pm - A Medieval Banquet in the Cottage Inn.

Sunday 30th June

2.30pm - The third branch of 'The Mabinogion' told by Rhiannon Johnson.
7.30pm - A Concert at St. Jerome's - Artistes to be confirmed.

Saturday 13th July

1.30pm - Carnival procession to Pill Parks playing field. Crowning of the Carnival King and Queen followed by main carnival event.
5.00pm onwards - (TBC) Children's event at The Cottage Inn followed by music and Matthew's amazing Carnival Barbecue.

Other events will be happening in between - details will be shown on the Llangwm Festival Committee Events Facebook page and in the Festival Programme. The Scarecrow Competition will be running as usual but this year you will be able to vote on the theme - watch out for the poll on our page on Facebook!

Don't forget to check out this Newsletter in full colour on the new Llangwm Website!

Go to www.llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk and from the Home Page click the tab 'Llangwm News'. You can select a variety of past newsletters - this one will be posted up a week or two after the paper newsletters are delivered around the village. Photographs will be seen in colour (except the deliberately black and white ones!) and can be enlarged for clarity.

Many thanks to the webmaster for the colourful 'Front Page' icons of the newsletters, easy to choose from.



Scouts

1st Johnston

As we near the end of the year we look back on an extremely successful year. Our youth membership has grown by a further 12% on the back of 32% the previous year; our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have achieved nearly 1,000 badges and awards; and 9 Beavers, 5 Cubs and 2 Scouts achieved their Chief Scout Award, the highest award they can gain in their Section, and many attended a county-wide celebration back in November.



As always we are on the look out for more adult volunteers, and with flexible volunteering there are many ways that you could help us. Whether it is teaching a new skill, talking about your job, helping to earn a specific badge, or something behind the scenes such as looking after our social media, supporting our fundraisers, or general odd jobs around the Hall, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Over the past few terms, the Scout section have been working on their Flood Awareness badge, and the impacts we have as a Group around our Hall. As a result we have been successful in obtaining grants from Dwr Cymru and Tesco #BagsOfHelp to make improvements to our Hall grounds to lessen our impact on surface water. The planned works will also have other benefits such as attracting and supporting wildlife, and adding some colour to the grounds.

March saw the launch of our new monthly Lego Club running on Saturday mornings from 10 to 12 at our Hall. Entry is £2.50 per child and open to all, and parents have free entry with the opportunity to purchase coffee and cake. Thanks to support from Barclays we are also able to offer advice on staying safe online, and you are welcome to bring your devices along and ask any questions you may have. The next dates are; 6th April, 18th May, 8th June and 6th July.



The Group has continued to look at how we can improve our impact on the environment, and we have become a public collection point for crisp packets and bread bags to be recycled. We hope to set up a few drop-off points in the coming weeks for anyone who would like to make use of this.

Keep an eye out for us in Morrisons on 19th May as we look to raise funds for new equipment.

To find out how you can join the Adventure, contact us via:

Simon Preddy, Group Scout Leader,
1stjohnston@gmail.com or 07824 504 802

To hire our Hall in Hill Mountain, contact us via
Pat Dixon

pat.dixon54@btinternet.com or 07824 748 748

Llangwm Community Centre

Llangwm has a very strong sense of community and that is why it is so important to our future development as a village that we have venues that are worthy of the 21st century. To that end we are trying to develop a....

New Village Hall: The Hall committee has been able to tap into the advice of our grants officer at the Lottery and the expertise of PLANED (Pembrokeshire Local Action Network for Enterprise & Development) who, with their wide experience of other Pembrokeshire Hall bids, is now helping us in our bid for a *new hall for the village*.

The work on achieving this has moved up a pace. On March 18th the second 'Community Action Group' meeting was held, with representatives from the many lively Llangwm Groups attending, and their input provided very many sound and helpful ideas.

In order to canvass as wide a range of opinions as possible on local people's thoughts about our community, each group was asked to circulate a 'Llangwm Community Action Group Survey' to all their members. There will also be a link to this survey for everyone on the **Llangwm Facebook page** using 'Survey-Monkey' and **hard copies** of the survey **will be available in the shop**.



Llangwm Community Action Survey needs you!
Your ideas are important to us, so please have your say and complete the survey.

Other News: As a brief follow up to the previous 'Wales Night Out' event where Apphia Campbell performed 'Black is the Colour of My Voice', it may be of interest to know that she has now just finished a run of performances in London's West End. You saw her in Llangwm first!

A very successful, oversubscribed, 'Winter Warmer - Soup Lunch' was held in January which reached out to many people who prefer daytime events. There was a wonderfully convivial atmosphere and the Village Hall Committee are hoping to make these a regular seasonal event.

At the St. David's Day evening we were marvellously entertained by the Village Voices and Sam's delightfully humorous touches "....which slides us

smoothly into the next song....it must be Grease!" The three soloists were: superb Rhys Evans on trumpet, Callum (who obviously has a future career in musical theatre) and our well-loved Lou Hales. Supper was non-traditional lasagne and the 'gourmet' cream filled puddings were provided by the 'Friends of the Village Hall' to whom we owe our huge thanks for this event and the Soup lunch desserts also.

Regular Meetings:

We now have a band holding weekly practice sessions in the Hall and music continues with Thursday evening's Village Voices choir practice. Two Tai Chi classes take place on Tuesday mornings and the newly formed playgroup 'Happy Hedgehogs' meet every Thursday afternoon. The History group meet at the Hall on a monthly basis and St. Jerome's church regularly use the Hall when the church is unsuitable for the proposed event (e.g. Breakfast with Santa, the Lenten Lunch and the proposed Spring/Easter Fair). The Community Council also use the Village Hall for meetings and the Gardening Club are again having their annual Plant Fair at the Hall on Sun 19th May.

A big thank you to David in the shop for keeping the Bookings Diary and selling event tickets for us. An invaluable village service!

For Hall bookings and details of Clubs and Events, apply at the Shop or contact any Hall Committee Member.

Hall charges:

Per session-morning/afternoon/evening - £10
Adult Party - £35 Children's Party - £25
Summer Wedding - £150 Winter Wedding - £175
Charity Event - £10

Please note that we have now updated our loan service whereby a member of the Hall Committee will check your items in and out and let you know of the relevant charge.

While we are happy to loan Hall items, damage to/ or losing them is a cost that with our small budget we are unable to afford!

Finally, a big thank you to all who support the Village Hall - without you we would be unable to *continue* - and please 'Have Your Say' by completing the *Community Action Survey*.

Valerie John



A favourite venue for LitFest talks - last summer the Village Hall was packed to hear the Bishop of St Davids - and a leading MP.

PILGRIMAGE to ROME - and the starting point is... LLANGWM



Jonathan Davies, a retired London banker and great supporter of Llangwm's Literary Festival, set out immediately after attending the Festival in 2017 to walk in stages through parts of Wales, England, France and Italy until achieving his goal of reaching Rome. This is his story so far.

(Jonathan is seen to the left of the photograph along with his son and grandson who accompanied him on part of his journey.)

"I feel very supported that Llangwm should be interested in my pilgrimage to Rome, because I regard Haverfordwest, allied with Llangwm, from where I set out on a Sunday in August 2017, as my home base for this expedition. I then walked across Pembrokeshire and Cornwall, having been ferried across St George's Channel by Dave Yeomans. In 2018 I did three stints of a bit more than 250 miles each over a bit less than three weeks each in France and walked in all from Roscoff in Brittany to Le Puy-en-Velay in the Massif Central on a pretty zig-zag

route, which included St Malo, Mont St Michel, Chartres, Saint-Benoit-sur-Loire, Vezelay, Vosne-Romanee, Citeaux, Beaune, Cluny, Paray-le-Monial and finally Le Puy-en-Velay. I was very lucky with the weather: never too hot and what rain there was was short-lived.

Most of my walking was done on minor roads, of which there are many in rural France and on which there is very little traffic, but I have also followed GRs (the French equivalent of long distance footpaths), tow-paths along canals and the occasional old Roman road. Busy main roads are not fun and the approaches to towns perilous, so I have given myself permission to skip dangerous stretches and hazardous banlieux. The unremitting background consciousness is that France is very big and very empty. I have hardly met anyone during the day - certainly no-one on pilgrimage, though that is because I have chosen an unorthodox route - but what's worse is that there are precious few cafes or bars to slake one's mid-day thirst.

I shall set off again in two weeks time and will try to reach the Italian border, via Avignon and the Durance valley, at the Col de l'Arche. For the first day or so I will make acquaintance with GR 70, named, by the French *le Chemin de (Robert Louis) Stevenson* to commemorate the author's journey in 1878 with his donkey *Modestine* and later recounted in his first successful book *Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes*."

*Right:
Le Puy-en-Velay,
near the Loire in
south central
France, with its
extraordinary
volcanic plugs*

*Text:
Jonathan Davies
4 March 2019*



Smith, Sansom, Suffragette etc.

Book Review by Barry Childs

Ali Smith is certainly one to look out for. She is presently engaged in writing The Seasonal Quartet: '**Autumn**', '**Winter**', '**Spring**' and '**Summer**'. The first two are already available in paper back, the third is due to be published on 28th March. If this one is as good as the first two then we have a treat in store. Her themes are various and contemporary with the structure of the books challenging, particularly with the use of time shifts and the many layers of meaning available to the reader.

'**Tombland**' by **C.J. Sansom** is a book of Dickensian proportions. It is another of his historical novels with his familiar detective Shardlake as his central character. This one is set mostly in Norwich at the time of Kett's rebellion of 1549. Sansom, as you would expect, has done his usual extensive research for this book meticulously and the result is a tome that keeps the reader's attention throughout and throws a lot of light on an early uprising

against the governing classes and the treatment meted out to people who dared to stand against injustice and there was certainly no shortage of that.

Very different in terms of length and content is the excellent '**Old Baggage**' by **Lissa Evans**. Here, the central character is the magnificent Mattie, a very active suffragette in her younger days. It is now, however, 1928 and she has to decide how she is to go forward and to be loyal to her principles because there is still plenty to fight for in particular with regard to the position of women in society. The book, written by an ex television producer of programmes such as 'Father Ted', 'Room 101' and 'Have I got News For You' is lively, funny, unsentimental but uplifting.

Lastly, one for Reverend Marcus and worshippers at St Jerome's - '**A Field Guide to the English Clergy**' (though some Welshmen are included) by the **Rev. Fergus Butler-Gallie**. The book takes as its subject a fine array of eccentric vicars who across the centuries have 'served' the church. Some of the stories recounted here are extraordinary and, as a result, very entertaining.

I know it's a false choice but if I could pick just one from the above I think it would be 'Old Baggage'. Enjoy!

THE KILNS CHARITY PLANT STALL

The plant stall opens in early January when we start looking to see if any of the Hellebores are in flower. They are a very versatile plant, flowering early and on a sunny day attract lots of bees. They need hardly any attention and if left in the same place will increase in size and seedlings will eventually appear surrounding the main plant.

This year we are supporting **Pembrokeshire Samaritans in Haverfordwest** as the Pembrokeshire branch requires funds to keep the local branch open at 1 Albert Street, Haverfordwest, SA61 1TA. Telephone 01437 766699.

Samaritans are trained volunteers from all walks of life who listen and help you talk through your worries and troubles, either face to face at a local Branch, by phone, e-mail or text -24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They do not give advice but help you work through your options.

Their telephone is a free phone number – 116123 and their web-site is www.samaritans.org for more information and help.



LLANGWM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB - Spring Report

A fascinating talk on **Salt Marsh & Sand Dune Plants** kicked off our 2019 Spring season. The Cottage Inn was packed to the rafters for this wonderfully illustrated talk by club favourite **John Archer Thompson**, as was **March's** practical demo on **Propagation** by **Simon Richards**. With a varied and full working life in horticulture he certainly passed on some top tips!

April's meeting on the **1st** will be a talk by **Carole Whittaker** of **Glyn Bach Gardens**, who holds the national collection of *Monarda's*.

The club will hold its **Annual Plant Sale** in **May**, **Sunday afternoon**, the **19th** in the village hall,

2-4 pm with **cream teas** available and a **fabulous hamper** to win!!

In **June** the club hopes to make a visit to **Hilton Court Gardens** near Newgale and hear the history of its development and we wrap up the season in **July** with the **AGM and BBQ** held at the Cottage Inn.

Membership has grown this season and the club committee would like to thank all those who have supported this season's events, members and many guests - and also **Matthew** at the **Cottage Inn** who welcomes the group and does us proud with **Christmas dinner** and the fabulous **BBQ**!

Karen Shepherd

25th MAY - OPEN DAY at the EDWARDS PILL MUSEUM

Pat and Jeff will once again be opening their fascinating museum at Edwards Pill, on **Saturday 25th May from 2pm to 5pm**. Most of you have seen it by now, although the refreshments are always worth the visit, and feel free to bring your friends or relatives along (children to be accompanied, please)...this may be the last year.

There is no entry charge for the museum, although Pat and her friends will be organizing teas and

home-made cakes with the proceeds going to the Paul Sartori 'Hospice in the Home' charity. Donations to the charity are always welcome.

Groups coming this year in the preceding days include 'Forget me Knot' Neyland, Saundersfoot History Society, Walwyns Castle Women's League, Cosheston WI, St Davids History Society, Haverfordwest Tabernacle Men's Fellowship, Dyfed Art Group and Camrose WI.



A favourite exhibit at the museum: Sooty, Sweep and their xylophone.

Sooty was 'invented' by Harry Corbett in 1948, but his first TV appearance was in 1952. Although mute he is said to communicate by 'whispering' in the ear of his handler - just what we'll never know!

A busy season of concerts beckons

I'd forgotten to mention last time that we did a gig at the Lawrenny Arms in July. Out on the terrace with the stunning backdrop of the Lawrenny River, the beerdrinkers joined in with enthusiasm, there was a fair bit of arm waving going on too.

Then the Carnival came along with blistering heat - a brisk wind blew the sound away but the reports back were good.

In September we took part in the Llangwm Proms in the church. A small but enthusiastic audience took it well when the piano went silent.

Filming for a video of Sam's "Light" with the Hope and Glory choir was done at Carew Castle, followed by more filming with a drone in the Tabernacle Church in Haverfordwest. Three hours of rehearsing and filming in the freezing cold and we still haven't seen the results. We know what to do if the drone fails though. Put hands on heads and duck.

In October we did a recording (thanks Pam Hunt) for an audition for the Llangollen Eisteddfod. Maybe we will, maybe we won't. Watch this space.

Then in November the big one....the choral version of our opera in the theatre at Folly Farm. Every Monday since the summer we'd been doggedly rehearsing. Some were more committed than others and it was going to be a prestigious event so everyone turned up at Folly Farm at 11am sharp for an hour's rehearsal until we had to vacate for the Magic Show. In the 2 hour lunch break we were able to roam and visit the animals...great stuff. The orchestra, 29 strong, arrived and we spent the next three hours rehearsing with them. A quick snack, a change of clothes and it was showtime. Big time. As usual some trepidation...would the soloists remember their words, would we be in tune? Well of course they did and of course we were. We had been choreographed to go on to the stage neatly, to sit down as

one, to stand as one. Sam arrived, took a bow, the orchestra launched into the overture and we were off. All so familiar. We had finished by 11pm and went out into a wet, blustery car park with a feeling of great satisfaction. It was one hundred years bar a few hours since the Armistice was signed.

Next day, some of us were back in the Tabernacle. 250 singers from assorted choirs filled the gallery and sang rousing WW1 stuff. There was a brass band, a trumpeter for the Reveille and Last Post, an organist, Simon at the piano and a professional opera singer with whom our own Lou and Emma from our opera compared far more than favourably. Some of us went up to the castle to watch the beacon lit and to hear St Mary's church bells ring out.

So many couldn't make the Cleddau Reach Christmas Fayre, we had no accompaniment but soldiered on with the carols as parents and children queued to spend their money.

We packed into the Village Hall with our b.y.o booze to watch a unique version of the opera backdrop film. It was the first and only time we'd seen it except from an obtuse angle from the side of the stage. There was wonderful WW1 footage...dreadnoughts, Sarajevo, trenches...and *us*, filmed in the previous summer.

Finally, St David's Day Supper in the Village Hall. Lou faithfully came back to be a soloist with her supernatural top note in "I Could Have Danced All Night" and a haunting Puccini aria. The wonderful young Calum Cressey with his dry wit sang a fast and furious "Who Will Buy?" and "Be Our Guest". Rhys Evans played his silver cornet...a piece by John Rutter (our favourite)(?) and the exhilarating "Zelda" by Percy Code. Our own Jess did the solo intro to "We'll Keep a Welcome." So the soloists took the heat from us and we only sang a few pieces finishing with the National Anthem.

Next date, Good Friday at the Methodist Chapel with some new stuff. Newport Music Society in May. LitFest in August. Next year....Jesus Christ Superstar.

Thursdays 7.30 Village Hall...just turn up if you're interested. No audition, no requirement to read music, MP3s are emailed to learn from. You will be more than welcome.

Fiona Cutting



HERITAGE LLANGWM / FRIENDS OF ST JEROME'S

Winter is always a quiet time – the church is closed for casual visitors to the Talking Tapestry and few groups plan organised trips to take advantage of our presentations on Llangwm's history – more of which later. However we've more than made up for a lack of tapestry visitors with our **concerts in St Jerome's** – and we've staged some real crackers.

The **medieval music group La Volta** once more did us proud before Christmas, and starting in January we've put on a series of **seven Music at Lunchtime events**. The most popular, apart from La Volta who always draw in the crowds, were local lads **Wrong Direction** in February, and **John Roach and Joe Griffin** in January, when Joe's extraordinary bass voice must have threatened the rafters. We had planned introducing a group of four young brass players, but teenage dentistry intervened and we were extremely lucky to book the Saint City Jazz Band (*pictured*), complete with sousaphone, at short notice. We've already booked them for next year.

As ever we have great plans for the rest of the year including our **Medieval Weekend** at the **end of June**. The rather ambitious idea is to **commemorate an**



extraordinary event – well OK, perhaps rather more a myth – involving the chap who endowed St Jerome's in 1185, **Adam de la Roche**. When Adam died, from the bite of a viper, he was buried at Roch Castle, which was apparently not to the taste of his corpse, who reappeared the next morning at St Jerome's. And after he was taken back, it happened again the next day. Our plan is to help the process along by taking Adam (well possibly not the real Adam) on horseback the 14 miles from Roch to Llangwm. We humble 'retainers' can raise some money with a sponsored walk along the route.

We're also planning another rip-roaring chapter of the **Mabinogion** plus another **medieval banquet** – and a **concert** – so keep an eye on the lamp posts nearer the time. (*More details on the 'St Jerome's Church News' page.*)

We're also planning to vary the presentations we give when outside groups book visits to the tapestry. If you relish a

good love story you'll enjoy the tale of **William Duke of Normandy** who after he'd finished conquering England proved to be a bit of a pussycat as far as his wife Princess Mathilde was concerned. Plus a story of legal and historical intrigue with the death of **Sir Roger de Clarendon**, the last of the de la Roche line, who we believe was framed and hanged in 1402. We'll be

finding out if Sir Roger was innocent.

As always if you'd like to be involved with our various doings, we'll welcome you with open arms: email us at info@heritagellangwm.org.uk or phone **Pam Hunt** on 01437 899966.

Heather Payton

Kingfishers After School Club
(CCASC)
Cleddau Reach Primary School



Kingfishers CCASC provide quality accessible after school care, offering a range of play activities in a welcoming atmosphere. The club, registered with CIW, offers a child centred environment meeting the social, physical, intellectual, creative and emotional needs of all the children that attend.

This term the children have enjoyed a wide variety of themes and activities including Wales, Ireland and World Book Day.

Competition Winners – Next term we are looking forward to two fun-filled workshops provided – by Clybiau Plant Cymru – 'Nature Zone' and 'Games Galore'. Staff and children are looking forward to this opportunity to enhance their outdoor activities.

If you would like to join our committee or want to find out more about Kingfishers After School Club please contact the school office for further information.

New! HAPPY HEDGEHOGS

- for Mums and Tots

'Happy Hedgehogs' Baby and Toddler Group runs every Thursday (term time)

in the Village Hall

10.00 - 11.30 am

£2 per family

Includes snacks, tea & coffee, craft and songs.

Look us up on Facebook.

Attention all students...

Do you want to try your hand at writing/editing articles or taking photographs for the next Llangwm News? Perhaps you are planning to apply for college or university? No matter how little 'work experience' it might be, it could be a useful addition to your C.V.

And it could just be fun!

Interested? Email m.brace@btinternet.com or webeditor@llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk

Cleddau Reach VC Primary School News



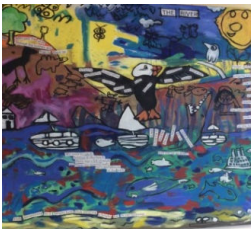
Welcome to the Cleddau Reach VC School section of the newsletter. We hope that you will enjoy reading about some of the events which have taken place in school recently.

At present the staff and children at the school are busy working on the wide variety of areas covered in the curriculum for Primary Schools. We are also reviewing the impact of teaching and learning in preparation for significant changes to the Welsh curriculum.



I am pleased to report that in the National School Categorisation Outcomes for all Primary and Secondary Schools in Wales 2018-2019 Cleddau Reach VC Primary remained in Group A for the capacity of the school to identify and work towards future improvement targets and in the green support category. This means that currently the school has highly effective internal structures for reviewing and developing teaching and learning.

Lead Creative Schools Project



For the last two years Cleddau Reach has been a lead creative school with funding from the Arts Council for Wales to develop links with creative practitioners in order to undertake projects that enrich cross-curricular learning within areas of the expressive arts.

Phase 1 of the Arts Council for Wales funded project for expressive arts was completed in 2018. This centred around one of our Key Stage 2 classes working, with four creative practitioners, who included local artists Fran Evans and Jasmine Cutting, to develop the story telling garden as a resource for using art to inspire creative writing. The work was linked to traditions and characters within the local Cleddau communities. The project was inspiring for the children and allowed them to develop confidence and imagination within their creative work.



The second phase of this project has begun this term and is focused on using legends and folk tales from Pembrokeshire as a stimulus for creative performance in the form of live presentations to an audience and also through making and presenting filmed dramatic presentations in English and Welsh. Chloe Wheeler has led this project supported by Owain Roach and Mark Evans has kindly volunteered his camera skills to support the filming sessions. These skills will be used to communicate the essence of each story. Our Year 4 class is involved in the second phase of the project this term and will share elements of their work within a presentation assembly for parents and governors on Thursday 4th April.



The skills covered through both projects have been incorporated into our curriculum planning for creative arts work.

Cleddau Reach School Council

The School Council has met each month to discuss a wide range of issues raised within the class councils. This term the class councils are providing ideas linked to a 'Sustainable Day' and the School Council will develop a plan outlining their thoughts on activities for the day. The Year 6 members of the School Council also support staff in ensuring that 'learner voice' is represented when areas of the curriculum are being reviewed. Members

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of the School Council will make a presentation to the governing body at the summer term meeting. This will outline the areas of learner focus during 2018-2019 and the impact these have made on school life.



During National Anti-Bullying week classes engaged in age appropriate activities and special assemblies were held in the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. Staff from the Torch Theatre provided an Anti-Bullying week workshop for our Year 2 learners.

St. David's Day Celebrations

The school recently celebrated St. David's Day with a wide range of activities. A special whole school assembly was held on Tuesday 5th March and the children came to school in traditional costume.



During the first week of March the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 classes held eisteddfods where they shared poems, art work, Welsh conversations and traditional dances.

The activities were enjoyable for the children and allowed them to learn more about the culture and traditions of Wales.



World Book Day 2019



All classes at Cleddau Reach celebrated World Book Day by sharing their favourite stories and coming to school dressed as a character from a story. A special assembly was held and staff undertook lessons linked to the theme and shared their favourite stories and poems.



After School Clubs and Sporting Events

A wide variety of school clubs have been run for the children during the autumn and spring terms. These have included: Choir, Clwb Cymraeg, Football, Rugby, two Netball Clubs and God for Kids.

Both our girls and boys football teams have competed in the Swansea City AFC School Tournaments in Haverfordwest. The teams had the opportunity to play several matches against other Pembrokeshire schools.



The teams represented the school in a sporting and determined way experiencing wins, draws, and losses.

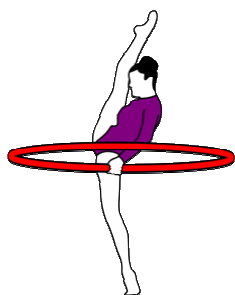
This term children within Year 3 and Year 4 received cricket coaching as part of the core school day through the 'Chance to Shine' programme. Early



season coaching should help the school team to build on a successful 2018 season when the mixed cricket team won eleven of their twelve matches and reached the semi-finals of the Pembrokeshire Kwik Cricket tournament, narrowly losing by 4 runs to Sageston Primary School. The girl's cricket team for the fourth year progressed from the Pembrokeshire competition to the South Wales finals held at the Swalec Stadium where they won five matches and reached the South Wales semi-finals. (continues overleaf)

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The school governing body have also supported the hiring of the school facilities by external clubs and organisations. For example: the 'Cleddau Primary Gymnastics Club' hires the school hall to provide weekly sessions for the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 members of the club and the 'Llangwm Lions' use the school field for football practice and as a venue for home matches. Some events during the Llangwm Literary Festival 2018 were staged in the school hall and Llangwm Community Council hires part of the school as a venue for their winter meetings. The Kingfishers Club continue to hire the school community room to provide after school care.



Collective Worship / Links with the Community

The close links with our local communities are a real strength of Cleddau Reach VC Primary School. We are very proud of these links and recognise their importance in broadening the experiences of the children. We feel that both the school and the local communities benefit from this close relationship. During 2018-2019 children and staff from the school have taken part in a wide range of community events both within and outside of the school day.



Organisations from within our local communities also contribute much to enrich school life. For example, the congregation of St. Jerome's once again organised an excellent leavers' barbecue evening for our Year 6 children. Also members of the Llangwm Local History Society shared exhibits and knowledge with the children and visiting musicians from Poland have shared their work with the children.

The Poppy Appeal in school raised £229.31 and the school was represented at the service of remembrance within Llangwm village. During the autumn term children across the school made different poppy designs to display in Llangwm to remember the centenary of the armistice.

Several children from the school were involved in the performance of the 'Llangwm Village Opera' to mark the centenary of the World War One armistice at Folly Farm theatre. Year 6 children were also involved in recording parts for a centenary radio play written by John Roach.

The Year 6 children benefitted greatly from having access to the Llangwm Local History Society exhibition linked to the impact of World War one on the local community. The school was very grateful to Mrs. Liz Rawlings for bringing the exhibition into school and helping the children to learn more about the people and items displayed within it.



On Tuesday 4th December Year 6 learners and staff attended the final act of remembrance for the seventeen men from Llangwm who died in World War One and the forty-four who were involved in the conflict and returned. The service took place in St. Jerome's with the children reading the names of the fallen and extracts from their letters and diaries. Mrs. Jane Mills the Chair of the Llangwm Local History Society wrote to the school to thank the children for their 'clear, confident and moving contributions'.

Cleddau Reach raised the tremendous amount of £1075.94 for the 2018 Children in Need Appeal.

The Cleddau Reach School choir performed a selection of Christmas songs at the candlelit Christmas carol Service in St. Jerome's church on Wednesday 17th December.

A traditional Nativity Service was held at St. Mary's Church Burton on the last morning of the autumn term and this was followed by the children visiting Williamston Residential home to share festive music with the residents.



Our school community has also supported many of the events held to raise funds for 'Tirion's Rainbow'.

Five Christmas Concerts took place in our school hall playing to large and enthusiastic audiences. Once again each concert was very well received. The Years 5 and 6 children also took their performance of 'Shakespeare Rocks' to Portfield School where it was greatly enjoyed by the staff and children.

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(School News continued from previous page)

In a time of significant cuts to school funding the Friends of the School organisation has worked extremely hard to raise funds and organise social events to support the work of the school. The 2018 Christmas Market was once again very successful as both a community event and a way of raising funds. £2,717.43 was raised. The school was delighted that 'Village Voices' and the 'Mini Fleas' ukulele group once again supported the school by playing a range of seasonal music.

PROCEDURES FOR REGISTERING YOUR CHILD FOR ADMISSION INTO CLEDDAU REACH VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

All applications for school places are dealt with centrally by the Admissions Officer at County Hall. If you would like to register a place within Cleddau Reach VC Primary School please visit the Pembrokeshire County Council website www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/education Please read the Information for Parents guide and apply for a school place using the on-line application form.

(Llangwm Village News is grateful to Mr N Groves, Headmaster of Cleddau Reach VC School for this report and insight into school life.)

Forging links with Flemish ancestors - LCC visits Beernem

Four Llangwm Community Councillors - Pam Hunt, Llinos Martin, Liz Rawlings and Matthew Evans, went on a self-funded trip to Beernem in Flanders. This was to re-establish a connection with a Flemish area as these were the originators of Llangwm village in the 12th century. A packed few days enabled the group to meet with the current Mayor, former Mayor and Aldermen and also to develop links with the local school; rugby team; historic places of interest; and a talented artist, potter and sculptor. It is anticipated that these links will be developed further over the next few years and enable exchange visits between Beernem and Llangwm.



Back row L-R: Alderman Bruno Strobbe, Alderman Jan Vanasche, Alderman Vicky Reyneart, Alderman Patricia Waeniers, Katrien Bruggeman, Paul Bruggeman, Christine Vereecke (narrator of the Flemish version of the Tapestry App and translator for the Website), Christine's husband Ronny Millet.

Front Row L-R: Johan de Rycke (former mayor), Liz Rawlings, Llinos Martin, Walter Van Parijs (current mayor), Matthew Evans, Pam Hunt, Marianne de Rycke.

On the table is the half size copy of the Talking Tapestry of Langum which was presented to the town along with other small gifts.

LLANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Back on the Home Front - and as busy as ever!

Exciting New Project for the Society

LLHS together with Pembroke, Coastlands, Penally and Hook have combined forces to create a 2-year archiving project. The intention is to create a website - Heritage Pembrokeshire, onto which will be digitally uploaded all the photographs, documents and artefacts collected by the five societies. This ensures that these important elements of the village's past will not just be stored in cupboards, but will be accessible to all - local people, students, historians etc. Recently, two project officers were appointed - Angela Jones (manager at the Tudor House, Tenby) and David Llewelyn (former archivist at Pembrokeshire Record Office). They started the project on 20th March and will be working in conjunction with the People's Collection Wales and the Heritage team at PLANED. This project has been funded by the Leader Fund and Heritage Lottery, and will help to preserve Llangwm's unique heritage.

Liz Rawlings

Our First World War Project

The Remembrance weekend last November saw the culmination of a five year project to commemorate Llangwm's part in the Great War when the final performance of our opera, WW1 - A Village at War, was performed to a packed theatre at Folly Farm. In the furthest part of West Wales, Llangwm was a long way from the conflict that was set off by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Serbia in 1914. And yet, so many men from Llangwm joined up to fight for King and country leaving their women to run the farms, keep the fishing going and support their men at the front. In all, 66 men enlisted, 17 died and 49 returned.

This contribution was commemorated by an exhibition which showed what happened in Llangwm during that time and set this in both the national and international context.



It was not just displayed in Llangwm, but also in The Torch Theatre, Milford Haven, Newport and Haverfordwest and we were delighted to welcome Sara Edwards, The Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, to open its final showing last autumn.

Our opera by Sam Howley & Peter George and directed by Carol Mackintosh, has been seen by over 2,000 people in its different formats and many more have seen the DVD. It has been a real community project which challenged its audiences to have a deeper understanding of the reasons why the conflict took place and the reality of war for real



A touching scene from the 'film footage' for the village's unique WW1 opera - four Llangwm lads sign up for war.

people. We were also delighted to be able to make donations totaling £6,000 to The Royal British Legion, Help for Heroes and SSAFA.

To our great delight, our project won a national award which was presented at a ceremony held in the Army & Navy Club in London where the opera was described as "one of the finest creations of the centenary" – praise indeed.

Finally, all 17 men with Llangwm connections who died during the war were commemorated on the anniversary of their death during 2018. The individual ceremonies in St. Jerome's Church were particularly poignant when family members were present. A final Act of Remembrance took place at the end of the year when we were joined by



children from Cleddau Reach School, Llangwm men's choir, the Royal British Legion and SSAFA. It was a fitting end to such an amazing project.

Jane Mills

LLANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY Talks & Events

As 2018 drew to a close the History Society geared up a pace (see previous page) by holding an exhibition in the village hall on World War 1 and staging a performance of the award winning opera, WW1- A Village At War, as well as continuing its commemorations of Llangwm's WW1 servicemen.

In November we held our AGM followed by a nostalgic film of what Pembrokeshire looked like in the 1960s, which felt like only yesterday to many of the audience.

January saw us teaming up with the Gardening Club for a Quiz Night enhanced with food and drink which everyone had brought with them. This has always been a very enjoyable occasion and this year was no exception. In January too we held a Curry Night at The Cottage Inn for members in place of the more traditional Christmas meal and this proved to be very popular.

This year's series of talks got under way in February with our guest speaker, Gareth Mills, giving us a very detailed history of the life of William Marshal and, more specifically, the great man's responsibility for the building of Pembroke Castle in stone.

In March a packed village hall listened to John Evans of the Sunderland Trust, a recognised authority on maritime aviation and local expert on the history of aviation in Pembrokeshire. John provided a very interesting power-point presentation, finishing his talk with details of two Llangwm airmen, Arla George and Ronald Palmer.

Our programme for the rest of the year is a very varied one:

| | |
|---|---|
| Wed 10th April | The Landshipping Disaster- a talk by Dr. Robert Llewellyn Davies MBE |
| Wed 15th May (date TBC) | Members visit to Pembroke Museum & a Civil War themed walk around Pembroke with local historian Terry John. |
| Fri 21st June | Members trip to Chapel Bay Fort, Angle |
| Wed 10th July | The Romans In Pembrokeshire - a talk by archaeologist James Meek |
| Wed 11th Sept | The Man Who Killed Richard III - a talk by Alex Powell |
| Wed 16th Oct | The Rebecca Riots - a talk by local historian Mark Muller |
| Wed 27th Nov | Orielton House - a talk by Chris Millican |
| Dec (date TBC) | Christmas Meal |

Details of all history society events can also be found on Llangwm's website.

Membership of the history society is just £5 per annum and includes free refreshments at all our talks, which are held at 7.30pm in the village hall. The fee for non-members is £2 per talk including refreshments.

Eileen Horton

Llangwm Community Council - Report

Many interesting events have happened over the last six months nationally and locally. The following are of the most important to us in Llangwm:

Dog Fouling. This remains a concern in the village as a potential health hazard, particularly to young children. If there is sufficient interest, the Community Council could set up a Green Dog Walkers Scheme similar to one in Wimblington. The idea is that responsible dog owners sign a pledge to say that they will clear up after their own dogs and carry spare bags to offer to anyone not clearing up after their own dog. A green ribbon is attached to their dog's collar/lead to identify themselves as a Green Dog Walker. Please let a member of the Community Council know if you are interested.

Defibrillators. There are 3 defibrillators sited around the village - at Cleddau Stores, Main Street; on the Village Hall, Pill Parks Way; and at Black Tar.

Residents may wish to raise money for additional machines for other areas of Llangwm.

Cleddau Bridge. As from 1st April there is no toll payable.

Black Tar Toilet Facility. This is the third year of opening from Easter though until October half term. Until now, volunteers from the Community Council have been responsible for cleaning this public toilet. This is a request that other volunteers come forward to support their efforts in maintaining this resource. Cleaning takes between 15-20 minutes and the toilet needs to be cleaned twice a week. Please let a Community Councillor know if you could help out by volunteering.. A big THANK YOU must go to those who have supported this venture by giving of their time and materials and helping to maintain the building.

Traffic through the Village. This is another source of concern particularly to residents on Main Street. It is vitally important to report any near misses or inconsiderate driving in the village immediately to the police on 101. They keep a log of such calls, and will only act on reported incidents plus they are able to gain information on 'hot spots' that need targeting, including speeding.

Parking. Please note that it is illegal to park on pavements and that this too should be reported to the police. Llangwm Community Council have been investigating ways of trying to solve the very thorny issue of parking throughout the village, and would welcome any suggestions from residents.

Nash Recycling Point. Due to frequent abuse and dumping of rubbish, this site will be totally removed within the next month.

Village Website. The village website has a 'new look' and has been revamped to be compatible with phones and tablets. This has taken an enormous amount of time, and thanks must be extended to all the volunteers involved for their hard work. All events/groups/societies can be listed on the website together with photographs and videos clips.

Please send all information/files to:
webeditor@llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk
and check out the website on
www.llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk



ST. JEROME'S NEWS

Well Spring has certainly sprung; snowdrops have bobbed their white heads, crocus erupted from their winter sleep and the daffodils wave their trumpets in the sunshine! Mornings and evenings are getting lighter, as this season unfolds. What glorious weather we have had recently, such a sharp contrast to last year, when March greeted us with "The Beast from the East" and "Storm Emma!"

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Final Lunchtime Concert of the series.

Two Pianos - Sunday 7th April at 1pm, with Seimon Morris and Sam Howley.

Film Club end of season – Friday 12th April at 7.30pm. Feature will be "Zulu".

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place at St Jerome's on Easter Saturday, 20th April at 3.00pm. Posters will be up around the village, in the shop and on Llangwm Facebook page.

Please check on the St. Jerome's Church Notice Board for any changes to times and venues of Church Services and Events.

SERVICES

Worship Time (an informal all age service) is held on the first Sunday of every month at 10am.

The next Worship Time service will be on Sunday 7th April.

Our regular Sunday Services start at 9.00am

Our Sunday School is held during our regular Sunday morning services.

Palm Sunday Service on 14th April at 9.00am.

Wednesday Eucharist on 17th April at 9.30am.

Maundy Thursday on 18th April at 10.00am in St Peter's, Johnston (with the washing of feet, stripping of the altar and the watch of the Passion).

Joint Good Friday Holy Hour Service on 19th April at 10.00am in St Justinian's, Freystrop.

Good Friday – 'Children's Stations of the Cross' Service at 2pm in St Jerome's.

Easter Day Eucharist on Sunday 21st April at 9.00am in St Jerome's.

Usually, if there is a 5th Sunday in the month, there is a Joint Parish Service at 10am, held either in Llangwm, Johnston or Freystrop:

30th June – St Justinian's, Freystrop.

29th September – St Peter's, Johnston.

29th December – St Jerome's, Llangwm.

Details of venues on the Church Notice Board.

FUTURE EVENTS

St Jerome's Spring Fayre – Saturday 18 May in Llangwm Village Hall at 2pm.

St Jerome's Youth Pilgrimage to St David's – Saturday 4th May – Monday 6th May. Please contact Rev Marcus for details on 01437 899548.

Parish BBQ – Sunday 16th June by kind invitation of Mr David and Mrs Jane Mills at 2.00pm. To be held in their garden, Butterhill House, Butterhill, Llangwm.

Teddy Bear's Picnic – Date to be confirmed. 3pm – 4.30pm at St Jerome's.

St Jerome's Medieval Weekend – Saturday 29th June – Sunday 30th June.

(also covered on the Heritage/Friends of St Jerome's page)
Saturday 29th June. The re-enactment of the "Adam de la Roche Legend", bringing his shrouded body from Roch Castle to Llangwm, arriving at 4.30pm.

Saturday 29th June at 7.30pm – Medieval Banquet in The Cottage Inn.

Sunday 30th June at 2.30pm – 3rd Branch of the Mabinogion with Rev Rhiannon Johnson in St Jerome's.

Sunday 30th June at 7.30pm – Concert with award winning Classical Guitarist, Christopher Roberts, playing his adaptation of medieval Welsh Harp music originally composed by Robert ap Huw, in St Jerome's.

Llangwm Carnival – Saturday 13th July. Full details to be found in this Llangwm Newsletter.

Joan's Cream Tea and Big Raffle Draw – by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Graham and Joan Stephens. Date and Time TBA.

Confirmation Service – Sunday 8th September at 10.00am in St Jerome's.

Curry Night – Wednesday 18th September in Llangwm Village Hall. Price £8.00. Time TBC.

Silent Auction – Friday 4th October in Llangwm Hall. Time TBC.

As with all events please check notices either on Church Notice Board or on posters around the village.

Reverend Marcus and everyone from St. Jerome's Church would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and Summer.

Debbi Lawson Earley

GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

In **August**, as part of this year's **Literary Festival**, **Galilee Chapel** is planning to host a **history exhibition** relating to the village and the chapel.

In association with the **History Society**, the exhibition "**Llangwm: A Glimpse of the Past**" will be displayed for three days, from **Friday 9th August to Sunday 11th August**, along with items specifically connected with the chapel.

Opening times will be **11am - 5pm** on **Friday** and **Saturday**, and **12noon - 4pm** on **Sunday**, following morning service.

Watch for more news in the **Literary Festival programme** and **posters** nearer the time.

It is hoped that this will provide an opportunity for old friends to get together and remember the 'good old days' and highlights of Galilee life.

The services for the next few months include the following:-

Every Sunday morning at 10.30am (except for services shared at the Methodist Chapel)

19 April at 10.00am Good Friday service followed by tea/coffee and hot cross buns in the vestry. All welcome.

21 April at 10.30am Easter Sunday service with Rev Roger Hart

19 May - we join the Methodist Chapel at 11am for their church anniversary service

26 May - we are joined by our Methodist friends (10.30)

16 June - we are joined by our Methodist friends (10.30)

23 June - we join the Methodist Chapel at 11am for their Sunday School anniversary service.

15 September - Harvest Festival at the Methodist Chapel at 11am

23 September - Harvest Festival at Galilee at 10.30am

LLANGWM METHODIST CHAPEL

MINISTER: Reverend Lorette Hinson

SECRETARY: Mrs Jane Brock

TREASURER: Mrs Susan Davies

Sunday Services: 11am every Sunday

Sunday School: 11am every Sunday

Please come and join us -

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 SERVICES

Palm Sunday - 14th April - Service 11am

Good Friday - 19th April with Reverend Lorette Hinson - service in the main chapel at 3.30pm followed by the Good Friday Tea in the Sunday School Room at 4.00pm

Easter Sunday, 21st April - 11am service

Good Friday Concert
An evening with Llangwm Village Voices
commencing at 7.30pm
Adults £5.00 Children £1.00
Tickets available from Cleddau Stores,
any chapel member or pay at the door
on the evening

Sunday 19th May - Chapel Anniversary - 11am

Sunday 26th May - joining Galilee Baptist Church - Chapel Anniversary 10.30am

Sunday 16th June - joining Galilee Baptist Church - Sunday School Anniversary 10.30am

Sunday 23rd June - Sunday School Anniversary Service commencing at 11am

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Village Festival Fortnight

- please join us to enjoy bacon rolls, light savouries and delicious homemade sweet with a cup of tea/coffee with good company in the Sunday School Room, daily from Monday 1st July to Friday 12th July 12 noon - 5pm

Literary Festival Weekend

We welcome your company from Friday 9th August through to Sunday 11th August to join us again for bacon rolls, light savouries and delicious homemade sweet with a cup of tea/coffee, from 12 noon - 5pm

Sunday 15th September - Harvest Festival Service - commencing at 11am

Sunday 22nd September - joining Galilee Baptist Chapel for their Harvest Festival Service

A VERY WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO ALL.



**Happy Birthday
to the
"Cleddau Stores"

One Year Old
on 6th April!**

*"Well done, Dave,
you've served us all well
and kept the hub of the
village alive."*

Llangwm 150 years ago – Spring 1869

On Saturday 20th March 1869, two little girls aged about 7 and 9 years were left alone at their grandparents' house. The house was at North Hill, part of the Llangwm Hill estate, situated between Llangwm village and Hook village.

The girls found a flask containing gunpowder in a cupboard and were playing with it near an open fire. The powder exploded and shattered the flask. The elder child suffered a severe injury to her hand and her sister was struck under the right eye by a piece of the flask. The girls received medical aid but were lucky not to have been more seriously harmed.

Their grandparents were William and Sarah Evans. Originally a collier, William had then worked on the river as a bargeman or lighterman but, by the 1860s, he was farming between 40 and 50 acres. The couple had at least 7 children, of whom the eldest son was also called William. It was this William Evans who was the father of the two

girls. William was a coal-miner, initially working at Hook Colliery, but moving to Aberdare sometime before 1857.

The two children were not named in the newspaper report covering the accident but, by a process of elimination, they must have been Emma and Sarah. It is evident from the censuses that the girls were sometimes left with their paternal grandparents in Llangwm.

According to 'The Welshman' newspaper, "the most exaggerated rumours" were circulating after the explosion. It was claimed that the injuries were caused by a tramp who had called at the house and gouged out the children's eyes and nearly murdered them. Police Constable Thomas Beynon, who lived in a house at The Kilns in Llangwm village, was requested by Sergeant Clarke of the Pembrokeshire Constabulary to investigate the story.

The truth was that Emma had invented the tramp story, fearing that she would be punished for meddling with the gunpowder.

Nikki Bosworth

Sources for the above include censuses, parish registers, maps, newspapers and police diaries available at Pembrokeshire Archives and Local Studies.

Gone but not forgotten - the 'Box on the Green'

On the day of the royal visit last summer, soon after the police allowed a free flow of traffic through the village, a lorry/crane combo arrived to remove the BT telephone booth. Few would lament the loss of this unused and unsightly object from the Green but those with longer memories might reflect more favourably on its predecessor – the iconic red GPO 'kiosk'. Emblazoned with a prominent crown, representing the British Government, it had stood there since before most Llangwm households had a mains phone let alone their mobile equivalents. It was probably erected soon after 1936 when the majority of villages were provided with one as part of the King George V Jubilee celebrations.

The kiosk served as the main link with 'the outside world' frequently used for long romantic conversations and there was often a queue to use it. A good

supply of coins was necessary and there was a satisfying clunk of money as button A was pressed to achieve the connection. Button B pressed was for the return of unused coins but was frequently forgotten and became a welcome supplement to pocket



money. Of course its main function was to aid emergency procedures, arrange appointments, chats with loved ones living away, discussions with one's workplace and every

Saturday night for the reporting of Llangwm RFC fortunes that day to the media.

For the village kids who gathered nightly on the 'Back' as the Green was then called it was central to the fun to be had. The loud ringing of an incoming call resulted in a mad race to be the first to answer with no idea who the caller was. Whether a beau or a neighbouring posse throwing down a challenge they were greeted with the typical irreverence of local kids of that time. The kiosk frequently housed more than was considered possible – not only as a challenge but when waiting for the bus in a downpour.

Owen John

A Garden Tip from the 1950s:

Willy 'Dubbs' Palmer, an excellent gardener from Llangwm Ferry, was asked why he strung red milk bottle tops over his seed bed to deter birds rather the usual silver tops. "Hast thou ever seen a blackbird sitting on a telephone kiosk?" was the reply!



County Council Report by Cllr. Michael John

Increase in fly-tipping at Nash re-cycling point

Despite a great deal of publicity and requests to stop this abuse of the facility, the problem has deteriorated, resulting in Pembrokeshire County Council making the decision that it has to be removed. The costs of clearing the regular non-recyclable waste has become such that it outweighs the benefit from actual re-cycling. It is a shame that the actions of a minority have caused this amenity to be lost. If anybody does witness any further fly-tipping in this, or any other area please report to PCC on 01437 764551 or on-line via "MyAccount" system.

Following many local concerns, I have raised issues with PCC highways regarding speeding across the area. Feedback received to 2 of these requests is as follows.

Extending the 20mph limit through the village and past the school has been considered:

Deerland Road speed survey:

To Llangwm. Mean Av = 32.4mph

To Hook. Mean Av = 28.7 mph

The provision of traffic calming on Main Street has also been considered

Main Street speed:

Northward. Mean Av = 17.7 mph

Southward. Mean Av 17.9 mph

Whilst these are the averages, the full results do show traffic in the range 26-31mph in Main Street and 36-46mph past the school. It is these higher speeds that I feel need to be addressed.

The comments I have received from PCC are that:

"Main Street has a 20mph limit and the speed survey confirm that the average speeds are below 18mph indicating that

motorists are complying with the speed limit and traffic calming features are not required."

"With reference to Deerland Road, traffic calming measures would be required to bring the traffic speeds down to 20mph. Unfortunately, there is little funding available for traffic calming and all requests are prioritised to ensure that cases are dealt with fairly, and that the available resources are targeted.

Examination of the personal injury collision database confirms that there have been no personal injury collisions in the vicinity of the School on Deerland Road during the past 60 months and therefore this location would not be considered as a priority for funding traffic calming. The latest bids for funding by PCC to Welsh Government have been unsuccessful in securing funding in to the absence of personal injury collisions."

There are also no recorded personal injury accidents in Main Street.

The advice I have been given is that any concerns regarding excessive speeds or any accidents/ incidents should be reported to the Police on 101. This would then provide an evidence base for any future considerations.

If there are any residents interested in the Community Speed watch group, there are some details at:

<https://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk/en/your-area/pembrokeshire/haverfordwest-rural/>

The Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant is over half way through its initial 2 year trail. To date no requests for grants have been made from organisations in this area. Should none be received, then the money allocated to our area will revert to the general county wide pot. Information on the grant can be found at: <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/grants/the-enhancing-pembrokeshire-grant>

Tolls on the Cleddau Bridge

Following the announcement by Welsh Government that they would cease the tolls, negotiations took place as they confirmed they would not make this a trunk route. Responsibility for maintenance therefore remains with PCC. The offer from Welsh Government

confirmed;

- A £3m p.a. payment (subject to a formal review in 20 years – 2039), and a one-off payment from WG to cover the costs of abolishing the tolls (toll infrastructure, staffing).

Also, confirmation that PCC can bid for capital funds in the usual way, to replace the Westfield Pill and Cleddau Bridges as and when that becomes necessary.

The cabinet made the decision to accept the offer on the terms given, and the tolls ceased on 1st April 2019.

PCC will offer refunds on unused tickets for a three-month period up until 30th June. Refunds will be available from the Cleddau Bridge office itself and from the Council's customer service centre in North Wing, County Hall, Haverfordwest.

A Council Tax premium on long-term empty properties was introduced from 1st April.

This comes two years after the County Council began levying a 50 per cent Council Tax premium on the County's 4,000 second homes.

PCC believes the introduction of the two premiums will help increase the supply of housing.

The Council estimates there are over 1,000 long-term empty properties in the County, some of which have remained empty for up to 10 years. Of these, 670 have been empty for between one and three years.

The aim is to revitalise communities by increasing the supply of housing.

The monies will be ring-fenced for affordable housing and the Enhancing Pembrokeshire grant scheme which funds community projects.

I intend to hold more surgeries over the Spring and Summer following on from the ones last year. These will be advertised locally once dates are set.

If anyone wishes to discuss any issues raised, or any other topics concerning PCC, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

I can be contacted on 01437 890175 or cllr.michael.john@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

If you do have any issues or queries you can also contact PCC direct on 01437 764551 or - <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/resident>

JUNIOR FOOTBALL NEWS

Llangwm Lions AFC have enjoyed a successful first season at U8's age group for 2018/19 under the guidance of coaches Richard Nash, Dan Jones and Mike Preddy.



For anyone wishing to learn more about Llangwm Lions AFC, please contact Club Secretary Mike Preddy - preddy@hotmail.co.uk

NATURE NOTES

Winter 2018 to Spring 2019

There is no disputing the fact that it has been a mild winter with few heavy frosts. This may have a bearing on the fact that, from an ornithological point of view, it has been pretty uneventful with nothing more exciting to report on than the usual species of overwintering wildfowl and waders in the Pill and adjacent shores.

Teal, mallard and shelduck were all present although teal numbers were noticeably down compared to previous years. The most counted were 44 as compared to 80-plus in previous years. Redshank, greenshank, dunlin, curlew were also present in their usual numbers, as were little egrets. Black tailed godwits appeared only occasionally, singly or in pairs – until 2 March when 120 were counted feeding on the mudflats between Edwards Pill and Llangwm Ferry. They were then present in various numbers until the end of March when virtually all the waterbirds left for

their summer breeding grounds.

The unseasonal warm spell in early March brought out the spring flowers, bumble bees and the occasional butterfly. Bluebells were in bloom in the third week of March at Port Lion.

On a more serious note, it appears that ash dieback (chalara) is spreading alarmingly throughout Wales. This chronic fungal disease is characterised by leaf loss and crown dieback in infected trees. If it takes hold in our locality, in which a high proportion of trees are ash, the visual effect on the landscape will be devastating. Keep a wary eye on ash trees where the bark on the shoots and branches, normally grey, starts to turn green and then brown. During the summer months, obviously, poor leaf growth and early loss of leaves will indicate that the disease is present. There is no cure and it is usually fatal. The disease is spread through spores released from fungal bodies on fallen leaves from infected trees, so collecting and burning these leaves may help reduce spread and repeat infections.

Please contact me with any news of unusual sightings on grahambrace@btinternet.com or phone me on 891580.

UPWARDS AND EASTWARDS - IT'S THE WRONG DIRECTION!

Llangwm's (old) 'boy band'/men's choral group *Wrong Direction*, under the enthusiastic leadership of musical director Neil Martin, goes from strength to strength.

Now numbering 14 the 'boys' (all equally enthusiastic) meet in St Jerome's Church every Tuesday morning for coffee, a chat (incorporating lots of 'ribbing') and a two-hour practice session.



Did someone say something? Choristers from Wrong Direction are stopped in their tracks by a funny comment from the audience in the marquee at last year's Literary Festival.

They got together 18 months ago when asked to sing some songs of Remembrance. Since then the repertoire has lightened to include folk, music hall and popular songs. At times this leads to donning appropriate headgear – pilots'

helmets and goggles for *Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines* and flat caps and mufflers for *Ilkley Moor Baht 'At*.

Christmas jumpers were the uniform for their Tirion's Rainbow fundraising concert in December, while smart kepis and truncheons accompanied the song of *The Bold Gendarmes* in their 'exclusive' February lunchtime concert in St Jerome's.



In July *Wrong Direction* will travel to Poland with an entourage of WAGs and supporters, to perform at the annual medieval festival at Malbork Castle (the largest in Europe, built by Teutonic knights in the 13th century). The invitation came from the Mayor of Malbork town and the vocal group 'Amber Chant' who visited Llangwm last July, singing at St Jerome's, St Davids Cathedral - and coincidentally for the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall on Llangwm Green!

LLANGWM CRICKET CLUB 2019 SEASON



The Club held its AGM on the 5th March 2019 in the Clubhouse. Chairman Dai Davies welcomed everyone and asked all present to stand in memory of those people who were connected to the club, who passed away during the last 12 months.

The following Officers were elected :-

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| President | Peter Rees |
| Chairman | Dai Davies |
| Vice Chairman | Simon Richards |
| Hon. Treasurer | William Beresford |
| Hon. Secretary | Suzanne Waller |
| Child Welfare Officer | Suzanne Waller |

First Team Captain Ollie Davies
Second Team Captain Martyn Thomas

Club Committee: as above, plus Sean Thomas, Joseph Kiff, Paul Morgan, Julian Platten, Colin Phillips

Life Members elected: Dai Davies, Peter Rees, Jeff Saies, Susan Davies, Stuart Beresford, Colin Phillips.

Club Subscriptions for 2019

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Vice Presidents | £35.00 |
| Club Members | £25.00 |
| Senior Players | £25.00 |
| Youth Players | £5.00 |
| under 14 to 17s age group | |

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Match Sponsor | £25.00 |
| Umpire Sponsor | £15.00 |
| Tea Sponsor | £15.00 |
| Match Ball | £10.00 |
| Club Ties available | £13.00 |

The Club would like to thank Cllr. Michael John and the Council Chairman Mr. Aden Brinn for inviting the Cleddau Crusaders Team and Officials to the County Hall to celebrate the occasion of winning the Welsh Cup, and also for providing an excellent buffet.

All who attended the Cricket Dinner held at the Beggars Reach Hotel had an enjoyable evening. The Dinner was organised by Joseph Kiff and James Venables, also thanks to Cllr. Michael John our guest speaker.



Jo Phillips has been selected to play for Wales National under 14s squad this season and Llangwm Cricket Club congratulates him on this achievement.

Finally, we are looking forward to a successful season.

David and Sue Davies

LLANGWM RUGBY CLUB News



I'm sure we all enjoyed the fantastic achievement of the **Welsh rugby team** winning the **Grand Slam** this year. Those famous team members like **Liam Williams, Jonathan Davies, Rob Evans** and **Alun Wyn** did not become good players overnight. They all started out with their **local junior teams** before progressing through their **clubs**, into the **regions** and finally the **Welsh squad**. Our village is fortunate to have a very strong **Junior Rugby section** catering for **boys and girls** with teams from **7 to 16 years of age**. They are well coached and guided by an enthusiastic group of **WRU qualified parents** and play on **Sunday mornings on Pill Parks**. Apologies to those affected by the street parking issues during a county wide 'festival' event a month or so ago - we have been assured of better control next time.

The **senior team** has improved dramatically this season under the captaincy of **Gethin Thomas** and coaches **Bruce Evans** and **Robbie Neil**, boasting the 'double' over **Pembroke Dock Quins** and **St Davids** and a draw against **Tregaron**. Against the stronger clubs the team have shown real spirit and skill none more so than against league leaders **Milford Haven** last time out.

The last home game of the season will be for the **Bishop Cup and league** against **Haverfordwest** on **Easter Saturday K.O. 2.30**. Do come and support your village team and enjoy the good atmosphere and facility of the **stand bar and clubhouse** after the match. A **special match** will be played on **Good Friday at Pill Parks (K.O. 5pm)** between a **Llangwm Veterans** team and a **President's Select XV** comprising representatives of Pembrokeshire clubs including ex Welsh international players. All proceeds from this event will go to the '**Eliza Fund**' which is a **Just Giving fund** set up to provide life changing treatment for **4 yr old Eliza** who is the granddaughter of our club Secretary. Treatment for this rare disease is not available in Wales. More information on the village Facebook and LRFC sites.

Other events at season end are the club **Annual Dinner** to be held in **Hook Club** on **26 April** and on the same night in the **clubhouse on the Green**, the last **Music Night** until August, featuring the ever popular **Flat Cappers**. Starts 8.30 pm, £5 on the door. There have been some top class acts recently including **Westbound, Sorted** and **Henry Marten's Ghost**. Look out for adverts of future events posted around the village a week or so before. The **clubhouse** is now only open **before and after matches**, all **Wales international games** (watch on new and very popular **Big Screen**) and special events like **Music Night, Junior Awards, Literary Festival** and **private functions**. The **bar staff** are now **all volunteers** and this has resulted in the facility running **at a surplus**. Similarly due to efforts of the **committee, sponsors and members** the rugby club has a sound financial footing and will continue to **provide sport for our youngsters well into the future**.

If you would like to **become a member** (5 categories from **Social to Vice President**) please contact me on the email address below.

Finally a notice for all members - the **Llangwm RFC AGM** will be held in the **clubhouse** on **29 July 2019 at 8 pm**.

Owen John (Membership Secretary)
owengjohn44@gmail.com

LLANGWM ROWING CLUB

One of the greatest attractions of living in Llangwm is our beautiful riverside location. Rowing is a great way to get out on the water, keep fit and meet people. We aim to cater for all-comers from the super competitive racing crews to those who just want to keep fit and enjoy the company of others out on the river.

The Club owns four "Pembrokeshire longboats", which are 24 ft long and carry four rowers and a cox. We also have a smaller "Teifi skiff" which carries two rowers plus a cox. The Pembrokeshire longboat is the standard design used by the majority of sea rowing clubs in Wales. Racing crews compete against other clubs in the Welsh Sea Rowing Association League, with the men's crew winning the seniors category and a mixed crew winning the mixed veterans category in the league. We are planning to host a regatta at Black Tar again this year on Sunday 28th July.

As well as regular training sessions for the racing crews there is an active "social rowing" group who organise fitness sessions in the evenings, at weekends and some of our retired members also get out during the week. Although the racing crews look for regular attendance by the same team of people, the social rowing is much more flexible with people coming as and when they can make it. We tend to use Facebook to co-ordinate our sessions and will go out when we can get together a group of between four and six.

We have no clubhouse but meet at the slipway at Black Tar. During the past year we have made several excursions to the "Doghouse" at Lawrenny, the Jolly Sailor at Burton and have even been as far as the Cresselly Arms and the Bristol Trader. But more often



we just exercise on the river and at high water we can explore its tributaries including Sprinkle Pill, Millin Creek and the Eastern Cleddau up to Blackpool Mill.

A few hardy souls have kept the boats active through the winter but now that the evenings are getting lighter more of us will be getting back on the water. We are always interested in attracting new members and we will be organising regular rowing sessions on Monday evenings from the 8th April. All are welcome to come along and meet us at Black Tar at 6.30 pm and we will take you out for a free trial session, or get in touch with us via our Facebook page.

With the rugby and football seasons drawing to a close, why not join us for a bit of off season training? Rowing is great for aerobic fitness and core strength...and the scenery is so much better than the rowing machine at your local gym.

Peter Rose

LLANGWM BOATING CLUB

The Club was formed many years ago with the objective of promoting and facilitating the sport of boating in the village. These days its main role is the allocation and supervision of the 142 moorings in the River Cleddau between Llangwm Ferry and Sprinkle Pill.

LBC is one of a number of Voluntary Control Bodies on the estuary set up with Parliamentary approval in 1975. In essence 'sinkers' are laid on the river bed which belongs to the Crown Estates (CE) but the 'risers' and buoys come under the jurisdiction of the Milford Haven Harbourmaster.

Membership of Llangwm Boating Club is £10 per annum whilst the CE charge for a mooring is £62 p.a. (the mooring holder is responsible for the laying, maintenance and insurance of the vessel using the mooring). Anyone interested in becoming a member or applying for a mooring should in the first instance email llangwm.boat.club@gmail.com

The LBC committee meet monthly throughout the year and there is an AGM for members in the autumn – for 2019 this will be held in the Cottage Inn on November 11 2019 at 19.30.

Officers for 2019:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| President | Neville Lewis |
| Chairman | Owen John |
| Secretary | Louis Preece |
| Treasurer | Paul Morgan |
| Mooring Officer | Bog Tyler |

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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.