

# LLANGWM NEWS

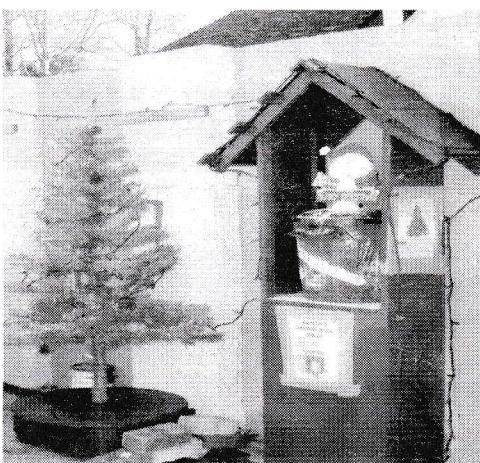
ISSUE 30

December 2008

## Scenes of Christmas past...



## and Christmas present



Once again, Santa's post box has arrived outside Kenny and Avril Platten's house on Main Street, so make sure that you post your letters early to be sure of a personal reply from the elves.

### See inside for:

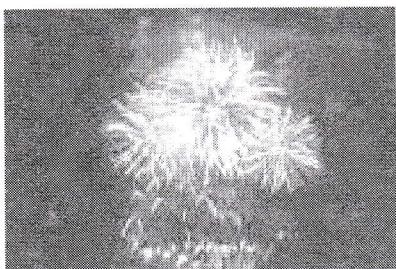
Festive Fun and Fireworks  
Owl's well the ends well  
News about Llangwm societies, clubs and organisations.

It's a scream  
Pumpkin Power

High Hopes  
Passion for Llangwm

Sponsored by Llangwm Community Council  
(Printed by Cleddau Press, Haverfordwest)

## Festive Fun and Fireworks



It's that time of year when our thoughts turn to lighting the fire and wrapping up warm for winter. But then you'd miss out on the events being organised by the Festival Committee this winter.

The first diary date is 12<sup>th</sup> December when at 7.00pm, **Father Christmas** will appear as if by magic on the Green. The event is much as in previous years with mulled wine, mince pies, lollies for the children, the lighting of the Christmas tree and carols with music provided by **Castle Brass**. Father Christmas will be there in his grotto waiting for the children to tell him what they want for Christmas. The evening will continue with the mince pies and mulled wine in the Rugby Club, (as in previous years, please donate mince pies or biscuits for this event—they can be given to a committee member or left at Llangwm shop). At 8.15 a concert by **Operaxposed** will take place in St. Jerome's.

On **New Year's Day**, we will once again be having **fireworks on Pill Parks field at 6.30pm**. It is becoming more and more difficult to put on a firework display. It costs **£1,100** for just a 10 minute show and we have safety factors to consider. In recent years, support for this event has waned and as a result the committee dropped the fireworks in favour of a family treasure hunt and a party in the village hall last year. **It was decided to try it once more and see whether the fireworks event will get the support it really needs.** Entry is free, so the funding comes from money raised during the festival in June and July, at various events throughout the year and with volunteers rattling buckets at the firework event itself. No personal fireworks or sparklers will be allowed during this event.

Unfortunately, this year the festival was a washout and lost money, so the Committee is mounting a series of events and competitions over the next few months to try to raise the £1,100.00 needed to pay for the display.

On Friday, 31 October there was a very successful **Halloween Fancy Dress Disco** in the rugby club (see article and pictures opposite). Then on **November 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7.30pm, there was a pub quiz at The Cottage Inn which was as entertaining as ever, despite the small number of people entering.

Look out also for fund raising quiz sheets, which will soon be on sale in the shop. All the money raised will be going towards paying for the fireworks.

At the Father Christmas event and the Firework display, Festival Committee members will be seen around with fund raising buckets. Half the money raised in these buckets will go towards the fireworks and half to the **Wales Air Ambulance**.



**Please be generous, this is not only supporting a very worthy cause, but the future of the firework displays in Llangwm depends on your support.**



This year we have welcomed on to the Festival Committee several new members,: **Alison Brant**, who, along with partner **David**, has organised two quiz nights and worked very hard during festival week, **Racheal Price** and **Karen Brock** who organised the very successful Halloween Disco and have brought much energy and enthusiasm to our fundraising efforts and **Cheryl Newton**. There are also 4 returners to the committee (**Pat Morris**, **Claire Phillips**, **Pat and Jeff James**) and a number of individuals who have taken on a supporting role. This now means that we can have at any one time up to 15 people involved in the work of the committee, which is wonderful.

**It's a scream....**

## **Halloween Fancy Dress Disco**

There were strange happenings in Llangwm Rugby club on 31st October, thanks to Racheal Price and Karen Brock, two festival committee members who had organised a very successful fancy dress disco. The standard of fancy dress was wonderful as you can see from the photos. Approx 80 people turned up for a night of fun and laughter, with many requests that it be repeated very soon.



There were prizes for the following categories:

Most humorous—Clare Doncaster

Most scary—Michael Joseph & Micky

Best costume—Alistair Platten

As well as the usual raffle, there was an auction



of items donated by Graham Brace and Fran Evans which meant the total money raised from the evening was in the region of £350. This money will go towards the cost of the fireworks and we would like to thank all those people who supported the event.



Racheal and Karen would particularly like to thank the following people who helped in various ways, either by decorating the room, preparing tickets and posters free of charge or in the loan of equipment:



Nicky and Paul Jones, Jason Birch, Twiggy, Vonita Brock, Sian Davies, Natalie Lewis, Gina Boswell, Mike Joseph, Kelly O'Neil, Sean Thomas, Jane Richards, Helen Scourfield, Lisa Davies and Stormy the Hell's Angel.

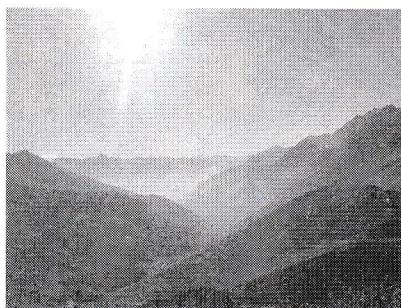
*Photos supplied courtesy of Steve Richards*



## High Hopes... The Raid Pyrenean

On Sept 15 2008 Phil Edwards and Bob Charles, two enthusiastic Llangwm cyclists, plus fellow Pembrokeshire cyclist, Alan Wheatley from the Rhos, begun their attempt of one of the 'must do' rides for any cycling fan; 'The Raid Pyrenean'. Established in 1950, the 720km (450 miles) route across the Pyrenees from Hendaye on the Atlantic coast to Cerbere on the Mediterranean coast was to feature 18 cols (mountains); some of which regularly feature in the *Tour de France*. To top it all, the route had to be completed in no more than 100 hours/four and a half days. Their preparation would be tested to the full. One regular training run for Phil and Bob was up Barn Hill, down to Port Lion Hill and back up. Bob holds the record of twelve times up and down both hills.

The challenge involved some long days in the saddle with some covering over one hundred miles. Other days were equally gruelling and included most of the biggest climbs in Pyrenees. These ranged from the infamous *Col de Tourmalet* (2115metres), *Col de Puymorens* (1915 metres) *Col de Aubisque* (1709 metres), the *Col de Peyresourde* (1569 metres) and the *Col d'Aspin* (1489 metres). As a little comparison Ben Nevis is 1344 metres! Our support driver, Alan's close friend, Hans, was vital as he drove our support vehicle and kept us well fed and watered; not an easy task. Thankfully too, he spoke fluent French and knew the area well.

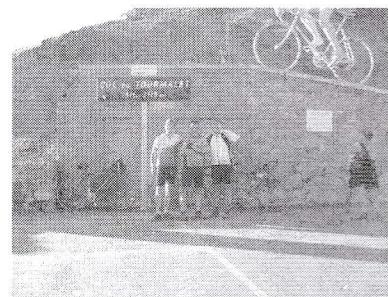


The scenery was stunning and the road surfaces and car drivers were accommodating to cyclists. We stayed at pre-arranged small hotels along the route that were very welcoming.

We were able to leave our bikes on the premises overnight; their hospitality certainly took the edge off our aching limbs and sore bottoms (the downside of long days on the road). We would usually start off at 8am and finish at approximately 7pm. With brilliant weather conditions we were extremely lucky and experienced the Pyrenees at their best. If anything it was too hot when we did some of the bigger climbs.



Our last day, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September, was a 60 miles, reasonably flat route, from Prades to Cerbere on the Mediterranean Spanish border. We arrived at Cerbere around 12 noon. It had been a long slog and we were all happy to get off the bikes knowing tomorrow was a free day. We relaxed in Cerbere for the next twenty four hours, taking in some good food and drinks.



The following day we made our way back to Pau airport for the return flight to Bristol. Hans, our precious support driver, returned our hire car back to Biarritz; thankfully he lives not far away.

We organised the trip ourselves and completed it independently, but there are organised trips which run every year. Overall, the 'Raid' was a fantastic experience although I admit is not for everyone. However, if you are into long distance cycling and enjoy the mountains and a challenge, it is worth giving it some serious thought.

Phil Edwards

## LLANGWM CRICKET CLUB

Congratulations to our Village Club's 1<sup>st</sup> XI who, on their return to the top flight, not only finished halfway up the Pembrokeshire 1<sup>st</sup> Division table but also achieved their highest position for quite some years under the captaincy of Andrew Harries. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI made an early challenge for the 4<sup>th</sup> Division title under captain James Lewis, eventually finishing mid-table which was a very creditable performance.

But the stars were undoubtedly our 3<sup>rd</sup> XI, captained by Jeremy Brock, who not only made the final of the Ken Morris Cup (for 3<sup>rd</sup> XI's) against Haverfordwest but rounded off a fine season by being 6<sup>th</sup> Division Champions and gaining promotion to the 5<sup>th</sup> Division for next season. This is the team where we bring on all our junior players, so it bodes well for the future. And our Youth team (under 17s) again made the semi-final of the Ormond Cup, so all you youngsters make sure you join our Club next year (training starts in April) to keep up our tradition of top class cricket in the village. Our Llangwm Ladies play in the Pembrokeshire Ladies Cricket League on Tuesdays and offer a warm welcome to new players. Contact Zoe Davies on 07977 237839 to find out more.

It is great to report that our very own Stephen Inward continues his blossoming cricketing career with the Glamorgan Cricket Academy and is off to Dubai in December with them. He also turned out for Glamorgan 2<sup>nd</sup> XI this year. It's a pity he is far too good to play for our village team, but we are delighted by his achievements.

The Llangwm Cricket Club Annual Golf Tournament was again held at Milford Haven Golf Club and was, as usual, a superb event. Talbot Timber Ltd. was again our Main Sponsor and we are most grateful to Jon and Simon Kiff and Family for their unwavering support. Thanks also to the many other Sponsors of the Day who all contribute substantially to its success. The money raised by this event provides badly needed funds to allow us to look after our ground, put out three teams every Saturday in the season and run youth and junior cricket in the village. Considerable thanks are also due to our Chairman Dai Davies and his wife Sue who organise the event so efficiently.

We will be holding our AGM in the New Year with Club Net Practice in April.

*Stuart Beresford*

## OWL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

On the morning of Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October Graham and Beryl Thomas and their visitor Ron Lawrence were driving from Sardis to Troopers Inn when they noticed an injured bird in the hedge.

On close inspection it turned out to be a **Barn Owl**, which tried to fly away but flew directly into the hedge again. It could not see. There appeared to be some growths on its eyelids, so Graham, Beryl and Ron sought some help.



*You may be interested to know what to do if you find an injured bird at any time. The procedure is as follows:-*

A telephone call to the RSPCA (national 24-hour line 0300 1234 999) will offer advice. In this case they were put in touch with the **RSPCA duty vet**, who assessed the situation and advised them to take the owl to their **local veterinary practice** for treatment, for which the RSPCA is later billed. (Sometimes the RSPCA will issue callers with a reference number for the case, other times the local vet will ring for one.)

The owl was lucky - an **on-call vet** at the **Fenton veterinary practice** in Haverfordwest was telephoned, and said she happened to be in the surgery late that Sunday morning, so they were able to take the bird in straight away. 'Tics' were bathed out of the owl's eyes with tepid water - any other method of removal does more harm, apparently - and the owl was given much needed food and shelter.

Although the vet did not give too much hope for the owl's survival, a telephone call later in the week informed the rescuers that 'Barney' had come on well and was already at the **bird of prey refuge** near Amroth, which confirmed that the owl was indeed flitting around their kitchen and looking keen to get back out in the wild.

### A Messages of Thanks

From Kenny and April Platten to all those friends and neighbours who have helped in the construction of the Christmas display, and the Christmas mail preparations, especially Dave Nash, Rod and Jan Billen and Mr & Mrs Ian Smith, Main Street.

## Pumpkin power!

### Llangwm Gardening Club News

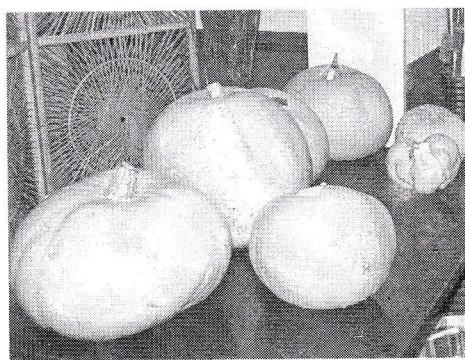
There was a strange growth taking over gardens in Llangwm and Hook this summer – long tendrils searched for footholds, large leaves blocked out the light, and huge bulbous growths began to swell – no, it wasn't an invasion by alien plant life – just members of the Gardening Club growing pumpkins for the Club competition! We all had two seeds each (from the same packet, for fairness) in the Spring, and the challenge was to grow the heaviest pumpkin, to be judged in the October meeting.

Members had mixed results germinating the seeds, and my plants couldn't seem to get their act together with the flowers – first there were a lot of female flowers waiting to be pollinated, with no sign of male flowers. Then by the time the fellas appeared the girls had given up and wilted! Eventually things came together, as they normally do in nature, and some pumpkins developed. They really enjoyed the wet summer we had (unlike me!) and I ended up with three sizable fruits.

We had some good entries for the competition evening, the winner weighing in at 12.7 kg, grown by Jacky Laurence; runner up was mine (Maureen John) at 10.8kg; the “wooden spoon” going to Dilys Ash at 90gms with a spoof blow-up hallowe'en balloon, and Eileen Parfitt having the diddiest real pumpkin at 200gms!



(Maureen and Dilys, runner-up and booby prize winners)



(Pumpkin entries for the competition)

We all had a good evening, and more competitions are planned for next year, including a Photo Comp “A Garden in Winter” for January, and the “Best Pot of Daffodils” for March – just right for St David's Day!

Our November meeting was a delightful demonstration and talk by Pamela McGrath, flower arranging expert and tutor, showing us how we could make Christmas decorations from materials from the garden. Her lovely creations of a candle table centre, Christmas cracker feature, and a door swag were then given as prizes in the Club Raffle – I wished I had bought more raffle tickets! A very inspiring talk which has encouraged us to have a go at our own natural decorations.

### The Programme of meetings for the rest of the season is :

December :	Club Christmas Dinner
January :	New Year Quiz & Social Evening plus Photo Comp “A Winter Garden”
February:	Chatsworth House & Gardens by Judy Coggins
March:	Growing Veg for the Kitchen by Ivor Mace (ex Pencoed College) & Best Pot of Daffodils Comp.
April:	Managing a Garden for Wildlife by Steve Whitehouse, Colby Gardens
May:	Growing Clematis by Keith Treadway
June:	Lawn Care by Richard Palmer
July :	AGM & Barbeque

All our meetings are held at the **Cottage Inn**, 7.30pm, on the first Monday of the month, with details posted in Llangwm and Hook Post Offices prior to the meetings. All are welcome, please come and enjoy a sociable evening with us all.

*Maureen John,  
Secretary*

## LLANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society held an archive evening in September to examine the new material presented to the group. Much of this was a result of research work carried out at **Scolton Manor** over the last few months and means that we now have some excellent new images of Llangwm in the past. Sadly, the November talk on the **Knights Templar** had to be cancelled at short notice due to the speaker's illness, but a new date for this will be rearranged in the New Year.

This year's Christmas dinner is to be held in The Cottage Inn. We are delighted to be welcoming John Evans to Llangwm in January when he will be talking on the subject of the **Sunderland Flying Boats**.

Local History meetings are open to everyone and are held the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 7.45pm.

*Jane Mills*

## Passionate about... Our Village— Llangwm!

I joined the **Festival committee** in September, as I was one of those people who always had an opinion about what they should be doing and giving our community, but never doing anything about it, so instead of moaning I decided to get off my laurels and do something. What a shock I had ..... the restraints of health & safety, insurances and new ideas was quite overwhelming and at the end of the first meeting I didn't even know why I wanted to go ahead with all this hassle. Then I thought back to when we were growing up here.

There was nothing better than going down **Edwards Pill** into the big old tree den, making our mud pies and scooting over to Mrs Ryan's for her homemade squash lollies, playing in **Falconers Wood** with its carpets of bluebells in spring and huge rocks that we thought witches used, its little caves along the shoreline, playing in the **burgage**, going down **Black Tar** all day swimming or sliding down the mud banks (much to Lee Davies's horror!!), playing bulldog on **Glan Hafan** grass bank (again much to Lee Davies's Horror!!!), mucking about on the old Witches hat up the park or simply getting a picnic and going off on our bikes all day. **Growing up in this village was fun!** Yes, we fell out, we laughed, we played but it's one of the things we took for granted that in today's society the children do not have.

As I got older I would look at my Dad who was on the **Llangwm Rugby Club committee, School Governors & running for Community Council** elections and I used to say "why do you bother, nobody cares". His reply was "if nobody cared we would have nothing here, you have to fight for what you believe in." Oh well, it still made no sense to me and all I wanted to do was go out and party!!

Now, on reflection, and hitting my middle aged years (yes, I'm still 18 in my mind!!!), I understand my father, all he had was **passion**, he loved this village and wanted to do what he could for it and whatever it took he tried his best.

When I spoke to Michael John, he voiced his concerns for Llangwm Rugby Club and how they need to raise money for its future, and I feel **passionate** about that (what is happening to me!!!!) My father, brother, nephew, uncles, cousins and ancestors have played rugby since the day dot to this present day, and my response is **what can we do to help? - Support our Local Community**, that's what.

Start supporting events like Halloween Parties etc, and if anybody thinks of something they would like put on, please say so as this is **everyone's** community and we want it to last for generations to come. It is hard work pleasing everyone, but without ideas of what people would like it's even more difficult. One day it may all go, and we will be left with no club, no shop, no pub, no rugby team etc.

I'd rather say I tried, gave it my all than sat back and did nothing.

**Lets bring back the old community spirit lets make this Village ROCK!!!!**

Racheal Price

## FLORIST MOVES BACK TO THE VILLAGE

Gaynor John-Davies has moved back permanently to her home village of Llangwm with her family - husband Haydn and children James and Sara.

Gaynor runs her own business "**Flowers with Flair**", providing flowers for all occasions. Weddings, birthday parties, celebrations and presentations of all kinds, anniversaries, funerals, grave tending, table decorations, baskets and bouquets are examples of the services she provides, with free local delivery.

At present Gaynor is busy with orders for holly wreaths, which are available in early December starting from £8.

She can be contacted at 17 River View, Llangwm. Tel: 01437 890900

*Gaynor is the elder daughter of Billy and Dorothy John of River View, and sister of Helen Carrington, of Gail Rise.*

*The family has featured several times in our newsletter. Billy and Helen sing in Llanelli's Scarlets Supporters Choir and Helen was chosen to be in the choir which toured Dubai. She also used to run the Dog Show at the Picnic in the Park on May Day bank holiday.*

*Gaynor herself featured in our last newsletter when she organised the "Over the Rainbow" Flower Festival at Galilee Chapel in June, and raised £2,000 for charity.*

*A truly creative bunch!*



# ...VILLAGE NEWS...VILLAGE NEWS...VILLAGE NEWS...



## Llangwm Post Office and Shop



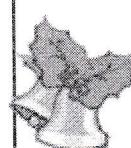
Now that the delivery of newspapers has ceased, Pat has revised the shop opening hours and they are now as follows:

Monday to Friday	7.15am—1.00pm 2.00pm—7.00pm
Saturday	7.15am—1.00pm
Sunday	9.00am—1.00pm

Christmas opening hours are:

Christmas Eve	7.00am—3.00pm
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed
27 December	7.15am—1.00pm
28 December	9.00am—1.00pm
New Years Eve	7.15am—4.00pm
New Years Day	Closed

*Pat and staff at the shop would like to wish all their customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and thank you for your support throughout the year.*



**Bill Brant**, star of stage and screen, and rugby player extraordinaire is now working in **Hong Kong**. He is on a two year contact working for Multi Sport Ltd as a sports teacher and trainer, but don't worry girls, he'll be back for 10 days at Christmas

## Llangwm Community Council

The council would like to thank the committee of **Seafair 2008**, who, following a very successful event, have dispersed some of the profits made to various voluntary organisations within the village.

For details of which organisations benefitted from this, see page 13.



## Just the ticket for stress relief

A great idea to relieve the stress of modern life is to have some relaxing therapy this Christmas - and an ideal present is to give a gift voucher to someone who deserves some pampering.

**Hetta Galdo**, who lives in Guildford, Llangwm, is a Level 3 VTCT qualified therapist in **Reflexology**, Indian Head Massage, Swedish Massage and Aromatherapy Massage.

She recently completed a one year course at Pembrokeshire College, and now offers a mobile therapy service in the Llangwm area - so that you can enjoy the benefits of relaxing and refreshing therapy in the comfort of your own home, or go to Hetta's home, as you prefer.

Most treatments take an hour - Indian Head Massage takes half an hour.

More and more people are discovering the value of alternative therapy - why not give it a try? Call Hetta on 07530 236081 to book an appointment or to buy a gift voucher, (starting at £10).

## Scottish Dancing

The Scottish Dancing group, who meet in the village hall every Wednesday during term-time from 6-7pm, are always happy to welcome new members. You need to be 6 or over and the cost is £1 per session.

For more details ring Pat Rye on 01646 698463 or Mary Kinder on 01437 890189.

## Notice to Members

### Hogmanay at Llangwm Rugby Club

#### New Year's Eve

#### Fancy Dress

This night is for the brave! Are you a braveheart—anything tartan goes!

#### Disco and Buffet

Tickets £5 or £6 on the door

All proceeds raised for Llangwm Rugby Club—please support us.



## A Harvest in the hall... LLANGWM COMMUNITY CENTRE

A change in the time of year heralded by tumbling temperatures, falling leaves, and mists descending, calls for a hearty and warming Harvest Supper. This year a home-cooked menu was prepared by volunteers that had an Italian flavour! Lasagne followed by (local) Apple Crumble.



As usual, a convivial, relaxed feeling invaded the evening, helped by our new compere Mike Wargent and the delicious music on mandolin and guitar



provided by **Richard Joseph** and **Paul Morafan**.



The table quiz, as always, reminded you of all those facts you were *sure* you knew... and the raffle provided a welter of delightful prizes. As always, many thanks to all who came to support the event as the money raised goes towards the substantial running costs of the Hall.

## The Annual Christmas Market

**Saturday, November 29th**  
from 10.30am to 4 p.m.



As last year, many local artists and craftspeople will be there providing a great opportunity for unusual, high-quality Christmas gifts. Entrance is free and mince pies will be served. **Do come!**

## Events in the Hall this season

Junior rugby uses the hall on Sunday mornings and weekly dance and tap classes are held, plus a new **Pilates** class on Friday mornings. It is used by the **History Society** and is popular for children's parties and wedding receptions. Many thanks to Pat in the shop for taking bookings and also selling tickets for so many events.

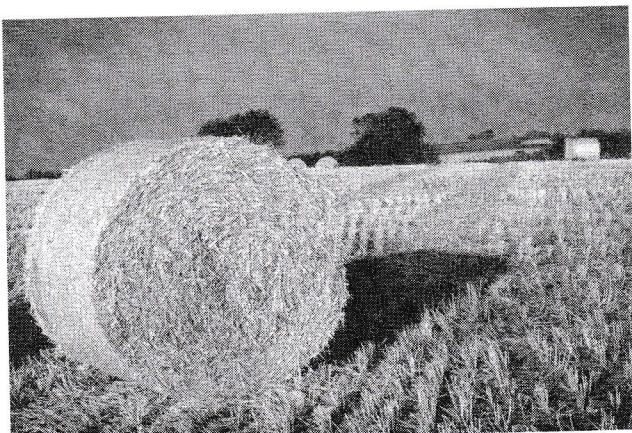
### Hire of the Hall

Charges are as follows:

Community group activities:  
£7.50 per session

Parties:  
Adult: £35  
Children: £20

## A harvest in the fields of Llangwm



## ST JEROME'S CHURCH LLANGWM

### Weekly Services

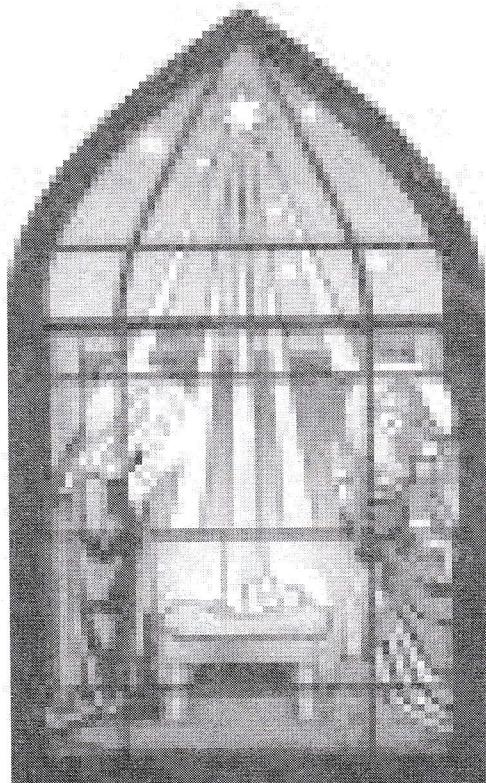
Sunday 9.00am	Holy Eucharist
Wed 9.30am	Said Eucharist
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 9.00am	Family Worship (followed by refreshments)
Said Eucharist 9.45am	

### Christmas Services

30 <sup>th</sup> November 4.00pm	Advent Service
14 <sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm	Carol Service (Freystrop Church)
24 <sup>th</sup> December 5.00pm	Crib Service (with Nativity Play)
24 <sup>th</sup> December 11.30pm	Midnight Mass

A warm welcome is extended to all wishing to attend any of the above services. Please refer to the church notice for more details.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very Happy and **Peaceful Christmas and New Year.**



## "Looking towards Advent"

a report from Galilee Baptist Chapel

This year's **United Christmas Day Service** will be held at Galilee at 9.30am on **Thursday 25 December** when everyone in the village is invited to attend.

It will be led by Mr Nigel Thomas, of Sardis and Galilee, and will be an opportunity to sing carols together and wish each other a happy and blessed Christmas.

\*\*\*\*\*

A notable service this autumn was **Harvest Festival** held on 28 September, when members of other local churches and chapels joined with Galilee's congregation for rousing hymns of seasonal praise and thanksgiving. The chapel was brightly decorated with many floral arrangements by Gaynor John-Davies and a central display of fruits and produce by the ladies of the chapel.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Women's League** has held several interesting meetings this autumn, with speakers including Kay Phillips of Tenby, and a representative of Macmillan Nurses. The ladies have been busy decorating the chapel in time for the Christmas season, and also look forward to their Christmas dinner outing at St Bride's Hotel, overlooking Saundersfoot Bay.

All Llangwm ladies are invited to **Galilee Women's League** meetings in the New Year, held on alternate Thursdays at 2pm in the chapel vestry. Why not join them to swell their numbers, and to enjoy a time of companionship and reflection on some thought-provoking topics?

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## LLANGWM METHODIST CHURCH

MINISTER: Reverend Alan Jenkins

TREASURER: Mrs Hilary Hitchings

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 SERVICES/EVENTS - 2008

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December Mince Pies & Carols - 7pm

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December Christmas Carol Service - 6.00pm

A warm welcome is extended to all services and events

## St. Jerome's Plans Ambitious New Concert Season

The concert season at St. Jerome's kicked off to a popular start with a concert given by the **Haverfordwest Ladies Choir** on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Several members of the choir are regulars at the church, so the concert had a special significance. We were also able to announce dates and artists for nearly all the concerts due to take place over the 2008 / 2009 season.

On 14<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm, the rafters echoed to the sound, this time, of the **Haverfordwest Male Voice Choir** with a concert for Remembrance Day and half the funds raised donated to The Royal British Legion. There was also a collection for **Children in Need** which raised approx £150.

Once again there will be a special concert for Christmas to coincide with Father Christmas's visit to the Green on 12<sup>th</sup> December. More of that in another column, but at 8.15pm **OperaXposed** will perform a concert of traditional favourites, humour and stories from backstage. This show is being support funded by the Night Out scheme provided by the Wales Arts Council and ticket prices are £7.50 for adults and £3.50 for children.

Concerts for early 2009 include **Mike Chant**, also known as the "Didgeridoo man" on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Tickets for this concert will be £6.00 for adults and £3.00 for Children.

On March 6<sup>th</sup> 2009, a concert for St. David's Day will be performed by **Carys Ann Evans** on Harp and **Joy Cornock** singing and performing some traditional Welsh music.

On April 17<sup>th</sup> **Three Piece Suite** will give us an evening with Noel Coward, Joyce Grenfell and many others. This event will also be supported by Night Out and subject to their confirmation. Tickets will be £7.00 for adults and £3.50 for children.

Two more diary dates are May 25<sup>th</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Artists are still to be confirmed, but we hope to bring you a big surprise.

Unfortunately, we have had to raise the ticket prices for the professionally provided concerts, particularly those supported by the **Wales Arts Council**. But at the same time we are going to improve audience comfort by providing cushions in the pews. In addition and starting with the Christmas show, a draw will be made of the ticket stubs and the winner will receive two free tickets for the following concert.

Once again we would like to thank everyone for the tremendous support they give these concerts. St. Jerome's is a unique and a very special building and is Llangwm's oldest dating back to Norman times. All the money raised is being put towards improving the building and bringing it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## The Women of Llangwm

It would appear that the women of Llangwm have always been a force to be reckoned with. The images of Llangwm fisherwomen are famous throughout the world.



It is common knowledge that **Mary Palmer** of Elm Cottage, Main Street, - at the age of 82 - refused to pay a special water rate when summoned to court in Haverfordwest. Another controversial figure was **Maria Shrubshall**, landlady of "The Black Horse" when the temperance movement was at its height.

In the 'Pembroke County Guardian' of 11<sup>th</sup> February 1916, the headline was "Butter Boycott - Llangwm women effect reduction by 6d". For a few weeks, the price of butter sold in Haverfordwest market had been increasing. The Llangwm women arrived early one Saturday and posted themselves at the entrance to the market, urging all purchasers to refuse to buy at the current prices. By one o'clock, the farmers' wives were forced to reduce the price of their butter. The newspapers commented "The secret of success lies in organised concerted action."

Another example of the power of Llangwm women had occurred in November 1914. The 'Pembroke County Guardian' reported that "An outbreak of fire took place in the shop of Mrs Palmer on Tuesday morning. Considerable damage was done, but a number of women were soon there and were able to extinguish the outbreak."

In the book entitled 'The History of Haverfordwest with that of some Pembrokeshire Parishes' originally written by John Brown of Haverfordwest in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, he wrote about Langum women - "Their husbands are kept under strict petticoat government". Coincidentally, he also noted that Langum "appears as Langein in a 12<sup>th</sup> century deed", but gave no precise source for this information.

Nikki Bosworth

# LLANGWM VC SCHOOL NEWS...

## Dates for your Diary

### November

26th Christmas Fayre at School

### December

9th 2.15pm- Foundation Phase (full time)

Christmas Presentation—Llangwm  
Methodist Chapel

6.30pm- Key Stage 2 Christmas  
Presentation-Llangwm Methodist  
Chapel

11th 10.50am—Foundation Phase (part  
time) Christmas Nativity—Llangwm  
School

12th Christmas lunch for children at school

17th Friend of Llangwm School raffle

18th Whole school to the Torch Theatre to  
See Christmas production of Cinderella

19th Carol Service at St Jerome's Church  
9.30am

19th Break up for Christmas holidays

### January

5th Children return to school for  
commencement of Spring Term.



We will be holding our

## Annual Christmas Fayre

on

Wednesday 26th November 2008

at the school

commencing at 6.30pm

There will be a variety of stalls  
Including Graham Brace's work,  
Christmas Art and Crafts,

Paul Webb with his potters wheel and  
other exciting stalls and refreshments

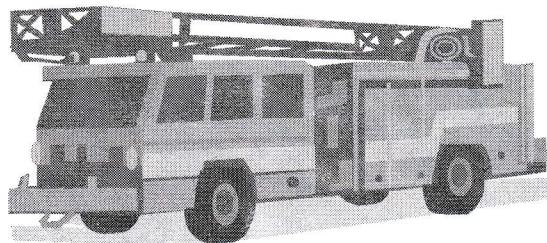
Father Christmas will be in his Grotto for the  
children to have their photographs taken.

Please come along and help make the  
evening  
a great success

All support will be greatly appreciated



## Fire Safety



A few weeks ago a firefighter came to give us a talk about fire safety. His name was Lee Simmons. When he came, the first thing he told us about was smoke alarms and how we should treat them. The second thing he told us was how we should not use adapter cubes and how we should use extension plugs instead, because it would make a power cut, if over loaded with power.

By Toby Asson

## Fireman service

When fireman Lee came into school, he talked to us about our emergency exits in our homes. He showed us a plug with a computer and other things joined to it. Lee told us that the people that owned these they kept everything on stand by. This is what caused a fire. Lee said if you want an electric chip pan or fire alarm the fireman would come down to your house for free and give it to you, and fit it in.

By Charlie Hunt

## Our Visit to Crucial Crew

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October we visited Withybush showground to see the Crucial Crew. The Crucial Crew are people from the emergency services who help children to understand how to save themselves from difficult situations.

When we arrived we were the first school. Soon many more schools came. First the man talked a little bit to us about safety. After that, all the schools split up and went over to different workshops. The first workshop we went to was on food safety and the lady very clearly explained to us how to keep food safe. We then had to do a small quiz.

Our next workshop was about electricity safety. The man explained what was safe and what was not. He told us never to fly a kite or fish near a telephone wire because you could get electrocuted and killed. The next workshop was a police workshop. The policeman taught us not to talk to strangers on the internet. He then left the room and pretended he had an emergency call.

He left the computer on a site called 'Bebo'. The trick was to see if we would respond to the people on the chat room, luckily our group didn't. We did many other workshops which were very interesting. My favorite one was the one with the fire brigade and we had to climb through this dark inflatable maze. It trained us in case of a real fire.

At the end, all the schools got back together and the man talked to us a little bit more. After he talked to us, we got up and received our free gift. Our gift was a goody bag with activity books and pens and key rings and we also got a sun hat! I really enjoyed the day and I would give it a 9/10.

*Josh Phillips*



## SeaFair

The Concept of SeaFair was that the Port Authority would meet the cost of any host port infrastructure and insurance, as well as contribute to hospitality costs for the visiting crews. Host Port committees were then asked to run the shore based aspects of their part of the Festival in whichever way they wished to benefit their communities and their visitors.

Here at Llangwm we had a particularly demanding task as we were hosting the **Sail and Oar Flotilla** whose crews needed to be accommodated ashore, and Black Tar lacked any infrastructure to begin with. Yet the Committee and host of helpers, encouraged by the support and forbearance of the whole community, managed to meet this task and achieve a "profit" of nearly £10,000.

Then came the really difficult part – how to disburse the takings. At a long meeting in the Village Hall, the Committee agreed to make donations only to village, non-profit making, clubs and institutions, and only those who were mainly dependent on the community for their income. It had always been intended that the major allocation should be to the **Pill Parks Grandstand Renovation**, not just because of the Rugby and Cricket Clubs' masterful stewardship of the SeaFair bar, but because the improved grandstand is intended to benefit all village sporting interests.

The one beneficiary that was not strictly local was the Pembrokeshire Gig Association. That was because the Committee were aware that attempts to fund the Gig was why SeaFair started in the first place, and because most of its people were too busy helping with the Festival to promote the Gig's interests.

The resultant disbursements, and with apologies to no doubt worthy omissions were as follows:

Pill Parks Grandstand	
Redevelopment Group	£5000
St Jerome's Church	£ 400
Llangwm Methodist Chapel	£ 400
Galilee Baptist Chapel	£ 400
Llangwm Community Centre	£1000
The Gig Association	£ 500
Llangwm Festival Committee	£ 500
Llangwm Longboat Club	£ 100
Llangwm Local History Society	£ 250
Llangwm Coastcare	£ 200

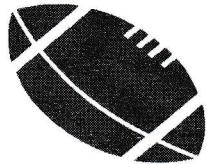
A small amount of money has been kept in reserve to cover possible future expenses prior to the next SeaFair event.

Finally, **Llangwm SeaFair** would like to thank the Milford Haven Port Authority for the backing that made all this possible.

*Bill Keppel-Compton  
Chairman, Llangwm SeaFair Committee*



# Llangwm Rugby Club



## SENIOR

After an encouraging start to the season with a good win over Pembrokeshire rivals Fishguard, the first team have had a run of poor form of late, failing to win another match so far. There have been a few close games though, which could have gone our way but fortune has not been with Llangwm and the results have gone against the team. However, the numbers in training have been increasing of late and there is optimism in the camp that the second part of the season can be a success and raise the team up the table.

This year the traditional Boxing Day encounter for the Bishop Cup against rivals, Haverfordwest, is away and the team will be looking for a good vociferous support.

Last year was an extremely close encounter with Llangwm pushing their division 3 opponents all the way having led well into the match. This year could see the cup return to Llangwm after a long overdue break.

The picture below is one of the last Llangwm teams to win the Bishop cup, along with the Palmer, Hearne and Sutton cups in the same season. No prizes for guessing the year and players !



## YOUTH

The Youth XV have built on last season and have returned a few notable wins. The efforts of last year have shown with the added experience and age of the squad enabling them to be competitive with most teams in the league.

Jeremy Brock continues to coach the team assisted by Daniel Hughes and Richard Bosenius

## Under 16

The under 16 team are also playing in a league structure this season and will be stepping up to youth next year, ensuring the club has a steady flow of players through the system. As with youth, they have been competitive with most teams they have played.

## JUNIOR

Again the mini and junior sections are a success story for the club with matches played this year at Under 7, 8, 9, 10 and 14. This represents a very strong number base of players, boys and girls, with committed coaches ensuring the training and matches are held in a safe and structured environment.

## **Llangwm RFC Fixtures 2008-2009**

### 1st XV

#### *September 2008*

Sat 6 Fishguard (H)  
Sat 13 St Clears (A)  
Sat 20 St Davids (H)  
Sat 27 Neyland (A)

#### *October 2008*

Sat 4 Furnace (H)  
Sat 11 Swansea Uplands (A)  
Sat 18 Abergeron (H)  
Sat 25-

#### *November 2008*

Sat 1 Cefnethin (A)  
Sat 8 WALES v SOUTH AFRICA ko 2.30  
Fri 14 WALES v CANADA ko 7.30  
Sat 22 WALES v NEW ZEALAND ko 5.15  
Sat 29 WALES v AUSTRALIA ko

#### *December 2008*

Sat 6 Milford Haven (H)  
Sat 13-  
Sat 20-  
Fri 26 Haverfordwest (Bishop Cup) (A)

#### *January 2009*

Sat 3 Pontyates (A)  
Sat 10 Fishguard (A)  
Sat 17 St Clears (H)  
Sat 24-  
Sat 31 St Davids (A)

#### *February 2009*

Sat 7-  
Sun 8 SCOTLAND v WALES ko 3.00  
Sat 14 WALES v ENGLAND ko 5.30  
Sat 21 Neyland (H)  
Fri 27 FRANCE v WALES ko 8.00  
Sat 28 Furnace (A)

#### *March 2009*

Sat 7 Swansea Uplands (H)  
Sat 14 ITALY v WALES ko 3.00  
Sat 21 WALES v IRELAND ko 5.30  
Sat 28 Abergeron (A)

#### *April 2009*

Sat 4 Cefnethin (H)  
Sat 11 Pontyates (H)  
Sat 18 Milford Haven (A)

### *September 2008*

Sat 6 Milford Haven (H)  
Sat 13 Aberystwyth (A)  
Sat 20 Pembroke (H)  
Sat 27 Neyland (A)

### *October 2008*

Sat 4 Cardigan (H)  
Sat 11 Haverfordwest (A)  
Sat 18 Crymych (H)  
Sat 25-

### *November 2008*

Sat 1 Narberth (H)  
Sat 15 Pembroke Dock Quins (A)

### *December 2008*

Sat 6 Whitland (A)  
Sat 13 Fishguard (H)  
Sat 20 Tenby (A)  
Sat 27 Milford Haven (A)

### *January 2009*

Sat 3 Aberystwyth (H)  
Sat 10 Pembroke (A)  
Sat 17 Neyland (H)  
Sat 24 Cardigan (A)  
Sat 31 Haverfordwest (H)

### *February 2009*

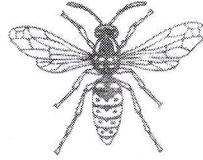
Sat 7 Crymych (A)  
Sat 21-  
Sat 28 Narberth (A)

### *March 2009*

Sat 7 Pembroke Dock Quins (H)  
Sat 28 Whitland (H)

### *April 2009*

Sat 4 Fishguard (A)  
Sat 11 Tenby (H)



If you wish to play rugby for Llangwm Juniors or Minis please contact the club for details.

As always help is always appreciated so if there any parents willing to give up their time please contact the club.

**Following further complaints the club would once again ask all people associated with sport at Pill Parks to please drive in a responsible manner.**

**There are residents who need to be considered and also pedestrians walking to and from the field whose safety is paramount.**

## AUTUMN NATURE NOTES

As I write (31 October) autumn has rapidly deteriorated into winter with an unseasonal spell of very cold weather made all the more severe by a north easterly wind. We have already had three early morning frosts down here in the depths of Guildford.

Birdwise, the Pill is becoming increasingly busy as the winter residents move in. There appears to be more than our usual number of **redshank** (62 at last count). There are 50+ **mallard** present and **teal** numbers have been growing daily since mid-September. **Lapwing** are also beginning to arrive.

On 24 September I saw a single **spotted redshank** in the Pill and it is still around over a month later. I am assuming that it is the same individual that has wintered with us each year over the last four years.

The **Canada geese** which were around in large numbers from mid-August were suddenly conspicuous by their absence after an alleged shooting spree nearby in mid-September. However, if indeed they had been shot at they simply relocated temporarily to a stretch of river further downstream between Castle Reach and Burton. They are once again roosting in the Pill in fairly significant numbers.

The current cold snap has brought an influx of small birds to the garden, including **goldcrests** (6 at one count), **coal tits** and **marsh tits**, and this morning dozens of **redwings** and a few **fieldfares** were making the most of the abundant hawthorn berries.

There have been several unusual sightings in recent weeks. Derek John was very surprised to see a **Java Sparrow** cavorting with a flock of house sparrows in his Glanhafan garden on 10 September. Java Sparrows are very popular aviary birds and this one was enjoying a taste of freedom.

Graham Stephens was delighted to witness from his boat an **osprey** diving for fish on 20 September in Castle Reach. He also saw (and photographed) what appeared to be an unusual finch feeding in his garden on 27 October. To all intents and purposes it looked very much like a *Snow Finch* (a resident of the northern Mediterranean shores and southern Alps). However, greater authorities who have seen

his photographs think that it is probably an 'aberrant' *chaffinch*, but the jury is still out on this one.

On 28 October Graham saw two **Whooper Swans** flying upriver before turning inland in a westerly direction. These winter visitors which breed in the Arctic are distinguished from our resident **Mute Swans** by their yellow and black bills and the loud bugle-like whooping call usually made in flight. They favour coastal areas and are often present at the Gann near Dale and on Skomer over the winter.

This morning there was greater than normal bird activity around the Pill and a **little grebe** appeared off the Cunnigar together with an immature **great crested grebe** which proceeded to dive just 20 yards from where I was standing.

During the last week of September we had a few warm days and the ivy blossom in our hawthorn trees and last remnants of buddleia around our hedgebanks were covered with bees. Also present were numerous strikingly beautiful **red admiral** and **peacock butterflies**. While photographing these at close quarters I noticed a fine comma butterfly. These are less common than the other species mentioned and are very distinctive with their ragged-edged dark orange wings marked with brown spots.

I was surprised to note that at this late date (31 October) in the midst of this very cold spell there were two red admirals flitting around a beech hedge in the afternoon sun on Ferry Hill. Most of the red admirals that we see arrive from the Continent in early summer and breed. Of the ones that do not return to Europe in autumn some hibernate but most are killed off by the onset of cold winter weather.

Judging by the scarcity of spraint around the shore **otter** activity has been fairly low in the Llangwm area over the last few months.

*Please keep your eyes peeled for any unusual wildlife sightings and let me know by ringing me on 01437 891580 or emailing me at [grahambrace@btinternet.com](mailto:grahambrace@btinternet.com)*

## Llangwm Remembers It's Sons

A clear, shrill bugle-call rang out over Llangwm Green on the morning of Sunday 9 November in remembrance of the fallen, especially those young men of the village who lost their lives fighting for the freedom of their country, which we all too often take for granted today.

As part of the village's Service of Remembrance this year, the *Last Post* and *Reveille*, beautifully played by Mr Dennis Wheeler of Port Lion, were a poignant reminder of the Armistice which ended the **First World War** exactly 90 years ago - and it seems an appropriate time to record in these pages the names of the Llangwm men who fought and fell at that time.

Leading Stoker	J. SKYRME
1 <sup>st</sup> Class Armourer	S. A. PHILLIPS
Corporal	P. ADOLPH
Driver	F. BEVAN
Private	W. H. HITCHINGS
Private	J. JOHN
Private	E. A. JOHN
Trooper	D. H. GEORGE
Private	J. HUTCHINGS
Private	J. G. THOMAS
Ordinary Seaman	C. LEWIS
Private	W. J. BEVAN
Shipwright	B. JENKINS
Private	W. J. JONES

In the **Second World War** two airmen and a soldier lost their lives:-

Sergeant (Air Gunner)	A. GEORGE
Private	K. FULLER
Sergeant Pilot	R. PALMER

The service, led by the Reverend Jane Gouillon of St Jerome's Church, also offered prayers for those who are currently serving in the Armed Services in Iraq and Afghanistan, and all those around the world who are involved in conflict.

The hymn "*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*" was sung by the large assembled congregation of villagers. The Bible reading was given by Rob Davies. A wreath was laid at the memorial by chairman Neville Lewis on behalf of Llangwm Community Council, and many other poppies and crosses were laid by those remembering the personal sacrifice of past family members.



## A word from the Editors

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Margaret Brace, who gave up her role as one of the editors on the previous issue of Llangwm News. Margaret has put many hours of work, professionalism and dedication into the publication over the past few years and this has been evident by the development of what is, essentially, a village newsletter.

There are now just the two of us, and if anyone is interested in joining us, please contact us on the numbers below.

Many thanks also to all the people who have contributed articles, experiences, photographs etc to the newsletter throughout the year and we hope you will continue to do so.

Lorraine

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Lorraine has said most of it—here's my 'twopenneth'

For a few years it has been the hard work by Margaret Brace and Lorraine Grange that has ensured your Newsletter has achieved the quality you now expect.

I would also like to thank Margaret for her hard work and dedication that she has put into past Newsletters – we will miss her input, so folks - please thank her yourself when you next see her.

Of interest, this Newsletter has been put together almost completely by Lorraine, and proof-read by Fiona Cutting, I have only been involved in getting the document printed.

With only two of us involved, there is the possibility that we shall only produce **2 Newsletters next year**, since we both feel that it would be nice if a volunteer (or two !!!!) came forward, so that eventually both Lorraine and myself can have a break from the job – remember – DON'T criticise the Newsletter – if you feel there is something that could be done better or differently – give us a call – we need a break, and the **Newsletter needs NEW BLOOD** - if you don't get a tad emotional (like I did) on reading Racheal's piece on page 7 —then there's no hope for you !!!!

Jeff

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**We wish all our readers a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.**

Deadline for contributions to the Easter issue is February 14th — how can you forget that date

**Editors:**

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