

# Llais Llandyrnog Voice

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May 2022 – Volume 7– Issue 8

## Goodbye and thanks, Dan!



Saturday, 23 April was a very sad day for Llandyrnog, when Dan Jones closed the door of his shop for the very last time. Not only has the standard of Dan's produce been excellent, he's provided employment for youngsters and has been a community hub – displaying posters, selling tickets, and of course a pick-up point for *Llais Llandyrnog Voice*. He was also very generous in his support for charity events in the village.

The excellent news is that Daniel Jones and Sons, Family Butchers, have been selected as a finalist for the Local Community Award category in the Wales Food and Drink Awards 2022. This category recognises those Welsh businesses that have made a real difference to their local community. Although trading has ceased, they are still eligible to compete.

Dan said, 'We could never have got shortlisted for this award without our amazing customers who support us each week. I am lost for words – this has really topped such an incredible 6 years at the shop. Thank you everyone.'

Best wishes to Dan is his new role with the Rhug Estate.

## Where words fail, music speaks

The concert for Ukraine in the Village Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April was a huge success when an outstanding £2,615 was raised for the Save the Children Ukraine Appeal. This came only four weeks after an appeal in the village raised £2400 towards charities working in the country. The idea came about when Mason and Lloyd, sons of Heather Powell, and some of their friends saw pictures of children suffering in Ukraine and wanted to do something to help.

It was a fantastic night that was filled with musical talent from the local area. Heather would like to thank everyone who was involved with this special occasion and to everyone who attended the concert.

The local participants were Mason and Lloyd Powell, Gwenan and Nest Mars Lloyd, Eliza and Taylor Chown, Beca Evans, Daniel Lloyd and Ysgol Bryn Clwyd.



*Mason, one of the instigators of the concert, performing with tutor Matt Deacon*

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

## Around the village

### Congratulations to ...

... John and Shân Ashton who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary at the beginning of April;

... Hazel Wright on coming a great aunt to baby Safiya Wright born 30 January to proud parents Guillaume and Sina, and to another great niece, Eleanor, born 16th April to Adele and Zach Wright Fitter;

... Karen and Gerry Connell who have recently become grandparents to Penelope, daughter of Pete and Anne, Glasgow.

### Condolences to ...

... Caroline and the family of Gwyn Langford Jones. A touching moment was the minute's silence in memory of him by the Llandyrnog football team;

... Siwan Hulme, Pentrefelin and family, on the loss of her grandfather – Mr John Rees, Caerwys;

... Pete, Andy, Lynn, Nigel and Garry on the sad loss of their sister Ann Watts. Ann had made her home in London but had very fond memories of her childhood years in Llandyrnog. She was the daughter of the late Betty Evans (Betty Bach);

... Lynn Jones, Berth Glyd, on the sad loss of her mother who lived in Liverpool.

### Best wishes to ...

... Nia, Dre Goch, who recently celebrated a 'special' birthday;

... Alex and Betty Sinclair, Maes Clwyd, who have moved to Awel y Dyffryn, Denbigh;

... Mrs Joan Lewis and Mrs Ingrid Colclough, both have been unwell.

... Grace Jones who is in hospital.

**A very big thank you to all who supported the coffee morning in aid of Guide Dogs – the excellent sum of £540 was raised!**

## Services in May

### Dyffryn Chapel

1 May	9.45	Local arrangement
8 May	11.00	Rev. Andras Iago
22 May	9.45	Rev. Aneurin Owen
29 May	9.45	Rev. Andras Iago

### St Tyrnog's

1 May	11.15	Eucharist
8 May	11.15	Morning prayer
15 May	11.15	Eucharist
22 May	11.15	Morning prayer
29 May	11.15	Eucharist

### No services at St Cwyfan's

### Messy Church

8 May 15.30–17.00 at the Village Hall

**To book the Cocoa Rooms, contact Mrs Emily Williams on [emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk).**  
**To book the Village Hall, contact Mrs Wyn Wilson on 01824 790447**



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## What's on at the Cocoa Rooms

- 7 May Election
- 17 May Book Club, 10am
- 18 May Tuesday Club, 2pm
- 24 May Llais Llandyrnog committee, 7pm
- 31 May Book Club, 10am

## What's on at the Village Hall

- 3 May W.I. 7pm
- 7 May Craft group 10am
- 9 May Brownies, 5.70–7pm
- 11 May Mother's Union 2pm (lower room)
- 16 May Brownies, 5.70–7pm
- 18 May History Society, 7.30
- 21 May Coffee morning in aid of Christian Aid, 10am
- 23 May Brownies, 5.70–7pm
- 29 May Urdd Eisteddfod Christian Event, 4–8pm

The officials of the Urdd Appeal Committee of Llandyrnog, Llangwyfan and Aberwheeler wish to thank everyone for their generous support for the Coffee Morning in the village hall on April 23. There was a profit of £420 which means that the area has raised nearly

£8500 for the Eisteddfod. Brilliant!! The Urdd's centenary will be celebrated on Kilford Farm fields 31 May –4 June.



## The Tuesday Club

In the April meeting, the speakers were three members of staff from MHC, Llangwyfan. Rachel Croft-Jones, activities leader, gave an outline of the place's history and their work.

Gemma MacCarter, also an activities leader, distributed photographs of the activities offered there, including crafts, cooking, sports, gardening and sewing. A calendar is being put together for 2023, and there is an open invitation to submit photographs to be included in it.

Bronwen Hignett, representing the speech and language department, showed the members how they assist their residents to communicate.

It was a very interesting presentation and the three were thanked for giving their time.

Light refreshments were served and the raffle drawn. The members were reminded that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, 18 May. Glenys, on behalf of the members, congratulated Anwen and Bryn on the birth of the first grandchild – Rhiannon, daughter of Manon and James.



*Gemma, Bronwen and Rachel from MHC*

### Coffee Morning

Village Hall

Saturday, 21 May 10.00 – 11.30

Proceeds to Christian Aid  
Contributions gratefully received  
towards the local produce stalls  
*All welcome*



### Post Office Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

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# Llandyrnog Summer League

Organised summer football in the Vale of Clwyd began in 1926, and apart from a break during the 2nd World War, it has continued up to the present day. Although never officially sanctioned by the Football Association of Wales, the Summer League has provided countless thousands of young men with the opportunity of playing football for their local village team.

One of the main rules of the League which makes it different from most other football institutions is that players have to reside within a prescribed boundary for that club; historically other Summer Leagues have come and gone but they never had that residential rule. It is believed that the longevity of the League is generally due to this rule, even though demographic problems abound and have forced some villages to merge to survive.

The League runs from mid April to the end of July and the matches are played on Monday and Thursday evenings. Currently the League contains eleven teams all located in the Vale of Clwyd, except Caerwys and Ysceifiog in the Flintshire hills.

## History of Llandyrnog Team

Llandyrnog is one of the founding members of the League so is almost 100 years old. It is by far the most successful club in the league's history shown by these results:

**League Champions** – 1950, 1954, 1957, 1964, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983,

1984, 1985, 1987, 1991, 2000, 2011, 2015  
**Shield Winners** – 1954, 1966, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1994, 2011, 2013, 2019.

## 2022 Season

The 2022 season kicked off on Tuesday 19th April following a two year enforced break because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Results

19 April: Llanfair DC 2 – **4 Llandyrnog**

Goal scorers: Josh Jones (2), Harry Roberts, Craig Jones

21 April: **Llandyrnog 4** – 3 Clawddnewydd

Goal scorers: Craig Jones, Tom Hughes, Luke Humphries, Morgan Jones

25 April: Cefn 4 – **Llandyrnog 1**

Goal scorer: Josh Jones

28 April: **Llandyrnog 0** – Llangynhafal 1

## May Fixtures ko 7pm unless otherwise noted

Thur 5th May **Llandyrnog** v Ysceifiog

Mon 9th May Nantglyn v **Llandyrnog**

Thur 12th May Rhewl v **Llandyrnog**

Mon 16th May **Llandyrnog** v Henllan  
(ko 7.30pm)

Thur 19th May **Llandyrnog** v Trefnant

Mon 23rd May Llanrhaeadr v **Llandyrnog**

Thur 26th May **Llandyrnog** v Llanfair DC

Mon 30th May Clawddnewydd v **Llandyrnog**

Wed 1st June **Llandyrnog** v Cefn



(Photo from Llandyrnog Summer League team Twitter account)



# The Wright Life

‘Ne’er cast a clout till May is out’ is an old English proverb (Dr. Thomas Fuller, 1732), although it may have existed in word-of-mouth form well before then. It’s a reminder not to be too quick to take off those winter woollies, although with the rise in heating prices many of us may be keeping them on.

I feel May is the busiest time in the garden, everything seems to need attention and we all feel the benefit of the longer days. There is an energy all around us with new life bursting forth; for me it marks the time to transplant the tomato plants (Alicante), nurtured since I sowed the seed in February, in the greenhouse. By late summer I cook them to produce a rich puree that is then frozen in margarine pots for use in stews, spag bol etc.

As the soil warms, it’s time to plant out veggies – a stressful time in my garden. The area has to be fenced with a temporary barrier to stop mad dogs dashing through the young plants, Penelope and her hen friends scratching and the rabbits who tuck into anything I plant – although not celery.

Fences can’t stop the problem of weeds! They can grow perfectly well where you just don’t want them. Regular hoeing when the plants are small makes the job easier than waiting for them to grow into unruly teenagers taking over the whole vegetable patch. There are some welcome ‘weeds’. Ever since my mother liberally scattered some yellow poppy seeds many years ago, my garden puts on a wonderful display of these pale yellow flowers. The Welsh poppy (*Papaver cambricum*) is a cottage garden favourite, but it does have a mind of its own and dominates every nook and cranny. The pods are packed with thousands of tiny black seeds which pop and burst with the sound of a rattle in late summer, usually as you brush past them and

blow the contents everywhere, ready to start the whole process again next year.

Many of you will be planting main crop potatoes, for years a staple veg on our smallholding. My father used to set aside a large area for them, which would receive a deep covering of well-rotted horse manure and then rotavated with trenches dug. These would be filled with more manure and the chitted tubers placed strictly 15 inches / 37cm apart (he used to have a stick with these measurements marked out and woe betide us if it was mislaid). However I’ve had a re-think, mainly due to the hard work involved, so I’ve planted two heritage apple trees from Ian Sturrock & Sons Nursery (Bangor) where they have grown fruit trees for over 40 years Prydferthwch Rhyl (dessert) and Gwell na Mil (eating) to be under-sown with wild flowers.

The swallows have returned, although they are a bit confused about the new roof and doors on the garage with no gaps for them to come and go. They soon rediscover their old nests in the stable and there is frantic rebuilding going on as they swoop in and out above Bob the cob’s head, quite cross that he is standing in the way – how dare he!! They had better watch out, as the buzzard has taken to sitting on the top of the scaffolding – a perfect viewing platform for him. But not for much longer as joy of joys it will be dismantled soon to reveal the repaired roof and chimneys with four perfectly straight pots adorning the cottage.

What to watch out for in May – cow parsley blanketing the verges, Bob the cob’s favourite snack while we saunter along the lanes.

*Hazel*

## **Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee:**

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

# Three places: Bryn Davies

I will share with you the three places that made a lasting impression on me during my walk around Ynys Môn, all 140 miles of it. You could be there in a good hour from here. A picnic, a tank of fuel, some sturdy boots, a couple of OS maps (Explorer 262 and 263), and that's it really.

I am led to believe that the official path starts in Holyhead and follows the island clockwise. I started in Menai Bridge and went anticlockwise. Now I know why I met so many people walking in the opposite direction and a taxi lady, who I used on a few trips to get back to my car when there were no buses, asked me why I was going the wrong way round.

Anyway, here we go.

## Porthwen Brickworks

Following quite a climb from Moelfre and before getting to Cemaes, was quite a spectacular site – Porthwen Brickworks built in the Victoria era by a certain Charles Tidy. It was supplied by two quartzite quarries linked by tram to the brickworks. The remains of it include a crushing house, moulding shed, drying sheds, and beehive kilns (called beehive because of their distinctive shape). Most of the buildings are still recognisable.



The bricks produced there were fire bricks made from the very hard quartzite and carried away by ships from nearby Amlwch Port to line steel-making furnaces wherever they were needed.

No-one is quite sure when the brickmaking

stopped – sources vary between 1929 and 1949.

Naturally I approached along the path from Moelfre. However, by car, if you look for Llaneilian there is a car park there and a short but healthy walk towards Trwyn Eilian. You will see the brickworks probably lower down on your right but by all means have a wander to the end of Trwyn Eilian – the views are spectacular along this rugged and dangerous coastline.

## Eglwys Llanbadrig – reputedly the oldest Church in Wales



The names given to some of the coves I passed were beautiful and need to be preserved at all costs – between Amlwch and Cemaes there are Porth

Llanlleiana, Porth Adfan, Porth Cynfor. Anyway, ahead I saw a beautiful small church and although time was not on my side this particular day I thought now or never. Luckily the church was open and somehow, as soon as I entered the building, it just wrapped itself around me – the sensation of peace and tranquility was quite emotional.

Legend says that in 440 AD a Celtic bishop called Patrick was travelling from Iona to Ireland when he was shipwrecked off the coast of Anglesey. Having made his way ashore from the small islet now known as Ynys Badrig (St Patrick's Island), the bishop took refuge in a small cave with a nearby well. Patrick commemorated his escape from danger by founding the original Eglwys Llanbadrig – Saint Patrick's Church. St Patrick's Cave is still there, marked by a plaque up on the cliffs overlooking the spot, but the way to the cave itself is steep and dangerous.

The original simple timber church was replaced with a stone version in the 12th century, and then rebuilt in the 14th century in the general form seen today.

What makes Llanbadrig extraordinary – apart from the legend and its status as the oldest church in Wales – is the dramatic refurbishment in 1884.

The 3rd Lord Stanley of Alderly had met and married a Spanish Moorish woman and converted to Islam himself. He donated a substantial sum of money to refurbish the interior of the church to reflect his new faith, so today's visitors are confronted with a dramatic contrast between the simple stone exterior and the dramatic Moorish interior, which boasts blue tiles, blue glazed windows, and Arabic-style use of features.



By car it is easily accessible from the A5025 – turn towards Llanbadrig and the track will lead you straight to the Church.

### **Holyhead Breakwater**

Whilst my walking companion for the day, Manon, and I were walking over Holyhead Mountain we stopped and looked out. To be honest I had never taken much notice of the breakwater – it's only from a certain vantage point that you study it closely and feel the need to know more about it. So I will share with you some very well-documented history of the construction.

Work began on the breakwater in 1848 – shaped 10-ton blocks of limestone dug from

the nearby Holyhead Mountain were used to create the outer facing wall. These were placed on level foundations which were built by divers in submarine bells using picks and shovels and carried out blasting underwater, using gunpowder sealed in watertight tin pipes to ensure they had the foundation level – imagine that!

As work progressed, they laid a track and used a narrow gauge train to transport these dressed stones from Holyhead Mountain until they reached the end of the breakwater, some 1.7 miles.

One thousand three hundred people were employed at any one time on the project which took twenty eight years to complete – and sadly forty men lost their lives during the construction. It was opened 19<sup>th</sup> August 1873 by Albert Edward, the then Prince of Wales.

And yes, Manon and I did walk to the end – 1.7 miles to be exact and my, was it rough!



To finish I must share this with you. There were two ferries battling their way through the fog and monumental waves. Whilst the Stena seemed to be taking it in its stride, there was a much smaller green and white ferry having a bit of a rough time, lurching up and down and sideways. I happened to mention to Manon that our good friend and neighbour was returning from Ireland that day and jokingly said, 'I hope Wendy is on the Stena and not the little green and white one'. Wendy told me a few days later that returning on the 'little green one' was not an experience she wanted to repeat in a hurry!

*Bryn Davies*

# Ysgol Bryn Clwyd



## *Eyes down for the bingo!*

It has been a very busy time in school recently...

The children took part in the hugely successful concert to raise funds for Ukraine. It was a really big achievement for the children as that was their first performance on the big stage to an audience since before COVID.



A very enjoyable evening of Easter Bingo was had, raising £300 for the children. The school wishes to thank to all who supported and to the Friends of the School for organising such a great night.

Miss Birkett and the infants did a wonderful job delivering the Easter Service this year. It was wonderful to see how confident they were to speak and sing in front of an audience. All the children had great fun on the Easter egg hunt on Friday as school closed for

the holidays.

In the last few weeks of term there was a visit from PC Llinos, our Community Police Officer, who came to work with the children in Yrs 3 and 4 about keeping safe online and with Yrs 5 and 6 about drugs and peer pressure.

The juniors have been learning all about Easter traditions as well as looking around the world and seeing some of the Easter traditions that go on in different countries.

The infants went back in time to experience what life was like as a Victorian school and the Nursery had an exciting afternoon visiting Buckingham Palace whilst learning about Queen Elizabeth II and enjoying a tea party.

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

[james.davies.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.davies.mp@parliament.uk)

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# Visiting the Urdd Eisteddfod

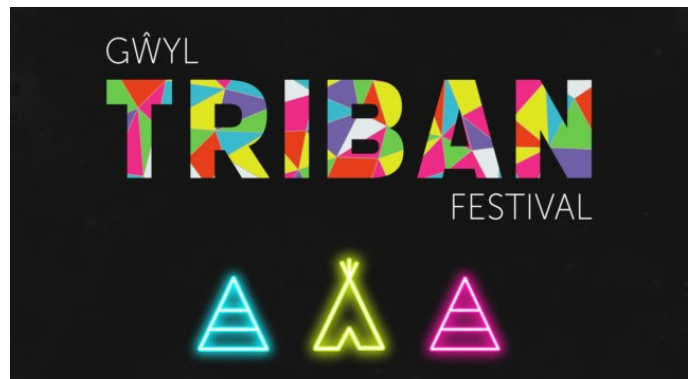
If you've never been to an eisteddfod before, then with one of Europe's largest youth cultural festivals on our doorstep, why not come along? Even if you are not a Welsh-speaker do not be put off, as everyone can enjoy the incredible talents of our young people in music, drama and arts. The 'maes' will also be full of stalls of crafts and produce, national radio and television, Welsh companies with activities for all.

For this year only the entry is free, though you will need to book tickets. Here's how...

Go to [www.urdd.cymru/tickets](http://www.urdd.cymru/tickets). Just a note for those not familiar with eisteddfod terminology – the 'maes' is the word for the field on which the festival takes place and everything on it. So a '**Maes Entry**' gives you access to the whole field for the day. The above website takes you straight to the tickets. The week is split into two parts

- ♦ Mon, Tue and Wed (30 and 31 May, 1 June)
- ♦ Thurs, Fri and Sat (2–4 June) when there is an extra music festival called Triban going on too.

Just click on the day you wish to visit.



## GŴyl Triban Festival

For the first time in the festival's history there will be a 'festival within a festival' during the last three days, celebrating the best of contemporary Welsh music and culture. It will include street food and live performances from Eden, Gwilym, Eädyth, Tara Bandito, N'Famady Kouyaté and many more.

## Volunteering

For those of you who would like to help make sure our eisteddfod runs smoothly and would like to volunteer, head to the Urdd website and complete a simple application form.



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# Memories of wartime Liverpool

Joyce Catteroll, Fron Haul Cottage, Llangwyfan, was 10 years old at the outbreak of war. She didn't want to be evacuated so stayed in Liverpool for the duration.

Her family had an Anderson shelter built in the garden with help from friends and neighbours. The dog knew the sound of the air raid siren and shot into the shelter first. Her father made it very comfortable with batteries for light and they kept a supply of food in there. They slept there every night then got up and carried on as normal. Joyce's father was too old for the army but was kept busy during the war driving deliveries or buses of POWs to camps. He was very practical and would repair other people's radios and cars. She remembers they often has two or three cars parked at the front, even though none of them were theirs as they couldn't afford one!

One day Joyce was playing on her roller skates and had gone quite a distance from home when the siren went off, so a lady called all the children in off the street and into her air raid shelter. A few days later Joyce went to play in the same street and found out a bomb had landed on that lady's house and the family had all been killed. That was how life was and you just had to get on with it.

Joyce's mother would go to warehouses to choose clothes and dresses and distribute them to houses, collecting a shilling a week or more and Joyce would go with her. They eventually gave this up as her Mum was afraid of the sirens going off whilst they were away from home.

She would use her bike to get about and collect the rations. If you were on a tram and the siren went off the trams stopped and you had to walk, which could be miles home if you were in the city.

Joyce used some of her hard-earned pocket money to buy some chickens. When one became sick, they revived it with whisky! As they grew in the back yard, they became vicious and attacked the family so her father saw to them and gave them away for roast

dinners. As rare as meat was, the family would not eat them as they had been pets.

One morning after a night raid she and her fellow pupils heard the news that their school (Roscoe School, Ballantyne Road, West Derby) had been bombed. It had been hit by two landmines, one of which didn't explode. They



*The unexploded landmine*

all went to look at it and then slowly realised they didn't have to go to school anymore!

However, it was not that simple and lessons were arranged for five or six children in houses with the teacher moving from house to house, giving a few basic lessons in English and maths every few days.

Joyce's parents realised this wasn't satisfactory and managed to get Joyce into the commercial college even though she was really too young, so she would continue to get a broader education and learn shorthand and typing. This led to a job in the city but she didn't enjoy this work and found it boring as



*Joyce and her lifelong friend, Iris Oats*

# Memories of wartime Liverpool: ctd

she really wanted to get into fashion (people still had dreams and aspirations during a war!). Fortunately, she saw an advertisement for the job of manageress of a millinery and accessories shop. She made a huge success of the shop and thoroughly enjoyed this work. The shop was called 'Miss Lena's' in Anfield. It never got bombed and people continued to treat themselves to hats and gloves despite there being a war on.

Joyce and Bill met during the war at a church hall dance.

*Joyce's memories form part of the book being created by the Local History Society to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day in 2025. If you would like to share your war time memories please get in touch with the society via [llangwyfanhistory@hotmail.com](mailto:llangwyfanhistory@hotmail.com).*

## The Local History Society

The next Llandyrnog and Llangwyfan Local History Society meeting will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Dr Shaun Evans will be giving a talk on 'Landed estates in Wales: history and significance'. (He will include Denbighshire and NE Wales.)

Shaun is director of The Institute for the Study of Welsh Estates (ISWE) based at Bangor University.

He grew up on the Mostyn estate in Flintshire, where his father works as a forester. Shaun 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.

**All are welcome to society meetings with members paying only £5 for the yearly programme of 3 meetings and visitors £3 per meeting.**

## Messy Church

April Messy Church took place on Palm Sunday and so we were learning about Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, while all the people waved palms and shouted 'Hosanna!' We made a huge palm tree and some little ones made of fruit; we also made palm leaves, crowns, stained glass windows and sticker pictures of the Last Supper. The children all took home a 'goody bag' containing some more activities and a gift of a cartoon book telling the story of Easter.

Our next session will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> May at 3.30pm in the Village Hall and all are welcome. Children, remember to bring an adult with you!

Mary Steel



## April fool?

Did you spot the April Fool in last month's magazine? If not, you were not alone – several people were taken in by this story including some of the *Llais* team!

It is fitting that April Fool's Day derives from the Ancient Roman festival of Hilaria because I have to confess that there was no Roman settlement called Dyrninium. (Sorry



History Society!) Although the metal detectorists Steve and Harry searched the field opposite the Kinmel Arms thoroughly on a couple of weekends in

March, there were no gold coins – all they found was a George III halfpenny and half a cufflink. But they had a lovely trip out from Merseyside and sent us this photo of their treasure.

*Gwen Butler*

### J & G

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## Recipe

I love ginger! It has many health benefits too. According to Johns Hopkins Medicine it can help with the following:

**bloating and gas** – eating ginger can cut down on fermentation, constipation and other causes of bloating and intestinal gas;

**wear and tear on cells** – ginger contains antioxidants. These molecules help manage free radicals, which are compounds that can damage cells when their numbers grow too high;

**nausea relief** – both for seasickness and morning sickness, ginger has been praised for reducing the feelings of queasiness. It also may take the edge off the post-treatment nausea during chemotherapy without the side effects of anti-nausea medication; and it may also be **anti-inflammatory** and studies are being done to see if it helps with conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis and respiratory inflammation.

So why not try a recipe with some in?

### Light Buttery Fork Biscuits with Ginger

#### Ingredients

250g softened butter  
110g icing sugar  
85g custard powder  
250g SR flour  
1 tsp ground ginger  
40g stem ginger finely chopped

#### Method

Cream the butter. Beat in the custard powder, flour and ginger powder. Finely chop the stem ginger and beat in until evenly distributed. Divide the dough into 28 small balls. Place spaced apart on two baking trays and flatten with a fork. Bake at 180 °C (160 °C fan) for 10–15 minutes until golden but not brown.

Other options in place of ginger:

Leave plain  
Zest of 1 lemon  
50g of chocolate chips

*Catherine Howarth*

## A word from the Priest

It is somewhat of a pleasure to be a Vicar, Priest, Rector, Pastor, Minister (or whatever you want to call us...) for the beautiful villages in this area of outstanding beauty where we are fortunate enough to live out our days and share in our common life. The depths of relationships and the community cohesion is what many in more urban areas talk of as a thing of the forgotten past. In the church year we are now firmly in the season of Easter which runs all the way through May, changing on 5th June when we reach Pentecost.



To celebrate Easter, many of us met at first light up at Denbigh Castle and enjoyed bacon muffins afterwards. The reading from the bible which we heard that morning and in all our churches in this beautiful area on Easter Day was John 20: 1–18. You can look it up on your phone in no time if you'd like to have a read, or pick up a bible and find it as the fourth book of the new testament.

In her grief, it takes Mary quite some time to realise that Jesus is not actually dead and has not been stolen or moved by others. The dawn of realisation, the moment of awakening for Mary hinges on Jesus saying her name. Of course our voices are all unique; we learn something of this with modern technology where our voices, like our faces, can now be used as unique security features.

The depth of this moment is incredible. Jesus and Mary, we have read at various other

points in the accounts of the life of Jesus, have enjoyed a relationship of great profundity, reflecting together and enjoying prayerful moments that live through the ages as billions of Christians around the world have retold these moments to each other again and again. In this moment of Jesus saying Mary's name, it is hard not also to think of the fact that Jesus, the gardener of all creation, now proven to be divine having defeated death, is in fact God and God knows us each individually more than we can ever begin to know even ourselves. More than our closest partners and closest relatives even those who have cared for us since childhood.

God in God's eternal nature, enfolds time and knows who we are at any point on our journey through life because God knows each of our life's moments fully at any one time.

So it is a pleasure to be with you here in this area and to worship and pray with all the other Christians who want what's best for you, their neighbour, in this one good life.

May the month of May bring you many joys as we battle on in life through all the difficulties it has a habit of throwing at us. And most of all may you be blessed, blessing others, knowing that people travel for miles to get a glimpse and a taste of the beauty we live in day by day. Knowing too that God loves and knows you more than you can begin to consider, and that the strength of knowing others for as long as we do in our rural settings may take a little work. However, if applied, it can be the most beautiful of experiences where people strive to build each other up.

*Martin Pritchard,  
Priest for Mission and Community  
Engagement,  
Denbigh Mission Area.*

**Thanks to all who supported the coffee morning for the churches of St Tyrnog and St Cwyfan. £400 was raised, an excellent sum indeed.**

# Llandyrnog Community Council

The following matters were discussed at the April meeting:

- ◆ We were informed by North Wales Police that there was only one reported incident during the last month – a person stealing scrap from the former Arla site. The police are following a line of enquiry thanks to neighbours who captured some footage containing vehicle registration numbers
- ◆ Election – there will be no election for the **community council** on 5<sup>th</sup> May – nine of the current members had decided to stay on the council and another new member will be welcomed at the May meeting, more details to follow. Cllrs A Rowley Williams and Cllr Dr Peter Gore Rees have decided not to put their names forward.
- ◆ Following an advert in *Llais Llandyrnog Voice*, no one has shown any interest in cleaning the Cocoa Rooms. It was decided to try and use social media and word of mouth.
- ◆ Jubilee Tree – it was decided to ask whether or not the County Council would consider planting a tree in the Llangwyfan area possibly around the White House layby.
- ◆ Planning – an amended application has been submitted regarding the land by Maes Llan. However the changes do not address the Community Councillors' original concerns regarding highway safety, the mix of properties nor surface water issues. Therefore the Community Council was unable to support the amended application.
- ◆ Sports Pavilion – The Community Council supported a change in the lease to allow the submission of a planning application to extend the pavilion.
- ◆ Community Needs Survey – it was decided to contact Cadwyn Clwyd to see how much a community needs survey would cost and whether the cost could be shared.
- ◆ Urdd Eisteddfod – it was decided to purchase banners and bunting to welcome visitors to the Eisteddfod which would be held in Kilford 30<sup>th</sup> May until 4<sup>th</sup> June.

# Seeds of Hope for Climate Justice 2021

This year the Wales Presbyterian Church (WPC), in partnership with Christian Aid's campaign, 'Seeds of Hope for Climate Justice' hopes to raise £250,000 for specific work among the poor and vulnerable people in Kenya and Honduras. To raise awareness amongst members for the appeal, Rev. Evan Morgan, President of the General Synod, WPC, plans to visit 14 Presbyteries of Wales and the Wirral, and walk 5K on average in each area.

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, Rev. Evan visited the Vale of Clwyd and started his walk from Dyffryn Chapel, following Llwybr Tyrnog up to Llangwyfan. The group stopped at the *Tŷ Modlen* memorial stone (1749) where there used to be a thatched cottage belonging to Magdalen (*Modlen*) Pierce and family. They were the first to open their home in 1749 to the Calvinistic Methodists in the Vale. Regular services were held at *Tŷ Modlen* until the first chapel was built at *Cefn Bithel* on the Bodfari Road, in 1777. Then in 1836 Dyffryn Chapel was built to accommodate more members.

The journey continued down, past the old TB Hospital, and St Cwyfan's Church. Then everyone enjoyed tea and cakes at the Dyffryn Vestry.

For further information about the appeal and the walk, visit <https://www.ebcpcw.cymru/en/moderators-walk/>



*Rev. Evan Morgan, 3rd left back row, joined by walkers from Llandyrnog, Denbigh and Prestatyn.*