

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

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

June 2022 – Volume 7 – Edition 9

Urdd logo

You may have seen the ‘triangle’ on the hillside above the village and wondered how it got there. For more information, see our exclusive article on page 3.



Picture taken by a drone, courtesy of Martin Fraser



Bryan Jones and Cledwyn Jones taking a break to read *Llais* before painting the pallets red



Picture taken from Eglwys Wen, Denbigh



Sian Eirian, Director of the Urdd Eisteddfod, with her husband, Garfield Lloyd Lewis, Bryan Jones, designer and creator of the mountainside Urdd logo, and Bryn Davies

Around the village

Congratulations to **Jac**, Sgubor Efa, on passing his driving test.

Best wishes to **Eryl Whelan** in his new home in Nant Glyd.

A warm welcome to **John McPhaden** and **Emma Parry Jones**, who have come to live in Tŷ Newydd.

Congratulations to **Bryn Williams** on being named Day President of the Urdd Eisteddfod.

Best wishes and hope you are feeling better **Gwilym Evans**, Glenydd.

Sincere condolences to the family of **Wally Humphreys (Wally Taxi)**, who has sadly passed away. The funeral was held on 31 May.

Carolyn Langford Jones has written, asking us to pass on this heartfelt message: 'I was humbled by the response of the village after Gwyn's recent death. All the cards, flowers, donations and good wishes I received were amazing. They comforted the family and me at a sad and difficult time. Diolch o galon.'

Dyffryn Chapel services

5 June	10am	Circuit Service
12 June	9.45am	Local Arrangement
19 June	11am	Rev. Andras Iago
26 June	9.45am	Llinos Mary Jones

Church services

Llandyrnog (all at 11.15am)

5 June	Morning Prayer
12 June	Morning Prayer
19 June	Eucharist
26 June	Eucharist

Llangwyfan – no services in June

Messy Church

12 June	3.30pm
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Village Hall bookings

8 June	Flower Show	7pm
	Committee	
8 June	Summer League	7pm
	Exec Committee	
	(Balcony)	
12 June	Messy Church	2–6 pm
13 June	Brownies	5.30–7pm
13 June	Village Hall	7pm
	Committee AGM	
18 June	Coffee Morning	10am
	(Chapel Group)	
20 June	Brownies	5.30–7pm
27 June	Brownies	5.30–7pm

Cocoa Rooms bookings

6 June	Trefoil Guild	2pm
8 June	Book Club	10am
15 June	Tuesday Club	2pm
21 June	Llandyrnog	7pm
	Community Council	
22 June	Book Club	10am
28 June	Llais Llandyrnog	7pm
	Voice Committee	

Messy Church

In May's Messy Church we learned about the story of the Good Samaritan and how Jesus wants us all to be as kind and helpful as we can be. We made sticker sets to remind us that God is always with us, a map of the Holy Land from Jesus's time, story wheels, stick figures and puzzles. (One of the puzzles had all the grown-ups scratching their heads too!) We also made a huge story board, showing all the characters in the story. It was lovely to have two new families with us and we hope they will come to the next session on 12 June.

Urdd logo

Being of an inquisitive nature, I went up towards Pen y Cloddiau one Sunday afternoon in early May just to see what was going on, only to be greeted by my friend Bryan, who, together with his mate Cledwyn, had been tasked at very short notice with placing a large Urdd logo on the side of the hill – large enough to be seen from the Eisteddfod showground, as a focal point for the TV cameras and, more importantly, to raise the profile of the Eisteddfod.

The triangular-shaped logo is the Urdd's symbol – white, red and green symbolising Urdd members' commitment to Wales, fellow man and Christ – although these days the commitment to religion is optional. But we must remember that this was adopted 100 years ago – 2022 is the centenary of the founding of the Urdd.

I should have stayed at home watching them from the comfort of my reclining chair, as no sooner had I reached Pen y Cloddiau than I was set to work – much easier with three, I was told and could I come back tomorrow? I should add here that both Bryan and Cled are recently retired heads of design technology, so are natural problem-solvers and, more importantly, grafters!

Later that day, Cled was in Denbigh guiding Bryan via a zoom lens and a mobile phone from his bedroom window – to you, to me – all very high-tech. I was on my knees ensuring that the first roll of white material was straight from top to bottom – 180 metres. Once the first was in it was easier.

Having reached the bottom of the triangle, I was told I had to roll the edges tight and crawl back up on my hands and knees, knocking in 150mm wire garden stakes every 900mm. I thought they were having a laugh! So 1,500 stakes later – only a fraction knocked in by me – the Urdd logo was well and truly down.

Anyway, ten rolls later, the white part was in place and all that was left was to collect the 150 pallets from Fron Gelyn with a tractor and trailer and try to work out how to lay them out to look like 2022 – again the actual placing was a long-distance affair with binoculars but, in all fairness, Bryan and his son Rhydian had started on this task the day before.

We had a visit from the Urdd's Director, who was very impressed with our handywork. Her husband was with her and he happened to mention that he had a spare day that week and if anything needed doing he would be happy to oblige. Well, he did say anything, after all. Maybe painting 150 pallets with red paint on the side of a mountain in a crosswind didn't cross his mind – but, fair play, he did it!

Incidentally, Twm (Bryan's sheepdog) got a bit bored on Sunday and managed to open a box of Jaffa Cakes and a bag of crisps – they were soon gone! We were really looking forward to the Jaffa Cakes – I didn't realise disappointment was such a strong emotion!

I said to Anwen jokingly, while looking at the logo from our bedroom window, that not many people can say they have crawled halfway up Pen y Cloddiau on their hands and knees. Would I do it again? Yes, of course. Why? Simply because I can.

We had a good laugh and plenty of fresh air – an experience I'll remember for a long time. 'When it's time to take it down again,' Bryan said, 'if we roll it up carefully, the supplier will take it back at a reduced rate.' There were a few choice words at that and I think he got the message loud and clear – there's a limit to what we'll do for the Urdd!

Bryn Davies

Trip to Alabama with the Urdd

Almost a year ago I had the biggest shock ever. I was in a room at the Premier Inn in Liverpool at the time, enjoying two days' shopping with friends. It was Urdd Eisteddfod week. Over Zoom, Trystan announced that I and the other winners of the folk song competition were going to Alabama with the Urdd as part of its centenary celebrations. I was really in shock and, looking back, I laugh at my reaction of disbelief live on TV!

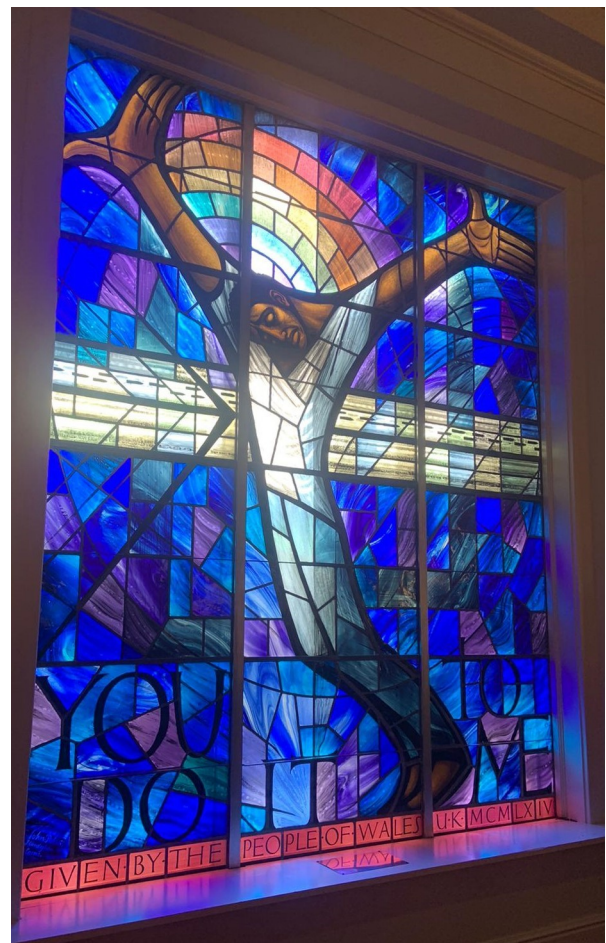
Thursday, 12 April arrived, the crucial day. Until the last minute I was worried I wouldn't be able to go because of Covid. A test had to be done at 11.30. I was so nervous! What if I couldn't go, after looking forward for almost a year? Thankfully the result was negative.

I caught a train from Chirk down to Cardiff, arrived at the Urdd residential centre at 5pm and completed many, many security forms. We rehearsed ten songs and had an opportunity to socialise with 25 members of the choir, Urdd staff and choir conductor, Rich Lloyd, and his wife. Then supper and an early bed to be fresh for the next day. But I didn't sleep a wink because someone was snoring!

Friday, 13 April. Get up at 3am. Catch a bus to Heathrow. A big breakfast at the airport and on the plane at 11am.

I'm lucky – I've flown before, but I've never seen such a large plane, let alone travelled in one. Some of the choir had never flown before and couldn't believe the grandeur and size of the aircraft. Everyone had a personal TV and a special channel to enjoy seeing the wings of the aircraft and the aerial view. It was a nine-hour flight but the time went quickly, between eating, sleeping and watching movies. We arrived in Atlanta, the capital of the state of Georgia and then boarded a bus to Birmingham, Alabama. Out for supper, where I had the best burger I've ever tasted. I must stress that, of course, food and singing were a very important part of the journey!

Saturday, 14 April. A very busy day. We visited the Civil Rights Institute Museum and learned about the history of slavery. Then a visit to the Baptist church on 16th Street, Birmingham. This is where four children were killed by members of the Ku Klux Klan in a racist attack in 1953. We saw the famous window created by John Pretts, a Welsh glass designer, which was installed in 1954. Pretts decided to design the window portraying a black Jesus Christ as a gift of support for the church and its people after the attack. It's known as the Wales Window. In the evening, we enjoyed a concert by the university's jazz orchestra.



On Monday we had a chance to relax in the morning, swim in the pool and go around the university. We had gospel-singing lessons at the university, which was lots of fun. Quite simply, with gospel singing you compose as you go along, with lots of repetition.

Trip to Alabama with the Urdd contd

The leader was pointing to different parts of his body; for example, if he touched the top of his head, we were to repeat the same line. On the Sunday I prayed ten times but, because everything was in a gospel rhythm, it was enjoyable and exciting.

On Tuesday we headed back to Atlanta. The day was spent travelling, stopping on the way in Selma and Montgomery. Selma was the small town where Martin Luther King began his march to try to get black people the right to vote. He walked from Selma with hundreds of people to Montgomery – a journey of 54 miles. We walked over the Edmund Pettus bridge, where an army of policemen attacked the marchers and brutally hit them with clubs. The event is called ‘Bloody Tuesday’. It’s ironic that we crossed the bridge on a Tuesday. In Montgomery we went to the Rosa Parks museum and saw where she lived at Pine Level. Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in 1955. This led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott, one of the most important events in the history of the Civil Rights Movement.



We arrived in Atlanta at 10pm. Wednesday, we met Martin Luther King’s close friend, Andrew Young, who has played a key role in civil rights and written several books. He helped write and draft the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and the right to vote in 1965. The successful effort led to the Olympics being brought to Atlanta in 1996. I didn’t realise at the time that he was such an important and influential man. He was beside his friend and colleague Martin Luther King when he was killed, and addressed the crowd following his death in 1968. He is now 90 years old and uses a wheelchair but he had time to talk to us.



Thursday was a chance to relax and socialise before the return trip to Wales. A very special trip and I had some unforgettable experiences. I didn’t want to come home and I’m determined to go back to Alabama one day. I’m very grateful to the Urdd and am looking forward to competing in the Eisteddfod in Tregaron with the choir once again.

Gwenan Lloyd

Spotlight on Jimmy McNally

What are your earliest memories?

My earliest memories would be travelling around North Wales with my dad while he was managing Llandyrnog Utd reserves. I'd only be four or five but I can still remember watching some great footballers of that era doing their stuff for Dyrny. Very happy memories.

When did you move to Llandyrnog?

We moved here in 1989 from Kirkinner, a little village in Scotland, near the town of Wigtown, in Dumfries & Galloway. The pre-pack at Bladnoch creamery was relocated to Llandyrnog and a lot of us came down. A few of us still remain in the area.

You do excellent work with the youngsters and football – why is this important to you?

Personally, I wouldn't say it was excellent, although I appreciate that being said of me. When I was 15/16 we didn't have anyone to run the junior summer league sides, so I volunteered, and it went from there. Now, nearly 18 years later, I still find myself doing it. It's important to me, mainly because it means so much to me. The local kids have come in brilliant numbers all these years and I've always said, while the numbers remain, then I'll continue to give up my time. I get a lot of praise, which although flattering, I still think should be to the children for coming along, playing football and giving me a reason to keep going. Without them, there's no kids' football. I could be replaced but their efforts can't. It also benefits the Summer League in the long run, which is huge for Llandyrnog.

If you were sent off to a desert island, which three items would you take with you and why?

A football, to keep me occupied. A radio, for music and to keep up to date with football results. Irn Bru, because it's a drink like no other.



If you were granted one superhuman power, what would it be?

I'd love the ability to time travel. We can't live forever but the ability to delve into the past to watch some historic events or to travel into the future to see what we'll never live to see would be incredible.

Who is your hero and why?

Tough question. Growing up, my footballing hero was Ally McCoist. The goals he scored and his whole character made me love football. Locally, as that little boy growing up in Dyrny, Alan Vaughan was my hero. Sounds daft but I was an avid Llandyrnog Utd supporter and I loved watching Alan play. Nobody scored goals like him. It's down to him that, despite being a Rangers fanatic, Arsenal have always been a team I followed. If I could have been good enough to play, I'd want to be Ally McCoist if it was for Rangers, or Alan Vaughan for Llandyrnog Utd.

What makes you really angry?

I'd like to think as a person I'm not really angry often but lads in the football club would possibly beg to differ. I think I get more disappointed than angry in general. Rangers losing certainty annoys me.

Spotlight contd

And if I feel I get a lack of commitment in men's football, that angers me to some degree.

What has been your most embarrassing moment and why?

Something I get constantly reminded of is that I used to run around my garden as a child with a ball at my feet, pretending to be playing in a huge game of football and commenting on my own games. I'd like to deny it but I remember doing it, so there's no hiding from the fact that I used to think I was Ally McCoist playing at Ibrox, while commenting like Archie McPherson (a Scottish football commentator). Embarrasses me now... but I loved it. Haha.

Llandyrnog Utd Awards

On the evening of 15 May Llandyrnog Utd held a presentation evening at the home of the football team – the Golden Lion.

The awards went to:

Supporters' player – Dylan Jones

Top goalscorer – David Lawson Cooke

Club person – Chris Pengelly

Young player – Murray Hughes

Manager's player – Dylan Jones

Players' player – David Lawson Cooke

Special recognition – Derry Morris

Jimmy said afterwards: 'A massive thank you to the kit sponsors, Crompton Farriers; the Golden Lion for their after-match hospitality; the entire committee and volunteers for their ongoing work and support; the band of supporters that follow us home and away; and, finally, the players for their efforts. It's been a tough old season but we dust ourselves down and go again next year.'

School trip

Children spent a weekend away at Nant Bwlch yr Haearn outdoor education centre in Llanrwst. The staff who accompanied the junior pupils said they were a credit to the school, taking on new challenges, such as canoeing, gorge walking and completing a high ropes course and zip line. The children were also joined by friends from Ysgol Gellifor, giving everyone a chance to work together and get to know one another, especially those getting ready for high school in September.



More from Ysgol Bryn Clwyd



The winning biscuit in the design and decorate a crown biscuit by Ollie. Her entry now goes up against winners from other primary schools in this special jubilee competition.

Artist Iola Edwards spent an afternoon teaching the juniors how to make art in her own style through the medium of Welsh. The children's paintings were looking very impressive.



The juniors new topic is 'Bridges'. They have discovered that taller arches are stronger and can carry more weight because it distributes the compression. And when making suspension bridges they had to pass the 500g test.

The infants have had a mini Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. They have been learning to take responsibility for themselves by learning how to call the emergency services, tying their own shoe laces, hiking while carrying their own belongings, making a simple meal and cleaning up after themselves. There were ten new skills to learn before achieving the award.



Recipe



Bircher muesli

This is a great breakfast to have, particularly for those of you who love hot porridge over the winter and want something cold for breakfast in the summer. Below is just a basic recipe but the best thing about it is that you can put in whatever you want. It's best to prepare it the night before in a bowl and leave it in the fridge covered with cling film.

The following should give 4 servings (or 2 for those who love a big healthy breakfast). You could make a big batch and it should last in the fridge for 2–3 days.

Mix 1 mug porridge oats with 1 mug milk and add 1 grated apple.

The rest of the ingredients is entirely up to you, depending on your own taste. You can add a variety of dried fruit, such as raisins, cranberries, cherries, apricots, chopped dates or figs. You could add a variety of nuts, such as pecan, walnut, almond flakes, coconut or chopped hazelnuts. Some people add apple sauce and cinnamon or substitute some of the milk for apple juice. To make it vegan, it's also great made with almond milk.

To serve, you could make it more luxurious by topping with Greek yoghurt and a drizzle of honey or fresh berries.

The combinations are endless so have fun and experiment!

Defibrillators

Now that there is another defibrillator in the village at Cae Nant, a simple explanation may be required for why the two are apparently different. Both are registered on a national database used by the emergency services, called 'The Circuit'. This is a national defibrillator network and will also know when the defibrillators have been used. It will ensure that they are serviced regularly and recommissioned after use – new pads, etc.

Cocoa Rooms. This defib is in a GREEN cabinet, which is always locked. However, in an emergency, dial 999 and ask for the ambulance service. Explain the circumstances and the location and they will check where the nearest defib is and if necessary they will give you the code for the box so that the defib can be used on the patient.

Cae Nant. This box is YELLOW and will be open 24/7, so can be accessed at any time by anyone confident enough to use it. But it is still important to remember to dial 999 as the patient will need to be seen by a medical professional at some point.

Remember that both units are easy to use and actually talk you through the process, so there is nothing to be alarmed about. There will be some basic training for defibrillator use arranged – dates and contact number will be released in due course.

The defibrillator at the Cocoa Rooms had to be used recently and, as explained above, it was taken off 'The Circuit'. As part of the process, it was serviced immediately, had new pads, batteries checked and activated again. It is now back in use, which is peace of mind for all villagers that we have a fully functioning defib logged on a national database.

We are hoping that it will not be required again; however, it is there, along with the new one at Cae Nant.

Local walk with lolo

On Sunday, 8 May I was very lucky to be part of a group of Welsh learners who went on a nature walk on the edge of Denbigh with lolo Williams. I was amazed at the beautiful countryside right on the edge of town! It's part of the same series of walks as our own Llwybr Tyrnog. It can be downloaded from www.denbighshirecountryside.org.uk/community-miles/ (it's number 3). Or I'm sure you can get a paper copy in the library.

We did the red route, which is a comfortable 3.3 miles and should take about 1.5 to 2 hours when you haven't got lolo Williams with you! It takes you through fields, along lanes and by rivers, past Gwaenynog and back into town. When I emerged at Mount Wood and looked down the high street towards Morrison's I couldn't believe I'd never seen this path before!

The trip was arranged by Menter Iaith, a registered charity that promotes and encourages the use of the Welsh language, with the main target of increasing the number of Welsh speakers in our communities. It was therefore a good sign that there was a long waiting list to get on to the walk with lolo!

He was so lovely, easy to understand and approachable for questions. He was thrilled to hear Welsh being used all around him throughout the walk and excited to see how well Welsh was growing in this area with such enthusiastic learners.

He stopped twice to share things with us before we'd even got out of the Caledfryn car park! We'd only just gone through the houses above the council offices when we saw an osprey in flight! It probably knew lolo was in the area! Realistically, it was likely to be one of the group that are nesting at the Brenig again this year.

lolo is passionate about us not keeping our gardens too tidy to make sure nature has a chance and we get more wildlife in our gardens. He was encouraging us to leave the dandelion seed clocks as the goldcrests love them and they're full of goodness for them. Don't cut your grass too often to allow primulas, cowslips, violets and speedwell to flower and spread. Get rid of Spanish blubells and buy Welsh daffodils not Dutch – they suit the climate better. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to spend a few hours in his company – an opportunity I wouldn't have had if I wasn't learning Welsh.



If you're thinking about starting to learn or going back to pick up and improve the Welsh you may have learned in school, why put it off any longer? You can get on a day course for just £5 and a whole year of weekly classes can be as little as £45 if you book early (often before end of July). Popeth Cymraeg at the Canolfan Iaith at Lenten Pool in Denbigh runs the courses in north-east Wales along with Coleg Cambria. Many courses are on Zoom at the moment so are incredibly easy to do but some are returning to the classroom in September. The learning Welsh community is so friendly that I encourage you to join.

Catherine Howarth

The Wright life

June marks the summer solstice, when the soil is warm, days are long and the veggies are all out. This time also sees the end of the asparagus season, as picking the spears beyond the longest day must stop to enable the plants to grow and build up energy for next year. My veggies are tucked up under bird netting to stop the pigeons, but mainly to prevent the hens, who love to feast on the tasty young plants and scratch up the soil beneath them. With the long evenings it's a time to relax outside and watch 'hen society'.

I currently have four cockerels. Elvis, who was a rescue, came first and arrived with 15 bald hens. He fathered three boys (as well as some girls) last spring. There's also Casanova (the 'womaniser'), Kellogg's (resembles the cereal character) and Boris, who has taken over the main garden and struts about making such a noise, joined by his three girls. They follow him everywhere and persistently lay their eggs in the stable, dashing out with a loud squawk and cluck when an egg appears, as if it's a surprise every time!

The fruit trees have now set their fruit and are growing well. The little fertilised fruit are forming so it's time to thin them; but hold on and wait for the 'June drop' before you take off too many fruits. This is the natural tendency for the fruit trees to shed some of their immature and underripe fruit. It can be alarming, but don't worry, sometimes quality is better than quantity. It does seem that this pectin full 'drop' occurs when there's also an abundance of mint in the garden, so to make use of both I make apple mint jelly, which keeps well and is lovely on roast lamb. The homemade pots are golden in colour, not like the vibrant green stuff you get in the supermarket, well worth making.

Roughly you'll need 500g unripe apples, a large bunch of mint, 150g granulated sugar and 30ml white wine vinegar. Basically, boil the apples and mint until soft, put in a jelly

bag and leave to drip overnight, but don't be tempted to squeeze the bag. Add the sugar to the juice with vinegar, heat until it's set. I test the setting by putting a saucer in the fridge and drop a teaspoon full of mix to cool and, if it puckers when you push with your finger, it's ready. Pour into jars and you will have delicious mint jelly for up to a year. This doesn't happen in my house – it's too yummy.

Another delicacy from the hedgerow are the elder flowers, which are blooming with a heady sweet scent. It grows in my fields so I forage these flowers to make elderflower champagne. It has a subtle perfumed flavour, can be quite dry and is, of course, fizzy if you use champagne yeast. However, be aware that the bottles do have a tendency to explode and, indeed, one year a whole batch popped their corks in the wine rack, much to my mother's disapproval, as the sugary contents were splattered all over the carpet and walls! And the contents were sadly lost.

What to look out for in June? Stag beetles flying around on a warm evening. They're a large beetle named after the male's large jaws, which resemble the antlers of a stag. When it's dark, switch on the outside light and they fly at you awkwardly, hitting your head with a rather startling buzz.

Hazel Wright

Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee:

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

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

Fancy a good book?

I expect there has been a lot more reading done over the past two years as we've been stuck in lockdowns. Well, how about sharing with others, through *Llais* if you have a book to recommend? I, as a reader, love to know what others have enjoyed and whether they will be the type of book I might enjoy. Here are some that members of the Book Club have enjoyed, plus a few from myself.

***All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr**

'This is one of the most moving books I've ever read and one of those that stays with you long after finishing it. It won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize and Carnegie Medal for fiction. It's set during the Second World War and involves a blind French girl and a German boy; characters so well written they take you on their journey with them.' Karen Connell

***The Killing Room* by Peter May**

'This book is part of a series and I can recommend them all. If you like a thriller, try this.' Winnie Wilson

***The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris**

'If you enjoy fiction based on historical fact, I highly recommend this to you. Of course, based in Auschwitz, it can be tough reading but I promise you a happy ending.' CH

***Down Under* by Bill Bryson**

'If you fancy some "armchair travel" and light-hearted reading, Bill Bryson is perfect. Enjoy gentle humour and interesting facts as Bill travels around Australia.' CH

***Blasu/The Seasoning* by Manon Steffan Ros**

'I had heard so much praise for this writer but, as a Welsh learner, the Welsh version was a little too difficult for me so I was very excited to find there was an English translation. I couldn't put this book down!

Manon's writing is fresh, the characters are so real they drew me in. The focus is the life of the main character, whose story is told through all the people in her life. Running through the novel is the theme of food and how it links us to memories and how it makes us feel.' CH

If you have a book to recommend please email llandyrnognews@gmail.com

Catherine Howarth

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Llandyrnog flower and produce show



FLODAU A CHYNNYRCH LLANDYRNOG FLOWER AND PRODUCE



Dydd Llun, Awst 29 2022 Monday, August 29 2022
2 y.p. Neuadd y Pentref 2 p.m. Village Hall

Ni chodir tâl am y rhaglen nac am fynediad i'r sioe, ond derbynnir yn ddiolchgar gyfraniadau tuag at gostau cynnal y sioe

No charge for schedule or entry to show; contributions towards the cost of holding the event gratefully received

The show will be back this year, for the first time since 2019. The schedules will be distributed next month. In the meantime, here are the craft competitions, so start knitting/sewing/crafting...

- A hand-knitted item
- Greetings card A5 max – any subject, any material
- A hand-made soft toy
- A hand-made embroidered item
- A hand-made jewellery item
- An item of hand-made felt
- An item of crochet work (any medium)
- A patchwork item
- An item of appliqué work
- A hand-made item suitable for a Christmas present (any medium)
- Something new from something old (any medium)
- A hand-knitted outfit for a doll
- A small hand-made carrying device, any medium
- An item of art or craft not in the schedule
- A wood-turned item
- A small item made of wood (max 12" high)
- An item of wood (max dim. 36")

Categories for the photography competitions:

- Earth
- Air
- Fire
- Water



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Morris Minor across Europe

What do you do when easyJet cancels your flight home? We decided to have a few days' holiday in our house in southern Italy and, early Tuesday morning, 29 March, we boarded a flight from Manchester to Naples. Hiring a car, we travelled the hundred miles east to the mountain village of Morrone Del Sannio, arriving early afternoon, and settled in for a relaxing ten days.

All went well until the following Tuesday morning when a text arrived telling us easyJet had cancelled our Thursday evening flight back due to 'lack of staff because of Covid'. Alternative flights with other airlines looked dubious, especially as having booked there was no guarantee of a possible further cancellation. So what to do?

We frequently drive rather than fly but the only car in the garage was the 1963 Morris Minor! We had to get back because of work commitments, so Tuesday afternoon saw Rona driving the Morris to Naples, with me in the hire car as the only driver on the insurance – teaches us not to be cheap-skates in future! Staying overnight in Casserta, we set off at 6am for Geneva, via the Alps and Mont Blanc Tunnel. Approaching Aosta we were confronted with an illuminated sign stating the tunnel was closed until 6am for maintenance. No chance of getting to our booked and paid for hotel!

Fortunately, we found a hotel in Aosta and started at 6am again next morning, keeping fingers crossed there wasn't a huge queue at the tunnel as a result of a backlog of trucks. Luckily, we went straight through but on the French side the weather was grim – dark, cold and a combination of rain and sleet. Also windy! The bad weather persisted across most of France but the little car just kept going, cruising at a steady 60mph.

After another overnight halt, this time in Calais, a short journey on Eurotunnel and spending time in various traffic jams, we collected our other car from Manchester and were very relieved to be back in Llandyrnog. We had covered 1,600 miles in three days and the little car performed faultlessly, using no water and a little over a pint of oil. However, we did pass numerous modern cars static on the hard shoulder, waiting for rescue services. Maybe new cars aren't that reliable!

Ian Glass

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

Townsend Supplies

Townsend, Denbigh LL16 3AW

01745 814918

**For all farmyard & agricultural
accessories & building supplies**

- ☞ **Tanalised timber**
- ☞ **Concrete posts**
- ☞ **Panel fencing**
- ☞ **Water pipe fittings**
- ☞ **Water tanks**
- ☞ **Sand**
- ☞ **Cement**
- ☞ **Concrete blocks**

A word from the Priest

As we come into the month of June we do so at what feels like for so many a really busy time. In the Church calendar we start the month with the festival of Pentecost, the time when, having lived a human life in Jesus Christ, the creator of heaven has defeated death in Jesus on the cross by rising three days later. At Pentecost the triune God is realised in the world as we know that one God now. Jesus ascended, Father God sends the Holy Spirit so that we may live with God's presence in the world.

We also start the month of June with the Urdd Eisteddfod's 100-year celebration, here with us in Denbigh for this special occasion. Then, of course, there's the Queen's jubilee too. Many of us are enjoying holidays, concerts, theatre, meeting with others in many ways and all because we can after what, on the whole, was a kind of hibernation for more than two years.

The valuable lessons we've learned are just how much of our life we used to take for granted. We've also learned something new of the value of in-person human interaction. Many people have been trying to conduct business through computer screens and now it's more of a mixed economy, the disconnect between a real conversation with somebody in a lived human space to staring at them in a box on a screen is even more pronounced and apparent.

While all these things are true for many, there are, of course, the realities of loneliness. Some people are actually lonely and can't relate to many of these things. I pray to God that, if you know somebody who might be living in isolation, you're able to do something about it.

There's also the reality of poverty, which is now catastrophic for many. Not just people who are unable to find work, people in work are struggling to feed their families faced

with the huge increases in the cost of living.

The war in the Ukraine is still a daily reality as I write this towards the end of the third week of May. There have been some really kind people working hard to welcome and care for people fleeing war in their home country and it's heart-warming to hear the stories of such acts of love and to meet the people who we welcome among us.

The theme of all that has been discussed is community. The Urdd Eisteddfod is, of course, good Welsh community, the platinum jubilee connects us with so many people as the celebration of the head of the monarchy turns interest to these isles from all kinds of communities and cultures from around the world. The return to a nurturing community without the restrictions of the physical separations and those who feel cut off from community and the wide-ranging effects on our communities seen as a result of price rises of unreal proportions.

Above all of this is the opening example, the perfect example of community. One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Together these three realities of God demonstrate the perfection of community. We're invited into the life of God in the words of the Bible. When we worship together, when we pray together and when we pray alone. All these times and many more we can feel the love of God as we respond to his community and God builds us up in him.

May your month of June go well. May you be a blessing to those around you and may you appreciate those many things we all take for granted. If you're lonely or if you're struggling financially and under great duress, please don't suffer in silence, reach out. In a community, we're here for each other.

Martin Pritchard, Priest-in-charge.

Tuesday Club

At the May meeting of the Tuesday Club, Sian Ellis, Elder Person's Team Leader at Grŵp Cynefin, Denbigh, was the guest speaker. She spoke about Grŵp Cynefin's extra care facility, Awel y Dyffryn, in the town. This is very closely linked to Llandyrnog, as the project manager was Bryn Davies, Bryn Ffolt, and the interior designer was Stephanie Jones, daughter of Mike Jones, Nant Glyd. Also some of the former residents of the village now live there.

Awel y Dyffryn, a £12m scheme, offers high-quality homes in a friendly and close-knit community for older people who wish to continue to enjoy independent living. There are 66 flats there with care and support on hand 24 hours a day. Priority is given to Denbighshire residents when letting the flats.

The main features of the place: each flat has its own front door and contains a kitchen, bathroom, bedroom/s (there are two-bedroomed and one-bedroomed flats) and lounge; Careline alarm service and 24-hour maintenance service; convenient facilities – accessible showers, lifts to all floors and a scooter store; communal areas – preventing loneliness is a very important element of Awel y Dyffryn; a dining room – a three-course meal is provided daily; a laundry and a hairdresser's salon, facilities for visitors who wish to stay overnight, parking spaces, therapy facilities and landscaped gardens. Residents are also allowed to keep pets.

Sian was thanked for her interesting and informative presentation and for giving her time to come to the meeting.

Light refreshments were served and the raffle was drawn. The next event will be the Club's mid-summer lunch on 15 June.



Christian Aid Coffee Morning

The coffee morning for Christian Aid on 21 May was hugely successful in raising a large sum of money – £613.10. A very big thank you to all who donated, supported and helped to stage the event. Where else could you raise over £600 in 90 minutes?

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

9am–12pm, 2pm–5pm

Wednesday & Saturday 9am–12.30pm

01824 790310

Obituary – Rev. T.L. Williams

Rev. T.L. Williams was the faithful minister of Dyffryn Chapel, Llandyrnog for 21 years until his retirement in 1995, when he and his wife, Jen, moved to Pwllglas. He had a fitting funeral at Rhiw Chapel, Pwllglas, where he received warm tributes from his brother Dafydd (a solicitor in Carmarthen) and the Rev. John Owen, Ruthin. Rev. Evan Morgan from Cardiff attended the funeral to express his gratitude for years of hard work for Christian Aid.

After semi-retirement, TL enjoyed part-time ministry in chapels in the Corwen area and improving his golfing skills. John Owen thought he had chosen to retire to Pwllglas because of the local golf course. Dafydd Williams recounted the story of TL playing at a golf club in South Wales, with a small lake

beside it. After hitting the ball, TL was very happy with his effort but his partner said the ball had gone into the lake. ‘You didn’t hear a splash – the evidence above. Look at those ducks flying away!’

He enjoyed all types of sport and would continually change Sky Sports channels to keep up with the latest scores. We also heard about his fondness for cats and the frequent visits to the vet if he thought the cat was unwell. Yes, Ruthin vets benefited greatly from several diagnoses.

TL would have loved to hear the stories about himself. He was always a cheerful person and enjoyed a joke with young people. Yes, members of Dyffryn Chapel have very fond memories of TL’s ministry.

Rod Williams

Pop-Up Coffee House
Cae Nant Pavilion, Llandyrnog
Wednesday, 15 JUNE 2022 10am-12 noon



Fancy a coffee, tea, cold drink, ice cream or perhaps a bit of cake?

Then do POP IN to the POP-UP and support us. If successful, this could become a regular event.

Matters discussed at the AGM of Llandyrnog Community Council

The AGM was held on 17 May 2022 and was followed by the regular monthly meeting. The following matters were discussed:

Cllrs A. Rowley-Williams and P. Gore Rees decided not to put their names forward for re-election and were thanked for their contribution over the years. Cllr Emyr Morris was welcomed as a new member. There being 11 seats on the council, it was decided to start the process of co-option to fill the vacant seat as soon as practical. Notices inviting nominations will be posted on local notice boards and online in accordance with procedure.

Election of officers: Chair – R. Griffith; Vice-Chair – G. Butler; members were chosen as representatives to various local bodies and to the finance sub-committee.

It was agreed to publish a list of councillors on the website and in *Llais Llandyrnog Voice*. In the meeting that followed it was reported that:

- Bunting and banners have been purchased to welcome Urdd Eisteddfod visitors to Llandyrnog. Those involved in creating the logo on the hillside at Pen y Cloddiau are to be congratulated as this is an impressive work of art that took many hours to complete. It has already been featured in the press and on TV and highlights the area in a positive way.
- Guidance is awaiting from external partners regarding a community needs survey for the village.
- Cllr G. Butler reported that the Ruthin Hospital League of Friends has completed the new café/shop at the hospital and awaits the go-ahead from the health board to welcome visitors. All building works are finished and the GP surgery (previously at the clinic on Mount Street, Ruthin) is now in the

hospital complex. External groundworks have yet to be completed but it is hoped that the League of Friends will adopt the flower beds and proposed benches.

Llandyrnog Community Councillors from 5 May 2022

GRIFFITH, Ruth: Glanrafon, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HB (Chair)

BUTLER, Gwen; The Coach House, Fron Yw, Llangwyfan, Denbigh, LL16 4LU (Vice-Chair)

EVANS, Arwyn; Ysgubor Efa, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4LT

EVANS, Gwilym Charles; Glennydd, Llandyrnog, Dinbych, LL16 4HB

MCGUIRE, John; Bodlondeb, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HE

MORRIS, Emyr; Penisa'r Waen, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HL

PARRY, Merfyn; Tyr Hwylfa, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HG

THOMAS, Aled Vaughan; The Old Stables, Plas Bennett, Llandyrnog, LL16 4EU

WILLIAMS, Elaine Frances; 2 Tan-Y-Ffordd Cottages, Llangwyfan, Denbigh, LL16 4LU

WRIGHT, Hazel Christine; Lodge Farm, Llangynhafal, Denbigh, LL16 4LP

Llandyrnog Community Council is looking to co-opt a new community councillor. If you fancy getting involved, check the formal notices displayed in the shop, on noticeboards and on the Community Council's website. Nominations to be received by Friday, 17 June 2022 to R.B. Davies, Clerk to the Community Council.
(rbrynd1@gmail.com)