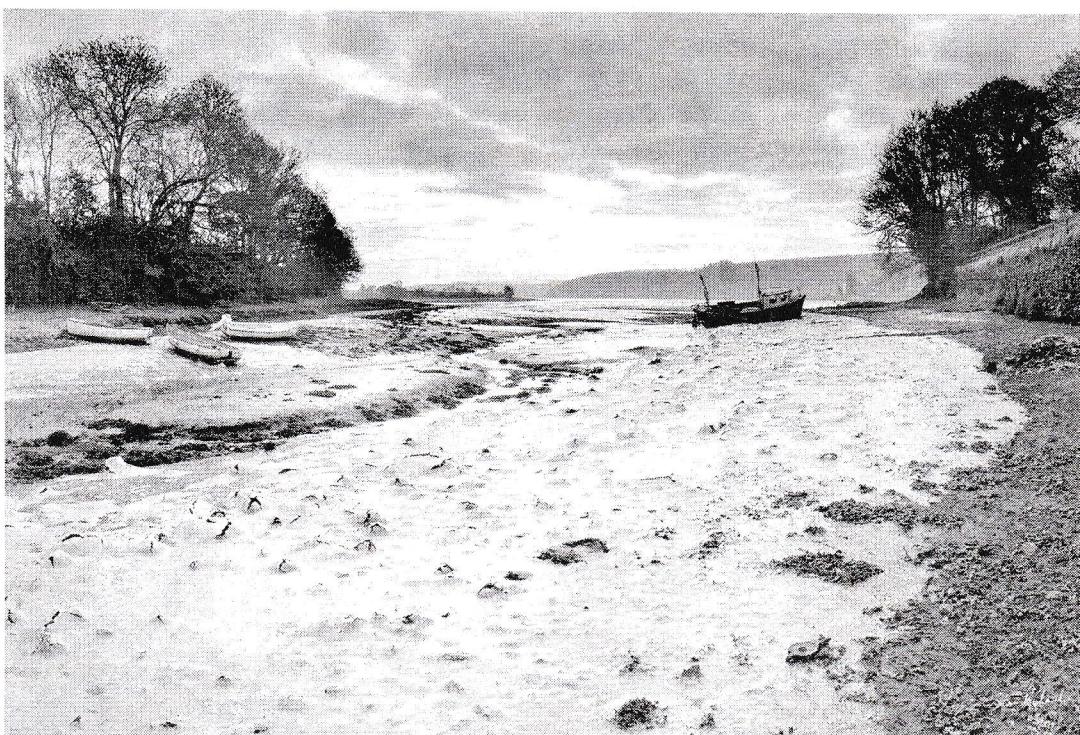


# LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 31 April 2009

## Edwards Pill ... a Winter wonderland



## Sailing into Spring... Llangwm Pill



Sponsored by Llangwm Community Council, and Printed by Cleddau Press Ltd

## 2009 Kicks Off With A Bang

Llangwm was able to welcome 2009 with a bang on New Year's Day with a wonderful firework show on Pill Parks field. A big **thank you** goes to **Mike Davies** for organising a very professional display and ensuring everyone's safety at this event.



The money raised in the buckets on the night and in Llangwm Shop totalled £400, all of which was donated to the **Wales Air Ambulance**. We were able to do this because of the amount raised in various events and donations received from the following: **Steven Thomas** (Deerland Road) £200, The Cottage Inn (£50), **St Jerome's Church** (£50). A heartfelt thanks goes out to the individuals and organisations making these donations.

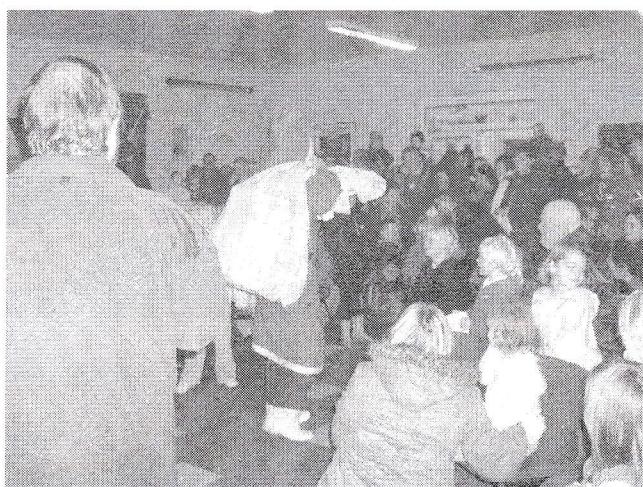
A few weeks before, we celebrated the visit of Father Christmas in the Village Hall. New health & safety policies had necessitated a rethink of the event, so the Festival Committee looked into building a special grotto for Santa's visit to the village. Step forward **Ed and Sue Tanguay**, who designed and built a fantastic grotto. Many thanks to Ed and Sue and the people who helped in the construction of the grotto in the village hall.



With Christmas carols played by **Castle Brass**, free mulled wine, cakes and mince pies, the evening was greatly enjoyed by children and adults alike. Again, thank you to all those people who donated food, and to **Chevron** who sponsored the evening with a cheque for £250.



Santa was ably assisted by one of his elves, and he liked the grotto so much that he asked if he could use it again in the future. Of course, we said 'yes'.



Turning to this year's **Llangwm Festival**, there are big plans in hand for a very special 10<sup>th</sup> **anniversary** event, which will be running from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 11<sup>th</sup> July.

**Chevron Oil Refinery** will this year be sponsoring and judging the **Scarecrow** competition and there will be £400.00 in total prize money available for the best scarecrows. There will be no specific theme this year, just children and adult categories, so anything goes. Start thinking now how you might wow the judges. We hope this will renew interest in the scarecrows and encourage people to really get creative. The Mathias family from Glan Hafan will once again be producing one of their 'larger than life' scarecrows and the money collected from this will be donated to organisations within the village. For those of you who remember **Shrek and Hagrid (see below)**, we anticipate that this year's will be just as amazing.



Watch out for the special 10th anniversary tea-towels, depicting some of Llangwm's more famous scarecrows. These will be on sale before and during the festival fortnight.

Following the success of a marquee being used to provide entertainment for the 2007 festival, the

committee has successfully secured sponsorship from **Murco** and **Paul & Zoe** from the Old Bakery to have a larger marquee available from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> July. It will be the venue for many of the festival events, concerts, a **mid-summer dance**, a **comedy night** and especially for Llangwm's younger generation a **talent competition** (for which we are hoping to have a very well known judge) and a **disco**. On certain dates, the marquee will be available for use by other village organisations, for parties or other fund raising events. **Please contact a member of the festival committee to find out more.**

Llangwm's local **History Society** is organising an exhibition depicting the history of the village in the community hall and a highlight of that exhibition will be a buffet lunch and talk by **Rob Scourfield** on "Local Dialects and Folklore" on 4th July. St. Jerome's Church is planning an **exhibition of wedding dresses**, whilst the **Methodist Church** will once again offer its delicious teas throughout the fortnight. There will also be a **Horticultural Treasure Hunt** organised by the Llangwm Gardening Club and plans are underway for a "Garden in a Tray" competition for the children.

With all this and much, much more, we hope every one in the village will be catered for. So watch out for details, which will appear on posters, the village website and in the shop as the festival approaches.

It has always been the Festival Committee's aim to provide the village with events that are good value by keeping costs to a minimum without jeopardising the quality of the event or people's safety. To that end we will from April 1<sup>st</sup> this year be merging the Festival Committee with the Community Hall committee. The immediate effect of the merger means that both committees between them will save £600.00 annually in insurance costs and that the Festival Committee will enjoy the additional benefit of coming under the charitable status of the Community Hall's Committee. This also means that both sections of the new committee will be able to call on the other when they need extra people for their own events. In the end, Llangwm will be the undoubtedly beneficiary of this merger.

But we still desperately need young volunteers to join the committees. The average age on both committees is still significantly higher than the average age in the village. As a result it is difficult to second-guess what would work for the twenty somethings of the village when a committee's average age is fifty plus. So if you are young and feel you would like to contribute to the life of your village, please contact a member of either committee.

## Flights and Knights...

### LLANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

January and February saw local speakers come to the Society to talk about two fascinating topics. Firstly, **John Evans** held everyone enthralled with his description of flying boats on the **Haven**, particularly during the Second World War. For those who have heard him before, his encyclopaedic knowledge of names, dates and places was amazing. He and his colleagues have very kindly invited us to visit the new **Sunderland** centre once it has opened, to learn more about the project to raise the remains of a Sunderland from beneath the waters of the Haven.



Our second speaker was no less knowledgeable about a subject which has received massive publicity over recent years – that is, the **Knights Templar**. Numerous books and films about supposed Templar treasure and blood lines have fascinated people all over the world. However, **George Wright** laid to rest many of these legends and gave us the facts of Templar history. A founding member of a re-enactment society, he also brought along some of his fighting artefacts which are based on authentic Templar weapons.



Our March meeting will consist of our **Annual General Meeting**, followed by a discussion of **family history** – a subject with which more and more people are getting involved and, with the advent of the internet, are finding it easier to source family information.

Everyone is welcome to attend all the meetings of the Society and to take part in its activities. A date for your diary is **Tuesday, 7th April**. We are continually working to increase the amount of information in the Llangwm archive, which is being developed not only for the present but also for future generations. Please help us to increase our archive of local history by bringing along any photographs and documents of your family or relating to Llangwm, so that they can be copied for the archive. Any photographs or documents used in future exhibitions will be credited to the owner. Copying can be done on the spot using up to date scanning equipment within minutes and you will be able to take your photographs away with you that evening. Come along and see what is already in the archive, help identify individuals and places in existing items and enjoy a cup of tea & cake while you do so.

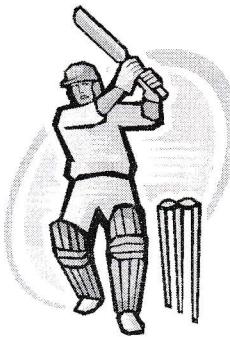
If you are unable to come along that evening, please get in touch with either Liz Jones – 891706 or Jane Mills – 890147 – and we will be delighted to make alternative arrangements to copy your material. This project is supported by **Pembrokeshire Museums Service**. We look forward to seeing you on that evening.

#### From the international to the local...

Janet and I were lucky enough to be in **New York** on the day that the United States made history by electing its first black president. Following that great experience I was given, as a Christmas present, a copy of **Barack Obama's** autobiography '**Dreams of My Father**'. It is a fascinating read. Though too early to say what sort of a President he will make, one thing is certain – he is a very fine writer indeed and when his political career ends a new career will beckon. This book is well worth a few hours of anyone's time.

In early January we went for a walk round the shore and whilst talking to Mike Roberts along came Norman Roach. In the course of our chat Norman asked if I had read '**Below the Landsker**'. He strongly recommended it. After some difficulty Janet managed to get a copy and it was well worth the wait. It is particularly strong on the language heritage of this part of the world. Those who have lived in Llangwm for more years than they care to admit will be familiar with many, if not all, of the words, sadly, now no longer in use. A pleasing feature of this book is the number of times our village is mentioned. According to the Rev. Thomas Watts of Haverfordwest (which could explain a lot!) writing in 1861; 'I have lived among a heathen people, but I solemnly declare that I have never heard, even among an ignorant negro population, language which could, for vulgarity and indecency, be at all compared with that used by the women of Llangwm'. Perhaps the quotation says more about the 'good' Reverend than it does about our female ancestors?

*Barry Childs.*



## Bowling along...

### LLANGWM CRICKET CLUB

The Cricket Club's Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> in the Llangwm Club house, heralding the forthcoming 2009 season with the first matches being played on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May involving all three XIs. Senior nets are to be organised, probably at Thornton Hall, Milford Haven.

Congratulations to **Darren Brick** on being made Llangwm Club Captain for 2009 to hopefully build on our excellent showing in the Pembrokeshire 1<sup>st</sup> Division last year. Also to **Lyn Rees** who will take over the Captaincy of the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI which last year gained promotion by being Division 5 champions and getting to the final of the Ken Morris Cup in Narberth. Our 2nd XI Captain will be chosen very soon at the first committee meeting. Details of the Ladies Section are yet to be finalised with matches likely to be played on Tuesday evenings.

**Brian James**, who has been Secretary since time immemorial will step down next year. **Ian Phillips** has been appointed Assistant Secretary and will combine it with his present duties as our player registration and child welfare officer.

The Junior Section will start training at Pill Parks before the end of March, and this year we have entered an under 15 and an under 11 side in the County Leagues. We are looking for lots of new players so watch out for the training dates which will be posted around the village. Contact **Stuart Beresford** on **891500** for more information.

As usual we are looking for coaches and volunteers for the Junior Section and also urgent help with groundsman duties on the pitch. **Martyn Inward** has looked after the pitch for a number of years and although he cannot continue with it could be available to help and advise. Are there any Gardening Club members out there with some spare time and who are anxious to increase their grass-control skills!! Scoring and helping with teas are two other duties which always welcome assistance.

The **Annual Llangwm Cricket Club Golf Day** to be played on the Milford Haven Golf Course will be on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July and promises to be the usual success. Contact **Dai Davies** on **01437 890670** for more details on how to take part.

A new Llangwm Village web site is to be rolled out later this year which may allow us to post fixtures, team details and results for all our teams as well as providing links to similar local cricketing sites. Watch this space!

**Dai Davies**  
*Chairman Llangwm Cricket Club*

## Llangwm Gardening Club News

By now, March winds have probably replaced the snow and frost around at the time of writing, but here's the thing - our garden looked every bit as good as next door's under a lovely blanket of snow! I'm also hoping that the sub-zero temperatures have killed off at least some of the undesirables in the undergrowth. Unfortunately, I think slugs have their own built in anti-freeze!

Back in January we had a **Photographic Competition** – topic: “**A Garden in Winter**”. Lots of lovely photographs were entered which were judged by Graham Brace. He commented on the high standard of entries, and said how difficult it had been to select a winner, but **Jackie Laurence**’s study of frosted leaves obviously impressed, and she won first prize.

Our February speaker, Judy Coggins, was to have given an illustrated talk on Chatsworth House and Gardens. Unfortunately she was snowed in and unable to make the trip to Llangwm, but has promised to present her talk at a later date.

March will have us all “**Digging for Victory**” when **Ivor Mace**, formerly a lecturer at Pencoed College, will be giving vegetable growing advice. Just the right time for starting off the veg, be it large plots or small pots.

After Easter our programme continues with :

April	<b>Managing a Garden for Wildlife</b> , Steve Whitehouse, Colby Gardens
May	<b>Growing Clematis</b> , Keith Teadway
June	<b>Lawn Care</b> , Richard Palmer
July	<b>AGM &amp; Barbeque</b>

Looking forward to the Llangwm Summer Festival, the Club is hoping to organise a **Walking Treasure Hunt** around the Village, as well as a Children's Competition for the best “**Tray Garden**” - more details to come in the summer. We shall also have a stall selling gardening goodies at the Fete.

As always, a warm welcome is extended to everyone—garden expertise not essential - at our meetings in the Cottage Inn, Llangwm, at 7.30 pm on the first Monday of the month. Notice of meetings is posted in the village shop and around the village.

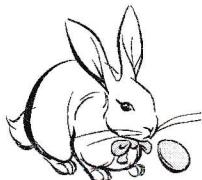


## Llangwm Village Shop/ Post Office/News agency

We are pleased to report that **at present** the situation with the post office is OK and there is no imminent threat of closure. Easter opening hours are:

**Good Friday** 7.15am—1.00pm  
**Easter Sunday** 9.00am—1.00pm  
**Easter Monday** Closed all day

Pat and her staff would like to wish everyone a **Happy Easter**.



## MURCO charity row to Ireland

Last year, four members of Murco refinery completed the triathlon in Neyland to raise money for charity. They seemed to enjoy the rowing aspect and I thought it would be a good idea to raise money for local charities through a similar event and tentatively came up with the idea of rowing from **Milford Haven** Murco refinery to Conoco Phillips Whitegate Refinery in **Cork**. My initial idea obviously met with a good reception as the crews are now committed to regular training sessions!! The distance we plan to row is 110 miles and we endeavour to complete this within 30 hours with a rotation of three crews of four men.

When we approached Murco refinery (Milford Haven) with the idea, they were very enthusiastic about the challenge and offered to support the event by matching the amount we raise through sponsorship. To date, we have raised **£3,500** through local companies and are hoping to increase this to **£6,000**. We have been hard at work fundraising locally and are due to collect at Withybush Hospital and Morrison's, Haverfordwest in the next few weeks. The charities we are raising money for are : **Angle RNLI, Wales Air Ambulance, Paul Sartori, Bucketful of Hope and CLIC**.

The challenge will be taken on using a **Llangwm longboat** and we are most grateful for the support offered by **Llangwm Longboat Rowing Club** in helping towards organising the event and supplying us with the safety equipment, coaches and experienced coxes who have volunteered their services. A local dive company has also offered their services in supplying us with a safety boat during the challenge.

The event will take place on **1<sup>st</sup> May 2009** (weather permitting) but we do also have reserve dates set aside.

Sponsor sheets are available in **Llangwm Post Office** and **Cottage Inn** if you wish to make a donation.

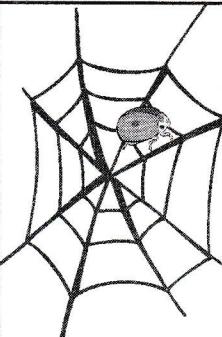
For any further information, you can contact me on **01437 899363**.

## Llangwm's New Website

Keep an eye out for Llangwm's new Website, which hopefully will be on line by the end of March. It will have a new easier to remember address - [www.llangwm.co.uk](http://www.llangwm.co.uk)

It will be a bigger site than the existing one and will include up to date news of what's happening in the village, shops, pubs, surgery times, churches, clubs and sports. In addition there will be a page devoted to local businesses "Llangwm Local".

If you have any comments/ideas on the web site, please call Pam on 01437 899966, or email her at [pamela-hunt@btconnect.com](mailto:pamela-hunt@btconnect.com) .



*Adam James*

# LLANGWM COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Questionnaire:** Please, please take a little time to fill in the questionnaire about your use of the Village Hall that is enclosed with your copy of this Llangwm News and return it to Pat at the shop. As mentioned in the last newsletter we are looking at ways of improving and extending the Hall and to this end are hoping to apply for some grant aid. To obtain the grants we need to include information collected from the village on how the hall is currently used, what improvements local people would like and how they would like to use it in the future. Therefore it will be much appreciated if you could give us your thoughts and opinions using the enclosed questionnaire - and note the incentive of a draw of the completed questionnaires, a £25 voucher for a meal in the Cottage Inn!

## St. David's Day Supper

We were delighted to begin the evening with 34 junior children from Llangwm School.



Supported by the Head Mr. Groves, Deputy Head Mr Benbow, teacher Mrs Martin and governor and friend Mrs Anderson, the children started with three traditional songs in Welsh. This was followed by a delightful musical interlude of two haunting pieces on the harp by **Amelia Armstrong** and **Becky Albury** and then the Welsh National Anthem played on the trumpet by **Toby Asson**. Their performance concluded with 2 more songs from the choir: Sing into Spring and A Good Land. As always, the performances sounded very professional - truly worthy of the title 'Children Aloud' given by our superb compeer, David Mills!

The 'Men Aloud' in the shape of Bobby Richards and Derek John (see opposite page) accompanied by

Nigel Thomas on keyboard, followed after the supper of soup, ploughman's and Welsh cakes.

As always, we are very fortunate to have such great talent on our doorstep!



Bob Richards



Derek John

Many thanks to everyone who supported the village hall by coming. Thanks also to all those volunteers both before and on the night, without which the evening could not have taken place and **Diana Jones** for her Welsh quiz.



As usual, a variety of activities have taken place in the village hall, including regular dance classes, pilates, rugby training refreshments, Seafair, Historical Society and Festival Committee meetings plus private parties. The Christmas Market again provided some quality retail therapy for gifts.

## Diary Dates:

4<sup>th</sup> June: European Parliamentary elections  
For classes and meetings held in the Hall see notices around the village & in the shop.

Finally, as always, many thanks to Pat in the shop for overseeing all the bookings!

## Hire charges are as follows:

Community Group activities:	£7.50 per session
Parties:	Adult: £35.00
	Children: £20.00

**\*Please leave your hall in a clean and tidy state after use, as at present we can only afford a cleaner once a month.**

## GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

Guildford, Llangwm

### Easter and Early Summer at Galilee

#### Forthcoming Services at Galilee Baptist Chapel

##### Palm Sunday

5<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am

Rev. Dr. David Pusey

##### Good Friday

10<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am

Rev. Ron Price

(This will be followed by **Tea, Coffee and Hot Cross Buns** in the chapel schoolroom. All are welcome.)

##### Easter Sunday

12<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 am

Rev. Ron Price

\*\*\*\*\*

**Morning worship (including Sunday School) is held at 10.30am each Sunday.**

A popular preacher, **Sister Barnabas**, will lead the service on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Watch also for details of the **Chapel Anniversary services (24<sup>th</sup> May)**, 10.30am and 5.00pm to be led by Rev Ron Price), the **Sunday School Anniversary (mid-June)**, and **Harvest Thanksgiving (27<sup>th</sup> September)**, 10.30am and 5.00pm, to be taken by Nigel Thomas of Sardis and Galilee).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Women's League** is held fortnightly on **Thursdays at 2.00pm** in the chapel schoolroom. If you like listening to an interesting talk or discussion, or would just enjoy some company and friendship now and again, with occasional outings, please feel welcome to come along.

\*\*\*\*\*



## LLANGWM METHODIST CHURCH

MINISTER: Reverend Alan Jenkins

SECRETARY: Mrs Jane Brock

TREASURER: Mrs Hilary Hitchings

Sunday Services:- Morning 11.00 am  
Sunday School 11 am

Women's Fellowship: Fortnightly on Wednesdays - 2.00 pm

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thu 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	An informative evening with <b>Dr Robin Martin</b> showing films of his training experiences in <b>South Africa</b> , commencing at 7.00pm in the Sunday School Room. Buffet provided
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Good Friday service at 3.30pm in the main chapel, presided over by Reverend Alan Jenkins, followed by the Good Friday tea & Gift Day in the Sunday School Room at 4pm
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Day Service - 11am Sunday School - 11am
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Chapel Anniversary Services—11am and 6pm. Sunday School - 11am
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Father's Day Luncheon at Hook Sports Club 12.30 for 1.00. Tickets available from members
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sunday School Anniversary Service - 6pm
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Festival Teas served daily in the Sunday School Room until Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July from 12 noon - 8.00 pm daily
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Harvest Festival Services - 11am and 6.00 pm Sunday School - 11 am

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

# St.Jerome's Church, Llangwm

## Weekly Services

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

## Additional Services

### Lenten Services

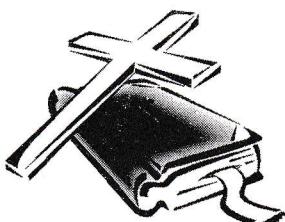
Ash Wednesday	Ashing Eucharist
7.00pm (Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> )	
Sunday (March 8 <sup>th</sup> ) 5.00pm	Taize Service
Sunday (March 15 <sup>th</sup> ) 5.00pm	Evensong

### Easter Services

Palm Sunday (April 5 <sup>th</sup> ) At 5.00pm	Covenant Service
Maundy Thursday (April 9 <sup>th</sup> ) At 7.00pm	
Good Friday (April 10 <sup>th</sup> ) At 11.00am	

## Additional Events

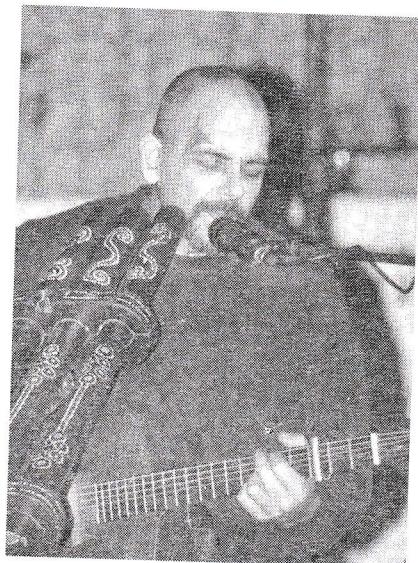
Last Saturday of the month at 4.00pm (until May)	Krafty Kids
From Thursday Feb 24th at 2.00pm (every two weeks)	Bible Study (different locations)
Easter Saturday (April 11 <sup>th</sup> ) at 4.00pm	Easter Egg Hunt (Churchyard)



## St. Jerome's Concerts

Preparing for their third year

Since the concerts started nearly three years ago at St. Jerome's Church, over 800 people have passed through the doors of this beautiful Norman building. St. Jerome's has now hosted a variety of concerts ranging from Choirs to Jazz, Opera to Folk and Didgeridoo to Sackbut, and every artist who has performed there has commented upon the perfect acoustics for the intimacy that their music often demands.



The support by people in Llangwm has proved invaluable in the church's attempts to raise money to replace its heating and electrical wiring systems. Now we are beginning to see the concerts attracting audiences from further away with January's concert by **Mike Chant**, the didgeridoo man (see photo, above) attracting people from Neyland, Haverfordwest and Pembroke Dock. For details of the concert on **6th March**, see page 13.

The next concert, sub titled "**An Evening with Noel Coward, Joyce Grenfell and Victoria Wood**", performed by Three Piece Suite and supported by the 'Night Out' scheme of the Arts Council for Wales is on Friday **17<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.30pm. Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £3.50 for children and can be obtained from the Village Shop or reserved by calling Pam Hunt on 01437 89 99 66.

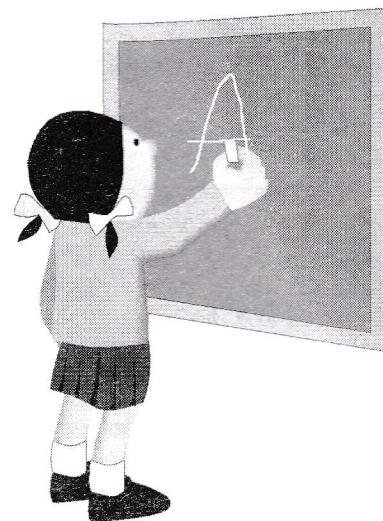
Details of the next concerts on 29<sup>th</sup> May and for the Llangwm Festival are still to be confirmed, but we can be sure that they will prove as varied and special as the concerts that have preceded them.

Again, we would like to thank everyone who has supported the concerts over the last two years and we look forward to welcoming you all in the years to come.

## Looking forward to Spring and Summer at LIANGWM VC SCHOOL

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>Break up for Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Children return to school for commencement of Summer term</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>May Bank Holiday</b>
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Break up for half term</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>School closed – Family of Schools closure day</b>
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Half term holiday</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Break up for summer holidays</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>School closed – Directed Teachers Day</b>
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	<b>Summer holidays</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>School closed – Directed Teachers Day</b>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept</b>	<b>School closed – INSET Day</b>
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept</b>	<b>Children return to school for commencement of new school year – Autumn term 2009</b>



### **North Wales**

Years five and six went to North Wales on a school trip. When we got there, we went to the slate museum. We stayed in a youth hostel in Bangor. The next day we went to **Penrhyn Castle** to have a look around the rooms and we saw Lord Penrhyn's part of the castle. The next day was time to go home we went to **Llangwm** (North Wales') school and said our "good byes" it was time for the long journey home.

We had so much fun during our stay and learning about the differences in the culture between **Llangwm, Pembrokeshire** and **Llangwm, Conwy**.

*By Beth Meopham*

### **Our North Wales Trip** **October 2008**

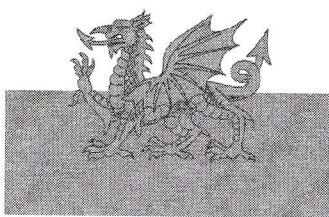
In October we went to North Wales because we wanted to meet the children from **Llangwm Conwy** School. First we went to a slate mine to see all the slates from the mountains. We saw people turn the slate in half. Our deputy head, Mr Benbow, got to turn a slate in half and made a heart. We were able to take the heart back to our school. After, we went to Penrhyn castle and pretended to be maids. The next day we went bowling and it was really fun.

That was the best school trip ever.

*By Charlie Hunt*

On Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup>, thirty two junior children from Llangwm School went to the village hall to sing a few songs for Saint David's day. We sang two songs with Mrs Anderson and three songs in Welsh with Mrs Martin. At the end, Amelia and Becky played a piece each on the harp and Toby played the Welsh National Anthem on the trumpet. We enjoyed performing to everyone at the village hall to celebrate St. David's Day.

*By Dani Mehan*



### **Dydd Gwyl Dewi - 2009 St David's Day - 2009**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of February we all went down to Llangwm Methodist Chapel to celebrate St David's Day. We sang some Welsh songs and then all the classes did a play or recited poems in Welsh. We then sang two songs that Mrs Anderson had taught us, we really enjoyed it. At the end of our concert we sang the Welsh National Anthem and all the audience joined in as well. We all enjoyed singing and speaking in Welsh. When we arrived back at school all the children had their photographs taken. We either dressed in traditional Welsh costume, Welsh rugby shirts or uniforms from the Brownies, Cubs or Scouts. Everyone looked so smart. We had cawl, cheese and roll for our school lunch. We all enjoyed St David's Day!

*By Sian Roach*

### **St David's Day Concert**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of February Llangwm School held their St. David's day concert at the Methodist Chapel in Llangwm. The infants performed the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the concert with their singing and poems from each class. Then the juniors recited poems and sang Welsh songs. Class 6 also performed some Welsh folk dancing.

Everybody sang the Welsh National Anthem at the end.

It was a really good concert.

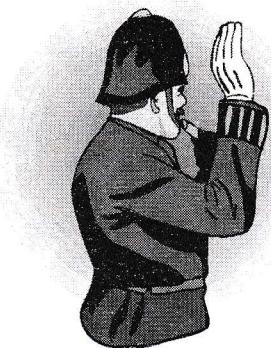
*By Cora White*

### **Snow in Llangwm school**

**The day we all went to school when it was snowing was so much fun! We got to build a giant snowman and we had a snowman competition. We also got to put scarves on them and give them hair. When we went back to class we did a PowerPoint on the snow. Then we all went back outside and played in the snow.**

**We were not allowed to throw snowballs because children could get hurt.**

*By Joe Williams*



## Major Crime in Llangwm

Before the advent of the County Court system, major crimes were tried at the **Court of Great Sessions (Sesiwn Fawr)**

The following cases were recorded for Llangwm between 1745 and 1818:

On the 10th August **1745** a case of Assault (including wounding but not malicious wounding), came before the Court.

**David Griffith**, a yeoman, was accused of attacking **William Crunn**, a tailor in Llangwm. There is no other information recorded as to the outcome of this trial.

Some 15 years later, on the 19th of January 1960, **John David**, a miller of Llangwm, was accused of attacking **William Llewhelin** at Burton. The case of Assault (including wounding but not malicious wounding) was proven, and John David was fined 6d.

On the 10th of June, 1770, **John Phillips**, a cooper, was accused of Murder (including aiding and abetting and accessory to murder). His victim was **William Stephens** of Llangwm, and a savage beating which led to William Stephens' death actually took place in Llangwm. A **Griffith Stephens** (presumably related to William) was the prosecutor representing the victim. No plea was given, and John Phillips was convicted of Manslaughter. No sentence was given in the documents, so what happened to him?

Forty eight years were to pass before another major crime was committed by a Llangwm villager, and on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March, **1801**, a **Mary Lawrence**, a married woman, was accused of Breaking and

Entering, mainly houses but also shops, workshops, mills etc. Her main accuser and prosecutor was Margaret Jones, a spinster of Lambston.

Mary Lawrence was caught after stealing wearing "apparel, cloth, wheat and a Japan canister" from Miss Jones' dwelling house. The prisoner, aged 50, made no plea., and she

was found guilty of Grand Larceny, a partial verdict, and sentenced to be transported to Australia for 7 years.

A more complicated trial took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, 1812. John Menzies, alias Thomas Menzies, a Hawker, was charged with Miscellaneous Offences having taken place in Llangwm. He was accused by Mark Davies of Llangwm, a Customs Officer, of Bargaining for Money, viz guineas, and offering more than their current worth. The charge read "for preventing the current gold coin of the realm from being paid or accepted for a greater value than the current value of such coins for preventing any note or bill....of the Bank of England.... Being received for any smaller sum than the sum thereby specified". The indictment referred to Haverfordwest Bank notes. John Menzies offered a plea of Not Guilty, and this was the verdict of the Court.

Six years later two trials took place related to the Theft of a Sheep. **James Jones**, a labourer of Llangwm, and **Mary Thomas**, a single woman, were accused of stealing a sheep valued at £3 from **George Whittow**, a farmer in Llangwm. Mary was accused of sheep-stealing (including killing of the sheep with intent to steal carcass and aiding and abetting). The verdict given was "**no true bill**".

Liz Jones

## Criminal Records

I have had a look for more information about the persons mentioned in Liz's article, but have not had a great deal of success.

Unfortunately, there were no local newspapers published in Pembrokeshire until 1844 when the '**Pembrokeshire Herald**' commenced publication. Before that date, there was the '**Welshman**' published in Carmarthen from 1829 onwards and the '**Cambrian**' in Swansea from 1804 onwards - neither of which newspapers are currently available in Pembrokeshire!

The gaol registers from the prison in Haverfordwest Castle survive only from 1813 onwards.

10 June 1770 case - **William Stephens** was buried at Llangwm parish church on 20 June 1770. [It seems odd that they kept a body above ground for at least 10 days in June.]

14 March 1801 case - Mary Lawrence, aged 50, sailed for New South Wales in November 1803 aboard the "Experiment". This case is mentioned in "**Welsh Convict Women**" by Deirdre Beddoe and in "**Women and Crime in 19th century Pembrokeshire**" by Audrey Philpin.

1818 case - the committal and discharge papers survive for **Mary Thomas** and **James James** [not Jones according to these papers]. **Mary Thomas** of Hook Wood, single woman, and **James James** of Llangwm, yeoman, were charged with stealing two yearling sheep on the night of Tuesday 17th March 1818. James was committed on 19th March and Mary on 21st March. They were both released from the prison on 27 March 1818. "**No true bill**" means that they were acquitted.

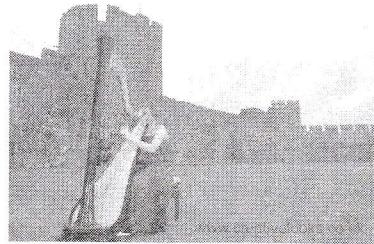
Nikki Bosworth (Miss)  
**Pembrokeshire Record Office**  
The Castle  
Haverfordwest  
SA61 2EF

## PURE JOY

If it occasionally happens that a performance takes one by surprise, Llangwm's most recent concert at St Jerome's church on Friday 6 March by **Carys Ann Evans** and **Joy Cornock** was startling in its power.

Billed as "**a concert to St David**" this was a carefully constructed programme of Welsh and English music ranging from harp solos and duets to songs traditional and modern with harp or piano accompaniment.

Carys previously performed at St Jerome's as pianist to the Haverfordwest Male Voice Choir last autumn, and again when she was harpist at a wedding. Reverend Jane, not one to miss an opportunity, invited her to perform at one of the regular concerts organised there by the enterprising and community-minded Pam Hunt. As a result, harps and keyboard were transported from Fishguard early in the day by willing family members. Carys was warmly welcomed with her first pieces - then simply announced "I brought my cousin along..."



Joy Cornock is no ordinary cousin. As soon as she began to sing the audience sensed that this was no ordinary night's entertainment they had let themselves in for. A student at Cardiff's **Welsh School of Music**, Joy showed the full range of her fine soprano voice in folk song, operatic aria, hymn and the clever and humorous diva piece "I'm Tone Deaf" - by way of affirmation that Miss Cornock certainly was not.

The musicianship and talent of the two young ladies shone throughout. Carys's gentle compereship, sensitive harp-playing and accomplished piano skills were received with awe. Joy's rendering of Faure's "Pie Jesu" and Puccini's "O Mio Bambino Caro" set the occasion on an altogether loftier footing, and her mesmerising performance of "I Walked into the Garden" moving amongst the audience as she sang touched souls, and many a listener's tears flowed freely.



"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" gave the audience a chance to participate, followed by a rich and varied selection of songs and harp arrangements until the final encore "Cymru Bach" and its standing ovation brought with it the realisation that everyone present had been blessed in a special way.

Margaret Brace



## LLANGWM RUGBY CLUB

### SENIOR

The 1<sup>st</sup> XV have not had the success of recent seasons and are currently at the bottom end of the table. It is a shame to see the Llangwm team in that position but the gap between them and the next few teams is not that great. A few wins towards the end of the season would see them jump up several places. There is talent in the team and with coach Phil Sutton and team manager Alistair Platten continuing to ensure we put out as strong a team as possible, we should see a few wins before the season finishes.

Once again the league form was nowhere to be seen on Boxing Day when the team raised its standard for the **Bishop Cup** match against old rivals Haverfordwest. Llangwm dominated the possession and territory for large sections of the game. Haverfordwest did run out as eventual winners but not before they had been made to fight for victory by the spirited Llangwm team.

Had this form been shown throughout the season we would be well placed going into the final few matches.

The match was once again watched by a very large crowd who turn out each year for this traditional occasion and the support for Llangwm belied its low league status...

### YOUTH / Under 16

The Youth team are nearing the end of a very hard season in a very competitive league. They have shown glimpses of what they can do with wins over Neyland and Milford as well as pushing some other teams close.

Likewise, the Under 16 team have also had a hard season in a very competitive league. The introduction of a U16 league has brought more structure to season and helped to prepare the boys for youth rugby.

In fact, some of the Under 16 team have represented the youth team this season, having attained their 16<sup>th</sup> birthdays. With the majority of the boys reaching 16 by the start of next season we should have a strong youth outfit with competition for places.

It is worth mentioning that some of the U16 team

have now played rugby at Llangwm since the age of 7 and thanks must go to them and coaches Alan Williams and Martin Hughes for the time they have committed over the years.

### JUNIOR/MINIS

The Llangwm junior section continues to grow in numbers and are putting together some good results against stiff opposition. The club is always on the lookout for new players, both boys and girls to come and join in the fun. Training is coming to an end soon but come and see what all the fuss is about and take part. There are still a few games left and tournaments, so if you have a budding Shane around the house wanting to burn off some energy, then come along.

The end of season party for the juniors and minis is set for 24th April (TBC) keep an eye out and come and lets end the season with a bang (and maybe a special guest!)

Llangwm juniors are arranging a **Race Night** in the club (Friday 3rd April TBC) to which all are members are welcome. This will be an opportunity to partake in a fun evening of virtual horse racing and help raise some money for the club and juniors in the process. The more the merrier, so come along and lend some support. More info closer to the time.

We would also like to take the opportunity to extend very big thank you to all the volunteers throughout the season who give up plenty of free time and part with hard earned cash to coach, support and sponsor the junior section teams. Without their help there would not be a junior section at all. **THANK YOU..**  
(Junior report from I.Hough).

**As well as rugby and cricket membership, social membership is available for those who may not wish to participate in sport.**

**Please contact the club house for any information on membership or participation in rugby for Llangwm RFC.**

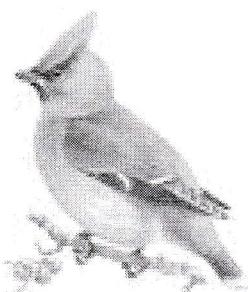
*Michael John  
Chairman, Llangwm RFC*

## WINTER BIRD NOTES

The very cold spell of weather in January and early February had some marked effects on the bird population around the shore and in gardens, fields and hedgerows.

A number of people in the village reported greater number of finches particularly visits from **brambling** and **siskin** to their feeders. Other small birds more in evidence included **long tailed tits**, **coal tits** and **goldcrests**. **Goldfinches** seem to be making a remarkable recovery and we appear to have a permanent flock in and around our garden often numbering more than 20 birds. Large numbers of **redwing** and **fieldfare** were much in evidence in the garden and surrounding countryside.

In early February Richard Joseph saw a single **waxwing** in the garden of 'Foxgloves' cottage in Rectory Road. These striking crested finch-like birds are winter visitors to eastern Britain but are occasionally seen in western parts often in small flocks. They are fruit-eating and like gardens and orchards.



The **RSPB Garden Birdwatch** took place on the weekend of 24/25 February and for once the birds did not desert our garden! I did my count in the hour before dusk when there is likely to be more activity with birds 'feeding up' to fortify themselves for the long cold night ahead. This year I recorded 15 different species including **coal tits** (2), **goldcrests** (2) and a **nuthatch** carrying a hazelnut in its bill.

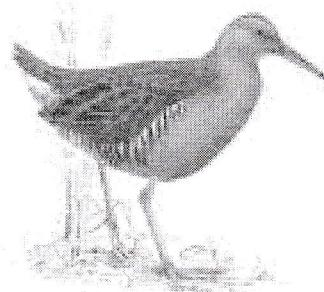
In the Pill and around the shores bird numbers are much the same as previous years with 60+ **teal**, 40+ **redshank**, a dozen or so **mallard** and sometimes as many as 36 **shelduck**.

A few **little grebe (dabchicks)** are regularly seen and there were 2 **great crested grebes** off Llangwm Ferry on 13 February. **Snipe** were regularly flushed from the vegetation around the shore at Llangwm Ferry and there were also large numbers in the fields around the village.

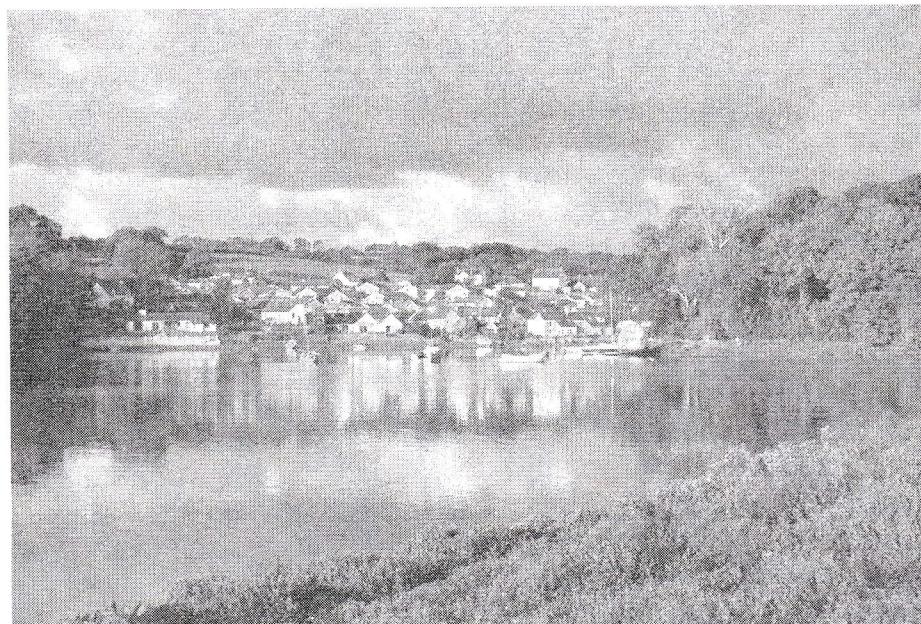
Notably, I have not seen a **little egret** for the best part of two months since that very cold spell of weather set in after Christmas. Possibly they have moved on temporarily to milder climes.

The **spotted redshank** is still with us although I don't recall seeing it at all in January. This is the fourth winter that it has spent with us and it will be moving on at the end of March/early April.

On 11<sup>th</sup> February I watched a **water rail** from a distance of eight feet picking its way around the irrigation pond at Newton Farm. These are very secretive birds and I was lucky to see it.



*I have decided that this will be the last nature report in this form to appear in 'Llangwm News'.*



We would like to say 'thank you' to **Graham Brace** and **Steve Richards**, who have supplied us with some of the wonderful photos of Llangwm, which we have used in the Newsletter over the period of time (examples of which are above and on the front page). Thanks also to all the people who have contributed articles, and those who distribute the newsletter—it is truly a village effort

Lorraine

Once again you should know that Lorraine has put nearly all of this Newsletter together, with very little help from me—it is a fairly labour intensive job, and obviously a 'behind the scenes' activity. Fiona Cutting has again proof read it before going to press. If you feel there is something that can be done better or differently, then please hop aboard and join the 'team' - we will obviously gain from your input, and you never know—you may benefit too—even if it is only a cup of tea/coffee !!

The next information leaflet you will receive is the 'flyer' distributed by the Festival Committee giving the timetable of the events planned for Festival Fortnight.

Finally, there will only be one further Newsletter from us this year, for distribution at the end of November/early December, and the deadline for that will be the 1st November

Jeff

### We kept this space for your input.

Are you one of those who has a nice 'Llangwm' story to tell—then please put it in writing and we'll be only too pleased to publish it—anonimously, if you're too embarrassed

### WEB SITE

You will have seen on page 6 that after several attempts to find a replacement for the Village Web site, Pam Hunt has volunteered to keep the web site up to date.

We can thank John Ewart, however, for doing the job for the last few years, a thankless and time consuming task .....thanks John