

Llangwm News



THE LLANGWM NEWSLETTER

SPONSORED BY LLANGWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL



*Wishing you all a Very Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year*



Editorial

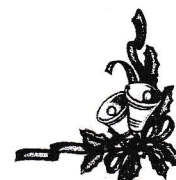
Christmas is once again nearly here and the mad rush associated with this time of year is in full swing. As always the various clubs and societies in the village have organised numerous events, where the stresses can be released and the true meaning of Christmas remembered.

Since the last newsletter the activities within the village have continued to grow from strength to strength, further increasing the 'community spirit'. There are a number of groups who I have unfortunately been unable to contact in time for this issue - look out for their "bumper" reports in the next issue. As we go to press I thank you for your patience and take this opportunity to ask you to contact me with any ideas you may have to improve the content or layout. This newsletter produces the ideal opportunity for groups to get their messages across to the whole of the village, a task few other methods can enable, so please make the most of the opportunity. The content is only as good as the people making a contribution.

I would like to thank all who have contributed to this Xmas issue. Remember this is your newsletter so let me know what additional items you would like to see included - hobbies, favourite recipes, local history are a few examples.

All that is left for me to say is I hope each and everyone of you have an enjoyable Christmas break and wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Please send any items/ideas to Simon Preddy, 28 Gail Rise



Llangwm Village Hall

Great news! Llangwm Community Centre management Committee is delighted to be able to announce that it has been successful in its application for funding to refurbish the Village Hall. As a result of this funding, the Hall will benefit from a new kitchen (complete with crockery, glasses etc.), an efficient heating system, double glazed doors and windows, new tables and chairs and will also be painted inside and out. The work will take place between now and the end of February, by which time the Hall will be in a position to provide a really comfortable venue for numerous activities in the village.

As some of the refurbishment work will be carried out by volunteers, the Committee would ask anyone who would like to help our Village Hall, either by working on the improvements or with the fund-raising events, to contact David Mills on 890147 or any other committee member.

Some of the items which are being replaced will be available for sale, such as the existing kitchen units, electric cooker, tables and chairs. If anyone is interested in purchasing any of these items please contact Tim Hall on 891891.

The committee would also ask the Hall's existing users to have patience while the refurbishment work is being carried out, as it may be necessary on some occasions to close the Hall for short periods for safety reasons. However, we are sure that the end result will be worthwhile and we will have a Hall that we can all be proud of and make great use of.

Art Classes

The New Year will see the start of an art class to be held in Llangwm's Community Centre. Run by local artist Beverly Crawford, this will be open to anyone who would like to have a go at painting, from beginners to those with some experience. Beverly is an experienced teacher and professional artist and is happy for people to use whichever medium they prefer and paint whatever they like. The class will be held on Monday afternoons, and if there proves sufficient interest, a second class will be organised. For more information and to register for the class, please contact David Mills on 890147.



Fireworks

New Years Day

Pill Parks

6.30pm

Entrance is free but a donation will be gratefully received

Please note that every effort is made to ensure your safety. Strict safety guidelines as advised by the Health and Safety Executive are followed at all times.



Recipe Corner

WASSAIL

This was a drink formally drunk, or offered, on festive occasions. It was served hot from a large bowl, wassail bowl, or wine wassail.

Ingredients:

- 1 pint of apple juice
- 1 pint of orange juice
- 4 oz of sugar
- 2 oz of blanched almonds
- 2 oz of raisins
- 1 stick of cinnamon
- 10 cloves
- 2 bottles of Burgundy
- Plus orange slices for garnish



1. Combine fruit juices, sugar, almonds & raisins
2. Tie cinnamon and cloves in a muslin bag and add to liquid mixture
3. Pour into thick saucepan and boil for 5 mins
4. Remove muslin bag, add Burgundy and reheat slowly, do not boil
5. Serve hot, garnish with orange slices



Parish of Llangwm, Freystrop and Johnston

Advent and Christmas Services

Sunday	December 16th	
9:00am	Parish Eucharist	Llangwm
10:15am	Parish Eucharist	Johnston
11:45am	Parish Eucharist	Freystrop
6:00pm	Carol Service	Freystrop
Wednesday	December 19th	
10:30am	School Carol Service	Llangwm
6:30pm	Scouts Carol Service	Llangwm
Sunday	December 23rd	
9:00am	Parish Eucharist	Llangwm
10:15am	Parish Eucharist	Johnston
11:45am	Parish Eucharist	Freystrop
4:00pm	Carol Service	Johnston
Christmas Eve	December 24th	
3:00pm	Christingle Service	Johnston
5:00pm	Crib Service	Llangwm
10:00pm	Christmas Eucharist	Johnston
11:30pm	Christmas Eucharist	Llangwm
Christmas Day	December 25th	
9:00am	Christmas Eucharist	Freystrop
10:15am	United Carol Service	Wesleyan (Llangwm)
Sunday	December 30th	
9:00am	Parish Eucharist	Llangwm
10:15am	Parish Eucharist	Johnston
11:45am	Parish Eucharist	Freystrop



Our carol services will include carols old and new sung by soloists, choir and congregation. We look forward to friends, old and new, joining us to celebrate Jesus' Birth. We wish you all a happy and a blessed Christmas. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

We Need You

Llangwm Festival Committee 2002

The first meeting of the year will be held on Friday 4th January in the Cottage Inn at 7:30pm. If you can help, or have any ideas then come and join us.

What do the Festival Committee do? They are responsible for co-ordinating the Festival Fortnight, the Carnival and the New Years Day Fireworks.

Several of our members who have been with us from the beginning have retired this year and as we are only a few in number anyway, we really need new members if we are to continue.

Imagine what we could achieve with a bigger committee. Ideally we would like to have members from each of the clubs/societies and religious bodies. This would help greatly with co-ordinating the festival activities.

If you don't want to be an actual committee member but would like to help, please come and give us your name and some idea of your expertise.

We want to see the festival grow and get better every year. We want to see it include more people young and old, whatever their interests. We want it to benefit everyone involved. For a village this size we have achieved remarkable results so far, but we can do more. So if you have any ideas for events come and join us.

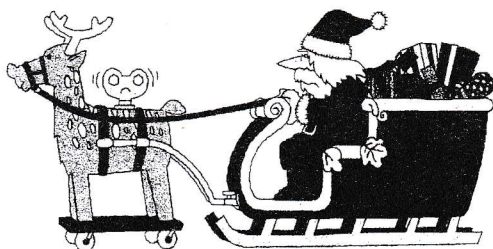
Look forward to seeing you at the Cottage Inn, 7:30 pm on Friday 4th January.

Santa Claus is coming



Youngsters (and oldsters) Father Christmas will be visiting the village on Monday 17th December at 6pm. During his visit he will be switching on the lights on the village Christmas tree.

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Llangwm Gardening Club



Llangwm Gardening Club concluded it's year with another highly successful Gardens Open Day as part of the Festival Fortnight. Word of the event is spreading so that this July we



had visitors from as far as Milford Haven, Dinas and St Davids and, although the weather was not brilliant, everyone enjoyed the variety of gardens on show. Many thanks to everyone who made the day so successful and we were delighted to be able to make a contribution to youth activities in the village as a result.

Now that building work has been completed, Llangwm School is in a position to start developing their garden. The plan is to develop an area which can be used by the children for story telling, artwork and other creative activities. The children have already produced ideas for their garden and the Gardening Club is working to translate these into a finished design. The winter months should prove sufficient time to undertake any hard landscaping that may be necessary, as well as building fencing, trellis work etc. So that planting can take place in the warmer months of spring. If anyone would like to help with this exciting project, please contact the school - your help will be greatly appreciated.



Our regular monthly meetings continue to be well attended and we have had some excellent speakers so far this year, starting with Richard Cain's fascinating talk on 'Plants for Difficult Places', which was voted 'the best talk so far'! This was followed by Andy Cook's talk on the ever popular subject of 'Herbs', and Dave Baster's 'Trees and Shrubs Around the World in 60 Minutes'. We have had a wide variety of talks to suit every taste. The Club meets on the first Monday of every month at the Cottage Inn, so come along and join us for an enjoyable evening in a convivial atmosphere!



1st Johnston Scout Group

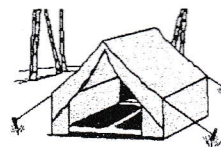
At the present time, our Group consists of three sections; the Cub Pack, run by Akela and Assistant Cub Leader, which takes boys from the age of eight up to ten and a half. Then comes the Scout Troop run by Skip and two Assistant Leaders, which is a mixed troop taking boys and girls between the ages of ten and a half to fifteen and a half. Last but not least is the Venture Unit, taking young people from the age of fifteen and a half to twenty one (also mixed). This has been the Nationally set structure for many years, but in the not too distant future this will be changing but more of that and the different Sections another time.



Not long ago we had a very successful Beaver Colony, this being the first Section in a Scout Group, taking the young ones aged six to eight. Unfortunately our Beaver Leader went on to other things and the Colony had to close. If anyone out there is interested in becoming a Beaver Leader with us, please contact me (see below for details).

Although we are called 1st Johnston and our base is St Peter's Church Hall in Johnston., we take members from quite a wide area including Llangwm, Neyland and Haverfordwest.

As the Section structures are about to change, so too is the uniform. In an effort to make it more, dare I say it, 'fashionable', Scout Headquarters over the last couple of years have been asking young people what they think of the uniform. Would they change it and if so, how? You may have seen some months ago, the results being modelled on Blue Peter. The one item of uniform which helps tell the different Groups apart is the neckerchief. 1st Johnston wears the colours blue and yellow.

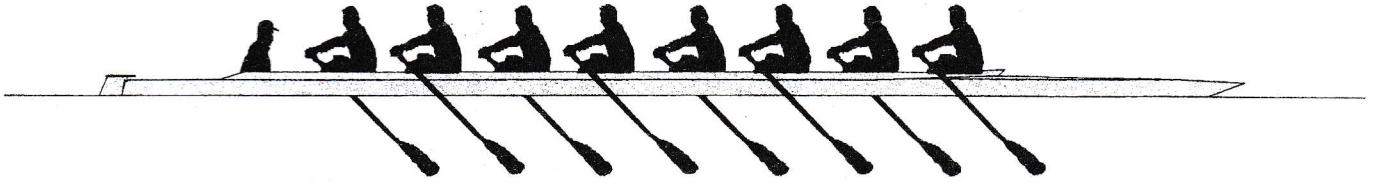


Recently our Group was given an 18 foot catamaran by Mr Parker of Pontyclun, who sadly passed away last month. It needs a coat of paint and tidy up, which we hope to do with our Group members over the winter months. We need people who can sail and are willing to help us on a rota basis, to take Cubs and Scouts out sailing through the sailing season.



Anyone interested in becoming a Beaver Leader or can help with the sailing, please contact the Group Administrator - Pat Dixon, on 01437 890011. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Llangwm Longboat Rowing Club



The Llangwm rowers have had a very busy season with a full list of League Races to contest, and many other events. The Club has fielded a total of nine teams over the summer, (but sadly no junior team) with the mixed events proving the most popular. There has also been increased interest from other clubs in Pembrokeshire in entering the League events. Llangwm has not had as much success as in previous years (partly because of the extra competition) but all members have thoroughly enjoyed the rowing and gained experience. The Club has suffered from the lack of boats and 'Will O' The Wasp' has been much used, but the teams have been ably organised by the team Captains, Helen Stewart and Dave Cooke.

The Thames Race was well supported and all boats improved on their times from last year. One team travelled by invitation to the French National Rowing Festival in Brest, and improved international relations with reciprocal 'bonheur'! The Club was well represented in the Pembrokeshire Team Challenge (The Triathlon) and the Return of the Cleddau. During the latter, ably organised by Adam James, the members raised £900+ in sponsorship for CLIC (children's leukaemia charity). The Llangwm Longboat Regatta, held at the end of the Llangwm Festival week, was blessed with very fine weather, which contributed to its success. The Pig Roast at The Cottage Inn after the rowing was much appreciated by competitors and spectators alike.

On the social front our efforts have been directed to fund-raising to support our lottery bid for new longboats. We have had a varied programme and the most recent event was the Laying-up Annual Dinner at the Ferry Inn, Llanstadwell, which was attended by fifty members. Our fund-raising has been supplemented by a generous donation from Neville and Jane Lewis and we seem to be on target to meet the Bid.

The lottery Bid was somewhat delayed while the League sorted out regulations, but is now at the second stage. Since the report in the April newsletter, there has been a new development in that a 'sliding seat boat' is to be included in the bid (probably a two-man scull). This is very good news as the Club will now be able to offer rowing to juniors from the village and so ensure a pool of individuals interested in keeping the Club alive in years to come. At present club members meet at Black Tar at 3pm on Sunday afternoons and new members are always welcome, either contact Helen Stewart on 891572 or just turn up and enjoy a trial row.

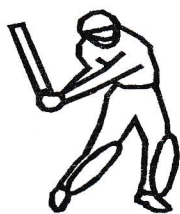
Scottish Dancing

The children's' Scottish Dancing Group have recently been presented with a gift of £50 from Mrs Julie Golding. This money was left over from the drop in youth club and the parents from this group wanted the children in the village to benefit from this money.

On behalf of the group, I should like to say a big 'thank you' and say that it will go towards the cost of the newly acquired white dresses which the girls wear for displays.



Llangwm Cricket Club



First Division cricket is back in Llangwm and rightfully so. Our young team, which included four lads who represented the County during this season at Under 21 and Under 19 levels did the business. It was not easy, and the Club must continue to be well focused if its to stay in the top flight in the future. Congratulations to Captain Mark Davies, all the players and the support groups who see the pitch is ready each week, teas are made, scores are kept etc. Congratulations also to Andrew Harries, Andrew Phillips, Daniel Chesmer and William Beresford for carrying the flag at County level.



Our Second XI retained its place in the fourth division, and the Third XI, which sometimes struggled to field a team, enjoyed some success in the seventh division. This team is a most valuable means of giving our juniors experience at an early age and is vital for the ongoing health of the Club. We look to our more senior members to help and pass on their years of experience to our emerging talent.

Llangwm Ladies had a successful season back in the League, recreating their team spirit after missing a season. At the end of the season, Jane Griffiths, the Lady Captain, and husband Gareth organised a two-innings Charity Match in aid of the Air Ambulance. The Official Presentation was made in the Llangwm Social Club on 9th November when amazing proceeds of £540 was handed over. Great to see such dedication to a most worthy cause.

Another Welsh success for the Club - Stephen Inward played for Wales at Under 11 level with considerable distinction. Congratulations Stephen; Llangwm is proud of you. Keep up the good work.

Our junior teams had a remarkable year home we had no less than ten lads representative cricket at age levels could well have won the County Under were unavailable at crucial times. such talent in the junior teams in the the senior game.

The Club Awards night at the Holyland you ladies for organising it all so well.

Mrs Cyril Venables were welcome guests for the evening. Bill Carne was the speaker/comedian entertaining us in his usual inimitable manner, with Jamer acting as mine host.

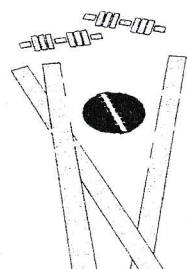
The awards were as follows: 1st XI batting - William Beresford; 1st XI bowling - Martin Inward; 1st XI best all-rounder - Andrew Harries; 2nd XI batting - Roger Morgan and Owain Davies; 2nd XI bowling - Roger Morgan; 3rd XI batting - Matthew Vaughan; 3rd XI bowling - Richard Brock.

Clubman of the Year was Martin Inward; the Penry Esmond Cup went to Andrew Harries; Jamer's Cup for Players' Player was shared between Andrew harries and William Beresford. The Lady Players' player was Mandy Davies.

A Special Achievement Award went to 1st XI Captain Mark Davies to register our promotion back to division one; 1st XI Debut Awards went to Chris Inward and James Lewis and the Most Improved Player Award went to Jojo Francis.

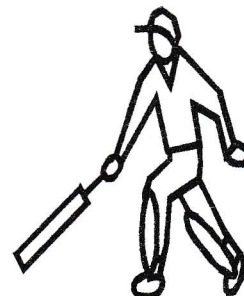
'Off' the field is also vitally important. We are pleased to have had two more players achieve level 1 Coaching status, and Tina Inward and Mandy Davies attending a Preliminary Coaching course. More players are going on coaching courses early next year including level 2 - this can only improve the standard of all our Club players. Two more are attending the current Umpiring course, and another two booked in for the next Scorers course. Jamer, our secretary and a qualified grounds man himself, arranged for the Club to host a grounds mans course at Pill Parks at the end of the season which proved of immense interest. The backbone of our Club is slowly being strengthened to underpin our already very successful junior section, and anybody interested in joining the Club and/or courses is most welcome.

On a sadder note we have to record the recent passing of the very well respected Leonard Barrah, a former Chairman and stalwart of our Club and County for many years. A great character and a good and faithful servant as a player, umpire and ground inspector to the game of cricket which he loved. Our condolences to all his family, particularly his wife Lynn, at this sad loss.



Out of season cricket activity goes on. Dragon county-coaching for the juniors is now ell under way, with the more advanced classes due to start soon. The Club again has entered the winter indoor cricket league to be played at the Meads early in the new year. Those interested in participating should let it be known as soon as possible. Club nets will start earlier next year, probably January, so keep an eye on the Club notice boards. Here's to another successful season in 2002.

Look out for a sponsored bike ride coming to the village soon!



Llangwm Community Council

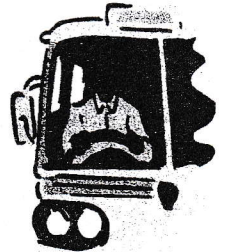
Vandalism in Llangwm

In May, June and September 2001 there were reports of vandalism occurring in the village. The children's play area at Pill Parks suffered damage on a number of occasions with rubber matting being ripped up and the wooden fencing being removed to start fires. It is disappointing to think that the amenity made possible by local donations and fund-raising is now being vandalised by our own. The County Council have also advised of vandalism to the public conveniences in May and September 2001. It is very likely that all the damage is being caused by local youngsters. Lets hope that those responsible will be caught and brought to book.

School Bus Parking Bay

Following concerns expressed by the Community Council and the action of our County Council Representative, Bill Hitchings, the traffic problems have eased. A bus parking bay has been constructed, which unfortunately required the removal of part of the old school wall. Children travelling on school buses can now walk safely to the school buildings.

Traffic is still alarmingly high at the peak times with many parents/guardians transporting children to school. The area would be safer if children were walked to school rather than driven.



Picnic Area - Rectory Road

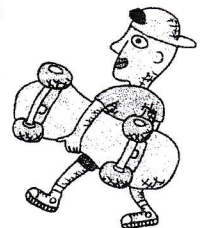


In the past this area has been leased to the Community Council by the County Council. The lease was a peppercorn rent with the County Council maintaining the area. The above lease expired in June of this year and the Community Council were presented with the terms of a future lease. The rent would increase to £50 per annum with the Community Council financing all maintenance aspects. The main expense would be grass cutting, estimated to be £600 per annum. If maintained as in the past, savings would be made in this activity.

The Community Council have accepted the new lease but have set a target of twelve months to plan a constructive use of the area or relinquish the lease. The public are asked for their thoughts.

Skateboard Park

Following a public meeting on the above subject, a group of parents are to gather facts and costing of providing a skateboarding area. The main problem may not be funding but finding a suitable site for such an activity. An immediate solution that is acceptable to the Community will not be found overnight. Providing a suitable area for village children to skateboard will be a long-term development. Council members may not be encouraged to back any future plans due to certain children's challenging and abusive attitudes. Lets hope they help themselves to fulfil their desires by respecting the Community at large.



Vehicle 'No Parking' Areas



A proposed plan showing 'no parking' double yellow lines and a disabled bay was approved at the October 2001 meeting. Chapel Row, north and south side, a section of the Green bordering the Wesleyan Chapel and access road to Pill Parks Way south side are all included in the plan. The disabled bay will be located at the entrance to the Wesleyan Chapel.

This action is to give uninterrupted access to all properties and ensure there is no hindrance for emergency vehicles.

It is now reported that on many occasions the entrance to Llangwm Church is blocked due to inconsiderate parking. Would those responsible please leave the area free for access. The Council will be asking for a further parking prohibition to address this situation.

Homewatch Schemes

A Homewatch Scheme is already up and running in Deerland and a further scheme is about to start in the Kilns area. Are there other people interested in setting up similar schemes in other parts of the village? If there are, please contact Steve Richards, Park House, The Kilns or any member of Llangwm Community Council.

Llangwm Rugby Football Club

There was a certain amount of both disappointment and relief at the inevitable relegation from Division Six(West) at the end of last season. Under different circumstances Llangwm would have been more than capable of holding their own in this division.

The rebuilding that started at the end of last season has continued and is starting to pay dividends. Steve Lay has been appointed coach, Richard Scriven has assumed the 1st XV captaincy and Simon Richards has taken on the role of Team Manager. A number of players have realised the part they need to play in the overall success of the club and it is pleasing to see a few new faces on rugby committee.

On the field Llangwm had an indifferent start to the season with defeats by the narrowest of margins. The potential of the side was showing through but the confidence was slightly lacking. That all changed at Pill Parks against Furnace where the tables were turned about and Llangwm pulled off a 7-6 victory despite some dubious refereeing. Since then the teams confidence has grown and the side are currently undefeated in the last three league outings include a win over neighbours St Davids and two convincing away wins which are all too hard to come by.

Another pleasing aspect for the club this season is the resurgence of the 2nd XV. After difficulty in fielding sides earlier in the season, thanks to the efforts of Dave Kennard and Andrew Phillips, the seconds are now back playing regular rugby.

Senior training is on Mondays and Thursdays, 7pm at Pill Parks. New and old players are welcome.

The Rugby Club will be holding its Grand Xmas Draw at the Clubhouse on Monday 17th December at 9:15pm. Please help support your local club.

There will be a New Years Disco at the Clubhouse. There is a £2 cover charge at the door.



Llangwm Youth Rugby Team

After the disappointment last season when the club was unable to field a youth team it is pleasing to announce that the Youth XV has now reformed and playing rugby on a regular basis. The team is currently competing in



Division 2Q of the BT Dragons trust National Youth League, which is a Youth league set up by the Welsh Youth Rugby Union (WYRU), to run alongside the schools league, thus ensuring regular rugby for both schoolboys and club players.

Captained by Will Scriven (brother of 1st XV captain Richard), and under the guidance of coach Phil Clarke (a newcomer to the club), the boys have shown great enthusiasm for the game and the squad has now risen in number from the original 'few' who showed interest in resurrecting the team back in the summer, to well over twenty registered players, which is a very pleasing position at this stage of the season.

Unfortunately the early results have not gone Llangwm's way due mainly to the fact that we have been up against established youth teams where boys have played together for several years. However, there is an air of optimism in the club and with the relative age of our squad being low it is hoped that in time we will be winning more games than losing in line with previous Llangwm Youth teams of only a few years ago.

If you are aged between 16 and 19 and wish to play Youth Rugby, contact the Club or Youth Team Manager, Michael John on 01437 890175.

Training takes place at Pill Parks every Monday and Thursday starting at 7pm. Matches are played on Saturday afternoons. If anybody wants to be involved in a non-playing capacity or just to support the boys, please come along to any match.

Forthcoming home fixtures:

Dec 22nd	Youth XV v Narberth
Dec 26th	1st XV v Haverfordwest
Dec 29th	2nd XV v Milford Haven
Jan 5th	1st XV v Crymch
Jan 12th	1st XV v Pontyates
Jan 19th	Youth XV v PDock Quins
Feb 9th	1st XV v St Clears
Feb 23rd	Youth XV v Whitland
Mar 9th	1st XV v Swansea Uplands
Mar 30th	1st XV v Llanybydder