

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

✉ llandyrnognews@gmail.com 🐦 @LlaisLlandyrnog

December 2022 – Volume 8 – Issue 3

The mother of all coffee mornings!



Our hearty congratulations to Chris Williams and Laura Martin on their success at the recent coffee morning at the village hall. It was obvious that the family is very well-respected, by the number of friends and fellow-villagers that came to support them. Over £1400 was raised on the morning, and more contributions came in later. Chris will be running the London marathon for the Motor Neurone Disease Association, and if you would like to contribute, go to <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Chris-Williams211>.



A very merry Christmas to all our readers

Around the village

We send our sincerest condolences to Ann and Iestyn Jones Evans and family. Ann's mother, Mrs Myfanwy Jones of Denbigh passed away recently.

Also to the family of Dr Buddug Owen, of Cwm, Dyserth. She was an eminent anaesthetist who worked in all the local hospitals, including Llangwyfan. One of the books she wrote about her work was *Llangwyfan: Sanatorium to hospital*.

Welcome to Tomos and Carrie who have come to live in Maes Clwyd.

Ann and Iestyn, Berth wish to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone for the sympathy shown towards them in the loss of Myfanwy Jones, Denbigh, a wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

I won't be sending Christmas cards this year – wishing the very best for Christmas and a Happy New Year to all family, friends, and neighbours.
Wyn Wilson

Greetings to all our friends in the village and beyond.
Bryn and Anwen, Bryn Ffol

A happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all.
Sue and Pete Vine

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all friends and neighbours.
Margaret, Awel y Foel

Christmas greetings to our friends in the village, wishing you the very best for the New Year.
Elwyn and Olga, Ger y Llan

Capel y Dyffryn

Y Gymdeithas Monday 31 October, a very interesting and educational Quiz was held with Angharad and Aled Rhys, Dinbych as quizmasters

On Monday 14 November, Rich and Iona Davies were in charge of a beetle drive, followed by a Produce Stall to raise money for the Christmas Party - a very noisy and enjoyable evening!

Hospital Best wishes to Olga, Ger y Llan following hospital treatment.

Belated happy birthday to Alan, Rhydonnen, who celebrated his 80th birthday at the beginning of November.

Congratulations to Rhys and Gwen Davies of the Vale Vineyard on their success at the Welsh Wine Awards of the Welsh Vineyards Association. Their Vale Solaris won the award for the best white wine, and the Vale Ronde Rosé for the best still rosé.



Congratulations also to Gwenan, Pen y Bryn on her success at the National Cerdd Dant Festival in Llanfyllin, Powys.



Services in December

4th	9.45	The spirit of Christmas – Ann and Iestyn
11th	11.00	Rev Andras Iago
18th	10.00	Children's Christmas Service
25th	9.30	Circuit Service – Fron Chapel, Denbigh

Cocoa Rooms Events

13th	10am	Book Club
14th	2pm	Mothers' Union

Village Hall Events

3rd	9.30am–4pm	Craft Group (lower room)
3rd	pm	Birthday party (main hall)
4th		Baby shower
5th	5.30pm	Brownies
5th	7.30pm	Choir
11th	3.30-5pm	Messy Church
12th	5.30pm	Brownies
12th	7.30pm	Choir
19th	5.30pm	Brownies
19th	7.30pm	Choir

December services at St Tyrnog's

4 th	11.15am	Holy Comunion
11 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	Messy Church (Village Hall)
18 th	11.15am	Morning Prayer
	5.15pm	Christingle Service
24 th	5pm	Crib Service
25th	11.15am	Christmas Day Holy Communion

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

Post Office Opening Hours

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Wednesday & Saturday 9am–12.30pm

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Thanks 😊

We would just like to thank everyone who came and donated money, cakes and prizes to our coffee morning on Saturday, 19th November, raising vital funds for the Motor Neurone Association! A charity extremely important to our family.

We're extremely aware how difficult it is for everyone at the moment financially, so we are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed in any way. Over £1400 was raised to go towards our ongoing total, an amazing amount. It means an awful lot to us, so thank you.

A big thanks to Diane for all her help, Mrs Steel on the cake stall, Auntie Winnie and Maggy for doing a great job with the raffle, Bryn and Anwen for helping set up and showing us the ropes, and one more time a big thanks to everyone who donated in any way – we're extremely grateful. Diolch yn fawr iawn!

Chris, Laura, Gemma, Ian and families x



Attic Sale @ Plas Ashpool

Plas Ashpool is opening its doors to welcome everyone into its newly renovated barn.

Browse or buy a selection of items – large, small, old and used. New stock every week.

December 4/11/18, 11am–3pm

**Plas Ashpool, Llandyrnog, LL16 4HP,
Denbigh**

Find us along the B5429 between Bodfari
and Llandyrnog

Tel 07813087797 for more details.

EVERYTHING MUST GO!

Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan History Society

Reflections on 50 years of ordained ministry

Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan Local History Society members attended their AGM recently which was followed by a really engaging talk on 'Reflections on 50 years of ordained ministry', delivered by the Ven. E. Bernard Thomas, the society's outgoing chair.

Bernard Thomas, who was born in Pontardawe, Swansea Valley, attended Swansea University where he read Chemistry. He then studied for a post-graduate degree in theology at Cardiff and was ordained in 1971 at Llandaff Cathedral. In 1999, he moved to the diocese of St Asaph as Archdeacon and was also Rector of Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan, retiring in 2014.

The primary purpose of any ordained calling is sharing the gospel, the good news of the Christian faith, to bring the joy of this into people's lives. Bernard emphasized that humour, laughing and smiling is part of the joy of being alive and so he has always throughout all those years tried to be cheerful in ministry.

Members were reminded about the great coal strike of the 1980s and what it was like to be in the South Wales valleys at that time. Families faced great deprivation and Bernard believes the efforts of the community to help feed such families was a kind of precursor to our present-day food banks.

The church Bernard grew up in was totally male-dominated and remained so for many decades afterwards. He reflected on how, with some pride, he set out his credentials as a very early rebel and challenger to these accepted norms and he shared many examples of when he tried to vote in changes in favour of women.

Many other topics were discussed including the Church's attitude to personal relationships, including the remarriage of divorcees in church and the debate about same-sex relationships and sexuality. Also

the challenges of being the Archdeacon of St Asaph and having to reduce clerical manpower as well as serving as the Rector of Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan.

After his retirement it was for others to work at the recommendations of the so-called Harris Report on the Church in Wales, another fundamental change in church life in Wales. Parishes have been replaced by Ministry or Mission Areas – clergy belong not to a specific church and parish but to an extended area and work far more collaboratively.

He concluded that fifty years is a long time on which to reflect. Society and the Church in which he has served and continues to serve has changed enormously in many ways. 'We as clergy are still here and the Church in Wales is still here – *Er gwaethaf pawb a phopeth, ry'n ni yma o hyd.*'

The 2023 speakers will be

Dr Shaun Evans – Landed Estates in Wales: History and Significance

Mr Paul Broadbent – Sir Herbert Lewis of Caerwys, Liberal MP and a contemporary of David Lloyd George; supporter of education and Cymru Fydd

Mrs Elizabeth Benson – Daily Crafts of our Ancestors: a practical session on spinning, weaving and basket making

Mr Berwyn Evans – Dyffryn Aled Prisoner of War camp

For further details or queries, to join the society, or volunteer to be part of the projects, please contact the society secretary via e-mail: llangwyfanhistory@hotmail.com.



Tuesday Club

Unfortunately, the guest speaker was unable to come to the November meeting, so the members had a presentation from Anwen, the club's organiser, on various influential and pioneering Welsh people, or people with Welsh connections, over the centuries.

They ranged from Sir Hugh Myddelton from Denbigh, who brought water to London in the 17th century, to John Hughes from Merthyr Tydfil, who established the largest iron works in the Russian Empire at the end of the 19th century, to Tom Parry Jones of Anglesey (below) who developed the electronic breathalyser in the 1980's and to Josh Wardle from Abergavenny, who recently devised Wordle, the extremely popular on-line game.



Wales may be a small nation, but it's certainly left its mark on the world!

Light refreshments were served and we sang Happy Birthday to Buddug Foulkes. We look forward to the annual Christmas lunch at the Cherry Pie, Melin y Wern, at the beginning of December.

The next meeting at the Cocoa Rooms will be on Wednesday,

18 January at 2pm. New members welcome!

James Davies, MP for Vale of Clwyd

james.davies.mp@parliament.uk

Constituency office: 01745 888920

Westminster office: 0207 2194606

Generous gift to the community



A Christmas tree has been purchased for the Churchyard. Again this year, Glyn, Carol and family have paid for it – an extremely generous annual gesture. Thanks also to David Weyman for giving his time and fuel to collect the tree from Llanfair TH.



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A word from the Priest

Through a fear of people not being able to spend as much leading into this year's Christmas season, many of the commercial Christmas adverts were released a week earlier than usual. They have mostly adapted their themes too, promoting community and giving.

There are lots to look at on YouTube or on the TV if you are someone who endures the adverts. By far the most impacting for me this year is from John Lewis who have filmed an absolutely fantastic ad titled "The beginner". We watch well-known actor John Paul Hurley battling alone to learn the skateboard as a middle-aged man and go from failing to having a bit of a handle on it. It turns out his efforts were to be able to relate to their newest family member, Ellie, arriving to her new home at Christmas. Spotting his sprained wrist, Ellie feels welcome and valued in an instant. As she settles in, it flashes up on the screen that there are over 108,000 children in the UK care system. John Lewis have partnered with Action for Children and Who Cares Scotland, pledging a long-term commitment.

My wife, Vicky, and I are foster carers and Vicky has worked in the sector professionally ever since she was a young person, starting her working life in the valleys of South Wales. With two long-term children in our care and a history of 15 children through the door, the moment Ellie casts that look at her new carer, The Skateboarding Man, I've instantly welled up with emotion the three times I've seen it, even though after the first time I knew what was coming. With such a huge amount of need around, as John Lewis states, and with things getting worse for people financially, surely hardship is only going to make situations worse.

As followers of Jesus in the chapels and churches around us, we take much of our guidance from the ancient books of the Bible which we believe God still communicates to us and shapes us through these words. A

collection of books that read and inform you as much as you them. Of the many prophets there is a repeating echo. It is the prophets' call to communities to care for the widows and the orphans. If you want to read some of these, have a read of Malachi 3: 5, Psalm 146 verse 9, Deuteronomy 16: 11 and Deuteronomy 10:18 and even 27: 19. There are many references – I'll share this one with you from James 1:27, 'Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.'

The longer I've been fostering and the more I engage in conversation with people, the more I learn how many people are connected in so many ways to the realities of fostering and adoption.

As we come into December now, I do hope that the Christmas adverts are encouraging you to practise the community spirit, generosity and the coming home to family and loved ones. We don't have to stare at screens and hide behind locked doors any longer and we would love to share real time and real space with you in our real community.

We are like an extended family in the community here at St Tyrnog's and we would love for you to come home to yourself by joining us. Our family crib service will be at 17:00 on Christmas Eve, it would be great to see you there. There are other details of events here and all across Denbigh Mission Area on leaflets at the church and at the Post Office. Do have a look and come along to anything that you think might be of interest to you and the family or friends and of course those on their own will be made more than welcome.

The greatest story ever told is the true meaning of the festive season that has grown around the truth of God, born into the mess of our world over 2000 years ago. One of the greatest parts of this story is that Joseph pays

Remembrance Sunday



A word from the Priest: ctd

close attention to God's communication to him through a dream. Instead of abandoning Mary as many would have expected him to, Joseph becomes the foster father of Jesus. In a world filled with pain and strife, the truths of Christianity provide a sound map and compass for navigating the many uncertainties.

I hope you have a precious Advent throughout December and a wonderful Christmas whatever you have planned. May God bless you in every way throughout December and into the New Year.

Hoping you can have a good and fulfilling Christmas!

The Reverend Martin Pritchard. Priest for Mission and Community Engagement.

Llandyrnog commemorated Remembrance Sunday on 13 November. The service was led by Rev. Alison Goldstein, the names of the fallen read by Rob Hammond, and the last post sounded by Heather Powell. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Parish Council, the Royal Navy, the Community Council, Denbighshire County Council, the WI, the Brownies and the family of the late Guardsman Peter Edwards.

Bill and Barbara Hammond from Broughton and her nephew, Colin Dew Parry from Chester, came again this year to the service. Barbara's great-uncle was Martin Luther Williams who died in 1916 in WW1. His inscription was added to the war memorial with their permission following research by Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan History Society.



Denbighshire County Council is supporting a Warm Welcome for residents this Winter. Across the county warm hubs are being set up – locations in the local community where people can find a safe, warm and welcoming environment during the day. The nearest is in Denbigh – Denbigh Hub, Smithfield Rd, LL16 3RG. Phone: 01745 818485, e-mail: helo@ytygwyrdd.cymru. Open Mon to Fri, 9am–3pm. A warm welcome to all. For further information, visit www.denbighshire.gov.uk/warm-welcome.

On the road with IAM Roadsmart

I wanted to offer my congratulations to Sally Cunliffe who became the latest, (and the first member of the North Wales IAM group since lockdown), to pass the IAM Roadsmart Advanced driving test. I also thought it would be interesting to share our experiences.

I have been a member of the IAM since 1980 when my Dad (who had set aside some money for driving lessons for my birthday) agreed that I could use the money to buy a motorbike instead – but, “Only if you get properly trained.”

I passed the basic motorcycle test on a Honda CB 200. I also did an advanced motorcycle riding course at Gatewen in Wrexham, later becoming a volunteer instructor. The Institute of Advanced Motorists’ motorcycle test was the next step which I also passed and I joined a very small group of female advanced riders at the time.

Fast forward to 2014. When I retired from work, one of my first “things to do when I retire” projects was to take the IAM car test to add to my motorcycle badge. I was successful, 34 years after passing on a motorbike! The North Wales group was in need of committee members and observers, so I quickly found myself roped into taking car drivers on observed runs before they attempted their IAM test. My very first associate received a coveted “First” on his test – top marks. I must admit I did consider stopping at that point with a 100% record!

Covid then put the brakes on everything, the risk of spreading the dreaded disease while confined in a car was too great. Lockdown eased very slowly, so many of the IAM volunteers nationally were unwilling to take the risk. But eventually, with all of us fully jabbed, our group opened up again and Sally was my first post-covid associate. The fact that she intended taking the test in a camper van was a first for the group and I was regularly teased in committee debrief about the convenience of having a toilet on board.

No need to stop for a cuppa etc...

Sally did really well. From the start I could tell she was a good driver. I thought that the high seating position in the vehicle was a great advantage – you could see much further ahead and for me that is the essence of an advanced driver – forward observation and planning. After a few runs (and Sally practicing hard in between) one of my colleagues double checked us and agreed with me that Sally was ready to put in for test.

Gwen Butler

IAM Advanced Driving Test

Having had a few ‘observed’ driving sessions with a couple of observers I decided to put in for my test, driving my new motorhome.

Meeting me at Sainsbury’s car park in Flint, the examiner asked what pre-drive inspections I would normally carry out, to ensure the vehicle was safe and legal to drive. After explaining what I would do, he very helpfully added a few items to the list and showed me various things under the bonnet.

Inside the vehicle I gave a tour of the cockpit. After pointing out the ‘cruise control’ button and saying I didn’t use it because I liked being in full control of speed, he gave me a top tip: cruise control uses more fuel - and he doesn’t use it either! Tips were also given – for example when to use the fresh air inlet and when to close it.

Feeling somewhat apprehensive, I manoeuvred through the supermarket car park, with drivers coming in and out, to reach the open road. I asked if I should do the “rolling brake” test but he said that wasn’t necessary as I had driven there and obviously used the brakes. But he was glad I had thought about it. The test route used urban and rural roads, dual carriageway, narrow roads with parked cars, ascents and descents, roundabouts and many sorts of junctions. It had been raining and there were leaves on the highway, making the road surface slippery.

IAM Advanced Driving Test: ctd

The examiner asked me several questions on the Highway Code, often related to what we were passing at the time. Having lived in the area, I was familiar with every road in the route, which may not have been an advantage! On the way back to the start I thought I must have failed because the test did not seem long enough. Once pulled into a parking slot he shook my hand and said I had passed! What a relief, and a bit of a surprise.

He explained each stage of the test we had just driven, saying what was good about it and areas for improvement.

He ran through every part of the “Advanced Driver test report”, explaining the numbers given for each aspect and said I was well worthy of a Pass.

I would highly recommend undertaking the training and taking the test. It has increased my confidence in driving a much larger vehicle than I usually drive.

Many thanks to all those who helped me!

Sally Cunliffe



Due to the Christmas break, the January edition of *Llais Llandyrnog Voice* will not be available until 4 January.

Messy Church

In November’s Messy Church we commemorated Remembrance Sunday. We learned about why we wear poppies and how important it is that we remember those who died in war, even though we never knew them. We made poppies of all different kinds and we also built a war memorial and covered it in poppies made from cupcake cases!

Our next session will be on 11th December when we will be looking forward to hearing once again the wonderful Christmas story. Everyone is welcome; children, please bring a grown-up to share the fun.



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The Wright life

It's the countdown to the end of 2022 – a time for reflection and anticipation of what 2023 will bring. It's been a year of changes with Boris Johnson resigning, Liz Truss succeeding him only to resign herself, with Rishi Sunak becoming Prime Minister. We celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and then sadly mourned her passing in September. In the summer we saw record-breaking temperatures. What a year it has been. January started for me with the house clad in scaffolding for the repairs following Storm Arwen – I've left one job and started a new one – and welcomed two great-nieces into the family.



It's been a challenge in the garden too; my greens still haven't produced any broccoli crowns yet, although the hens have enjoyed pruning the lower leaves – naughty girls. I've still got tomatoes flowering and fruiting in the greenhouse. The clematis is still in flower together with a rather brave holly hock. However, some things don't change, with the hens finally deciding it's time to have a rest and go off lay to moult.

I have welcomed the 'winter visitors' into the garden – Messrs Robin and Blackbird live in the garden all year, but some garden birds travel south to join them in the colder months, with disagreements ensuing as to whose

territory belongs to who. The pied wagtail spends all day (or so it seems) on the stable roof bobbing its tail and running up and down the slates catching insects. 'Jenny Wren' darts about in the rockery going in and out of nooks and crannies looking for spiders and small invertebrates. She is so tiny and must be constantly looking for a meal. At the bird table the house sparrow gang chitter and chatter with the local gossip. They cluster together on the top of the hedge across the lane, waiting for me to put fresh food out for them. I've also noticed the return of the red-legged partridges who hug the hedge line for shelter from predators like the buzzard.

I had a rather unexpected surprise under Bob's field water bucket which sits in an old car tyre to prevent him tipping it over. A family of field mice had decided it was a dry and safe place to build their winter nest. They gave me such a fright when I lifted the bucket – a neat nest made from dry leaves, moss, sheep wool and horsehair – probably gathered from when I clipped Bob. Gently I replaced the bucket – here it will stay keeping them warm and safe for the winter.

This year 21st December is the shortest day – the Winter Solstice. It's a time to celebrate as the days will grow longer and that spring will soon be here. As a family we make a wreath for the front door with holly, ivy and rosehips gathered from the hedgerows, together with baubles and festive tinsel. My father told us it was unlucky to bring holly into the house before Christmas Eve, but the wreath was okay. He also said if we found a holly bush covered in berries it would bring good luck for the coming year. I did wonder if that was said to us children to get us to cut holly with berries for the decorations.

So, I wish you all a joyous festive holiday and a happy New Year.

Hazel

With apologies to Hazel – a gremlin caused a few lines of last month's article to disappear. We hope that this didn't spoil readers' enjoyment too much.

Recipe

AROMATIC SPICED BEEF & TOMATO POLOW

(Minced lamb, pork, chicken, or turkey also works well)

Serves 4-6



Ingredients:

Olive or vegetable oil
1 large onion finely chopped
500g minced beef
3 heaped tbsps tomato puree
2 tbsps curry powder
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp ground cumin
½ tsp chilli flakes
3–4 bay leaves
4 fat cloves of garlic, thinly sliced
2 handfuls frozen peas (or sweetcorn)
400g basmati rice
25g butter
700ml cold water
natural yogurt (or Greek yogurt) to serve
Sea salt and pepper

Place a deep frying pan or saucepan on medium heat, add a little oil, add onion, cook until soft.

Add beef and break up as finely as possible. Whilst uncooked add puree, all spices and bay leaves. Stir to coat meat well. Add garlic, peas and a generous amount of salt and pepper. Add rice and butter, stir until butter is melted and blended in.

Pour in the cold water, cover and cook on gentle heat for 30 mins or until rice is tender. Fluff up with fork, serve with yogurt.

Rhian Jones

Hindu festival

Being that Rishi Sunak our Prime Minister and his family are practising Hindus, let's dwell for a short while on the religion.

How many Hindus are there in Britain?

According to the latest census there are about 800,000 living in Britain today mostly made up of the Gujarati and Punjab origin. This is 1.1% of Britain's population but 5% of London's population and 25% of Harrow's population are Hindus. The largest Hindu temple in Europe is located in Tividale, West Midlands.

Hindus and the law

Hindus are extremely law-abiding citizens. Only 329 are currently jailed in Britain and that's merely 0.4% of the prison population.

Do the Hindus have a god?

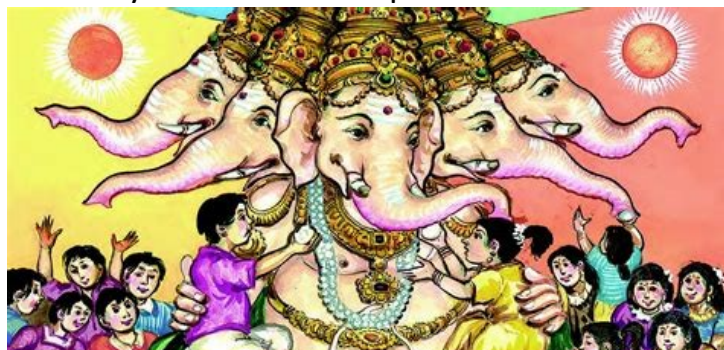
Of the hundreds of gods, Hindus have three that are consistently important – the Trimurti: Brahva (the Creator) Vishna (the Preserver) and Shiva (the Destroyer).

What is the Hindu version of Christmas?

In 1985, Satguru Sivaya Subramuniyaswami, founder of *Hinduism Today* magazine, conceived of and introduced the religious holiday, Pancha Ganapati. It offers Hindu families a meaningful way to participate in the holiday season without compromising their Hindu values. Pancha Ganapati is a five-day holiday that honours Lord Ganesha, the elephant-headed lord of culture and new beginnings. The celebration begins on 21 December and includes outings, picnics, feasts and gift giving.

Do Hindu children have a Father Christmas?

No, but gifts are distributed on the fifth and final day of Pancha Ganapati – 25 December.



The economics of drying clothes

Given that we are now facing winter, drying our laundry outside on the washing line, the cheapest way, is no longer an option. So what other alternatives are there, and at what cost? You may well be surprised at what you are about to read and simply taken out of recent articles I have read.

- ◇ Tumble dryers – an average of £1.52 per cycle.
- ◇ Heated air dryers – many people are resorting to buying these. They look like enclosed small tents – costing approx. 34p per hour to run. Quite efficient because they are enclosed.
- ◇ Freestanding electric towel rail – 10p per hour. Ok, but a lot of heat goes to the room and not to dry the clothes. However they are cheap to run.
- ◇ Oil filled radiators – £2.40 per hour to run – an extremely expensive way of drying clothes.
- ◇ Dehumidifiers – a rather unconventional and slow process. However, this ensures any moisture actually ends up in the dehumidifier and not on the walls. They can be purchased for about £50 and will cost 20p per hour to run – a very alternative approach.
- ◇ Radiators – it's the weekend and there is a ton of washing to do and not a lot of space to hang it. The cold weather means you cannot dry it on the line. So hanging them on the radiators is the easiest option?

Apart from your boiler having to work harder to dry the clothes and the room not getting warm, enough scientists have now warned that this may cause mould to thrive. In extreme cases, this could lead to a fungal condition that may affect the respiratory system. But we all do it, don't we? If you have enough free flow of air through the house, aka leaky windows or doors, don't worry about the scientific concerns!

- ◇ Launderette. Yes we've all done it – just pile everything into a big bag, go to Denbigh, drop it off, go for a coffee – well, if you're going to be lazy, may as well be a service wash. Probably the most expensive, but convenience comes at cost – and there's more to life than airing your clothes, isn't there! I have no idea of the cost, but every now and then when needs must, don't worry about it.

How do we do it here at Bryn Ffolt? A combination of a good-old clothes line and a pulley maid which is hauled over the Rayburn and the rope over a hook. Fine until the rope snaps – but that's not the end of the world, is it? Unless you happen to be standing under it of course.



Happy airing.

Bryn Davies

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.***

Have you seen a hedgehog?

Hedgehogs are an increasingly rare species, not often seen about. Here in Llandyrnog there have been four sightings recently between Glanrafon and Parc Tyn Llan – unless they are the same one! They can travel up to a mile.

Please leave a gap in your fence so that they can get out of your garden to look for food. Cat food is a temptation.

There is a rehabilitation centre at Plas Newydd, Llangollen for injured or sick hedgehogs.

Let us know if you have spotted any in your garden or grounds around your home. Maybe there are more than four around the village.





SERENÂD Y NADOLIG CHRISTMAS SERENADE

RHAGFYR Y 9ed/ DECEMBER THE 9th
CAPEL PENDREF RHUTHUN AM 7-30



Tesni Jones
Lisa Dafydd
Dafydd Jones
Dafydd Allen

Côr Cytgan Clwyd

Tickets £15 for adults, £7 for children, available from Siop Elfair, Ruthin and Siop Clwyd, Denbigh. All proceeds to Cancer Research. Come and support two local songsters, Anna Jên and Alys Haf!

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Ysgol Bryn Clwyd



Remembrance

The school observed a two minute silence on Remembrance Day, a collection was taken and a wreath was laid at the remembrance plaque for our local soldier, Peter Edwards. The children talked about their heroes and baked and sold cakes to raise money for the Poppy Appeal. This topic also inspired independent learning as children investigated different methods to make a 2D poppy.

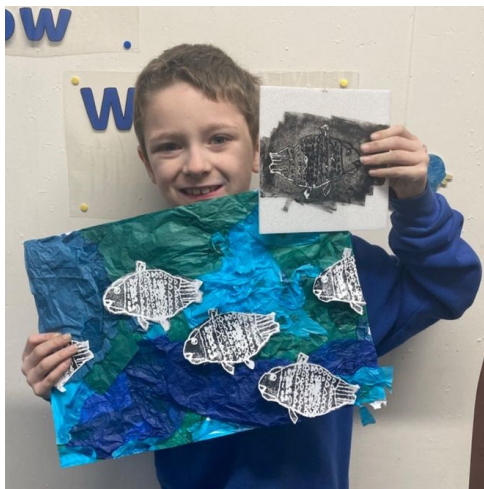
'5 red poppies in a field' and practising counting to 5.



Key Stage 2 – Juniors

The Sea has continued to create learning opportunities with some particularly beautiful art work.

Children have made observational drawings of shells using pastels, learned how to make cut prints and fish lanterns.



Foundation Phase – Infants

The work in the infant class was inspired by the poppy of Remembrance Day. The children have been practising their fine motor skills making Play-Doh poppies, singing the rhyme

Christmas

The school preparations for Christmas are in full swing. The Christmas Service will be on the outdoor stage at the start of the outdoor Christmas Market on 15th December at 5.30pm and the whole community is welcome. Once again there will be the community Christmas lunch on Thursday 8th December which is open to the community but places should have been booked through the school office by end of November. It is £5 for a two-course dinner with hot drink and mince pie.

New staff

Miss Birkett the infant teacher is off on maternity leave soon and the school has appointed Miss Hannah Sharpe to take her class during her absence.

(Go to the Welsh version to see more photos)

Meet your Community Councillors

Jane Borthwick

I was born in Mancot and lived in Queensferry as a baby. My family then migrated further into North Wales first to Pantymwyn then Rhydymwyn and then Halkyn.

I went to Ysgol Y Ddol Rhydymwyn and then on to Ysgol Maes Garmon where I left with A levels in Welsh, English and art.

I trained at Chester to be a primary school teacher and worked in Dyserth, Caerwys and Trelawnyd before becoming the head of Trelawnyd for 16 years with two secondments to lead Nercwys school and Caerwys V.P.



I subsequently worked for the regional school improvement service leading on Primary schools in Wrexham and I am now the Senior adviser for primary schools in Flintshire and also join teams across Wales for inspections.

Since having my family of two children and now three grandchildren myself and my partner Geraint Bellingham have lived in Holywell, Nannerch and then moved to Llandyrnog 2 years ago to Millbrook bungalow which we love.

We came to know the village from biking and walking in the vale and stopping at the local hostelryes! Geraint was the manager of Ysceifiog summer league team so we knew quite a lot of people locally from that time. I love the welsh ethos and the closeness to Ruthin, Denbigh and the hills.

I am very busy with family and work and we enjoy travelling to the hills, mountains and coast here and in Europe. Due to this I thought that being a community councillor would be a good use of my skills and would help the community, I am also now a member of the WI.

I enjoy the garden when I'm here and you will see us on our bikes or walking so do say hello.

Elaine Williams

Born and brought up in South East England, I came to North Wales as a student in the 1970s while studying at Y Coleg Normal in Bangor.

After leaving college, I moved to Denbigh and later to Llangwyfan where I have now lived for the past 36 years.

Most of my working life was in the Social Care sector as a Day Centre Care Worker in Denbigh, at first in Eirianfa and then

later in Dolwen. It was a job that I loved, meeting so many interesting people and helping them out with different things. I retired from work earlier this year.

I joined the Community Council in 2017. There was a vacancy and I felt that it would be an opportunity to make a contribution to the area. It is a wonderfully friendly group; the meetings are very welcoming and it has been good to see some local members of the public have been able to join our meetings as observers recently. I also represent the Community Council on the Highfield Park community liaison group.

I'm a great believer in lifelong learning and am a Welsh learner, in addition to having joined lots of evening classes and, more recently, online courses in all sorts of subjects over the years. My biggest interest is in the environment. We live in a very special location and I just love to go out for walks in the local area looking out for all the nature and wildlife we see around us everywhere.



Matters discussed in the November meeting of Llandyrnog Community Council

The full minutes will be on the website in due course.

- It was decided to contribute £100 to the Tuesday Club as a contribution towards the cost of their Christmas lunch.
- The PCSO for the area had visited following complaint about inconsiderate parking on Oliver's Row and the situation is being monitored.
- Although a street lamp has been erected in Maes Llan car park, to date it has not been connected to the mains.
- The condition of the access road to the Maes Llan car park was a cause for concern and a request has been made to DCC to attend to the matter.
- DCC has attended to the potholes by Groes Efa Smithy.
- There were some slight concerns about the application to extend the office accommodation at the Creamery. However it was decided to support the application, providing the parking arrangements could be confirmed.
- The Council to approach the Church to see if they would once again kindly allow a Christmas tree to be erected outside the Church. The tree has been sourced, it just needs to be collected, erected and decorated.
- Digital training – now that we have full Wi-Fi in the Cocoa Rooms, flyers will be distributed

to households in the village to see if there is any interest in basic IT training. A tutor has offered her digital training services free of charge.

- There was concern that although the Post Office had announced it would be closed for two weeks in September, no cover or temporary service was offered, and that this would affect the footfall and viability issues. The Clerk to contact PO Customer Services to see what their policy is regarding cover during leave.
- The gully at the bottom of Lôn Goch/ Cerrigllwydion area was blocked again and led to flash flooding.
- The community needs survey needs to be programmed.

IF YOU HAVE ANY POLICING ISSUES IN LLANDYRNOG, CONTACT THE PCSO:
david.jones4@nhtwales.pnn.police.co.uk
or dial 101 and leave a message and your message will be relayed to PCSO Jones.

Denbighshire County Council

Merfyn Parry



Contact details

Mobile: 07836 208446

E-mail: merfyn.parry@denbighshire.gov.uk

Or leave a message on **Facebook**



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