

LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 15 DECEMBER 2003



Llangwm Remembrance Day 2003

Reported by Margaret Brace

On Sunday 9 November, some 24 people stood on Llangwm Green around the War Memorial in a short service of remembrance to honour the men of the village who lost their lives in the two World Wars - indeed, to remember all those who have perished in conflicts past and present.

Led by Rev Gilbert Hooper, the service included prayers, the Ages Past', a reading by Mrs Betty Davies of Llangwm Methodist Chapel, and the laying of a poppy wreath by Community Councillor, Mr Barry Childs.

Since the setting up of the memorial around the time of the Millennium, the service has been held annually on Armistice Sunday.—the nearest Sunday to the '11th day of the 11th month', when the peace treaty was signed in the First World War.

Fine weather has generally prevailed for the services, but this year umbrellas came into their own. The outdoor service followed Sunday morning services of remembrance in St Jerome's, the Wesleyan Chapel and Galilee Baptist Chapel. Watch for these services next year, if you wish to remember someone in your family or circle of friends who was lost during war time — or if you would just like to pay your respects to those who went before us and gave their lives for our freedom.

hymn 'Oh God Our Help in

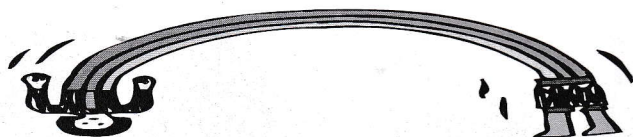
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Community Centre News

from Jane Mills

Induction Loop Fitted

An induction loop has been fitted 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 will enable the hard of hearing to participate more fully in the many events which now take place in the hall. Many thanks to the Agor Drysau/Opening Doors grant scheme, administered by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action, for giving us the money!

Would all users of the community centre please note that, to activate the loop system, it needs to be switched on by pulling a cord near the fire exit door. A red light will appear on the ceiling socket and indicate that the system is working. Would you also ensure that this is switched off at the end of your activity. In addition, there is a stand microphone which can be used for an individual speaker.

If you wish to use this microphone, please inform the Booking Secretary when booking the Centre so that it can be made available to you. For those with hearing aids, simply switch it to 'T' in order to take advantage of the loop.

We are delighted that our Community Centre is now being used on a very frequent and regular basis for a wide variety of group and individual activities and events. If you are planning to book the centre for any event, please see Pat Morris, Booking Secretary, well in advance to ensure your preferred date is available.

The Festival Committee asks...

Did you enjoy the village festival in July?

Did you think the Scarecrow competition was good?

Have you got any ideas for fundraising or different activities during next year's Festival?

Well, if you have, come along to an open public meeting on Thursday 15 January 2004 in the Community Centre at 7.30 pm and give us your ideas.

Next year's festival dates are:2

Sunday 27 June to Saturday 10 July—
and the Saturday is Carnival Day.

Remember—don't sit back and ask what your village can do for you—ask what you can do for your village!

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

As always, on the evening of Monday 15 December, Father Christmas will visit The Green. There will be mulled wine and mince pies, courtesy of the Festival Committee, in the Rugby Club.

And on New Year's Day 2004 at 6.30pm there will be **FIREWORKS** at Pill Parks

Happy Christmas, Llangwm,
from
The Festival
Committee



Community Centre Extension

With the Centre now being so well used, the need to build an extension is becoming critical. Not only is there no storage space, but we do not have our own toilets and, particularly, no disabled toilet which is essential to comply with the Disability Act.

Brand New Plans

As a result, plans for an extension are now being drawn up which will include a meeting/IT room, archive space for the Local History Records, storage space for many other groups that regularly use the Centre and our own toilets.

Work is also beginning on identifying suitable grants for funding and many fund-raising events are being organised—in so many cases, we have to provide match funding.

Support your Centre

The Community Centre is a wonderful resource for everyone in Llangwm and we do ask you all to come along and support all the fund-raising events that are being organised.

Harvest Supper

A wonderful evening was had by all who attended our first supper to celebrate the Harvest Home. We are living in a real rural community and it was great to be able to celebrate the work that farmers and market gardeners do to produce our food.

The meal was followed by a 'blind Man's Bluff' type quiz which caused great hilarity. Many thanks to all those who donated puddings and contributed in so many ways to make the evening such a success.

Feedback from those who attended has

been so positive that we are considering making the Harvest Supper an annual event. Watch this space!

Christmas Market

Saturday 29 November

This is the ideal opportunity to purchase your Christmas gifts in a relaxed and stress-free atmosphere. Many local artists and craftspeople will be represented, including jewellery, paintings, books, honey products, silk painting items, cushions, Christmas decorations, fridge magnets, toys and many more. Entrance is just £1 and includes tea or coffee. Come along, bring your friends and support our local craftspeople.

Just a reminder

It may seem strange to be thinking about St David's Day before Christmas, but put the date in your diary as soon as you get next year's. Tickets for this popular event will be at a premium so make sure you get yours early.

Thanks for Donations

First, to the Festival Committee for their generous donations as a result of the Arts & Crafts Exhibition held during the Festival Fortnight.

To Tim Rees, for his donation of a piano for the Centre—this will make a great difference to social evenings.

Other donations include a clock and a Christmas tree.

We are very grateful for the donations of money, items and time that so many friends have given to the Centre.

Thank you all.



Jeff James and Elaine Winfield proudly show the awards Llangwm received in the recent 2003 'Calor Gas Village of the Year' competition. The village won the 'Community life' and 'Information technology' categories and came second in Pembrokeshire overall

Black Tar Salt Marsh at risk

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Have requested our help in eliminating the parking of vehicles on the salt marsh area of the foreshore at Black Tar.

A few years ago, the Park Authority implemented a small reclamation scheme to preserve the salt marsh which was threatened by erosion in the vicinity of the slipway.

Unfortunately, some of the wooden guards have become detached and the parking of vehicles on the foreshore is again adding to the erosion problem.

Drivers— you are reminded that the parking of vehicles on the foreshore is prohibited. Use the car parks provided and help preserve the Salt Marsh.

editorial

It seems no time at all that I was planning the 2002 Llangwm Newsletter—yet, here we are again, getting ready to celebrate Christmas 2003. For me, it is a third Christmas in Llangwm!

In the past year so much has happened:

Llangwm Village has achieved recognition for its thriving community life and innovative website.

The Summer Festival was an even greater success than usual, with word going out to the whole area that Llangwm is the place where things happen.

A number of our young people have moved on, past school days and into further and higher education or the world of work.

There have been individual successes and losses and gains. There have been people leaving and arriving. It is a village in flux—as it should be. Let us welcome what is good— even if it is the unknown.

The front page article on the Remembrance Day Service is a reminder that we live in a global village in uncertain times. For the many Pembrokeshire people who will spend this Christmas separated from family and friends, we hope for happy reunions and, above all, a peaceful world in 2004.

Meanwhile, let us celebrate the season in style. There are so many opportunities here for us in Llangwm— details of dates and times in your newsletter!

Happy Christmas to you all



Would you like to be a 'Tree Warden' for Llangwm?

The Community Council has been informed of a new scheme which the Pembrokeshire coast National Park wish to adopt. **The 'Tree Warden' Scheme is a national initiative supported by the Tree Council and there are currently 134 such schemes in Britain with 7500 voluntary tree wardens involved.**

As a warden, you would receive on-going support and advice from the Woodland Officer of the National Park and support from the Community Council. Two practical projects have been identified by the officer for the first year.

The first project is concerned with protecting young saplings in hedgerows, of which there is a massive shortage. The wardens would co-ordinate the tagging of healthy hedgerow saplings, liaising with local landowners, farmers and the drivers of flail cutters. In this way, the tree warden would become the eyes and ears of the community in all matters relating to trees, ensuring that local trees receive the best possible protection.

For the scheme to be successful, in the long term, it is hoped that one or two people may come forward who have the time, enthusiasm and commitment to become a warden.

You do not need to be a tree expert—just have a love of them!

Introductory training is hoped to be given early in the New Year by the National Park. For further information contact Mike Hardwick on 890007

Where are they now?

I saw Bill Brant in Pembrokeshire College library last week. He says he is enjoying college life and is studying Sports Science. Also at the College are Daniel Grange (studying Electronics) and Joe Costell (studying Mechanics).

Hugh Jones, says Bill, is working with his dad—the new plumber on the block. Richard Bosenius and Jonny Thurston both have secured places as welding apprentices in Pembroke.

Good Luck to all of them! News of all the others who have moved on—and away— would be much appreciated. Contact Margaret on 890029 or e-mail mags@madagascar.com

Community Council Meeting September 2003

It has been reported that the conduct of certain young people around the village leaves much to be desired. It is not acceptable that doors should be knocked on, dust bins thrown over and older residents left frightened in the wake of this and, at times, much worse, behaviour.

The council understands full well that most parents would be horrified if they knew that their children were involved in such anti-social activities. It is surely the responsibility of ALL residents to make it clear that behaviour such as that reported at the meeting cannot and will not be tolerated.

Well done to the youngsters who want nothing to do with these antics.



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Local History Society

by Margaret Llewellyn

Work continued through the school holidays on an Action Plan to enable us to apply for funding, and this was discussed at our September meeting. In October, we welcomed Richard Howells to speak about Llangwm Rugby - an interesting and informative talk, worthy of a larger audience.

Members met again in November to hear from the Llanteg Local History Society how they had set about forming and running their group. For such a small village, they show great enthusiasm, and have already published three books, as well as having other innovative ideas which we may well copy.

Our Christmas meeting on 10th December will be a dinner at the Water Garden in Milford.

Some of you may have read the short history of Llangwm which we were asked to submit for the village Action Plan. We are grateful to Mr Bob Lewis of River View for sharing some of his memories with us; if anyone else has any stories or anecdotes about Llangwm which they would like to tell, please get in touch with the Secretary, Margaret Llewellyn, on 891081, or with any member. We would also like to borrow your old photographs of village life to copy for our archive, so that we can expand our collection and preserve a little more of our heritage for future generations.

Plans are being made for another Sunday bird-watching walk early in 2004, so look out for the posters.

Two speakers have been booked for next year - Marie Lewis will tell us about, "Understanding and using census returns" on 14th January, and our Chairman, Sue Edwards, has agreed to speak on "Haverfordwest Workhouse" at our meeting on 11th February, both in the Community Hall at 7.45. Visitors are always welcome.

Golden Celebrations in Llangwm Research by Nikki Bosworth

Celebrating their Golden Wedding on 11 November 1915 were Mr & Mrs John Morgans of Anarcarco Cottage, Llangwm. According to a report in the Western Telegraph newspaper, the couple were 'staunch Wesleyans', but had married at Llangwm parish church in 1865. The newspaper reported that Mr & Mrs Morgans had seven surviving children and 27 grandchildren. The report concluded, 'We trust that they will be spared for many years to come'.

John Morgans was 21 years old when he married the 19 year old Betsey Llewellyn. He was the son of George & Mary Morgans of Guilford, Burton parish, and the grandson of Edward Morgans. John, George and Edward all worked on the river as fishermen or watermen [boatmen who plied for hire]. John's grandfather on his maternal side was John Morris, Lazareth Officer [a sort of medical man, but not a doctor].

Betsey Llewellyn was the daughter of William Llewellyn, a waterman, and his wife, Margaret (nee Davies). Betsey (or Elizabeth as she was formally known) had a twin sister called Ann.

The couple had 11 children—Mary, Ann, Elizabeth, George, Margaret Jane, Edward, Sarah, Jane, John, William and Thomas—born between March 1866 and March 1889. Margaret Jane died when she was 14 months old. George also died as an infant. Thomas died when he was almost 13 and is buried in Llangwm cemetery.

In 1881, John Morgans was an able bodied seaman on board HMS Widgeon. On the night of Sunday 3 April 1881, the census records that the vessel was moored at Pembroke Dock. HMS Widgeon was a wooden paddle ship, launched at Chatham in Kent in 1837 and employed as a tug at the RN Dockyard in Pembroke Dock. According to the 1881 census, Betsey and 5 of their children were living at home in Llangwm.

On the 1901 census, John and Betsey were living in a three-roomed cottage in Mill Street with

Sarah (aged 23), John (aged 17) and William (aged 14). John Morgans Senior was once again working as a fisherman on the river.

Betsey Morgans died on 24 February 1918, aged 70, and John Morgans died on 15 March 1919, aged 74. They are buried at Llangwm cemetery between the graves of their son Thomas and their daughter Elizabeth, the wife of William Evans of Foxhall. Their grave bears the inscription, 'The bodies are laid to rest here between their two children, Thomas and Elizabeth, but their spirits are gone to their giver until the Resurrection Day when there will be a reunion'.

**Are you related to John and Betsey Morgans?
Does anyone know where Anarcarco Cottage
was/is?**

From the editor

I turned up a small booklet recently in Newport Pems: Some of you will remember it and the man who wrote it: 'Within these Walls' - the story of Hill Mountain and Llangwm Wesley Methodist churches by H.J.Dickman (pub. 1980)

In it, Mr Dickman names, amongst others, as the 'first Trustees appointed since Methodism had been established in the Village 75 years previously': George Morgans, Fisherman (1816-) and George Morgans, Fisherman (1853 - 1929). Were both or either of these men related to John Morgans?

I liked, particularly, the description of the building of the New Chapel in 1896.

'The men from the Chapel dug the stone for the building from a quarry about 100 yards south of Roose Ferry. The owner, Sir O.H. P.Scourfield of Williamston, gave it free. Before starting work on the first day, the men met in the quarry and George Morgan (senior) offered prayer for their labours. Men had gone to the quarry on their way home from their work in HM Dockyard and from other places of employment. William John (elder brother of Ald. James John, JP), then in his teens, dropped his shovel when prayer was

being offered, and, in his own words, "was rewarded with a clout in the ear afterwards 'for irreverence'." It took 18 months to get all the stone needed.

'The quarried stone was loaded into rowing boats by men of the chapel and ferried by them to Llangwm Pill (near the Stepping Stones across the stream between Rectory Road and Guildford). The boats were beached and next day the women unloaded them and farmers of the district hauled the stone in horse-drawn carts to the building site, where a skilled workman was employed to dress each stone to uniform shape. Building work proceeded rapidly and on 25th November 1897 the New Chapel was opened by Mrs Roberts of Little Milford.'

This chance find has given me a whole new perspective on the Wesleyan Chapel and the united efforts of its members to literally dig out the stone needed to build it—not to mention the effort required to ferry and haul it to the site before even starting on the building. And this after a hard day's work!

Llangwm Surgery entrance porch 'a rubbish bin'

Doctors and local residents have been complaining about the litter and waste being deposited within and around the entrance porch to the Llangwm Surgery. It has been reported that the porch is regularly used by youths as a meeting place in the evenings. Both the LCC and the Practice request that people refrain from congregating in this privately owned area.

Gardening Club

The club has enjoyed a successful year of interesting meetings and events.

These varied from talks by eminent speakers, practical evenings, and summer garden visits, to an Easter Quiz Night with Manobier Garden Club (which we won, of course!) with lots of Easter Egg prizes.

One very knowledgeable visiting speaker has been Gerald White, Chairman of the Pembrokeshire Horticultural Society, who is always full of valuable information—and plenty of jokes, as well!

A talk by Jennie Roberts on 'Healing Plants' was different, and interesting, concerning how plants can, and have been, used for healing mental and physical problems.

The vegetable garden, plants for shade, colour through the year and Bro Meigan Garden have all been included in the Gardening Club meetings.

Plant Sales were held both in the spring and during the village Summer Festival. Many members took part in the 'Open Gardens' event, and provided teas, raising money for a local good cause. We also had great fun decorating a float and taking part in the Carnival Procession. 'Flower Power' - what else?

The Llangwm School Garden, designed and planted as a combined effort between the club and school, has been enjoyed by the children during the year and continues to be a source of pleasure and learning for them.

Club evenings are very sociable, held once a month in The Cottage Inn. Many thanks to Neville who also did us proud at our July AGM (short!) and Barbeque (long into the summer evening). Our winter social event is the Christmas dinner in December at The Beggar's Reach Hotel and which is certain to be enjoyed by all, I am sure.



Details of the programme of meetings for the next few months are listed below. All are welcome—garden knowledge is not necessarily required to enjoy the evenings with friendly company!

Dec.1st: Christmas quiz, questions & answers

Jan 5th: Trees—Peter Bosson

Feb.2nd: Pembs. Nat Parks—Dave Matthews

Mar.2nd: Cottage Garden—Geoff Nicholle

Apr.6th: Bees & Apiathery—John Drakes

Meetings are on the first Monday of the month, in The Cottage Inn, at 7.30pm.

Maureen John, secretary; tel 891771

BAPTIST CHAPEL

If you have noticed the date 1904 set in stone above the entrance doors to the chapel, you will realise that a special year is approaching—the centenary of the present building. It is not the centenary of the founding of the chapel fellowship—the Baptist cause existed in Llangwm in the 1830s. The old chapel was situated on the ground now occupied by the Galilee chapel car park. Parts of the old wall can be seen at the back of the car park.

The present day chapel was one of those that, as the poet R. S. Thomas put it, 'sprang up out of the ground' during the Great Religious Revival in Wales (which coincidentally began around 1904). When we think of the trouble today to get any major building project off the ground, it is even more amazing to think of the forefathers of Galilee completing this magnificent chapel in tough times, and just six years after the setting up of a Building Fund.

2004 will be marked by special events in the chapel, culminating in the centenary Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 12 September at 10.30 am and 5.00 pm. This will be led by Dr John Weaver, Principal of the Baptist Union College, Cardiff



Christmas Greetings from the Rowing Club

Llangwm Rowing club have had another successful year with 3 men's teams, 2 women's teams, 2 mixed teams and a junior boys' team making regular appearances at the many races held throughout the summer months. All teams have made great improvements on their positions from the previous year's and are right up there with the best of them, hoping for greater glories and spoils next season to add to their growing collection on display at The Cottage Inn.

Enough about the competitive side of longboat rowing! It's time to tell you about a far less competitive and equally enjoyable side to rowing.

Rowing is a GREAT way to exercise. It exercises all of the major muscles groups in your body; it is both fluent, easy on the joints and is recognised as an excellent cardio-vascular sport for persons of ALL AGES, provided you are relatively healthy. In other words, it is a great way to get fit and have fun with friends. Added to this, you have the benefit of being in the fresh air (bracing at times) but, best of all, you can simply enjoy life on the water and explore one of the most beautiful and possibly safest waterways in Pembrokeshire. It really is a safe and relaxing way to pass the time at all times of year.

The club has been going for some years now and is one of the largest and best supported in the league—for which we have you to thank. We have four longboats and one 2-man skiff for use throughout the year, rain or shine. These relatively lightweight boats are very stable in the sea.

It is important to the club that the people of Llangwm utilise the facilities available to them and support the club. Membership and insurance fees are kept to a minimum for obvious reasons. We urge those of you who are interested to give it a go! It's easier than you think. Most people

pick up the basic techniques in a couple of sessions.

In particular—DO NOT LET YOUR AGE PUT YOU OFF. We particularly wish to attract junior members—both boys and girls over the age of 11—and those of you who are mature in years. Coaching of the basic techniques, advice and safety issues are available to get you started.

There are a number of events to take part in, if you wish, that are not league related. These include rowing from Haverfordwest to Neyland in April next year. In May, every other year, is the world's longest ocean rowing race from Arklow in Ireland to Aberystwyth (95 miles). There are many opportunities and invites to row in Ireland, a warm welcome guaranteed from our neighbours over the water. There are beautiful rows in North Wales, amongst others from Caernarfon Castle to Beaumaris each year.

Regattas are held in Cardiff and Plymouth, where we compete with other types of sea rowing boats in a challenge around the Eddystone lighthouse. There is a 22 mile row down the Thames each September. Each year rowers have the opportunity to go abroad to represent Wales in International competitions. This year's was in Brittany. A number of Llangwm junior and senior rowers took part and did particularly well for their country.

As you can see, the sport is diverse, you need not row competitively—simply row for sheer enjoyment! Have fun, safe in the knowledge it is doing you good. Do as much or as little as you want. The club is here for you to use, so speak to your friends and get going.

For details of registration applications, speak to the membership secretary, Rik Harold, on 01437 891938, or Bob Charles on 01437 891068—or any other member you may know. If you have an e-mail address, have it to hand so that you can receive copies of minutes or information about organised events.

Be warned: this sport is addictive and will improve your health!

RUGBY

SENIOR

With the season now 3 months old, the 1st XV are still looking for their first elusive win. The results have, however, been a lot closer than last year which shows the great strides the team has taken under coaches Alan McClelland and Simon Gerson.

The number of players available has increased to such an extent that it is now pleasing to see that the club has fielded a 2nd team. They played Milford Haven in a very close game with another match to play later this month.

Anyone interested in playing 2nd team rugby should contact the club on 01437 890462 or Roger Morgan on 01646 600474

Training takes place Mondays 7-8 pm at Sir Thomas Picton all weather pitch and Thursdays 7pm at Pill Parks Llangwm.

YOUTH RUGBY

The Youth have only played two matches so far this season because other clubs have been unable to play on the set dates. With the current set-up of School and Youth Saturdays, it is very difficult to re-arrange matches and it has now been five weeks since we last played. This has led to a reduction in training numbers but it is hoped that this will turn around as we have several matches to play over the next few months.

Coaches Phil Clarke and Jeremy Brock give their time freely every Wednesday evening and it is up to the boys to support them and turn up to train. Without the support of the players it may be us calling off matches rather than our opponents!

If you require any information regarding youth rugby, please contact Michael John on 01437 890175

The Youth have a web site at...<http://www.dragonsrugbytrust.com> .. follow link to CLub Sites..LLANGWM

JUNIOR RUGBY

Junior Rugby continues at the club with teams now running at several age groups. There is regular training on Sunday mornings at 10.30am for any boys, or girls, who wish to play rugby.

The coaching is carried out by parents who have passed the necessary WRU coaching courses. There are regular matches through the Winter, also held on Sunday mornings.

If you want any information on Junior, Youth or Senior Rugby please contact the club on 01437 890462.

by Michael John

Writers' Workshop Sponsored by SPAN Led by Dave Ainsworth

A reminder to all who were involved in the writing of the street theatre play scripts: the final writers' workshop will be on Saturday 6 December, 10.00 am—4.00 pm. We shall once again meet in the lovely surroundings of Will's Cottage, Llangwm Ferry, thanks to the generosity of Susan Davies. Susan has offered to provide hot drinks but please bring your lunch with you!

Anyone else interested in writing? Come along and join in. We had an excellent day in Spring and, under Dave's guidance, produced some pretty good scripts.

For further information contact Margaret on 890029 or Linda on 891233

We are lucky to catch Dave before he takes his one-man play on tour to The Sherman Theatre, Cardiff, The Grand at Swansea then on to Harlech, Brecon and Ammanford before returning to The Torch at Milford for a performance on 21 February 2004. The play? 'Oh Hello!', based on the life of Carry-On star, Charles Hawtry. Make a date in your diaries!

Make a date, too, for Saturday 6 December!



Will Scales' Farm Diary

Late autumn is time for clearing up and doing all the jobs that should have been done a while ago but somehow were forgotten about in the fairer part of the year.

So tractors with bits missing have been put back together, the workshop is nice and clean again and all the bits of paperwork that farming seems to be bombarded with have been put into folders never to be looked at again!

Winter is usually a pretty quiet time for us but this year there is a lot of fencing and conservation work. We've got two and half miles of fencing to do before spring and most of this is to fence off woodlands from grazing cattle and sheep, which will allow more tree saplings to grow. I am hoping to plant an acre of woodland before next year as well.

The other major job before spring, and a lovely one on crisp clear days, is hedge laying, a traditional form of hedgerow management but now sadly almost completely displaced by mechanical trimming. I am getting grant funding to do about one third of a mile of hedging each year. The method is to cut into the living stems of each hedgerow tree and bend them onto the hedge bank. The end result looks like carnage as it seems the hedge is chopped to ruins but, within a couple of years, it will grow back thicker and stronger than ever before and will serve as a cracking nature reserve. The best trees for the job are hawthorn and blackthorn because their sharp spikes deter curious sheep.

It is tiresome but addictive work. I enjoy the simplicity of the process as you go out with just a couple of hand tools, the billhook being the most important, and a saw. You then spend all day standing at a hedge base untangling trees and guessing how many yards you've done that day, and then return home pretty relaxed. The billhook is an old-fashioned country tool with a straight edge, which is used for hacking and trimming the stems.

My billhook has an interesting history as it is over one hundred years old and still cuts with ease. I got talking to an elderly gentleman hedge layer once who insisted that a new one wouldn't last and that I should get one at least a century old as superb steel was available for the blade in those days.

Llangwm V. C. School

Back from half of the term, we have had an extremely busy remaining half!

Llangwm North Wales

On Wednesday 12 November, a coach from Llangwm School, North Wales, pulled up to the school gates with very excited children—and equally excited children waiting for them from Llangwm School, Pembs. They were treated to a special, whole school assembly. Class 4 performed poems and stories based on 'memories'. At 3.25pm, classes 1, 2 and 3 went home. Class 4 and our friends from North Wales stayed on at school for a very enjoyable hour of Dragon Sport.

Thanks to all the volunteers from Dragon Sport, Pembrokeshire C.C. who arranged the hour of sporting fun. And to parents, busy preparing a hot/cold buffet for the children.

After their meal, at 6.10 pm, the coach with Class 4 Llangwm North and South left with Mr Groves, Mrs Rees, Mrs Martin and 3 Llangwm North teachers for Stackpole Centre. During their residential visit, the children enjoyed renewing and making new friendships. They took part in rock climbing, abseiling, orienteering, mountain biking, countryside workshops, walking the beaches and a night time walk through the woods. The children returned to Llangwm School at 1.00 pm on Friday 14 November in gale force winds. Then it was goodbye and look forward to keeping in touch until next year!

Thanks to everyone who helped towards making this visit such a success—parents, teachers,

Community Council, staff at Stackpole Centre and, above all, the children from both schools who gained from this wonderful experience.

Christmas Fayre

On Wednesday 26 November we will be holding our annual Christmas Fayre. There will be a variety of stalls—including school stalls—and (hopefully) Father Christmas in his Grotto to have his photo taken with any little helpers!

Christmas Pantomime

This year it is 'Red Riding Hood'. The children are very busy practising lines and learning songs. **Come and join us in the Methodist Chapel at 6.30pm on Tuesday 9 December.**

Christmas Raffle

Prizes are Christmas and Bottle hampers and many other prizes so purchase your ticket! **The draw will be at the school hall on Wednesday 17 December.**

Christmas Carol Service

St Jerome's Church—Thursday 18 December—starting at 10.00 am—make a diary date!

End of term—Friday 19 December 2003

New Term —Monday 5 January 2004

School Sport

Joseph Kiff and Adam Williams have been chosen for the Schools' County Rugby-Under 11s team. So far this season, they have played against Aberafon and Carmarthen, winning both games but, alas, lost to Llanelli and Pontypool. Mr Andy Grey, County coach, said, 'I am very pleased with both Joseph and Adam's progress.' Well done, boys, and good luck for the rest of the rugby season.

Tag Rugby

Our school rugby team had the chance to be coached by Kenny Davies, using the new tag system. This proved very successful, especially for the girls as there is no contact involved. Our team of boys and girls enjoyed their afternoon very much. Many thanks to Mr Jeremy Brock, who also helped coach our rugby team.

Cross Country

On Friday 17 October, our school entered the annual Pembrokeshire Cross Country Champion-

ships held at Oakwood. It was a dry but cold afternoon. Boys from Years 3, 4 and 6 and girls from Years 4, 5 and 6 entered for their races. Everyone who took part did extremely well as it is a tough course! (1000m for Years 3 & 4 and 2000m for Years 5 & 6)

Entered were: Joe Chalmers, Sam Chalmers, Reece Marchment, Michael Phillips, Megan Phillips, Emily John, Rhiannon Morgan, Charlotte O'Donoghue, Bethan Rees, Jack Kersey, Jennie Brock and Leigha Marchment.

Congratulations to Jennie Brock who came 1st in the County out of the Year 6 girls. Jennie now goes on to run in the West Wales finals in Carmarthen in March 2004. Jennie runs with the Pembrokeshire Harriers; so for this season, she has come 8th in Bridgend and 16th in Cardiff (each race averaging 80 competitors). At the end of November she will be travelling to Bath and, in the New Year, she will travel to Bristol, Cardiff and—closer to home—Carmarthen for the remaining competitions. These are against Welsh Clubs and Clubs from the South East of England.

Good Luck, Jennie, for the 2003/2004 season!

Cricket

Congratulations to Joseph Kiff who, during the half term holidays, travelled to Sophia Gardens for a trial with the Welsh Under 11s Cricket Team. Joseph will be undergoing more Welsh trials during December. We wish him every success in getting through the next stage. Every Tuesday evening, Joseph travels to Neath to train with the Welsh Under 11s coaches. Joseph played in both the County and West Wales Under 10s last season.

Good luck, Joseph, for the 2004 season!

Football

Football matches will be commencing at the end of November. The first match will be against Fishguard. Success to our team this season!



Imagine all these people...

This article has come via e-mail via Eve via Angie-who-lives-in-the-green-house-opposite-the-farm who had it via... It struck a chord with me so, Angie, Eve and I hope you don't mind having it included in the Newsletter!

For those of you who aren't old enough, thought you might like to read about us.

According to today's regulators and bureaucrats, those of us who were Kids in the 50's, 60's, 70's and early 80's probably shouldn't have survived, because...

Our baby cots were covered with brightly coloured lead-based paint which was promptly chewed and licked. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, or latches on doors or cabinets and it was fine to play with pans. When we rode our bikes, we wore no helmets, just flip flops and fluorescent 'clackers' on our wheels. As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or airbags and riding in the passenger seat was a treat. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle and it tasted the same. We ate dripping sandwiches, bread and butter pudding and drank fizzy pop with sugar in it, but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back before it got dark. No one was able to reach us all day and no one minded.

We did not have Play stations or X-Boxes, no video games at all. No 99 channels on TV, no videotape movies, no surround sound, no mobile phones, no personal computers, no Internet chat rooms. We had friends -we went outside and found them. We played elastics and street rounders, and sometimes that ball really hurt. We fell out of trees, got cut and broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits. There were accidents. We learnt not to do the same thing again. We had fights, punched each other hard and got black and blue. We learned to get over it.

We also, believe it or not, WALKED to school; we didn't rely on mummy or daddy to drive us to school, which was just round the corner.

Our actions were our own. Consequences were expected. The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law. Imagine that!

This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers and problem solvers and inventors, ever. The past 50 years have been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all...

This next part, my friends, is surprisingly frightening....and it might put a smile on your face.

The majority of students in universities today were born in 1983.....they are called youth.

They have never heard of Rick Astley, Bananarama, Nena or Belinda Carlisle.

For them, there has always been only one Germany and one Vietnam.

AIDS has existed since they were born.

CD's have existed since they were born.

Michael Jackson has always been white. To them John Travolta has always been round in shape and they can't imagine how this fat guy could be a god of dance.

They believe that Charlie's Angels and Mission Impossible are just new films out last year.

They think that N-Trance "set you free" is an Old Skool song.

They can never imagine life before computers.

They've never heard of Pac-Man or Space Invaders or BBC computers that have Bat n Ball games.

They'll never have thought Jazz was the sexiest aftershave ever.

They'll never have pretended to be the A Team, Red Hand Gang or the Famous Five.

They'll never have applied to be on Jim'll Fix It or Why Don't You.

They can't believe a black and white television ever existed and don't even know how to switch on a TV without a remote control.

And they will never understand how we could leave the house without a mobile phone.



NATURE NOTES FROM GARDEN AND SHORE by Graham Brace



I don't think I can recall a year when the fieldfares and redwings have been quite so numerous or so early (an early cold snap probably accounts for this). According to my diary, I had my first sighting of a mixed flock of about 40 - 50 of these birds flying over the road between Nash and Troopers Inn on 17 October and since 23 October we've had increasing numbers in our garden daily, feasting on the hawthorn berries and sloes of which we have an abundance this year.

These winter thrushes are very striking birds. Both have the streaked breasts and underparts associated with thrushes but the fieldfare has a grey head and rump, black tail and black 'moustache' and ear stripe and rich brown back and wings. The smaller redwing is distinguished from the song thrush by its bold cream eye-stripe and russet coloured 'armpits' from which it gets its name. The fieldfare has a very distinctive harsh chuckling call. As I write (16 November), the trees in our garden have now been stripped of berries and the fieldfares and redwings have mostly moved on. Only one or two are continuing to feed on windfall apples.

After the rain gave the vegetation a good soaking at the end of October I recorded a mixture of blue, great, longtailed, willow and coal tits (and 2 goldcrest for good measure) flitting about the fruit trees in our garden at the same time. Also, after an absence of some months I was glad to see our old apple trees being visited by a treecreeper and nuthatch again.

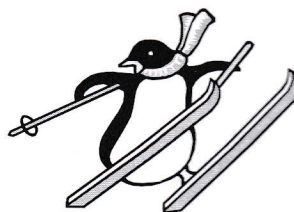
Why is it that when we do the RSPB Garden Bird Survey none of these little so and so's are to be seen anywhere?!

Our hazel trees had a bumper crop this year and, consequently, the garden became a popular place with grey squirrels that spent days collecting the nuts and burying them in the lawn for consumption at a later date. The trouble is these daft creatures forget where they buried most of them so next spring will see dozens of hazel saplings shooting up everywhere. Presumably this is one of Mother Nature's very effective means of seed distribution.

Numbers of wildfowl (including mallard, teal and shelduck) and waders and lapwings are building in the Pill now. The little egrets are still much in evidence. Recently I saw one wading in the brook about 10 yards downstream from Guildford Bridge and caught sight of one dropping down to the same spot again today. I have seen several bar tailed godwits feeding at the waters' edge at Port Lion, Llangwm Ferry and in the gullies in the Pill over the last couple of weeks. The Canada geese are around in varying numbers and lately I've seen a few hundred in the fields around Knapp Farm.

Finally, in my last report I recounted having seen, on separate occasions, a gull and a cormorant struggling to eat a large flounder. Dr John Tavener reported seeing a grey seal having rather more success with a flounder of large proportions in the Pill at high tide adjacent to his waterside garden at Rock Cottage on 29 October. He was naturally surprised and delighted to see a grey seal so far into the Pill.

Don't forget - if you see anything that may be worth reporting in this column please give me a ring on 891580 or email me at grahambrace@btinternet.com



Galilee Baptist Chapel

First, may we wish everyone a peaceful and blessed time for the forthcoming Christmas season, hoping that, amongst all the raz-zamatazz of gifts and glitter, there is a quiet space for families to reflect on its original meaning.

If you can, please join with us at Galilee this year for the **UNITED CHRISTMAS SERVICE on CHRISTMAS DAY** at 9.30 am, led by Rev. Raymond Webb. Worshippers from St Jerome's and the Wesleyan Chapel, together with many village residents and visitors, will come together for a short celebration of carols and Christmas praises. The collection will be donated to a local charity. It's also a great chance to meet friends and neighbours afterwards and wish them the compliments of the season—and still have plenty of time to return home to finish preparing Christmas dinner!

We also have a **FAMILY CAROL SERVICE** on **SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER** at 10.30 am, led by Mr Dennis Payne of Haverfordwest.

In the New Year, services will take place at 10.30 am each Sunday. The first of these, on January 4, will be led by Rev. Webb, a popular local preacher.

Apologies

We're sorry that some details concerning the Sunday School Anniversary were omitted from the last report in the Llangwm News. For the complete record, the children taking part were: Toby Asson, Emily and Thomas Carrington, Jonathan and Zoe Clout, George and Eddie John, James and Sara John-Davies, Sian and Anna Roach. We are grateful to them, and to Mrs Margaret Watkins of Deerland for training the children and accompanying them on the piano. Thanks also to her helpers, Mrs Cherrill Phillips and Mrs Gaynor John-Davies.

More tots needed!

Mums & Tots Group will continue to be held

in the school room behind the chapel on Thursdays at 10.00—11.30 am. If you've a baby or child under school age, and would like some playtime for them and a friendly chat for yourself, why not come along? There are often special occasions, too, such as their Christmas party in the Community Centre on 13 December. For more details, please contact Mrs Dorothy John, who runs the group, on 01437 891098.

Similarly, if you would like to come along to the Women's Fellowship, held fortnightly on Thursdays at 2.00 pm, please contact Mrs Maureen Kiff on 01646 600432 for exact dates and details.

www.llangwm-villages.org.uk

So now we have an award-winning web site! There are a healthy number of links, many of them regularly up-dated by the various clubs and societies.

If you haven't already done so, you can visit the Gardening Club and see photographs of this summer's Open Gardens day.

The History Society's link is hugely expanded, thanks to Roger Smith, and includes a link to Casglu'r Tlysau: Gathering the Jewels, 'a definitive collection of Welsh culture and history on-line'.

The Classified Ads section is updated on a regular basis. From babysitting services to requests for slates, it's all there!

There is also an advertisement for the web site—voluntary help is sought. If you would like to offer help—and help your self by updating your skills and your CV—contact Linda on 01437 891233.

If you haven't already visited the Llangwm Village website, you are missing something special!

**Parish of Llangwm, Freystrop & Johnston
Advent & Christmas Services 2003**

Sunday	Dec 7	Advent Carol Service	St Jerome	4.00 pm
Friday	Dec 12	Scouts Carol Service	Johnston	6.30 pm
Sunday	Dec 14	Advent Carol Service	St Justinian	6.00 pm
Thurs.	Dec 18	School Carol Service	St Jerome	10.00 am
Sunday	Dec 21	Advent Carol Service	St Peters	4.00 pm
Christmas Eve		Christingle Service	St Peters	3.00 pm
		Crib Service	St Jerome	5.00 pm
		Christmas Mass	St Peters	10.00 pm
		Christmas Mass	St Jerome	11.30 pm
Christmas Day		Christmas Mass	St Justinian	9.00 am
		United Service	Galilee	9.30 am
Sunday	Jan 4	Carol Praise	St Jerome	4.00 pm

The Christmas season blinds us with lights on Christmas trees, decorations on and in our homes, up and down our streets. But these are artificial lights which we must not allow to hide the 'True Light' seen in the birth of the Christ Child, the Son of God who came into the world at Bethlehem. The light seen in that vulnerable baby shines still in the hearts of those who accept Him. He dies, a young man, but he rose again and still lives, bringing hope and love and light into the hearts of millions of people everywhere.

O come, O come, Emmanuel. Open our hearts and minds to look beyond the trivial to see your deeper purposes. Help us to expect you to be with us and shining through us.

Llangwm Methodist Church

Friday	Dec 5	An evening of Carols, coffee & mince pies	7.00 pm
Sunday	Dec 21	An evening of Carols and Bible Readings	6.00 pm
Christmas Day		United Christmas Service—Galilee	9.30 am

A warm welcome is extended to everyone to join us at the above services and forthcoming events.

On Sunday 12 October, a very enjoyable evening was had by all. The evening was led by Rev. Linda Woolacott who informed the congregation about John Wesley's preaching from his early days, visiting Pembrokeshire until his final days. Mr Derek John and Mr Samuel Orr were the guest artists for the evening. Mr Derek John sang two well known hymns and Mr Samuel Orr entertained the congregation with two violin pieces. A collection was taken during the concert and £125.00 was presented to Mencap. Thank you to all who attended the concert and who gave towards our chosen charity for the evening.

Sunday services	every Sunday	11.00 am
Sunday School	every Sunday	11.00 am
Family service	first Sunday in the month	11.00 am
Women's Fellowship	fortnightly, Wednesday	2.00 pm