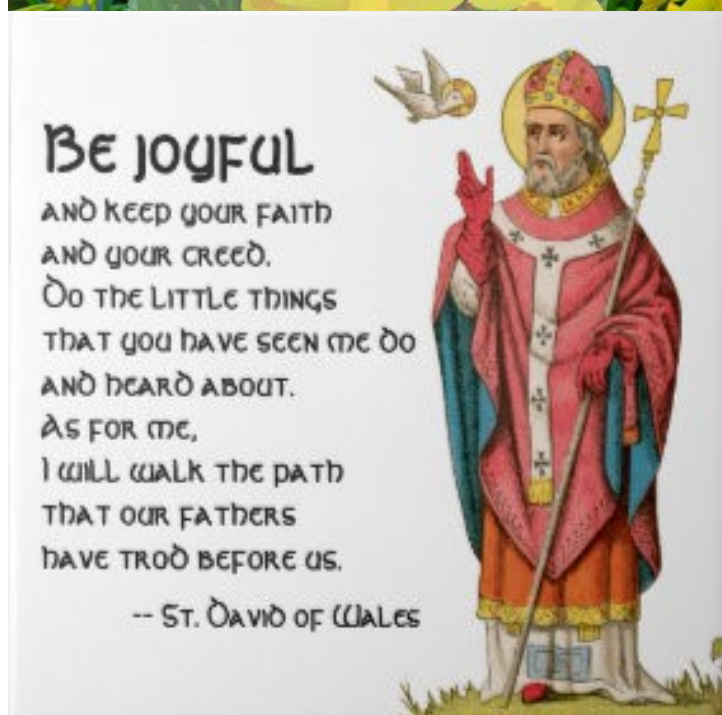


# Llais Llandyrnog Voice

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March 2023 – Volume 8 – Issue 6



## Generosity knows no bounds



## CROHN'S & COLITIS UK

Once again, residents of Llandyrnog and its environs dug deeply into their pockets. The Cocoa Rooms was hired on the morning of 11 February to give an opportunity to donate to the DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal, via Save the Children. £1735 was collected on the day, and the final total sent to Save the Children was £2100.

A fortnight later, a coffee morning was held at the village hall to raise funds for Crohn's & Colitis UK and to raise awareness of inflammatory bowel diseases. The final total raised was £513 – a truly remarkable response. A big thank you to all who contributed.

**When you pick up your copy from the post office, please contribute via the collection box, or give a contribution to your distributor.**

**Thank you!**

# Around the village

**Best wishes** to Mair Edwards, Moelfre and John Huw Roberts, Hyfrydle on celebrating special birthdays. Also to Ruth Griffith, John Ashton and Iona Salisbury for a speedy recovery.

**Condolences** to the family of Janet Evans – the last of the Lloyds of Llandyrnog. Daughter of Jack and Blodwen Lloyd, sister of Ken, Dennis, John, Glenys and Sian. Also to the family of Helga Norbury, formerly of Parc Ty'n Llan.

## Congratulations to...

... Lynn Jones, Berth Glyd and Phil Ethell on the birth of their granddaughter, Lily Grace. She's the daughter of Lynn's son, Ryan and his partner, Emma, and a little sister to Liam, Isaac and Isla.

...Neil Jones on his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel of the Royal Welsh – a marvellous achievement, having worked his way up the ranks after joining the Royal Welsh at the age of 17.



...Denbighshire Music Co-operatives whose Make Some Noise! virtual show was nominated for an award at the Music and

Drama Education Awards 2023 in the Outstanding Musical Initiative category. The show was streamed to every secondary and primary school throughout the county. Heather Powell, head of service, and other members of the co-operative went to the awards ceremony in London. Although they didn't win the award, it was certainly a special honour to be nominated.

Denbighshire Music Cooperative has also supported Côr Nantclwyd with the purchase of new piano for its rehearsals at the village hall.





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# Digital training

One of the trainers from Digital Communities Wales will come and run two free sessions at the Cocoa Rooms on Monday, 3 April.

The session will be 'An introduction to the internet' which will cover some safety and access issues and I'm sure it will be interesting.

The trainer will bring some devices for those who don't have one and it will be very informal!

Session 1 will be from 3-5 pm, Session 2 will be from 6-8 pm - each session will be for 12 people. I will bring biscuits!

I have reserved places for those already on my list. To reserve a place please e-mail me on [Janeborthwick56@gmail.com](mailto:Janeborthwick56@gmail.com)

Diolch,  
Councillor Jane Borthwick

### Bws Benthyc / Borrow Bus



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RESOURCE ADNEW 100

CRONFA GYMUNEDOL COMMUNITY FUND

The Borrow Bus is also at Ruthin Co-op on Friday mornings.

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# Cocoa Rooms Events

Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Trefoil Guild 2pm
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	Book Club 10am
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Union 2pm
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Club 2pm
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	Book Club 10am
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup>	BOM 7pm

To book the Cocoa Rooms, e-mail Mrs Emily Williams: [emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk)

# Village Hall Events

Monday	6 <sup>th</sup>	Brownies 5.30 - 7pm Choir 7.30 - 9.30pm
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup>	WI 7.00 - 9.0pm
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	Flower show committee meeting 7pm
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church 3.30 - 5pm
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup>	Brownies 5.30 - 7pm Choir 7.30 - 9.30pm
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	History Society 7.30pm
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Pony club meeting 7pm
Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Choir 7.30 - 9.30pm
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup>	Brownies 5.30 - 7pm Choir 7.30 - 9.30pm
Wednesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	History Society committee meeting 7pm

To book the Village Hall, phone Mrs Wyn Wilson on 01824 790447

### March services at St Tyrnog's

5 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Holy Communion
12 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Morning Prayer
	15.30	Messy Church at the Village Hall
19 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Morning Prayer
26 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Holy Communion

## Farewell from Jimmy

Hi folks,

With a heavy heart but a clear head, I have offered my resignation to the football club.

Llandyrnog Utd has been a huge part of my life for as long as I can remember, from watching some great sides in the 90s, to then watching us climb to the Cymru Alliance, then becoming involved with the club at reserve level, and eventually working my way to the job I always felt I'd earned – the first team manager.

Along the way I've made far too many sacrifices: I've missed out on weddings, christenings, and numerous parties and events of friends and loved ones. Now that I have my own family, I've realised I'm sacrificing too much, and I need to put them first. Four days a week, I'm on Llandyrnog astro, whether it's for the club, or coaching kids, and then in the summer, I manage the summer league. It's not fair on those near and dear to me.

There are far too many names to thank individually, but to everyone who's been involved in running the club, running the Goldie, and those who've worked with me, played for me and supported me along the way, it's been an absolute privilege and a sincere pleasure.

I've been given a month's grace to think things over, but at this time, I'm done.

My final message is to the committee, coaches and the players who remain at the club: keep giving it your all. This club deserves 100% focus, drive and effort from everyone, or anything any of us has done over the years has been a waste of time.

No man is bigger than the club. We're merely custodians of this great football club.

Look after her.

Thank you.

Jimmy McNally.

*Thank you Jimmy, for your commitment to the club over all the years and best wishes for the future.*

## Messy Church

In February's Messy Church we learned about Candlemas, when Jesus was taken to the temple by Mary and Joseph and Simeon described Jesus as the light of the world. So we made all sorts of crafts to do with light: lighthouses, stained glass windows, candle cakes, lanterns using jam jars, candles, and a huge candle where we put our names. Our next session will be on 12<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30pm as usual. All are welcome to join us; children please bring a grown-up to share the fun!



*Scarlett enjoying making a lighthouse!*

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# 'A Wrexham fan until the day I die'

What a time to be a Wrexham fan. From languishing in the doldrums of non-league football for over 15 long and painful years, it seemed like Wrexham would never get back to the football league. But now, we have a new beginning and new hope.

Back in 2020 and being a member of the WST (Wrexham Supporters' Trust), I received an email from the committee informing the membership that we had potential investors for the club. After several painful previous encounters with 'fit and proper' investors, many of us were naturally sceptical. But this felt different. After an overwhelming vote to listen to the details of the prospective takeover, the names of the two potential investors were announced. You can only imagine my surprise when Hollywood royalty, Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenny, were revealed as the mystery figures behind the deal.



Not only that, within weeks I (a local lad from Llandyrnog) was on a Zoom call with our incoming celebrity owners. Pinching myself wasn't enough and I found myself asking 'Is this actually real or am I going to wake up from a dream? Surely this type of thing doesn't happen to Wrexham. Or does it?' But it did, and two and a half years it's a real stretch to even describe how far we've come in such a small amount of time.

I could never, or would never, have dared believe what the scale of our transformation would have been. Crowds have swollen from

two to three thousand to sell-out crowds of ten thousand. Such is the demand for tickets from locals and from as far afield as Canada and the US, allocations have sold out in minutes and the development of the iconic Kop rushed through to accommodate this demand.

Despite all this, the priority has always been promotion back to the football league and, fingers crossed, we are on course to do this. The buzz around the town (I still can't call it a city) is something I've never witnessed in the 35 years of being a season ticket holder with Wrexham. Fans from far and wide, new and old, are descending on Wrexham from all over the world and it's now almost normal to hear Canadian and American accents in the Turf and in the stands. Last weekend, we also had in attendance another Hollywood actor, Will Ferrell (did I just say that?).

Gone are the days that you could walk into the club shop at any time and buy a replica shirt – over 23,000 have been sold this season alone and now change hands on e-bay for several hundred pounds. Gone are the days that you could walk to the front of the bar to get pre-match refreshments or even buy tickets for away games. All of which I took for granted pre-takeover. But, either way, Hollywood owners or not, some things have not changed at all.

Following Wrexham for me is more than a passion, it's a way of life and I'll be there until the day I die.

*Jason Jones  
(pictured  
with his wife,  
Julie)*





# Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

**The infants/Y Babanod:** The traditional tale in the first week of February was the Gingerbread Man. The children loved baking and decorating their own gingerbread men but loved eating them even more!



They also made bar charts of their favourite stories of the class and practised their number formation.



**The juniors/Dosbarth Iau:** They made Chinese fortune cakes for their Chinese New Year banquet. The story goes that the more the cake rises, the more prosperous your New Year will be. The pupils are happy to say their cakes grew very big!



The tale in the second week was Goldilocks and the three bears. Nursery pupils enjoyed making their own furry bear.

The last traditional tale of the half term was The Three Little Pigs and the children built their own houses for the pigs.



# Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

One topic has been Chinese inventions, beginning with paper. The pupils had a go at making their own paper and carried out a range of different science tests on different types of paper.

Then they learnt about ancient Chinese inventions including the floating compass, the hanging compass, and the water clock. Pupils made their own versions of these inventions and conducted science investigations into what affects how they work.



Following a request from the school council for more playground games and resources, Mr Jones has been building a small storage unit for the yard to house the equipment that has been ordered and delivered to school. New perimeter fencing has also been fitted around the school.

When the weather starts to improve, the corner of the field where the old garden area used to be will be redeveloped to be an area for the children at breaks and as an outdoor learning area. Please contact the school if you are able to lend a hand when this work gets under away – it would be greatly appreciated.

## Little Acorns

Little Acorns can now be contacted directly on 01824 790741. It's open from 8am to 5.15pm every weekday.

At the end of January, the school had a mini Chinese banquet to celebrate Chinese New Year. The children tried vegetable spring rolls, noodles with stir fry veg and sweet and sour sauce, prawn crackers and of course, Dosbarth lau's Chinese fortune cakes.





## The Wright life

March is the first meteorological spring month; it also contains an important milestone of the Equinox. There is birdsong in the air, the hazel catkins (which my mother called 'lamb's tails') are showing their golden tassels – a sure sign that spring is around the corner and time to do some Spring cleaning.

I certainly need to clear out my kitchen cupboards; isn't it amazing how much stuff lurks at the back of them? There is always that out-of-date tin of rice pudding or soup or a jar of homemade jam I forgot about which is now a jar of sugar. I also have the 'unused and unloved' items which may be 'handy one day'. The old coffee percolator, sandwich toaster and several bits of crockery which never see the light of day.

Did you know that the Great British Spring Clean is from 17<sup>th</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April? This has been running for 8 years now and is part of the Keep Britain Tidy annual national clean-up campaign. Rubbish is collected and hopefully recycled. Even if you only clear a small amount, that action of tidying up makes you feel refreshed and lifts your mood as it clears the visual noise and helps you focus.

So back to the spring clean and my high-level dusting that is definitely required. With the low sun shining in, cobwebs that I have missed sparkle in the sunlight. These leftover strands collect any dust and float about hanging from the oak beams. Spiders spin webs to catch and trap their prey, but cobwebs are abandoned homes as the spider has moved on to a better spot. Being a person with height issues and a hatred of ladders, I have a long-handled real feather duster which is ideal for the job. However, it does cause some merriment with the dogs who think its a

feather monster and attack it when it wafts in their direction, the enjoyment on their faces clearly seen when they catch a dislodged feather.

My least favourite job though is cleaning the windows, why is that? It does seem like a daunting task. Lovely clean windows let in more natural light so I use one part white vinegar to nine parts water, sprayed in a recycled old spray bottle. It does work, but also needs plenty of elbow grease, especially on the windows where there have been dog noses.

I have experienced many odd happenings having a cottage on the side of the lane, the most common being cars scraping themselves on the stone wall – claiming they didn't see it, to a combine harvester getting stuck, but that's another story.



The most memorable event occurred many years ago. My neighbour at the time decided to clear out one of the sheds after the winter by carrying muck to the field opposite. Upon leaving the field (perhaps a wee bit too quickly for his dinner), the spreader hadn't been fully turned off and was still flaying the last of the cow manure. Where did it end up? Yes, you guessed – all over the side of the clean white painted gable wall of the cottage. What a sight and the smell was terrible. Dried cow manure is very difficult to remove so a high-pressure hose had to be hired to force it off the wall – the house certainly had a good spring clean that year. Good luck with yours.

*Hazel*



# Recipe

## Ann Moore's carrot cake

Serves 8-12

Heat oven to 180 °C

Grease a shallow rectangular baking tin

### Ingredients:

8 oz carrots

400 g tin crushed pineapple

8fl oz vegetable oil

10 oz soft brown sugar

4 eggs

5 oz plain flour

5 oz wholemeal flour

2 level teaspoons bicarbonate of soda

2 level teaspoons ground cinnamon

3 oz chopped walnuts

### Topping:

4 oz hard margarine

4 oz Philadelphia cream cheese

8 oz icing sugar

A drop of vanilla essence

Peel and grate the carrots. Drain the juice from the pineapple.

Place the vegetable oil, soft brown sugar and eggs into a bowl and stir with a wooden spoon.

Sift the plain flour, the wholemeal flour, the bicarbonate of soda and cinnamon into the mix. Stir to blend and then beat to a smooth batter.

Add the carrots with the chopped walnuts and the pineapple and blend together.

Pour into the tin and bake for 45–60 minutes.

Cool in the tin.

For the topping:

Combine the margarine with the cream cheese, icing sugar and a drop of vanilla essence.

Spread over the cooled cake and add a sprinkle of chopped nuts.

*Jane Borthwick*

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# Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan History Society



Sixty Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan Local History Society members and visitors braved the wintry conditions in January to listen to an excellent talk on Landed Estates in Wales: History and

Significance, delivered by Dr Shaun Evans.

Shaun grew up on the Mostyn estate in Flintshire, where his father works as a forester. He studied History at York before undertaking a doctoral research project at Aberystwyth University on the dynastic identity of the Mostyn family and estate in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. He was appointed Director of The Institute for the Study of Welsh Estates (a national research centre) based at Bangor University in 2015.

The talk gave an overview of the role of estates and country houses in the histories, cultures and landscapes of Wales together with their impacts and influences, which were often profound, up until their breakup and demise in the early-twentieth century. He explained how landed estates formed integral parts of Welsh life where much of the social, cultural, political, economic and industrial fabric of Wales was stitched together, exerting influences across local, national and global spheres.

He explored heritage, social relations, ancestry and issues of power, status and authority in Wales as well as gentry identities, landowner-tenant relations and estate landscapes, illustrating with examples of local stories from newspapers of the time.

Some of the estates in NE Wales were also explored such as the Cerrigllwydion, Lleweni and Glan y Wern estates with the Pentre Mawr, Rhug, Mostyn and Penrhyn estates also referenced.

There was also an exhibition of sale catalogues of the Cerrigllwydion, Lleweni, Glan-Y-Wern, Ystrad, Pool Park, Bodelwyddan and Gwrych Castle estates.



There are numerous on-going projects at the Institute which enhance our knowledge and understanding of the histories, cultures and landscapes of Wales.

You can stay up to date with the latest news and forthcoming events from ISWE by signing up to their mailing list by emailing them with your details. [iswe@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:iswe@bangor.ac.uk)

Or by looking at their social media channels:

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/ystadaucymru>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/YstadauCymru/>

All are welcome to society meetings with members paying only £6 for the yearly programme of 4 meetings and visitors £3 per meeting. Light refreshments are served for all at the end of every meeting.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm when Mr Paul Broadbent will talk about Sir Herbert Lewis of Caerwys, Liberal MP and a contemporary of David Lloyd George; supporter of education and Cymru Fydd.

For additional details or queries or to join the society, or volunteer to take part in its projects, please e-mail the society on [llangwyfanhistory@hotmail.com](mailto:llangwyfanhistory@hotmail.com).



# A message from the priest

March brings with it the promise of better weather and the annual joys of happier change to all of the beautiful nature we are blessed with here in North Wales. It is amazing how much change takes place all around us as we journey through our seasons. Many trees shedding leaves, birds migrating and so much going into abeyance each Autumn as we enter winter and everything bursting into life again in the Spring. Each year we change too as we journey through the various stages of life. As Christians, we are invited to not just embrace change in ourselves but to celebrate it as Jesus leads us into our full glorious potential of who we were blessed to be in this wonderful creation.

Last month I was fortunate enough to meet an author who for many years has helped me personally in my prayer life. He has been the inspiration of public prayer which has blessed others in God's name as we've been drenched in God's presence and committed the needs of communities and the world to God's love.

John Pritchard came to St Beuno's on Saturday 19th February to help many of us prepare for Lent and I was pleased to meet, in person, a follower of Jesus whose writing had really helped me in my prayer life. He signed one of his books which I'd been reading since 2010 and sharing with others. For the whole day, I was delighted to recognise the change in me since 2010. Many of us from this north end of St Asaph diocese entered deeply into just a few searching and provoking questions which Jesus asks others in scripture: "What are you looking for?", "Who do you say that I am?", "Has no-one condemned you?" and "Do you love me?" We were the first to use a new conference suite at St Beuno's and the treasures of the day were significant enough for us to return to them for the new life of spring in our inner life, like the joys of spring that have been bursting into life around us now.

We are the people who have chosen to surrender to the colossal mystery and infinite delights of following Jesus and the six weeks of Lent, like the four weeks of Advent, is a time when we have time, a clear and specific time, to really concentrate on spending time with God. In that time, we read our bibles more, we pray more, lots of us take up a daily reading for reflection. Some choose to deny themselves of things or something they like but that is not good for them. Whatever it is, or even if it is all these things and more, we are asking God to work in us and transform us as we journey towards Easter.

The word Transfiguration is the word for a moment in the life of Jesus which we observe in churches all around the world on the Sunday before Lent, starting on Ash Wednesday. The story is one to celebrate a time when Jesus was glowing bright on a mountain and people of heaven were with him, Moses and Elijah. This was a moment similar to the one I experienced on the day with Bishop John Pritchard: that the Kingdom of God, words we use to describe what's commonly known as heaven, broke into our daily life. This moment on mount Tabor prefigures the resurrection at Golgotha, from death on the cross to risen life amongst us that we celebrate at Easter. Two life-bursting moments of light and delight which bookend the 6 weeks of Lent. The Greek equivalent for the word *transfiguration* is *metamorphosis*. Like caterpillars to butterflies, in this life filled with challenges. We are invited to change for the better and be blessed to be blessings to others. May you be blessed throughout March.

**Martin Pritchard,**  
**Denbigh Mission Area Priest.**

**James Davies, MP for Vale of Clwyd**

james.davies.mp@parliament.uk

Constituency office: 01745 888920

Westminster office: 0207 2194606

# Walking another section of the Wales costal path

Having done not a lot over winter, I decided it was time to come out from under my stone and go walkabout.

Many years ago, I started my walkabouts in Porthaethwy (Menai Bridge) and wandered around Anglesey. I then went over the bridge, turned right to Caernarfon and walked my way around the absolutely stunning coast of Llŷn and eventually reached the end of it in Porthmadog. For some reason, I decided that it would be nice to continue and see what Harlech had to offer. So, Port to Harlech it would be – or Harlech to Port to be precise – never mind it's been done – making memories as they say.

So off I trotted early one Friday morning in February, only to drive into proper pea-soup fog on one of my favourite drives – over the Migneint. I've never seen anything like it since many years ago on the Horseshoe Pass when I had to open the driver's side window of my little MG to find the white line and follow it. For obvious reasons, on the Horseshoe Pass I felt safer following the broken white line in the middle of the road rather than trying to follow the solid white line to my left.

Anyway here I was in Port and hopeless as I am with bus timetables – thank the Lord for Google – it told me to wait outside the Australia Arms at 9:56 and a A37 bus would take me to Harlech. And sure enough, at 9:56 bang on, the bus appeared so I got out my bus pass – it has saved me a fortune over the years!

An excellent drive it was down to Harlech and the bus stop was immediately opposite where I was to start my 12-mile walk. I make a habit of scanning the horizon for any familiar landmarks and immediately behind me was the historic Harlech castle which has been there since 1282. Over the Dwyryd Estuary was another building with quite distinguished features – Porthmadog Travel Lodge, which has been there since last year, I think.

The walk basically follows the Dwyryd up to

Pont Briwet by Penrhyndeudraeth. I soon realised that I was walking along the top of a very early sea defence which was built in 1880 to reclaim some of the land from the sea – massive slabs of slate laid flat and banded with soil. It's four miles long from Harlech to Pont Briwet and a grand plan was devised by local people in the The Ship Aground ale house in Talsarnau to drain some of the marshland between there and Harlech and build a road between the two places. Apart from two incidents in 1927 and 1936, it's served its purpose well – the pub is still there to this day and although I did pass, I did not go in. It would be fascinating to imagine those people designing their sea defences probably on the back of a beer mat.

Following the path and a healthy hike up a bit of a hillock, you will come across a delightful pilgrimage Church – Llanfihangel y Traethau, just south of a village called Ynys. There is a clue in the name and the aforementioned sea defences have obviously worked. It is an official pilgrimage church with the doors always open. In studying the visitors' book it's extremely popular with visitors. The church as it stands now bears no resemblance to the original church which was probably 11<sup>th</sup> century. Similar to many churches, it has been rebuilt a number of times and is very much a seafarer church. There are 26 seafarers and 14 captains buried in the graveyard. There was a bench there with a splendid view down towards Harlech and I sat there for probably half an hour, having lunch and – well, counting my blessings, really.

Looking across the wonderful Dwyryd estuary, one can see Ynys Giffan which is only accessible during two hours either side of a low tide. Being that I can hardly understand a bus timetable never mind a tide table – get it wrong and it would be an overnight stay – so I gave it a miss. Apparently, the island was a gift from Queen Anne to Lord Harlech in the 1700's and translated means Anne's Gift





Island. Another more plausible theory is that it could have come from the word 'skiff' – a boat. But I do intend to return to visit the island if anyone cares to share the adventure!

Onto the next stretch and I was looking forward to seeing Pont Briwet having heard so much about it during its construction.

The original Pont Briwet was a timber pile viaduct, a commonplace feature of coastal railways during this era, which was built during the construction of the railway. It did away for the need for pedestrians to cross the Dwyrdd at low tide at Traeth Mawr and Traeth bach, or a 13-mile detour through Maentwrog.

However, in 1866 the contractor Thomas Savin went bust so it was not opened until 1867.



It served its purpose well until work started on a replacement bridge in March 2013. The intention was to retain the former structure for pedestrian use only. However, the foundations of the existing structure had been affected by the piling of foundations for the new bridge and therefore it was decided to demolish it. The bridge was completed in November 2015 and carries both pedestrians and the train of course and offers spectacular views both up and down the Dwyrdd Estuary.

Through the village of Penrhyndeudraeth and heading back to Port – the path actually

takes you through Portmeirion and past what I believe are the ruins of 12<sup>th</sup> century Castell Deudraeth. This again would offer fantastic views over the Dwyrdd, however I had decided just to stick to the main road. Why? Well, I was tired – but of course I had to cross the infamous Cob with its famous Llangwyfan connection.

It was completed in 1811 by one William Alexander Maddocks. Although he was an MP for Lincolnshire, his family owned Fron Yw, Llangwyfan. He assembled land around the Traeth Mawr area, employed 900 men and constructed the cob with the help of 700 horses. This allowed a large area of land to be drained permanently for agriculture and of course for the railway to cross. He had his eye on many other parcels of land and was hoping to develop Porthdinllaen via Tremadog as a main port for ships to Dublin. He sadly he got it wrong and Holyhead won – some you win, some you lose, as they say.

At last, I reached the Travelodge that I had spotted as my landmark at the beginning of my walk. The car park was pleasantly full – I also stopped to studied the structure here knowing that it was built off site and transported there on lorries. It's more or less clicked together and clad with a finish to suit the vernacular – in this instance, a token gesture of a slate panel.

I was by now outside the Australia Arms where I had started my journey about five hours ago. However my car was parked outside a care home my employer owns in Port, and as I was throwing my boots in the boot I looked at the building and waved to residents in the lounge – just to remind me why I do these walkabouts. Because I can.

Right, where to next? The section that joins Harlech and Bermo (Barmouth) sounds interesting, but for a different reason – the path goes along a beach that is earmarked for nudists. I hope I don't recognise any of you there!

Happy hiking!

*Bryn Davies*

# Dyffryn Chapel

# Quite a month!

The collection made during the circuit service in February raised £241 for the Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal.

**Y Gymdeithas** On Monday evening 6 February, Rhys Davies and family, Dregoch Isaf, gave a very interesting and illustrated talk on how they have developed the vineyard over the last few years and awarded prizes for the best Welsh wines last year.

Monday 21 February, the renowned photographer Llion Griffiths, Llanfair Talhaearn gave a very interesting talk on his hobby as a landscape photographer. He explained how his interest in photography began years ago whilst cycling and taking photographs at various locations. Soon, his pictures were in great demand. He had great success in the Landscape Photographer of the Year competition when his picture appeared in the top 10 out of 100,000 photographers! Nowadays he specializes in wedding photography, advertising for car companies, calendars, holding photographic workshops and many more – as well as working for *Reflexallen*, Bodelwyddan! A most interesting evening.



*Richard Davies with Llion Griffiths*

### Services

5 March	11.00	Rev. Gwenda Richards
12 March	11.00	Rev. Andras Iago (communion)
19 March	5.00	Rev. Euron Hughes
26 March	9.45	Mrs Gwenda Humphreys

- 1: St David's Day** – patron saint of Wales, obv's!
- 2, 3 and 5: Saint Non's Feast Day** – mother of St David.
- 4: World Cancer Day** – a leading international awareness day
- 8: Women's International day** – the theme for 2023 is Embrace Equity
- 11: World Day of Muslim Culture, Peace, Dialogue and Film** – this seeks to provide some insight to better understand Islam
- 14: Pi Day** – celebrates the symbol,  $\pi$ , used in mathematics to represent the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. The mathematician from Anglesey, William Jones, first used the symbol at the beginning of the 18th century
- 17: St Patrick's Day** – Patron saint of Ireland, some say he was born in Wales but it's not very likely
- 20: International Happiness Day** – its aim is to make people around the world realize the importance of happiness within their lives
- 22: World Water Day** – urges taking action to accelerate change to solve the water and sanitation crisis
- 23: World Meteorological Day** – The themes chosen for this reflect topical weather, climate or water-related issues
- 27: World Theatre Day** – includes the World Theatre Day International Message in which a figure of world stature shares his or her reflections on the theme of Theatre and a Culture of Peace.

### Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee

Ruth Griffith (Chair), Ivan Butler (treasurer & compositor), Anwen Davies (compositor & 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](mailto:llandyrnognews@gmail.com).**



# Meet your Community Councillor

## Merfyn Parry

My name is Thomas Merfyn Parry, with the Thomas from my father, Tom Parry, Dre Goch, Bodfari.

I lived until I was a young adult with my mother and father and brother Emyr at Dre Goch Ganol. Emyr and I attended Llandyrnog CP school but I was moved to Ysgol Gymraeg Dinbych, Denbigh's Welsh language school in Capel Mawr. Emyr stayed in Llandyrnog. In my last year of primary education, Ysgol Twm o'r Nant was built and the pupils moved from Capel Mawr to this very modern school.

I went to Ysgol Glan Clwyd and then Llysfas before working on a farm on the outskirts of Denbigh. I also worked in Llandyrnog Creamery for the CWS Society and for my father on the farm in Dre Goch.

In 1983 I went to The Royal Agricultural College in Cirencester to study crop production and then went to work for an agricultural chemist, Hodges & Moss, in Shrewsbury and at their Mold depot. I then moved in January 1986 to the company I work for now which is CountyCrops, part of the ProCam group. I'm an agronomist and my job is to assist and supply the inputs for farmers and growers to maximise their crop potential be it conventional or organic with soil sustainability being high on our agenda. I also have my own company Biofert Wales Ltd which handles the digestate from the anaerobic digester in the Waen, St Asaph. This is where all your waste food from your orange bin goes. The methane is extracted from the food and it's converted into electricity, the waste (digestate) is then applied to agricultural land as a fertiliser.

I have a strong connection with Llandyrnog having spent most of my youth growing up here. I was a member of the Llandyrnog Youth Club, Llandyrnog Boys' Club and also for the short time it was running, Llandyrnog Young Farmers' Club. There was plenty to do in Llandyrnog.

In 1998 I purchased the Golden Lion Pub and modernised it to the layout it is today. It has been a big part of my life and I'm very grateful to all who have supported it over the years. You will all know that Samantha and Mark are running it now, please give them your support.

Hilary, her sister, Alex, and I also bought the White Horse in 2001 and opened the doors, after a complete refurbishment, in June 2002. We had two local celebrities to cut the ribbon, Emlyn Davies and Emlyn Bach. The White Horse was very popular and well-known for its food – we had an amazing team working there. We were sorry to close and sell it following Covid, but it was Hilary's opportunity to retire. Sadly it's no longer a pub, but it is a home for a lovely new family in the village.

I have been a Llandyrnog Community Councillor since around 2008 and put myself forward for County Councillor for the Llandyrnog Ward elections in 2012. I am now on my third term. Being involved with county and community activities and being able to help and guide others within the community is what I enjoy best about the Councillor role. I do find some of the requests I get challenging but I do my best to address all issues put in front of me and try to respond to a query or question as soon as possible.

## Denbighshire County Council

### Merfyn Parry



#### Contact details

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E-mail: [merfyn.parry@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:merfyn.parry@denbighshire.gov.uk)

Or leave a message on **Facebook**

# Matters discussed in the February meeting of Llandyrnog Community Council

⇒ Philip Burrows, Denbighshire County Council Digital Officer, gave an overview of the situation in Llandyrnog.

Llandyrnog is not in any major Openreach upgrade programme. Their current plans span until December 2026 however there may well be unannounced upgrades.

There are 479 properties in the area with 179 having fibre to the property (FTP) leaving 300 not having no FTP. However, some properties are due for an upgrade next year and Philip will be sending details of which 88 properties are due for an upgrade. There are a few properties that BT will not be able to upgrade, for differing reasons. Mr Burrows welcomes any enquiry from individual house holders on [philip.burrows@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:philip.burrows@denbighshire.gov.uk) or 01824 706116.

⇒ There was an incident at Green Farm corner circa 10<sup>th</sup> February. It was reported that this may well be the sixth accident over the last twelve months on that particular stretch of road and it was decided to approach North Wales Police to see if the incidents were logged or not. If they were, they would be presented to DCC to continue the discussion about cost-effective solution to traffic exceeding the 40mph limit.

⇒ Neighbouring community councils including Bodfari, Tremeirchion Cwm and Waen, and Llanarmon are looking for clerks.

⇒ The case officer is waiting for additional information regarding the development to the rear of the Kinmel Arms.

⇒ Planning has been granted for holiday pods at Cae'r Fedwen.

⇒ A planning application has been received to build twelve holiday pods and a sewage treatment plant on land at Llangwyfan Farm. It was decided that although contrary to the local development plan policy PSE 12, the development would be a vast

improvement on the present arrangement. However, there were reservations about the impact of the additional traffic on the lane leading to the site and on Llangwyfan Church, and lighting the site being so prominent.

⇒ DCC has assessed the Fforddlas area and it does not fit its criteria for a litter bin.

⇒ DCC was thanked for cleaning the pavement between the school and the village.

⇒ Cllr Thomas has decided to step aside and since there were no requests via Denbighshire County Council for an election, it was decided to proceed with a notice of co-option.

⇒ There was an update from Cllr Morris regarding the shop project – the funds already secured needed to be topped up with additional grants and private finance via shares issue. There is an awful lot of work going on quietly in the background which will hopefully bring a positive outcome in the near future.

⇒ It was decided to look at the cost of presenting each child in the village with a gift to commemorate the crowning of King Charles.

⇒ It was decided to arrange a litter-pick in a few months' time with backing from Litterpick Wales.

## Llandyrnog WI

The WI met in February with ten members and guests present. Some agenda items were agreed followed by a light talk on changes in education and tea and biscuits.

After this two teams competed at pass the pompom challenge and a very funny descriptive game won by Gwen. It was a fun meeting with good company and all are welcome so do come along and join in. The group meets every first Tuesday of the month from 7–9 pm at the village hall.