

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

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February 2021 – Volume 6 – Edition 5

Floods, ice, snow – what a week!



A new river appeared on the road onward from the sewage works... *(Roger Rowett)*



... and a new wildlife reserve *(Roger Rowett)*



A view of Llangwyfan framed in a window *(Cal Venning)*



Penycloddiau *(Simon Jackson)*

Around the village

Congratulations to Beca, Ysgubor Efa who has passed her Grade 5 piano exam.

Also to Manon Dafydd, formerly of Bryn Ffolt, on being awarded an MA in Professional Translation Studies.

Welcome to Geraint Bellington and Jane Borthwick who have moved to Millbrook; also best wishes to Malcolm, Sarah and family who have moved to 32 Maes Clwyd.

Best wishes to Lis Morris who is in Glan Clwyd Hospital.

Condolences to the family of the late May Foulkes, Pentrefelin; also to the family of the late David Clwyd Davies, formerly of Delfryn, who passed away recently, aged 67.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing away of Mrs Faith Yvonne Stockle.

Faith was mother to Lorna Jones and moved to Llandyrnog 22 years ago when Clive and Lorna extended their home to provide Faith with her own annexe so she could be part of the family. She was immensely proud of James and Alex, taking care of them as babies and watching them grow into adults and of course had great pleasure in nursing her little great grandson Felix – our thoughts are with you.

Belated birthday greetings to Elin Wyn, formerly of Hafod y Bryn, who recently celebrated (in a socially distanced way!) her 30th birthday.

Also to Hughie Plumb who celebrated a special '0' birthday mid January.

Dyffryn Chapel: Due to the new Covid-19 restrictions, the Sunday morning services at 9.45am will continue online for the foreseeable future.

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St Valentine's Day and Love Spoons

There's nothing better than receiving a romantic card from your partner/husband/wife (or admirer!) to celebrate Saint Dwynwen's Day, January 25 or St Valentine's Day, February 14. If the person in your life is very romantic, you might also receive a card **and** flowers **and** a box of chocolates as a present! It's estimated that 148 million cards are bought for St Valentine's Day throughout the world, with ladies purchasing 85% of them!!

Who was *St Valentine*? The popular belief is that St Valentine was a priest living in Rome in the third century AD. Emperor Claudius II had banned marriage in his army, because he thought married men were bad soldiers. Valentine felt this was unfair, so he broke the rules and arranged marriages in secret. When Claudius found out, Valentine was thrown in jail and sentenced to death. There, he fell in love with the jailer's daughter and on 14 February, the day of his execution, he left a love letter to her signed '*dal tuo Valentino*' (from your Valentine).

It's been a tradition in Wales over the centuries to give a Love Spoon as a present to celebrate St Valentine's and later St Dwynwen's Day. Although mostly considered a Welsh tradition, love spoons have been produced throughout Europe, especially in other Celtic countries, such as Brittany. These are not usually considered to be as beautiful and intricate as the Welsh ones!

Centuries ago there were no mobile phones, cars, motor bikes, radio or television, films or computer games, and young men would spend their leisure time during dark evenings carving a spoon for their loved ones. They could not afford expensive jewellery as presents, so they would carve the most beautiful love spoon as possible – the more intricate the carving, the warmer the love. Accepting a spoon would show an interest, and that could lead to a 'relationship'!

There is an excellent exhibition of some of the early love spoons at the Welsh Folk

Museum in Cardiff – including one that dates back to 1667! Over the years, as the love spoons became more intricate and decorative, they became a collector's item. One lady from Merthyr Tydfil has over 400 love spoons in her possession!

Traditionally, the spoons were carved from one piece of wood, usually sycamore. The carver would use a trunk and split it in half before forming the rough shape of the spoon in one half and carving a more intricate pattern with special symbols and motifs before finishing the spoon bowl. It was then sanded and polished with beeswax. These early carvers would use very simple tools – a pocket-knife, an axe and perhaps a saw!

In time, love spoons became more beautiful, and the symbols and motifs more intricate. Each love spoon has a special meaning. Here are some common ones, but they've been mixed up. Can you match the symbol to the meaning?

Two Hearts – Wedding bells

Key, Key-hole – Together forever – may we never be apart

Bells – Number of children the carver would like

Chain – The key to my heart

Ball in cage – My heart is yours

So, next time you need to give your loved ones a present, what about a love spoon that will last forever? (Answers on page 7)

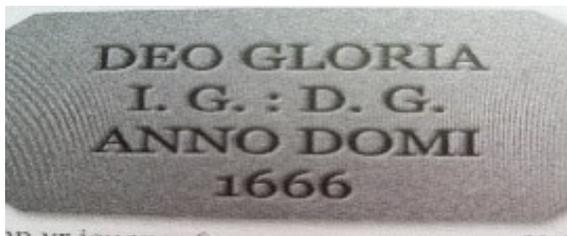


Owain Glyndwr and Pentre Mawr

What exactly was the connection between Llandyrnog and Owain Glyndŵr – the last Welsh leader to instigate a war of independence in the 15th century, and the last native Welshman to be called the Prince of Wales?

In the booklet *Llandyrnog Churchyard Inscriptions* there's a map of the churchyard which notes two interesting graves. Past the south entrance, the Llandyrnog Historical Society in 1994 recorded the grave of JOHN GETHIN(G), CLERKE 1670, and, opposite, by the churchyard wall, his father 'EDWARD GETHIN OF GORVEDWEN 16.9 (more than likely 1659)

According to the Pentre Mawr Documents, the Gethin family is first recorded in 1619, when Edward Gethin started to buy properties in the township of 'Corvedwen', Llandyrnog. By 1646, he and his wife Jane are the owners of a vast estate including Corvedwen, and their son, John Gethin, cleric, is named as the heir. John Gethin lived for a while in Llanarmon, near Pwllheli, then Llangybi, before eventually settling in Pentre Mawr, – you can still see the slab above the old dairy doorway referring to John (Iohannes) and his wife Dorothy.



In 1677, the name Pentre is used for the first time, and Edward Gethin, grandson of the original Edward Gethin (John's son) bequeaths the mortgages of some of his properties, including 'Pen Issa'r Waine' to his sister Dorothy, of Plas Capten, Peniel. But by 1678, a certain 'Ambrose Hughes, Francis Kingson, gent Llangwyfan' and others have a contract to levy a fine on the said Edward Gethin on his property in 'Pen Issa'r Waine', 'Spyddyd' and 'Y Tarcharfan'!

The last reference to the Gethin family comes in 1684. The grandson, Edward Gethin of Pentre Mawr, rents properties and lands in



'Corvedwen' and 'Lleweni' to Peter Evans, London, a Fish Merchant (according to John Williams, *Ancient and Modern Denbigh*, 1850, he's the husband of Dorothy, Edward's sister). By 1719, Peter Evans' son John, is in Pentre Mawr – a friend of William, son of the famous William Penn, and owned lands in Pennsylvania.

According to John Williams, this branch of the Gethin family originated in Nant Conwy, and were the same Gethins as those of Cernioge, Betws y Coed. Both branches could trace their family tree back to a certain Rhys Gethin, one of Owain Glyndŵr's most prominent leaders, who defeated Henry IV's army in Pilleth, near Knighton. Rhys Gethin was himself related to the Princes of Gwynedd – great grandson of Prince Dafydd ap Gruffydd, Llywelyn the Last's brother.

Dafydd had a chequered life and would swap and change sides often – for a while on Henry III's side, when he was given Denbigh as his wooden, fortified home, and then he would be in favour with his brother Llywelyn. By 1282 he was a committed Welshman and prepared his revolt against the castles of Hawarden and Flint. When Llywelyn the Last was captured in September of that year, he gathered all the Welsh leaders to Denbigh, and was proclaimed Prince of Wales. But this only lasted till the summer of 1283 when he was caught by Edward I, and sent to Rhuddlan. Then, eventually, Dafydd was dragged by a

Owain Glyndwr and Pentre Mawr

horse's tail through the streets of Shrewsbury before being hung, drawn and quartered – the first eminent person in the UK to endure such a gruesome treatment!

By 1352, the Gethin family owned many properties in Nant Conwy e.g. Fedw Deg, Cernioge, and Plas Iolyn. Rhys Gethin's father, Gruffydd ap Dafydd Goch was buried in the old churchyard of St. Michael's Church – the oldest building in Betws y Coed, around 1365.

On the road from Betws y Coed towards Capel Curig, there is a farmhouse called Hendre Rhys Gethin, and there are terraced houses nearby called Dôl Gethin and Gethin Terrace. As Owain Glyndwr's revolt gradually subsided, the Gethin family settled down to farm and extend their lands, and become part of the rich and varied history of Nant Conwy and Llandyrnog.



A guesthouse in Betws y Coed bearing testimony to the existence of the Gethin family in the area.



Effigy of Gruffydd ap Dafydd Goch, Rhys Gethin's father

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Three places

When asked to write about three places that were special to us, we thought it would be easy having travelled to a great many places both here in the UK and throughout the world. It has been very difficult to pick just three, so we decided to write about the trip of a lifetime we took in 2018 to three very memorable places, namely Hong Kong, New Zealand and Australia. It all began in January 2017 when we received an e-mail from the Camping and Caravan Club advertising their worldwide holidays. The one to New Zealand caught our eye and so began a year's planning for the trip of a lifetime down under.

Hong Kong



The Big Buddha

Our trip began on 26th February 2018 when we flew from Manchester to Hong Kong just as the Beast from the East descended on UK. We had been to Hong Kong in the 1980s

before it was handed back to China and were interested to see how it had changed. The first change we encountered was that the airport had moved to one of the islands. No longer did you descend between Kowloon sky-scrapers and hope the plane didn't fall off the end of the runway at Kai Tak. Hong Kong is still a very vibrant colony and it was evident that a lot of expansion had taken place. In the three days we were there, we explored the many street markets selling everything from jade to imitation designer goods. The floating restaurants in Aberdeen produced an excellent Chinese banquet. The Big Buddha, a 34-metre statue on Lantau Island, erected in 1993, was an amazing sight.

New Zealand

We then flew to Christchurch where we had time to explore, visiting the Cardboard Cathedral and Container City which had been quickly built after the earthquake in 2011.

We picked up an RV (a motorhome to you and me) which was to be our home for the next three weeks as we toured both Islands, finishing in Auckland. The first leg took us around the South island with stopovers at Mount Cook, Dunedin and Milford Sound with its stunning scenery. Other highlights of the South Island included a visit to Queenstown, the adrenalin capital, where we bucked the trend by taking a leisurely bike ride wine tasting. At Kaikoura, the whale watching trip was amazing.

After 12 days we caught the ferry across the Cook Strait to the North Island capital, Wellington, then onto Rotorua, the centre for Maori culture and numerous impressive geysers. Of course, no visit was complete for *Lord of the Rings* fans without going to Hobbiton, the film set of the Shire. The finale of the trip was a cruise through the Bay of Islands with its amazing scenery and dolphins.

Three places: ctd



Jenny and Bryan at Hobbiton

Australia

We left Auckland and flew to Brisbane to stay with friends, spending a few days experiencing the sights of this cosmopolitan city, including a visit to the home of the Bee Gees and the Gold Coast which was gearing up for the Commonwealth Games. Leaving our friends, we were back on the road in a hire car – this time travelling down the coast to Sydney. Our first stop was Lismore, where we failed in our attempt to find Koala bears in the Tuki Tuki nature reserve. So we moved on to Coffs Harbour, the home of the Big Banana Fun Park and up into the rain forest at Dorrigo where the Skywalk gave amazing views over rain forest as far as the eye could see. The final stopover before Sydney was the Hunter Valley,

which is famous for its vineyards, so of course we had to take a wine-tasting tour of the vineyards.

Then it was on to Sydney to stay with friends for the final week of our trip. They took us to the usual tourist sights of the Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge, though we chickened out of climbing it – opting to walk across it at road level! Leaving them for a few days, we travelled up into the amazing Blue Mountains, with its breathtaking scenery and rock formations around the Three Sisters. It was awful to see the devastation caused by the bush fires last year.

Our holiday of a lifetime was over and so we reluctantly boarded the aircraft for the long flight home. However we realized, coming back into the Vale of Clwyd and Llandyrnog, that there is no place like home.

Jenny and Bryan Salter

Answers to Love spoon Symbols

Lock and Key – *The key to my heart*

Ball in a Cage – *Number of children the carver would like*

Chain – *Together forever – may we never be apart*

Bell – *Wedding bells*

Two Hearts – *My heart is yours*

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Remember:



HANDS



FACE



SPACE



AIR

Reader's gallery



Rufus enjoying the snow (*Cal Venning*)



(*Emily Ffion*)



But Woody doesn't seem quite so happy!
(*Coral Clark*)



(*Gwen Butler*)



(*Gwen Butler*)



(Gem Wood)



(Hazel Wright)



(Above: both by Simon Jackson)

(Below: Merfyn Parry)



Thanks to all for your photographs – there are more on the corresponding pages in the Welsh version

From the Rector

The new year has only just begun, but already you may be wondering what else can be thrown at us in 2021. Regrettably, the situation with the Covid Pandemic seems to show little sign of improving. The vaccines do offer a glimmer of hope on the horizon, but for now the situation is still a cause of great concern. The floods of the past weeks have brought misery to many and the ice and snow a challenge. We remember winters far worse than this but on top of the lockdown it can feel harder to bear. We are in the in-between times, we have to keep going. Things will get better; we just have to be patient.

Lent is fast approaching and the day before the start of Lent, Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day, is on 16th February. In past times, Shrove Tuesday marked the last opportunity for feasting before Lent began. People used up all the rich fatty food in the house in preparation for the plain food eaten during Lent. Today we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday because they remind us of the fat, butter and eggs which were forbidden during Lent.

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the tradition of shricing, or confessing your sins. Christians were required to go to confession before the start of Lent. It was also a day of celebration, the last opportunity for enjoyment before the dark days of Lent. The name Mardi Gras, which we take to mean a celebration, comes from Shrove Tuesday. The French name Mardi Gras means Fat Tuesday, or the day when all the fats, eggs, butter, were consumed.

Nowadays we enjoy the pancakes on the day, always with lemon and sugar for me, and probably continue to eat fat, butter and eggs throughout Lent. Yet it is still traditional to think of something to give up during Lent. Giving up chocolate is always popular, or maybe just focussing on healthy eating. In recent times taking something on has gained support, a random act of kindness for each day.

Lent reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert, where he was tempted by the Devil. The dark days of Lent and self-sacrifice lead to the brightness of Easter. We know that dark and difficult days are as much a part of life as light and joy. As I write this the snow is falling, and the sky seems to be getting darker and darker, but the sun will come out again, the snow will melt and the blossom return. Once again, the snowdrops are out in Llangwyfan Churchyard, a wonderful sight. The promise of spring in the midst of winter.

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Notes from Plas Ashpool

It's a good job that we are a nation who have queuing well and truly embedded in our DNA, don't you think? Have you noticed how we are all dutifully forming orderly queues, more often than not with the two metre gaps, wherever we go. Walking in Denbigh the other day, I was surprised to see how many people move aside, wait patiently and in some cases even cross the road to the other side. Anxious behaviour or not, it is still good to see that the vast majority of people are behaving in a thoughtful mannerly way.

I have to own up at this point, however, that my behaviour was not so gracious during a recent encounter in Morrisons. Having donned my mask, completed my shop, placed myself at the end of the queue, followed their one way system set in place a while back, I shuffled along, taking note of the finer points of shelf-stacking in the coffee and cereal aisle, noticing the range of frozen goods (bet you didn't know that fish fingers come in cod, haddock or with added omega 3). Anyway, as I neared the checkout, I waited the command to move to checkout number 2, when out from the miscellaneous household and dog food aisle sprang a gentleman complete with trolley of three items.

Well, I don't know what happened to me, but suddenly an inner demon sprang into action as I forced my way in front of him. It was at that moment that a supervisory looking assistant appeared. I held my ground, pointing out that 'our' queue had been waiting a good fifteen minutes (well, long enough for me to have done a thorough stocktake on the final two aisles). Also, that we were following the

store's one-way system. At this moment the poor assistant, who could only have been about 12, apologetically informed me that the one-way system was no longer in place.

You would have thought that I would have left it at that and allowed the poor gentleman to move forward. NO! Again, I could hear myself getting on my high horse and in a rather too loud voice informing the supervisor (and probably two-thirds of the customers who were in range of Mrs Bell's – ex head teacher's – booming voice), instructing her that, in future, it would be a very good idea if customers were informed of all changes to the current protocol. Well, that did it! The man backed away and I swept forward. By now totally horrified by my outburst. Honestly, I don't know what came over me, I would normally pride myself on being a very patient and tolerant citizen but that day, oh dear, what a display. So if you were or know of that lovely man who had three items in his trolley, I would like to apologise and say thank you for being so courteous. I promise it won't happen again.

Today the Vale is flooded again and the ground in the garden is sodden, and yet there is so much hope. Snowdrops are out, daffies are on their way, birds are singing their hearts out and Mother Nature is carrying out her duties as always.

I end with a quote from Michael Palin (my all-time heartthrob)!

'To me there's the potential for something wonderful to happen every day. Don't ever be blasé about the world. However difficult things might be there is always something wonderful there.'

Lovely words. Until next month, let's all try and look on the bright side. Happy gardening.

Fiona Bell

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Memories of the agricultural world

(With Rod, Rhiwbebyll's kind permission, these are a few extracts from an article which will appear in Fferm a Thyddyn, a Welsh Agricultural Historical Society magazine)

The first ten years of my life were spent in Fron Gelyn, a small mountainous farm in the shadow of the Clwydian Range. It consisted of 50 acres of grassland and 80 acres of mountainous land. My grandparents moved there in 1906 as tenants to the Kinmel Estate. Later, they had the option of buying the farm from the landlord. During his farming days at Fron Gelyn, my grandfather bought two other farms, to establish his sons in the farming industry. He also had a threshing machine business and would visit farms in the Llandyrnog area and over the mountain in Nannerch, Flintshire. At the end of the threshing season, he used to book a table for the day in a café in Denbigh, where the farmers would come to pay their bills, and have a chat over a cup of tea.

My parents took over the farm responsibilities at the beginning of the World War II. In today's terms, the livestock number was relatively small – about 20 milking cows, young stock, about 150 mountain sheep, four sows and poultry. One other source of income was selling rabbits, and one family from Llandyrnog used to come up every Tuesday to hunt the rabbits on the mountain!

(After graduating 1966 his first post was in Brecon, running the Government's 'Small Farms Scheme')

'I remember one instance of travelling to a farm accompanied by Chief Officer Bill Powell. After a visit to a farm by the Livestock Officer to register a bull under the 'Bull Premier Scheme', the lady farmer sent a letter to the UK Government Agricultural Minister, complaining that she was not at all happy! In the letter she stated '*I was visited*



A young Rod.

by Mr ..., the Livestock Officer, and was assaulted by him...' Now this appeared to be a very serious matter. During the course of our meeting with her, it became apparent that the situation was not as bad as we had anticipated. What bothered the lady farmer was that Mr ... had *insulted* her, by saying that the bull was not up to standard!

(Rod then moved to work for Department of Agricultural Services (later NAAS) in West Carmarthenshire)

As milk cubicles became more popular in Carmarthenshire, I was tasked to try and influence more farmers to change from haymaking to silage making – not an easy task! It was quite a heavy investment in appropriate machinery and buildings, but generous grants were made available to them. Farmers were also encouraged to share resources and costs, by working together in groups, usually three farms, and generous grants were also available for this. I recall establishing many schemes in the area, (one with Brian Jones of Castell Howell Foods – his family at the time had a chicken stall in Carmarthen market).

The majority of schemes proved successful,

Memories of the agricultural world: ctd



Sowing in Fron Gelyn – Rod, his father, and William Jones

before contractors slowly took over the work. I remember one particular group in the area, where two local farmers and one farmer who had moved to the area from across the border joining in the venture. More often than not at that time, the silage gathering period tended to fall during Wimbledon tennis week, but the farmer from across the border gave precedent to the tennis!! That particular partnership did not last long!!

(In 1974, he was appointed Wales Agricultural Financial Advisor for the Midland Bank, which involved travelling the length and breadth of Wales, and holding evening meetings.)

Travelling home late at night after evening meetings became a common occurrence, and many times I was stopped by the police! I remember travelling home in the early hours towards Llanrhystud, and was rather worried about the worn car tyres! A police car came towards me, passed, and as I looked in the mirror, it braked suddenly, turned around and followed me. There was a left-hand lane nearby and so I turned into it and switched off the lights. Within a few minutes, the police car

passed on the main road! When it was out of sight, I continued my journey, feeling relieved that I had escaped 3 points on my licence! However, near Aberystwyth, the police car appeared once again, and this time there was no escape! The two officers questioned me, checked inside and outside the car, including the tyres. I thought this is it!! Finally, however, the only comment the officers made was 'Get the Midland Bank to buy you a new set of tyrrres'! What a relief!

Rod Williams

On behalf of landowners in the area: please ensure that you close all gates when walking across farmland, and keep your dog on a lead

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Food from Bermuda

On a cold frosty morning in January, our thoughts would probably stray to thinking of a nice sunny place for a holiday. For me, this is a visit to family on the island of Bermuda.

This time last year I was busy planning a trip so that I could be there for Easter, making sure that I had enough room in my bag for a couple of Easter eggs for my grandchildren, Leo and Frankie. Chocolate is a great treat in Bermuda, as all chocolate, sweets, biscuits and cakes have a 75% sugar tax. We may pop a £1 bar of chocolate in our shopping basket, but in Bermuda that would be costing us a whopping £10. Island living is not cheap!

While they would have been delighted with the Easter eggs, I was looking forward to tucking into one of the island's specialities – my Easter hot cross bun fish sandwich. Everyone goes mad for this and social media will be full of posts and pictures as the local restaurants compete to have their buns declared the best on the island. You can buy a fish sandwich all year round and select which bread you wish to have it on, the most popular being what we call a *bara brith*. The fish used is a local one and quite meaty in texture. Then it is battered and served with coleslaw, salad and cheese. I have tried it in the *bara brith* form and it was surprisingly delicious. Here is a photo of a simpler version of a homemade Hot Cross Fish Bun.



Another speciality of the island is also a fish dish – chowder. If you have ever had chowder in San Francisco, it is often served in crusty hollowed-out bread. I thought it might be similar with the American food influence but it was just an ordinary-looking bowl. It comes with the sherry pepper sauces – and it's all very spicy! Luckily the view at the sea-front restaurant in St. George, plus plenty of water helped. Then we stopped off at one of the many ice cream shops for a delicious cool treat on the way home. There are a lot of ice cream shops on the island – it's like stopping off at Chilly Cow. They make the ice cream on the premises, the only difference being the abundance of ice creams that contain rum – this is a Caribbean island!

There are also a lot of rum cocktails and the most famous of all is Swizzlers. You can purchase a rum swizzler at all the bars but there is nothing quite like having a jug of rum swizzler from Swizzlers Inn providing you aren't the one driving home! The recipe for this is 1.5oz rum, 2oz pineapple juice, 2oz orange juice, a dash of grenadine and 2 dashes of angostura bitters. Another rum favourite of mine is a Dark'n Stormy which is simpler, as it's just a mix of dark rum and ginger beer.



Food from Bermuda: ctd

Back in December 2019 I discovered eggnog. Just the thought of an eggnog didn't appeal to me but the fresh version that they have in Bermuda is delicious. It's in the chillers next to the milk everywhere. It's very popular and very enjoyable. Drink it as it is, or – guess what – have it as an evening tippie with a shot of Gosling's Rum!

During this visit we had Christmas dinner at Tuckers which is a very swish golf club, hotel and restaurant facilities. I have never ever been to such a lavish display of Christmasness. There were girls dressed as ballerinas and elves plus a visit to Father Christmas. The Bermudian Christmas speciality is cassava pie. However as this was a buffet, I didn't spot the cassava pie and ended up not tasting any - I don't think I'd have had any room on my plate for any anyway!

It doesn't look as though I'll make it over there for Easter this year either but I'm sure that whatever time of year I visit, there will be some unique and quirky Bermudian event to see.

Margaret Roberts



James Davies, MP for Vale of Clwyd

james.davies.mp@parliament.uk

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Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan Local History Society

On 16th December, a meeting was held on zoom with Mrs. Helen Papworth, who gave a brief talk on 'Stanley and the Napier Expedition'. It was a very interesting talk on H M Stanley, who was a reporter for the New York Herald, following a journey to rescue missionaries who had been kidnapped in Abyssinia (Ethiopia today) by the Emperor Tewodros II.

Under the leadership of General Sir Robert Napier, it took British soldiers over three months to reach the castle by Magdala where the missionaries were held captive. They attacked the castle and the missionaries were saved.

It was a very interesting talk, with about 25 members online. If anyone wants to join the Society, please contact the secretary, Hywel Davies by email:
llangwyfanhistory@hotmail.com.

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- ☞ **Concrete blocks**

Matters discussed in the January meeting of Llandyrnog Community Council

There were concerns raised about the lack of Police presence during the weekend early January when it was fairly obvious that people from outside the area were driving to the Llangwyfan area and not adhering to Covid-19 rules – this matter to be raised with North Wales Police. However, it was accepted that the weather was extreme and resources were probably targeted at other areas of concern.

Complaints have been received about youngsters gathering in Cae Nant early evening, not adhering to social distancing etc – it was decided to see whether the police could increase their visual presence and maybe offer words of advice.

Although the inconsiderate parking issue on Oliver's Row has been addressed once there seemed to be a re-occurrence with a different vehicle. The matter has been forwarded to the PCSO.

Draft budget – the clerk presented a draft budget and it was agreed that the precept for 21/22 stays the same as 20/21 – £10,688.

White lines at Llangwyfan – DCC has been requested to renew the white lines on this junction.

Play equipment – an order has been placed with Wicksteed for additional play equipment at Cae Nant – there was an eleven week lead-in period.

The Chair was thanked for personally clearing the pavement and bus stop opposite the White Horse.

Coastal Carpets have laid the new carpet in the Cocoa Rooms. However, any plans to re-open are on hold for the time being.

Residents of the Llangwyfan area are concerned that the new salt bins are not in the best positions and discussions are on-going regarding re-positioning.

A planning application for new vehicular access on land opposite Bryn Tirion Cottage, Bodfari

was discussed.

Although the potholes around the Kinmel Arms and Groes Efa have been repaired, the repairs were not to the required standard. Following the recent frost and snow, they have re-appeared, which is very disappointing. DCC to be contacted again, however it may be that this stretch of road is due for re surfacing unless DCC diverts the funds to more pressing issues.

Complaints have been expressed about the water between Cerrigllwydion and Gables – it is wholly dependent on a series of grips and channels which obviously could not cope with the situation at times – the clerk to see if the grips could be increased in size and the channels kept open. There is a need for a more permanent solution.

Wrong!



According to the art dealership, Trinity House Paintings, this is a painting by Kyffin Williams, '... depicting a part of the rural village in Llangwyfan, Denbighshire...' Perhaps someone ought to let the firm know that there is more than one Llangwyfan?