

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

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

August 2023 – Volume 8 – Issue 11

Thank you



In the coffee morning held on 29 July, the village hall committee took advantage of the event to express its thanks to Wyn Wilson for her voluntary work as booking clerk for 20 years.

Gwen Butler, chair of the committee presented flowers and a gift voucher to Wyn.

The coffee morning was in aid of St John Ambulance and £330 was raised towards this excellent cause. Gwen thanks all who supported and contributed.

The grand total for August 2022–23 raised by events in Llandyrnog and its environs for various charities and local causes is £12,394. This includes £2170 raised solely for St Kentigern's hospice.

Goodbye, sir!



Best wishes to Richard Monteiro, head of the Federation of Ysgol Bryn Clwyd and Ysgol Gellifor in his new post as head of Ysgol Pen y Bryn, Colwyn Bay. Here are his words in his last

contribution to Ysgol Bryn Clwyd's weekly newsletter:

It was with mixed emotions that I watched the leavers' show on Wednesday, knowing it would be my last, and as always, my thanks go to the staff for working so hard behind the scenes to support the children with putting on such a great show. It has been a real privilege working with such a dedicated team.

I started as headteacher at Ysgol Bryn Clwyd in 2015 and from day one, the passion and commitment that each and every staff member demonstrated was obvious and also infectious to everyone who has joined since.

I will very much miss this camaraderie but leave happy knowing that this will never end and that ultimately, it is this that has created and will continue to maintain, such a happy

When you pick up your copy, please contribute via the collection box, or give a contribution to your distributor. Thank you!

Around the village

Best wishes to Eva Langford-Jones following hospital treatment; Charlie Jones, Maes Clwyd who will be going to work on a farm near Glasgow; and to David Weyman following a nasty accident.

Condolences to the family of the late Anne Williams, Ffordd Isa; to the family of Graham Jackson, Cerrigllwydion Lodge, and to one of *Llais Llandyrnog Voice's* faithful readers, Mrs Elspeth Brierley from Ruthin, on the death of her husband, Jim.

Congratulations to Merfyn Parry who has been selected by the *Farmers Weekly* judges as one of three finalists in the Farmers Weekly W Arable Advisor of the year awards 2023. The result will be announced in the *Farmers Weekly* awards night in London in October.

Also to Elaine and Earle Wright who recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Thanks to all who supported and contributed to the coffee morning in aid of the British Legion at Plas Ashpool. The excellent total of £700 was raised.

Cocoa Rooms Events

Tuesday	8 th	Book club 10-11am
Wednesday	16 th	Tuesday Club 2-3pm
Tuesday	22 nd	Book club 10-11am

To book the Cocoa Rooms, e-mail Mrs Emily Williams: emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk

Village Hall Events

Saturday	5 th	Craft group
Wednesday	9 th	Flower show committee meeting 19.00
Sunday	13 th	Birthday party (private) 10.30-13.30
Monday	28 th	Flower and produce show

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS. To book the Village Hall, contact Ivan Butler on 07799 570549 or email: ivanbutler897@btinternet.com.

LLANDYRNOG HUB

CAE NANT PAVILION

AUGUST DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Good news from the Hub Team – we have received further funding from the Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council (DVSC) Social Isolation Grant. We will therefore be opening the Hub twice during August and as we now have installed heating in the pavilion, we can continue later this year! The next Hub will be on **Wednesdays 9th August and 23rd August.**

August services at St Tyrnog's

6 ^h	11.15am	Holy Communion
13 th	11.15am	Holy Communion
20 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer
27 th	11.15am	Holy Communion

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Llandyrnog Flower and Produce Show 2023

This year's show will be at the village hall on Monday 28th August, from 2pm. The show committee has decided to continue with the use of a marquee, which was introduced for the first time last year. Flowers, fruit and vegetables will be in the marquee and home produce, crafts, and children's competitions in the hall. We try to include a wide variety of classes to encourage entries from as many people as possible. In particular, this year's schedule includes a completely new list of young persons' classes, covering a range of ages from under 7s up to 18 (see page 27 of the schedule).

Stewards will be around to help exhibitors and visitors on the day. The committee has tried to deliver a schedule to all homes in the village, but if we have missed any, copies are available at the post office or from the secretary, Roger Warner, at Cross Keys. Entries must be submitted to the box in the post office by midday on Thursday, 24th August, or by 6pm by email. Electronic copies of the schedule and electronic entry forms can also be obtained by e-mail:

llandyrnogshow@gmail.com.

Roger Warner, Secretary

Please return all show trophies as soon as possible to the secretary at Cross Keys, or send an e-mail to the above address to arrange collection.

Rich, Bryn and the family of the late Gwen Davies, Ruthin, wish to Express their thanks for all condolences received in their recent bereavement. Thanks also for the generous donations in memory of Gwen towards the Ruthin Hospital League of Friends and Baby Basics Dyffryn Clwyd.

Messy Church

In our July Messy Church session, we heard the story Jesus told about a woman who lost a very precious coin and how hard she looked until she found it. It's said that the coin could have been from her bridal head-dress and so it would have been very special to her. Jesus went on to say that just as the coin was precious to the woman, so we are all precious to God and he will always come and find us if we ever lose our way. We did lots of activities with coins – even a money tree – and wouldn't we all like one of those! We also made beautiful head-dresses decorated with coins.



There won't be Messy Church in August but we will be back on 10th September so why not come and join in the fun?

Dyffryn Chapel

Condolences to Rhydonnen family on the loss of Wyn Jones, Tŷ Brith and Plas Llangwyfan family in the loss of Clwyd Hughes.

August Service:

27th 11.00 Rev. Alun Moreton Thomas

Post Office Opening Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9am–12pm, 2pm–5pm
Wednesday & Saturday 9am–12.30pm
01824 790310

Bryn flies again

I'm going to share with you this month my memories of a very special day out on Saturday 10th June. The trip was a combined Christmas and birthday gift from Anwen – a helicopter trip around Anglesey and a once in a lifetime treat.

Having walked the whole of the coastal path I was looking forward to doing it without breaking into a sweat, with glorious views and of course with good company. When walking solo, one tends to focus on the start point, finish point, the weather, finding the path, comfort breaks, footcare, etc and one does not really have a chance to relax. Hard work, I tell you, but a lot of thinking time which is good. The best therapy ever.

Having arrived at Caernarfon Airport, we were introduced to Dan our pilot. We had met before, so we knew we were in good hands and after making sure the doors were properly locked and the intercom working we were up. I would recommend this form of transport to anyone – providing you have a good pilot of course. Within seconds off the ground you are floating backwards and then thrust forward gently and up to the safe height and enjoying the view from your glass bubble.



Within minutes we were over Ynys Llanddwyn, its glorious beach and headland – and the Church of Santes Dwynwen. This is the Welsh St Valentine's day, celebrated on the 25th January. Being a true Celt I celebrate the Welsh one of course – roses are much cheaper than they are on 14th February!

I will not dwell on the story of Dwynwen – please do take time to read about the best love story in Wales.

Had we flown over the next house in 2011 we would have probably been shot down – the house on Bodorgan Home Farm where William and Kate stayed during his work at RAF Valley. It's fairly remote and has access to its own private beach. The Bodorgan Estate, which covers 14,000 acres, has existed since 1599 and is still in the same family. It is the home of Sir George Meyrick and his wife Lady Candida Tapps Gervis Meyrick. I wonder how does Sir George address his good wife?

Over Tŷ Croes race track next but there was no action there today. Dan then pointed out Ynys Cwyfan – the Church in the Sea, and Craig y Môr at Trearddur Bay, which was used for filming the ITV Series *The Safe House* in 2016. Funny, since I was quite a fan of *The Safe House* and the unmarked police cars travelling at high speed over moorlands and wilderness to reach *The Safe House* with witnesses that needed protecting. It never occurred to me that it was in Anglesey. Apparently most of the shots were in Scotland, they only filmed the cars arriving in Anglesey and carefully ensured that the sea was out of the shot!

Then over the highest point on Ynys Môn – Holyhead Mountain, and I would urge you to go to Holyhead. The Holyhead Breakwater Country Park is there with café and facilities and while you're there, look down at the Holyhead Breakwater (the squiggle going out to sea in the photo). Anwen and I have walked this in the past – it's the longest breakwater in the UK, being 1.7 miles long.

I would encourage you to read more about this Victorian feat of engineering – every stone was dug out of Holyhead mountain, dressed by hand in a shed and put on a flat wagon on a railway track and wheeled onto the site. They were then placed in situ by divers in Victorian diving suits and helmets, working between the tides – the mind

Bryn flies again: ctd



boggles. It is still there today, open to pedestrians only and Stenna have been successful in securing £12m lottery grant to refurbish this magnificent structure.

Anyway, must move on. We moved inland a bit over Mynydd Parys, which in the 18th century was the largest copper mine in the world. The remains of the mining work has left what can only be described as a lunar landscape. It was the copper from here that covered the hulls of the battleships at Trafalgar 1805. We have visited before and intend to return. It's well worth a visit – and there is no charge!

We were soon over the former 200 acre Rhosgoch Oil Refinery, once owned by Shell, with the circular bases of the tanks to be seen clearly from the air. There was an option put forward by the present owners, Conygar, to build a village here for the hundreds of workers that would be required to build Wylfa Newydd. When Hitachi pulled out, that option bit the dust. They are now looking at the site as a possible renewable energy site.

And as we spoke, we were flying over Porth Wen solar project. This is a 190 acre solar farm commissioned this year and capable of meeting the electricity demand of up to 9,500 houses and a truly impressive sight from above.

Back to the coast and a flight over Moelfre. It looked beautiful today, however many, many lives have been lost along this coast as the numerous information boards along the path point out. The most famous, of course, being the *Royal Charter* returning home from

Melbourne to Liverpool October 1859 with 371 passengers and 112 crew on board. Many of the passengers were gold miners who had struck it rich in Australia and were so, so close to home.

They had large amounts of gold about their persons and the Royal Charter was also carrying a consignment of gold. It was claimed by the very few survivors – 33 of the 483 on board – that the captain had been advised to pull into Holyhead harbour for shelter but decided to continue on his journey!

It was at this point that we encountered a most spectacular view up the steep Llanberis Pass with both Llyn Padarn and Llyn Peris crystal clear and Castell Dolbadarn standing proudly between them. Now that is something neither of us will ever forget.



Another spectacular view – the Menai Straits from the air with Pwll Ceris, or The Swellies in English, looking more menacing than ever from up here. No wonder Nelson trained his hand-picked crew here: *'If they can sail The Swellies they can sail anywhere in the world'*, he is reputed to have said. Looking from above I can well believe it – the rocks looked very treacherous!

We were soon back in Dinas Dinlle and Dan dropped us very gently back on the tarmac – that's what I call a proper day out!

Bryn Davies

Spotlight on ... Anwen Davies

I was born (literally!) and bred in Ystalyfera, a village some 12 miles from Swansea. School days at the local junior and comprehensive schools were enjoyable, and then off I went to Bangor University. And that was the beginning of my emigration to the North, more or less!

My first post was secretary to two BBC news reporters in Bangor, and then production assistant at the HTV television studio in Mold. I got to travel with this job. In 1982, I spent six weeks on the continent filming a series of six travel programmes, presented by Elinor Jones. Five years later, I had seven weeks working in Bangkok, New Zealand and Australia.



Working on North Island, New Zealand in 1987

A period followed of raising a family, typesetting local Welsh-language magazines, and working as a translator for Flintshire County Council and Ysgol Glan Clwyd, St Asaph.

A big change came with the family becoming more independent – I was appointed editorial officer with the Welsh Joint Education Committee in Cardiff. I really enjoyed the work and company of my colleagues, but travelling to Cardiff every week was very tiring, and so I reluctantly refused the offer to extend the two-year contract.

From a ridiculously long commute to a very short one – I became an editorial officer for the Welsh Books Council, working from home, mainly on the Reading Well booklists. These books help to understand and manage health and wellbeing using helpful reading.

What are your plans for the future?

I have now given up working – I shan't say 'retired', that sounds too final. Perhaps I'll edit the occasional book. Rhiannon, my 16-month-old granddaughter now has priority, and we spend three days in each other's company. This, and compositing *Llais Llandyrnog Voice*



almost every month, is more than enough for the time being. And helping with coffee mornings, of course. Setting up the village hall for a coffee morning is hard work, but seeing the enjoyment of people socialising makes it all worthwhile. The generosity of the donations to various charities causes never ceases to amaze me.

What are you favourite three places?

Llangwyfan – I enjoy the walk up the hill and past the church; and Mumbles, near Swansea and Tenby – fantastic holiday locations.

Who would you invite to dine with you, dead or alive?

We're only here once, and you've got to have a laugh, haven't you? So Tudur Owen (Welsh-language comedian), Dave Allen, and the two Ronnies. Victor Borge at the piano would be good fun as well.

What makes you happy and what annoys you?

Happy: my family – Bryn; our children Lisa, Manon and Ifan; Dad and my brother, Glyn; James, our future son-in-law, and Rhiannon, our grand-daughter.

Annoyed: drivers who don't acknowledge you giving way to them. Grrr!

Tourism Ambassador

Flintshire and Wrexham have recently launched their own *Ambassador Schemes* which means you can now learn more about North Wales. The award-winning *Wales Ambassador Scheme* provides people with training and knowledge about the special qualities of areas in Wales, and the scheme's websites of all six local authorities and Eryri National Park are now live.

Denbighshire was the first to launch an online course of its kind in Wales. Ambassadors are actively encouraged to sign up to multiple courses to extend their learning about Wales and be part of a wider community.

It's a great way to deepen your appreciation of a place and learn more about its unique characteristics. It's totally *free* and open to everyone. A series of online modules on a variety of themes is offered. This includes Welsh language, communities, culture, history, landscapes, sustainable tourism, cycling and walking. There are three levels – bronze, silver and gold, depending on the number of modules completed. Rewards, which include certificates and badges are sent to everyone who completes the levels. For further information on the Denbighshire Tourism Ambassador Course, please contact tourism@denbighshire.gov.uk.

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

Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee

Ruth Griffith (Chair), Ivan Butler (treasurer & composer), Anwen Davies (composer & translator), Gwen Butler, Bryn Davies, Ann and Iestyn Jones-Evans, Rhian Jones, Rod and Margaret Williams, Jane Borthwick.

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

Denbigh and Biebortal (Germany) Twinning Group

About two dozen friends from Biebortal visited a number of families in the Vale of Clwyd recently to rekindle friendships and visit places of interest in North Wales. Mary Mars Lloyd, Llys y Bryn and Rod and Margaret Williams, Rhiwbebyll, have been members of the group for many years, and love to welcome and entertain our German friends every other year.

We are very warmly welcomed to Germany every other year – they cannot do enough for us. Many more people from Biebortal would love to join the twinning group, but there would need to be more members in the Vale of Clwyd group.

What about joining our lively group?

Rod Williams



The visitors from Germany and their hosts at Llansannan



Bidding them goodbye

A huge thank you to all who have contributed articles to this edition – it's greatly appreciated.



The Wright life

Despite being holiday time, the garden is still a busy place. Everything is growing and the garden can look a wee bit out of control – well mine does. The heavy thundery downpours we had earlier in the summer have beaten a lot of my wildflower area down, so I've been selective weeding – leaving anything of interest and removing nettles, docks and things which look rather 'weedy'.

The saying 'Best laid plans of mice and men....' is very appropriate. Do you remember last year I decided to stop growing potatoes? Well, that plan has changed. In the spring, I planted my winter beetroot in the main vegetable patch; these feed my hens during the winter as treats and something to peck at. They were growing well despite the hot dry conditions and I was very pleased. However, one afternoon a breakaway gang of naughty hens must have discovered a hole in my defences and the fresh sweet plants on the other side. Within a few hours they had devoured the lot! By the time I returned home the whole row had completely disappeared with no trace. Time for a re-think. No more tasty beetroot for the hens, replaced with spuds for me to be harvested at Christmas. I haven't grown these before, so am waiting to see if they are successful and I'm anticipating tucking into tasty new potatoes with my turkey dinner.

The seed merchants send the tubers in July/August and I have just planted mine – Charlotte and Maris Peer. They have been held back in cold storage and don't need to be 'chitted' and must be planted immediately. Planting them now will ensure they are far enough ahead and established before the first frosts – well, that's the plan. I have planted them on the west facing side of the vegetable garden with the benefit of any sun.

August is the start of harvest time and the

greenhouse is abundant with tomatoes, chillis and cucumbers. With the hot and dry weather earlier in the year my tomatoes haven't produced a good crop and it's uncertain I will have any top-quality ones for the village show at the end of the month. I always try and enter something and if the girls are laying, then I will put a few eggs in. This year I have some fantastic hollyhocks grown from some 'out of date' seeds a friend gave me – the motto of the story is never throw seeds away. Shame that they will be finished before the show as they are spectacular.



Have you spotted more ants this year? I've had them under the concrete slabs in the greenhouse. I noticed my dogs, who love to sit in there, were reluctant to go in and I saw loads of flying ants. I caught sight of them crossing my yard in a procession when I was recently painting my front gate. All marching from one side to the other in a snaking line in single file. It must be like crossing a large desert for them. Sometimes if I find a nest, I put a biscuit tin over the entrance in the morning and as the day warms up the ants will carry their eggs up into the container; later in the day I slide a piece of card under as the container will be full of eggs. They make a tasty treat for wild birds and my hens love them. No doubt, it is a delicious time for all – busy – but with lots of yummy treats to enjoy!

Hazel

Tuesday Club

In June, members of the club had their mid-summer lunch at the Drovers Arms, Rhewl. Sam and Sion were excellent hosts and all enjoyed their food.

In the July meeting, PCSOs David Jones and Lee Humphreys came to speak about home Security.



They distributed a home Security pack issued by North Wales Police, which included top tips for home security; a sticker for display outside the house, details of www.immobilise.com, the website where you can register your property for free, e.g. laptops and tablets, and a UV pen to write your postcode on valuables.

The top tips are:

- ✎ Lock all doors and close all windows before leaving the house.
- ✎ Lock front and back doors, even when you are in the house and particularly overnight.
- ✎ Don't leave valuable items on view. Don't leave car keys near to a letter box where a burglar can reach through and steal them.
- ✎ Lock garden gates and side entrances. Don't leave anything lying about that a burglar could use to break in to your home.
- ✎ Don't leave wheelie bins where they could

be used by someone to climb over a wall or fence.

- ✎ Mark your belongings with a UV pen.
- ✎ Make sure your home looks occupied. Use timer switches for lights and noise from a radio.
- ✎ Consider installing a burglar alarm and outside security lighting.
- ✎ Be vigilant; report any unusual activity, people or Vehicles in your area to the police, giving as much information as possible.

David and Lee were thanked for a most interesting presentation and light refreshments were served. It was sadly announced that Joyce Catterroll will not be attending meetings from now on, due to general debility. We also sent our regards to Gwilym and Glenys. The raffle was drawn and the members informed that the Cocoa Rooms will be open Wednesday, 16 August for a cuppa and a chat. All welcome.

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Llandyrnog W.I.

The WI met on the 04/07/23 at the Cocoa Rooms. Since we last met we had an update that the WI cake stall at the Horse Show, which went very well and raised £68 and that all members who went on the trip to Bodnant had a lovely time.

The next informal trip was to The British Ironwork Centre, Oswestry.



Sue Wright, senior associate for 'Book of You' came and spoke to us about being a dementia friend and about the reminiscence books they create for individuals and groups using photos, videos and voice recordings. We looked at some on-line, and they were excellent e.g. one about the Mold – Denbigh Railway which sparked a lot of reminiscences.

We played a game and learned that there are over one hundred types of dementia and that it is a disease of the brain which is not a natural part of aging and can include sensory and sequencing issues as well as personality changes over time. Sue used an analogy of the rational brain being Ikea shelves which wobble, and the top books fall off first – hence the retaining of the longer established memories down below. We also have a feeling bookcase which is much more solid and so emotions and feelings remain strong even with dementia. We all reminisced about childhood sweets, and it

got us all smiling and remembering great memories. This is important for people living with dementia (they do not say sufferers any more as it highlights the negatives connotations).

The dementia helpline (manned by Admiral Nurses) is open from 9 am to 9 pm on 0800 8886675 or contact helpline@dementiauk.org.

Examples from the *Book of You* can be seen on-line at bookofyou.co.uk. The research into the power of reminiscence is supported by Professor Bob Woods of Bangor University dementia services development centre.

Speaker at the meeting on the 5th September will be Graham Jones from Woody's Lodge, anyone welcome to come along and join us for a taster of the meeting.

Trefoil Guild

Trefoil members celebrated 80 years of the Trefoil Guild with a celebration cake and tea.



Ruth Griffith, leader of the Llandyrnog branch of the Guild, cutting the celebration cake.

We also had a craft session with Ann Lloyd making all sorts of felt articles. The next meeting is our summer tea party at the Lodge, Llanrhaeadr.

James Davies, MP for Vale of Clwyd

james.davies.mp@parliament.uk

Constituency office: 01745 888920

Westminster office: 0207 2194606

A message from our priest, Martin Pritchard

Denbigh Mission Area, which is made up of 11 churches and a pilgrim church within a 5.5 mile radius around Denbigh, is committed to celebrating the Welsh language and of course the culture which is intricately woven into it over many years. It is a pleasure to share that we have a committee which meet every six weeks or so to ensure that we focus on service provision and on events in the calendar which are wholly through the medium of Welsh and, of course, some that are bilingual too. Watch out for the details of a St David's event that we are planning for the afternoon of 3rd March next year, for example, which will be popular.

It was great to welcome Catrin Finch at St Nefydd and St Mary's, Llanefydd on Mothering Sunday in March and Dafydd Iwan around the same time in the Church Institute, Henllan. This was arranged by members of Henllan Chapel. We are so happy that we have a good relationship with all of the chapels across the Mission Area. It has been an absolute joy watching the sunrise whilst singing to God, praying in the power of the Spirit and acknowledging the delights of a relationship with Jesus in each other on the last two Easter mornings with some of them and other churches up at Denbigh Castle.

It was truly wonderful to welcome *Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol* to St Mary's, Denbigh for the Christmas special just gone by. The feature with Gwyn Matthews talking about the Jesse window and good drone footage of the recently developed holy well, fashioned as a Roman bath, has meant that we have been even busier than usual with already global interest in St Dyfnog's church, Llanrhaeadr. Wherever availability allows it, we have been and will continue to arrange English and Welsh tours/prayer time for the many interested pilgrims and groups.

The *Llais Llandyrnog* magazine is always in the Welsh language fully, as well as English, which is so good, and the team works hard

each month to make it so. In our social media presence, we do post in the Welsh language often and our priests take assemblies through the medium of Welsh regularly in many of the schools in the area. It is important to us that Welsh language and culture is celebrated and informs what we do. There is a wealth of first language speakers in the congregations and most of our services have at least some Welsh in them. To finish this month's message on the subject of Welsh language and culture, please find some times and details of our Welsh language worship services, everybody is truly welcome, it would be so good to see you there:

St Tyrnog, Llandyrnog: bilingual Eucharist, 1st Sunday of month, 11:15am

St Mary's, Denbigh: Welsh Eucharist, 3rd Sunday of month, 9:30am

St Marcella's, Denbigh: Bilingual Service of Word, 4th Sunday of month, 9:30am

St Nefydd and St Mary, Llanefydd: 2nd and 4th Sundays, bilingual Eucharist, 9:30am

Corpus Christi, Tremeirchion: Welsh Eucharist, 4th Sunday of month at 11:15am



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Hidden weapons?

Several former inhabitants of this area have mentioned that guns were stored at the end of the Second World War near the White House Bungalow by Llangwyfan crossroads. We have been very keen, over the years, to investigate this claim further. We recently had the chance to solve the riddle once and for all, when a friend of ours came along with his metal detector.

He spent the whole morning searching, but, unfortunately, failed to discover any evidence of such claims in the field. BUT the story can't end there – his type of detector is only effective down to six inches below the surface. Perhaps things would be different if someone like Gwyn Howatson and his JCB would start digging deeper. We might then discover the true facts!

After searching for guns to begin with, our friend went on to investigate in detail for other hidden treasures, walking carefully up and down the field.

At the end of the search, he called at the house, with a wide grin on his face! The photo below shows you the fruits of his labour for the morning – the 'Anglesey Penny', dated 1792.

These Anglesey Pennies were produced by The Mynydd Paris Copper Mining Company to pay their workers. The money was deemed legal currency, and was used as far as Liverpool and even London. I wonder how this particular Anglesey Penny came to be lying in a small field in Llangwyfan, and who its owner might have been?

Rod Williams



Astronomy

An island off the coast of North Wales has become the first dark sky sanctuary in Europe, meaning there is hardly any light pollution on island.

Having one of the best night skies in the world for spotting stars, Ynys Enlli (*Bardsey Island*) has now been given special status and awarded International Dark Sanctuary certification.

There are only 16 other sites in the world recognised as the most remote and dark places on Earth, and has been given this award by the International Dark Sky Association (IDA). Safeguarding such a valuable resource as a dark sky will benefit people, plants, and wildlife.

As Chris Jones, chair of Llandyrnog Astronomical Society says:

"Last month, Diana and I visited Ynys Enlli to see the Night Skies. It was a fantastic journey and we're hoping to go back soon. I hope this new status will raise Ynys Enlli's profile and establish Wales as an '*International Dark Sky Country*'!"

We're looking forward to seeing *Perseids*' meteor showers in August and the dark nights in September. Gareth Jackson, Hendrerwydd is an astro-photographer and shares his fantastic pictures with the Astronomy group!"

Chris and Diana Jones



A wide-field shot of the rich nebula regions around Deneb (bright star on left) and Sadr (on right). (*By kind permission of Gareth Jackson*)

Ysgol Bryn Clwyd



The leavers' school trip went to the indoor skydiving centre in Manchester. Everyone flew twice and loved it. Best wishes to them in their next schools.



All the school went to the seaside and had a great time.



The highlight of the term was the performance of Peter Pan. Thanks to all the staff and pupils for their hard work in preparing the show – it's safe to say that the audience enjoyed it immensely!

Recipe

Sweet potato and apple soup

Ingredients

850g sweet potatoes – cut into large chunks
2 spring onions – diced
3 sticks celery – diced
3 eating apples – peeled and diced
1tsp cumin
1tsp ground ginger
1.2 litres vegetable stock

Method

Put all ingredients into a saucepan, bring to the boil and simmer for about 20 minutes or until potatoes are soft. Blend and add salt and pepper to taste and garnish with chopped parsley.

Carol Bellis

The sports night and summer fayre were a big success and a fun night. Thanks to Miss Ruth and all who helped with the fayre – it raised £420.16.

The school will re-open to pupils on Monday, 4th September. It's good news to hear that the free school dinners programme will be rolled out to Years 3 and 4 from September.

Llandyrnog Community Council

- ◆ Unfortunately, the community policeman was unable to be present and the Clerk was going to ask for an update regarding the recent attempted break-in and subsequent break-ins around the village.
- ◆ DCC has provided an update on the progress with the road safety measures around the village but no specific dates as to when the speed monitoring unit will be placed.
- ◆ A new bin has been placed in Maes Clwyd following the damage caused by an agricultural contractor who has been billed for the work.
- ◆ The Annual Audit Return has been completed and returned to Audit Wales.
- ◆ The Community Council was asked to comment on two planning applications forwarded to them by the Planning Authority:
 - ◆ Five rotunda houses on land to rear of Kinmel Arms – unable to support
 - ◆ Erection of agricultural shed at Cwm Hyfryd – unable to support.
- ◆ It was reported that the directors of the community shop were still awaiting the outcome of their bid for additional funding from the Welsh Government.
- ◆ DCC had confirmed that it will deal with the Japanese Knotweed found in the Llangwyfan area appropriately at the right time of the year for treatment.
- ◆ It is hoped that Procter Johnson administration staff will relocate from Flint to the former Arla site in the very near future with production starting the first quarter of 2024, if not sooner – depending on equipment supply chain issues.
- ◆ The Community Council would like to wish David Weyman a full and speedy recovery.

Denbighshire County Council

Merfyn Parry



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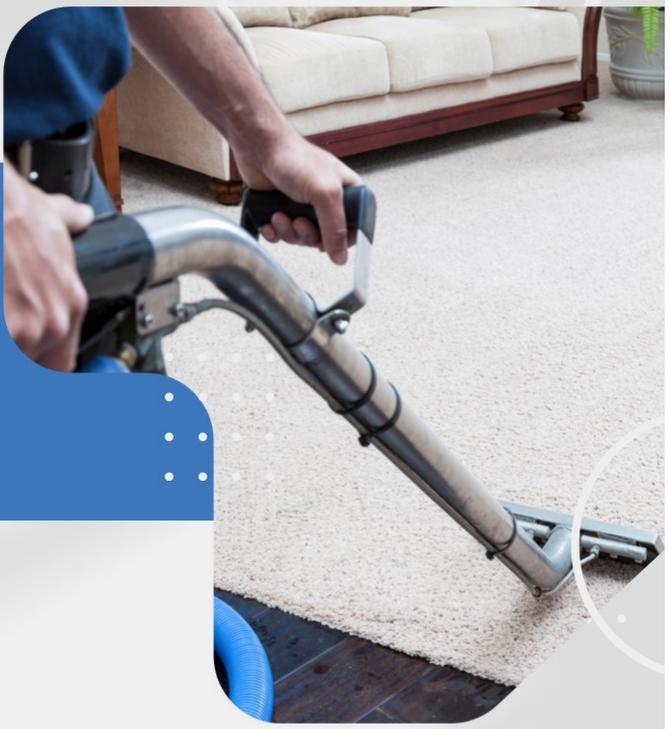
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