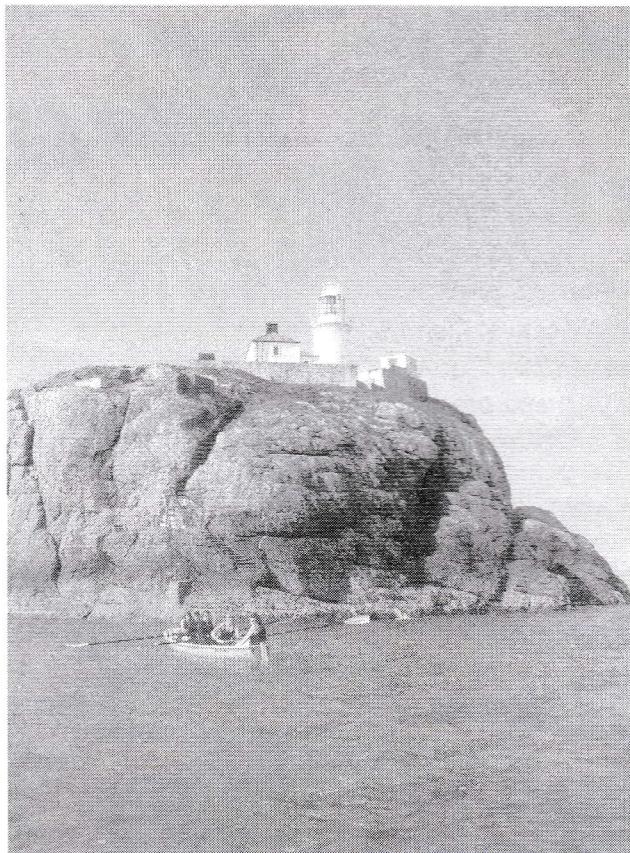


# LLANGWM NEWS

ISSUE 32 November 2009



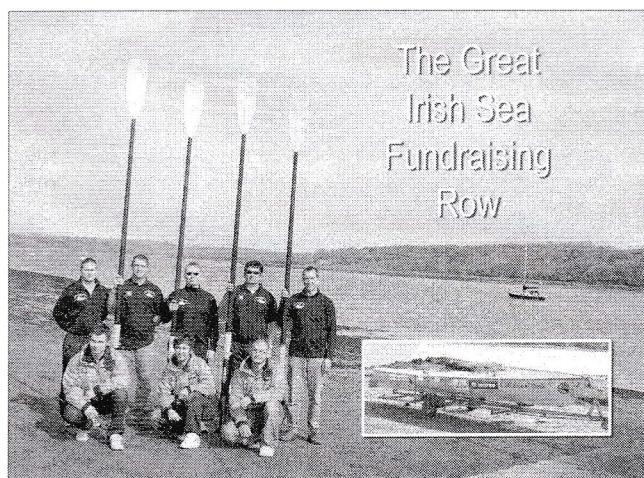
The Llangwm Long boat crew—seen here—encircling Bishops Lighthouse (see page 12)



Rhon and Cen Fuller visit the History Exhibition (page 13) after celebrating 68 years of marriage



Ellen Skyrme - soon to be 100 years young - seen here in 2005 officially opening the Carnival and Fete at Pill Parks (pages 3 and 4).

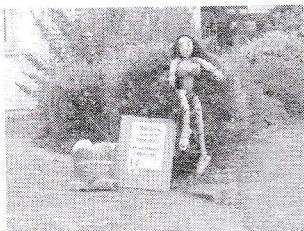


The Irish Sea challenge team

## Something for Everyone at Llangwm's 10<sup>th</sup> Festival

The Festival Committee started working on this year's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Festival as soon as the 2008 festival finished. We were able to secure £1,550.00 in sponsorship from Chevron and Murco Oil Refineries and from Paul & Zoe at The Old Bakery on Main Street. A big thank you to them all, as these much needed funds allowed us to attach £400.00 of prize money for the Scarecrow competition and to fund an 18 x 9 metre marquee for the entire Festival fortnight.

The scarecrow competition was a great success seeing 85 entries, a four fold increase on previous years. Congratulations go to Sarah Hall, Mandy Davies and Graham & Joan Stephens, winners in the adult class and to Ebony Walker, Eithan & Kieran Prender and Llangwm School, winners in the child class.



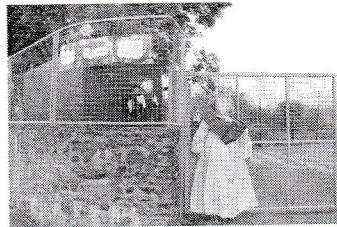
(Adult, 1st prize)



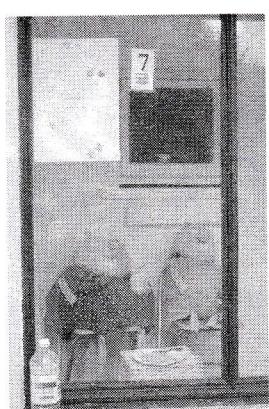
(Adult 2nd prize)



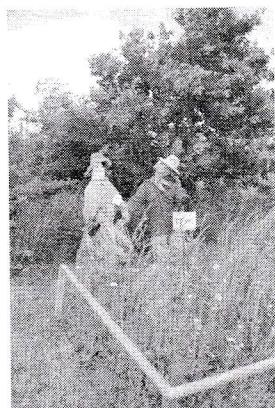
(Child, 1st prize)



(Child, 2nd prize)

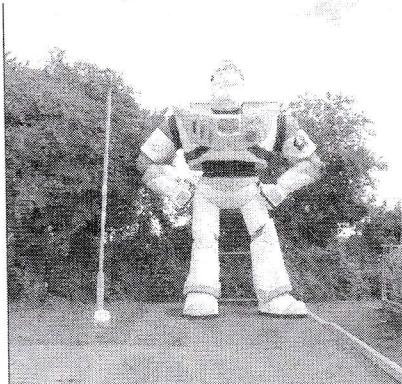


(Adult 3rd prize)



(Child, 3rd prize)

We were also delighted to see the return of the giant scarecrow, courtesy of the Mathias family. Bad weather delayed Buzz Light Year's arrival, but he did make it just in time.



In the Festival Marquee, we were able to offer entertainment for everyone with **Opera Playhouse** presented by St Jerome's Church and a **Comedy Night** with Phil Evans, Tudur Owen and Gillian Elisa, both events supported by the Arts Council For Wales. The Comedy Night proved to be a sell out performance.

The **One Voice Gospel** Choir from Cardiff appeared with the kind support of the Diocese of St. David's and delighted an audience of nearly 100.



In addition, the marquee hosted a **Race Night** courtesy of Junior Rugby, a **10<sup>th</sup> birthday Party** for Llangwm's Longboat Rowing Club and even a debate on the morals of Television courtesy of the **Wales Centre of the Royal Television Society**. A Big thank you must also go to the Rugby Club for providing a pay bar in the marquee throughout the festival.

The big social event of the fortnight was the mid summer dance with the Merlinaire's Big Band. All who attended this event thoroughly enjoyed their evening, but sadly a lack of support of this event proved to be the major contribution to the festival's financial losses.

As in 2008, the weather tried to dampen the carnival on Pill Parks Field. But step forward an 18 x 9 metre marquee and the village hall, which allowed us to put most of the carnival day under

cover. All in all, the Festival turned in an overall deficit of £870.91. The losses have been covered by reserves in the bank and you can see below the details.

The Festival Committee has decided only to run a few events in the 2009 / 10 year and these will be focussed on restoring the losses made this year. Nevertheless there will still be our traditional Father Christmas evening at The Village Hall on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December and in view that Seafair will be taking place in July 2010, there will be no festival save for a carnival day on a date still to be confirmed. We are also still considering whether or not to have a scarecrow competition in 2010.

#### Festival Accounts 2009.

##### Income:

Sponsorship donations	£ 1,550.00
Scarecrow Entry fees	£ 85.00
Income from Carnival	£ 307.44
Festival Anniversary T Towels	£ 654.73
Comedy Night Receipts	£ 100.00 (After deduction for Arts Council for Wales)
Merlinaires Ticket Sales	£ 490.00
Llangwm's Got Talent	£ 8.00
<b>Total Festival Income</b>	<b>£ 3,195.17</b>

##### Expenditure:

Anniversary T Towel Production	£ 621.58
Marquee Hire	£ 973.00
Scarecrow Prize Money	£ 400.00
Merlinaires	£ 850.00
Insurance costs	£ 450.00
Opening Night Band at Cottage Inn	£ 90.00
Live Music at carnival	£ 100.00
Closing Night Band at Cottage Inn	£ 100.00
Stage transport	£ 120.00
Stage Lighting	£ 100.00
Carnival Expenses	£ 153.00
Publicity, printing & general exp	£ 108.50
<b>Total Festival Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 4,066.08</b>

<b>Festival Loss</b>	<b>£ - 870.91</b>
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Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of the scarecrow competition (Chevron), Paul and Zoe from the Old Bakery, Pat and staff in the shop who do a wonderful job selling tickets, the Mathias family for their 'larger than life' scarecrow, all those other 'friends' of the festival committee who helped out decorating the marquee, running stalls and doing a range of jobs.

We are very pleased to welcome some new members on to the festival committee— Anton and Anna Brcar, and will continue to have our monthly meetings in the Cottage Inn on the first Thursday of the month. Please come along if you have any ideas or wish to join us.

Pam Hunt

## 100 years young! Ellen celebrates a century of life in Llangwm

*At her home at No. 1 The Green, Llangwm, where she is cared for by her son John, Ellen Skyrme reflects over her long life - she will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009.*

*Here she shares some of her thoughts and memories with readers of Llangwm News.*

Ellen was born with the maiden name Trevithick in St. Ives, Cornwall, her father George being a direct descendant of Richard Trevithick, inventor of the steam engine and a pioneer of the Industrial Revolution. Her mother, Mary Bryant of Llangwm, had been working in service at the Tre-genna Castle Hotel.

They moved to Llangwm when Ellen was three months old - and never looked back! They took rooms in a house in Rectory Road, with Ellen's grandmother, then living in Guildford. One of Ellen's earliest memories is the cast-iron bed, with its net curtains and a bow at the head of the bed - and a valance all around it.

In all that time, Ellen has seen changes in the village - "but Main Street is much as it was, apart from a few bigger houses. And changes have been so gradual, you don't really notice them."

"Years ago, you knew everyone. You never saw a door locked, in summer doors were always open. And everybody spoke to each other, you called them all by their Christian names - or by their nicknames (mind you, you get a lot of that now). My Granny was called Betsy Candles - their family was known as the Candles. There was another family called 'Whiskers' - there was Georgie Whiskers and Mary Whiskers."

The traffic however is much different today. "Now you can't move for cars."

Ellen remembers one of the first motor cars to come into the village, over Guildford Bridge heading up Main Street. "Someone in the street shouted Hey Ginny, look at that car coming all by itself! And it's going honk-honk!"

Ellen, her five sisters and her brother spent a happy, almost idyllic, childhood in the village, playing in the countryside and on the shore at Black Tar. They were a poor but very close family and life revolved around the school and the chapel.

(continued over)

School was happy but tough - "I still remember some of the songs we learned, about Spring, Summer, swallows and pigeons. I had the cane, but not very often! If you had the cane you couldn't use your hand for the rest of the day."

"I remember wearing tacky boots, lace-up boots with tacks in them. The boys wore hobnail boots."

The highlight of the year was the Sunday School Anniversary, for which children rehearsed for weeks. "About eight of us girls from Galilee used to go to Vinie Jones's house in Guildford to rehearse. Vinie was the chapel organist and a music teacher."

This was followed by a treat, the Sunday School outing to Tenby - at first by charabanc. "There were long benches with a door at one side, and a big canvas hood which was folded right back, the boys used to sit on it. If it was fine it was open, if it was raining they pulled the hood right over, and along each side there was a canvas curtain to keep you dry - if you were lucky!"

One of Ellen's startlingly vivid memories is that of helping to sell cockles.

"Mam would go out in the boat in the daytime with Aunty Clara. Aunty Clara sold pickled cockles, she cooked them the night before, and put them in jamjars with the pickle - that's how they sold them in Pater (Pembroke Dock). A one-pound jar of cockles would be about sixpennorth."

Sometimes Mam and I would go to Hook in the evening, selling cockles - in their shells then, not cooked. I don't suppose there's anyone else around who remembers this - we used to sell them 'by the long hundred'. A long hundred was 120, and to count them you took 3 cockles and counted them as one, counted 40, so that gave you your 120.

They only cost a couple of pence, threepence or sixpence maybe - don't forget there were 240 pence in the pound then.

Tragedy struck the family when Ellen's brother Billy died, aged 11, following an accident on his bicycle near the sea wall in Rectory Road, something Ellen will never forget and which saddens her to this day.

But she is philosophical about life, and offers this advice to young people:-

*"You have your ups and downs, things happen to*

*you over the years. You just have to make life as happy as you can. You've got to accept it - you can make it happier for yourself or you can make it worse. It's up to you."*

In her teenage years Ellen worked as a domestic help, in Swansea and Bournemouth, which she enjoyed.

"I worked in Haverfordwest too - for Roch James the butcher's family. I lived in the house where the shop is now, I had my own room. As a domestic, you weren't one of the family - you were a servant then, with them. It was hard work, it kept you going all day and night. Cleaning and cooking and all sorts. You'd have half a day off on Sunday, from 12 till 6 - and you'd also have a half-day in the week, Wednesdays I think it was."

Back in the village Ellen met the late Gwynne Skyrme, who lived at The Kilns, the youngest of 11 children and the brother of Lizzie Skyrme, who had taught Ellen at Llangwm School.

On 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1931, they married at Haverfordwest Registry Office and went on to have two sons, Bryant and John.

Ellen has three grandchildren, Ian, Julie, and Ceri, and seven great-grandchildren, Garon, Rhys, Louise, Menna, Rebecca, Nia, and Ieuan.

She is understandably proud of her family, and of her rich heritage of village life. She looks forward to celebrating her birthday in style - and enjoying every moment.

*Margaret Brace*



**The Grand Old Lady of Llangwm  
- Ellen Skyrme at 100.**

## Autumn 2009

### Llangwm Gardening Club News

Before the August break we held our annual AGM, in which we traditionally hold the competition for the **Joe Neal Cup**. Joe was one of the founder members of the Club, as many people know, and started the competition for the best plant in a 3" pot – he always said anyone can grow a good plant in a large pot, but it took a lot more skill and care to achieve this in quite a small pot. We have kept the competition going since his death a few years ago, and many club members enjoy the challenge.



This year the competition was won by **Caroline Box** (above) with a thriving sempervivens.

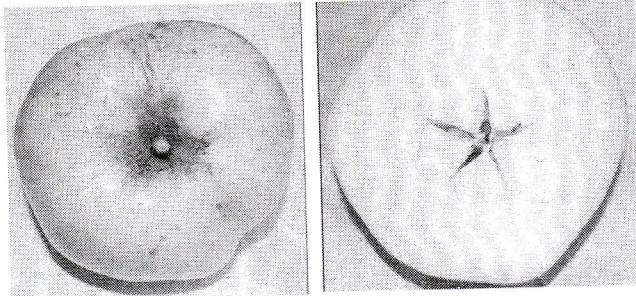
In September the **Chatsworth House and Gardens** meeting brought us all back to the Cottage for an illustrated talk by Judy Coggins, semi-retired housekeeper and guide from Chatsworth. Although now a Pembrokeshire resident, Judy still makes regular trips to Derbyshire to help at busy times. She gave us a hands-on account of the activities behind the scenes through a typical Chatsworth Year. The slides showed the gardens through the seasons and, apart from busy summers, visitors could enjoy the gardens in the autumn and winter – including tobogganing down the snowy slopes! Judy got snowed in herself last February, when the talk was first programmed, but it was worth the wait to September, when she made it safely to Llangwm!

We had a touch of Appley Dapple (apologies to Beatrix Potter!) in October with Steve and Leslie Jones of the **Tree Fruit Society of Wales**. The Society is involved with several local planting projects, including an orchard around the Pineapple House at Scolton Manor. Leslie explained that the aims of the Society included finding and preserving apple varieties that grew well locally, as many types of apple tree become stressed by our winds and salty air.

They also gave us an insight into the history of apple growing – grafting of apple stocks was recorded as far back as 5000 BC by Chinese horticulturists. There is still a tradition in China and Japan of giving an apple or pear as a gift – the bigger the fruit, the better the present!

(I saw some examples myself during a tour of the apple collection at Brogdale, Kent - there were some Japanese varieties with fruit as big as cantaloupe melons!)

Our guests put themselves on the spot by attempting to identify unknown apples that members had brought to the meeting. The identification systems they used did put a name to some, but others could not be positively identified. These were kept for further research and, hopefully, identification using shape, colour and seed case shape.



Steve and Leslie also asked that if anyone knew of an old apple tree, or even a small orchard, could we let them know. They can then check with the owners, visit the location, and put it on the map they are compiling. If a new variety turns up, you can even give it a name of your choosing – now that's a legacy to leave!

They can be contacted via their web site : <http://www.treefruitsocietyofwales.org.uk>

Or by phone : **01437-710398**  
or e-mail: **info@treefruitsocietyofwales.org.uk**

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our November meeting, when Tony Barnes will introduce us to the huge variety of "**Hollies**" - he holds a National Collection in north Pembs. They should be looking good at the moment, if the local bushes are anything to go by – loaded with lovely berries! I'm hoping it doesn't get too cold too early this Autumn, as I have a nice variegated holly which has berries for the first time, and wouldn't like to lose them to the birds – at least until after Christmas!

We don't have a December meeting, as the **Christmas Dinner** trip takes its place – at the Academy Restaurant, Pembs College again, as we had such a marvellous meal there last year in very comfortable and friendly surroundings.

We shall begin the New Year off with our annual "Quiz and Nibbles" social evening, bring your brains and appetite! – January 4<sup>th</sup> 2010, 7.30pm at The Cottage, Llangwm. On behalf of the Club, I would like to thank all the staff at the Cottage Pub for providing a nice venue for our meetings, tolerating our furniture moving when we have speakers, and providing good food when requested.

The rest of our programme for 2010 is :

Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Bees in the Garden</b> , John Dudman
Mar 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Growing Herbs</b> , Andy Cooke
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>A Naturalist's Visit to Sark</b> , Peter Brown
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Primulas</b> , A National Collection Richard Bramley
June (date tbc)	<b>Club Outing</b> : Dyffryn Gardens
Jul 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AGM &amp; Barbeque</b>

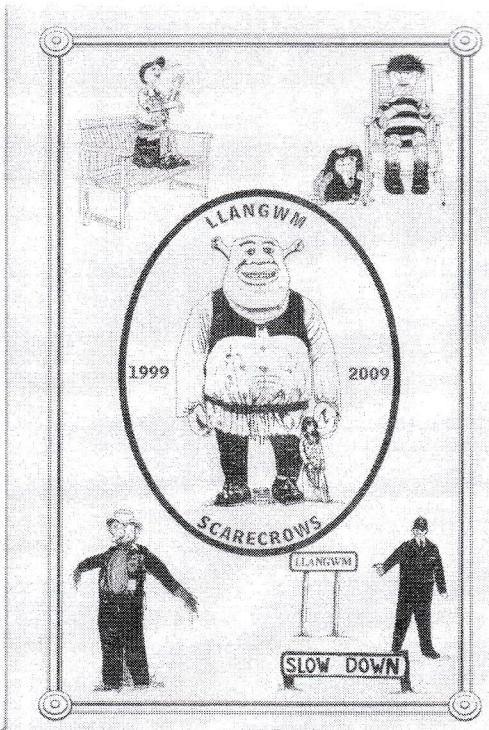
**Season's Greetings** to everyone, keep gardening, and don't forget our meetings are open to all, first Monday of the month (Bank Holidays permitting) at 7.30pm in the Cottage Restaurant area.

*Maureen John  
(Sec)*



### Terrific 10th anniversary T towels

These are still available and would make wonderful Xmas presents to give to family and friends. They can be bought at the shop or from Alison Brant, and all proceeds go to support the activities organised by the festival committee.



### A message from Rod and Jan

Rod and Jan Billen, of Main Street, moved to Norfolk in October this year.

A fond farewell to all the friends we have made over the last 36 years in Llangwm and Hook.

"Goodbye Llangwm—we will be back!!"

"No distance of place or lapse of time can lessen the friendship of those who are thoroughly persuaded of each other's worth".

(rodandjanbillen@hotmail.com)

### Are you switched on to Llangwm?

Have you used the village Website? Rejuvenated last April, Llangwm's Website provides information for both locals and visitors to the village. The site has many features, including a News Page, which is updated every month and provides information about what's on in the village. Llangwm Past provides a potted history of the village with photographs and a short film. Clubs & Societies keep you updated on the different events the village clubs have planned and the Sports page keeps you updated on fixtures. All this and much, much more.

Plans are now in place to add some more pages, providing even more information on local businesses and on the local bus service.

If you haven't already done so, just go to [www.llangwm-villages.org.uk](http://www.llangwm-villages.org.uk) or simply Google Llangwm and you will find the site. If you want anything included on the site, especially any events for the news page, then simply email Pam Hunt at [pamela-hunt@btconnect.com](mailto:pamela-hunt@btconnect.com) with details and it can be included. Any inclusion in the Website must reach Pam by the end of the month for inclusion in the next month's news page.

# LLANGWM COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

Firstly, many thanks to all of you who completed the questionnaire about the Village Hall that was enclosed in the last edition of the Llangwm News. The draw for the meal in the Cottage, offered to all those who returned their forms, was won by Kerry Ann Evans.

At the time of going to press the **Autumn Supper** has not yet taken place. The change of name was designed to emphasise that it was a social event for the whole village to enjoy, with a new format which included a 'Call my Bluff' type quiz, and then a supper of Chilli con Carne (mild, spicy or vegetarian) with baked potatoes and salad, followed by trifle. The report will be in the next edition!

The Hall is an ideal venue for private parties and celebrations as well as for use by clubs, etc for their meetings and activities. During the middle part of the Festival fortnight, the History Society held a very successful exhibition 'Llangwm - a Glimpse of the Past' in the Hall (report elsewhere) and at the end of the festival it was used as a venue for a variety of fête stalls and provided cream teas.

Church volunteers provided supper before the wonderful **Umdumo Wesize** concert, that took place in Llangwm Church in October, for the performers and their hosts. The Hall was also used to host tea for Bishop Wynne after a service to bless a beautiful wooden statue, carved by John Fuller, that has been presented to Llangwm Church by his widow Mary.

The **Church Christmas Bazaar** is in the Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

**Sugarcraft** takes place in the Hall every Tuesday evening and the **History Society** meetings are held there on Wednesday evenings once a month. **Junior Rugby** has continued to have its' teas in the Hall hosting both Home and Away teams.

## Hire of the Hall—Charges are as follows:

Community group activities: £7.50 per session  
Parties: Adult: £35 Children: £20

\*Many thanks to Pat in the shop for overseeing all the bookings!

Snippets from the archives of the 'West Wales Guardian' newspaper

### "Brave Llangwm boy"

Dennis Lewis (15), son of Henry Lewis of Guildford, was presented with the vellum certificate of the Royal Humane Society for saving the life of Reggie Palmer (11), grandson of Thomas Palmer of Llangwm, who was in imminent danger of drowning on August 20<sup>th</sup> 1920.

Reggie Palmer was playing on a timber jetty at Llangwm Ferry when he accidentally fell into the water. There was a high tide running strongly at the time and he was carried out a distance of about 20 yards. Dennis Lewis was dressing after bathing, saw the incident and immediately dived off the jetty into about 12 feet of water. He swam to the rescue of Reggie Palmer and caught him as he was sinking for the third time.

### "Terrible tragedy at Milford Haven"

The little shunting engine 'Skylark' at Ward's ship-breaking yard on Pill Point was returning from Newton Noyes manure factory at about 8.30 p.m. one February evening in 1923 and had to pass over a swing bridge spanning the narrow entrance from the main harbour to the Pill. The swing bridge had been opened to allow the passage of barge out to sea. In semi-darkness, the man responsible for the bridge frantically waved his lantern and shouted to the men on the engine, but the engine continued and there was a mighty splash as the engine, with its occupants, fell through the gap into the water below. The engine driver and a workman from the Fish Meal Factory swam to safety, but two other men on board the engine were not so lucky. The bodies of 50-year-old William Williams of Pill and 20-year-old William Glanmor George of Guildford were recovered the following day.

### "Black-out complaints"

In August 1942, some people in the village were still ignoring the black-out regulations. One Saturday evening when it was quite dark, a house in Coronation Avenue had only pale yellow blinds shielding the light in the room, which afforded no black-out whatever.

### "Llangwm to have policeman again"

"Llangwm was to be added to the list of places where a police house should be erected. This was decided by the Joint Standing Committee in January 1950 following a report on the unsatisfactory state of the police house at Houghton. It was pointed out that for many years a police officer had been stationed at Llangwm.

Nikki Bosworth

## GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

Guildford, Llangwm

### From Harvest-time to Christmastime

**Harvest Festival** was celebrated in morning and evening services on Sunday 27 September, when friends and worshippers from other local chapels joined with the congregation for a time of thanksgiving. **Gaynor John-Davies** prepared striking seasonal flower arrangements and the ladies of the chapel decorated a fine harvest table.



**The Women's League** continues into the autumn with interesting speakers at fortnightly meetings (Thursdays 2pm in the chapel schoolroom) which all ladies of the village are welcome to attend. This year's Christmas dinner has been arranged at the Nant-y-Ffin Hotel, Llandissilio.

Thanks go to Pam Hunt for putting Galilee on the worldwide web - the item on the village website includes a potted history of the chapel, present day details, and interior and exterior photographs. See it on [www.llangwm-villages.org.uk](http://www.llangwm-villages.org.uk)

On the Sunday before Christmas (20<sup>th</sup> December) the morning service at 10.30am will be taken by Mr. Nigel Thomas and will include readings and carols - an invitation is extended to all to join us in this special worship.

Last but not least...

**Warmest wishes are extended to Mrs Ellen Skyrme on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday from her home chapel of Galilee.**



## LLANGWM METHODIST CHURCH

MINISTER: Reverend Alan Jenkins

TREASURER: Mrs Hilary Hitchings

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jane Brock

Sunday Services:- Every Sunday Morning - 11 am

Sunday School - please come and join us at 'Sunday School'. Children of all ages welcome. We meet every Sunday morning - 11am - 12noon. We read bible stories, sing, crafts, drama, puzzles & games and colouring.

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Women's Fellowship: Fortnightly on Wednesdays - 2.00 pm

*A warm welcome is extended to all to join us at the above services*

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES/EVENTS - 2009

Friday Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Carols, Mince Pies & Coffee - 7pm
Sunday Dec.20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Carol Service - 6.00pm
Friday Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas morning service - all join at St Jerome Church

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*Please join us at the above services/events over the festive season when we celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus*



## All the world's a stage - in Llangwm

Llangwm had a rare treat on the evening of Saturday 10 October 2009 when a young men's choir of international repute performed in the first of the autumn series of concerts in St Jerome's Church.

*Umdumo Wesizwe* comprises eight men from Zimbabwe who use the rich, traditional harmonies of Africa to perform songs of love, hope, worship, courtship, hardship and African social commentary.

The singers, who have been together since their schooldays, travel annually to appear at many major festivals and venues in the UK and Europe as well as their native Africa. Their congenial happy nature and charisma have won over audiences at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod, Edinburgh Festival, Glastonbury, WOMAD (Swindon's world music festival) - and now Llangwm Church.

They tour annually for six months, rehearse for four, and have two months holiday - most have young families at home in Bulawayo, to whom they will return in November.

Described in the *Scottish Herald* as having "enough charisma and energy to light up a continent... with their gloriously unfettered singing" the choir sang with verve and passion. Refusing to be hampered by the limited space of St. Jerome's, each young man took a turn to perform a high-energy dance manoeuvre such as 'foot-clapping' (don't try this at home!) and enviably supple body movements in rapid sequence to the music. High leaps were a firm favourite, and expressive hand and arm movements punctuated the spellbinding performance.

But it was the magic mix of their voices that made *Umdumo Wesizwe* live up to their name as "Sound of the Nation". Their leader and songwriter Mqoqi Nkomo has taken African harmony to new spheres while keeping its essential captivating sound. A master of audience rapport he relies on good sports (on this occasion Melanie Hughes) to join in, play a part and add to the fun.



This was, all in all, another wonderful event arranged by the unstoppable Pam Hunt, who has contributed greatly to broadening the entertainment horizons of the village over the past few years. Well done to Pam, to Rev. Jane for her foresight, to the Wales Night Out scheme for financial support, to the ladies of St Jerome's who put on a welcome chilli supper for the choristers, and to the host families who provided accommodation, making it possible for *Umdumo Wesizwe* in turn to sample the unique welcome that Llangwm had to offer them.

In Aid of the Church Building fund with 50% profits donated to The Royal British Legion

### A Concert For Remembrance

With Music From  
The Milford Haven Band  
Conductor Martyn Llewellyn

Plus Readings Of War Poetry Past and present

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 7.30pm**

Tickets from Pat at Village Shop, or Pam 01437 899966  
Adult £6.00 Children £3.00

### St. Jerome's Church.

#### Weekly Services.

Sunday	Holy Eucharist 9.00am
Wednesday	Said Eucharist 9.30am

#### Monthly Services

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Said Eucharist 9.00am then Worship Time 9.30am fol- lowed by refreshments (family service)
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#### Krafty kids

Last Saturday of each month 4pm to 5 pm  
(An art and craft session for children of pri-  
mary school age.)

#### Christmas Services

Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>	9pm Readings and Carols (Freystrop Church)
Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup>	5pm Christingle
Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	5pm Crib Service with Nativity costumes
Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	11.30pm Midnight Mass
Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am United Village Service

Please refer to the church notice board for up-to-date information.

May we extend a very warm welcome to all those wishing to attend any of the above and we hope that you all have a happy, blessed and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

## CHRISTMAS AT LLANGWM VC SCHOOL

Wednesday 25th November

**Spectacular Christmas Fayre** starting at 6.30pm. A variety of stalls e.g. Christmas gifts, 'make your own pots' with Paul Webb, jewellery, selection of homemade cakes, face painting, photography and many more. Father Christmas will hopefully be in his grotto.

Please tell all your family and friends.

Wednesday 25th November

Class 1 - (part time) visits the Torch Theatre to watch the Christmas production -  
Pinocchio

Tuesday 1st December

Classes 2/3/4/5 & 6 (full time) visits the Torch Theatre to watch the Christmas production -  
Pinocchio

Tuesday 8th December

Foundation Phase (Infants full time) Christmas Production at Llangwm Methodist Chapel  
Commencing at 2.15pm

Wednesday 9th December

Key Stage 2 (Juniors) Christmas Production at Llangwm Methodist Chapel  
Commencing at 6.30pm

Tuesday 15th December

Foundation Phase (Part time Nursery) Christmas Concert at Llangwm School  
Commencing 11.10am

Friday 18th December

Carol Service at St Jerome's Church, Llangwm  
Commencing at 9.30am.

A warm welcome is extended to all to join us at the above events and services

### INSET DAYS- LLANGWM SCHOOL CLOSED

Friday 16th November - school closed - Tasker's Family of Schools Closure Day

Monday 27th November - school closed - INSET Day

### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January inclusive



Children return to school for the start of the Spring  
Term

Monday 4th January 2010



## The Welsh Water Experience

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of October Year 6 of Llangwm School went to Llys y Fran Reservoir for a Welsh Water Experience. We did lots of activities before lunch, we did them all in this room next to the restaurant. First Beth and Phillip had to make a sample of pond water so we could filter it. Before they made the sample they had to dress up as scientists. They started with a tub of tap water and then they added: mud, grass, bugs, and otter poo!

After that we had to filter it. We had to choose from four materials. They were cotton wool, paper towel, tissue paper and some net.

In my group we chose cotton wool and some net. It filtered really well and the water was quite clean. The next activity we did was making our own reservoir. We had to provide water to five buildings. We used pipes to direct the water to the tubs which represented the buildings. Blue tack was used to hold the pipe onto the road, and connectors to carry pipes from other buildings.

In my group when we tested it we had 3-4 leaks but all the buildings got water so we completed the mission.

After lunch we went pond dipping down by the dam. Daniele got the water in our tray and then Josh and Lauren went to find some bugs. In our group we caught: A water boat man, whirly gigs, water beetles, damselfly nymphs, a few fish and two tadpoles. I enjoyed doing the Welsh Water Experience and I would love to do it again.

By Dani Meehan

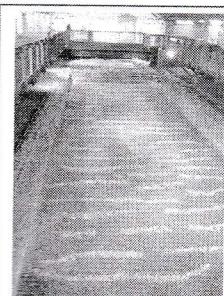
## Crucial Crew

On Monday the 12th of October 2009 Year 6 of Llangwm School went to **Crucial Crew** next to the Withybush Showground Haverfordwest.

When we arrived we learnt a lot of things over the morning. Some of the things we learnt about were: road safety, the Coastguard, the R.N.L.I, the N.F.U, bus safety, the fire service, the British Red Cross, Western Power Distribution and anti-bullying. There was at least one person representing each of the groups that attended. I really enjoyed myself on both the fire service and bus safety stops because they were both interesting and fun. On the fire service stop we crawled through an inflatable smoke house to show us about the real conditions of a fire. On the bus safety stop we jumped out the back of a bus on to a blue sponge mat that taught us how dangerous a bus fire can be. I also learnt some very useful facts about bullying and all the different people to get help from if you are bullied. I also learnt that you should never bully another person or pick on them because it can be a very nasty and upsetting experience.

Over all Crucial Crew was a very interesting and fun experience and was enjoyed by everybody!

By Toby Asson



## Caerleon

On October 7<sup>th</sup> Years 5 and 6 went to the town of Caerleon to learn about ancient Roman cities. The first building we went to was the bath house. We looked at the paintings and the size of the baths. Romans were clever people who made their houses out of clay and stones. They also worked out how to make central heating by having a furnace to heat up the water. The Romans had three types of baths they were called the frigidarium, tepidarium and the heated changing room was called the apodyterium. The next place we went to was the Roman barracks. We learnt about how it would feel to be a soldier in the war. In the barracks we learnt how many people would sleep in one room and looked what they would eat and the remains of the barracks. We then went to the amphitheatre and we pretended that we were gladiators and looked at an old photo of it when there were people and gladiators in there. The last place we went to was the history museum and watched a film with clay models. We then went to a model barracks and lay down on the beds and tried on some armour. Our last place was a small hut where we had to either be rich people or slaves and the slaves brought around pretend food and we saw how it would feel like to be a slave or a rich person.



By Sian Roach

## HAUL AWAY FOR LLANGWM LONGBOATS IN RECORD 10TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR !

Well it's been quite a year for Llangwm rowing club. But first, let me take you back ..way back, to the start, 10 years ago, when a certain Mr Peter Owen with Gareth Jones and Paul Brant borrowed a longboat, to see if they'd take to Longboat Rowing. Guess what? they did!...by Jupiter they did!! From those humble beginnings, there was no turning back, that Genie was well and truly out of the bottle and it had no intention of returning to its little glass prison. Llangwm longboat rowing club was born and the future was bright, the future was...'Yellow'.

Ten years later and the Club, with now seventy three members, have much to thank those boys for, not least for the boats our Club now own and enjoy. Whether racing in the league for guts and glory or taking man and boat to the limit across the Irish sea or even treating 'the women folk' with a 'wee pootle' up river on a crisp clear Sunday morning, 'Cunnigar Stinger', 'Willow the Wasp', 'Kiddles' and little 'Mely', our four yellow boats, have and will hopefully continue to serve us in all our rowing needs! all thanks to Messrs Brant, Owen and Jones!

Which brings us to the 2009 rowing season, kicking off in May with a charity Challenge by the lads working at Murco to cross the Irish sea raising an incredible...£18,000..(yes, you read that correctly)... for local and national charities, very well done, including all support crews and vessels. Though, not content with the Irish Sea the 'Murco boys' as they are now affectionately known within the club, went on to win the Murco Team Challenge, a gruelling triathlon consisting of three disciplines, cycling, rowing and running! incidentally another team for the 'Police,' who approached Llangwm for the use of a boat, cox, coaching and tuition also came away with a category win... no doubt due to our impeccable coaching and rowing standards!

Next came the Novice Challenge, which was held at Black Tar again this year, with 11 new crews from around the county taking part. Solva were the clear winners, in what were, shall we say, less than favourable weather conditions...but hey! that's sea rowing for you! A big thank you to all who came and actively support this annual event, it is a real introduction to sea rowing and a spring board for many people who otherwise wouldn't get an opportunity to have a go or join a local club. A special thanks to Mr and Mrs Peters, and to all the residents of Black Tar, who without their cooperation and support the event would not, I'm sure, go ahead, so thank you all.

On to the Welsh Sea Rowing Association League and Non League racing events, with a record haul of wins this Season. In all, 19 trophies are now on display in the 'club house' aka, the Cottage Inn, (quick thanks to Nev for his continued support, thanks Nev.) The Ladies 'A' and 'The Brokebacks' mixed crew both came home with 'SOUTHERN LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS' trophies. excellent stuff guys! The Men's crew missing out by 2pts, coming second in their league, (next year Bob)!!

One Challenge the men did excel in was the notorious Eddystone Lighthouse Challenge, a heart stopping, blister bursting, back breaking 40km open sea race off the coast of Plymouth, not only did they complete it but gained a 1st in the Celtic Longboat category, coming 4th overall in a field of over 40 boats so well done Pete, Jon, Bob, Wozza and the Legend that is Mike (where's my GPS?) Miles!

Finally, the Traditional Last race of the Celtic Rowing Calendar is the London River Marathon or the 'The Doggett Coat and Badge race' the oldest documented race in the world that still takes place today. A 27 mile row from Richmond to Greenwich. Fun, fancy dress and fiesta were the order of the day for Llangwm, with cavewomen, cowboys, mexicans, pirates and cleopatras all sticking their oars in down the Thames, we even managed a 3rd place in the mixed category and a 1st place for the Cleopatras and 'Adrian, the chilli pepper' in the fancy dress! surely the cherry (or should I say Chilli) on top of the cake of a cracking year, well done all!

Well, the season is now closed and winter is upon us once more. The oaks are rusting in Benton wood and the curlew's mournful laments haunt the estuary from Fowborough point to Picton . It's a time of quiet reflection, of taking stock, of a vintage year, so we'll gently tap the cork into the bottle, carefully lay it down and label it '1999-2009' in the knowledge that Llangwm rowing club will continue welcoming new members, reaching new heights and achieving great results in our county and the rest of Wales. As long as the Cleddau ebbs and flows with the sweeping rhythm of a mighty oar, those little yellow boats will take us on our journeys, whether they be gentle perusals or gigantic adventures, here's to Llangwm rowing and here's to the next ten years....'are you ready!... then come forward...in time together.... and.....ROW!

Warren Heaton



Winning Season—2009



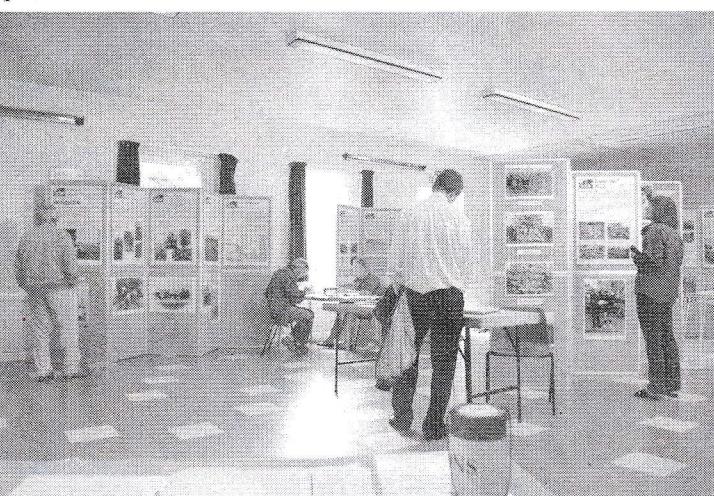
## LLANGWM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

As part of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Llangwm Festival, the Local History Society mounted it's most ambitious exhibition to date. Entitled "Llangwm – A Glimpse of the Past", it covered a wide range of subjects including the Llangwm fisherwomen, religion in the village, occupations, areas of the village and river and numerous other subjects. This exhibition was only possible as a result of the fantastic response to several scanning sessions held in the Village Hall and with the help of the Pembrokeshire Museums Service.

Numerous people brought old photographs of family and areas of the village which were transferred onto computer and are now part of a most valuable village archive. Many other people spent time identifying people and places in the photographs and providing information about them. The result was a highly professional exhibition which was enjoyed by well over 400 people.

Opened by Councillor Michael John at a special preview, the exhibition was open for several days over the Festival. Children from Llangwm School paid a visit and had great fun completing worksheets prepared by Graham Stephens. There were also numerous occasions when visitors were able to provide additional information and several times when visitors found out information concerning their own family history. A special, sell-out success was the lunchtime talk given by **Rob Scourfield** on Llangwm and local Pembrokeshire dialects. Rob kept everyone in stitches with his stories about local words, characters and events – many of which were well-known to Llangwm people - and has promised to make a return visit for a further talk.

Thanks must be given to all those who made the exhibition such a success – those who provided pictures for copying, identified individuals in photos, those who acted as stewards, Charlotte New & Mark Thomas from the Museums Service and everyone who contributed to make the exhibition something that Llangwm can be proud of.



Plans for the future include further scanning sessions to continue to develop the village archive. There will be one towards the end of November, so please keep an eye out for details. If you have any photographs or documents which can be scanned or would like to come along to help identify existing photographs, please get in touch with Margaret Brace on 891580 or Jane Mills on 890147.

The Local History Society is also delighted that it has been able to assist several individuals with strong Llangwm connections in researching their family history. Most have made contact through the village website and we are delighted that our archive is proving to be so useful and valuable resource.

Our regular monthly talks so far this autumn have included **Mary Monelly** giving us a wonderful evening reading old sermons and Victorian poems in local Llangwm dialect and a fascinating look at how Britain saw itself during the Second World War in documentaries shown by Pam Hunt.

The programme for the rest of our year is:

### **The History of Local Public Houses**

by Keith Johnson (local author and editor of Pembrokeshire Life magazine) – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

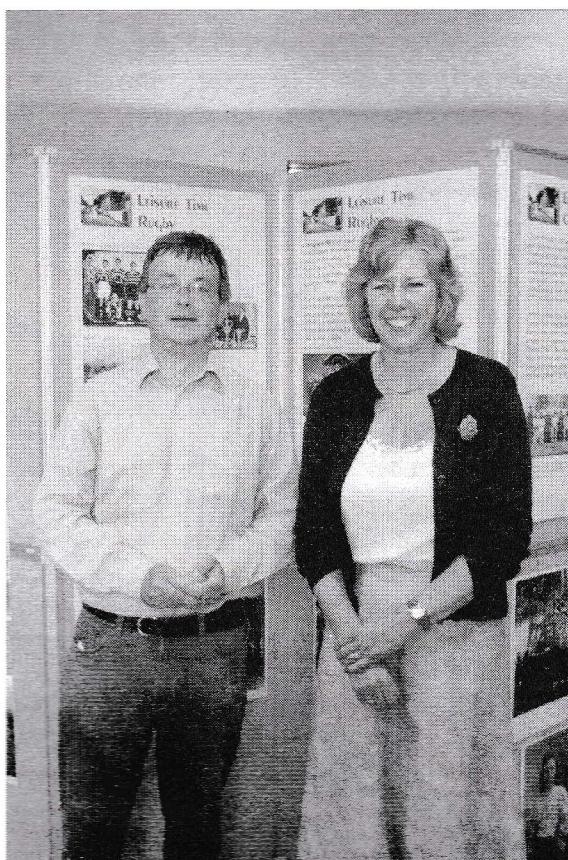
### **The Haverfordwest Workhouse**

by Mark Muller – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

### **Coal, Ore and Metals: the coastal mining landscape of Pembrokeshire**

by Dr Peter Claughton (Hon Fellow, University of Exeter – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

All meetings are held in the Village Hall and commence at 7.30 pm and everyone is welcome to attend.



# LLANGWM RUGBY CLUB

## SENIOR

There has been a change in coaching staff for the senior team this season, with ex youth coach, Phil Clarke taking over from Phil Sutton, and Richard Scriven assisting. Alistair Platten continues as team manager, and one of the most loyal players at the club, Nick Phillips has taken over as captain.

The season has not seen much success on the pitch so far with, at time of writing, a solitary league win over Pontyates on the board. There is optimism though and with some very exciting backs at the club and with more ball, the team is sure to pull off a few more wins before the season comes to a close.

As Christmas approaches, the annual fixture with Haverfordwest on Boxing Day draws near, and the team will once again be hoping to regain the Bishop Cup for their local rivals.

This year the match will be played home at Pill Parks, and as always the team will need as much support as possible to act as an extra man on the day. If you like rugby or just wish to be part of the atmosphere please come along and provide vociferous support for your local team.

## YOUTH

The Youth team having been bolstered in numbers by last years under 16's, have been enjoying the season with league wins over Aberaeron and a strong Fishguard team, along with a fine win over Pembroke Youth who play a league up from Llangwm.

The team have also been competitive in the matches they have lost and should pick up some more wins before the season is over.

Jeremy Brock continues as coach, assisted by Alan Williams, Martin Hughes and Richard Bosenius

The team has been sponsored for the season with new match shirts from "The First Milk Cheese Co. Ltd." and after match shirts by "Carew Patio and Driveway Products".

All sponsorship to the club is very much appreciated.

If you wish to support the Senior or Youth teams, please come along on Saturday afternoons.

Fixtures are advertised in local press, in the club and the village shop.



*Photograph by Steve Richards.*

Llangwm Youth with Tim Whittal-Williams of "The First Milk Cheese Co. Ltd."

## JUNIOR

The club continues to turn out several teams at mini and junior level thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm of all the parents, coaches, junior committee and more importantly, the children themselves.

As always any help with the Juniors is appreciated from cooking food to putting out flags as it is always busy on match days with plenty to be done. If you are able to assist in any capacity, please contact the club.

Finally a reminder to all sections of the club that membership for the 2009-10 season was due on the 1<sup>st</sup> September. All members, especially players, are urged to renew their membership at the earliest opportunity if not already done so.

If you wish to become a member, or can help in any way please contact the club for details....01437 890462.

*Michael John  
Chairman Llangwm RFC*

**The club once again asks all drivers to please ensure they drive at a safe speed to and from Pill Parks. There are residents who need to be considered and also pedestrians walking to and from the field whose safety is paramount.. Also please keep all accesses clear including the emergency access onto the field should an ambulance be needed.**

**The club appreciates your co-operation—thank you**

***Llangwm RFC & CC***

## LLANGWM CRICKET CLUB

Our 2009 season was a bit like the Curate's egg – good in parts – with our 1<sup>st</sup> XI struggling to repeat their excellent 2008 form, and early injury to new Captain Darren Brick not helping. We went desperately close to winning on a number of occasions, but the rub of the green deserted us big-time, so we now return to Division 2 and must rally together and rebuild to get back up to the top division. It was left to our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XIs to fly the flag, and very well they did, too, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI finishing a very close 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 4 having lead for much of the season before fortune deserted them. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> XI also had a very good season after promotion to Division 5 last year, finishing mid-table and recording some great performances. Our under 17 team competed in the Ormond Youth Cup competition but unfortunately did not progress to the final.

Junior cricket matches returned to Pill Parks as we re-entered the County junior under 15 and under 11 leagues. It is early days, but our nucleus of young players thoroughly enjoyed those games the unpredictable weather allowed. We would like to enter the under 13 league as well next year, so are looking for lots of new players. Parents were fantastic with their support, and we look forward to 2010 with some confidence. Training will start in late March so watch the notice boards. Thanks go to both Ian Gow (under 15s) and James Lewis (under 11s) who looked after the teams for the first time with help from some other senior players. More players/parents helpers would be greatly appreciated for both training nights and matches.

Jeremy Brock and Ian Gow worked tirelessly with valuable help from Brian James in preparing the wickets and outfield for the 1st and 2nd XIs as well as for the Ladies (Tuesdays), Juniors (Mondays and Wednesdays) and the various other cup games held during the week – a heck of a responsibility and well done, too. Provision of our famed Cricket Teas on Saturdays at Pill Parks was the domain of Anne and Natalie Lewis, Gina Boswell, Tina Inward and Tasha, another job well done as usual. Teas at Burton (3rds games) had the capable Jane Brock and Jane Rees in charge.

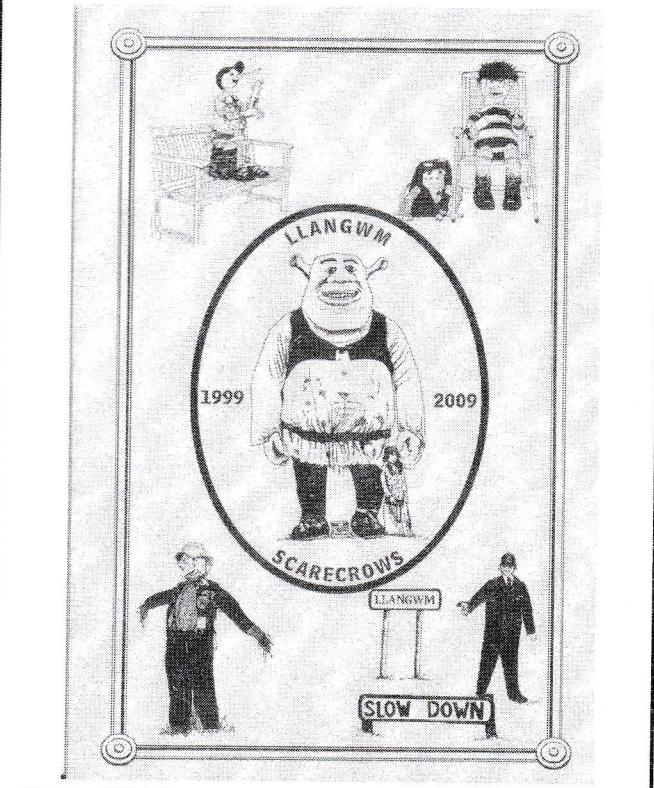
Thanks to them, and all the other occasional helpers. And not forgetting the various team Scorers who have our sincere thanks as well.

The Annual Llangwm Cricket Club Golf Day at Milford Haven Golf Club was the usual outstanding success and is crucial in helping to raise vital funds to keep the Club going. Our Main Sponsor, Talbot Timber, is quite sensational in the support they give – thanks yet again for your help. I trust our Club members and the village bear this local family firm in mind when needing building supplies, etc. Thanks also to all the Sponsors of Holes and other Services who contribute to make this most enjoyable day the success that it is. Mark down July 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 as the next date, and get practising!

Our Annual Club AGM will be held in the early part of 2010 – watch the Village Web-site (Cricket Club) for more news and details ([www.llangwm-villages.org.uk/sport-cricket](http://www.llangwm-villages.org.uk/sport-cricket)).

Dai Davies - *Chairman*  
*Llangwm Cricket Club*

**Don't forget— these special T towels are still available from the shop.**



## An appeal from **PPGRG**

Llangwm residents will be aware of the very poor condition of the grandstand and changing rooms on Pill Parks. Heavy and increasing usage over the past 40 years has taken its toll to the point where the building is not fit for purpose. During the rugby season the changing rooms are used on an almost daily basis with training and playing for seniors, youth and juniors and similar in the cricket season with many teams from senior to junior including women.

### **The Pill Parks Grandstand Redevelopment**

**Group** (PPGRG) was set up to address this situation and initially were optimistic that a variety of grants for community sport would go a long way to bring the facilities up to a standard that would benefit all our village sporting interests for many years to come, including a gymnasium that the rowing club and other groups could use. Unfortunately, the economic downturn and other factors have resulted in the rugby and cricket clubs settling for a much reduced scheme of work which includes repairing the roof, replacing windows, fitting new and improved boiler and showers and replastering the inside. The building will be completely repainted and repaired on the outside so that it becomes less of a 'blot on the landscape'. This scheme will cost in the region of **£75,000** and the club has secured a loan from the **Welsh Rugby Union** of **£30,000** which coupled with other fund raising activities puts the current budget at close to **£40,000**. It is hoped that the remaining sum will come from members, sponsors and via fund raising events involving the whole community to celebrate the **125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Llangwm Rugby Club** in season 2010/2011. In addition, many local tradesmen and suppliers are offering their generous support.

**We would very much appreciate any financial help from anyone who feels they can support us towards our goal** of providing improved sporting facilities at Pill Parks for the whole Llangwm community. Any such donation in the form of a cheque made payable to **PPGRG** please. We would also appreciate any other offers of support such as helping with future events, lending a hand with the refurbishment etc.

For further information/offers of help please contact Owen John on 890 370 or [owengjohn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:owengjohn@yahoo.co.uk).

*Richard Palmer – Chairman  
Owen John  
Ian Jacob*

There will be a Supper Party at the Llangwm Rugby and Cricket Club on Friday 15th January to raise funds for the Pill Parks Sports Stand refurbishment Project.....if you are interested, please look at the web site which will be kept updated.....*Stuart Beresford*

## St Jerome's Concerts

Thank you all for the support you gave the sell out concert featuring Umdumo Wesizwe. I received an email last week from Mqoqi, their lead singer to thank Llangwm for the tremendous welcome they received when they came to our village. And now we come to our next, the November Concert. Once again, it will be a concert to mark Remembrance Day (see details below). I do hope that you will feel able to support this event. A Date for your diaries, Saturday 19th December at 7.30pm "**A Christmas Carol**" by Charles Dickens and featuring Bob Phillips, Lloyd Grayshon & Janine Shearer.....*Pam Hunt*

## And a final message from Jeff

After helping out with the Llangwm Newsletter since 2003, involving more than 16 editions, I feel it is time for a change—to let someone new come on board with new ideas.

Lorraine has been the main 'compiler' for the last few years, and I know she does not want to carry out the job alone, especially with her present work commitment.

We have tried to recruit new blood on several occasions in previous Newsletters, and I'm told the only way this ever happens is to JUMP OFF., although at my age, it is more of a stagger, than a jump.

To be fair, however, Nikki Bosworth has offered to copy type any handwritten reports, while Eve Davies has offered her help whenever she is available, although I feel we need someone who is fairly computer literate - certainly with expertise in a publishing package such as Microsoft Publisher - to help put the Newsletter together and then 'to put it to bed' as they say in the publishing world.

I would like to thank all of the 'contributors' for their hard work in making the Newsletter the interesting village circular it is..

So there you have it—unless a volunteer (or two) comes forward to help Lorraine, you may have just read your LAST LLANGWM NEWSLETTER !!!

*Jeff James*

■ Editor .....Lorraine Grange 01437 890180  
■ email: [grange@wales05.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:grange@wales05.wanadoo.co.uk)