

# Llangwm Village News

ISSUE 35 April 2011

SPRING AT BLACK TAR



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# Gardening Club News

**March** - my favourite month of the year. It's my birthday month, but as the years go by it becomes less of a favourite in that respect! It's "new start" time in my calendar, the winter has just about gone, snowdrops and daffodils are everywhere to cheer us up, birds are vying for nesting spaces in the hedges, and we have at last got some daylight in the evenings. After another long cold winter, I've been doing a check around the garden to see what has survived, and had some disappointments and some surprises. Cordylines have had a battering, and one ceanothus on a fence has died even though two others either side have survived well and are now coming into flower -two different varieties - so now it is survival of the fittest!



## RHS SCIENCE UPDATE

## PHYTOPHTHORA

**Looking at the rhododendrons, I remembered an article recently (The Garden, RHS Journal, March 2011 [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk)) on the spread of "sudden oak death" – a fungal infection which attacks not only oaks, but Japanese larch, rhododendron, camellia pieris, viburnum and other shrubs. It is also referred to as "ramorum dieback", as the infective organism is *Phytophthora ramorum*. The article gave symptoms – see the illustration :**

**It is a Notifiable Disease. Contact the Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) : 01904 465625; [planhealth.info@fera.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:planhealth.info@fera.gsi.gov.uk) if you see any suspected cases. Apparently it doesn't often kill the rhododendron, but will weaken it. Gardeners can help prevent the spread by pruning only in dry weather – damp conditions favour its spread , tools should be cleaned and disinfected, and watering in the morning rather than at**

**night is better. Still on the subject of rhododendrons, the Club had a really informative talk in March from Steve Whitehead, Head Gardener at Colby Gardens, Amroth, on "Gardening by the Sea". Although Llangwm is more riverside than seaside, and more clay than sandy soil, a lot of the planting suggestions were useful to everyone. He also suggested that if a visit was planned, to try and combine the spectacle of bluebells in flower with the rhododendrons – ring the Gardens to check flowering time 01834 811885 or [Colby@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Colby@nationaltrust.org.uk).**

**In April's meeting we were introduced to the importance of trace elements in the soil by Goodwin Jones, who runs his own Soil Advisory Service for farmers. He analyses soil samples for mineral deficiencies and supplies top dressing products to correct any problems. As farm**

**animals are ruminants, they are affected by the grazing conditions and can suffer deficiency diseases to a surprising extent. He reported over and over again cases of huge improvements in animal health by improving the soil "health". Much of the biology also relates to us, so by improving our garden or allotment soil we will be improving our health from the extra trace elements in our fruit and veg. As has been said before – "The answer lies in the soil"!**

**The soil bacteria and insects are also of paramount importance in keeping and replenishing the trace elements and humus – he emphasized that we should not dig more than 4" down, as the soil life is buried too deeply and dies, taking several years to recover – I knew deep digging wasn't good for me!**

Many trace elements are required for health of soil, animals and us, but he talked particularly about Cobalt – for Vitamin B12 – and Selenium for everything from memory and concentration to aches and pains and – wait for it – sexual drive! Who needs Viagra! Apparently all the UK soils are deficient in Selenium, probably after our long, long history of agriculture, so many of our crops and produce don't contain required levels any more – at the end of Goodwin's talk we were all ready to rush down to the health shop for mineral supplements!

We were all shocked and saddened to hear of the recent death of Jo Parry, and on behalf of the club condolences were sent to Harry (now living close to his family in Northamptonshire). As most members will remember Harry was a founder member of the Gardening Club.

The remaining programme dates for this year are :

May 9<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon) Question & Answer Session and Seed and Plant Swap Shop.

June 6<sup>th</sup> Lara Bernays (Herbal Healthcare) Hedgerow Forage for medicinal plants.

July 4<sup>th</sup> AGM & Barbeque.

August - Summer break, no meetings

Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Excess produce – Recipes & Suggestions.

If you have an idea for an article for the next edition of Llangwm Village News or if your club/interest isn't represented please contact:

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**This year's Llangwm Festival will take place during the last week of June, culminating with the Carnival on the village sports field on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July followed by music and a pig-roast at a location to be confirmed.**

Residents of Llangwm – and supporters of the Llangwm Festival from outside the village - are invited to participate in the **Scarecrow Competition**. Scarecrows can be displayed in the village throughout the Festival Week but judging will take place on the sports field during the Carnival celebrations. Please make sure your scarecrow is mobile if you want the opportunity to win a prize.

There will be no theme for the scarecrows so let your imagination run riot!

Further details of events taking place during the Llangwm Festival Week will be displayed on posters throughout the village nearer the date.

Donations of raffle prizes, registration of interest by local societies/individuals for participating in or organising events, volunteers for stewarding events and anyone willing to run a scarecrow-making workshop should contact Pat Morris at Llangwm Post Office.



## Royal Wedding Party

**Saturday April 30th**

**At The Cottage Inn**

**6pm–11.30pm**

**Live Band/Pig Roast**

**Optional Fancy Dress**

**Theme: Royal**

**Prize for most original outfit**

**Tickets £5 per adult. Children FREE**

**Available from Mathew at The Cottage Inn, Pat Morris at the Shop/Post Office or Rachel Kersey**

**Thanks to Jo Picton-James, Kelly McFadden and Rachel Kersey for organising this event**

# VILLAGE NEWS

## Dates for your Diary

Here are a series of dates worth putting in your diaries. Among them are proposed dates for concerts and plays to be put on in association with the Arts Council of Wales. These are still to be confirmed and full details will appear in due course on posters and on Llangwm's Website: [www.llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk](http://www.llangwm-pembrokeshire.org.uk)

**30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June –**  
History Exhibition in St. Jerome's Church

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 7.30pm –** A Musical Romp Through History with Artistic License at St. Jerome's Church and presented in association with The Arts Council of Wales.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2.30pm –** St. Jerome's Church Fete.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July –** Llangwm Festival.

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm –** "A Village Social" performed by the National Theatre of Wales at The Village Hall. This production is to be still confirmed, but once green lit will involve young people (16 – 24) from Llangwm. Keep an eye on the Llangwm Website and once confirmed, if you wish to take part, contact Pam Hunt on 01437 899966.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm -** Llangwm's Festival of Remembrance in St. Jerome's Church.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm –** Christmas Concert / performance in association with The Arts Council of Wales in St. Jerome's Church.

## Children Learn What They Live

If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule, he learns to be shy.

If a child lives with shame, he learns to feel guilty.

If a child lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient.

If a child lives with encouragement, he learns confidence.

If a child lives with praise, he learns to appreciate.

If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice.

If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith.

If a child lives with approval, he learns to like himself.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship, he learns to find love in the world.

## Congratulations

On March 23<sup>rd</sup> the school put on a curriculum evening for parents, the subject on this occasion being Maths. The event was well attended and the parents very appreciative of the impressive efforts made by Mr Nick Groves, his staff and pupils. What we saw was certainly an eye opener, particularly so for those of us who learned their Maths from Mr. Tommy Harries many moons ago! Well done to all concerned.

Barry Childs.

## LLANGWM POST OFFICE

### Stores/Newsagency

Opening times during the Easter and bank holidays:

Good Friday—8am—12 noon

Easter Saturday—8am—12 noon

Easter Sunday—9am—12 noon

ROYAL WEDDING DAY, 29th April—

8am—1.00pm

CLOSED—EASTER MONDAY,

MAY DAY AND SPRING BANK HOLIDAY

Happy Easter to all our customers  
from Pat and the Staff.



# Llangwm nature update

*It's been quite a while  
since I put pen to paper  
to write about what's  
occurring in the  
natural world  
around Llangwm*

As I write this  
on the  
last day  
of March  
it is  
pretty

apparent that Spring  
has well and truly sprung! The  
hedgerows are starting to green up,  
the buds are breaking on the *horse  
chestnut* and *lilac* trees in the garden  
and the *primroses* and *celandines* are  
bursting out in our garden  
hedgebank. That real harbinger of  
Spring, the *chiffchaff* warbler is "chiff-  
chaffing" loudly in the garden (and  
has been for nearly two weeks). The  
recent sunny, warm spell brought out  
some early butterflies with *small  
tortoiseshells* being much in evidence  
and, apparently, *commas* and  
*peacocks* were also about.

This time of the year there is much  
activity among the crows. It can't  
have escaped anyone's notice that  
Llangwm has a very healthy  
population of *rooks* and *jackdaws*.  
They are very evident in the evenings  
before dusk when huge mixed  
congregations wheel about the village  
and the Pill in a cacophonous display  
of 'joie de vivre' before settling down  
to roost for the night.

I love rooks. They are full of  
character... the teddy boys of the crow  
family! They are extremely wily  
intelligent birds, as well as being  
incredibly sociable. To the best of my  
knowledge there has always been a  
thriving and noisy rookery in the  
heart of the village behind St  
Jerome's in the trees around Mill

House. In addition, there are a  
number of other satellite rookeries in  
other parts of the lower village.  
There are currently 74 nests around  
Mill House, 18 at Ferry Hill, 17 in  
the Parson's Wood at the Rectory as  
well as 6 in our garden and a couple  
of singles along Rectory Road by the  
sea wall. A grand total of 117 nests,

reports on the Pembrokeshire Bird  
Blog of little egret carcasses being  
found and the population along the  
Waterway has been decimated. I  
hope that they recover so that this  
beautiful bird can once more add a  
touch of elegance to our local  
shoreline.

The *Canada geese* were also  
strangely absent after we saw large  
numbers roosting and flying in and  
out of the Pill in autumn up to  
November. Where do they go to?

Small garden birds appeared to  
survive the winter fairly well with  
tits, finches, robins, blackbirds and  
sparrows around in robust  
numbers. These days they  
are very well fed in most  
gardens. Apparently, even  
the tiniest of all, the  
goldcrest, is holding up  
well.

Last week a blackbird became  
the victim of a sudden and  
extremely efficient *sparrowhawk*  
attack on our front lawn. Typically, all  
that remained was a pair of wings,  
legs and tail held together by a  
ribcage. The breast had been well  
and truly plucked and devoured  
along with the head and the downy  
breast feathers were well scattered  
over the entire lawn. Nature can be  
very cruel!

There have been regular sightings of  
*peregrines* in the Port Lion/ Benton  
Woods area and *red kites* have also  
been spotted from time to time.

*Otters* continue to be active around  
our shores leaving spraint in the  
usual places and one was seen  
recently walking up the slip at Black  
Tar in broad daylight.

Finally, the Pill this morning was  
virtually devoid of birds (apart from a  
few gulls, a pair of mallard and the  
two mute swans). All the redshank  
and teal have now departed for their  
breeding grounds, mainly to northern  
Europe, to return again in the late  
summer and late autumn  
respectively.

Well, that's about it... I'm just  
waiting to catch sight of my first  
*swallow*. But you know what they  
say... "One swallow does not a  
summer make"

If you see anything interesting please  
let me know on 891580 or by email at  
grahambrace@btinternet.com.



many of  
which will, at  
this moment, have adult birds sitting  
on eggs (3 to 6 in each nest).

The unusually harsh winter weather  
that we endured in November,  
December and January had a  
marked effect on some species of  
birds. We saw the highest number of  
over-wintering *teal* for very many  
years with as many as 168 in  
Llangwm Pill. *Redshank* numbers  
were around 40 and through  
December and January there were up  
to 48 *shelduck*, 40 *mallard*, 100+  
*lapwing*, *dunlin*, *snipe*, 6 *wigeon*,  
*greenshank*, *little grebe*, *curlew*  
(numbers well down) and our two  
resident *mute swans*. I was  
particularly pleased that in October  
our *spotted redshank* returned for  
the sixth year in succession and  
stayed until mid-March. This  
particular bird is the only 'static' one  
recorded in the monthly Wetlands  
Bird Survey (WeBS) for  
Pembrokeshire between September  
and March. Others may be seen  
elsewhere but they are generally  
passing through.

Notable by its absence since the end  
of November was the *little egret*.  
This bird has been a real casualty of  
the very cold weather. We could  
always expect to see up to 4 in the  
Pill at any one time but I haven't  
seen one in Llangwm since the end of  
November. There were alarming

# GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

## Galilee bids a fond farewell to Ellen



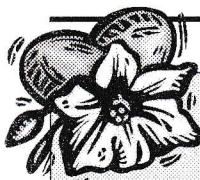
**On Wednesday afternoon 23 March 2011, at one of the largest funerals to be held in the village for some time, Galilee said goodbye to its oldest member, and one of its most faithful, Mrs Ellen Skyrme. She died on 16 March aged 101 years.**

A fitting tribute to her life and character was made during the service by her granddaughter Julie, with much gratitude and love - plus the occasional twist of humour and deliberate lapse into Ellen's unique Llangwm accent and manner of speaking, to the delight and appreciation of those present.

In witness to her faith Ellen had lived her life along the time-honoured Christian principles of family duty and service to her community. She had attended Galilee's Sunday School as a child and frequently used to recall the Anniversaries in which she and her sisters and friends would sing and recite. Later she sang in Galilee's magnificent mixed choir - Ellen used to say that there was fierce competition between that choir and the one at the Wesleyan Chapel to see who could sing the best anthem each year!

Even when her eyesight was failing, Ellen would sing the verses of the hymns at Galilee, because she knew and remembered all the words. At her funeral one of her favourite Sankey hymns, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye", was sung heartily and with feeling by the large congregation.

Ellen believed that a happy childhood was the most important thing in life for anyone. And hers had been the happiest possible, centred around her family, school, chapel - and the village she loved and lived in all her life.



## 2011 SPECIAL SERVICES AT GALILEE

### Palm Sunday 17 April

Morning worship at 10.30 a.m. to be taken by Rev. Lawrence Mitchell of Milford Haven.

### Good Friday 22 April

Short service at 9.30 a.m. to be led by Rev. Ron Price of Milford Haven, followed by coffee, tea and hot cross buns in the Vestry. All are welcome.

### Easter Sunday 24 April

Morning service at 10.30 a.m. to be led by Rev. Ron Price.

### Chapel Anniversary 22 May

Morning service at 10.30 a.m. and Evening Service at 5.00 p.m. to be led by Rev. Roger Hart of Pembroke Dock.

### Sunday School Anniversary 19 June

Morning worship at 10.30 a.m. to be led by Mr Mervyn Strand of Johnston. Evening Service at 5.00 p.m. to be presided over by Mrs. Melanie Ablitt of Camrose.

Morning worship continues weekly at 10.30 a.m. Sundays and Women's Fellowship fortnightly at 2 p.m. Thursdays.

Please watch for notices on the gates at Galilee for details of other notable services during the year, such as Harvest Festival (25 September).

# St Jerome's Church

## SERVICES FOR EASTER

Palm Sunday - 17<sup>th</sup> April.

9am      Holy Eucharist - St Jerome's  
6pm      Evensong - St Jerome's



Wednesday - 20<sup>th</sup> April.

9.30am    Said Eucharist - St Jerome's

Maundy Thursday - 21<sup>st</sup> April.

11am      Chrism Mass in the Cathedral  
7.30pm     Holy Eucharist/Stripping of the Altar -  
Llangwm

Good Friday - 22nd April.

11am      Meditation - St Jerome's

Easter Saturday - 23rd April.

4pm      Great Easter Egg Hunt - Llangwm

Easter Day - 24<sup>th</sup> April.

9am      Holy Eucharist - St Jerome's

Anyone wishing to attend any of our services will always be given a very warm welcome. Please refer to the Church notice board for up-to-date information.

**May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Blessed Easter.**

### **CONFIRMATION SERVICE**

There is a Confirmation Service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 10am in St Jerome's, Llangwm. It will be lead by the Bishop of St David's, the Very Rev Wyn Evans.

### **KRAFTY KIDS**

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May, at St Jerome's - 4pm to 5pm.

Theme this month is: **CRAFTS 4 ALL**

**Everyone is welcome, from 3 to 12 years.**

There is a History Exhibition from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May ending on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June with a Fete. For full details of times and venue, please check for notices and posters around the village, nearer the time.

# Llangwm Methodist Church

**Minister:** Reverend Alan Jenkins

**Secretary:** Mrs Jane Brock

**Treasurer:** Mrs Hilary Hitchings

**Sunday Services:** Morning 11am

**Sunday School:** 11am

**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.

### **Women's Fellowship:**

Fortnightly on Wednesdays - 2.00 pm

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

Good Friday service at 3.30pm in the main chapel presided by Reverend Alan Jenkins  
Followed by the Good Friday tea & Gift Day in the Sunday School Room at 4pm

#### **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

Easter Day Service - 9.30am (please note earlier time)  
Sunday School - also at 9.30am

#### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May**

Chapel Anniversary Services  
11am presided by Rev Janet Jenkins  
6pm presided by Rev David Hawkes  
Sunday School - 11am

#### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

Sunday School Anniversary Service - 6pm  
Items to be given by Sunday School children and Adult Choir. Chairman - Mr Gareth John

#### **Commencing on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July inclusive**

Summer Teas with savoury and sweet refreshments.  
Bacon rolls also to be served  
Photography and Art exhibition to be held in the chapel during these two weeks  
Open 12 noon - 6.00 pm daily

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

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**

## Some More Good Books

If 'Adventures on the High Teas' was to your taste, Stuart Maconie's 'Pies and Prejudice' and 'Cider With Roadies' should also give you a few hours of entertainment. The first is a witty and informative guide to the North of England and the second about his world of music.



Kate Atkinson's first novel, 'Behind the Scenes at the Museum' made her name and though the books that followed it are well worth reading her popularity waned a little, that is until she turned her hand to detective fiction. 'When Will there be Good News?' is very good indeed and her most recent book, 'Started Early Took My Dog' is even better. This novel is your genuine page turner. Her two principal characters, Jackson Brodie and Tracy Waterhouse, engage attention from start to finish. There is plenty to admire not least of which are the many literary allusions and her sharp observation of the world in 2011. If there is a better writer of this type of fiction around I'm not aware of him/her. Having said that, Val McDermid is pretty good. 'Trick of the Dark', set in Oxford is her latest offering.

Love him or loathe him Tony Blair's autobiography 'A Journey' is a fascinating insight into the mind of a modern, frontline politician. If you can't face all 700 pages at least read the chapter 'Peace in Northern Ireland'. This is almost a 'blow by blow' account of probably his greatest political achievement which was on a knife edge until the parties concerned saw sense.

A final question – What chance Kindle replacing books?

Barry Childs

## Helper Needed

Do you have some spare time to help organise the delivery of the Llangwm Newsletter?

Please contact Lorraine at [s.grange201@btinternet.com](mailto:s.grange201@btinternet.com) or tel: 01437 890180.

Thanks to all those who give their valuable time and effort to deliver the newsletter.

## Returning with a new mystery St Jerome's History Exhibition

**After the success of the History Exhibition telling the story of Llangwm's earliest history in Easter 2010, the exhibition is going to return during the Whitsun Bank Holiday week, from 29<sup>th</sup> May to 4<sup>th</sup> June.**

The exhibition will be mounted in association with Llangwm's Local History Society and will reveal more about the village during Medieval, Tudor and Victorian times. The discovery of the small De Barri Family coat of arms on one of the archways in to the De La Roche (North) chapel has opened up a whole new avenue of investigation and suggests that Llangwm may well have a link with Geraldus Cambrensis or Gerald of Wales as he is better

known. Gerald was born the fourth son of William de Barri of Manorbier and Angharad, a Welsh princess in 1146. Like the De La Roche family, William de Barri was of Flemish extraction and his ancestor took part in the 1066 conquest of England. Gerald's mother Angharad was the daughter of Helen of Wales, better known as Princess Nesta and daughter of Rhys Ap Tewdwr.

It was very common for the Normans, who having invaded and conquered would then marry a daughter of one of the indigenous noble families. Gerald died in 1223, but what link he and his family had in a church built by the De La Roches in approximately 1200, for the moment remains a mystery.



There will be special evening talks and events throughout the week culminating in a Musical Romp Through History performed by Artistic License; subject to Arts Council approval and to end off the week there will be a church fete in the churchyard on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>.

# LLANGWM CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season is now well in sight and we look forward to a successful season at Pill Parks for all our teams. The A.G.M. was held recently and Jonathan Twigg was chosen as the captain of our first XI, with Ian Gow retaining the captaincy of the second XI. This year our third XI will not be joining the leagues but will be playing friendly matches, these taking place as last year at Houghton. Randall Lewis (President), Dai Davies

(Chairman), Martyn Inward (Vice-Chairman) and Brian James (Secretary and Treasurer) continue in office.

Many thanks to our players and their wives and girlfriends for organising the recent Presentation Evening (at which the following 2010 season Awards were made) and also a very successful Fancy Dress Social Evening, both in the Club.

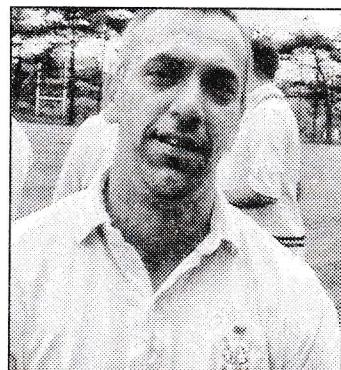
The first XI had a fantastic start to the season but fortune deserted them, eventually finishing third in Division 2 behind two second XI teams. Our second XI also did well early on and finished fourth in Division 4. Our third XI struggled to field a team on occasions which meant they finished ninth in Division 5 and so unfortunately were relegated.

## 2010 Club Awards

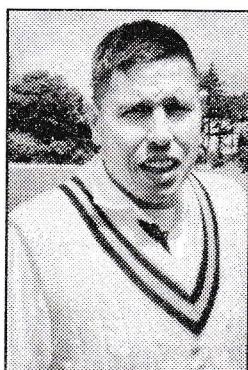
Jamer's Cup - Players' Player of the Year went to Chris Inward (Captain in 2010)  
Tom Parker Cup - Clubman of the Year went to Ian Gow (2nds Captain & Groundsman)  
Penry Esmond Cup went to Andrew Harries.

## 2010 Performance Awards

1 <sup>st</sup> XI batting award	-	Richard Brock
1 <sup>st</sup> XI bowling award	-	Darren Brick
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI batting award	-	Shaun Waller
2 <sup>nd</sup> XI bowling award	-	Jonathan Brock
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI batting award	-	Daniel Morgan
3 <sup>rd</sup> XI bowling award	-	Louis Murphy



Ian Gow



Jonathan Twigg

Pictures courtesy of Bill Carne - Sports Photographer

The Junior Section entered the under 11 and under 13 leagues in 2010 playing on Mondays and Wednesdays and had an enjoyable season in spite of a lack of positive results. They completed almost all their fixtures, and will enter an under 15s team as well this year. We desperately need some more young players to fill these three teams, so any youngsters interested in playing or learning to play cricket are more than welcome. Training night this year will be on Tuesdays at Pill Parks starting on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6p.m.

The Llangwm Golf Day held at Milford Haven Golf Club was another resounding success, with our Main Sponsor **Talbot Timber** supporting us yet again; many thanks to Simon and Jonathan for their support. It will be held this year on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July, so mark up your diaries and join in this great social occasion.

It is good to know that our President, Randall Lewis is now home from hospital and we all wish him well.

**Here's to another great season of cricket in Llangwm.**

Dai Davies - *Chairman Llangwm Cricket Club*

# Cleddau Reach VC Primary School News

**Welcome to the Cleddau Reach VC School section of the newsletter. Both the Burton Base and the Llangwm Base of the school have enjoyed the spring term and there has been a positive and hardworking atmosphere within each of our eight classes.**

**Initial plans for the new school building have been drafted and work is anticipated to begin in September. At this stage members of the school Governing Body are meeting on a regular basis to discuss issues linked to the new school building and I will regularly update parents on developments.**

**A copy of the newsletter is also available on the Cleddau Reach VC Primary School public pages of the Pembrokeshire Portal**

## Young Reporters Section

*In this section some of our children have written reports about recent events at the school.*

### World War II Drama Afternoon By Lily-Ann Townley (Year 6)

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 Year 5 and 6 enjoyed a drama afternoon based around life in World War II. It was led by Mr. Ainsworth from the Torch Theatre.

Our first activity was pretending to pick fruit from bushes and trees. This was fun but we weren't allowed to make any noise as it was miming.

Mr Ainsworth then told us a story about his friend, Joyce, who was in the 'Land Army' for six weeks. The 'Land

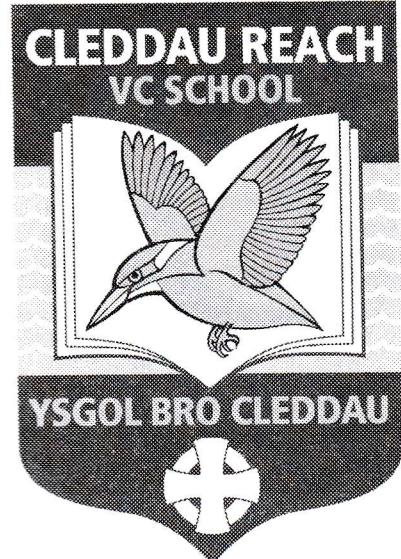
Army' were ladies working on the farms while the men were away at war. He told us what the 'Land Army' did through the day and he said that Joyce was good at sewing and the farmer's wife wasn't. So Joyce did sewing while the others were doing things like milking the cows and feeding the animals.

We then had to get into groups of six or seven and act out 'The Land Army'. This was miming and I found this great fun and really enjoyed it. At the end of our performance we had to do a tableau freeze.

This is what 'The Land Army's' day was like for Joyce:

- Get up from bed (in the barn, where they slept)
- Go down the ladder and there would be a bucket of water and soap and a towel to get washed
- Get changed
- Walk miles to the farm house where a big breakfast would be waiting
- Wash the dishes and cleaning the house
- Go and feed the animals (while Joyce sewed)
- Pick fruit
- The farmer would come on his tractor from working in the fields and Joyce and her friends would get on and he would drive them to the fields
- They would pick potatoes, filling a sack.
- Go back to the barn for a well earned rest.

After break we did our next activity. We had to get into groups of three or four and have a theme. This was a miming activity too. My group's theme was 'The Factory'. While Lilly pretended to make Hannah a dress and measure her, Adele and I pretended to make things with chainsaws and weapons like that. We had to perform it and I enjoyed this too.



Mr Ainsworth then set us a task, which he said was Year Seven acting. We had to make an advert on our topic. Ours was a job advert saying that if the people wanted to keep the country safe then join the factory. Even though this was for Year Seven's Mr Ainsworth said we performed it well.

I really enjoyed that afternoon and I look forward to doing World War II in the summer. I also enjoyed the drama part too and I found out about the Land Army. I look forward to doing this kind of activity in the future.

### The Formula 1 Project Reported by Dan Phillips Year 6



On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, Naomi, Eden, Ewan and I had an exiting opportunity to go to the F1 project in

Neyland Teaching Centre. It was part of an interactive ICT project to design and build a miniature version of an F1 car.

As we entered, I think all of our group was astonished at how much ICT equipment was in the room. We had a laptop to ourselves! As we got settled down in the IT room, we were introduced by a short video clip of Ysgol Dewi Saint and their amazing success in the F1 project last year. After the video, the IT teacher

showed us where and how to design our own personal F1 car. The cars were not as big as the real things, they were about 30 times smaller! At this point I was ready to go and design my own F1 car!

We did almost clone what the IT teacher showed us; so we did everything as it should be, there was a hole in the back of the car for its engine, (well when I say engine, I mean a compressed carbon dioxide cylinder made of metal) it was about 6cm deep. That was the only part our team struggled on, but with the expert help of Mr Benbow, we had nothing to worry about. After this hard section, we stormed through the rest of the work and had to wait for some of the other schools to catch up!

While we were waiting for the other teams, we changed the settings for the colour to purple. It was going well with the design for our F1 car, until we managed to lose our design with one click! By this time we were nearing the end of the session and the teachers took us to the canteen - we thought we were going for a snack! But, it was something much more exciting!



As we entered the canteen, we were met by a race track. They said that if we decide to enter the competition, we would race our cars on a track like this. The record was 0.6 seconds for 20 metres! The countdown started: 5,4,3,2,1....then it paused.... Boom! It shot straight to the finishing line. The time was 0.525 seconds on a 6 metre track! After the cars had raced, the leader gave Ewan the spent compressed CO<sub>2</sub> cartridge!

After this, it was unfortunately time to leave. I had a fabulous day and definitely want to carry on with this

project back at school. If we do decide to enter, then we will be looking for local sponsors! So please watch this space!

### Wonderful Success in the Urdd Primary School National Gala

Alaric Jones recently came second in the National Urdd Primary School swimming gala. Congratulations to Alaric for achieving such a high placing in a national event.

### Junior Road Safety Officers Training Reported by Ben Meehan (Year 6)

On the Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February Junior Road Safety Officers from both Bases of Cleddau Reach VC School went for an afternoon of training. The Road Safety Officers form a committee on our School Council. We left school at 12:45pm and travelled to Prendergast School. When we first went through the doors we were astonished by the size of the reception area. Then we saw Kristie our leader who took us to our first activity.

It was road sign jigsaws. What we had to do was put all of the different signs together. Our time was 2.25 minutes. Then we moved on to a different station this time it was making a JRSO shield. It was cut into four sections so everyone had a part to colour in. Mrs. Brock did the J, Thomas did the S and Jacob did the O. The next station we did was road safety Pictionary. The best news was that we came second. We were very pleased.

The next activity we took part in was circling road hazards. It was easy at times but there were some that Mrs. Brock found, that we didn't notice. It took us around 10 minutes to find all of the hazards.

The next activity was my favourite. It was remote controlled cars. What we had to do was see who was the best at driving around the course, the quickest and fastest, but in the

safest way.. Last but not least was the road quiz. I had a great time and I can't wait to do something like it again.

All the activities taught us about how to stay safe when walking or cycling near a road and some of the points drivers need to think about. We will report back our findings to members of our School Council and share them with each Class Council on both Bases of our school.

### St. David's Day Celebration

The school celebrated St. David's Day on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. The children from both Bases also held a joint Eisteddfod at Llangwm Methodist Chapel on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

### Tesco Vouchers for Schools

Cleddau Reach School is collecting Tesco vouchers. There is no limit on the number of vouchers we can collect and there is a wide selection of equipment we can exchange them for. The scheme runs until the end of May. If any community members are able to collect for the school any vouchers will be gratefully received

### Red Nose Day

Both Bases of the school supported Red Nose Day on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The children wore red for the day, shared jokes and held a red fruit tuck shop. A wonderful total of £536.40 was raised.

### Diary Dates

#### **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

Children return to school to commence Summer Term

#### **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

Half term

#### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June**

Children return to school

#### **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

Break up for Summer holidays

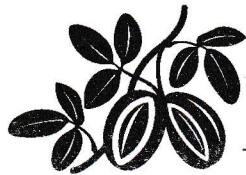
#### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

School closed -

Directed Teachers Day

#### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

Children return to school for start of Autumn term 2011

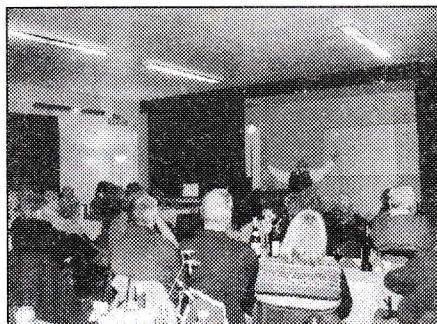


# 'Now as I was young and easy under the apple boughs...'

## Community Centre NEWS



There must be few Welsh men and women who could not name the author of those wonderful words, and indeed, a real treat was in store for many local followers at the performance by the 'Tour de Force Theatre Company' who came to the Village Hall on February 18<sup>th</sup>. As a departure from the usual St. David's Day supper, the Tour de Force Company, who are part of the Assembly Government's 'Nights Out' scheme, put on a show entitled 'Reminiscences of Childhood'. This was almost a one-man show, adapted from the works of Dylan Thomas by Adrian Metcalf, who drew on his own childhood in Swansea. He has performed this show all over the world after its' award winning debut at the Edinburgh Festival. Further, his interpretation of Thomas' poetry and prose has won international recognition and has played to great acclaim in America. The audience on February 18<sup>th</sup> would fully concur with the assessment by The Independent that 'Dylan Thomas has never seemed so alive'.



Before the show, the Village Hall committee provided a 'Soup Supper', which provided sustenance and an opportunity to enjoy fellow diners company before the performance, which was enhanced by the wonderful new curtains that are now in place!!

The Hall continues to be used for Children's parties and some regular Band Practising also takes place there - it is a wonderful venue for when a larger, more independent space is needed than can be had at home - just think of the possibilities!

**Charges for Hall Hire**  
**Community group activities:**  
**£7.50 per session**  
**Parties: Adult: £35**  
**Children: £20**

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

**From the 'Haverfordwest and Milford Haven Telegraph' of 14<sup>th</sup> March 1866**

### **"House-door letter-boxes"**

The Postmaster General has again directed the attention of the public to the advantages which would result from a more general adoption of house-door letter-boxes. The increased rapidity with which the letter carrier would complete his rounds if the plan of house-door letter-boxes was universally adopted is plainly obvious. The Postmaster General closes his appeal for the more general adoption of the plan, as follows: - 'It is hoped that those householders, who have not hitherto provided letter-boxes, will not object to do so; and by that means, at a very moderate expense, they can promote the convenience both of themselves and of their neighbours, and at the same time, render an important aid to the public service.'

*Nikki Bosworth  
Haverfordwest Records Office*

# Pets' Corner

**Pets are very popular in Llangwm.**

**Do you have a pet or pets that you'd**

**like to feature in this newsletter?**

**Now's your chance. Dogs, cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, lizards—all are welcome.**

**Keeping chickens and ducks has become a popular hobby in recent years. Thomas and Joseph James of Llangwm have two Dutch Bantams and a Cream Legbar called Whitey, Goldie and Brownie. Here's some information on the breeds:**

## Dutch Bantam

The exact origin of the breed is unclear, but is likely that the ancestors of the Dutch Bantam were Southeast Asian bantams brought back by sailors from the Dutch East Indies. Historically, it is supposed that these tiny chickens were selectively bred because only small eggs could be kept by peasant farmers. The first written referring to Dutch Bantams (as a distinct breed) is from a record of The Hague Zoo dated to 1882, and the Dutch Poultry Club recognized the breed by 1906.

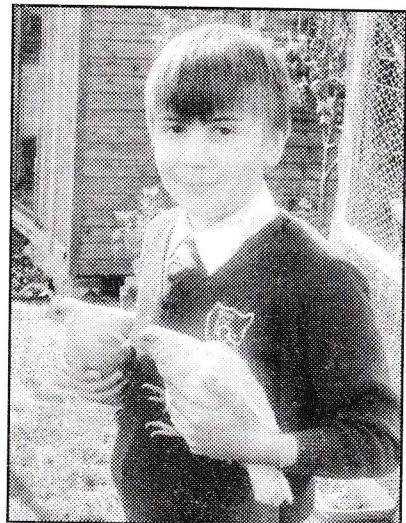
**Characteristics** Dutch Bantams are one of the smallest breeds of bantam, and are one of the *true bantams*. There are dozens of colours to choose from. The breed is friendly in temperament, but also assertive and flighty. They don't like extremely cold weather. Dutch Bantam hens make good mothers and will easily go broody. Uniquely for bantams, and especially ones popular in showing, Dutch Bantams lay well; they can produce 160 cream or light brown eggs in a year, though the size of the egg is much smaller than commercial layers. Due to their friendly character and egg laying ability, the breed is well suited to hobbyists and backyard keepers.

## Cream Legbar

In 1927 well known plant collector Clarence Elliott from Stow-in-the-Wolds in Gloucestershire returned from his travels in the Welsh speaking country of Patagonia in South America bringing with him three hens of the '*blue-egg fowl of Chile*'. It is known that these blue egg laying hens had been kept by the Araucana Indians of Chile and Patagonia for more than four centuries. In addition to laying blue, green or olive shelled eggs the birds of the Araucana Indians had crests of feathers on their heads, and many of them were 'rumpless' having no tail. Elliott's three hens subsequently went to Cambridge University where Professor Reg Punnett was studying poultry genetics and were instrumental, with the Legbar, in producing the blue egg laying Cream Legbar.

The male Cream Legbar chicks have a pale dot on their head and have little or no eye barring. The female Cream Legbar chicks, the hens, have a dark brown or black stripe on their head which continues down the body with clear eye barring. They are quite a noisy breed and are very inquisitive to explore new places.

The Cream Legbar belongs to a group of breeds known as Autosexing Breeds: the 'barring' pattern is sex-linked, the cockerels having two chromosomes for barring and the pullets only one. Day old chicks of a barred breed have a light patch on the top of the head, in chicks with black down both sexes are very similar. When the barring is combined with brown colouring the light spot on the head of the pullets is small and well defined, and in addition there is a very clearly defined dark stripe down the body. In the cockerels the light patch covers most of the head, the down is much paler and there is only a very blurred indistinct body stripe. The Breed Standard give a description of the down colouring.



The Poultry Club of Great Britain Breed Standard for the Legbar includes the Gold Legbar, Silver Legbar, and the Cream Legbar, though the last is usually known as the Cream Crested Legbar because unlike the other two it is crested, and also lays a blue egg. The standard defines the Cream Legbar as a Light Breed with the average mature cock weighing in at 7lb and the hen at 5lb. They are upright, muscular bodied, sprightly birds with the typical wedge shaped body of the laying breeds. The Cream Legbar has the typical flighty temperament which one expects to find in a light breed; they are a little 'twitchy', though they are a little delightful, friendly and inquisitive breed and they will become very tame.

**If you would like your pets to feature in the next edition of the Llangwm newsletter, just email your photos and a description to [janicecasey@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:janicecasey@hotmail.co.uk)**

**Following on from the hugely successful opening to the 125 season when Llangwm RFC hosted Pembrokeshire County XV, the next major event organised was a Gala Dinner, held on November the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Beggars Reach Hotel.**

**The evening was attended by over 140 people coming from all aspects of the club, who heard guest John Dawes recount stories of his time with Wales and the British Lions, and WRU rep. Johnny Jones, who proposed a toast to Llangwm RFC. Responding on behalf of the club, Chairman Michael John gave a background to the achievements of the guests, and thanked all those who had helped make the evening such a success. MC Maurice Palmer kept the pace of the evening up, and formalities were concluded with a fund raising auction. As with the County match, the evening was a resounding success, thanks to the meticulous planning and effort of organisers Ian Jacobs and Owen John.**

**A future event planned is a pre-match Lunch on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Places are limited so if you wish to attend please book a seat via Mike Hardwick on 01437 890007.**

### **SENIOR**

Since Christmas the senior side has gone through a little rebuilding, with many bad injuries and retirements taking their toll. There does, though, seem to be a good team spirit in a very young and inexperienced team under the watchful eye of head coach Colin Picton and forwards coach Jeremy Brock, who has brought in many of his successful youth team. After looking at a top five finish at one stage of the season, because of the weather and internationals, the season has become a little disjointed and results have not gone Llangwm's way. We must build the experience of the youngsters during the remainder of the season, and hope that next year the youngsters will pick up the baton, and being another year older will take the club on to better things.

### **YOUTH**

The Youth XV have not played this season but a team has been entered in the Annual Pembroke 7's competition and it is intended to re-form a full Youth team for next season.

### **UNDER 16**

The under 16 team have had a hectic schedule of late with many matches crammed in following the postponements during the bad weather. Coach Jamie Knill, together with assistants Alan Williams and Daryl Scourfield, have kept this squad together for many years, and this season they have been playing some attractive rugby with several wins to their name.

This season is a stepping stone to youth rugby and it is hoped many of these boys will continue to play next year and form the base of the youth team.

### **JUNIOR / MINI.**

We currently have 5 junior sides playing on a regular basis, under 16's, under 10's and under 9's play tackle rugby and the under 8's and under 7's play tag rugby. Despite the weather all sides have managed to play and train regularly this season and have had a very successful season.

The junior section is supported by a small committee which arranges functions and fund raising etc, and also by a group of dedicated coaches who supply seemingly unlimited levels of encouragement and patience. We are also very fortunate to have a group of enthusiastic youngsters who train and play for us in all sorts of weather and they in turn are supported by an equally enthusiastic group of parents.



## Mini Tour

On the 16<sup>th</sup> April three buses of players, parents and supporters from the junior section will be travelling to Cardiff. They will be playing matches at Llandaff and then visiting the Millennium stadium for a tour of the stadium. Our thanks to Pat at Llangwm shop for supporting this trip with sweets, drinks and crisps.



## Training and Matches

Training takes place on a Wednesday evening between 6pm and 7pm, as the nights are lighter this training now takes place at Llangwm pitch.

Matches take place in Llangwm at 11am on Sunday mornings and on most occasions teas, coffees and much needed bacon rolls are available. There is often a small but vocal group of parents and family providing encouragement and support to the children. All positive support for our teams is very welcome.



## Support and Sponsorship

The junior section has been fortunate to be supported and sponsored by many local businesses. Hoodies have been provided by Simon Safety and we have already had many pledges of support for next season. We are delighted that this support will result in new kit for all our teams next season.

With the help and support of all those involved this has been a very successful season for Llangwm juniors, and the behaviour and enthusiasm of the players in our junior section has been a credit to coaches and parents alike. We look forward to your support next season.



## Events

Various events have taken place throughout the year, including trips to watch the Scarlets play rugby, a children's Halloween party, a children's Christmas party, and other fund raising events, such as our Curry and Quiz night.

**The Junior Rugby Presentation Evening on Friday 8th April was a huge success with Under 10s, Under 9s, Under 8s and Under 7s receiving their medals and trophies from Scarlets players Ken Owens and Simon Gardiner. Thanks to all committee members, coaches and parents who give their time to help with Junior Rugby. Interested in helping out? The committee is looking for enthusiastic mums and dads to help out with all aspects of Junior Rugby.**

# News from the Past

from the archives of the  
'Western Telegraph'  
newspaper

150 years ago: -

## "Fatal accident

A collier named William Follant, employed at Hook, was killed on his descent to work in the pit. The rope by which he was descending gave way and the poor fellow was precipitated to the bottom and, falling on his head, was killed instantaneously."

[William was aged 26, married with two young children and lived at Llangwm Hill.]

100 years ago: -

## "Llangwm Parish Council

A resolution was passed condemning the practice of washing fish, potatoes and

traps in Main Street, Llangwm." and - "it was decided to write to Burton Parish Council asking them to join with Llangwm Parish Council in erecting a footbridge over the stream situated between Ashdale and Llangwm."

50 years ago: "Four men in a boat - and then there were none

"Dusk had fallen as the little out-board motor boat nosed its way cautiously towards Llangwm beach. The four-man crew were returning from a convivial evening at Landshipping across the river. As they neared the shore, one of the mariners rose

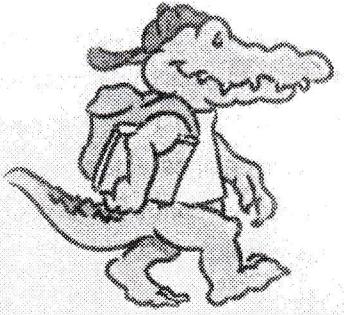
suddenly to his feet to prepare for the landing - with disastrous consequences. For unable to find his sea-legs, he toppled over the side of the boat, his startled cry being lost in the splash as his body hit the water. His mates leaned anxiously over the side of the boat, causing it to rock alarmingly. Within a matter of seconds, they had joined him in the river. Apart from a severe soaking, the red-faced adventurers were little the worse for their experience."

[Names omitted to protect the 'innocent'!]

Nikki Bosworthh

Pembrokeshire Records Office

## Llangwm Museum



**Pat and Jeff will once again be opening their little private museum/collection at 4 Edwards Pill, between 1pm to 6pm, on FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JULY. You are also very welcome to bring your friends or relatives along.**

As most of you know, Jeff started the collection in 2002, acquiring items from antique shops, auctions, bric-a-brac stalls, etc., while other items have been donated by local residents who preferred their old items of interest to be seen by others, rather than stored in the attic.

Items include military, household, agricultural, transport, mining (from Hook), electrical, tins, bottles, postcards, medical, photography, maritime, tools, a signal box, a school section with an old desk from Llangwm school, and even some items from the old Empire Cinema, Milford Haven.

Jeff just wants the museum to be enjoyed by those who want to take a trip down 'Memory Lane' - the older you are, the more nostalgic it will be.

As usual there is no charge for visiting the museum, although Pat and her friends will be organizing teas and cakes, with the proceeds going to S.N.A.P. - a local Special Needs Assessment Playgroup, based locally at Withybush Hospital and at Golden Lane, Pembroke

If you can't make it on July 1<sup>st</sup>, Jeff is always pleased to show people around - possibly gathering more knowledge on some of the local 'finds' at the same time, but please give them call first (01437 890841) to see if it is suitable, and be prepared to spend about an hour or two looking around the 'museum'.

