

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

✉ llandyrnognews@gmail.com

£1

April 2026 – Volume 11 – Issue 7

Cae Nant project update



Hopefully, by the time you read this, the new accessible play equipment project will be almost complete. The project was started at Cae Nant on 16th March by Gwen Butler, Chair of the Community Council, wielding the spade, together with Vicky Owen and Councillor Emyr Morris, who have both been heavily involved in the project. We must thank Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund, National Lottery, MHC and Speddyd Storage Solutions for the generous financial contributions and the school children for presenting the cheques.

The play equipment has been chosen specifically to be accessible to all and includes a bird's nest swing, sunken trampoline, rope hammock and sensory panels.

There will be a second phase to this project which will include benches which are kindly being donated. Details to follow – so watch this space!



Around the village

Best wishes to Phillip Pattersby, Y Granar; Jack Palin, Maes Tyrnog, and Jean Gale who have been in hospital.

Happy birthday to Mari Williams, Maes Tyrnog, who recently hit the big 4-0, and a belated happy birthday to Ethan Morris, who had a lovely cake in the shop to celebrate. Since taking this photo below, we have heard that Ethan has broken his ankle. Get well soon!



Congratulations ...

... to Ray Hamill, The Bee on receiving a long -service award from Côr Meibion Trelawnyd. He has sung with the choir for twenty years.
... to Hywel Davies, formerly of Hafod y Bryn, on becoming chair of the North Wales Association of Agricultural Valuers.
...to Gareth and Iona Pierce, Plas Dolben, on celebrating their golden wedding anniversary.

Llandyrnog Roundabout to Groes Efa

Resurfacing works are due to take place on Monday 13th April and the road will be closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic for five days to enable the works to be carried out safely. Alternative diversion routes will be signed on site.

Coffee Morning



Fundraising to establish a Parkinsons' support group in Denbigh/Ruthin.

**Saturday, 25 April
at the Village Hall, 10-11.30**

Contributions to home produce stall will be gratefully received

*For further details,
contact Bryn at 07585 170592*

Llandyrnog Shop

Shop opening hours

Monday	8am – 5.30pm
Tuesday	8am – 5.30pm
Wednesday	8am – 5.30pm
Thursday	8am – 5.30pm
Friday	8am – 5.30pm
Saturday	8am – 4pm



07301 573362/01745 422099

 info@llandyrnogshop.com

 ShopLlandyrnog

 llandyrnogshop.com

Post Office opening hours

Monday–Friday:	9am – 5.30pm
Saturday:	9am – 12.30pm

Parcels ordered on-line can be collected from the Post Office, for your convenience.

Also, post all your items at the counter, since an income is received from this.

Cocoa Rooms events

Wed 1st	Paint and <i>paned</i>	12–3pm
Thu 2nd	Corn dolly workshop	6–9pm
Mon 6 th	Knitting group	10am
	Trefoil Guild	2pm
Tue 7 th	Friendship Group	7pm
Wed 8 th	Mothers' Union	2pm
	<i>Llais</i> committee meeting	7pm
Mon 13 th	Knitting group	10am
Wed 15 th	Tuesday Club	2pm
Mon 20 th	Knitting group	10am
Tue 21st	Community Council	7pm
Mon 27 th	Knitting group	10am
Wed 29 th	Paint and <i>paned</i>	12–3pm

St Cwyfan's

Thu 2 nd	Maundy Thursday Eucharist	6pm
Fri 3 rd	Good Friday quiet service	2pm
Sun 5 th	Eucharist	11.15am
Sun 12 th	Eucharist	11.15am
	Messy Church at the Village Hall	3.30pm
Sun 19 th	Morning prayer	11.15am
Sun 26 th	Eucharist	11.15am

Concert
Côr Meibion Caerwys
and local young musicians
Saturday 10 October at 7pm
Llandyrnog Village Hall
Tickets £10, children free
Proceeds to St Tyrnog's Church
[SAVE THE DATE!](#)

Village Hall Events

Wed 1 st	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat 4 th	Craft group	10am–4pm
Mon 6 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed 8 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Thu 9 th	Flower Show committee	7–8pm
Sat 11 th	Coffee morning – Fundraising for Cambodia trip	10am–11.30
Sun 12 th	Messy Church	3.30–5pm
Mon 13 th	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon 13 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Tue 14 th	Garden Club	7–9pm
Wed 15 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Mon 20 th	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon 20 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed 22 nd	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat 25 th	Coffee morning – Parkinson's	10am–11.30
Mon 27 th	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon 27 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Tue 28 th	Astronomy Society	7–9pm
Wed 29 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm

To book the **Cocoa Rooms**,
 contact Carolyn Langford-Jones:
 01824 790122

cocoaroomsbookings@gmail.com
 To book the **Village Hall**, contact Ivan
 Butler: 07799 570549 or by email
 ivanbutler897@btinternet.com

A very big thank you to all who supported the coffee morning towards St Cwyfan's and St Tyrnog's – the excellent total of £565 was raised.

Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

Dosbarth Tyfu are really enjoying their gymnastics classes with Miss Tammi at her gym in Denbigh, the trampoline is their favourite activity!

Diolch to Emma and all the shop staff who have been taking Dosbarth Hedfan in groups to show them the maths skills that are required for running the shop.

Dosbarth Hedfan were lucky enough to be chosen for a special visit from the National Library of Wales to celebrate St David's day and were kindly gifted books and t-shirts.



Congratulations to Ysgol Bryn Clwyd on winning the e-Steddfod for the third year running.

Urdd Eisteddfod

Best wishes to Medi and Mabon Evans, Leusa Jên Williams, and Nest Mars Lloyd, who will be competing in individual and duet competitions in the National Urdd Eisteddfod in Anglesey. Also to Tyler Chown and Mason Powell who will be competing in the instrumental ensemble competition with their band, Ambrose.

Congratulations to Nansi and Mabel who came second in a duet competition in the Denbigh Regional Eisteddfod. They're pupils at Ysgol Bro Cinmeirch and neither had sung a duet previously, let alone compete in a regional eisteddfod. Well done!

The Tuesday Club

We were privileged to be entertained by the pupils of Ysgol Bryn Clwyd at the village hall in our March Meeting.

All the children sang 'Dwi'n Gymro, dwi'n Gymraes' (I'm a Welsh boy, Welsh girl), and then we had a performance of items learnt for the e-steddfod, an on-line eisteddfod for all schools in Wales. A few days later, we were very pleased to hear that they had won this.

Mrs Lyon and the pupils were thanked for their performances, and then we had bara brith and Welsh cakes with our tea.

The next meeting will on Wednesday, 15 April at 2pm in the Cocoa Rooms. All welcome.



Astronomy Society

The rain stopped, the clouds cleared and we had a perfect evening for observations at our last meeting. A good turnout with some new faces. There were a range of telescopes set up giving everyone a chance to see so many great views including Saturn and the moon. We found M35 which is a prominent open star cluster located in the constellation Gemini (the twins), easily visible during winter months near Taurus and Auriga. It is situated roughly 2,970 light-years away and appears in the western part of Gemini, approximately 2.5 degrees north west of the star Eta Geminorum.

Later in the evening we moved inside to enjoy refreshments and to celebrate and discuss Galileo. Galileo Galilei (1564–1642) was an Italian astronomer, physicist, and



engineer often called the ‘father of modern science’ for pioneering the experimental method. He revolutionized astronomy by using early telescopes to discover Jupiter’s moons, sunspots, and lunar craters, supporting the heliocentric (sun-centered) view of the solar system.

The Lyrid meteor shower will be visible from 16–25 April, peaking on 22 April. Although it’s far from one of the most active yearly meteor showers, the Lyrids can still dazzle – some meteors have bright dust trails that glow in the sky for several seconds, so keep an eye out for them.

Our next meeting is in the lower room of the village hall at 7pm on Tuesday 28th April

There are lots to look forward to in the night sky, so ‘Keep looking up’ everyone.

TY CEFFYL BACH
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4 Kinmel Terrace, Llandyrnog



- ⇒ Unique gifts
- ⇒ Exclusive hand-forged and crafted horseshoe art and friends
- ⇒ Quirky gifts to suit all budgets
- ⇒ Open 11am–4pm, Thu– Sat



Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee:

Ruth Griffith (chair), Ivan Butler (treasurer and compositor), Anwen Davies (compositor and translator), Gwen Butler, Bryn Davies, Ann and Iestyn Jones-Evans, Rhian Jones, Rod and Margaret Williams



2 APRIL

AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

What is Autism?

Autism is a lifelong neurodevelopmental condition that affects how a person perceives, communicates, and interacts with the world. As a spectrum condition, its characteristics vary widely and may include differences in social interaction, communication, sensory processing, and a preference for routines. People with Autism may; find it hard to communicate and interact with other people, find it hard to understand how other people think or feel, find things like bright lights or loud noises overwhelming, stressful or uncomfortable, get anxious or upset about unfamiliar situations and social events, take longer to understand information and do or think the same things over and over

Autism is a form of neurodivergence—a different way of thinking and experiencing the world. Every autistic person is unique; some need significant support, while others live independently. Many also demonstrate strong focus and deep expertise in specific interests.

Some autistic people develop strong special interests—intense, highly focused passions for specific topics. These interests bring joy, reduce stress, and provide a way to understand the world, often involving deep research or collecting. They may last for years and can change over time.

Autistic traits can appear differently across individuals and may change over time or in certain situations, especially when a person is *masking*. Masking—or social camouflaging—is the conscious or unconscious effort to hide natural behaviours to fit social expectations, such as mirroring others or suppressing stimming. It is not “pretending”, but a demanding strategy used to navigate an environment that may feel challenging or unfamiliar.

For more information about Autism, visit: www.autism.org.uk

STAND North Wales CIC: Stronger Together for Additional Needs and Disabilities support families with children, young people and adults through a range of activities including parent / carer support groups, youth groups, adult groups, training, sensory lending library and more in the local areas. For more information email: admin@standnw.org.



Paul Clark

Conservatories



- ◆ Survey, supply and fit:
- ◆ conservatories
- ◆ orangeries
- ◆ verandas
- ◆ porches
- ◆ windows
- ◆ doors

07546 911871

Llandyrnog Summer League

Summer League is almost upon us again, with our league opener coming on Monday, April 13th as we head to Llanfair DC. This will be my 15th season as Manager, and as ever it is a huge honour and privilege to lead the village football club, alongside Chris Williams, who has again agreed to assist me.

I'm hoping we can have a successful season, but I know it won't be easy.

We have a mixture of talented young lads, and some steady 'old' heads who bring some experience to the squad. We will also welcome a few 'new' youngsters who have stepped up from junior football, looking to get their first minutes of senior football.

As ever, I look forward to seeing the large crowds who follow us home and away, and hope to hear them roar us on to some victories this season. The lads and me truly appreciate all the support we get.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank all of our sponsors for this upcoming campaign. Their generosity is incredible, and I would also like to thank all of the volunteers around the club, who have worked tirelessly, from working in the kitchen on match day, washing the kit, marking the pitch, doing the social media and graphics. These are the things that can

go unnoticed, but are pivotal for our club to function. And last but not least, thank you to the Golden Lion for agreeing to host us after each home game.

Keep an eye on our socials for any upcoming friendlies and league fixtures. I look forward to seeing you all. Here's to a great season!

Jimmy McNally

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Llandyrnog and District Summer League: Organised Summer football in the Vale of Clwyd began in 1926, and apart for a break during the 2nd World War, 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 soccer 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.

The League runs from mid April to the end of July and the matches are usually played on Monday and Thursday evenings. Visit <https://www.summerfootball.co.uk> for further information.



Last year's Summer League squad, with Jimmy It. back row.

Spotlight on . . . Huw Williams

What are your memories of your childhood and schooldays?

I grew up in Llanrwst with my parents and younger sister. My dad is a tree surgeon so when I was not in school, I would usually be chopping logs or helping my Taid and uncles on the farm. One of my earliest memories is delivering potatoes around Llanrwst with Nain Penloyn.

My dad played rugby for Nant Conwy and coached the youth team, so my Saturdays would be spent either watching him play rugby or coaching the youth team, and the summers down the cricket club in Gwydir Park, Llanrwst.

My primary school days at Ysgol Bro Gwydir were mostly spent playing football in the yard with my mates and swapping Panini football stickers. One of my proudest achievements was to be the first in the school to complete the 94/95 Premier League sticker book. Although I'll never forget finding a dead mouse in our classroom and our teacher, Mr Bryn, deciding to hide it in Mr Raymond's desk!

Secondary school was spent in Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy and I spent my time playing sports at any given opportunity. I played rugby for Clwb Rygbi Nant Conwy and cricket for Llanrwst Cricket Club. I started playing squash in the local leisure centre and a lot of my early teens were spent travelling to tournaments across Wales.

During sixth form I started working at the leisure centre after school and on weekends. It was great fun working there with my mates and coaching kids all types of sports. Although I didn't enjoy mopping the main hall every month quite so much!

And after leaving school?

I went to study law and politics at Cardiff University. I ended up living with eight other lads from across the UK, who remain close



friends twenty years later, and we had a brilliant time enjoying the extra-curricular activities of Cardiff.

I was also very fortunate to meet Mari, my wife, during university and as she was a Ruthin girl, that's how we eventually settled back in Dyffryn Clwyd.

After graduating, I found work as a civil servant and lived in Cardiff and the surrounding areas for ten years, spending my winters playing rugby for Clwb Rygbi Cymry Caerdydd and the summers playing cricket for Radyr Cricket Club. After ten years down south, we decided to move back up to North Wales before the birth of our eldest daughter.

What do you do in your spare time?

Most of my spare time is spent being a taxi driver to my kids. I coach my son's U8s football team at Denbigh FC and help with the junior cricket at Denbigh CC.

I still enjoy my sport and keeping fit, and I'm a member of Denbigh Harriers running club. Llandyrnog is a fantastic base for running and cycling, with the Clwydian Hills perfect for trail running, mountain biking and taking the dog for a walk.

The best thing I've done since moving to

Spotlight on . . . Huw Williams: ctd

Llandyrnog is join the summer league football team. It's been a great way of getting to know the locals, make new friends and take part in a truly unique competition. My two oldest kids have also been lucky enough to enjoy Jimmy and Ethan's football sessions on a Tuesday night and represented the village at the junior summer league tournaments.

Is ther a place that is important or significant to you?

Llanrwst, Cardiff and Llandyrnog are the three main bases of my life.

I do have a soft spot for Moel Arthur as it's my favourite place to go for a run or take the dog for a walk.

What annoys you?

Not much, but unnecessary requests for boundary extensions for clubs annoys me as secretary of Llandyrnog summer league.

What cheers you up

My kids – there's always something daft that they do or say that makes me smile.

Who would you invite for a meal, and why?

Mari Wynne, my wife – as life's so busy between work, the kids and social commitments, we rarely have the opportunity to go out for a meal by ourselves!

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

Recipe

Rhubarb Fool

Ingredients

400g rhubarb

150g caster sugar

1 orange (zest and juice)

1 tsp vanilla (bean paste)

200 mls double cream

2 tbsp icing sugar

200g plain yogurt

Cut the rhubarb into chunks, and put into a saucepan with the caster sugar, vanilla, orange juice and zest.

Cook for about 15 minutes, stirring over a medium heat until stewed down to a thick and glossy compote.

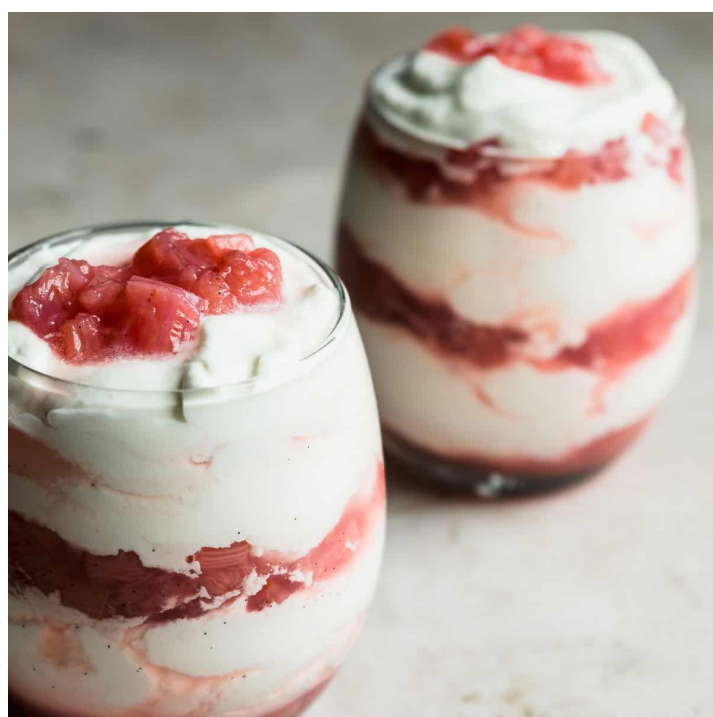
Set aside to cool (chilled in the fridge it will keep for three days).

While the rhubarb is cooling, whip the double cream and icing sugar together.

When it reaches a soft peak stage, fold in the yogurt with a metal spoon then add **most** (but not all) of the rhubarb, stirring carefully to combine.

Serve in glass dishes with the remaining compote spooned on top.

Gwen Butler



From the County Councillor

A note about the Welsh Election, Thursday 7th May

With the Welsh Parliament election coming soon, I thought it might be helpful to remind people that the way we vote in Wales has changed for this election.

In previous elections we had two votes – one for a local constituency Member of the Senedd and another for a regional list. From this election onwards, Wales will move to a new system with larger regional areas, where several Members of the Senedd will represent each region.

There will also be more Members of the Senedd elected to Cardiff Bay.

For many voters this may feel a little different, as you will now be voting mainly for party lists across a wider region rather than for a single local individual candidate. In that sense it may feel a bit more distant, or perhaps a little more ‘faceless’ than elections people have been used to in the past.

However, it is still important that people take part. Voting is one of the simplest ways we can all have a say in how our country is run. We won’t all share the same views, and even within the same household people often vote differently and that’s perfectly normal in a democracy.

What matters most is that people take the opportunity to vote. If we choose not to take part, it becomes very difficult afterwards to criticise the decisions that are made.

So when the time comes, please make the effort to go to the polling station, or use your postal vote if you have one. It only takes a few minutes, but it is an important part of how our democracy works.

Whatever your view, make sure your voice is heard.

Cllr Merfyn Parry

2026 Show

Llandyrnog Flower and Produce Show

The organisers of the Flower Show welcome offers of help with this year’s show, which will be held on 31st August. Preparation includes distribution of the schedule throughout the village, securing advertisers and sponsors, helping on the day, and generally contributing with ideas on how to make a success of the event. If you would like to volunteer, please email the Secretary at the address shown below. Usually we meet as a group, about four times for an hour or so between now and August. If you would like to help but are unable to attend the meetings, please get in touch and let us know.

Last year some people told us they would like to have sponsored a class at the show but were unaware of how to do so. Sponsorship is £6 per class and the sponsor’s name appears in the schedule, next to the class sponsored. If you would like to sponsor, please email the Secretary. We can accept cash, or payment by bank transfer.

This year we are extending our catchment area for exhibitors, to include Gellifor, which was previously right on the edge of our limit.

We will again be hiring a marquee to use in addition to the Village Hall. This provides an opportunity for us to welcome other organisations or activities to the show. If you’re part of a club or organisation that would like a space at the show or if you have an idea for an activity to run in conjunction with the show, please email the Secretary – Roger Warner, llandyrnogshow@gmail.com.

Becky Gittins, MP for Clwyd East

becky.gittins.mp@parliament.co.uk

Constituency office: 01352 871130

Cedar Activities Hub – the refurbishment

The MHC Cedar Activities Centre at Highfield Park has undergone an exciting transformation over recent months, delivering a vibrant, modern environment designed to enrich the daily lives of our residents and strengthen connections within the wider community.



This extensive refurbishment has reimaged every space where residents come together to learn, socialise, and grow. The newly-developed centre now features a welcoming café at its heart, alongside a refreshed therapeutic massage room, upgraded activities space, enhanced sports hall, stage theatre, sensory room, and fully modernised W/C facilities. Each area has been thoughtfully designed to promote wellbeing, creativity, and inclusion.

The impact of these improvements is already being felt. Residents now benefit from brighter, more accessible spaces that encourage participation, independence, and social interaction. The centre has become a hub of positivity supporting physical health through sport, emotional wellbeing through sensory and therapeutic spaces, and personal development through a wider range of activities and events.

Beyond its direct benefits for residents, the redevelopment has also delivered meaningful value to the local community. The addition of the café has not only created

a welcoming social space for visitors to MHC and families but has also generated three new job opportunities, contributing to local employment and skills development.

Overall, the transformation of Cedar Activities Centre represents a significant investment in people enhancing quality of life for residents, creating opportunities for the community, and building a stronger, more inclusive environment for everyone.

Recruitment event

Registered managers from our MHC homes recently attended a recruitment event at 1891 in Rhyl, hosted by Working Denbighshire. As an employer within the Denbighshire community, we always strive to recruit local people. This event was just one of many that our Registered Managers have attended and will continue to attend to drive local employment.

Please do visit our website to view our full range of opportunities mhc-uk.com.



Denbighshire County Council

Merfyn Parry



Contact details

Phone: 07836 208446

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

Or leave a message on Facebook

Dyffryn Chapel

Y Gymdeithas A quiz was held on Monday February 23rd, and very interesting and educational questions were prepared by Angharad and Aled Rhys, Denbigh. Rhys was the president and Ann proposed a vote of thanks.

On Monday 2nd March, the Gymdeithas Winter programme ended with a wonderful St David's Day Supper. Iona, Olwen, Catrin and Ffiona were in charge.

Then Lona Jones introduced four pupils from Ysgol Glan Clwyd – Erin, Hawys, and Owain, with Mared playing the harp. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the solos, duets, folk singing and recitals on the harp. Dafydd was the president and Hywel thanked everybody. A wonderful evening!



Services

05/04	10.00	Circuit Service – Dyffryn
12/04	11.00	Rev. Brian Huw Jones
19/04	10.00	Discussion and refreshments – Rich
26/04	9.45	Rev. Andras Iago

Friendship Group

In February the Friendship Group visited the Ironwork Centre near Oswestry. We saw the knife angel, or the National Monument Against Violence and Aggression – a 27ft sculpture created by Alfie Bradley and the Ironwork Centre. Made from over 100,000 seized and surrendered blades, it tours the UK to raise awareness of knife crime and promote education.

In March we had a talk from the Ruthin Beekeeping Association. We learnt many interesting facts – there are between 50,000 and 60,000 bees in a hive during the summer. There is one queen, who lives for five years. 5–10 per cent are drones (males) and only live for 6–11 weeks. The rest are workers (females) who also only live for 6–11 weeks. The queen lays up to 2000 eggs a day. Bees travel three miles from the hive to forage.

The March visit was to Chirk Castle and we also went to the cinema to see *Mothers Pride*.

The April meeting will be on Tuesday 7th at 7.30pm when Graham Pickles will be answering our questions on gardening. The April visit will be to Plas Newydd, Llangollen.



The members at Chirk Castle.



The Wright Life



April springs into action this year with Easter. Will we see an Easter swallow? It was a bad year for my swallows last year with hardly any chicks being hatched due to predation by magpies and crows. I am hoping that some will return and I will hear that high-pitched musical twittering and chatting from the electric wires and see their exceptionally agile, graceful acrobatics with birds shooting through the yard. They are experts at low-altitude flight (flying at 17–22 mph), using their pointed wings and deeply forked tail rudders to perform sudden tight turns, sharp swoops and mid-air somersaults to catch insects and ending their display by darting into Bob's stable to find a nest. My neighbour doesn't have swallows, but they get swifts who nest under the eaves of their house. You can tell them apart as swifts are dark brown with long, sickle-shaped wings, and swallows have glossy blue upperparts, white bellies and red throats with forked tails. Whichever species you have, it's a sign summer is nearly here.

My tomato plants were sown earlier in the year and by April they are looking good, keeping warm on the bedroom windowsill. There is still time to sow tomatoes, as seedlings emerge 3–10 days after sowing, appearing with two smooth simple leaves called cotyledons. Shortly after, the first set of serrated, lobed true leaves develop and they take on the appearance of adult tomato leaves. It's too early to put them into the greenhouse as I don't heat mine; they will stay warm and toasty inside until early May. I have grown my usual Alicante and Golden Ball tomatoes (Garden Club seed swap). I plan to pop to Green Fingers and get a couple of Black Cherry plants (if there are any left, as I missed them last year – they go so quickly) as these are sweet and perfect in salads.

Before the busy period there is one job I need to do which is to clean the greenhouse out. It's a vital job to remove algae, dirt and mould and ensuring any overwintering pests are eradicated. For maximum light transmission, the glass needs to be cleaned too. I also need to repair or replace some of the glass as it took a battering in the windy weather we had over the winter. Unusually the prevailing wind came from the south-east and damaged some glass panes as well as loosening some roof slates. I taped up the broken panes of glass, but these will need replacing. Does anyone have any old greenhouse glass? If you do, can you get in touch? The modern polycarbonate sheets are not strong enough for Welsh windy weather, they flex in the wind and pop out leaving a gaping hole. In fact, years ago we lost a greenhouse over the hedge during a winter storm. We were woken by a telephone call from Mr Jones saying, 'Your greenhouse is in my field'. We didn't believe him, but yes it was. The replacement was fixed down with heavy metal pins and set into concrete by my brother who was working as an engineer on Liverpool docks at the time and so had plenty of construction-grade materials. Summer will soon be here and the greenhouse will be overflowing with seedlings ready for the new season.

Hazel



Messy Church

In our March session we looked forward to Mothering Sunday so we made cards and planted flower pots for our Mums, and made our own Messy Church family tree.



We also heard the story of Moses, whose mother loved him so much she was willing to send him away to keep him safe.

Our next session will be on 12th April at 3.30pm as usual and all are welcome to join us. Children, please bring an adult with you to share the fun.

Coffee Morning

**Saturday, 11 April
at the Village Hall,
10-11.30am**



Fundraising for Tyler Chown and Mason and Lloyd Powell who will be embarking on a volunteering expedition in July. The project will improve sanitation, education and food and water security in rural Cambodia. All welcome!

The Shop



February saw Llandyrnog shop thriving, especially with visitors making good use of the Warm Hub offering of free hot drinks, and food for kids. Since we began in mid-December we have made 338 teas or coffees, 94 slices of afternoon toast, 18 children's meals and 49 juices! It really lifts the community feel of the shop having locals pop in for a chat. Unfortunately, the free warm hub offerings came to an end on March 27th.

A real highlight for staff at the shop was welcoming three groups of children from Ysgol Bryn Clwyd to come and learn about money, specifically cash. In this digital age it was becoming apparent that money-counting skills were declining amongst our visiting children. 30 children got to practise buying various shop items using loose cash from a big bowl of money! They were encouraged to work out the change they required in return, plus the older children were all given £5 to buy a meal without going over budget. Children from Ysgol Bryn Clwyd have also helped decorate our window recently with some lovely Mothers' Day drawings, I hope you have enjoyed them as much as we have.

Life can be tough and we all need some advice sometimes. The shop hosts the Citizen Advice on the first Friday of the month between 10am and mid-day. There is a private, confidential space in the back where you can come and seek advice. You may also need advice from the Police occasionally and we invite you for a cuppa with a copper once a month. The date and time is announced the Sunday beforehand and will be shared on Facebook.

We are pleased to announce that the monthly scrabble club has returned. If you have a way with words, speak to Ruth Griffith. We will post the next date on our Facebook page.

Garden Club



A fantastic turnout for our meeting in March with the lower room in the village hall full to capacity. Iwan Edwards gave an inspirational talk about working with and promoting wildlife in our gardens and open spaces. We learnt that worms are vital 'ecosystem engineers' which can boost soil health, fertility and structure both on the surface and deep within our soil. He enlightened us that greenfly (aphids) are also important in the garden despite John's view that they are a pest (sorry, John!). They are essential for many wildlife species from ladybirds to hoverfly larvae and provide a beneficial food source for our insects which in turn keep the garden ecosystem in balance. There were tips on how to make our gardens more wildlife-friendly through planting insect-friendly plants, providing wildlife habitats and for us all to not be so 'tidy' in our gardens. Finally we were taken to the many beautiful gardens he has visited through S4C's programme, *Garddio A Mwy*.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14th at 7pm in the Lower Room at the Village Hall with Phil Lewis from Smith Farm (Pentrefelin Farm). We hope to learn about Phil's market garden which produces

seasonal vegetables using regenerative, low-input methods that prioritise soil health and biodiversity. Phil grows using traditional techniques, with a strong focus on regenerative farming, healthy soils and supporting wildlife.

If you are interested in joining the club, why not pop along or email us at LlandyrnogGardeners@outlook.com

Pothole planting

There has been a spate of guerilla planting of potholes around the village. We are pleased to note that native plants are being used and hope the Community Council will include it in the biodiversity plan for 2026.



A word from the priest

Mary Magdalene's personal account of the resurrection

Have you ever lost someone who you really love? On Thursday Jesus was arrested. On Friday, crucified like a criminal. I still can't really take it in. There wasn't time to give him a proper burial before the Sabbath. He was placed in a tomb but he needs to be buried properly. He needs to be anointed with spices. He needs someone to tend to his wounds. Someone to make sure he is ready to rise on the last day. And that someone is me.

That is why this morning I carefully made my way out the city gates to the tomb before the sun even rose, with some of the other women. I didn't need to walk much further before my heart stuck in my throat. The stone that had been there across the entrance of the tomb, the stone to keep him safe, had moved. I remember standing there, trying to take a deep breath, to think clearly. I knew this was the place. The Romans hadn't kept their promise. The soldiers hadn't kept him safe. They had let someone steal his body. He wasn't going to get a proper burial after all.

I ran as quickly as I could back to where the disciples were hiding. The men might have been too scared to watch him die, but surely they would help me now, help me to find him. After I gasped out my message, Peter and John ran with me back to the tomb. They went inside and saw that Jesus' grave clothes had been left behind. Someone had not only taken him, but they had left any sense of a decent burial behind. Not knowing what to do, they walked back to their lodgings, leaving me here, alone with my grief.

And that is why I am pacing in the burial garden. I don't really know what I can do now. I edge closer to the tomb to see if I can see some trace of where he might have gone. I crouch at the entrance and peer into

the tomb, but the scene doesn't make sense. There are two men sat inside. How did they get in there? No one has come past me since Peter and John have left. Surely the disciples should have seen them? My head struggles to make sense of what I can see. When suddenly one of the men speaks to me. "Woman, why are you crying?" Obviously he didn't know Jesus. He doesn't realise he is missing. That this tomb belongs to someone else. "They have taken my Lord away and I don't know where they put him". Somehow my sense of decency kicks in. I shouldn't be here, talking alone to two unknown men, however kindly their words are meant. I turn to leave.

Someone is standing behind me. "Woman why are you crying? Who is it that you are looking for?" It must be the gardener, come to check that the garden is tidy before relatives come to mourn their dead. He might know what has happened to Jesus. "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him".

"Mary"

The voice is gentle and soft. But there is no mistaking it. I have to concentrate hard to make sure I hear what he is saying to me. To know that this isn't a dream. "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Of course, it really is him. I want to sit by his feet forever. To breathe in every essence of his life. To gaze in adoration at this man. To hang onto every word that he might utter. But I know that this time sitting and listening will not be enough. I have to tell the disciples that their master has somehow risen from the dead. That life really will never be the same again, for I have seen the Lord! He is risen!

Rev. Rebecca Sparey

The pink tractor



You may have noticed over the last few weeks (well, my grand-daughter did and was very excited about it) a very splendid brand new Valtra tractor (she was not interested in the make – more in the colour) wrapped in pink.

Why pink? The tractor is owned by Matt, Elinor and Jac, Berth Bach, Bodfari who have a very successful agricultural contracting business. Unfortunately Elinor lost her sister in law, Becky, a mother of three young children, to breast cancer at a very young age. The tractor is wrapped in pink in memory of Becky – her name is on the side.

It will be going to shows and on tractor runs to raise awareness of breast cancer. There is a JustGiving page set up to collect donations to Cancer Research Wales – visit the website and search for Becky Lloyd.

Gethin, who usually drives the tractor, has agreed to a bit of ribbing about driving a pink tractor, providing the wrap is removed in twelve months and then returned to its factory colour – red, I think – but no doubt will still be called Becky. So keep your eye out for this lovely tractor and give Gethin a wave – he's a very happy chappie and may give you a toot back.

Bryn Davies

Happy memories



Thanks to Menna Ellis, Gader Goch for her response to this photo:

I worked in the old shop in the late 1960s, on weekends and during school holidays, for Clwyd and Dorice Wynne. I also prepared goods boxes at the back of the shop for Eddie Wynne to deliver locally. Eddie also drove school taxis. Dorice and Gwyneth (of Bodfari) ran the post office then. Happy memories of working with the Wynnes!

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Llandyrnog Community Council

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MARCH MEETING

- ◇ DCC has attended the Lôn Goch/ Cerrigllwydion junction to jet the gully and culvert to try ease the flooding problem.
- ◇ A notice of co-option has been sent to DCC and awaiting a response. If no more than ten people have requested an election, then the community council will be allowed to proceed to co-opt a new member.
- ◇ The PCSO was not present but had forwarded a written report of reported incidents since last month that included:
 - ◇ A threat towards another person
 - ◇ A suspicious incident reported where males were acting suspiciously and enquiring for land to rent
 - ◇ A road traffic incident – driver failed to leave details

- ◇ A missing child – found shortly after being reported to Police
- ◇ It is disappointing that DCC has not come up with a solution to the parking problem around the Clwydfryn junction, addressing concerns about buses and emergency vehicles finding it difficult to access.
- ◇ An update on Cae Nant reported that the work had started on site and, weather permitting, would last ten to fifteen working days.

Colourful recycled plastic fencing materials have been ordered and quotations expected for erecting fences and gates to make the area more secure.

MHC has been very generous and given the Council £3000 towards the cost of the project. Vicky Owen was thanked her perseverance and the Community Council is going to apply for the commuted sum earmarked for Llandyrnog. Cllr Butler has had a meeting with the officer who indicated that the application will be considered in June.

Trefoil Guild

Members enjoyed a time reminiscing over International camps in Switzerland and Greenland, a visit to the world centre in Switzerland and a training trip to Russia to introduce Girl Guiding to Russian girls and adults which proved to be very successful. Dewi Sant was marked with a pretty display of daffodils. The year's programme was organised, then we had tea and a raffle.

The next meeting will be a talk on food waste by Nia Williams on April 13th.

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