

LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 21 November 2005

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And they call it BLACK Tar !
(OK, it was some years ago)

Don't miss the following events!!

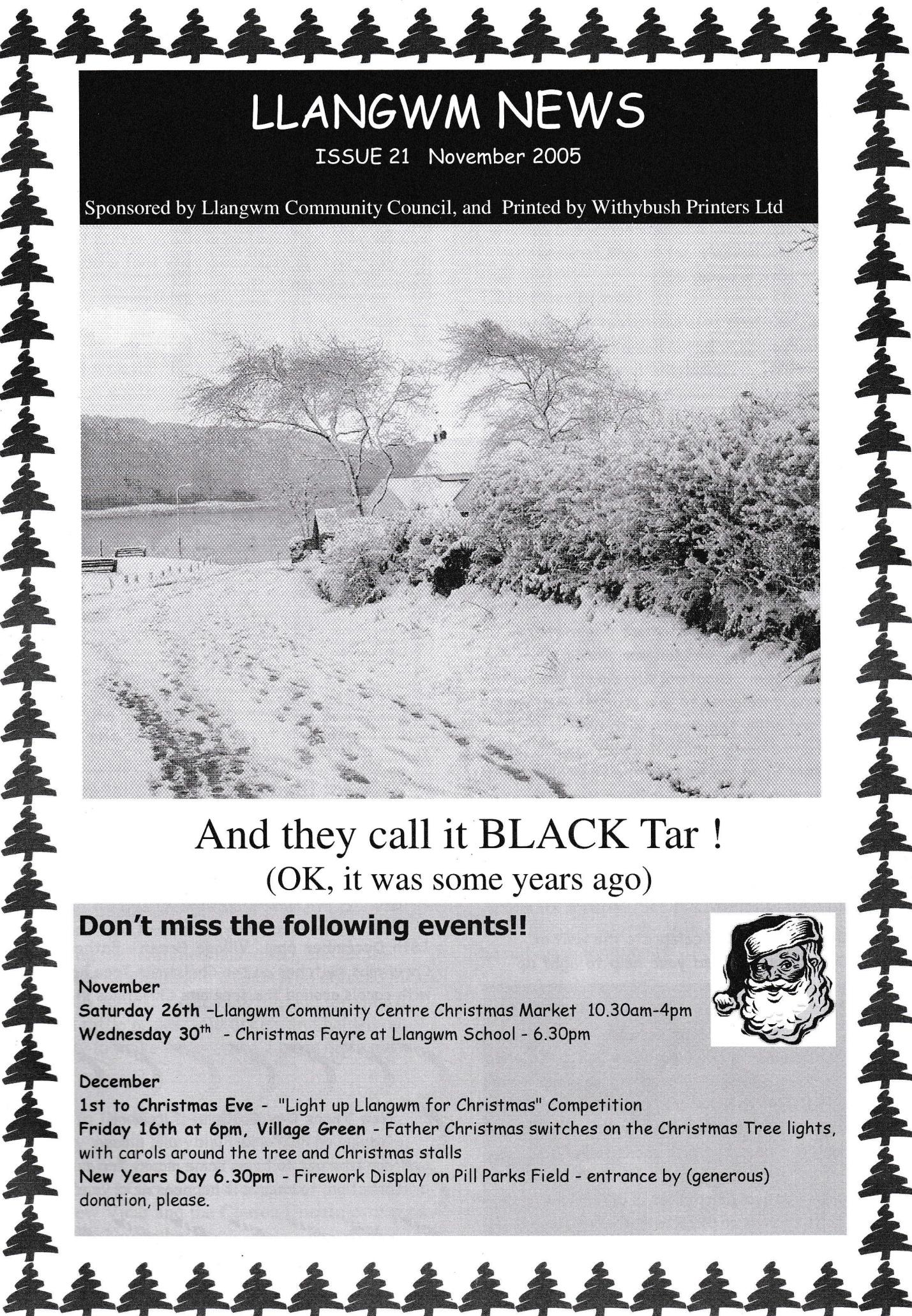
November

Saturday 26th -Llangwm Community Centre Christmas Market 10.30am-4pm
Wednesday 30th - Christmas Fayre at Llangwm School - 6.30pm



December

1st to Christmas Eve - "Light up Llangwm for Christmas" Competition
Friday 16th at 6pm, Village Green - Father Christmas switches on the Christmas Tree lights, with carols around the tree and Christmas stalls
New Years Day 6.30pm - Firework Display on Pill Parks Field - entrance by (generous) donation, please.





Christmas festivities in Llangwm

by Festival Committee Chairman Claire Phillips

The geese are here and that can only mean one thing - Autumn is upon us and winter is galloping over the hill. After a lovely summer of scarecrow and carnival celebrations what have we got to look forward to, now the nights are drawing in?

Fear not Llangwm folk! It is with great excitement that I can tell you all, a letter has been received by the Llangwm Festival Committee from a certain Father Christmas confirming his visit to Llangwm in December, to turn on the Christmas Tree Lights, and to see all the good girls and boys in the village. In his letter he has expressed delight that, so far, all boys and girls have been very good, and he will be watching closely from now until Christmas to make sure they stay that way.

He is, of course, a very busy chap, and we are delighted that yet again he will make the time to visit Llangwm. **The Christmas Festivities begin at 6pm on Friday 16th December on Llangwm Green**, when the children of Llangwm School will sing carols around the tree. Everyone is welcome to join in or alternatively, stand back and enjoy the singing with some warm mulled wine and a homemade mince pie. You can feel the excitement build, waiting for the first glimpse of Santa, on his sleigh, as he comes down Main Street. The Christmas Market will run in the Rugby Club at the same time, with stalls of toys, crafts, cards and lots more. Bring your pennies for those essential last minute stocking fillers.

So, people of Llangwm, to celebrate the visit of Father Christmas, **we need your help to light up Llangwm** in a way that has never been seen before. We want Father Christmas to be able to look down from his sleigh in the sky, and see Llangwm covered in thousands of colourful twinkling fairy lights. Put them in your trees, your hedges, on your houses and in the windows. Put them everywhere, so that Father Christmas can see every house and will go down every chimney on Christmas Eve with sacks full of toys.

The Llangwm Festival Committee is offering a prize of £50 to the house or place with the best lights. The "Light Up Llangwm for Christmas" Competition

will run all December and will be judged during Christmas week by a local celebrity. The winner will be announced when the whole village gathers at the **New Years Day Firework Display**, which takes place at 6.30pm on Pill Parks Playing field. There will be a collection at the field gate towards the cost of the fireworks, and for other festival activities throughout the year.

The Llangwm Festival Committee would like to thank you for your participation in village events throughout the year, and for your generosity that enables us to continue to organise them.

If you would like a stall in the Festival Committee's Christmas Market please contact :-

Claire Phillips on 890172, or e-mail clairephillips91@msn.com, or any Festival Committee member.

Your Festival Committee members are :-

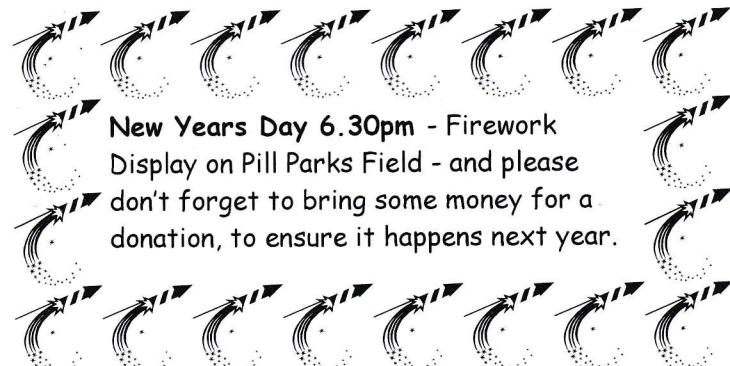
Helen Carrington	
Lisa Smith	2
Lewis Tyler	
Marilyn & Peter Owen	
Pat & Jeff James	
Patrick Wordsworth	
Mandy Davies	
Lorraine Grange	

with a big welcome to our new member Shirley Mathias

Dates to remember

1st December to Christmas Eve - "Light up Llangwm for Christmas" Competition

16th December 6pm, Village Green - Father Christmas switches on the Christmas Tree lights, with carols around the tree and Christmas stalls



New Years Day 6.30pm - Firework Display on Pill Parks Field - and please don't forget to bring some money for a donation, to ensure it happens next year.

LLANGWM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Harvest Supper

A very successful Harvest Supper was held on Friday 7th October with nearly 60 people sitting down to enjoy ham, mash, peas and parsley sauce followed by homemade apple pie.

Vincent Jones compered the evening, welcoming guests Peter and Marilyn Owen and David and Jane Mills. For the past few years they have worked very hard on the committee of the village hall, so it was lovely to see them enjoying themselves at 'front of house' instead of slogging in the kitchen. The hall was seasonally decorated with berries and fruits and with the 'new improved' lighting the atmosphere was warmly autumnal.



Impromptu entertainment from Margaret Llewellyn, Jill Bowen and Bobby Richards was appreciated by everyone, showing that we clearly have considerable musical talent on our door step!

A good sum was raised towards the annual running costs and we owe a big 'thank you' to Liz Beresford who took charge of the evening (including the 'commercials' quiz), and all the committee members and friends who donated pies, waited on tables, washed up, mashed the spuds, donated raffle prizes, sold tickets and helped out generally to make the evening a great night out locally.

Events in the Hall this season

Are very varied. They include children's parties, Marathon half-term Afternoon Tea (in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care), refreshments for the Induction of the new Vicar and the Church Christmas Bazaar on the 19th November.

HIRE OF THE HALL

Charges are as follows:

Community group activities

e.g. Yoga Class, History Group, etc
(morning, afternoon or evening)

per session - £5

Parties

Adult - £25

Children - £15

Christmas Market

The next event is the now the Annual Christmas Market, which is on November 26th. It starts at 10.30am and finishes at 4.00pm. Tables selling potential Christmas presents include **local crafts, artwork, paintings, Christmas decorations, honey and fridge magnets**.

So, bring lots of money, (including the £1 to get in) and shop till you drop, **on your own doorstep**. Refreshments will be available all day to revive you.

Hatha Yoga/T'ai chi

These are ongoing at present on a Tuesday/Thursday night. Contact Liz Jones on 891706 for details of other classes.

Other Events

Six Nations and St David's Nights are planned – look out for the dates around the village.

Hire of the Hall

Don't forget **you** can hire the village hall yourselves for a very reasonable charge (see table) and with Christmas nearly upon us it's a good venue for a party. See Pat Morris in the village shop to book your date/time as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!



Looking for an alternative way to good health?

You may like to know that there's now a qualified reflexologist practising in Llangwm – at *Healing Hands*, "Avocet", 48 Port Lion, to be exact.

Miranda Trier offers reflexology and Indian head massage therapies from a specially adapted cabin/treatment room in her garden. She belongs to various professional organisations such as the ICHT and IIHHT, and believes that, in an increasingly stressful world, alternative treatments can provide not only physical but also mental, emotional and spiritual healing.

Anyone interested should contact Miranda on 01646 600946.

Interested in learning Welsh ?

If there is enough interest in Welsh conversational lessons, Claire Phillips's mum (Ann Donovan) could be persuaded to run a Welsh Class in the village hall.

Please let Claire know before the end of November—tel 01437 890172

Llangwm Societies and Organisations, please note:

Pembrokeshire County Libraries is compiling a new edition of its Directory of groups and societies.

To include your organisation in the new edition, and increase your community and local links, contact your local library for a form, which must be returned before 20th December.

Forms can also be found at the Reference Library, County Library, Haverfordwest SA61 1SA.

Apples Galore

With my apples taking first prize at this year's County Show I thought I would do something worthwhile with them, so I put them up for sale.

I would like to thank all the people in Llangwm and Hook who bought my apples. A total of £65 was made which was divided between Llangwm and Hook schools, each receiving £32.50.

I've had both apple trees for approx 25 years, my brother-in-law brought them from Hereford. Unfortunately, the labels went missing in transit, but information from gardening books tells me one is a Laxton, the other a Discovery. Over the last few years the fruit has been abundant and totally organic, no spraying, simply pruned by Pat and watered by God.

The apples I took to the show were Discovery, the class was "4 dessert apples" and I was thrilled to receive first prize as this was my first go.

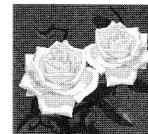
Pat Price, 8 River View

GARDENING CLUB NEWS

As usual, the months have flown by and here we are looking forward to Christmas jollities again!

With the autumn weather a mixture of Indian summer and torrential downpour the gardens are in a very confused state, and the grass is still growing like mad – which of the gardening gurus suggested cleaning the lawnmower before putting it away for the winter? They obviously don't live in Pembrokeshire!

The Gardening Club has had some interesting talks this autumn – one on lovely old roses by Colonel Gilbertson from Llandewi Velfrey, where he has a garden planted full of these fragrant roses and has an 'Open Garden' during the village festival in July, which would be well worth a visit.



Our other meeting, in November, was from Richard Bramley of Farmyard Nursery, Llandysul, on 'Hellebores in the Garden' – he is an expert on these plants and holds the National Collection of hellebores. He also has a shop and stall in Carmarthen Market with a good selection of plants, if you are over that way.

Our December meeting, as always, is our Christmas Dinner – always well supported and a really good evening, good food, good wine and bus transport home means we don't have to worry about driving!

The Club programme in the New Year will include a quiz evening, talks and activities. Some outings are planned for the spring/summer as the weather improves.

Our meetings will continue to be held at The Cottage Inn, first Monday of the month at 7.30pm, and we would like to say a big 'thank you' to Scott and Karen, who are leaving, for the excellent catering and welcome they provided for us during the year.

The new programme details are as follows:-

December date/venue to be confirmed
Christmas Dinner

January 9 Quiz and Social Evening

February 6 Dahlias – speaker Granville Davies

March 6 Garden Topics – Gerald White (tbc)

April 6 Container Gardening – speaker Gareth Davies

If you haven't joined us, please come and see what we get up to. Interest in gardening is optional, all are welcome. Contact our Club Chairman, (Tel: 01646 601078), for more info on meetings and activities.

Maureen John



COMMUNITY NEWS

Topics which have 'graced the table' at Community Council meetings over the past few months have ranged from planning to pollution, picnic areas and paper recycling.

School donation

The Community Council were delighted to make a donation towards the visit by Llangwm (North Wales) schoolchildren to our village of Llangwm, and to many places of interest in Pembrokeshire. (See the *School Report*, page 10 to see what they got up to.)

Widening horizons

Representatives from Llangwm Community Council regularly attend other committee meetings in the county: Pat Morris has a vote on PALC (the Pembrokeshire Association of Local Councils) and Margaret Brace has attended meetings of the South West Area Group of Community Councils, a move by Pembrokeshire County Council to inform the communities of their activities, facilities and services – and how to make these available to them if required. Subjects under discussion have included recycling, the economy of the county, sewerage, highways and traffic management, anti-social behaviour and playground maintenance.

Keep your village clean

Dog fouling continues to be a major concern in the village. We would appeal here and now to the better nature of dog owners to take on board the comments previously voiced by this Community Council, namely to ensure the safety of all residents and especially the children of this village by using the scoops and the dog bin, and keeping pavements and grass verges CLEAN. PLEASE NOTE IN PARTICULAR the comments made by the Rugby Club Committee, in their Report later in this Newsletter. The Community Council were appalled to hear reports that the referee in the first rugby match of the season had to stop play several times owing to dog mess on the pitch. Please take on board that disregarding public safety and village decency in this way is not only anti-social, it is illegal, and can and will be prosecuted.

Alternative "play" area

The Picnic Area at Rectory Road has been discussed recently. For those of you who are not familiar with this area, it is the large grassed area adjacent to the shore and accessed by the stony pathway which leads down to the garages, just beside the old coach-house buildings next to the Old Rectory. Carry on past the garages, and look round to the river – at high tide it's one of the best views of the river that you can have from the village.

(Some have thought that the 'Picnic Area' in Rectory Road referred just to one of the seats provided for those who walk along the roadway – in fact, the area is a good one for parents to take young children, as they can play and kick a small ball around, with parental supervision of course, away from the road. Try it out.)

Getting back on line

We are making waves to surf the internet once more. Simon Preddy has offered to help upload new information on to the

Llangwm website, if we can get the right software set up, with the help of PAVS (the Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services).

If you remember, Elaine Winfield was the originator of the website – when she left PAVS and subsequently left the village it remained sadly out of date. We hope to correct this situation over the coming months.

With reference to this, it's always an idea to have plenty of help on hand when faced with a new program on computer, so if there's anyone out there with first-hand experience of building websites, please come forward so that we, and especially Simon, can benefit from your knowledge.

(The program is a 'community' version of DreamWeaver, and, if you're technical and willing to help, chances are you'll have an email address, and will straightaway be able to email one of the Editors as listed on the back page with your offer of help and advice...thanks!!)

Can you lend a hand?

A fair proportion of Llangwm's residents are old or ageing, and this presents various day to day problems for many.

For example, living in a village isn't easy – there's no High Street handy for all one's needs even if we do have excellent facilities within our village. So transport to and from town is a problem for some, with limited mobility.

There is also the question of everyday care. Elderly people frequently need help with the chores they cannot cope with, such as washing and ironing, hoovering, keeping gardens tidy, shopping and even cooking.

Are **YOU** able to lend a hand? Either on a voluntary basis, or could you work for someone for a few hours a week on payment-per-hour terms?

It would be a credit to the village if we could start up a register, or introduction service, to put those who need in touch with those who can 'deliver'. Please let us know through the editors of this Newsletter (see back page) if you are willing to help by driving patients to clinic appointments, etc, or taking on some shopping, or housework, or even just visiting someone now and again to sort mail, or read aloud a newspaper, or just be there... thanks.

LLANGWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

have a vacancy for
A CLERK

Principal duties are:

- * To take Minutes of meetings
- * To receive and write correspondence
- * To be responsible for the finances of the Council, which are audited annually

Please apply to Barry Childs (Chairman),
Wentworth, Pill Parks Way, Llangwm
Tel: 01437 890819

ROWING CLUB NEWS AND SEASONS GREETINGS

Another successful season has come and gone. Team Winter training and club training sessions are underway as we look forward to another season just around the corner.

The Rowing Club has had another successful year with two men's teams, two women's teams, two mixed teams and a junior girls 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 years and are right up there with the best of them and hoping for greater glories and spoils to add to their growing collection on display at the Cottage Inn next season. Changes to the league have taken place this year in that the number of races held in South Wales has been reduced to seven. Likewise seven races are held in North Wales. Three of the seven races are joint league races that are something to experience. One of the reasons for these changes is that as the sport grows in popularity the rowing calendar is filled with other events and challenges all over Wales, Great Britain and Europe.

This year the club has concentrated on the important task of encouraging junior rowing. This has been a great success with up to twenty rowers of all ages have been turning up regularly to take part. Thanks as usual have to be given to those individuals who give up their own time and to get qualified in order to pass on their experience to the young in this village. Winter training sessions for junior members will continue throughout the Winter at Black Tar every Sunday at 11:30 am. New members will be made welcome but please be advised that regulations require that children under the age of 11 years would not be allowed to row longboats. The club has a junior skiff that is suitable for our younger rowers. With the 2012 Olympics approaching now is the time to support our junior members interest in this wonderful sport. You never know.....



Our Junior Under-16 Girls were the competitive ones this year earning a very credible second place in the league. The picture is of some of the junior members including the winning team with some of the trophies they have won this year.

The Senior Section have also had a good year with a lot of new rowers achieving excellent results for the club amongst fierce competition. Most notable has to be the mixed team from the club who won first place overall in the league, an oarsome bunch I can tell you. The senior women came second overall narrowly missing out on that elusive first place. Next year, eh, girls? Our other women's team came a respectable fifth place. In the men's category our new team came a hard earned and deserved fourth place. (Watch this space for 2006). Our other men's team dogged

with injuries came in seventh overall, well done to them.

Although there is a competitive side to longboat rowing there is an equally important side to rowing that appeals to the less competitive of us, whether it is to look at the beautiful surroundings of the village, the wildlife or just to get fresh air and fit you will find the sport cheap and a refreshing change from the gym. It is a great misconception to think that to row longboats you must commit yourselves to rowing in league races every Sunday throughout the summer months.

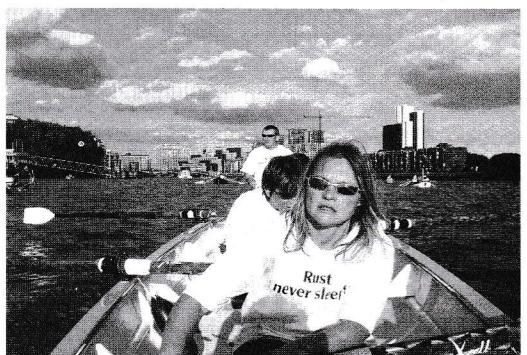
Rowing is a GREAT way to exercise especially if like me your knees are shot or too old to keep playing rugby and you feel like there's life in the old dog yet, it's probably time to give the sport a try. It's easy to learn and you are in a team environment. Every one has to start somewhere so don't feel that you may make a fool of yourself, remember we've all been there. Most persons pick up the basic stroke techniques in a matter of a couple of sessions. There are a number of club members who are very experienced in coaching this sport.

Rowing exercises all of the major muscle 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.

In case you don't know much about the club, it has been going for some years now and is possibly one of the largest and best supported clubs in the league, which we have you to thank for. We have four longboats and one, two man skiff in the club all of which are there for members to use throughout the year rain or shine. These boats are very stable in the sea and are relatively lightweight. Each requires four rowers and one coxswain to steer the boat. Apart from the skiff which has two rowers and one coxswain.

Membership fees and insurance fees are kept to a minimum for obvious reasons.

I hinted above with regard to the diversity of this sport and the popularity locally, nationally and internationally. There are a number of events to take part in if you wish that are not league related and show the options available if you wish to pursue them. This year the club has taken part in a large number of annual events including rowing from Haverfordwest to Neyland in the RETURN OF THE CLEDDAU race. Teams have ventured to North Wales where there is a beautiful row from Caernarfon Castle to Beaumaris. Regattas have been held in Cardiff and also in Plymouth where we completed the Eddystone Lighthouse Challenge. (See attached article) There was of course the great favourite a 22 mile row down the river Thames in September in which a number of our teams took part. The club also attended races at Cork, Ireland and took part in a new Island series of events where rows take place around Pembrokeshire's many Islands. Truly breathtaking.



Each year rowers have the opportunity to go abroad to row in International competitions and represent Wales. This year this took place in Italy.

Already plans are underway to organise the bi-annual Celtic Challenge that will take place in May next year. This is a 95 mile row from Arklow, Southern Ireland to Aberystwyth. One boat and a team of 12 will be needed to conduct this challenge. Anyone interested in helping out or training for the event to contact either Bob Charles 01437 891068 or Helen Stewart 01437 891224.

As you can see the sport is diverse, you need not row competitively, simply row for the sheer enjoyment of rowing and most importantly have fun, safe in the knowledge that it is doing you good. Do as little or as much as you want. The club is here for **you** to use, so speak to your friends and get going. During the winter months we will have club sessions every Sunday morning from 10:00am at Black tar. As you get a little more experienced you might like to join us for night rowing sessions 6:30 pm each Thursday at Black Tar throughout the winter.

For details of registration applications you need to speak to the membership secretary Rik Harold on 01437 891938 or Bob Charles on 01437 891068 or any member of the club 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.

This Christmas the club will be organising carol singing in the village on the 15th and 16th of December to try to raise funds for the club.

The club Christmas dinner will take place on the 9th December, venue to be advised.

The club AGM will take place on Friday 10th February 2006, 7.00pm at the rugby club.

BE WARNED THIS SPORT IS ADDICTIVE AND WILL IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Bob Charles



Read on for more 'oarsome' rowing tales...

The Eddystone Lighthouse Challenge 2005

Llangwm Longboat Rowing Club takes the challenge!

After a busy 2005 season league racing up and down the West Wales coastline, including an 'expedition' of boats and teams travelling to race away in Cork, a challenge lingered in the back of one Llangwm crews minds (yes they do have thoughts and feelings!), the senior men's!

The season started with optimism after a surprising performance in the initial gruelling Return of the Cleddau race, beating teams of established reputation. The optimism and training continued with respectable positions gained in the seasons many race events.

The senior men's team had established and consolidated well, the catalyst being Bob Charles, Club Chairman, and of varying reputation depending on the situation you found yourselves in! Other new club members consisted of Pete 'sideways' Owen, Dave 'Goldie looking chain', Phil Edwards, Bill 'I've just' Brant and Matt Brown, and our devoted and brave Cox, Debbie. Not all the crew have nick names, that can be published in respectable newsletters!

The challenge was agreed – to row around a remote lighthouse off the coast of Devon, the Eddystone Challenge.

A total of 4 Longboat crews including Llangwm rowers travelled to Plymouth in preparation for attempting the infamous challenge, which is organised and hosted by the Mayflower Sea Rowing club based at Plymouth's Mountbatten Watersports Centre. A total of 24 teams took part.

Race day dawned clear but worryingly windy. Breakfasts were extended (food and time) whilst conditions out at sea were being assessed for the race decision. The row (if you go straight) is about 32 miles in total, which takes the course out of Plymouth Sound to the Lighthouse, around and back! There was a degree of anxiety amongst some teams, especially those crews who had to brush up on their sea navigation skills!

By mid morning the tension was broken and the race commenced, sunny, hazy and still worryingly windy, actually about force 6 was experienced once out in open water! Needless to say it was a very hard row into the wind and no visual sighting of the actual Lighthouse (no that's a Ferry Pete), or any other landmark, after about the first few hours rowing. Other boats eventually disappeared too, either in the growing sea swell, which was developing white horses, or just simply giving up and going back.

Coxing in such conditions was demanding and involved holding onto the boat so as not to be thrown out by the waves, whilst navigating (or not in our case), bailing out water and trying to listen to the VHF radio. (Pete thought he could get Radio Pembrokeshire!).

Despite poor navigation, sea sickness, force 6 conditions, and too much Malt Loaf soaked in sea water, we eventually gained site of the Lighthouse about 1-2 miles west of our position – we had overshot a bit in our enthusiasm/desperation! We turned and headed straight back followed by a women's Dale crew, the only other crew to be seen by us.

We eventually completed the challenge in 6hrs 11mins of rowing. (not being allowed to go around the Lighthouse as conditions had got too dangerous around the reefs) We all agreed on personal levels that it had been an epic event, and made mental notes either to brush up on navigation skills or never do it again!

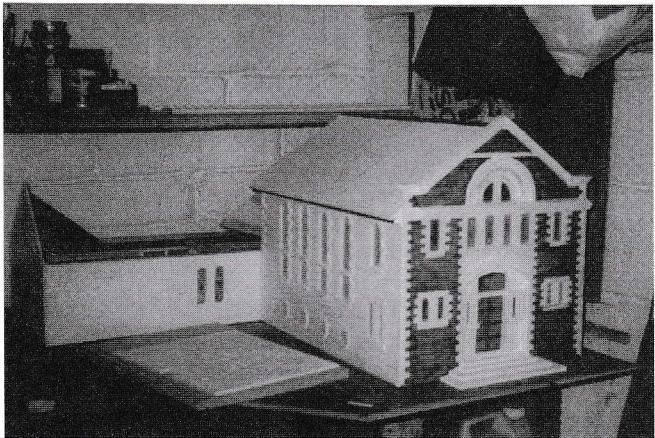
Congratulations go to the Mixed Dale crew who actually were the first to get around the Lighthouse, before this was closed off for safety reasons and made it back safe, despite strange GPS readings, the classic being - "poor signal move to outside"!

Return to the Cleddau was bliss!

Matt Brown

NEWS FROM GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

In a special part of the morning service on Sunday 18th September, Rev. Stephen Woods of Hook received on behalf of the deacons and members a fine model of the Chapel which had been presented to Galilee by Mrs. Ruth England, a faithful member of the congregation for many years.



Her son-in-law Mr. Kenny Platten had made the model – containing over 80,000 matchsticks – over the previous fifteen months, and it had already gained him second prize in the “Made by Hand” Section of the Craft Competition at the Pembrokeshire County Show when exhibited there in August. Anyone who had seen Kenny hard at work in his shed in Main Street day after day will know of the skill, patience and loving care which went into the model. (You may also have seen it alongside the Llangwm Local History Exhibition in this summer’s Festival.)

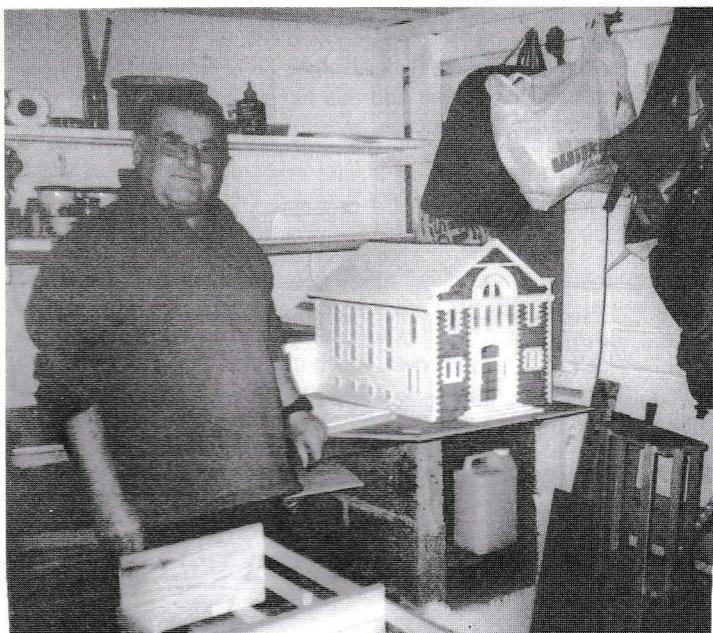
Rev. Woods carefully explained to young Sara John-Davies and Eddie John, two of the Sunday School

children present that day, the significance of the chapel building and the workmanship involved in the model. It will be treasured by all at Galilee.

We look forward to the New Year, with times of worship and fellowship continuing as follows:-

- Sunday Service and Sunday School at 10.30 a.m.
- ‘Mums and Tots’ on Thursday mornings each week at 10 – 11.30 a.m.
- Women’s Fellowship alternate Thursdays at 2 p.m. – please contact Mrs Maureen Kiff of Port Lion (Tel 01646 600 432) for details of dates and speakers.

Do come along for some companionship, or friendly help and support if you should feel you need it.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

The Village’s **United Christmas Service at Galilee Baptist Chapel**

on Christmas Morning at 9.30 a.m.

Service to be led by Rev. Raymond Webb.

A special time of togetherness, with carols and Christmas worship.

LLANGWM METHODIST CHAPEL

MINISTER: Reverend Linda Woolacott

TREASURER: Mrs. Llinos Martin

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jane Brock

Sunday Services: Morning - 11.00 am

Sunday School - 11.00 am

Women's Fellowship: Fortnightly on Wednesdays - 2.00 pm

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mince Pies/Coffee and Carols - Friday 9th Dec at 7pm
Carol Service - Sunday 18th Dec at 6pm

We will be joining with Galilee Baptist Chapel for Christmas Day Service

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

ST. JEROME'S CHURCH, LLANGWM

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

19 November Christmas Bazaar at 2 p.m. in Llangwm Community Centre.

25 November Induction of Rev. Jane Gouillon B.A. as Rector of the parishes of St. Jerome's (Llangwm), St. Justinian's (Freystrop) and St. Peter's (Johnston) at 7 p.m. in St. Jerome's Church, Llangwm, by the Bishop of St. Davids.

27th November Advent Carol Service at 4 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

11th December Carol Service at St. Justinian's Church, Freystrop at 6 p.m.

20th December Llangwm Church School's Carol Service at St. Jerome's Church 9.30am

24th December Children's Crib Service at 5 p.m.

24th December Christmas Mass at 11.30 p.m.

25th December UNITED SERVICE at Galilee Baptist Chapel at 9.30 a.m.

AN APPEAL!

During the magnificent surprise flypast by the Red Arrows at this summer's Carnival and Fete, did anyone – just anyone – have the presence of mind to lift camera to eyeball and take a photograph?

If you managed to – unlike the majority of onlookers who seem to have stared, blinking and unbelieving at the sky – we would love to hear from you, to keep a permanent file record of the event!!

Please phone 891580 or 890841 without delay!! Or, if you've a digital photograph, please email it to one of the contact email addresses on the back page of the Llangwm News. Thank you, in advance

FOUND – THE LOST FLAGS

Thanks to Dilys Ash of Llangwm Ferry who got in touch after reading the last edition of Llangwm News – Dilys and David had rescued three missing strips of bunting from the hedge by the field, soon after Festival Fortnight in July. Now safely stored for next summer...

SCOTTISH DANCING

This happy little group of 6-10 year olds – with eight new girls and the occasional boy – meet in Llangwm Community Centre on Wednesdays between 6 and 7p.m. They are learning well, and making good progress.

Some of the older children from the group, who have now left Llangwm School for Tasker-Milward, have moved on to the adult Scottish Dancing group at Houghton. They join enthusiasts of all ages for the early part of the session, Monday evenings at 7.30p.m., and generally stay until the break for refreshments at about 8.45 (because of school commitments the next day). The others continue until 10.30p.m. The youngsters are a great asset to the adult group, and they are learning more advanced dances and figures – the age ranges and abilities in the group 'gel' well.

There will be a Christmas break, after which classes resume – for the young ones in Llangwm it will be on the second Wednesday of January.

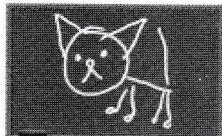
Pat Rye (Secretary)
01646 698463

Brief Report...

Readers may be interested to know that as of Monday 3 October a new professional practice was launched in Llangwm, when Steve Thomas & Co, Pembrokeshire's latest solicitor's firm, opened its doors at Deerland Chambers, Deerland Road, Llangwm.

Many of you will know Steve from his younger days as the local milkman for Llangwm, Hook, Freystrop, Burton, Hill Mountain and Sardis. (In this, for a while, he followed in the footsteps of his uncle Hubert Thomas, a popular local character.) Now he has made the decision to make the break with Eaton-Evans & Morris, the Haverfordwest firm of solicitors for which he had worked for the last sixteen years. And, together with Joanne Hunt of Gail Rise, Llangwm, his personal assistant, he has set up his own practice in his home village.

Whilst in 'easy reach' of clients in towns and cities throughout the UK thanks to phone, fax, mobile phone and internet access, Steve is, of course, within easy walking distance of Llangwm residents who wish to use his services! You can contact Steve or Joanne on 01437 890500, fax 01437 890031 or email thomascop@aol.com



All children were welcomed back to school after the summer holidays on Monday 5th September. We were pleased to welcome new children starting in the Nursery, Early Years and throughout different classes in the school.

Charities

During this term we have supported the Marie Curie and Jeans for Genes Day Charities. We are also supporting Children in Need on Friday 18th November and during December we will also support another charity, this charity has not yet been confirmed. May we take this opportunity to thank everyone who supports the charities chosen at school.

Vouchers to support School

Tesco Sports vouchers are being collected at school. There is no limit on the number of vouchers we can use and there is a wide selection of Sports Equipment we can exchange them for. We are always extremely grateful to families who support us with the Tesco vouchers.

Llangwm Kids Club

The Llangwm Kids Club uses the school facilities to provide out of school hours childcare.

Breakfast Club is held every morning Monday-Friday, 8.00am - 8.50am.

Kids Club is held every evening Monday-Friday, 3.30pm - 6.00pm.

If you need any further information regarding these clubs, please contact Mrs Lewis at the school.

Sport at School

The children have been very active taking part in After School Curricular Clubs including Netball and Football. (Needlework and Environmental Clubs also take place during the week). After half term we will be taking part in different football matches, rugby tag festivals and netball matches with other Primary Schools.

Cross Country

Children from Years 3 - 6 have been very busy training over the past few weeks for the Oakwood Pembrokeshire Cross Country

Championships. This event took place last Thursday, 20th October. A very good representation from the year groups mentioned travelled to Oakwood to take part in their races. All children who took part did very well especially Rhiannon Morgan who came 6th in Year 6. Rhiannon will receive her medal and the rest of the children who took part will receive their certificates on our return from half-term holidays.

Swimming

The Junior children continue to enjoy swimming lessons every Thursday at Haverfordwest Swimming Pool. This will continue again in the Spring term.

Llangwm School, Conwy join Llangwm School Pembrokeshire during the early part of October.
Please read an account of their visit, written by Rhiannon Cerys Morgan, Year 6.

"On Wednesday 5th October children from Class 4 went on a school trip for 3 days involving a school called Ysgol Llangwm from North Wales who came down to visit children in Llangwm School, Pembrokeshire. I really enjoyed the visit because I got to meet new friends and because we had fun days out. On Wednesday we went on the beach and then played bingo in the evening. On Thursday we went to St David's and had a look around the Cathedral and went along a section of the coastal path near St David's and found out about St Non's Well and had a look for wildlife without much luck. It was a long walk and very tiring for my legs. On Friday we went for a walk in a woods nearby and had a lot of fun doing a scavenger hunt. We then went on to the beach again and played with our friends for the last time. I'm glad I went on the visit because it was so much fun and I'm delighted to meet new friends. It's brilliant that we have a link with the school and that this visit is made every year. It is nice that the children from North Wales learnt new phrases like single file and that I got to speak a little bit of Welsh. I found out a lot of information about the Cathedral and I hope that I will be able to go on the coastal path again with a ranger and find out a lot more. I had such a brilliant time and I'm glad that the teachers gave up their time to take us."

1st Johnston Scout Group

The Scout Group at Johnston is the local group for Llangwm and Hook children as well as those from Johnston itself. Here's their latest report...

The autumn term is a busy time for the Group. There are new Cubs and Scouts to invest, and there is a change of Leadership in the Scout troop. Harry Dixon, Scout Leader (for ever), has been offered the position as the Deputy Area Commissioner for Scouting, which he has accepted. Consequently, Harry is no longer allowed to be Scout Leader but can be the assistant. So Simon Preddy is the new 'Skip' and Harry is now 'Rikki'! The Group always welcomes new Leaders as well as Cubs and Scouts.

The Cubs meet on Friday from 5.00 to 6.30 p.m. They are going to St. Bride's for a weekend camp in October. Many of the Cubs are working on their Global Challenge badge which involves finding out about international charities and other cultures.

The Scout Troop also meet on a Friday from 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. They have a full agenda with the Remembrance Day Service in Johnston, an evening hike and sleepover in the hall and some Scouts recently took part in the Go Kart racing in Goodwick – the Troop make and run their own kart. November 4th is a presentation evening at the Picton Centre in Haverfordwest. Three Scouts will be presented with their Gold Chief Scout Awards and two Cubs will receive their Silver Chief Scout Awards.

The Brunel Explorers have an interesting agenda with surfing at Newgale, Go Karting at Withybush and a Climbing Wall trip to Merthyr. They are also helping with Cub Camp and at the JOTA weekend at St. Bride's.

At the end of term there will be the 1st Johnston Carol Service held at St. Peter's Church in Johnston. This year we hope we shall have our new Parish Rector officiating.

Anyone interested in joining any of the above should telephone John Pearn on 01646 601556. Leaders are always wanted and anyone interested in becoming a Leader or helping at any of the meetings should contact the same number.

Contact details: Dawn Harries (Secretary), West Drift, New Road, Maddox Moor, Freystrop, Haverfordwest SA62 4LQ

Christmas Fayre

We will be holding our annual Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 30th November, at the school, commencing at 6.30pm. Due to the popularity of the Fayre, we will be expanding so that the stalls and activities will be available across the school. As usual there will be a variety of stalls and Father Christmas will be in his Grotto for the children to have their photographs taken.

All support will be greatly appreciated.

Diary Dates

November

Friday 18th
Wednesday 30th

- Children in Need
- Christmas Fayre at school - 6.30pm

December

Wednesday 7th

- Whole School visit Torch Theatre to watch Christmas production of "Aladdin"

Tuesday 13th

- Christmas play at Llangwm Methodist Chapel (afternoon performance)
- Christmas play at Llangwm Methodist Chapel (evening performance)

Wednesday 14th

- School Christmas Dinner
- School Christmas Party
- Christmas Carol Service in St. Jerome's Church - am
- Break up for Christmas holidays

Friday 16th
Monday 19th
Tuesday 20th

Tuesday 20th

January 2006

Thursday 5th

- Children return to school for Spring term



NATURE NOTES

By Graham Brace

Autumn Nature Notes

The Pill is now well populated with the usual winter residents. On 24 October I counted 64 teal, 18 mallard, as well as the usual numerous redshank, a small flock of around 20 dunlin, 6 lapwing, 1 egret and 2 curlew.

Also still present is our spotted redshank. It generally seems to favour the area adjacent to the bottom of Orchard Row. I watched it for about five minutes until a lapwing spooked it with its alarm call and it flew downstream about a hundred metres, to settle among a group of common redshank where it stood out a mile. In the last Newsletter I reported that it had returned from its breeding grounds at the end of June and I assumed that it was a male who had left its mate to raise its family. I am now told on good authority that it is the female who leaves the male to raise the family once the eggs have hatched so our bird is probably the female.

Of late there have been substantial groups of goldfinches around the shore, feasting on the seedheads of the sea aster. Other small birds frequently seen at the moment are rock pipits, pied and grey wagtails – the latter generally seen at the top end of Edwards Pill and by the stepping stones in Guildford Pill.

Over the last few days our garden has been invaded by large flocks of redwings and a couple of fieldfares who in a short time have succeeded in stripping our hawthorn and blackthorn trees of berries. They also stripped a Pyracantha which was 'hanking' with orange berries, from a pot on our patio waiting to be planted in a suitable site in the garden – when we were out for just a few hours on a Saturday.

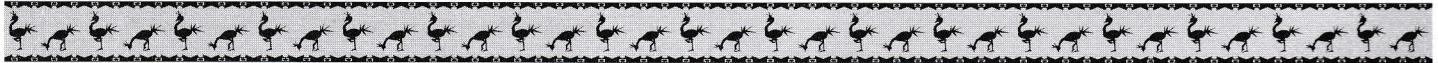
Noteworthy is a report from Gill Bowen at Black Tar who heard a grasshopper warbler 'singing' at dusk on 22 August in a hedge near Black Tar car park. She didn't see it but the song is very distinctive...believe it or not, like the sound of a grasshopper!

The pair of grey squirrels in our garden have been taking advantage of another bumper crop of hazelnuts and have probably buried thousands. Despite being regarded as vermin and pests, they really are very endearing and amusing to watch around the place. They never fail to enchant visitors to our house when they are about.

It is doubtful if anyone missed the disturbing news report in the Western Telegraph at the end of September about the massacre of dozens of Canada Geese on farmland near Rosemarket. Despite this most people who delight in the sight and sound of these geese around the Llangwm area will be relieved to know that they are still around in substantial numbers. We know that they have increased in numbers greatly over the years, that they can cause considerable damage to crops and can displace other indigenous wildfowl. However, if their numbers are to be controlled then let it be done in a proper, regulated fashion with skilled marksmen...not by trigger-happy individuals out for a bit of "sport"!

Is it my imagination or is the green weed on the mudflats in the Pill more abundant than it was years ago? Is it encouraged to grow by the nitrates that are washed down off the silage fields around the Daugleddau? Earlier in the summer this weed (*enteromorpha intestinalis*) is grasslike and periodically lifts off the mud to be deposited further up the foreshore where it dries and quickly degrades in dense, cloth-like mats. At the moment the green weed (which appears almost fluorescent in bright sunlight) is in the form of broad fronds like sea lettuce. Is this a different variety of seaweed from the grasslike *enteromorpha*? Can anyone enlighten me?

That's it...if there is anything of interest to report, email me at grahambrace@btinternet.com or ring me on 891580.



BIRDS IN FLIGHT

The regular Wildlife column in the Llangwm News prompts Bob Lewis (aged 93) of River View, Llangwm, to wonder about the mysteries of bird migration....

"When I served at sea (many years ago) I used to watch the flight of the Canada Geese coming from the north west, were they following a course dictated by the Magnetic North Pole?

Or were they using a "bird's eye view", and navigating by the land?

Old time sailors plump for the Moon pressure – this brings in the forces of gravity and the tides.

There is yet another theory, being tested at present, that a bird's beak contains some chemical substance that is sensitive to the earth's natural forces. Who knows what may become of this research?

But why don't they seem to return on the same course? Any theories please?"

News from Llangwm 70 years ago

Extracts from local newspapers published in December 1935

* Michael Fox, a 50-year-old hawker from Swansea, crashed into the stationary car of Dr Douglas in Main Street, Llangwm. At the time of the accident, Police Sergeant Ivemey was a passenger in the Doctor's car.

* Llangwm Parish Council proposed that councillors who never attended council meetings should be made to resign.

* Death of Leonard Payne of the Kilns, aged 66. "His last illness was so short that it was impossible to bring his children, who all reside in England to his bedside before he passed away. One son, John Payne, is still ignorant of his father's death, being at sea".

* Llangwm Wasps were beaten by the Grammar School. This was described as a "surprising victory" due to "bad defensive tactics".

* The bridge between Pill Park and Knapp Farm was in a dangerous state. The Parish Council received a complaint from a woman who had fallen through the middle of the bridge.

* Advance notice of the Llangwm RFC Dance to be held at Llangwm Schoolroom "on the new floor" at Easter 1936, was publicised with the request "Please do not clash".

Nikki Bosworth
Archivist, Pembrokeshire Record Office

L LANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

WALKS, TALKS, FACTS AND FIGURES

At the end of the summer members of the Group visited Aberystwyth, joining the Dyfed Family History Society on their annual trip to the National Library of Wales. Research was done into family trees, other members preferred to spend their day hunting for antiques. (Never thought you'd get that tricycle on the bus, Jeff...it was a good bit bigger than the meat mincer you bought last year.)

Our Autumn Programme included several interesting talks at the Community Centre, including an 'impromptu' slide show and presentation on bird identification entitled "Bills, Feet and Feathers". Ornithologist John Wyatt, of Tring, Hertfordshire, was visiting the village and kindly offered to present the first talk in a series – the audience enjoyed it immensely and look forward to a second visit and a second talk in the not too distant future. This fitted nicely into the occasional series of 'Natural History' walks and talks which the History Society is also committed to – if anyone knows of anyone who can knowledgeably lead such events, please let us know.

Archivist Nikki Bosworth led two of our meetings, firstly giving a talk on "Tracing the History of your House", and secondly providing the material for a most interesting evening when we "foraged" through old copies of the West Wales Guardian dating from 1898 through to 1970. Surprising snippets of Llangwm news and views came to light, including local weddings, reports of hospital operations and holiday visitors! (Can anyone identify the property called "Elder Villa", Black Tar, by any chance?) Many thanks to Haverfordwest Records Office for their help with these evenings.

The planned visit to Castle Pill has been postponed until the lighter evenings of Spring next year. Watch for details of this, and also of the Society's Christmas Dinner in early December, a most pleasant social occasion.

Meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of the month in the Community Centre – you'll see notices posted on the lamposts during the week beforehand! Everyone is welcome – you'd be surprised what you'll discover, and how you'll enjoy finding about your village's past.



Rugby

Senior Rugby

In the last issue it was reported that training was going well over the Summer and the club was hoping for another good season building on the successes of last year. This optimism however, was dealt a massive blow as several of last year's squad decided, for reasons best known to themselves, to leave Llangwm and play at other clubs. This culminated in the resignation of the coach only ten days before the start of the season and things looked bleak with the first match approaching fast.

It is at times like this however that you have to dig in deep and the resolve and dedication to the club shown by the remaining players has been of great credit. In particular senior players Simon Brick and Greg McCann who have ensured that we continued to train and managed to field teams for our early fixtures.

Things have now turned for the better and although September was a particularly hard month, having to play some of the better teams in the league, the club has now recorded its first win of the season with a fine 39-16 result in St. Clears.

The playing numbers have grown, and the club has secured the services of Phil Sutton who will act as part time coach, work permitting. Phil has previously coached at Tenby and played first class rugby in his younger days.

Let's hope we can now get the season back on track and although the promotion prospects will be gone, look forward to a strong campaign and finish in the top half of the table.

Junior Rugby

U8. The under 8's are a new team who play non contact tag rugby under Dragon Trust rules. This is a great introduction to the sport and is open to boys or girls from 6-8 years of age. The team has so far played three matches this season.

U9,10,11. We do not have enough numbers to field teams at all 3 years groups in this section but do field 2 teams of mixed players each match day and have played 6 matches so far this season.

U13. The under 13's have around 20 players and have been playing together for several years. Their season started off well with a good win in St.Davids. They have also played Narberth and Whitland without success but are strong enough to hold their own against many teams this season.

U14. The U14's have a problem with numbers at the moment due to injuries and "retirements" and have not yet played this season.

U15. This is another new team to the club with several boys returning to the club who played here at a younger age. The team has only played once so far with a win over Crymych but are looking to fulfil their full quota of matches.

U16. We also have boys training at this age and hope to play as the season progresses.

Youth..

With the growing number of players either approaching youth age or already qualified it is hoped to play some friendly matches as the season progresses with a view to running a full team next year. This is dependent on the support of players at organised training sessions as we need to ensure we have sufficient players to compete.

For details of any rugby please contact the club— 01437 890462

In spite of numerous requests and notices, the enjoyment, and more importantly the health of all the above adults and children who play rugby, as well as all others who use the Pill Parks playing field, are being put at risk by a minority of dog owners who fail to clean up after their pets. Whilst the vast majority are responsible a few are not and they risk serious harm to all who play on the field. This cannot be tolerated and we ask those concerned think about the consequences of their lack of responsibility before it is too late.

Michael John...Chairman, Llangwm RFC

Rugby in the Past..

One of the "snippets" which came to light at the Local History meeting recently (see page 13) was an extract from the West Wales Guardian 31st December 1948.

Friendly Rugby

Llangwm 29 pts., Burton 8 pts.

When Llangwm and Burton Schoolboys met on Pill Parks Ground, Llangwm, on Boxing Day morning an interesting and enjoyable game was witnessed. Several promising youngsters were on view, but Llangwm could well have borrowed the Burton goal-kicker, A. Walters, for they only managed to convert only one of their nine tries. Burton crossed the line twice but A. Walters converted the first try with a grand kick and hit the upright with his second attempt, both kicks being from difficult angles. Burton, who brought Llangwm boys R. Jones and J. Brock to make up their number to thirteen, were well served by Lewis Lloyd, R. Lewis and A. Walters, but all the team showed promise. T. Kiff, B. Skyrme, G. Morgan, H. John, C. John, R. Palmer and G. Thomas were amongst those who showed up well for Llangwm.

Tries for Llangwm were scored by H. John, D. Lewis (2), B. Skyrme (2), R. Palmer (2), G. Morgan and Tony Kiff, the latter converting the last try scored by D. Lewis. Several scores were the result of good handling. The Burton scores were obtained by L. Lloyd and B. Morgan, one try being converted by A. Walters.

Llangwm; H. George; C. John; R. Palmer; Geo. Thomas, A. Lewis; J. Thomas and T. Kiff; B. Skyrme, H. John, G. Morgan, G. Thomas, D. Lewis, J. Brock, D. Rees and D. John.

Burton; L. Lloyd; B. Morgan, D. Venables, L. Hitchings, A. Walters; G. Lawless and J. Rees; D. Sutton, R. Lewis, G. Bevan, R. Jones, J. Brock and A. N. Other.

Referee; Mr D. Jones, Llangwm.

SeaFair Haven 2006

Llangwm has been invited to take part in **SeaFair Haven 2006**, a major maritime festival for traditional boats that is planned for the whole of Milford Haven Waterway during late June next year. Up to 200 historic and replica craft, ranging from classic dinghies, gigs and other sail and oar boats to larger traditional craft and tall ships will assemble at Milford Haven docks over the weekend of 24th and 25th June. They will then split into 4 separate flotillas according to type: **Sail and Oar, Old Gaffers, Traditional Bermudan yachts**, and larger 'Tall Ships', for visits in turn to **Dale, Pembroke Castle Pool, Llangwm** and the upper reaches, **Neyland** and **Pembroke Dock** for craft that are too big to proceed up river.

Under these flotilla arrangements, approximately 50 Sail and Oar craft will visit Llangwm and the upper reaches on Monday 26th June, to be replaced on the Tuesday by a similar number of Bermudan yachts: in turn, that flotilla will give way to the Old Gaffers on the Thursday. The entire fleet will come together again at Milford Haven on Friday 30th June for a final Parade of Sail, before departing over the weekend. Apart from the spectacle, there will be opportunities at Milford Docks and at Pembroke Pool to visit those boats that can be accommodated alongside (where additional pontoons will be laid). Members of the communities involved may help host the visiting craft if they wish, and this will also provide opportunities to get afloat and join the flotillas.

Brochures about the event have been distributed to traditional boat owners throughout Europe, and so far 80 vessels have expressed interest in attending. In addition, a formal link has been established with a major festival that is held in Brittany, the Semaine du Golfe, in which about 600 craft take part in similar flotilla sailing in the Morbihan.

The **SeaFair** is under the auspices of the Tall Ships (Wales) Trust, with the support of the Milford Haven Port Authority and Pembrokeshire County Council, and funding (although never enough on such occasions) is in place. Llangwm is under no obligation to provide support, but it is hoped that the communities to be visited by the boats will be able to take advantage of the festival arrangements.

For more information, please contact Bill Keppel-Compton, Llangwm Ferry, on 01437 891356.

Staff Changes!

We are pleased to welcome Lorraine Grange to the Editorial Team, who takes the place of Fiona Cutting – Fiona is extremely busy running 'Bed and Breakfast and Evening Meals' at the Old Rectory for most of the year, and so has very limited spare time.

Thank you, Fiona, for your contributions of collating, writing and editing over the past year – and for the light-hearted humour you added to the journal, particularly with photos and photo captions, an aspect of 'Llangwm News' which has grown in size and popularity during this time.

Our contact details are now as follows:-

Jeff James 890841 w.j.james@btinternet.com
Margaret Brace 891580 m.brace@btinternet.com
Lorraine Grange 890180 grange@wales05.wanadoo.co.uk

If you're a contributor, and have an email address we don't know about, please send it to us with your next piece; we're always looking to make communication more smooth and efficient.

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE

The deadline for submission of items for the next edition is

Friday 3rd March 2006.

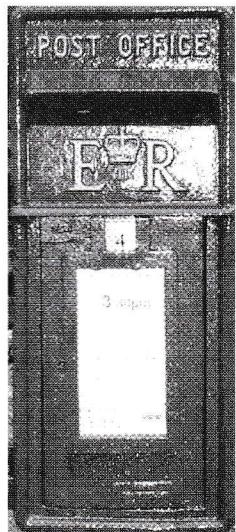
Articles preferably to be supplied in Microsoft Word, and photographs in JPEG format, on a floppy disk, or as an attachment with an email. Please provide a hard copy (paper copy) in addition to the disk if possible.



Just in case you wondered how the Llangwm newsletter arrives on your doorstep, we don't rely on this POSTMAN PAT and his black & white cat !



these are your delivery
boys and girls!



Deerland, Nash Road, Troopers Inn
Main Street & The Kilns
River View
Port Lion
Llangwm Ferry
Blacktar & Edwards Pill
Pill Parks Way
Mill Street, The Green, Lake Villas, Chapel Row
The Gail & Gail Rise
Guildford, Butterhill, Orchard Row
Rectory Road, Rectory Close, Glanhafan

Mike Hardwick
Dave Grayshon
Fran Bosenius
Beth Chesmer
Joan & Graham Stephens
Janet Meopham
Barry Childs
Pat Morris
Peter Owen
Margaret & Graham Brace
Pat & Jeff James

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY, HEALTHY AND
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO ALL OUR READERS!**

