

LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 13 APRIL 2003

Llangwm in Springtime

Llangwm is full of joy as spring arrives.
Little bulbs springing in bundles of colour
And birds singing sweetly in the high oak
trees.

Next are the lambs grazing in the fields at
Nash Farm,
Grass growing as green as can be,
Wild flowers growing out of the cold, wet
soil.

Morning sun rising in the east, gradually get-
ting hotter as the day goes by.

James Griffiths

Class 3

James is the winner of the Llangwm School Poetry Competition.
For more poems and news of the school, see pages 6-10





Llangwm Festival Committee

Linda Rees contributes this report and presents your this-year's-members:

Bog (Lewis) Tyler
Pat and Jeff James
Sharon Haldane
Margaret Brace
Pat Morris
Andrew Winfield
Linda and Tim Rees

We are pleased to welcome any new members co-opted on by the various groups in the village. If you have any queries, suggestions or donations—all of which we welcome—then please contact a member of the Committee. We can also do with offers of help so don't hold back! It all helps to make things run more smoothly.

Picnic in the Park

Following the success of last year's Jubilee Picnic and Sports, it has been decided to make this an annual event! So make a date in your diaries for **Bank Holiday Monday 5 May** and we look forward to seeing you all at Pills Park for some family fun.

A Night of Auctions

We can't do all this without some fund raising but even that can be entertaining. **Friday 25 April, a Night of Auctions is arranged at Llangwm Community Centre.** Admission is £1.50 and will include cheese and wine. It will begin with a silent auction, between 7-8 pm, and a more traditional, under-the-hammer auction from 8.15 pm.

If you have any items you would be willing to donate—or if you would be willing to offer a service of any kind, such as baby sitting, gardening, chauffeur for the night or even offer a boat trip—then please contact either David Mills on 01437 890147 or Jeff James on 01437 890841.

Now is the time...

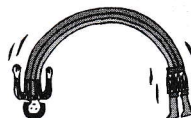
The Festival Organisation is well under way. We are pleased to see so many events on the calendar—new and exciting ones, too!

However, the Festival is nothing without your involvement. Every year, your efforts get

better and better and now is the time to start thinking about scarecrows, planning floats for the carnival, planning for the Arts & Craft exhibition.

Let's make this year a bumper one!

Jubilee Festival 2003



Eve Davies says...

The time has come round again, everyone. The time to get out the knitting, sewing and crochet needles; paint brushes, hammers and chisels; paper, oils, pencils; cameras or anything else you can think of. That is—if you haven't already started!

It was such a good Arts & Crafts Exhibition last year, and we are sure it will be equally good this year. There were a considerable number of items sold. An informal visitors' book had such favourable comments that we have decided to have a proper one this year. (contd. page 3)

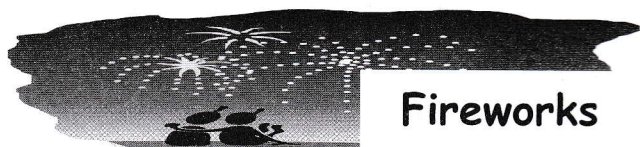
Volunteers are needed to man the Exhibition, open 10 am—12.30 and 2.00—8.00 pm. Don't think you can escape !! Linda (891233) or Eve (891876) will be very pleased to hear from you. If you have items to exhibit, any number can be displayed, subject to space. The only restriction is, of course, that the item(s) must not have been shown previously.

**Please do not be shy—
let us have your exhibits**

For forms and further information, please contact Linda or Eve.

Exhibits can be brought to the Community Centre on Sunday 30 June. The Exhibition will be open from Monday 31 June until Thursday 10 July, when exhibits can be collected, in the evening, if possible.

**Don't forget—phone Linda 89123
or Eve 891876
Thank you for your support**



Fireworks 2003

Question:

Why was the firework display different to the previous three years?

Answer:

In previous years, we (the Royal 'we') have organised, purchased, arranged and, above all, insured the village display. Now, due to the litigious society in which we live, Public Liability Insurance is a Must Have. It used to be arranged through a firework supplier. The supplier no longer arranges the necessary cover. Investigation of the Yellow Pages found

a couple of companies that would be willing to cover our display but the premium was similar to what we spent on fireworks.

dilemma

We found ourselves in a dilemma. We could risk holding our usual display without insurance cover (a non-starter); we could stand around and watch one rocket soar heavenward (and bask in the knowledge that we were insured); or we could ask a professional firework company to stage the display (using their insurance cover).

After much deliberation—at least a second or two—option three was agreed upon and the services of Westcoast Fireworks of Narberth were engaged.

horizontal rain

New Year's Day dawned wet and got wetter as the day progressed. Andies Watters and Winfield, Peter Owen, Tim Rees, Patrick Wordsworth, Bog Tyler and Mike Hardwick (apologies if I've missed anyone) arrived at Pills Park to set up the display. As we sheltered under the stand, watching the horizontal rain, we wondered if the display was a goer. Chris-from-Westcoast arrived and said that he had never had to cancel a display and that the bits that go 'bang' were safe in up to 30 mph of wind.

hot dogs and soup

Then ensued a cold, wet few hours of setting up the field and the tubes from which most of the fireworks would be fired. A new idea for this year was hot dogs and soup, served from a tent (for which PCC charged us £10 +VAT) by Jan Bridge and Ellie Rees. Thank you!

Mike the Weather Prophet

Although advertised as usual, the expected masses decided to stay at home and watch the telly. A couple of hundred braved the sea of mud and the sky of rain. A coded flash from the field signalled Mike to turn off the lights. Could it have been divine inspiration or just a stroke of luck? Mike managed to turn off the lights, the rain and the wind for the duration of the display. Nice one!

big time bangs

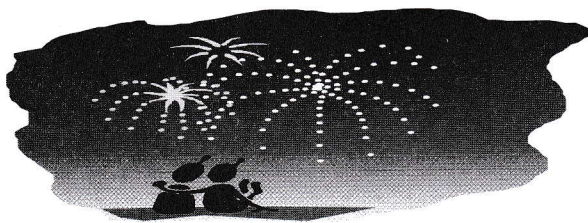
This year, instead of the usual display of rockets, candles and cakes (technical speak!), mortars, for the first time, (as part of the display) were seen over Llangwm. On the packet, roughly translated from the Chinese, they exit the tube at about 200mph, fly up to 5000metres and go bang! And go bang they did! Big Time! A friend who lives in Lawrenny heard the bangs and watched the display from the comfort of his back garden. A donation is awaited.

shall we have a similar display next year?

If you, the residents of Llangwm, want to carry on this tradition, yes! Now that Chris-Westcoast knows us and we know him, I think we can arrange a display similar to previous years to include more of 'us' running around clutching portfires (the things we light the blue touch papers with and which, incidentally, are brown).

To those who helped...

Many thanks to all the helpers who set up and cleaned up after the display; to the hot dog vendors; to the marshals (who would dare argue with Postmistress Pat?); to all who helped to make this another safe and enjoyable display.



editorial

This edition of the Newsletter has unexpectedly turned out to be a bumper edition! How did it happen?

Well, it seems that Llangwm people are using the Newsletter as a 'voice'. And it is you who make the Newsletter!

This edition contains poems from Llangwm School; the front page border is created from art work by Ann Waid (thanks, Ann); Mr Terry Martin, Llangwm's policeman for many years, has reminded us that his policeman's lot was a very happy one; Mr Graham Brace has sent a 'bird watch' report; Liz Jones' gardening 'hints n' tips' is becoming a 'regular', as is Nikki Bosworth's Llangwm research; all the regulars are here...

This edition also carries news of Llangwm Drama Group's exciting plans for street theatre during the Festival Fortnight. This is in unison with the Youth Group, the History Group and anyone else who would like to become part of history in the making! Make sure of your place on the Workshops offered in April.

We would like to establish a 'letter page'. Do you have any queries/comments/grumbles you would like to send in to the Newsletter? Here is your chance! Contact Margaret on 01437 890029 or mags@madagasgar.com

A final word from Mike Hardwick: If you've enjoyed this publication, and want to see its continuation...help is needed in delivering the copies! If you can give an hour, helping out, please contact Mike Hardwick on 01437 890007

(to see a much younger Mike, with hair, turn to page 24)

Community Centre - improvements in place

An induction loop is being installed in the Community Centre as a result of a recent grant application. Loops are now fitted in the majority of public buildings to assist people with hearing aids and ours should enable the hard of hearing to participate more fully in the many events which now take place in the hall. Many thanks to Agor Drysau/Opening Doors Grant Scheme, administered by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action, for giving us the money.

It's curtains for the hall...

A further improvement to the hall is the addition of curtains, for which we must thank the Llangwm gardening Club. Their generous donation of money raised during last year's Festival has enabled us to hang the curtains ready for the St David's Day Cawl Supper, so making the hall look even more attractive and welcoming for all its different users. Many thanks to all in the Gardening Club.

Cawl supper success

Back by popular request, the St David's Day Cawl Supper was a sell-out, with frantic phone calls round the village in the days before the event to try and track down the last remaining tickets! Once again, we were delighted to invite the children from Llangwm School to entertain us and, as usual, their singing was excellent. Thanks to all the children and teachers who took part. The evening was a great success owing to the tremendous hard work put in by so many people. This is likely to become an annual event so book your ticket early for next year!

Calling all bingo lovers!

The Community Centre will be holding an **Easter Bingo Evening on Friday 11 April**. This will be a fund raising event so that further improvements can be made to the hall. **Doors open at 7.00pm with Eyes Down at 7.30pm**. Bring along your children—there will be plenty of Easter eggs as prizes.

Yoga Classes...

...in the Community Centre

Tuesdays 5.45—6.45 pm
Commencing 1st April

Class fees will be £1.00 per session.
You can register either at the Post Office
or by contacting Liz Jones on 891706

Please bring a towel or mat to lie on; a pillow
and blanket for the relaxation session; wear
comfortable clothing.

holiday of a lifetime!

April/May 2004

We are looking for ten people to join us on a three week expedition to the Galapagos Islands and Peru in April/ May next year.

The tour will be organised by Amazonas Explorer and led by the very experienced Paul Cripps. Amazonas Explorer has been highlighted on many of the travel programmes on television, and has always received excellent press. If we can get together a group of 10, the expedition can be tailored to our specific needs and requests, plus pockets!

The intention is to begin with a 5-day cruise around the Galapagos to see giant tortoises and to snorkel around the islands. A flight to Peru will enable us to go by train to Machu Pichu and to see, for example, the Valley of the Condors.

This will not be a cheap holiday which is why we are planning at least a year ahead.

If you are interested, please phone Hazel on 891743 or Liz on 891706

A School to be proud of...

A letter written by the Chair of Governors, Mr Barry Childs.

Following a visit from Inspectors in February, our school has now received its 24 page report. Parents of pupils will have already received summary copies. The Report makes truly excellent reading.

Warm praise is given to Llangwm School in every aspect covered by the Report. It is described as being a 'caring, calm and happy' place where 'good teaching takes place in every class'. In fact, 90% of lessons were considered to be good or very good, a figure way above that achieved in Wales as a whole, where the figure is 60%.

The Report stresses that a great strength of the school is its teamwork and the leadership of Mr Nick Groves, Headteacher (described as 'very good').

I congratulate, as I am sure you all do, everyone connected with Llangwm School who clearly made such a big and well deserved impression on the Inspection team. Parents can feel confident that their children attend an excellent school.

Well done!

Barry Childs
(Chair of Governors)



St David's Day Celebrations

On Friday 28 February, Llangwm School held a St David's Day concert during the afternoon. Before the celebrations commenced, tea/coffee and Welsh cakes were served to all, on what was a rather wet and windy day. The children entertained parents, grandparents and friends of family with wonderful songs, poetry and acting.

During the evening, the juniors were invited to sing at the Cawl Evening at Llangwm Community Centre. A group of juniors sang a variety of songs which were enjoyed by all.

Bingo/Bargain Hunt Evening

On Friday 7 March, all at the above event had an enjoyable evening. The school is very pleased to announce that a grand total of £210.32 was made during the evening. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening such a success.

Llangwm Gardening Club

After School Environment Club has started again this term. We are very grateful to the help that is given and look forward to continuing the close links with the club again this year.

Grand Easter Raffle

Raffle tickets for the above draw are available from the school office. The draw will be taking place on Friday 11 April. Prizes include:

- Large Easter Hamper
- Easter Egg Basket
- Giant Easter Egg

Links with the Community

Llangwm School is always grateful to all the links they have with different churches and clubs in the village. The support given by these organisations is always very much appreciated.

Sport at School

County Rugby: during the winter months, the following pupils from the school have been successful in gaining places in the School

County Under 11 squad. They are: Oliver Davies, David Lewis, Jake Stewart and Adam Williams. Over the past few months, they have played a number of games, both home and away, against different teams in South Wales. Congratulations to all four!

Pembrokeshire Schools 10-a-side Rugby Competition

On Wednesday 19 March, our team entered the competition at Milford Haven Rugby Club. The team played very well and reached the semi-finals of the 'plate' competition. Well done, boys!

Rugby coaching

Years 5 & 6 have been very fortunate this year to have received professional rugby coaching from Mr Kenny Davies. The children have enjoyed the sessions very much. Grateful thanks to Mr Davies from Years 5&6!

Football

Our team has played two matches recently. Both matches were very competitive and enjoyed by all. These are the results:

Llangwm School 0—Hook School 2

Llangwm School 3—Ysgol Glan Cleddau 0

We are now through to the next round of the Pembrokeshire Schools' Cup. Well done to everyone who played,

Football coaching

Years 3 & 4 are receiving professional football coaching from Mr Beynon this term. The children are thoroughly enjoying it, and also send a huge thank you to Mr Beynon for sharing his expertise.

Cross Country

A number of children from our school entered the Oakwood Pembrokeshire Schools Cross-

Country. Jennie Brock did extremely well, finishing in second place in her year group. Jennie now goes on to represent Pembrokeshire in the West Wales Schools' Championships at Carmarthen on Wednesday 26 March. Good luck, Jennie!

Gymnastics

The Oakwood Schools Gymnastics Competition was held recently. Rhiannon Morgan entered, doing a number of different routines. Rhiannon did very well, finishing 10th in her year group. Well done, Rhiannon!

Mini-Olympics

A sponsored mini-Olympics day was recently held at our school. The day proved very successful and we raised a magnificent total of £390.60. The money raised will be used in purchasing gymnastic equipment for our school hall. The day was enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who sponsored this event.

Charities donated to by the school this year

Noah's Ark appeal; Children I Need; Love in a Shoe Box; Jeans for Genes Day; NSPCC; Comic Relief.

The children raised money for these charities at their concerts, non-uniform days, cake stalls, penny trails, shoe boxes of toys, telling jokes, colourful hair and on World Book Day, dressing up as their favourite character from their chosen book. The children always enjoy doing different events for charities. The school wishes to thank everyone who supports them with these chosen charities.

After School Kids Club

Kids Club is held every evening

Monday—Friday 3.30 pm—5.30 pm

It is based at Llangwm School Hall

Cost: £3.00 per session

For details and to book a place for your child, please contact Mrs Rachel Lewis 01437 890932

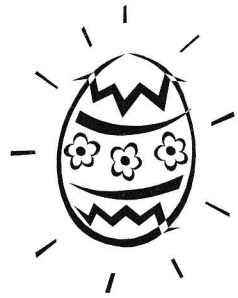
Dates for your diary

MARCH

Friday 21 Communion Service: 9.15 am
Monday 24 Class 4 visiting The National Trust, Stackpole

APRIL

Monday 7 Class 3 visiting Tudor Merchant's House, Tenby
Wednesday 9 Year 6 visiting Tasker Milward: 7.00 pm
Monday 7— Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 11 Easter Raffle/Competition
Friday 11 Break up for Easter Holidays
Monday 28 Children return to school



Spring In Llangwm

Mr Nick Groves, Head of Llangwm School, agreed to a poetry competition expressly for the Spring Newsletter. A team comprising Community Councillors and your editor (!) pored over the poems again and again. It was very difficult choosing a winner!

Many poems contained memorable lines: Leigha Marchant ended her poem, 'Gone is the day, gone is spring and tomorrow is summer'. David R wrote, 'fresh green grass grows strong with rain' - a lovely combination of strong monosyllables, alliteration and image. Harriet McLoughlin strikingly started her poem, 'Spring is blue, not black or grey'.

There were many others—and all presented with great care. It was a pleasure and a privilege to read them. We thank the pupils and staff of Llangwm School for their time and effort. We present the poems of those writers who, we feel, have written with energy and originality.

First, an anonymous poem from Class 4, chosen for its imagery and simplicity.



Llangwm in the sun

Llangwm in spring is full of
Lovely flowers with their heads open,
And farmers roll about in tractors.
Nothing is bare anymore.
Green leaves perch themselves on branches,
With blooming buds waiting for summer.
Marigolds lie on the windowsills.

From Class 2 come poems by Daniel Ash.....and Saffron Ewart



Bees buzz

Tadpoles grow

Birds make nests

Baby lambs grow



Leaves grow on the trees

Days get longer

Some daffodils grow

Buds start to grow on the trees.

Sometimes baby chicks hatch.

It gets warm

Spring is a new beginning

For all plants and animals.

New flowers and buds

Appear on the ground and

On trees. Lambs are born

And birds build nests in

Trees. Primroses and

Snowdrops and daffodils

Start to grow and it gets

Warmer. In March it is

Saint David's Day.

Also from Class 4 is Eleanor Ewart's accomplished acrostic.

Springtime in Llangwm

Spring is the time when new plants come out

Primroses and dainty snowdrops.

Rain only drizzles and drips through the trees.

Imagine all the new flowers opening up their eyes.

Night time does not fall till late.

Growing in the long, green grass are little white daisies.

Tiny leaves are popping out.

It is the time that everyone likes.

Many people love to have a picnic by Black Tar

Everybody loves the life that springtime gives us

Jack Studley, Class 3, submitted two prose poems, both lively, energetic and full of very exact images of springtime in Llangwm. We have chosen one of them.

Llangwm is famous for flowers because they are pretty and beautiful.

I like dazzling daffodils because they remind me of St David.

I like the sun because it makes me feel good.

As I sit down and eat my sandwich in the sun,

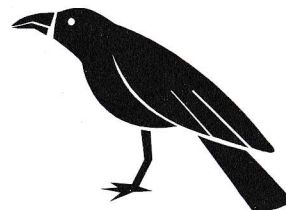
The greedy crows are watching and waiting

For their opportunity to steal it at every chance.

It's just amazing to watch the busy birds at work,

Gathering their food supplies and preparing their nests

For the arrival of their young at springtime.



[Many Llangwm people remember, with affection, Mr Terry Martin, Llangwm Policeman for many years. He maintains, 'Margaret badgered me into writing this'. What do you mean, Terry? His story makes fascinating reading.]

The Llangwm Policeman's Lot

The Police Cottage, as it was then known, for this area always used to be in Houghton. In the early fifties, new 'Country Stations' were being built throughout the county. Alderman James John, J.P., a Llangwm man, was Chairman of the Standing Joint (Police) Committee of the Pembrokeshire County Council and it was he who had the new station built in Llangwm. It was built at the bottom end of Glan Hafan, overlooking the river. It was attached to the District Nurse's house, being joined by the police office and the nurse's surgery.

I arrived in Llangwm as Village Policeman in July 1959 and was the second occupant of the new station. Having heard a lot about Llangwm people over the years, I went there with some interest. I must say, I found them to be decent, respectable people. There were still some elderly ladies living there who had sold fish to my grandmother in Cosheston, back before the First World War. My grandmother spoke well of them.

Pedal cycles had just been phased out when I arrived. During the period I was there, I had three low-powered motor cycles followed by a Morris Minor and an Austin 1100. The motor cycles were equipped with a radio. Hand sets had not come in by then. Crash helmets were not a legal requirement in those days: we wore standard, but slightly reinforced, police helmets with a stronger chin strap.

Until 1968, we were the Pembrokeshire Police but then we amalgamated with two other forces to become the Dyfed Powys Police. The Force boundaries then extended to Borth, Newtown and Brecon. Fortunately, having been in the old Force, I could not be moved out of Pembrokeshire if I chose not to be.

My beat started at the Haverfordwest boundary

at Haroldston, included Merlin's Bridge, skirted around Haverfordwest racecourse and followed along the Dale Road to Ratford Bridge. It then went across to Tiers Cross, Steynton, Rosemarket and through to Burton Ferry. It included all enclosed in that area except Johnston, which was a foot patrol with its own PC.

I was on call for 24 hours a day. There were no fixed hours but I was expected to be out and about for at least eight hours during that period (details were recorded in the pocket book). Though I may have already done eight hours, I was still expected to deal with any occurrences outside that period. I was also expected to cover adjoining country beats if the PC was off. We had three days off a fortnight and eleven days annual leave.

There was no paid overtime. Overtime records were not kept. When, in the seventies, paid overtime was brought in, it was suddenly found, by those in charge that perhaps overtime was not so essential after all! When the car arrived, I began working a shift system with the Johnston PC.

During my first year, I was constantly being called in for duty in Haverfordwest—and was still expected to cover my own beat on my return. The Chief Constable had to keep in with Jim John because he was responsible for Police Funding. I had a quiet word with Jim—a relative of my wife — about these duties. He had a word in the Chief's ear and my town duties stopped forthwith—much to the annoyance of my Sub Divisional Inspector.

Years later, Merlin's Bridge was taken into Haverfordwest beat and the Llangwm beat was transferred to Milford Haven Sub Division.

Burglaries were very few and far between; largely because of the Pembrokeshire crime detection rate (at over 90%, it was the highest in Great Britain), and the judiciary showing no mercy. There was a murder in Rosemarket some years before I arrived. The culprit was hanged—a sure discouragement to others!

There was very little trouble. Malefactors knew that they would get pretty short shrift from the police and the courts. There was no drug problem in those days. I would not have recognised a drug if I saw one. I had to deal with a number of very tragic incidents, and many unpleasant ones too, but it was all part of the job. We did not have 'Post Traumatic Stress Disorder' in those days. I believe that it has become highly contagious!

I had to cover all the normal police duties plus rural ones, such as animal movements records, sheep dipping, etc. I was fully occupied. All reports had to be typed on our own typewriters which we had to purchase ourselves. We were paid 12/6d. (621/2p) per quarter typewriter allowance. My pay rose to £20 per week in the early seventies.

The winter of 1963 was something to be remembered. The snow was hedge height and many parts of Pembrokeshire were cut off. It is hard to imagine it now, but it took about a week to get tractors into the village with supplies. My motor cycle was off the road for three weeks. The kids loved it.

In 1976, the time eventually came for me to leave Llangwm. I was sorry to go. In all the time that I was there, I did not have occasion to report a single person for any offence committed in Llangwm parish.

Llangwm beat was closed for a few months after I left. It was a mistake which is beginning to be realised now.

T.G.Martin.

Llangwm Newsletter asks:

What do you think? Should we still have a village policeman?

Do you remember the days when there was a policeman here in residence?

Please send your thoughts/memories to Margaret at 7 Rectory Close; telephone 890029.

Pembrokeshire Ramblers Cerddwyr Sir Benfro

...are leading two walks around the Llangwm area in May.

The first is on **Sunday 18 May**. This is a long walk (about 10 miles), starting at **Black Tar at 10.30 am** and following a route which takes in Sprinkle Pill, Hook, Little Milford, Freystrop and returning through Nash Woods to Black Tar.

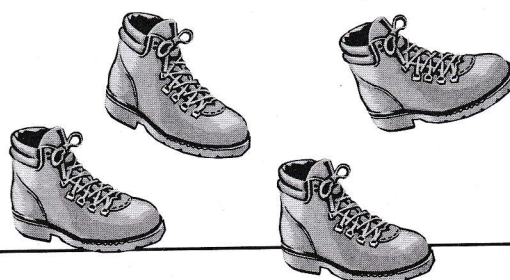
The second is on **Wednesday 21 May**, starting at **6.30 pm at The Cottage Inn** and walking in the opposite direction, towards Benton. This is a short evening walk of 3-4 miles, finishing at The Cottage Inn for a drink and a chat—and a meal, if you wish—around 8.15 pm.

Non-members are very welcome — maybe you'll decide to join the Pembrokeshire Ramblers!

For further details, contact the walk leaders:

Sun 18 May~Margaret Redfern ~01437 890029

Wed 21May ~ Jim Rose~ 01646 690423



Community Council News

Pembrokeshire County Council Serviceline

There is a new municipal services helpline
0845 602 1386

The lo-call number is available Monday to Friday incl. during the hours of 8 am and 6 pm and Saturday 9 am till 1 pm. It can also be accessed via email, psl@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

This is a "hotline" set up to deal with calls from the general public, Town and Community Councils and County Councillors relating to all the Pembrokeshire County Councils (PCC) municipal services. PCC say that there are three operatives who can handle up to 200 calls a day, concerning refuse collection, illegal dumping, civic amenity sites, abandoned vehicles, road sweeping, grounds and play areas maintenance, verge cutting, litter collection, street lighting plus any other aspect of municipal servicing.

Serviceline takes details of requests for services and complaints, and deals directly with enquiries whenever possible - the County Council advise that currently about 30% of all calls received by the Serviceline are dealt with directly, although callers can be passed to the relevant section where necessary, and messages can be sent straight to the workforce via electronic transmission. All calls are recorded on a database and the outcome of the request/complaint etc. is logged. Emails are always answered promptly by the Serviceline staff and the enquiry/request dealt with or passed to the appropriate department.

The Community Council urge the public to take advantage of this service as this will hopefully speed up the rectification of any fault. For example, if a street light is not working correctly, phone the serviceline but remember to quote the number shown on the lamp standard so that they will be able to identify the exact location of the light.

Council Precept for 2003/04

The precept for the financial year 2003/04 has been set at £4000. For the past two years, the precept had remained unchanged at £2700 but anticipated repair and maintenance costs had forced the council to reluctantly increase the figure. The new precept is in line with similar councils and, indeed, a little less than our immediate neighbours.

Community Council Precept for 2003/04

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Planning Application for Residential Development.

An extraordinary community council meeting was held on 24th February, at Llangwm School, to discuss and comment on a planning application recently submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council.

As there were in the region of 20 members of the public present at the meeting, the chairman, Cllr. Jenkins allowed a general debate on the application prior to the council meeting.

The outline building application related to a proposed residential development of land to the east of the River View estate. An attached site plan accompanying the application showed a proposed development of 13 units, being of 1 and 1½ storey dwellings with garages and parking in drives.

Cllr. Hardwick advised the meeting that following a Public Local Inquiry into land development within Llangwm in 1997, the Planning Inspectorate had suggested development for this particular site should only be in the range of 6 to 10

dwellings. Cllr. Hitchings stated, that although the Planning Inspector may have advised a certain development level, Pembrokeshire County Council had maintained a figure of 3 dwellings to be more appropriate. He thought that the County Council would probably be still of the same opinion.

There was a need to restrict traffic flow through Main Street because of the congestion already in evidence. It was also questionable as to whether the existing service road was of the necessary width.

Cllr. Watkins enquired as to why the specific number of proposed building units was not actually shown on the application form, Cllr. Hitchings stated that it was not a requirement. Cllr. Owens suggested that the applicants were being open, by indicating the number of units proposed on the attached building plan.

Returning to the convened Community Council meeting, discussions continued on the application. It was the general opinion that development would undoubtedly be allowed by the authority but all the members thought a development of 13 units was too high.

Cllr. Hardwick proposed that the council advise the planning authority of their concerns, suggesting the building of 3 units would be more acceptable. Cllr. Hitchings seconded the proposal and, there being no counter proposal, the proposal was unanimously agreed by the members.

Compiling each edition of the Newsletter requires considerable effort: contributors have to meet a deadline; editing takes some considerable time; printing takes time. A significant number of people are involved in producing each copy.

Delivering the copies to your door requires a couple of hours out of one evening—if there is a team of people to do the job!

At the moment, it's more like 'one man and his dog'! And that takes time...

We need helpers prepared to deliver the paper to your doors. Phone Mike 01437 890007

Dog Fouling

The refuse bin located within the Pill Parks has been closed off until such a time as a village warden is appointed. Please do not use the waste bins in the Park as the Community Council do not have the personnel to attend to them. You are asked to dispose of the waste and other litter in your own domestic bin.

Closure of the Public Conveniences, Pill Parks Way.

As the majority of you will know, the facility remains closed to the general public, ref. newsletter December 2002. The County Council seem hell bent on closing most of the rural facilities under their control, citing vandalism. Reports are quite regular in the local press. The costs of repairing these facilities are borne by all of us as rate payers. If the vandalism of public conveniences persists, the council should rightly close them.

Has the closure of the Pill Park facility really affected you, what are your thoughts on the subject?

Grass Cutting Contract

A contract for cutting the grass around the children's play area and the land surrounding the village hall for the 2003 season has been awarded to B.W.L. Sutton. Following a risk assessment, the initial work will also include a tidying up of the area and the removal of any old equipment and rubbish. Two further cuts are then anticipated for the season.

Christmas Tree Next Year?

The Christmas tree again was not seen in all its glory as 20 bulbs were stolen by some unknown idiots sometime during Boxing Day. The tree remained unlit for the rest of the festive period.

Llangwm youth

Why us?

I am writing on behalf of each older member of Llangwm Youth.

It seems that a few members of our community have a problem with our youth club being held. The youth club members respect the village but we are saddened by the few people will not give us a chance

We do apologise to the community for any disruption we caused in the past but we wish to put it right for the future. At the moment, we feel that we are accused of everything bad that goes around the village. We would like to point out that the youth club members are not the sole cause of trouble in the village.

Thank you for reading this and I hope that you will support the youth club in the near future.

Hollie Bosenius filmed the hair dressing competition at Pembrokeshire College. She learnt how to set up all the equipment and, with the people on her course, she filmed live throughout the college on Tuesday 28th January 2003.

Hollie learnt many new skills as a result of this: operating a camera; mixing footage; filming using a hand held digital camera; writing and carrying out risk assessment.

As well as her own jobs, she covered for members who were absent from her group.

New equipment

Llangwm youth club would like to thank PAVS who gave us a grant for £1000 to buy new equipment for the use of youth club members. The money has been spent on the following:

- ✓ new pool table
- ✓ new television
- ✓ games consol
- ✓ air hockey table
- ✓ soccer table
- ✓ CD player

I would like to say this new equipment is only to be used by youth club members on youth club nights unless agreed otherwise.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Kathryn Thurston! Katherine, who works at Todaro's hairdressers', came 1st in the Pembrokeshire College hair and beauty competition. Over 150 people from college and salons around the county entered. People from outside salons, salon suppliers judged the competition. Certificates and medals were handed out for 1st 2nd and 3rd places.

Francesca Bramley entered the competition in a team event doing hair and make up. Wayne Hopson, who is in his 2nd year at college, entered the team event: he also danced and his team came third.

Well done!!!!

Fashion Show in Llangwm

The girls of the youth club are doing a fashion show by the end of the year but a fashion show with a difference!

They will be making their own fashions by using old clothes and transforming them into amazing new designs. We would be very grateful if anybody of the village would like to donate old clothes or old material and see how we bring them back to life. If you can help, please contact Georgina Haldane, 8 Glan Hafon
Tel. No. (01437) 891452

Thank you for your support!

Bingo

The Youth Club will be holding a bingo session very soon! The date is still to be decided but we hope that you will come and support us. As well as having a sociable evening, the money you help us raise will go towards a disco for your sons and daughters—the youth of the village.

Congratulations

Congratulations to all of you who entered the young writers' competition at school—and who now may be having your writing published in 'Hallabaloo Pembrokeshire', a book of writing by young people from all over Pembrokeshire.

Llangwm Youth caught up with one of the writers and interviewed him. Kameron Hancox is the writer of the poem 'Summer', printed here. Kameron is modest about his writing but we learnt that, if he comes 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the overall draw of the best poem, he could win £1000 for 1st prize, £250 for 2nd prize or £100 for third prize, to be given to Llangwm School.

Keep it up, all you writers!

Llangwm youth club open Monday and Thursday 6pm till 9pm

Natalie Lewis and myself, Georgie Haldane, went away to Newport to do a youth work course on 28th February – 2nd March. The second part of the course was 22nd – 23rd March, in Borth, Ceredigion. The last day will be in April, again in Ceredigion. We have to study aspects of Youth Culture. I have chosen to research a project on drugs and weapons. This will lead to workshops, plays and booklets. Natalie is researching a project on bullying, which again will lead to workshops and plays. I believe this will be a great success as bullying is a major concern in many schools.

New Look Shelter

Natalie Lewis, Lucie Little, Lisa Gray and myself have again painted bus shelter. 2003 is another year and a new start. As it is with the youth of the village! This should be the last time the bus shelter will get painted because of graffiti.

Baby-sitting course

WAYC are going to start up a babysitting course which will provide training to be a qualified baby sitter.

So anyone out there who is looking for a baby sitter, soon there is no need to look no further.

Summer

Summer is like the sun.
It is hot and beautiful
United in friendship and happiness.
That means joy.
Many people happy and
Children filled with joy.
Everyone goes to the beach,
Swimming in the ocean so deep.
Rainbows bright and colourful
With children dancing.

Kameron Hancox
Aged 9

Llangwm Local History Group

The New Year started very well with a talk in January by Jim Richards entitled, 'Fishing on the Cleddau', followed by the video of the Compass Fishermen.

In February, the Members presented some of the research to add to work previously done. Dilys and David Ash did some interesting research into the working women of Llangwm and discovered some very interesting newspaper cuttings. This will be added to the Sporting, Church, Chapel and Scrapbook research also held by the group.

There is a varied programme planned to follow the AGM in March:

9 April—a talk by George Peters—'Farming in Llangwm'

11 June—a guided tour of Llangwm church - Rev Hooper

5 July—Llangwm Festival—when the History Group will join with the Drama Group (and the Youth Club! Ed.) and the School to perform a production

8 October—talk on Llangwm Rugby—Richard Howells

10 December—Christmas Dinner

Members meetings will be held between these events, when research and other business will be conducted. A visit to St Fagan's and Castell Henllys are being considered for the summer months.

It is also proposed that an affiliated Natural History Group will be formed (see The Wildlife Walk) following our walk on Sunday 9 March

In all, since inauguration in June last year, the Group has made steady progress. New members are still very much needed and will be made most welcome.

Please contact Margaret Llewellyn on 891081

Llangwm in 1803

Researched by Nikki Bosworth

According to the 1801 census, Llangwm consisted of 138 inhabited houses and 5 uninhabited houses. There were 240 males and 328 females living in the parish. Agriculture provided employment for 83 people; another 14 were employed in trade, manufacturing and handicraft while the remainder were occupied in other ways.

The 1803 Land Tax Assessment lists 23 occupiers of land—David Morgans, William James, Thomas Wright, Thomas George, George Venable, Thomas Williams, Hugh Barlow esquire, Widow Couzens, Rev. John Morris, John Mithey, John Morris, Lettice Llewellyn, Henry Wilkin, George Summons, John Lloyd, Thomas Roberts, Thomas Griffith, Absalom Follant, William Rees, John Griffith, Thomas James, William Lloyd and Lieutenant Holingsberry. John Mithey is described as a Custom House Officer. Thomas Lloyd junior and William James were the land Tax assessors.

David Morgans, George Whitta, Henry Wilkin and Thomas Summons (all farmers) were eligible for jury service. Nobody from Llangwm appeared in court at the Quarter Sessions during 1803.

From 1799 to 1833, the Vicar of Llangwm and Rosemarket was Rev. John Morris. In 1803, he performed 21 baptisms (including those of Mary Halfhead, Mary Palmer, Jennet Venables, Arabella George and John Goodridge) and 16 burials (including Arabella George, Lally Edwards, Dorothy and William Llewhelling).

Seven marriages took place at St Jerome's during 1803. The happy couples were: John Skyrme and Elizabeth Randell; Richard Millard and Rebecca Bowen; Isaac Young and Anne John; John Jenkins and Elizabeth John; Daniel Davies and Elizabeth Folland, Thomas Evans and Mary Webb; William Howell and Sarah Goodridge.

In 1803, Guildford and Llangwm Ferry were in the parish of Burton. The road to Burton was approached from the bottom of Mill Street, rather than round the east side of the church, and another route ran from Great Nash to Sardis, passing Nash Corn Mill.

Llangwm Drama Group



If you were at The Cottage Inn on the evening of Friday 13 December, you were amongst the first to witness the Drama Group's first public outing.

It was a splendid evening of storytelling, poetry and music in a convivial atmosphere. Our thanks to Nev and Jane for allowing us to hold the evening at The Inn. Thanks, also, to our audience, who gave the necessary support and encouragement to nervous first-timers as well as our more seasoned performers.

We hope to hold further storytelling/music evenings at some time in the future.

But, meanwhile, what is our agenda?

We have an exciting new project, with a date set for Saturday 5 July, in the middle of the Festival Fortnight. We are planning a street theatre event, based on Llangwm's history. Joining with us are the Youth Club and the History Group: as this is a community project, we would welcome any input.

We are aided in this ambitious project by SPAN, of Narberth, who is sponsoring a series of workshops to be led by professional scriptwriter and actor, Dave Ainsworth. These workshops are open to the whole community. See the flier for details!

Meanwhile, invisible in the background, much organisation is taking place...

If you wish to know more about this project, or want to book your place on the workshops, please contact:

Margaret Redfern on 01437 890029
or
Linda Rees on 01437 891

Skateboard Association



It's been a quiet time over the dark winter months but, at last, the light nights are coming and skateboarders can be out and about again.

We are still very aware that not everyone is sympathetic towards our wish for a 'proper skateboarding place'. In the last newsletter, we pledged to paint the bus shelter, as evidence of our goodwill. And this is what we did, in February.

At the next Community Council meeting, we shall be submitting a letter to ask about the possibility of land for not only the Skateboard Association but for the youth of Llangwm. A multi-purpose area is rapidly becoming a necessity.

Meanwhile, with those light nights in mind, younger members just starting out on skateboards (and older members!) should remember to follow these rules:

Safety equipment:

- ⇒ Helmet
- ⇒ Knee pads
- ⇒ Arm pads
- ⇒ Reflectors—you must be visible in the twilight!

Road awareness:

- ⇒ Remember that traffic and pedestrians have right-of-way.
- ⇒ Equipment must be removed as soon as you leave the area

Social awareness:

Watch that level of noise!

Have fun - safely!

Second Riot in Llangwm

Writers and performers wanted!

2nd Riot in Llangwm

Sat/Sun April 5&6 - 26&27 2003



**Llangwm
Drama
Group**



Supporting
Live Arts in
Pembrokeshire

**Did you know there
was a riot in Llangwm
in the 1900's?**

Would you like to be a
part of a second one this
summer? Llangwm
Drama Group is staging
a street performance

event on Saturday 5 July
and is looking for writers
and performers to join in.
Span Arts is offering our
community weekend
sessions with Dave
Ainsworth, professional
script-writer and actor.

Sat 5th April

Script - writing

Wills Cottage, the Point, Llangwm Ferry

Sat 26th April

Street Performance

Llangwm Community Centre

Sun 6th April

Theatre & Performance

Llangwm Community Centre

Sun 27th April

Street Performance

Llangwm Community Centre

10:00am - 4:00 pm

Adults: £2.00/day • Students, unwaged, pensioners: £1.00/day

SPECIAL DEAL! Pay £5 - £2.50 (conc) if you book for all 3 performance w/shops

**Spaces are limited so book
your place now!**

Please fill in the tear-off slip
below and return it to:

**Margaret Redfern,
7 Rectory Close, Llangwm.
Tel: 01437 890029**

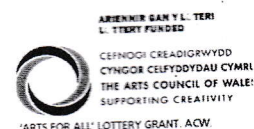
**Linda Rees, The Green, Llangwm
Tel: 01437 891233**

I (name) _____ Tel: _____

would like to book a place for the workshop(s) on (please tick):

☐ Sat 5 April ☐ Sun 6 April ☐ Sat 26 April ☐ Sun 27 April

This project is funded by the European Regional Development Fund
and an 'Arts for all' Lottery grant from the Arts Council of Wales.





The Gardening Club

Our Christmas Dinner at The Glen, Haverfordwest, was a wonderful evening shared by 39 members. The Gardening Club provided a free bus so that everyone could get into the Christmas 'spirit'! Thanks again to Eileen Parfitt for organising the evening.

Our Committee until the AGM consists of:

Chair:	Liz Jones	Programme Secretary:	Angie Cox
Treasurer:	Fay Keppel-Compton	Social Secretary:	Eileen Parfitt
Minute Secretary:	Maureen John	Plant Sales:	Harry Parry
Community Links:	Lyn Smith	Raffle:	Joe Neale

Evening lectures began for 2003 with Gerald White talking about 'Planning the Vegetable Garden'. In his own inimitable style, Gerald demonstrated, as usual, the incredible extent of his knowledge—accompanied by much laughter!

On February 3, Peter Stock talked on 'the old fruit trade of Pembrokeshire' and, on March 3, Richard Caine talked on 'plants for shady places'. Both meetings were well attended and successful.

The tentative programme for spring and summer includes:

- April 7 A social evening and quiz night with Manobier Gardening Club at Llangwm Community Centre
- May 17 A visit to Colby Gardens
- May 31 A visit to Llanychaeron National Trust gardens.*
- June 02 Jenni Roberts The Healing Garden
- July 07 AGM & BBQ

[*Spare places are available, for a small cost, to non-members of the Gardening Club. Contact Eileen Parfitt 01646 601906]

Later in the year we will have a visit to Manobier for a reciprocal evening, and Andy Cook will talk on Herbs and Shrubs. Further suggestions for talks include a forum to discuss methods of storing (freezing, bottling etc); cooking surplus fruit and vegetables; propagation.

Also in the summer we will have competitions and Open Gardens Day during Festival Fortnight.

Altogether, a busy year. Keep gardening and stay healthy!

Liz's hints n' tips for spring...



Trees and shrubs

- Time for tree planting is now, during the dormant period.
- Any diseased or damaged wood needs pruning: likewise any branches that are crossed.
- Fruit trees should have a very open centre to allow free passage of air through the upper branches.
- Check apple trees for canker—prune out infected branches and burn
- Shrubs which have outgrown their space can be moved during January and February. Try to keep as large a root ball as possible. Cut cleanly any broken roots.

The vegetable plot

- Early vegetable seeds can be sown. Use a mixture of compost, vermiculite and sharp sand with a ratio of 5:1:1.
- Radish, shallots and garlic can all be sown outside in drills
- Lettuce and broad beans can be started in the greenhouse
- Don't forget! The cardboard tube from toilet rolls makes a wonderful planter for individual seeds!

THE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY (NATURAL HISTORY CONTINGENT!)

On Sunday 9 March a group of 25 hardy souls donned their wellies and waterproofs and enjoyed a leisurely if blustery circular walk around the shore from Underwood taking in Fowborough Point, Sprinkle Pill and East Hook Farm in the company of well known Pembrokeshire bird expert, Mr Stuart Devonald.

Although conditions were not ideal with an ebbing neap tide, everyone benefited from Stuart's informed and entertaining commentary. During the walk the usual duck, gull and wader species were seen together with a number of Cormorants and a variety of the more common small birds and species of crows. Two Little Egrets were seen in Sprinkle Pill but the highlight of the walk was the sighting of a large female Peregrine Falcon flying low over the water off Fowborough.

Eve Davies was on hand with her camera but, luckily, despite the soft going in places, nobody made fools of themselves by falling headlong into the mud! Fortunately also, the rain obligingly held off until we had returned to the cars.

Had the tide been lower and the walk taken place in December or January it would have undoubtedly yielded a greater variety and number of birds. Nevertheless, everyone agreed that it was a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting excursion and we were all most grateful to Stuart for giving us his time and expertise.

It is hoped to arrange another walk in May when the emphasis will focus on wild flowers. If anyone feels competent or knowledgeable enough to lead this walk, or knows someone who is, please contact Graham Stephens on 891636.

Many thanks to Mr Graham Brace for his informative and fascinating essay on the bird life around Llangwm.

Bird Notes

The winter months have seen much activity on the bird front around the village. To begin with, no-one could have missed the continual to-ing and fro-ing of our resident flock of Canada Geese. Not only have they been highly visible as they have gathered in numbers of around 400 individuals in the fields around Knapp Farm or on the mudflats in the Pill but they have also been very audible with their cacophonous honking, particularly when in flight.

These geese are not native to Britain. They originate from a small group introduced to the Boulston Estate further upstream on the Western Cleddau in the 1950's and have multiplied since to a total population nowadays in the locality of around 1000 birds. Most would agree that they represent a wonderful sight on the water, in the fields or in flight.

We can assume that it is only a matter of time before their numbers are controlled because they undoubtedly cause much damage to winter crops and they are known to disrupt the existence of our indigenous wildfowl.

Having said that, the Canada Geese appear to attract other species of geese. Many of you will have noticed, over the last couple of months, the predominantly white bird that stands out in the throng. This is a very fine Snow Goose, a native of North America, and almost certainly another escapee. Rumour has it that it is the progeny of a pair of flightless birds (with clipped wings) that swam to Skokholm a couple of years ago from the mainland and, against convention, were allowed to set up home and raise a family.

Also present, in varying numbers from one to five since October, are Barnacle Geese. It is not known if these are escapees also or genuine migratory birds that breed in the Arctic. Barnacle Geese are noticeably smaller than their Canadian cousins with black neck and breast, white faces and underparts and bolder black and grey markings on their upperparts. They are generally seen on the periphery of the Canada flocks and do not appear to be well tolerated by them.

During March the majority of the geese will have paired off and dispersed to nesting sites around the Waterway and elsewhere.

OTHER WILDFOWL IN THE PILL

Overwintering ducks include the distinctive Shelduck (sometimes over 60 present). Teal, our smallest British duck, are by far the most numerous, with probably close on 200 present along with smaller groups of Mallard. Wigeon are less frequently seen in the Pill although a short distance upriver at Sprinkle Pill and Fowborough they are seen in significant numbers. Also with us on many occasions, since early December, was a pure white duck with a pale orange beak. It was nearly always in the company of Mallards and is probably on the run from a farmyard pond somewhere.

WADERS

Ever present in winter are Dunlin and Curlew and Redshank, whose strident piping call warns all and sundry of your presence,

Peregrines have been seen overflying the village and I saw a magnificent male fly out of Knapp Wood and head off across the river in late December.

A few Oystercatchers are invariably seen feeding at the edge of the tide. Solitary Greenshank also visit for a few days as they pass through. Shorewalkers will often flush groups of Snipe from the vegetation, particularly along the stretch between Llangwm Ferry and Port Lion. Woodcock may also take flight from the undergrowth in the woodland along the shore at Port Lion.

This winter has seen a larger than usual flock of Lapwings in and around the Pill. Occasionally, they will be seen in mixed flocks with Golden Plover, easily distinguished from the Lapwing (or Green Plover) by its smaller size, sharper wings and more rapid flight. A particularly large mixed flock was recently seen in the company of the Canada Geese in the field adjacent to Knapp Farm.

A Great Crested Grebe was often present off the Cunnigar and their tiny cousins, the Little Grebe (or Dabchick), are frequently seen singly, or in twos or threes, diving near the shore around Black Tar and in the Pill.

HIGHLIGHTS

For the first three weeks of December, one and, on occasions, two Great Northern Divers (or Loons as they are also known) were to be seen swimming and diving between Llangwm Ferry and the Cunnigar. The lengthy dives invariably resulted in a meal of shore crab or flatfish.

Hardly a day goes by without a visit by one or more Little Egrets to the Pill. In fact, early this morning (11 March) two were present in Edward's Pill and one near the ford in Guildford. These exquisite, pure white relatives of the Heron, once rare visitors until comparatively recently, have now spread from southern Europe and firmly established a foothold in southern Britain. There are estimated to be about 60 individuals around the Milford Haven Waterway all year round. As yet there is no evidence of them breeding but it must only be a matter of time.

The turquoise streak of the Kingfisher has been seen from time to time at Edward's Pill and by the stepping stones in Guildford. These locations are also good spots to see Grey Wagtails. Peregrines have been seen overflying the village and I saw a magnificent male fly out of Knapp Wood and head off across the river in late December.

IN THE GARDENS

The most notable sighting this winter is undoubtedly the Rose Coloured Starling, a rare visitor from the Black Sea area, in a garden in Lake Villas in December.

A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker is a regular visitor to the gardens up at the old nursery site opposite the Gail. The same gardens are also on the rounds of a Sparrow Hawk that is playing havoc with the small bird population.

In addition to the more common birds that visit my garden, Goldcrests appear to be more frequent in recent years and Nuthatches and Treecreepers are also seen more often. The cold snap in early January brought a Brambling to our bird feeder in the company of the usual Greenfinches and Chaffinches. Large numbers of Redwings were also in evidence.

Now that we are approaching the breeding season, the bird numbers in the Pill will reduce significantly over the summer months.

We are indeed very fortunate to live here in Llangwm beside a Waterway which is not just of national, but of international, importance for the birdlife that it supports. There is so much to be seen and enjoyed.

If anyone spots and can confirm the sighting of any uncommon or rare species or sees anything at all that represents unusual bird behaviour, please let me know. I can then pass the information on to the official Pembrokeshire bird recorders and include it in the next Newsletter report. My telephone number is 891580 or you can email me on grahambrace@btinternet.com

As we turn from winter to spring and the rugby season draws to a close, it is time to reflect on what has been a difficult season and to look forward to next year.

The club has been unable to field a 2nd team this year due to playing numbers. This has the knock-on effect of low playing numbers from which to select the 1st team. However, team manager Roger Lewis, along with captain Hamish Nichols, have continued to put in a tremendous effort to ensure that we are fielding a team and competing in the National League.

Steve Lay has had to give up coaching due to work commitments but, as the saying goes, every cloud has a silver lining; we saw the return to the club of Phil Stoddart to take up the post, assisted by Simon Gerson. As many of you may know, Phil is a past player of the club before going on to play for Narberth where he played close to 100 matches. Simon is an ex 2nd team captain who has been involved with the club for many years.

At the time of writing, there are only 4 matches left to be played: 2 home; 2 away. The season will finish with a dinner at the Plas-Hyfyrd Hotel, Narberth, on Saturday 26 April. This promises to be a great night but, with limited tickets, members who wish to attend should get their tickets from the clubhouse as soon as possible.

Remaining Fixtures

5 April	Pontardawe	HOME
12 April	St Clear	AWAY
19 April	Furnace Utd	HOME
26 April	Pontardawe	AWAY

Llangwm RFC is indebted to all our loyal sponsors, advertisers, players and supporters who continue to support the club. This support is greatly appreciated and ensures that rugby is developed at all levels in the village.

youth rugby

The Youth team have already played all their league matches this season and, for the second year running, are the first Pembrokeshire side to do so.

The season concluded with a hard-fought match at Fishguard on Saturday 8 March, before the Wales-Scotland game. The boys competed well, as they have all season, but Fishguard were the eventual winners by 29-10.

The only remaining youth action will be the annual **Pembroke competition on Friday 2 May**. This is a great event and advert for Youth Rugby. We will again be entering a team. Last season saw our team go out at the pool stages but, in the spirit of Rugby, a few boys turned out for Aberystwyth as they had travelled down short in numbers. They went on to reach the final and received finalist medals for their efforts.

Why not come along and support the boys this year?

This year's youth presentations will be made at the Rugby Club Dinner on 26 April. Current captain James Lewis, along with several others, will be leaving the Youth Squad next season due to age. The club would like to thank them for their efforts and wish them good luck in the future. We hope they will go on to the senior set-up to continue to represent the club.

Looking to next year, Phil Clark will continue as coach.

We will require more players to replace those leaving so, if you are aged 16-19 and want any information, please contact the club or Michael John on 01437 890175

junior rugby

The juniors are the future of the club. The enthusiasm shown by the boys and girls on Sunday mornings is a match for anything!

The club currently fields sides at Under 14, U11, U10 and U8 age groups. Matches are played on a regular basis over the winter with training on non-match days.

In total this season there have been approximately 40 matches, across the age range.

As with the Seniors and Youth, the season is now drawing to a close with only a few matches left to be rearranged.

Thanks must go to the parents who give up their

time to coach, cook or just help out: without their support, it would be impossible to cater

for 50 or so young players who turn out for the club.

Congratulations should also go to those boys who have played for Pembrokeshire this season—an honour at any age.

If you want any information on junior rugby, please contact any of the Junior Coaches via the club on 01437 890462

The first of our 'Golden Oldies' photos shows the splendid Llangwm Second XV of 1980. In April 1980, they played the Pembrokeshire Junior Union. No doubt you will spot familiar faces from over twenty years ago!



SECOND XV

(Back row, l. to r.) J. Skyrme, E. Llewellyn(Referee), G. Davies(Fixture Sec.), P. Terry, D. James, W. John, G. Jones, H. Studley, D. John, R. Howells(Chairman), D. Jones(Coach),
(Second row) R. James, Richard James, B. John, M. Prettyman, D. Howells, M. Hardwick,
(Front row) J. Rees, J. Saies(Captain), C. Johns, S. Evans, S. Evans, B. Saunders, J. Rees.

longboat rowing club

Winter training has been maintained during suitable weather—and several new rowers are interested in joining!

But now the season is beginning. The Cardiff Race, in which three Llangwm crews were entered, was held on 9th March in very wet and windy conditions. The AGM is to be held on 21st March, when the current vice-chairman, Bob Charles, will take over as Chairman, and the rest of the Committee will be appointed. The Cleddau Race will be held on Sunday 11th May. And, on Sunday 6 July, there will be the Festival Regatta—an annual, not-to-be-missed event!

Pat Morgan of Newport Boat Club has provided the following history of Longboat Rowing in the County:

The Celtic Longboat is a 4-man coxed rowing boat used for racing, training and recreation. Racing this type of boat has a long and interesting history on the West Wales coast. Since the 1970's, local coastal villages have put up teams to compete for what has often been relatively large cash prizes in the traditional 'pulling races'. The long boats started in 1978, when Tom Sutton, working on Ramsey Island, found the remnants of an Irish Curragh (wooden frame, tarred-skin boat) washed up. With friends Des Harries and Robin Pratt, he decided to re-skin the boat and enter it in the local Solva Traditional Boat Rowing Race, for prize money of about £200—and he came second!

They thought that, if they made the same shape in fibre glass, it would be even faster. Des, the carpenter, carved a plug out of a solid piece of timber to similar dimensions, and cast a mould from which they made the first Pembrokeshire Longboat. 1979—they entered the Solva race again and won easily. But—they were told not to come back as fibreglass boats were not wanted in that race. Soon interest in the new boat was growing. They made a couple more for locals and held races around Ramsey Island (a race considered too dangerous now!). From this developed the Pembrokeshire Longboat League.

The original mould was sold to Dai in Cardigan in the early 80's; he went on to produce over 30 Pembrokeshire longboats using the 'old mould'. Later, when the old mould 'died', the 'new mould' was taken off one of the best of the old mould boats.

The sport continued to develop in fits and starts, with the interest spreading from Pembrokeshire to Ceredigion, where Dai was based. The Welsh Longboat League Cymru was formed to try and standardize the boats, rules etc, and bring together the boats from both areas. At this time, every boat varied in weight and finish, as Dai would often sell a bare hull for the buyers to finish themselves, giving the lighter boats an unfair advantage, with many of the 'top' boats being 'cut' to make them narrower and faster.

These boats raced around the potentially treacherous coastline of West Wales—and even raced across the Irish Sea. They are still some of the fastest at the 'Great River Race' in London.

In 1996 it was decided to approach Sportiot for a grant for a new mould so that, at last, all the

boats could be standardized. This developed into a major bid for over £100,000 to finance the mould, eighteen new longboats and a junior training boat. Several companies were approached to submit proposals to design and build the new boat. The brief was simple: the boat should be faster than the best of the existing boats and at least as sea-worthy. All should be identical.

After much deliberation and debate, in 1999, Dale Sailing of Neyland was selected as the new builder. To date, over 35 boats have been built (four of which have gone to Dubai) with about another six on order. The new boats have caused a resurgence of interest in racing as now everyone will be able to compete on level terms in the new, one-design, Celtic Longboat.

The latest news is that the four longboats operating in Dubai, introduced there by Welshman John Rees, are creating much interest and enthusiasm. We expect invitations to row there any day!

LLANGWM CRICKET

The new season beckons. At the Club AGM held on 5th March a new Club Captain was chosen after a close contest between three well-qualified players. Darren Brick was the man elected to lead our assault on the County Championship in 2003 with Andrew (Hackie) Harries as his vice-skipper.

Paul Morgan will lead the 2nd XI from the front with brother Roger as his vice-captain. The 3rd XI will play friendly cricket in the coming season and anyone interested in playing should let us know. (The Clubhouse number is 890462.) The Club's officers remain unchanged with President Randall Lewis, Chairman Dai Davies, Vice-chairman Martin Inward and Secretary/Treasurer Brian James all being reelected.

Brian James has been very active in seeing that our Club could take advantage of an 80% grant offered to us by the Cricket Board of Wales in recognition of the Club's contribution to the Wales junior cricket teams in recent years.

This was to be used to purchase equipment to maintain and improve our cricket square, which is already showing the benefit.

He has also found time to obtain a 100% grant for us to improve our nets facility, which was sadly lacking.

This year the County Junior Leagues will be contested at under 13 and under 15 levels, with under 11 games being pairs-cricket played on a non-league basis. The Ormond Youth Cup will have a Plate competition for those sides eliminated in the first round, giving every club at least two matches. We are again entered in the Welsh under 13 and under 15 competitions - last year we got to the semifinal when we lost to Cowbridge. Our annual Junior Cricket Festival will take place on 29th June this year, this being subject to confirmation.

CONGRATULATIONS...

...to Andrew Phillips on passing his level 1 coaching course and joining our growing band of qualified coaches. Another course will be held after the end of the season when it is hoped more of our players will take part. Courses are also held from time to time for aspiring umpires and scorers - any volunteers?

DATES TO REMEMBER

Our Club Junior Awards night is scheduled to take place on Friday 4th April starting at 7.30 p.m., at which all are welcome. We have also been invited to host the P.A.C.C. Dragon Awards night, and this is to be held in our Clubhouse on Friday 25th April.

Pre-season indoor nets are being arranged at Thornton for April, and dates and times will be posted in the Clubhouse. Old and new players are all welcome.

SOUTH AFRICA

Two of our talented young cricketers are off to South Africa on 14th March as part of the West Wales under 13 touring side. Mathew Kiff and Stephen Inward are due for an unforgettable experience, and round off their trip with tickets to watch the World Cup One-day Final before jetting Llangwm. We wish them well.

GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

Easter is a time of quiet thoughtfulness and deep reflection in our minds.

Good Friday, still a sacred day in the life of Christian worshippers, recalls the intense sadness of Jesus' crucifixion, and is contrasted with the feeling of new hope and joy as Easter Sunday celebrates the concept of resurrection - new life and a fresh start.

This is echoed all around us with the welcome arrival of springtime in and around our village, and we look forward to sharing together in the coming weeks in Sunday services of praise and thanksgiving for all the good things in our lives.

Midweek meetings continue also, with the popular MUMS AND TOTS GROUP on Thursdays at 10 am in the chapel schoolroom. It is uplifting to see the very young children growing up and becoming members of our Sunday School, taking part more and more in the worship of the chapel. We hope that they are discovering for themselves an altogether richer, more joyous and loving way of life than many find nowadays, if we are to believe the bleak reports in our media.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, held fortnightly on Thursdays at 2pm, has had many interesting speakers over the winter months, including Mrs. Margaret Price of Milford Haven (Bible commentary); Mr. Jim Richards of Hook (Llangwm's fishing heritage); Mr. David Mills of Buttehill (the role of women in India and the Far East) and Mrs. Gaynor James (flower arranging). Discussion groups also take place, on issues of modern life, morality and faith. A warm welcome is always extended to all to come along.
(Please note there is a summer break following the summer outing and lunch.)

The Annual Church Meeting for members of Galilee takes place on Monday 31 March at 7pm

Sunday Services are held each week at 10.30 am and 5.00 pm, with notable dates over the next few weeks as follows:-

April 6 - Family Services followed by Communion, with Rev. Raymond Webb of Haverfordwest.

Palm Sunday (April 13) - Family Services with Rev. Ron Price of Milford Haven.

Good Friday (April 18) - United Service (all denominations welcome) at 9.30 am followed by tea, coffee and hot cross buns in the Vestry.

Easter Sunday (April 20) - Family Services taken by Mr. Dennis Payne of Haverfordwest and Mr. Mervyn Strand of Johnston.

Sunday School Anniversary Services will be held, as always, on the third Sunday of June (June 15), with the Wesleyan Chapel joining us for the evening service.

The following week (June 22) we at Galilee support the Wesleyan Chapel's Sunday School Anniversary evening service.

Very special times in the history and present day life - and hopefully the future - of the village, and we welcome as many of you as possible to join us on those occasions

Llangwm Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. Linda Woolacott

Secretary: Mrs Jane Brock

Treasurer: Mr Lloyd Curtis

Services:

Every Sunday morning	11.00 am
Sunday School	11.00 am
Family Service	1.00 am
(1st Sunday in every month)	
Women's Fellowship	2.00 pm
(fortnightly-Wednesdays)	

Forthcoming Services/Fundraising Days

Friday 4 April	Tenby Talent: tickets available from members of the Church or pay at the door. £2.50 adults/£1.00 children
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Good Friday 18 April	Service. 3.30 pm. Good Friday Tea/Gift Day 4.00 pm in School Room
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Sunday 18 May Chapel Anniversary
11.00 am: Rev. L. Woolacott
6.00 pm: Rev. Hawkes

Sunday 22 June Sunday School Anniversary.
6.00 pm. Mr Gareth John
Items by Choir, Young People
and Children.

Village Festival Fortnight
Teas and indoor boot stall plus historical photographs. OPEN DAILY

Carnival Day Hot Dog Stall at Pills Park
During August Events to be confirmed.

A warm welcome is extended to everyone joining us at the above service/fundraising events.

Parish of Llangwm & Freystrop & Johnston Services for Holy Week 2003

Palm Sunday

9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Llangwm
10.15am	Parish Eucharist	Johnston
11.45am	Parish Eucharist	Freystrop
4.00pm	family Service	Llangwm

Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Communion	Llangwm
7.00pm	Lenten Service	Llangwm

Maundy Thursday

7.00pm	Parish Eucharist	Llangwm
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Good Friday

10.00am	Family Service	Llangwm
11.00am	Litany & Devotions	Llangwm
12.15pm	Litany & Devotions	Freystrop
2.00pm	Litany & Devotions	Johnston

Easter Day

9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Llangwm
10.15am	Parish Eucharist	Johnston
11.45am	Parish Eucharist	Freystrop

Some Thoughts on Good Friday

On the first Good Friday, Our Lord Jesus hung and died for us on the cross at Calvary. He offered up His life for the forgiveness of sins. On the cross, Jesus uttered seven sayings. The first prayed for forgiveness for His tormentors; the last committed His soul into the hands of God. From that 'Throne of Grief', He looks into the hearts of men. He sees a crowd of enemies scoffing, jeering and exulting. He looks down on hearts that are hardened by indifference.

Yet there is some support. His mother Mary, John and three other women stand by the cross, supporting Him in His agony. One face is missing; that of Peter, who had denied his Master three times on the night of Jesus' arrest. He had failed miserably and Jesus had given him a long, hard look across the courtyard. It was not a look of scorn or anger or blame. It was harder to bear because it was a look of love and compassion that broke Peter's heart as he flung himself out into the darkness.

The look of Christ. It spoke to Peter on that night and it spoke to others at Calvary. The robber convicted of violence and murder looked upon the dignity and innocence of Christ and prayed, 'Lord, remember me when you come into Thy kingdom'. The Roman centurion in charge of the execution said, 'Truly, this was the Son of God'.

Good Friday will bring all these things to mind. As Our Lord looks on us, what will He see in us? Will he find scorn or indifference or love? As he looked down on the crowd, at the penitent thief, and at Peter, He still looks on us. We still help to nail Him to the Cross by our sins of thought, word, deed, omission and commission, pride and disobedience. He still looks to us in mercy and love so as to draw us to Him in penitence, love and gratitude.