

LLANGWM VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 42 Autumn/Winter 2015

INSIDE: All the latest news of what's happening in your village...
Heritage and History, Gardening Club and Allotments, Rugby and Junior Rugby,
Cricket and Junior Cricket, Soccer, Rowing, Charity Fundraising,
upcoming Christmas Events, Live Music - even a **Round-the-World Voyage!**



*A giant of a scarecrow! The families at nos 9-16 River View got together to create a striking entry to the village's annual Scarecrow Competition - and they won first prize. Congratulations to everyone involved.
(More about the 'Nursery Rhyme' scarecrows on page 2.)*

Reflections on a village summer

This is the 42nd issue of the 'Llangwm News', which started life as an information newspaper in the months leading up to the village's Millennium celebrations. Since then many people have contributed towards it, either by editing, writing reports and features, sending in photographs or as 'postmen' delivering copies around the doors (in all weathers). **Many thanks to all of you.**

It was around that time - in June 1999 - that the Llangwm Scarecrows first appeared, as a simple competition idea to raise funds for the Year 2000 events. It just took off. No one knew then that this would become an annual event.

While the Scarecrow Festival has never since quite achieved the heights of novelty and participation of that principal year - when TV cameras and roving reporters swarmed through the village - it has nevertheless had some remarkable 'highs', notably with the 'SeaFair/Maritime' theme, 'VE Day 60' (remember John Cleese?), 'Cartoons and Comic Strips' and 'Hollywood' (who could forget giants Shrek and Hagrid?)

It was the children who were most delighted with this year's theme: 'Nursery Rhymes'. Out came the Humpty Dumptys, black sheep, cats and fiddles, Miss Muffets, Incy Wincy, rocking cradles - and all.

Worthy runners-up were 'The Grand Old Duke of York' at Gail Rise (which survived a few wild winds!) and the very popular 'Polly Put the Kettle On' in Main Street (see *foot of page*). First prize went to the enormous 'Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe', created by the residents of Nos. 9-16 River View (see *front cover photograph*).

Well done to all, great effort.

Events of all kinds took place throughout the fortnight, with many people meeting up in the 'Tea Room' kindly provided by the ladies of the Methodist Chapel. The Carnival and Fete rounded off the summer festivities in fine style (see *below*).

The Festival Committee are to be congratulated for the lovely atmosphere they created around the village during this summer's Festival. We all look forward to the next!



**All the fun
of the fete...**



**Llangwm
Carnival Day
11 July 2015**



Matthew and his team at 'The Cottage' would like to wish all customers old and new a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for the coming year.

The Cottage Inn will host a number of events over the Christmas period all still to be confirmed. We will also be open all over the Christmas period all day from 12 noon.

Should you wish to dine with us over this period it



***The Cottage Inn
Llangwm, Pembrokeshire***

would be very helpful to reserve a table.
Tel: 891494.



Llangwm Community Centre News

Over the summer months far greater use is being made of the hall and its facilities. Regular classes such as Yoga, T'ai Chi, Sparkletree Jewellery, Village Voices, all help to keep the hall thriving.

During the excellent Festival Week, the hall was particularly busy with providing cream teas etc. The comedy "Seven Ages of Man" provided by the Night Out Scheme was superb, and the audience were rocking in their seats. As with the last 4 major events organised by the Committee, tickets were sold out two weeks before the performance.

The Hall and Foyer have been redecorated and this has made a significant difference to the ambience of the hall. This was completed in time for the first wedding reception since the improvements - a superb time was had by all!

Book Stall

This has been a very popular innovation, and has raised over £200 to go towards the new heating system.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed books, and to those who have 'splashed out' and bought lots. At 50p a book, these are an absolute bargain!

Revised Hall Charges

The Community Centre hire charges have remained unchanged for 15 years. Due to rising costs, the Committee regretfully have to raise the hiring fee slightly. This will take effect from **January 1st 2016**.

The new charges are as follows:

1. Sessional - morning, afternoon or evening £10
2. Adult Party £35
3. Children's Party £25
4. Charity event per session £10
5. Summer wedding (to include electricity, additional time

for setting up and clearing away over 3 days, and cleaning costs) £150

6. Winter wedding (to include the above + heating) £175

Please note: there will be a refundable deposit of £50 required when booking a wedding.

A Christmas Extravaganza from Indigo Moon Theatre Company.

On the 12th December at 4.00 p.m - a date for your calendar!

A Shadow Theatre for children of all ages performs "Aladdin".



This colourful tale from the Arabian Nights is set in the Middle East: a place of mystery, enchantment and strange, mythical creatures. Large scale contemporary Shadow Puppets tells of a poor street boy who falls hopelessly in love

with a Royal Princess. What magic would he need just to see her again?

Follow his wild and dangerous adventures as he gets caught up in excitement way beyond his control.

Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £3 for a child. Crisps, sweets and juice will be available for purchase. This should be a very popular pre-Christmas event for all the family, so please book your tickets as early as possible.

Liz Rawlings



Thanks must go to the marvellous Community Centre Committee and helpers who work very hard to maintain the building and keep the hall open.

You are all stars!

THANKYOU.

Llangwm and Neighbourhood 150 years ago

From the pages of the "Haverfordwest and Milford Haven Telegraph" Wednesday 29th November 1865: -

"On Saturday last we were visited by another storm of wind and rain. About midday the wind greatly increased in violence and, from two 'til three o'clock, it blew a perfect hurricane; doing more damage to roofs of houses and exposed buildings in an hour than had resulted from the continuance of the gale on Wednesday for several hours. The roofs of several houses on Merlin's Hill, Hill Street and Prendergast suffered considerable damage. Several barges moored down the river also broke from their moorings and, becoming foul of each other, were greatly damaged while others were drifted by the wind and tide and are now left high and dry far beyond the reach of ordinary spring tides."

From the pages of the "Haverfordwest and Milford Haven Telegraph" Wednesday 20th December 1865: -

The advertisement for Wheeler & Wilson's Lock Stitch Sewing Machine claimed that "these machines can easily be worked by a child and the printed directions sent in every case are sufficient to enable the purchaser to become a proficient in its use without any other instruction" and that it would be "the best Christmas and New Year's Gift".

From the Pembrokeshire Police diaries and charge sheets for September 1865, with additional information from the censuses and parish registers and from the "Haverfordwest and Milford Haven Telegraph" on the Petty Sessions proceedings: -

On 6th September 1865, a case of assault was brought by Elizabeth Hire of Freystrop against Mary Owens of 36 Cardmaker's Pool, Freystrop. "A quarrel appeared to have begun about a chain, and the women not only used their tongues, but pushed and struck each other." The case was dismissed, each party having to pay their own costs. The witnesses appearing in the case were George Sutton and Ann Griffiths. Elizabeth was the wife of James Hire, a collier, and had been baptised on St David's Day 1812 at Llangwm parish church, the daughter of William and Mary Owen of Llangwm. In 1861, Elizabeth was living at Windy Hill on Freystrop Mountain, sharing her home with her husband and 11 other people; by 1871, she had moved to 45 Cardmaker's Pool. Mary Owens (née Cousens) was the wife of Nicholas Owens, a collier originally from Johnston.

During 9th September 1865, the police visited Black Tar twice on "suspicion of beer being sold on the premises of Mrs Young but found nothing to cause suspicion".

On 20th September 1865, George Jones and James Davies of Llangwm, fishermen, were charged with illegally fishing for salmon "with a fixed engine" on the Western Cleddau on 24th August. The case was dismissed on the grounds "that, the boat only being fastened by an anchor, the net used for fishing was not a fixed engine within the meaning of the statute".

And, finally, John Folland of Llangwm, lighterman, was charged with being "drunk and riotous".

Nikki Bosworth - Pembrokeshire Archives

Open Week at the Museum - always a popular haunt!

As ever, this summer's Open Week at the Edwards Pill Museum proved a hit with many local clubs, groups and societies - as well as the village's own Open Day there.

Some of the groups which visited this year included Mathry WI, Keyston History, Age Cymru, Walwyn's Castle

Local History, Pembrokeshire Industrial Heritage, Elliot's Hill Explorers Club, Pembrokeshire Circle, and the Royal British Legion, with the refreshments on Saturday provided by the volunteers from St Jerome's Church, with the monies collected (£650) going to the Church.

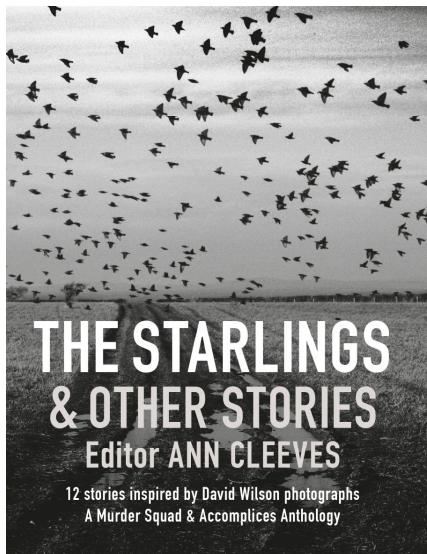
Other 'events' benefitting from the collection were the Bolton Hill School re-union in July who borrowed the desks/easel and school equipment, and Freystrop WI who had an evening 'get together' having to guess the use of 20 unusual items from the collection.

Next year, Pat and Jeff will again be opening their little 'museum' for various societies/groups/charities, and the open week is to be from 23rd to 28th May, with Saturday 28th May again an Open Day for the village, with the usual teas/cakes.

Their chosen charity next year is to be the Wales Air Ambulance, a worthy cause and one which will be much appreciated on the locality.

If you have a club/society/charity you want to bring in that week - please contact them direct at wjjames@btinternet.com or telephone 01437 890841

NEW CRIME FICTION BOOK INSPIRED BY DAVID WILSON PHOTOGRAPHS



Llangwm-based photographer David Wilson has launched a new book.

'The Starlings & Other Stories' is a unique collaboration between David and twelve renowned crime fiction writers in the UK.

The book was the idea of top crime author Ann Cleeves, whose books 'Vera' and 'Shetland' have been serialised for television.

Ann Cleeves happened to see David's first landscape photography book 'Pembrokeshire' at a friend's house and was fascinated by the black and white images of the county.

She decided to invite a group of fellow crime authors called 'The Murder Squad' to select an image each from the book as the inspiration for a short story.

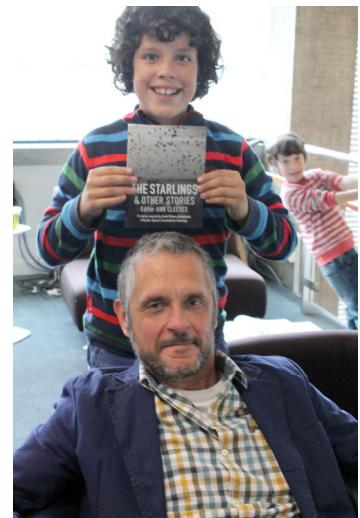
The result is an anthology of twelve short crime fiction tales, the starting point to each story being the writer's chosen image.

One of the tales is a new 'Vera' instalment which harks back to her youth, while another of the stories is by 'Scott and Bailey' writer Cath Staincliffe.

Asked about the new book David, who lives in Williamston Terrace, said: "It's a really exciting project and a great compliment for my images to be chosen by such an esteemed group of writers.

"Ten of the twelve stories are based in Pembrokeshire and there's even a dark tale centred on Port Lion and Llangwm!"

To celebrate the launch, David will be holding a book signing at The Cottage Inn, Llangwm on Friday 13 November between 6 and 8 pm. Look up www.davidwilsonphotography.co.uk



David at BBC Wales where he was interviewed about the book recently, with sons Charlie and Harry.

PLANT STALL RAISES RECORD FUNDS FOR CHARITY

A popular feature of the top part of the village in spring and summer is the Plant Stall run by Liz and Stuart Beresford at 'Laburnums', The Kilns. Many gardeners have benefited from its variety of plants, shrubs, flowers and vegetables, on sale as small cuttings or fully grown pot plants.

Last year the stall raised £350 for the Macmillan Cancer Appeal. This year, with the help of friends and well wishers, Stuart and Liz have raised a whopping £660 for Prostate Cymru.

The photograph shows (from the left) Stuart and Liz Beresford with Lynne and Stephen Vincent Davies, who generously contributed pelargoniums (of which Stephen is an expert breeder), sambucus and many large border plants.



Liz and Stuart would like to extend their thanks to everyone in and around the village who bought plants and provided much needed plant pots.

At the time of writing, there are still plants and shrubs for sale up at The Kilns. Keen gardeners, take note!

Dylan's Lemon Café - an eight-year-old's amazing enterprise

In the school Summer holidays I ran a lemon café at the village hall to raise money for the charity WaterAid. I wanted to do this because I have wanted to run a café for quite a while and I really love lemons so I thought putting the two together was a good idea! I chose WaterAid because I couldn't believe how many families across the world can't get clean water but we take it for granted here, especially in the Summer. People also don't have things like taps and toilets and I wanted to do what I could to help with that.

It took a lot of planning, and there was so much to think about. I had to make leaflets to give out to school so every pupil had one before the end of term. Then I made the posters and put them around the area. I wanted the Hall to look like a proper café so I had tablecloths, table numbers, serviettes, and menus. It was fun putting the menu together and deciding what to sell.

It was difficult working out how much lemonade to make. I had a friend who got me a huge box of lemons from the Priory Farm Shop in Tenby and some people left lemons in our porch at home which was a brilliant surprise! I thought it would be good if I had a competition to guess how many lemons I squeezed to make the lemonade, and charged 20p a go. I squeezed 41 lemons – with a bit of help from my Dad!

I made lemon drizzle cake and there were lots of donations of cakes on the day which was brilliant. Upton Farm

delivered their freezer so I could sell ice-creams too.

I want to say thank you to everyone who helped me with the café with donations, and family, friends, neighbours, and everyone who came to the café on the day. I also want to thank Charlie Wilson who helped me out in the kitchen, it was very busy! I had some lemons leftover so sold them at the end of our lane.

The total raised from the day was £162.33. I had other donations on my JustGiving page too so the grand total for WaterAid was £489.33.

I really loved running the café, it was hard work but the best bit was seeing lots of people coming in and drinking my lemonade, which sold out! Lots of people asked me if I would run one again next year so I might do that.

Dylan Allman, now aged 9 (just!)



**In support of
WaterAid**



THE VILLAGE SHOP - PLEASE NOTE

Christmas Opening Hours

Christmas Eve – 7am-2pm

Christmas Day – closed

Boxing Day – closed

New Year's Day – closed

At all other times, Normal Opening Hours

Weekdays 7am-1pm, 2pm-6pm

Saturdays 8am-1pm

Sundays 9am-12noon

There may be changes to Post Office Counter hours when Pat goes in for hip surgery. At present she runs the post office counter for 45 hours per week, even though she is contracted and paid for only 22 hours. It is her choice to provide this extra service while she is in the shop, but obviously she cannot offer these extra post office duties while she is recuperating. Watch for notice of changes. (The shop counter will continue as normal.)

STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS

POP UP CAFÉ FOR UNICEF

Syrian Children's Appeal

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our 'pop-up' cafe in the Village Hall on 17th October and donated cakes, bric-a-brac and helped wash up, clear tables, etc etc! Thanks to the Skylarks for fab music and a great atmosphere.

It was great to see so many of you there and we raised an unbelievable £734!! Every single penny will go the Unicef Syria Children's Appeal so we are really chuffed and grateful for your support, thank you.

(By the way, there were 269 conkers in the jar!) *Anna Wilson*

Support your village shop. You need it, and it needs you.

Scout Group's New Home At Last

On 1st May 2015 the 1st Johnston Scout Group and Community Hall in Hill Mountain was officially opened by UK Chief Commissioner for The Scout Association Mr Wayne Bulpitt.

It was a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Harry Dixon (Skip/Rikki) who was Scout leader for 28 years, sadly passing away in 2013.

On opening the hall, Mr Bulpitt said:

"It's such a pleasure to open the fantastic facilities at Hill Mountain and to see first-hand why 1st Johnston Group is such a successful Scout Group and will now be able to provide even more life-changing opportunities to young people."

The Group has been running for 39 years, for much of that time moving base depending on facilities available in the locality so a permanent home in Hill Mountain now provides a wonderful opportunity for both the young people and the wider community. There are 45 young people in the 3 sections, all working hard with their Scouting, coming from the catchment areas of Johnston, Hill Mountain, Llangwm, Rosemarket, and Freystrop.

The sections meet each week during term-time:
Beavers (5½ – 8 years) : Fridays 5.15 – 6.30 pm
Cubs (8–10½ years) : Fridays 6.45 – 8.15 pm
Scouts (10½–14 years) : Tuesdays 6.30 – 8.30 pm

They participate in a wide range of activities including games, visits, hikes, camps, community work, crafts and much, much more! There is currently a waiting list for Cubs but we are actively recruiting Beavers and Scouts so if you know a young person who might be interested, a warm welcome awaits them to come along and find out what it's all about.

We also need more adult helpers, so if you can offer an hour a month, or more, or just occasional assistance, please do get in touch. It is only thanks to our volunteers that we are able to continue with the Group.

Fundraising activities are an important part of the Group's work as we near completion of the 2nd phase, but we are actively looking for sponsorship with materials such as paint, varnish, tiles etc. and of course labour! We welcome positive Community interest and input at every level. All support and donations are welcome.

To discuss any of the above or to make a booking at the Scout & Community Hall, please contact Pat Dixon, Group Scout Leader on

07824748748 / 01646 602334

Lorraine Allman

All about 'SPARKLETREE'

We are a **group of beaders** ranging from total beginners to the more accomplished beaders. We meet on a Thursday in Llangwm village hall, 11 till 3.

We are a friendly group of all ages who come together to learn and share knowledge, experience and company (and also our lunch!)

We work with a range of different craft media including wire, beads and polymer clay, making a wide range of jewellery including wedding and practical gifts. Also on occasions we have visiting guest tutors who work with specialist materials.

Should you require any information please contact **Esther** on **07919 046 172**.

{All Things}

Bright & Beautiful Christmas Fair

Saturday 28th November 10-2pm
Llangwm Village Hall

Handmade and beautiful items for sale -
a chance to buy luxury and artisan gifts

Seasonal refreshments
Activities for children
Free entry

Opened by 'The Mini Fleas' Ukulele group

Money raised in aid of Llangwm Festival Committee

WW1 proceeds to help today's young soldiers

Eight months on from Llangwm's triumphant World War 1 opera, it was still working its magic when two cheques for £1,000 were presented to armed forces charities.

The cheques - proceeds from ticket sales from *WW1: a Village Opera* - were presented during the Llangwm carnival in July to Graham Johnson, poppy appeal organiser at the British Legion's Haverfordwest branch, and June Rowlands from Pembroke Dock, fundraising coordinator for Help for Heroes.

Presenting the cheques, Jane Mills of Llangwm Local History Society said: "The opera told the story of the village and some of its young men who fought and died on the Western front, so we felt it was appropriate to donate the proceeds to charities helping today's young soldiers.

"One of our major funders for the production, alongside the Heritage Lottery Fund, was the Ministry of Defence's Community Covenant."

WW1: a Village Opera, written by Llangwm-based composer Sue Howley and librettist Peter George was performed to packed houses in Llangwm, Haverfordwest and Newport, Pembrokeshire in November last year. DVDs of the production are still available for £10 from Llangwm village shop and the Victoria Bookshop in Haverfordwest.

Heather Payton



Llangwm Local History Society - current projects

Two projects currently being undertaken by the Society are the identification and recording of **field names** in the area and also the recording of **traditional names of places on the river**. In the case of the field names, a 1908 Ordnance Survey base map is being used and with the help of local farmers and residents as many of the old field names as possible are being logged. Recent farming methods have meant that many field boundaries have been removed to accommodate modern machinery so the task is not an easy one. However, once complete, we will have a record of field names dating back to the days when men and horses worked the land and everyone knew a place within the old parish by the name of a field.

In a similar way, the names of locations along the river are being recorded and mapped. Traditionally, the river formed a major artery for the transport of goods and movement of people. As such, every inlet, rock or landing place was given a name – **'Crafty'**, **'Ginny's'**, **'Ladies Table'**, **'Ship's Stern'**, **'Gullydraft'** to name but a few. Many have slipped out of usage as roads have become the way in which people move around. Hopefully, the knowledge of these names still exists amongst the older generation who fished the river and these can be located and written down for future generations.

The Society is also planning an **exciting project for 2016**. Back in the 1970s, local schools and communities

undertook a **modern Domesday project**. Just as William the Conqueror had compiled a list of everything in his new kingdom in his Domesday Book of 1086, the 1970 version aimed to give a snapshot of life throughout the countryside at that time. As Llangwm did not take part in the 1970s scheme it is the aim of the Society to provide a Domesday type picture for the coming year. Clearly, recording every nut and bolt of life in Llangwm in 2016 would be overwhelming so a selective cross section of village life is being planned with photographs, video and narrative being digitalised for future generations. What may seem mundane and inconsequential today is the very essence of history in a hundred years' time.

Graham Stephens

Llangwm Cemetery, Pill Parks Way

In 2004 archivist Nikki Bosworth painstakingly recorded all the accessible graves in Pill Parks Cemetery, including full headstone inscriptions wherever possible. That list has now been revised by the History Society to show the very few new interments since 2004 and to record those graves where the headstone or marker no longer exists or where the grave is no longer accessible. A surname index to the graves has been compiled and all accessible headstones and markers will be photographed.

Information will be accessible through the Record Office and the History Society. Hopefully this will continue to be a valuable resource for those searching for family connections.

Richard Horton

Llangwm Local History Society -Walks and Talks 2015

It's been a very busy year with a varied **programme of walks and talks**.

In January our first topic of the year was **Pembrokeshire in the Civil War**. The speaker, **Terry John**, who dressed in costume of the time, gave a very knowledgeable talk and brought along artefacts from the period for us to see. In March **Richard Howells** from Hook gave us a very informative talk on **Local Government over the Years**, drawing on his own experiences.

In April the talk was entitled **The History of the Islands of Skomer and Skokholm**. The speaker was **David Saunders**, who, for 7 years in the 60s, had lived on Skomer as warden, along with his family.

In May, we had a trip to the North of the county to have a **guided tour of Ffynone House**. The house is a Grade 1 listed building dating from 1793 and was designed by the renowned architect, John Nash. It was restored in 1987 by the grandson of politician David Lloyd George and still remains in the Lloyd George family.

Following the trip to the house, the group then went on to see **Cilwendeg Shell House**, an ornamental grotto to the east of Boncath. Before returning home we visited **Manordeifi Old Parish Church**, being thirteenth century and retaining many original features.

June saw a group of us visiting **Penally Village Hall** for an illustrated talk by **David Glennerster** on the **trenches** which had been dug on the headland for training soldiers preparing to fight in World War 1. After the talk, and tea and cake, provided by **Penally History**

and Village Hall Committee members, David took us up to the **headland** where it was possible to look down and see what remained of the trenches.

As part of **Festival Week** in July, **Graham Stephens** led a very large group of people around the village on an **historical walk**, using his vast knowledge of **Llangwm** to point out many features of interest. The walk demonstrated just how much history from all eras there is on our own doorsteps.

In September a historical walk around **Bluestone**, the **National Park Resort**, took place, led by **Terry John**. As usual, Terry was very informative about the area and showed us the ruins of an old church and a moated ruin which was once a manor house.

A **minibus trip**, organized by the

National Park, also took place in September, to the **Castlemartin Range** which is owned by the **Ministry Of Defence**. The range is a fascinating place of old disused farmhouse buildings; a church, which is still partially in use; fossils; flora and fauna. A very varied, interesting day which was very enjoyable.

In October **Ted Goddard** gave a brilliant talk on '**Nelson in Pembrokeshire**'.

On Tuesday evening 10th of November, **Rob Scourfield** will be at the village hall to give a talk on **Buildings of Pembrokeshire**.

On Wednesday 9th December it is our **AGM** (+ film). Why not come along? At present membership is £5 per year, or £2 per talk for non-members.

Eileen Horton



Graham Stephens leads a History Walk around the village, as part of the Llangwm summer festival. Over 40 people attended.

Llangwm Allotment Society



This year has again been a successful year on the allotment and the beautiful weather in September has been a bonus.

In June we held our

first BBQ, luckily it was dry and everyone enjoyed themselves. It was a great chance to

welcome some of our new plot holders and we all hope there will be more opportunities for us to get together socially.

Plots on the allotment do become available and currently we have no one on the waiting list.

If you are interested please contact Kim Sandford 01437 891127 for more information.



Llangwm Village Voices - the Choir at Large

Well it took three years but finally *Bohemian Rhapsody* appeared in the repertoire. Freddy Mercury would have been proud....or turning in his grave depending on whether or not the sopranos managed to hit the *B flat* at its debut at the Rugby Club in July. It certainly took an age to learn.

The Good Friday concert in St Mary's Church in Haverfordwest was possibly our best to date. We were joined by choirs *Tempus* and *Cantabile* and performed Sue Howley's *Requiem*, *Dies Irae*, *Libera Me*, and *Sanctus* from the opera. We added Faure's *La Cantique de Jean Racine*, Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* and raised money for the Paul Sartori fund. Seimon Morris accompanied. *Cantabile* ladies' choir sang Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* in the first half of the concert. The premiere of Sue's '*Lacrimae*' for two recorders and harp was also performed.

We were all very uplifted by an afternoon at Portfield Special School. The children there gave rapt attention to our singing and we joined them in a gospel medley.

And we gave another performance of the *Requiem* after a talk during the *Black Diamond Art Project* in the old Ocky White building in Haverfordwest. Jas Cutting and Fran Evans' duet of the *Pie Jesu* was spine-tingling. Their young clear voices blend together beautifully.

We trooped off afterwards to Fortune's Frolic on the riverbank to record an *a cappella* version of Verdi's *Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves*. It was intended to be included in a rave version of music collected around the Haven. Some weeks later, as we stood on the shore at Black Tar singing our hearts out to the accompaniment of John Roach and Graham Brace on guitars, a boat careered through the moorings bearing a huge loudspeaker boozing out a big bass rhythm. No music as far as we could tell but we gamely soldiered on with *Sloop John B* and *Messing About on the River*. A parade of people

(from a bus following the rave project upriver) had walked from the centre of the village along Rectory Road, down Darkie Lane and along the shore, one completely blue, one in silver, chanting and beating out yet another rhythm. Certainly something that Black Tar had not witnessed before.

So that was the year over, after the now traditional visit to Williamston Nursing Home's summer fete and a gig at the Rugby Club in aid of the Paul Sartori Foundation, with soloists Nick Allen (tenor) and Laura Nix (flute). But we all decided to carry on throughout the summer, helped by the Port Authority's kind donation of a new keyboard and the History Society's donation of a carrying case to go with it.

And now it's autumn. St Jerome's has just closed with our concert of sacred music (the serious stuff). Our soloists were the bass Colin Rogers and Robin Joseph beautifully playing the clarinet.

Before long, we will be back in force singing by invitation at Withybush Pavilion at a charity dinner

on Friday 20th November in aid of Adam's Bucketful of Hope.

Leading up to Christmas, don't miss Village Voices' singalong at the Open Mic night in the Rugby Club on Fri 4th December. Don't be

shy...come along, sing your heart out - and if you're up to it, perform your party piece!

There will once again be carols (and mince pies) in the Village Hall on Thursday 10th December. Hopefully *Cantabile* ladies' choir will join us.

Anybody is very very welcome to join us on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in the village hall. Subs are £5 per calendar month. Check us out on our Facebook page: *Llangwm Village Voices*.

Fiona Cutting



Llangwm & District Gardening Club News Oct 2015

I have to start by saying how sad we were to hear of the sudden and untimely death of Alan Rawlings, a long time club member. Our sympathies are with Liz, his wife, who was one of the Club's founder members, and he will be missed at club meetings.

Having just enjoyed a lovely spell of high pressure weather - better than in the "summer"! - it made me think about how much effect the **jet stream** has on our weather. Circling the northern hemisphere at hundreds of miles an hour, it oscillates up and down slightly and the pattern slowly moves from west to east. When we are above a dip, **low pressure** anticlockwise areas (cyclonic) are thrown off like eddies in a stream and we get rain and wind, usually from the southwest - we all know about that in Pembrokeshire! When the pattern nudges over a bit and the path of the jet stream goes over us towards the north, we get clockwise **high pressure** systems (anticyclonic) that result in nice settled fine weather – hot in summer, very cold but dry in winter.

Jet stream positions:



How About These?

In recent weeks the BBC has been running a series of dramatisations of some well known and some not so well known plays/novels. There were two, in particular, that caught my notice: **'The Go Between'** and **'Cider with Rosie'**. The first, written by LP Hartley (a not much read author these days), is a fine story which captures an age now long gone, the England of the pre first world war era, as only he can. Sometimes, television does ill

justice to such works but not on this occasion. If you have not read the book then you would not be wasting your energies to invest a bit of time. If you enjoy it then Hartley's **'Eustace and Hilda'** books would also appeal to you.

'Cider with Rosie' is better known, perhaps because it has been a standard text in schools for many years. It is episodic in form and therefore not the easiest book to capture on television but they pulled it off remarkably well. Laurie Lee's book captures his childhood in rural Gloucestershire in an affectionate, funny and honest way. Slad, the village in which he grew up, in many respects, was not that different from the Llangwm I grew

up in some years later.

If you want something briefer and lighter then how about '**Fatty O'Leary's Dinner Party**' by Alexander McCall Smith?

In this year of the Rugby World Cup, on-going as I write this, I leave you with a verse from a poem that inspired Nelson Mandela whilst a prisoner for 27 years on Robben island. Mandela was an enormous influence in South Africa's victory in the competition in 1995.

"It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments
the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul."

Barry Childs

Whatever the weather, our club members turn out to support meetings – **September** was a “**Dig & Divide**” plant and seed swap evening, a chance to acquire some more plants/seeds in exchange for surplus stock. In **October** we had a bit of a “**Wine Fest**”, with an illustrated talk on fruit wine making from Chairperson Maureen John, followed by an exercise in **winetasting** with some commercial wines. Needless to say it was a very sociable evening as well!



Winetasting



Winemaking

The rest of **our programme** for this year is shown below:

Nov 2 nd	Joseph Atkins (Aberglasney) –Kitchen Gardening
Dec 7 th	Christmas Dinner
Jan 4 th	New Year Quiz & Nibbles
Feb 1 st	Katrina Pitches - Garden Flowers of Madeira
Mar 7 th	Mark Thomas - Scolton Walled Garden
Apr 4 th	To be confirmed, possibly Heritage Plants
May 9 th	Garden Treasure Trail
May 21 st	Sat am Plant Sale - venue to be announced
Jun 6 th	Skomer Plants
Jul 4 th	AGM & BBQ
Aug	Holiday

All are welcome, meetings at The Cottage Inn 7.30pm on the 1st Mon of the month.

Maureen John

Home are the sailors, home from the sea*

(* quoted with apologies to R.L. Stevenson)

Dee and Pippa DeMengel, of The Gail, Llangwm, recently completed a thrilling seven-year circumnavigation of the world. Here in a nutshell is Dee's account of their epic voyage.



Sula on her mooring at Black Tar

Sula is a 31ft Elizabethan fibre glass sailing yacht. She is rather small by today's standards for ocean sailing. On the other hand she was built in the early days of fibre glass lamination, before they fully appreciated the strength of GRP. The result is that they used a much thicker laminate than is nowadays considered necessary. Sula is therefore rather heavy, a little slow, but much stronger than a modern yacht of her size. I know what sort of yacht I would choose to be sailing, if caught out in a gale!



A quiet anchorage in France

Pippa and I didn't set out to sail around the world, That would have been far too scary. We merely sailed to the Mediterranean via the Bay of Biscay, to confirm that we enjoyed living aboard a small yacht. Then one thing led to

another and of course, despite a few early reservations we loved it.



Sula in Cala Cova, Spain

Having dipped our toes in the water, we sailed to the Canaries and across the Atlantic Ocean to the Caribbean. Then, as the summer approached, a decision had to be made. Do we return home, or pass through the Panama Canal and commit ourselves to a circumnavigation? By this time Sula had proved her seaworthiness. Our sailing skills were well honed, and we were having the time of our lives. The decision to continue was carried unanimously.

Self sufficiency is essential at sea, the AA won't attend a breakdown. So we carried a lot of spare parts, a comprehensive tool kit, and the skills to use them. If things do break, you can bet your boots it will be something hard to get at, perhaps under the engine or up the mast..



Running repairs at sea

Between July 2008 and July 2015 we were to sail a distance of 50,000 nautical miles. Here is an abridged intinerary of our course:-

*Dale - Cornwall - France - Portugal - Spain - Gibraltar - Mediterranean (Greece & Turkey)
 Gibraltar (again) - Madeira - Canaries - Caribbean - Panama - Transit of Panama Canal - Galapagos - Marquesas - South Pacific - Tahiti - Tonga - New Zealand - New Caledonia - Bundaberg, Australia - Northern Territories, Darwin - Western Australia, Dampier - Cocos Keeling - Reunion - South Africa - St Helena - Cape Verde - Azores - Llangwm*

Yet another idyllic anchorage

As well as visiting some wonderful places (and a few horrible ones) we experienced almost every possible emotion during our circumnavigation:-

- * **Gratification** as Sula steered a true course across an ocean, and we knew she was in good condition and thoroughly seaworthy.
- * **Pleasure** in meeting new people, both locals and fellow sailors
- * **Satisfaction** at making a difficult landfall on a remote and distant shore, then dropping anchor in a quiet and secluded bay.
- * **Discomfort**, tiredness and anxiety, as we took it in turn to do four-hour watches (lookout) 24



hours a day, day and night.

- * **Fear** as we saw a gale approaching, and had to go on deck to reduce sail.
- * **Relief** as the gale passed and not only left us unscathed, but renewed our faith in Sula's seaworthiness.
- * **Exhilaration** as the sun rose and we saw our landfall after a long passage.
- * **Joy** at making our way up our beautiful Cleddau River. The upper reaches match and surpass a surprising number of the lovely places we have visited. But to be met at Black Tar by many of our friends was the icing on the cake.

Dee de Mengel



Above: Two happy sailors being taken ashore at Black Tar



*Right: A fabulous homecoming welcome
 (Thanks to Jason Davies for the coming ashore photos)*

For a full account of our voyage see our Blog at:- sula-dee-pippa.blogspot.co.uk
Or you might just try googling:- sula of Llangwm



Cleddau Reach VC Primary School News

Welcome to the Cleddau Reach VC School section of the newsletter. The items below provide information about some of the events and activities that have taken place recently.

The staff and children have settled very well into the new school year. At present 230 children attend the school.

Red Carpet Rolled out in London for Cleddau Reach Film Club at the Mini Oscars



Our film club were celebrating in March as they were finalists in the national Film Club of the Year Award for Under 12s. Cleddau Reach was chosen from thousands of entries from other film clubs across the UK and were one of just three schools nominated for this prestigious UK award, sponsored by 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment.

Year 5 and Year 6 Film Club members were accompanied by staff to the awards ceremony in Leicester Square London on Tuesday 24th March. The judging panel which included Sir Alan Parker and other professional filmmakers made the following comments about our Film Club.



'Cleddau Reach Film Club has only been running a year but has had a real impact. It attracts a quarter of all pupils in this rural primary school, including those with physical and learning disabilities. There is clear and welcome support for activities from the head teacher and parents.

The school clearly recognises the value of film as a tool for developing literacy. Pupils have developed

sharp analytical skills, becoming confident and prolific film reviewers. Film across the curriculum is also a strong feature of this application, which reflects a clear understanding of how the medium can act as a springboard for learning in areas including drama, storytelling, personal development and numeracy.

Watching, making and understanding film are clearly integrated in the school curriculum as

well as in after-school activity. Clearly a school with a mission and passion for film!

What has been achieved so far is very impressive and the club has the potential to develop into a very impressive enrichment to children's lives.'

The children and staff who travelled to London had a long but memorable and exciting day.

Summer Sporting Success



During the summer term both the girls and the mixed cricket teams won through the regional and then the county tournament to reach the South Wales finals in Cardiff. Both teams competed with determination at the finals and won several of their games. This was the fourth consecutive year that the mixed cricket team had reached the South Wales finals and the first occasion for the girls team. We were all very proud of their efforts!

Pembrokeshire Enterprise Festival

The Year 5 children from Cleddau Reach once again planned a successful project for the Pembrokeshire Enterprise Festival in June. This year they developed a range of items based on the designs of William Morris. The judges commented on how well they were able to explain their project and the polite and friendly way in which they communicated with members of the public. Their stall was very popular and they made a profit of £114.72 from the items sold on the day.



Cleddau Reach Christmas Market



Our Christmas Market will take place at the school on **Tuesday 24th November**. The festive fun will start at 6pm. Once again there will be a wide variety of stalls run by the school, parents and local artists. Refreshments will be available and it promises to be another wonderful evening for those in search of some early Christmas shopping and cheer!



GALILEE BAPTIST CHAPEL

MINISTER: Reverend Roger Hart
SECRETARY: Mr Huw Breeze
TREASURER: Mr Peter Phillips

Sunday Services at 10.30am will be taken as follows:-

November	1	Rev Roger Hart
	8	Rev Roger Hart
	15	Rev Roger Hart
	22	Mr Nigel Thomas
	29	Mr Dennis Payne
December	6	Rev Roger Hart
	13	Rev Lawrence Mitchell

DEC 20 SERVICE OF 'READINGS and CAROLS'
with Rev. Roger Hart presiding

DEC 25 UNITED CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICE
will be held at Galilee at **9.30am**, with Rev Roger Hart

(Dec 27 No service at Galilee)

New Year, Sunday Services as normal. All are welcome.

The ladies of the Women's League meet fortnightly on Thursdays at 2pm in the vestry.

We wish everyone a Peaceful and Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Over the last few months, several issues have come to the attention of the Community Council. For example:

1. Dog Fouling on Pill Parks fields

Numerous complaints have been made about dog fouling on the rugby and cricket pitches at Pill Park Way. Committee members have regularly had to clear the fields before any game. On occasion some excrement has been missed resulting in the game being stopped.

This is a health hazard and potentially VERY dangerous to health, particularly for the numerous children who play and take part in sport regularly on the pitches. Dog excrement may contain parvovirus, whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, (which can cause blindness) threadworms, E. Coli, campylobacteriosis, giardia, and coccidia. If left unattended, these parasites will contaminate the water, soil, and can even cause infection in other pets and people (especially children). In severe cases this can cause disease to the brain, liver, heart or eyes. *Readers might remember the young lad from Angle who after playing for his local team became seriously ill following a waste-related incident.*

Following discussions with Pembrokeshire County Council, the Dog Warden and Llangwm Rugby and Cricket Club Committee members, it was decided that there would be:

LLANGWM METHODIST CHURCH

MINISTER: Reverend Hugh-John Wilson
SECRETARY: Mrs Jane Brock
TREASURER: Mrs Susan Davies

Sunday Services: 11am every Sunday

Sunday School: 11am every Sunday

Please come and join us - Children of all ages welcome. We meet every Sunday morning 11am – 12noon. We read bible stories, sing, crafts, drama, puzzles, games and colouring but most of all we have an enjoyable hour and have fun.

Women's Fellowship:
Fortnightly on Wednesdays – 2.00pm

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Coffee, Mince Pies & Carols -
Friday 4th December at 7.00pm

Carol Service –
Sunday 20th December at 11am

United Christmas Morning Service will be held this year at Galilee Baptist Chapel, 9.30am

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

- targeted patrols by the wardens at random times during the day;
- PCC will provide assistance in sourcing larger notices to go around the field;
- and dog owners who let their dogs roam free, or who do not pick up their dog mess will be reported to the Dog Warden. This could result in a large fine.

So, this is a plea -

- Please keep your dog on a lead;
- ONLY walk your dog around the perimeter of the fields on the public footpath;
- and pick up your dog's mess and put the plastic bag in the bin at the field's entrance.

This is obviously NOT directed at responsible dog owners.

Let's keep our children safe!

2. Noticeboard

A big "THANK YOU" to the Rev. Jane and her family for bequeathing a generous donation towards a new notice board. The Community Council funded the remainder and also the placement of the board.

If you wish to place community news or projects on the board please see Mrs Pat Morris at the Village Shop or send to the Clerk - Mrs Kathy Codd codd1946@btinternet.com, or call 01646 601655 (evenings 6pm - 9pm).

Llangwm Community Council

Heritage Llangwm Project Moves Forwards

After three years of hard planning, we've succeeded in raising all of the £419,000 needed to undertake the biggest renovation to St Jerome's church since 1879, while the massive research aspect of the project is already underway. At the time of writing, we have just been notified by CADW that they are making a provisional grant offer of £45,000. A contractor will be appointed shortly and the works will start once formalities have been completed with CADW and HLF.

Meanwhile various teams have been brought together to work on the other aspects of this project. The **History Team** which involves members of Llangwm's Local History Society are finding out what they can about the medieval Flemish settlement of Pembrokeshire, their culture and way of life and they are discovering more about the De la Roche family who made Llangwm their home sometime between 1130 and 1403.

The **six tapestry teams** are nearly all in place, each being responsible for one of the six special images, designed by Fran Evans using drawings provided by children from both Cleddau Reach & Hook Schools. Over the next year, everyone will have the opportunity to take part. Watch out for announcements on posters and the Heritage Llangwm website as occasionally, the tapestry frames will come together in the Village Hall so that people may come to see the progress being made and add stitches themselves. Tenders for the production of the special App that will enable the tapestry to communicate with mobile devices have been invited and a company will be appointed shortly.

The community driven **archaeology** is planned for April next year. Under the guidance of Dyfed Archaeology, excavations will be conducted at the site of the medieval manor house at Great Nash. Some volunteers have come forward, but there is always space for more.

In May, seven local men who can claim an unbroken **ancestry** down the male line for at least 250 years donated **DNA** to see if they are descended from the original Fleming settlers. At the time of writing we are awaiting those results.

A date for your diaries – 16th April 2016.

Llangwm is to mark the 700th wedding anniversary of Sir David and Lady Johanna De la Roche, the lord and lady of this particular medieval manorial estate between 1316 and 1345 and who were married in St. Jerome's Church. To mark this event, there will be a special medieval day with visiting knights, medieval games, music, court jesters, falconers and lessons in archery and sword play, and some surprises before the day ends with a medieval banquet. The guests of honour will be Lady Johanna and Sir David, their roles being taken by a 16 year old female and a 26 year old male from this village. If you fit those two age and gender profiles and would like to take part, please collect an Application form from the shop.

You can follow events day by day via the Heritage Llangwm website www.heritagellangwm.org.uk and the new **Heritage Llangwm Facebook page**.

Pam Hunt

THIS VILLAGE REMEMBERS...

Two events will shortly again take place in Llangwm which have for many years shown the respect and remembrance paid to the men of the village who went away to war to fight for their families and freedom—and who paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives.

The losses sustained in the First World War were indelibly marked on the consciousness of the present-day villagers with last year's epic **Exhibition and Village Opera**. And each year attendances at the **Remembrance Concert** and the **Remembrance Service** on the village green have grown in size and depth of tribute.

Here are the details of this year's events. Please come along to pay homage to those who died fighting for the freedom we enjoy today.

REMEMBRANCE CONCERT



To mark 70 years since
VE Day and VJ Day
featuring



GOODWICK BRASS

Full 30-piece Band
National Brass Band Champions

There will be some surprises!

Friday 6th November at 7.30 p.m.
Cleddau Reach School*, Llangwm

(*please note new venue this year)
Tickets £6.00 (adults) and £3.00 (children)
from Llangwm Shop or Pam Hunt 01437 89 99 66
Proceeds in aid of the British Legion

NOTICE FROM LLANGWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Please join us for a SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE



**to be held at
THE MEMORIAL
on**



LLANGWM VILLAGE GREEN

on

SUNDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2015

at 10.00 a.m.

ST. JEROME'S NEWS



There have been two major events involving St. Jerome's as this issue of the Llangwm newsletter went to press.

On Sunday September 13th all three parish churches gathered in St. Jerome's for an afternoon service to celebrate Harvest and sadly, the last service to be conducted by Reverend Victoria, our Curate. It was a fun service, including the 'famous ball', action songs, even the Area Dean joining in with the children at the front of the church! A recently featured part of Worship Time had been 'the custard pie' choices section; this made a special appearance for David Mills, as he was unwell when it was first featured. This caused great laughter, especially for those who hadn't seen it before!

However, it was a service tinged with sadness as we said goodbye to Rev Victoria who had come to our parishes as a trainee under Rev Jane, ordained as Curate and had to take on the role of serving the 3 parishes after Rev Jane's death. She took up the difficult role with great enthusiasm and dedication and helped all of us through a very sad and difficult time, which we all thank her for. Rev Victoria has gained in confidence and hopefully her experiences here will be a steady guide in her new and exciting future life. After the service we all enjoyed a wonderful afternoon tea in the village hall, prepared by the ladies of all three churches. Rev Victoria was presented with gifts that would remind her of her time here with us, as well as thanking her for her time with us and good luck in the future in her new role as Priest-in-Charge.

The following week a large number of people from all three churches got on a bus around 5.30pm and travelled across the border to attend Rev Victoria's licensing service. She is to be Priest-in-Charge at Gorslas, Cross Hands, Llanedi and Tycoes with Saron. It was a bilingual service conducted by the Venerable Roger Hughes, Archdeacon of Carmarthen. After the service everyone was invited to an evening buffet prepared by the ladies of her new parishes. It was past 11pm when the bus returned to Llangwm!

The second big news is that St. Jerome's Church has now closed for the start of its restoration work. This will be for a period of approximately 12 months. There will still be St. Jerome's Sunday services; from October for a period 6 months we shall be worshipping at Wesley Methodist Chapel, after that period we will be worshipping at Galilee Baptist Church.

As from the beginning of October, our services will be as follows:-

1st Sunday of each month WORSHIP TIME will be in Llangwm Village Hall at 10am.
2nd 3rd and 4th Sunday services will be at the Methodist Chapel at 9am.
If there is a 5th Sunday in the month, then it will be

a joint service at 10am at either Freystrop or Johnston Church.

The next joint service will be on Sunday 29th November at Johnston Church at 10am.

We have already had our first WORSHIP TIME in the village hall and it was very well attended. We hope everyone will continue to come and worship with us even though our venue has changed. As always, anyone wishing to attend any of our services will always be given a very warm welcome.

St. Jerome's would like to say a big thank you to all members of Wesley Methodist Chapel and Galilee Baptist Chapel for welcoming us into your Chapels during this restoration period of our Church.

STOP PRESS

It has just been announced that our new Rector will be Rev. Marcus Zipperlen, who with his wife and two young children will be moving into the Rectory here at Llangwm after Christmas. He will be licensed in January as Priest in Charge of Llangwm, Johnston and Freystrop. A big welcome is extended to him.

Meantime our grateful thanks are extended to Rev. Bill Lewis of Milford Haven, who will be looking after the parish for the next few months.

KRAFTY KIDS

On Saturday 31st October, in the Village Hall at 3pm - 4.30pm. Theme: **LIGHT PARTY**
PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME
Everyone is welcome.

ST. JEROME'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday 14th November at 2pm in the Village Hall

There will be a range of stalls including: Bottle Stall, which is always popular; Cake Stall, you won't be able to resist!, delicious Preserves Stall; our lovely Handicrafts Stall, where you are sure to find an unusual gift idea. Book Stall and more.... Refreshments available all afternoon. Everyone is welcome, so please come along and find yourself some gifts for Christmas.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

After last year's very popular and successful morning, Breakfast with Santa is back! It will be on Saturday 5th December, 9am - 1pm. We look forward to seeing lots of excited children - young and older!!

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve Service at 11.30pm to be held in Llangwm Methodist Chapel

United Christmas Morning Service will this year take place in Galilee Baptist Chapel at **9.30am** led by Rev Roger Hart.

Please check the St. Jerome's notice board and church gate for all the latest details.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Joyous and Peaceful Christmas and A Happy New Year in 2016.



Brother and sister excel at bowls at local, county and national level



Sara and James John-Davies, of River View, Llangwm

James John-Davies, of River View, Llangwm, has produced some fantastic outdoor bowls this season.

Club Level - James has represented his club (Haverfordwest Bowls Club) this year playing for the main first team both in the Domestic League and also the Carruthers Championship. Club Finals Week saw James in several semi-finals and final, losing in the semi-final of the 2-Wood Singles and coming runner-up in the 4-Wood Singles. He was also runner-up in the Mixed Triples which he played with his father Haydn and his sister Sara.

County Level - James played for the Senior County side this year.

National Level saw James travelling all over Wales to represent the Welsh Academy this season, where he still remains unbeaten.

Short Mat - James is now back to short mat bowling for the winter season representing his local club Freystrop. In December 2015 he will represent Pembrokeshire along with his Dad Haydn in the Tri-County Championship to be held in Newry, Ireland. He will also play for the Wales Under-21s later in the season in Carmarthen.

James' sister **Sara John-Davies** has had great results on the outdoor greens this year, playing for her club Haverfordwest and her team Picton.

Club Level - Sara reached Finals Week in several competitions, winning the Ladies 2-Wood Singles and the Mixed Pairs. She was also a runner-up in the Mixed Triples (see above) with her brother James and her Dad Haydn.

County Level - Sara was runner-up in the final of the 2-Wood Singles and was picked for the County Squad which this year came second in the Welsh Team Championship. She also received a last minute call (*as this newsletter went to press*) to play for the Senior County Squad in Ireland with James and dad Haydn - and will be interviewed by Bill Carne for a feature in the local press .

National Level again saw Sara in the semi-finals of the Under-18s Singles. She finished off her outdoor season with selection to the Welsh Under-25 Squad for next season.

Short Mat - Sara is now back at short mat training, representing her club Freystrop and Wales Under-21s later in the season.

Well done, James and Sara, on a great season's bowling.

Llangwm Soccer goes from strength to strength

It is the beginning of a third Season of football in the village, after a very successful first year where the team gained promotion from Division 5, being crowned as champions in the last minute of the final game of the season.

Last season was a tale of what could have been as the side finished in 4th position in division 4 missing promotion by only a few points. Also the club formed a second team which now plays in Division 5.

This season has started very well for the first

team who are currently top of division 4 after winning seven and drawing two of their first nine games and are so far undefeated. The second team is enjoying what must be described as social football in Division 5, with the lads being able to enjoy a run out on a Saturday afternoon and both teams enjoying the hospitality back in the Rugby Club after games, which they use as their HQ.

The teams both train on a Thursday night if there is anyone interested in getting involved.

R Scriven



Report from Llangwm Rugby Club



A strong start to the season with some tremendous performances against tough local sides and the scores at full time have never really reflected the way in which Llangwm played, and in certain cases have been far too flattering to our opponents.

Following the announcement of the Coaching Staff and Club Captain in the last issue of the Village News, things have rapidly changed with Mr Dave Barker having to leave his coaching position within the club for personal reasons, much to his regret, and the club wish him every success in his future ventures. Mr Dai Owen has also had to make a difficult decision just a few weeks into the new season, with injury forcing him to retire from the game and following a players meeting, Mr Aled Morgan was unopposed in selection and as such takes over from Dai as the Captain, and all wish him success in his new and challenging role.

As we look further into the new season, our home fixtures are fairly well spread out thanks to the Rugby World Cup and the 6 Nations, but our home fixtures for 2015 are:

Saturday 24 October – Neyland.
 Saturday 14 November – Milford Haven.
 Saturday 28 November – St Clears.
 All games kick off at 14:30.

Then we have the season stand out fixture and that is Llangwm hosting Haverfordwest for the Bishop Cup at Pill Parks on Saturday 26 December @ 14:30. Due to the original league fixture with Haverfordwest being scheduled for early January, and with the agreement of both Haverfordwest RFC and the WRU, this traditional Boxing Day fixture will now also count as a league game.

Moving into 2016, Llangwm has only 3 home games and these are against Pembroke Dock Quins, Laugharne and Pembroke to be played on 16 January, 20 February and the final day of the season, 05 March respectively.

In Cup news, Llangwm had a bye in the first round of the SWALEC Bowl, as our scheduled opponents, Trinity College, Lampeter, withdrew from the competition and we were automatically entered into the second round draw. Another away fixture in round 2, but as it is against fellow Division 3 West A rivals Milford Haven, at least we don't have to travel so far. The date of the first round of the Pembrokeshire KO Cup, with Llangwm at home to Pembroke Dock Quins, has yet to be confirmed, and will be announced on the website.

The WRU has recently announced that a joint bid by the BBC and ITV to broadcast the RBS 6 Nations from 2016 for 6 years has been accepted by the 6 Nations Council, and will allow us to continue to open the clubhouse to show the 6 Nations matches live.

The club has been represented at the AGM of the WRU held at the Vale Resort on 04 October, and regularly attended the District H meetings where local routine issues have been discussed and it has been helpful to have representatives of the WRU at these meetings. The support from our District Rep, Mr Gordon Eynon has been invaluable, especially in relaying the views of the club back to the WRU committee.

Thanks to the work of Mr Raymond Hunt, the rugby club can call upon a new facility this season. The bar area above the grandstand has been approved for, and issued with, a licence for the sale of alcohol. This has been successfully trialled during the cricket season. Those watching the rugby this season will benefit by being able to have a drink during the game. Spectators from

some of our local rivals who actually stay in the clubhouse and don't see any rugby can, at last, add something to their away trip – the match!! Tea and coffee will also be available.

There are still numbers available in the 100 draw and joining and paying for your ticket is extremely easy. Direct Debit forms are available through Raymond to allow the ease of paying £72.00 for entry into all 12 monthly draws, with your bank transferring money to the club annually, or monthly at a cost to you of £6.00. The £500.00 summer draw top prize along with the £1000.00 top prize for the Christmas draw still remain, along with other smaller monthly prizes.

S4C sent a camera unit in the club in July, to film during the Charity Concert in aid of the President's nominated charity, the Paul Sartori Foundation. The film unit were recording interviews for use in a programme they are producing about the village's Flemish connection. At the time of printing no date for transmission of this programme had been given.

It is with great sadness that we have to report on the deaths of several stalwarts of the club. We have been fortunate not to have to do this for a while, but in an extremely short period of only two weeks, Mr Huw Jones and Mr Roderick England, both ex-Chairmen of the club passed on, to be followed very shortly afterwards by Mrs Grace Rees, former Chair of the Ladies Committee. The thoughts of all at the club remain with their families.

Membership is now due and can be paid to any committee member at the clubhouse.

For all information about the rugby club, including details of the regular music nights, please visit the new Llangwm RFC web-site: <http://llangwmrfc.mywru.co.uk>

Please contact the Clubhouse for any information on membership, events or participation in rugby for Llangwm RFC. Tel: 01437 890462.

(Report by Steve Poole)

CAN YOU HELP?

The Club is urgently in need of help on match days.

Despite appeals to members there has been a shortage of people prepared to join the rugby committee with the result that the workload on those remaining is proving too much.

Any help with **first aid** and **player welfare, gate collection, bar, raffle tickets**, etc, would be most welcome - you wouldn't have to attend committee meetings!

Please contact Stephen Poole, Secretary on 01437 899322

Don't miss the next Live Music Nights in the Club...

Fri 13 Nov **JOHN LEWIS** legendary rockabilly and blues artiste (£5 on door)

Fri 4 Dec **OPEN MIC & SINGALONG NIGHT** with Village Voices & local musicians(Free entry)

Fri 11 Dec **COTTONMOUTH** The old favourites return (£5 on door)

...the music kicks off at 8.30 pm.

Llangwm Rugby Club

Junior Section

Despite good intentions to start training early this year the Junior Rugby stuck with tradition and began the season in September.

We currently have over 75 junior members playing on a regular basis and a few more who don't play so regularly.

We have 6 mini sides and 1 junior side (under 13s) playing on a regular basis, our under 9s, 10s, 11s, 12s and 13s play tackle rugby and the under 7s and under 8s play tag rugby. All sides have got off to an enthusiastic start this season.

The junior section is supported by a small committee and a group of dedicated coaches. Without our volunteers we could not run the junior section, we are also fortunate to have the support of many local businesses. If you are interested in joining the committee or just helping out please come along and find out more.

Home matches take place in Llangwm at 11am on Sunday mornings and on most occasions teas, coffees and bacon rolls are

available from the stand. Players also receive sausage and chips after the match at Llangwm club. On these occasions there are a lot of visitors to the village and we try our best to keep disruption to a minimum. Information regarding junior fixtures are posted on the junior section of our website

www.llangwmrfc.mywru.co.uk

Positive support for our teams is very welcome out on the field on a Sunday morning. Such a large number of enthusiastic children provide an exciting atmosphere at the ground and I would encourage anyone in the community to come along and watch our home games (it will only cost the price of a cup of tea).

Training takes place on a Wednesday night at 6pm at Llangwm pitch and after half term, Moor Farm from 6pm to 7pm for the younger age groups, and 7pm to 8pm for the older children.

Continuing with tradition we will be holding a Children's Christmas Party in December for all mini and junior players.

Any children, regardless of previous rugby experience, are more than welcome to join the junior section and help Llangwm junior rugby to continue to grow.

Paula Goodridge

Llangwm Longboat Rowing Club

Wales's longest rowing race, the Milford Haven Marathon Row organised by the club, was held in August this year after being moved from its usual Spring date because of poor weather conditions. Crews from across GB took part. It is a gruelling 22 mile race from Dale to Haverfordwest, maybe harder than the Great River Race on the Thames, but conditions were good and it ended up with Matthew's delicious chilli and beer in the Picton Centre.

In September a Llangwm team joined 26 other clubs from the Welsh Sea Rowing Association for a row and a lantern parade at the Millennium Centre to celebrate 10 years of the building being open.

Because of the change in date of the Marathon Row, there was no regatta this year. Teams entered some of the other league races and a mixed team won at Wiseman's Bridge.

Manpower to run the club has been short...Mandy and Rich got married in July so preparations for this took precedence, and the chairman has been busy moving and renovating a house. However plenty of social

rowing has been going on....trips to Cresswell Quay and Lawrenny, that's enough training for anyone!

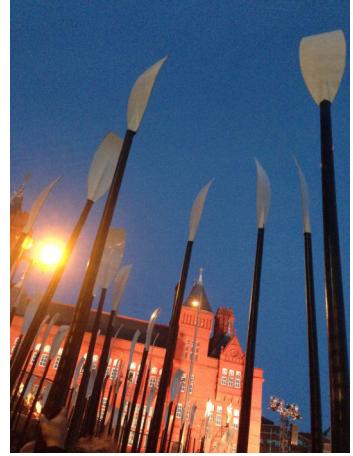
Sorry to mention it again but the shortsightedness of the County Council's decision to close the public loos at Black Tar doesn't help matters, it's difficult to entice new members from further away but all you locals...why not get together and have a go? History Group, Gardening Club, Village Voices, Boat Club, work, school, college, Rugby Club, Cricket Club. Who knows? Next year you could well be doing the Thames Marathon.

You can have three taster sessions free. Just have an hour on our beautiful river. It's an easy sport to pick up, great exercise especially for the back, great training for other sports and suitable for all ages.

Last week, rowing against the highest tide this century, navigating through floating islands of seaweed, a delicious seaside smell in the air, we saw twelve egrets sitting in a tree, a mass of whimbrels as well as oystercatchers and plovers flying by. Returning with the tide was like flying.

Contact Sara Kenny on llangwmlongboats@gmail.com

Report by Fiona Cutting





Llangwm Cricket Club 2015 Season



This season we were back in the first division of Pembrokeshire cricket and had high hopes of staying up with a promising squad of players who had played really well last year to gain promotion. But it was not to be unfortunately and we have dropped to division 2 again and have to pick ourselves up again next year. Same skipper, same squad more or less but not the same results. No real high spots to record; no amazing cup results to report; so the season must be put in Room 101 and we start afresh in 2016. Unfortunately as well the 2nd XI were badly affected by the number of times they had to release players to the first XI because players became unavailable at the last minute. One undoubted success was that the Grandstand was used as our base on Saturdays for the senior teams and during the week for our thriving Junior Cricket Club, with Natalie looking after the bar when needed as the rugby club had gained a limited licence for these premises. Visiting teams stayed after the games so there was an improved social element. Our resident scorer, Janice Brick, continued to keep a tidy book this year – and has loved the impact of the new scoreboard which saves persuading various passing cricketers and spectators to change the numbers on the old one.

The Second XI had a new captain in Mike Terry who proved to be a diamond in the way he managed to raise a team every week in spite of losing his best players to the first XI. As he says in his Annual Report "This was the first season I have had the opportunity to captain a sports team, and despite the highs and lows of the season I can honestly say I have enjoyed it immensely and look forward to next season. It was wonderful to see Willy Morris, Jojo Francis and John Palmer back in action and good to see the confidence grow in the younger players Ewan Griffiths, Jacob Griffiths, George John, Toby Asson, Tom Carrington and Tom Rees as the season progressed. There were some excellent performances from the older players. Vice Captain Dan Morgan, Louis Murphy, Lee Hartnoll, Ryan Bywater, Ash Whittaker, Simon Richards and Jamie Streeter. Marc Davies was a club stalwart stepping up to the firsts almost every week despite preferring to play second team cricket. It is also fantastic to have players like Dan Chesmer, John Carrington, Jamie Evans, Dave Richards, Marcio Vieira and John Whitticombe all stepping up and helping us out.

The first half of the season was a learning curve for everyone and despite winning our first game in several seasons thanks to a hungover ton from Willy Morris we failed to perform with both bat and ball. However in the second half the regular training sessions and team

camaraderie began to pay off with some fantastic results. Some real tense and exciting cricket from a spectator's point of view was played."

As usual we are reliant on our groundsmen – Ian Gow on the pitch and Jeremy Brock on the outfield. No problems there as the field always looked superb. The new Scoreboard, was kindly donated by Jonathan Davies (old Llangwm family) which is wonderfully up-to-date including WiFi and an easy operating system which can be used by almost anybody. The nets were refurbished thanks to a donation from EM's Hairdressing Salon, Letterston (connection with the



Will Beresford batting against Neyland

Inward family) and we are grateful to Dragon LNG for the third year running paying for us to buy a box of cricket balls – an expensive item for any club. Jewsons Ltd. kindly funded wooden planking for us to put up fences round three sides of the ground and these were erected and painted by our Chairman Dai Davies, a stalwart of our Club, who was also responsible for organising and running our Llangwm Golf Day at Haverfordwest Golf Club. The NatWest CricketForce Team kindly donated a pitch cover to the club for which we are most grateful. Thanks all the ladies who helped with Cricket teas, in particular Sue Davies, Donna Griffiths and Helen Carrington. And of course the now famous "Chicken Dinner" draw held every Saturday after the game with the chicken kindly provided by Matthew Evans of the Cottage Inn Restaurant, Llangwm. Bill Marchant, our indomitable Secretary, has been a rock all season including supporting the 2nd XI by umpiring most Saturdays.

The Club is continuing with its policy of ground improvement and if you visit Pill Parks this winter you will see the whole of the eastern side of the cricket field has been harrowed and re-seeded to get rid of the undulations in the ground which have appeared over the years. The run-up to the net will now be much more satisfactory and will hopefully be used a lot more to improve both team's cricketing skills.

Llangwm Junior Cricket Club started training at the end of March this year and it was good to see the majority of young players who played last year return and start off where they left off – full of enthusiasm. And by the middle of the season we had swelled our membership to some 38 players.

We again entered the under 9 county festivals with the first one held in Llangwm which was most successful. We also entered the under 11 County league and finished second in our section with two wins out of the three games played.

We were very pleased that three of our players, Maisy Davies, Joe Phillips and Dominic Asson played regularly for the County under 10 side and will be recommending more of our players to be considered by the county squad managers for the 2016 season. All

three received special award plaques at the Presentation Evening on Friday 11th September when all our players also received certificates recording their achievements. Medallions were presented to the Junior Club Players of the Year Joe Phillips (under 11) and Jack Phillips (under 9) and the Most Improved Players of the Year Harry Makepeace (under 11) and Rhys Lloyd-Roberts (under 9). Helen Phillips and Kate Thomas worked their magic brilliantly in the kitchen feeding and watering players and parents alike.

We were pleased to welcome Jon Rowles into the junior coaching team. Jon, Simon Richards and Colin Phillips all signed up to go on a level 2 coaching course, and we have Jamie Streeter and Brian Rothero also due to take that course early in 2016. We hope to be able to field an under 13 team next year so badly need more coaches and assistants. The Mums and Dads have all been fantastically supportive again this year – thanks to you all - and together we are steadily forming a vibrant collection of young cricketers to take the village forward in the years to come.

We now look forward to next season with increased enthusiasm in the belief that for Llangwm Cricket Club the only way is up.



Llangwm 2nd XI v Whitland 3rd XI on 25th July 2015 at Pill Parks, Llangwm

Back row – Dai Davies (Chairman) : John Palmer : Bill Marchant (Secretary) : Danny Morgan
Ryan Bywater : George John : Tom Carrington : Lee Hartnoll : Stuart Beresford
Front row – Toby Asson : Mike Terry (Captain) : Jamie Streeter : Tom Evans : Ewan Griffiths

A BRIEF WILDLIFE REPORT

Summer is invariably a very quiet time for *birdlife* in and around Llangwm Pill with most waterbirds at summer breeding grounds. *Redshank* returned on 22nd June when 21 individuals appeared in the Pill. *Teal* started arriving in early September (11 on 13th September) and their number will steadily grow to around 100 by late November.

The *cuckoo* was heard in the vicinity of Llangwm for the first time in many years over Whitsun. Up until about 12 years ago we would hear it calling regularly in the fields and woods beneath Ashdale.

There were several *osprey* sightings with one at Black Tar on 12th June. Graham Stephens and I were very fortunate to see one at close quarters at Slebech (and later Millin Pill) on 19th September. The following day Graham saw what was probably the same individual heading down river at Llangwm Ferry. On 24th September Graham's garden was visited by a *female wheatear*, presumably en route to Africa for the winter.

In recent weeks our garden has been frequently visited by *nuthatches* and *treecreepers* after a notably long absence. On one occasion I watched a treecreeper ascending and a nuthatch descending the same trunk of our crab apple tree simultaneously. They passed within a few inches of each other about midway.

Inclement weather through July, August and much of September kept *butterfly activity* to a minimum, although early July looked promising when we had *commas* and *common blues* in the garden. At the same time *ringlets*, *speckled woods* and *meadow browns* were abundant. In late August there was a noticeable influx of *painted ladies*.

Hopefully a more thorough wildlife report will appear in the next issue. Meanwhile, if you have anything interesting to report please contact me on grahambrace@btinternet.com or phone me on 01437 891580.

Graham Brace



Way down upon the Swanee River? No, just the old familiar Cleddau at Black Tar, with a remarkable line of twenty mute swans passing by. Thanks to Ian Jacob for the photograph.