

Llangwm Local History Society Walks, Talks and Events

Our **Spring/Summer programme** this year kicked off in **April** at **Great Nash Farm**. James Meek, from Dyfed Archaeological Trust, gave us a guided tour of the site, where 2 main trenches had been excavated. The “**dig**” was in its early stages but some pottery had already been unearthed. Several members of the group had volunteered to help out on the **archaeological project** and couldn’t wait to get their hands dirty.

In **June** local historian **Terry John** led a very interesting historical **walk around Angle**. Most people had been to Angle before but very few were aware of the **medieval tower house** or the large **15th century dovecote** situated there. We visited **St. Anthony's** (the Fisherman's chapel) behind **St. Mary's Church**, the churchyard, and heard some of the folklore of the village.

In **July**, as part of Llangwm Festival, **Graham Stephens** from Llangwm Ferry took a large group of about 40 people on a **walk around the village** from The Cottage Inn, up The Gail, along the road to Sprinkle Farm, Black Tar, and Edward's Pill, ending on Rectory Road outside the house that was once the bakery, showing us points of interest along the way.

In **September**, Richard Palmer **CBE** gave a fascinating talk about “**The Man Who Carried The Flag at The Moscow Olympic Games**”. Richard was that man - for 20 years he was Secretary General of the **British Olympic Association** and acted as **Technical Director** for the **London 2012 bid**. He explained why the **Moscow games** had been boycotted and his part in the **political manoeuvrings** that took place at the time. A truly remarkable story.

In the true spirit of **Halloween** our **late October** talk, by Dr. Simon Hancock, was '**Ghosts and Legends of Pembrokeshire**'. Simon once again displayed his wealth of knowledge on the local history of the county coupled with his high standard of presentation. On **8th November** we are showing an **Imperial War Museum film**, with rare footage from **World War One**. Members' **Christmas dinner** rounds off the year on 14th December at the Cottage Inn.

Eileen Horton



The History Society's June visit - photographed outside St Mary's Church, Angle, with their guide for the walk, Terry John.

LLANGWM INVADES LONDON

Just before *Llangwm Village News* went to press, members of the opera cast and supporters were waiting nervously to find out if they'd been successful in a **national competition** for projects commemorating World War 1.

Organiser **Liz Rawlings** – who submitted the original application – received an email back in September from an organisation called **Remember WW1**, set up with support from several big companies and organisations. From a total of just over 160 entries they said, 20 had been chosen as finalists, only four in the category Liz had chosen, **Arts and Creativity**.

And one of them was our opera and exhibition!

“It seemed a lifetime ago that I filled out the application – and we found out about the competition in the first place only by chance”, Liz commented.

“I told them our motivation was to increase knowledge of WW1 and to demonstrate the effects of war on a small rural community in a meaningful and innovative way”, she added. The invitation was for two representatives to travel up to London to put their case to the judges, with a 15 minute presentation followed by 15 minutes of questions and answers.

So Liz and composer **Sam Howley**, armed with a video presentation and some of the boards plus a selection of artefacts from the exhibition, strutted their stuff before the judges at the appointed time.

In fact the judges spent much longer than 15 minutes asking questions, and then even more time examining the artefacts and the boards – so all the signs were good.

STOP PRESS...STOP PRESS...

Have you seen the cover of this newsletter?

Llangwm's Village Opera project won first place in the 'Remember WW1' UK national awards, in the category of 'The Arts and Creativity'. A well deserved accolade.

Heather Payton



Combined choirs and orchestra perform Llangwm's village opera in concert in the magnificent setting of St Davids Cathedral in June.