

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

✉ llandyrnognews@gmail.com 🐦 [@LlaisLlandyrnog](https://twitter.com/LlaisLlandyrnog)

November 2022 – Volume 8 – Issue 2

We Will Remember Them

Remembrance Day this year is on Sunday, 13 November and, as usual, we will commemorate those who lost their lives defending our country. This year, on the 40th anniversary of the Falklands Conflict, we thought it was appropriate to remember one local individual, Guardsman Peter Edwards, who died aged 19 during the conflict.

Guardsman Edwards, of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, was aboard the ship RFA *Sir Galahad* in Bluff Cove when it was bombed by the Argentinian air force on 8 June 1982. He, along with 47 other soldiers and crewmen of the ship, died on board. Peter's body was never recovered. The ship was so badly damaged that it had to be towed out to sea and was sunk as a war grave. There is a memorial on the Falkland Islands commemorating those who died in the conflict and families are able to visit (see picture). Peter's sisters have visited and laid flowers in his memory there, later reporting that it helped them to feel close to him.



The Falklands Memorial



Guardsman Edwards' memorial at Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

However, it is such a long way away, so local memorials, such as the one in his old school, Bryn Clwyd, must be a source of great comfort to families to know their loved ones are not forgotten. The children at the school know all about Peter and, this year, to commemorate 40 years since his death, there was a remarkable tribute to him when a group of 40 motorcycle riders rode into the school yard during their tour of every memorial in Wales. It was a moving and inspirational tribute and a true reflection of the adage: 'We Will Remember Them'.

Around the village

Einion Roberts

It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing away of Einion Roberts, who with his family lived in Brynlllys for many years.

A very reserved but true country gentleman, Einion spent the latter years of his working career as a quantity surveyor out in the Libyan oilfields. His tales of how he had to escape Libya before they closed the borders because of the Hussain/Bush conflict in 2003 were legendary.

Being away at work for months at a time meant Einion would be back at home on leave for a considerable chunk of time before going away again. While at home his last project was the stone wall that he built to protect Brynlllys – to keep cars out of his garden. It actually took quite a long time and quite a bit of leg pulling from his close circle of friends but Einion's response was, 'When it's finished no one will ask, "How long did that take?" They will say how good it is and ask who built it.' A typical response from a very quick-witted gentleman who could give as good as he got from anyone!

Upon his eventual retirement – he did not return to Libya – Einion threw himself into his smallholding again. In order to get fresh milk, he bought a small Jersey cow. There was no regular milking time, just as and when the jug was empty – he would grab his milking stool and ask the cow to stand still while he filled the jug!

The last few years of his life were spent in Frongoch near Bala.

Thank you Einion, for letting us be part of your life.

In memory of Bob Hall

An open mic session was held recently in the Golden Lion in memory of Bob Hall. Thanks go to Sam and Mark for hosting the event, which also raised £185 for Nightingale House Hospice. And a big thank you to James and Will for providing and setting up the equipment. There were 23 performers during the afternoon, making up 19 acts.

Birthday wishes to...

... **Chris Palin**, Maes Tyrnog, who celebrated her 80th birthday recently.

... **Rod Williams**, Rhiwbeyll Isaf, who will reach the same grand age this month.

Congratulations to...

... **Sally Cunliffe** on passing the Institute of Advanced Motorists test recently. We will give an account of her experience in the next edition of *Llais*.

... **Elwyn and Barbara Salisbury**, who celebrated 70 years of marriage recently. Many will remember them from when they lived in Llandyrnog.

... **Rhys Davies** on his appointment as estate and general manager of the Rhug Estate.

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mr William (Bill) Fowlie recently. Although a native of Ruthin, Bill was always a generous supporter of the coffee mornings in the village. He would often ring up to find out whether there was one on this Saturday and who it was for – not that it really mattered as he usually came along anyway to buy cakes for his family and have a chat with whoever was there. He was a kind and generous man and we will miss the banter we had with him.

On Saturday, 8 October, 1st Llandyrnog Brownies held a coffee morning in the Village Hall in aid of unit funds. Due to the amazing generosity of everybody who donated items and attended on the day, we raised over £380. Thank you so much for all your contributions and help. **Karen, Jackie, Maria and the Brownies**

Cocoa Rooms Events

1st 10am	Book Club
7th 2pm	Trefoil Guild
15th 10am	Book Club
16th 2pm	Tuesday Club
29th 10am	Book Club
29th 7pm	Llais Llandyrnog Committee

Village Hall Events

1st	7–9.30pm	WI
5th	9.30am–4pm	Craft Group
7th	5.30pm	Brownies
7th	7.30pm	Choir
9th	2–4pm	Mothers' Union
13th	3.30-5pm	Messy Church
14th	5.30pm	Brownies
14th	7.30pm	Choir
19th	10am	Coffee Morning (Motor neurone disease)
21st	5.30pm	Brownies
21st	7.30pm	Choir
26th	10am	Coffee Morning (History Society)
28th	5.30pm	Brownies
28th	7.30pm	Choir

November services at St Tyrnog's

6 th	11.15	Eucharist
13 th	10.50am	Remembrance Sunday
	3.30pm	Messy Church (Village Hall)
20 th	11.15	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving
27 th	11.15	Eucharist

Women's Institute

There will be a meeting at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 1 November at 7pm. The speaker will be Jaqueline Le Fèvre on the subject of reintroducing chimpanzees into the wild. Visitors and new members welcome.

Carolyn Langford-Jones (Secretary)

Mothers' Union

In our October meeting we packed shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. The first challenge was assembling the boxes, as you can see from the photo! We had a lot of fun swapping items and filling our boxes and we hope that the children who receive them will have as much fun opening them as we did packing them. New members are always welcome to join us. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Village Hall.



DBP 

**Denbigh
Building
Plastics**

SUPPLIERS & INSTALLERS

*U_PVC windows, doors, rockdoors,
secondary double glazing, sealed units.
Conservatories, porches, garage doors,
fascias, gutters, dry verge system,
Firestone rubber roofing and canopies.*

Unit 7

Colomendy Industrial Estate

Denbigh LL16 5TA

01745 818849

Open Mon—Fri 7.30am—5 pm

Sat 9 am—12 pm

Recipe

Pumpkin soup

You have made your Halloween lanterns but what do you do with all the pumpkin insides that are left over? Soup is a nutritious, warming and easy thing to make. You can use any squash or pumpkin for this recipe.

1kg of pumpkin flesh cut into chunks (one whole butternut squash, pumpkin leftovers, without seeds, or add carrot if not enough)

2 onions (diced)

1 garlic clove (sliced)

2 red chillies (deseeded and chopped)

850g veg stock

4tbsp crème fraîche

2tbsp oil

25g butter

Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6

Put pumpkin flesh (and carrot if using) in a roasting tin with 1tbsp oil and roast for 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, melt the butter and 1tbsp oil (which will stop the butter burning) in a very large saucepan on the hob and add the onions, garlic and most of the chillies.

Cover the saucepan and cook for 15–20 minutes on a very low heat until the onions are soft.

When the squash has cooked, tip it into the saucepan with the onion, garlic and chilli mix, then add the stock and crème fraîche. Whizz it all up with a stick blender (or you can do it in a food processor in batches, mash with a potato masher or leave it chunky if you like).

Reheat the soup in the pan and season to taste.

Top the finished soup with the rest of the chilli bits and serve with chunks of bread and more crème fraîche to swirl into it.

Gwen Butler

Pop-up/Llandyrnog Hwb

Thank you to all those who supported our efforts over the summer. It was good to see so many of you of all ages and we are planning to return in the spring.

We are delighted that the Llandyrnog Sports Association (LSA) has been awarded a Social Isolation Grant, some of which will be put towards installing heating in the pavilion. Once this is installed we will be able to return, but in a slightly altered format.

As 'Llandyrnog Hwb' we are hoping that enough people will be willing to volunteer to help out for two hours a fortnight on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. We would then be able to open from 10am–4pm, offering hot drinks, snacks, soup and sandwiches. We have also got permission from the LSA to make use of the away team changing room as an indoor play area for the little ones.

Please would anyone who is able to help contact Carolyn Langford Jones in the first instance via e-mail at clangfordjones@gmail.com



Local wine anyone?

Many of our readers will be aware that three years ago Rhys and Gwen Davies established a 4-acre vineyard at Dre Goch Isaf, Bodfari. This must have been a life-changing decision as it involved not only a substantial capital investment but it is also a highly labour-intensive enterprise that should provide the family with a healthy reward for their efforts for years to come.

The initial seed was sown when Rhys attended a reception at the Royal Welsh Show, where British wine was on offer. By chance there was a viticulturist at the reception and, after some discussion, it became apparent that the Vale of Clwyd might well be good for wine production if the soil, drainage and land aspect were suitable. It can come down to one field being suitable, while the one next to it is totally unsuitable.

Rhys arranged for a site inspection. The specialist visiting Dre Goch gave the thumbs-up. After discussions with numerous specialists it was decided that the local climate would be suitable for German vines such as Pinot Noir.

A large JCB Fastrac was driven all the way from Germany with a specialist global positioning system (GPS) onboard. They proceeded to dig trenches in the chosen field, with the GPS ensuring that the vines were planted in straight rows and the correct distance apart.



But the planting was only the first job. Support posts and wires had to be erected, which was no mean task, with several kilometres of wire to roll out to support the growing vines.

Rhys takes up the story: In June 2019 almost 8,000 vines were planted and the Vale Vineyard was established. We had researched types of vines that would work in our climate and received good advice on how to establish and manage them. Over the first three years our main purpose was to successfully establish the vines, ensuring that good roots and stems developed.

In October 2021, after three seasons of growing, we had a good crop of grapes to harvest and I was extremely lucky to have the help of friends, family and neighbours to help with the work. There are six types of grapes here, two white and four red, and we will create up to six different types of wine. Three of the wines have been bottled and labelled and are now for sale, and we are currently approaching the end of the 2022 harvest.



We also offer experiences and tours around the vineyard with the opportunity to taste wines. There is always something new, and if you want more information and to keep in touch, you can follow us and contact us through our Facebook page on 'Gwinllan y Dyffryn – Vale Vineyard'.

Messy Church

In our October session we celebrated the harvest, gave thanks to God for all the good things we have and remembered that not everyone is as fortunate as we are. We learned how important it is to share what we have with those who have less.

We made a wonderful scarecrow, called Siencyn, who now stands proudly in church. We also made harvest wreaths, window decorations, windmills, harvest baskets, mini scarecrows and coasters decorated with autumn leaves.

Our next session will be on 13 November and all are warmly welcome.



SMIDSY

No, this not the name of a lost cat. This is an acronym well known in the motorcycling world, a phrase a biker never wants to hear: 'Sorry mate, I didn't see you!'

The latest version of the Highway Code (see gov.uk/the-highway-code/updates) now gives a hierarchy to vulnerable road users: pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists at the top (in that order), with children, older adults and disabled people being most at risk. Moving along the hierarchy, those in cars, vans, buses and lorries have a duty to look out for those more vulnerable.

However, everyone needs to consider their own safety – are you doing enough to be seen by others? Darker evenings are drawing in and it is being reported that in Llandyrnog and the lanes surrounding us there are many walking or cycling while wearing dark clothing. Do you remember the campaign 'At night, wear white'? I am showing my age now but it was a road safety campaign many years ago that still holds true.

Nowadays, of course, you can easily get arm bands, jackets or belts (even dog collars) that are fluorescent or reflective, which would help enormously. As the Highway Code suggests: 'They can be seen by drivers using headlights up to three times as far away as non-reflective material', giving them more time to stop or go round you.

These photos illustrate the difference wearing a brightly coloured coat makes – the child is in both photos. Our best defence is self-preservation. SMIDSY is not a phrase to hear when it is too late. Stay Safe!

Gwen Butler



A word from the Priest

An honourable and dignified five days in France and Belgium

In September, by invitation of the JCCC, I represented my unit and travelled with others to France and Belgium to rededicate five graves where remains of formerly unknown soldiers from the First World War had been identified by science. Our first stop was a rededication service for Sgt Alexander Jones of 21st Battalion, the Manchester Regiment.

At 10.30am on 13 September we gathered as a small group at Dourlers Communal Cemetery Extension, France. At the cenotaph we shared in a short service of remembrance following the death of HM The Queen and the ascension of King Charles III, before joining the gathering from the War Graves Commission and other representatives to honour Sgt Jones. Although he was in the Manchester Regiment, Sgt Jones was born in Penmaenmawr in 1880. Unfortunately his great nephew, who was supposed to be in attendance, had broken down on his way. Having helped him with the French breakdown service we later took him to his great uncle's grave to lay a wreath and say some prayers before we carried on towards our next destination, taking the young man to the place he needed to be for a train journey back to England.

Our next destination was a rededication service for Capt. Arthur Lea Harris of 1/4th Battalion, the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, at 10.30am on 14 September at Aeroplane Cemetery in Belgium. It was a dignified service, with family in attendance. We had a reception with the family afterwards and we were arranging to display some of Capt. Harris's artefacts in a museum near to the HQ of the unit I am attached to in Britain.



These were the two services directly related to my unit, and the other three now-known soldiers were related to the unit of others with us. It was an incredible experience to learn about the realities of the Great War and to pay tribute to the fallen. This was especially so at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium. At 8pm each night the fallen are remembered. The bugler's respectful regularity echoes under the archway and honours those names etched on the walls all around. Another significant place was a Christian retreat centre, with a museum named Talbot House, where soldiers and officers were all asked to leave their rank at the door on entry.

As we reach November, we once again honour all those who have lost their lives during the horrors of war. We think of those in Ukraine and we cry out for peace, peace in the world. We look to Jesus, whose life and purpose was the ultimate self-sacrifice for the good of all of us who enter into the mystery, wonder, awe and inevitable belief and then faith. Thank you, Jesus, for drawing us closer to God. May the spirit of eternity bless you all throughout November, and those whom you love.

Martin Pritchard
Denbigh Mission Area Priest



The Wright life

All too soon the long sizzling summer is a distant memory and it is time to put on that thicker jumper and bobble hat. The darker nights, chill and dampness, with mist seen deep along the bottom of the vale in the mornings, indicate that autumn is here. It is the time of year for falling leaves, conkers and acorns, and we do seem to have had an awful lot this year. Is it a 'mast' year or just an exceptionally good year for acorns?

'Mast' comes from the old English word 'maest' and occurs every three to ten years. All trees have seeds, such as the sycamore, which has a two-seeded wing samara and forms the familiar helicopter-like structure that flutters down to the ground. It is a natural phenomenon when trees produce large crops of seeds, but it is not really known why. However, there has been lots of research and scientists think it could be linked to weather or climate conditions, such as rainfall, temperature and winds in the spring affecting pollination.

Acorns are the fruit/seed of the oak and are enclosed in a tough shell, nestled in a cup-shaped cupule, which are dropped to the ground for the tree to reproduce. As a child I used to imagine them as tiny cups, perfectly formed for fairies to drink out of. Oak trees do not start to produce acorns until they are over 30 years old.

In the late 1980s my father decided to plant an oak tree – 'For the future,' he announced one day. He believed old trees should be replaced, so at the end of the paddock now stands a very handsome specimen. It started to produce acorns a few years ago and this year there are loads. I remember helping my father plant it; he was so careful to get it in

water and walk all the way to the bottom of the field to water it, tipping the contents around the base.

All that dedication and it survived to the majestic juvenile tree it is today. The older oaks surrounding it, which are over 100 years old, must consider it a baby or a newcomer to the area. It now provides me with a living memorial to my father and a wonderful habitat for all sorts of wildlife. The nuts contain a lot of energy, which is why animals and birds feed on them, the branches provide shelter in the summer and winter, and I await the first nest to be built in its boughs.

I have noticed down Lon Goch that the squirrels seem to love the acorns, and when Bob the cob and I trot past they frantically gather their prized nut and scramble up the bark of the nearest tree with their stash. I am sure there are more than Mr Squirrel can eat or store, so a substantial number will be buried for later retrieval, and those that are forgotten or lost will subsequently germinate and develop into a sapling, and a new oak tree is born. Lon Goch is deep in acorns. Bob the Cob wondered what was crunching under his hooves and they have that annoying tendency to smash down on the car roof as you drive underneath, giving you quite a shock.

As Koenig & Knops said in their book, *The Mystery of Masting in Trees*: 'Next autumn don't take acorns for granted, the fact they are everywhere and nowhere as the case may be, illustrates one of the spectacular ecological mysteries that you will encounter as you walk through the woods; enjoy them while you have the chance.'

So autumn is definitely here. Time to get the knitting needles out and sit in front of the log-burner watching *Strictly Come Dancing* on the television – another sign of autumn in the modern world.

Hazel Wright

Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

The school has had LED lights fitted throughout the building and is expecting to have solar panels in the coming months. It is all part of Denbighshire's pledge to reduce the carbon footprint of their schools but is also a great opportunity for the children to consider more eco-friendly choices and see renewable energy in action.

A Harvest Service was held on Friday 7th October with dried and tinned foods being donated for local food banks.

The Chair of Governors came to meet with the pupils during an assembly to hear what they like about school and what could make it even better. This is something that the pupil committee works on throughout the year as 'pupil voice' is very important and their opinions reach right up to the governing body of the school.

Congratulations to all who competed at Llandyrnog Eisteddfod – some photos on p. 9 in the Welsh section.

The Juniors

The children have been studying the coast and had a trip to the beach. They also had a visit from an RNLI volunteer who taught them about how to keep safe at the coast and the role of the RNLI.



Continuing this theme of the sea the pupils had a visit from Mr Conry who works for Conwy Council planning sea defences. With him the children constructed their own model sea defences in the outdoor area.



The Infants

Continuing the project on dinosaurs the children investigated what can be learned about a dinosaur from its poo! In preparation for the harvest celebration the infants read the story of 'The Little Red Hen' and baked their own bread.



Dates for the diary

Community Christmas Dinner –
Thursday 8th December

Christmas Market and carol concert –
Thursday 15th December

Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee

Ruth Griffith (Chair), Ivan Butler (treasurer & compositor), Anwen Davies (compositor & translator), Gwen Butler, Bryn Davies, Ann and Iestyn Jones-Evans, Ed & Catherine Howarth, Rhian Jones, Rod and Margaret Williams.

***Send all news contributions and articles to
llandyrnognews@gmail.com.***

Village Hall kitchen

If you have been involved in a coffee morning or activity in the Village Hall lately you may have noticed that a new kitchen has been installed. We were fortunate to receive a grant to help pay for it and I hope you find it an improvement.

There is now a larger range-type cooker, lots of cupboard space and a dishwasher. If you have ever been chief washer-up at a coffee morning you will remember being elbow-deep in rapidly cooling soapy water, trying to keep up with the demand for clean cups ... and that awful moment when you couldn't find a dry tea towel among the soggy ones!

This will not happen again – our dishwasher will wash and dry a whole coffee morning in minutes. We have invested in new crockery too, courtesy of Mold market. I very much hope you approve.



GLYN EVANS AUTOCLINIC

Canolfan Trwsio Ceir

Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Colomendy
Dinbych LL16 5TA



GWAITH YSWIRIANT

TRWSIO CEIR AR ÔL DAMWEINIAU

CEIR I'W BENTHYG

GWASANAETH NÔL CEIR WEDI TORRI I LAWR

01745 815141

07808970364

E-bost: evansautodinic@btconnect.com

Laura Williams on *University Challenge* on 14 November 2022

Wendy Grey Lloyd's grand-daughter Laura Williams will be captain of the Bangor University team on *University Challenge*. This episode is scheduled to be aired on BBC 2 on Monday, 14 November (usually at 8.30pm but do check your listings). Out of a long list of universities only 35 are chosen, and both Bangor and Cardiff are represented in the competition this year.

Laura has worked extremely hard to secure a place to study medicine at Bangor and we wish her well in her studies. She attended Ysgol Glan Clwyd and is a fluent Welsh speaker. This is, of course, an added qualification and goes down well with her Welsh-speaking patients who prefer to communicate in their first language.

From all in Llandyrnog – good luck!

Llandyrnog Eisteddfod 2022

It was very pleasing to be able to host the Llandyrnog Eisteddfod once again after a gap of two years on Friday evening, 21 October at the Village Hall.

The adjudicators this year were: Ceri Roberts, Henllan (music); Menai Williams, Pwllglas (literary competitions and recitation); Nia Davies, Cefn Meiriadog (art) and the accompanist was Ann Edwards, Prion.

The stage competitions were of high quality and also the homework competitions. Congratulations to everyone for their fine performances. There was excitement in the hall when the Chair was awarded to Elinor Wyn Griffith, Hen Gapel. There was a lovely ceremony to honour her and she was presented with a small chair made by Elwyn, Ger y Llan. Thank you Elwyn, and congratulations Elinor!

A big thank you must go to all the schools, teachers, parents, coaches and competitors, and to the team of volunteers for contributing to the success of this year's Eisteddfod again.

Thanks to Hannah Wardle, an artist originally from Trefnant, for designing our trophies, and to all the sponsors of the Eisteddfod – namely James Pantyfedwen Trust, Llandyrnog Community Council, Gamlins Law Firm, Portmeirion, Llangwyfan Care Concern and numerous local families.

It has been a challenging period, but at the end of the night everyone felt proud that we had something very special in the homely Eisteddfod here in Llandyrnog that was worth reviving and continuing into the future.



Competitors from Ysgol Bryn Clwyd on the recitation for learners, Yrs 1 and 2



Rhiannon 3rd, Megan 1st, Rhiannon 2nd – recitation for learners, Yrs 3 and 4

Capel y Dyffryn

Thanksgiving Service

On Sunday morning, 9 October the annual Thanksgiving Service was held in the vestry with the children taking part. 'Christian Aid' was the theme of Rev. Andras Iago's address, and donations were received for the local foodbank. Nia, Dregoch, ensured that the vestry was beautifully decorated with flowers.

Y Gymdeithas

On Monday, 10 October the 2022/23 Gymdeithas programme opened with a supper. It was heartening to see a full vestry for the inaugural event, enjoying a sumptuous supper, with Ceri, Ffiona, Iona and Veronica in charge! Bryn Davies (Chair) introduced Beca and Awen Hogg from Mold, who sang beautiful solos and a duet, and recited wonderfully with Lowri, their mother, as the accompanist. Rhys Davies (Vice-chair) thanked everyone for a wonderful evening.



Awen, Lowri & Beca Hogg

November Services

- 6th 9.45am Rev. Dewi Morris
13th 10.45am Remembrance Service – Church
20th 9.45am Rev. Andras Iago



Children's Thanksgiving Service

J & G TYRE SERVICES



CAR - TRUCK -
FARM TYRE SPECIALISTS
BATTERIES & EXHAUSTS

Unit 1
Dyffryn Trading Estate
Rhyl Road
Denbigh
LL16 5SJ

01745 817676
07775 717602

Tuesday Club

The guest speaker in the October meeting of the Tuesday Club was Mary Steel of Bodfari. She spoke of her 'adventures in the media'.

For a while, Mary presented the *Pause for Thought* slot on BBC Radio 2, and she played recordings of some of those talks, giving the background to writing them. The themes covered dealing with a colleague's sudden death due to a road traffic accident, retirement from teaching, pupils leaving school and their future, bereavement in the family, and making the most of what you have. Mary was also invited once, at short notice, to present *Thought for the Day* live on Radio 4. This was very stressful and she was very pleased that another invitation was not given!

A comment by Mary at a headteachers' conference, taken out of context, drew the attention of several British national newspapers. The incident made her aware of how ruthless the press can be. Fortunately, she had the support of her colleagues, pupils and parents.

An invitation was given to Mary to take part in a series presented by Melvyn Bragg about the impact of faith on work. Although she was wary about accepting the invitation at first, it was a worthwhile experience.

James Davies, MP for Vale of Clwyd

james.davies.mp@parliament.uk

Constituency office: 01745 888920

Westminster office: 0207 2194606

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9am–12pm, 2pm–5pm

Wednesday & Saturday 9am–12.30pm

01824 790310



Mary was thanked sincerely for her very interesting talk. The raffle was drawn and light refreshments served. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 16 November.



Blue Hand Mowers

Repair and servicing of all garden machinery

Lawn mowers and lawn tractors

Chain saws

Hedge cutters

Strimmers

Disc cutters

Quad bikes

Leaf blowers

Hand tools

Collection and delivery service available

Situated on 'Blue Hand Corner' or find us on Google

www.bluehandmowers.co.uk

enquiries@bluehandmowers.co.uk

☎ 0775 20 35 462

Llys Awelon, Ruthin

Grŵp Cynefin has just started on a £12.2 million scheme to extend Llys Awelon extra care housing scheme, Ruthin.

Shan Lloyd Williams, Chief Executive Officer of Grŵp Cynefin, Chief Executive of Denbighshire County Council, Graham Boase, Director of Read Construction, Wil Jones, and other key officials marked the start of construction on the site.

The project involves the complete redevelopment of the existing Llys Awelon to create a modern, low-carbon, bespoke design. It will offer 35 one- and two-bedroom apartments in addition to the existing 21 apartments.

The project involves working alongside the existing facility, causing as little disruption as possible to residents and staff, and ultimately updating that facility to the same low-carbon, high standard. The project is a partnership between Grŵp Cynefin, Denbighshire County Council and Welsh Government.



In the group are Llandyrnog residents Bryn Davies, Development Manager (2nd It) and Arwyn Evans, Head of Development (3rd It).

The development follows the opening of the Awel y Dyffryn extra care housing scheme in Denbigh at the beginning of the year. If you, a relative or a friend would like to know more about the apartments available in Llys Awelon or Awel y Dyffryn, now or in the future, contact Grŵp Cynefin on 0300 111 2122.

Bryn Davies

COMPETITION!

We are holding a competition for the best "pick up your dog poo" poster.



Anyone can enter, the winner will have their poster displayed around the village. There is also a dog teddy to be won.

There is a big issue in the village where some people don't pick up after their dog. Not only is it deeply unpleasant, it can also be dangerous, whilst rare, it can cause toxocariasis, which is a nasty infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea, asthma and even blindness or seizures.

Unfortunately even though its against the law to leave you dog poo and not pick it up and also face a fine for doing so.

Lets have some fun to help make a difference, we are looking for school aged children get creative in making a Dog Poo poster. Just put your name and age on it please

Please hand posters in at the post office, a box will be left there to put your entry's in. Please hand all posters in by the 1st December 2022.



Getting to know your Community Councillors

We are starting a series of 'spotlight' articles introducing the individuals who make up the 11 members of Llandyrnog Community Council. Following the election in May there were a couple of new faces to add to those who have served this community for some years, so we thought it would be useful to turn the spotlight on each of the councillors so you know who your representatives are. We start with the Chair and Vice-chair of the Community Council on the following page.

Meet your Community Councillors

Ruth Griffith – Chair

I was born in Cheshire but came to school in North Wales, married a Welsh man and settled here. We have lived in our house in Llandyrnog for 51 years, which is where our two daughters grew up. We quickly became involved in the life of the church and I started a Guide company to admit Olga Evans' Brownies. My working life was spent in the school meals service.

I became a Community Councillor at the suggestion of Gwilym Evans' father, well over 40 years ago. I was impressed by the way the dedicated members of the day dealt so sympathetically with all council matters and I



gained so much local knowledge from them. I have been Chair and Vice-chair more than once over my 40-plus years as a councillor.

I am fully involved in village life and enjoy the challenges that we face. I have never fought an election, which I find disappointing, as I would like to see more people coming forward to make up the team of 11 councillors that is the remit for Llandyrnog Community Council. I have many other voluntary interests, which I believe help to bring a wider perspective to aspects of life as a Community Councillor.

Gwen Butler – Vice-chair

I was born in Southend-on-Sea and went to primary school there until I was 8, when we moved back to Wales. I then went to Rhewl school and Brynhyfryd before going to college in Wrexham. I have lived in Llangwyfan for nearly 30 years.

I worked in the Planning Department of Glyndwr District Council then Denbighshire County before taking early retirement in 2014. I missed having the ability to help people, being so used to having a public-facing role, and it was Merfyn Parry who suggested I try for one of the vacant seats on the Community Council.

I now represent the Community Council on the Highfield Park community liaison group and Ruthin Hospital League of Friends. I have been helping with the Pop-up Café in Cae Nant Pavilion and am Chair of the Village Hall Committee. I am also one of the coordinators of the *Llais* magazine.

I am an observer for the Institute of Advanced Motorists and am passionate about road safety, good driving and riding skills. In complete contrast to the petrolhead side of me, I am very protective of the



natural world, wildlife and the AONB in particular. We are so lucky to live here – the peace, the sunsets, the animals and birds all lift my spirit and I hope it will be appreciated by generations to come.

Matters discussed in the October meeting of Llandyrnog Community Council

Seven members were present at the meeting held at 7pm in the Cocoa Rooms.

It was noted that the lighting column to Maes Llan car park have still not been connected.

The Give Way sign at Capel Isa was repaired immediately.

Dog fouling is still a problem and the school has been asked to prepare a poster – the best will be printed and erected in prominent places around the village.

‘Know Your Councillor’ item for *Llais* – the first one to be included in the November issue and others to appear in subsequent editions.

The Community Police Officer was not present, so, in view of a few recent incidents, it was requested that an effort be made to re-establish the relationship.

DCC has been made aware that the Community Council is concerned about the state of some empty properties in the village and has prepared a comprehensive report and plan of action.

Digital training – now that the Cocoa Rooms has free broadband available for community use, it was decided to see whether there is interest in digital training.

Confirmation has been received from DCC that a commuted sum in the region of £9,000 will be available upon part completion of Maes yr Erw Isaf in lieu of play equipment. Only then can the Community Council make an application to DCC for some of the funds to enhance or improve the existing play area.

It was decided to include a sum of £1,000 in the budget as a contribution towards a community needs survey.

The finance sub group has met to prepare a draft budget – it was short of the actual requirements but, in view of the current financial climate, any shortfall will be taken from reserves.

There was a verbal report from the recent MHC Liaison Group and some of the matters discussed were as follows:

- MHC is aware of light pollution and is looking at mitigation measures.
- The deliveries of parcels to incorrect houses are still an issue – many of the houses in the area share the same post code.
- Welsh speakers/support workers have been given lanyards to make bilingual residents more aware of the fact that they offer a bilingual service.
- Future events include a Halloween event, silent fireworks and Christmas carol service.
- The MHC estates are going to consider whether or not they could be involved in ensuring there is a notice board for Llangwyfan.

Potholes by Groes Isa smithy and Gales Road will be notified to DCC.

There has been a verbal request from Llandyrnog FC for covered bins in Cae Nant following problems with seagulls emptying the bins following matchdays. It will be respectfully suggested that the bins be emptied immediately post-match and the bags deposited in the covered wheelie bins; however, the situation will be monitored.

Useful telephone numbers

Denbighshire CC Customer Service Centre
01824 706101

Out of hours: 03001 233068

North Wales Police: 101 (Non-emergency)

Report dog fouling free 0800 2300 2345