

The Puffin

FREE community magazine ● published quarterly

Number 57 ● August 2026



Serving...

- Beaumaris
- Glanrafon
- Llanddona
- Llandegfan
- Llanfaes
- Llangoed
- Llansadwrn
- Penmon

...and on-line

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Some of this year's lovely wild roses in Llanddona (photographs: Andrew Perrott)

Award Winning

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- **Your forthcoming events:** let us know if you're organising or taking part in an event!
✉ puffinpages@gmail.com
- **Your stories, articles and poems:** do you have an interesting or exciting story to tell, or a poem that you'd like us to publish?
We'd love to feature it, bilingually if possible, so send us an e-mail, and a picture or two as well.
✉ puffinpages@gmail.com
- **Deadline:** please note that 1 October is the deadline for anything that you'd like us to feature in **The Puffin** 58, November 2026.
There's more information about **The Puffin** on page 47.
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- **Businesses:** why not advertise in **The Puffin**? Our rates are very competitive, starting from £32.00 for a quarter-page advertisement.
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- **The Puffin by post:** we don't offer a subscription service, but if you have problems obtaining a printed copy, send us an A4-sized stamped (£2.00) and self-addressed envelope to the address below and we'll be pleased to send you the latest issue:
✉ Andrew Perrott
The Puffin by post
Glangors
Llanddona
Anglesey
LL58 8TU

Editorial: the weather

John Nunn

Welcome to **The Puffin** 57.

Our last two editions have had definite themes to them, with **The Puffin** 55 targeting debt and the many ways of dealing with it and **The Puffin** 56 discussing the wonderful sense of community which we have in our locality.

Maintaining that principle, we're working on another weighty task connected with the issue of mental health, this time the subject of loneliness. We had hoped to publish it in this edition, but there's more to be done to complete it so it'll be appearing in **The Puffin** 58, November 2026.

To change the subject completely, at the time of writing we were experiencing a prolonged period of dry weather, coolish and mostly very windy, not the kindest weather in the run-up to the NGS Llanddona Village Open Gardens Day. Two Editorial Team members who were participating had been grizzling to me about it, and I can sympathise!

I spent the fourth week of April away from home and returned to find a number of my pot plants completely dried up and dead. I hadn't anticipated outdoor plants needing such watering care in April: "March winds and April showers, etc."

My personal opinion, I know not universally shared, is that the climate is definitely changing. As an aficionado of the BBC's *Gardener's World*, I'm aware that Monty Don is exhorting us to go with the change and not fight it: our gardening habits need to change to suit the changing circumstances. As someone who goes away quite a lot that is going to require some deep thinking on my part: maybe you find yourself in a similar situation. Of course, by the time you read this we may have had weeks of unbroken rainfall and be desperate for a bit of sun.

Whatever the case, we are still privileged to live in this "pretty, pointy piece of Anglesey", and whether you are battling on with all your traditional planting (this probably works if you are at home most of the time) or looking to change to new and exciting "different" planting, or indeed just enjoying looking at other people's planting, on behalf of **The Puffin**'s Editorial Team I wish you an enjoyable and fulfilling summer.

Don't forget that the NGS Open Gardens Scheme runs through into September: there was a wealth of information in **The Puffin** 56, pages 27-30; it's available on-line at www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/ if you don't have a copy to hand.

It'll be reappearing in **The Puffin** 60, May 2027, so be sure to pick up a copy.

This month's cover: another puffin for The Puffin!

Annette Jones

My painting is of a puffin taking flight against an early morning sky, beak full of sand eels.

The Puffin 57 • August 2026

I first came to painting through an interest in Japanese art: pen and ink and, occasionally, gouache. As a new interest in watercolour and colour therapy developed and my love of flowers and gardening grew I moved towards botanicals and birds. I find the vibrancy of the beautiful colours very therapeutic in helping to lift the mood on a dull winter's day.

I have no formal training in art and am self-taught. I wish that I had discovered watercolour earlier in my life: it has been a great outlet and has helped me through my journey with ill-health and dark days.



The Puffin's designer/typesetter says: Annette's lovely puffin was set against an atmospheric misty sky. Unfortunately that sky meant that none of **The Puffin**'s white cover text could be seen so, with Annette's approval I dipped my toes into the murky world of AI (artificial intelligence) in the form of ChatGPT and asked it to 'provide a pale blue sky shading to orange as with an early morning sky', and voilà... you see the result on the front cover. It could just as easily be an evening sky...

Morning or evening, it provides a nice foil for a beautiful depiction of a puffin gathering food for its pufflings.

Some useful services

Regular readers will have noticed that *Some useful services* has been absent from **The Puffin** for a while. Now that the recent changes to **The Puffin**'s layout have settled down *Some useful services* will be returning in November.

There's not enough space for us to provide a complete listing in every edition, so we'll be splitting it into two, with each part appearing in alternate editions.

We had hoped to feature the first part of it this month, but are very short of space, so it will now appear in **The Puffin** 59, February 2027.

What's happening where?

Note

We do our best to ensure that dates, times and so on are accurate. Information can change, though, so do check beforehand.

Editorial information and other 'useful to know' stuff

You'll find this on page 47.

Anglesey, Gwynedd

- **Coed Lleol/Small Woods:** established in 1988, Small Woods is the national organisation for small woodlands, and has a significant track record in managing Social Forestry projects: promoting sustainable management of small woodlands for social, environmental and economic benefit.



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Coed Lleol/Small Woods in Wales was established in 2002 and helps to improve the health and wellbeing of people across Wales through woodland- and nature-based activities.

Our sessions are free and open to all, but booking is essential. We also deliver training in woodland management and nature-based activities. In Anglesey we are funded to run a range of six-week courses and one-off sessions, and we also run education sessions in schools across Anglesey, supporting learning outside the classroom.

For updates on any forthcoming events or sessions, e-mail Vivienne Plank to be added to our Anglesey newsletter:

✉ vivienneplank@smallwoods.org.uk

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Facebook • [Sarah's Gardens](https://www.facebook.com/SarahsGardens)

or visit our website:

📱 Coed Lleol/Small Woods
www.smallwoods.org.uk/en/coedlleol/



**CoedLleol
SmallWoods**

- **Grŵp Natur Seiriol:** we are a small and friendly volunteer group helping to maintain local nature reserves, the foot-paths within them and those giving access to them. We look after:
 - o **Llanddona:** the common land and Llaniestyn Common
 - o **Llandegfan:** the Cyttir Mawr nature reserve and Cylch Cyttir
 - o **Llangoed:** the Aberlleiniog woods.

The work we do is mainly maintaining and improving foot-paths and controlling vegetation to improve and preserve the habitat of the local nature reserves.

We meet on Tuesdays, 10.00am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-4.00pm, and rotate between the three areas.

Please get in touch if you would like more information or would like to come along and see what we do.

✉ Janet Robinson, Secretary
janetr172@hotmail.co.uk

📱 Grŵp Natur Seiriol
www.facebook.com/groups/1123620066159478/

We are funded by the National Lottery's Awards For All programme.



- **Anglesey & Gwynedd Widowed Group:** please note that this is *not* a dating site; the organisers are volunteers and the group is not a charity.

It's a group for widows and widowers aged over 50 (suggested age only) who live permanently in the Anglesey, Bangor and Caernarfon (Gwynedd) areas.

We meet for regular get-togethers: coffee, lunch, days out, leisure activities, evenings out, theatre, concerts, coach trips and so on, and holidays, UK and abroad, and cruises as well.

This is not a support group, just a group of people who have been through the loss of a spouse or long-term partner, and who can empathise with each other but are ready to start enjoying life again.

"We have acquired five new members through The Puffin!"

We use www.meetup.com for information about events and to keep in touch. Search *Anglesey & Gwynedd widowed* and you will find us.

We are a bilingual group, with membership at roughly 50/50, so we organise Welsh events as well as English.

If you'd like more information please contact me, Lyn Roberts.

☎ 07474 224246

✉ lyn2910@yahoo.co.uk

- **PALS:** mae PALS yn grŵp cyfeillgarwch ar gyfer pobol dros 55 yng Nghwynedd ac Ynys Môn sy'n dymun cymdeithasu a mwynhau cwmni pobol eraill tebyg.

Croeso i ddynion a ferched sengl, wedi ysgaru neu'n weddw ac efallai yn unig. **Ein harwyddair: 'Ein nod yw cyfarfod fel dieithriaid a gadael fel ffrindiau'.**

Rydym yn gobeithio trefnu nosweith-iau lle gallwn gyfarfod a gwneud ffrindiau newydd. Rydym yn cyfarfod ar yr 28ain o bob mis am:

📍 Gwesty Carreg Bran Hotel
Church Lane
Llanfairpwll
Anglesey
LL61 5YH

Am fanylion ynghylch sut i ymuno, ffoniwch fi, Eryl Casey (Cymraeg a Saesneg yn cael eu siarad), ar:

☎ 07743 777248

Sylwer nad ydym yn safle dyddio.

- **PALS:** PALS is a group for people over the age of 55 dwelling in Anglesey and Gwynedd who like to be sociable and enjoy the company of other like-minded people.

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Our aim is to arrange evenings where we can meet and make new friends. We meet on the 28th of each month at:

📍 Gwesty Carreg Bran Hotel
Church Lane
Llanfairpwll
Anglesey
LL61 5YH

For details of how to join, telephone me, Eryl Casey (Welsh and English spoken), on:

☎ 07743 777248

Please note that we are not a dating site.

- **Carers Outreach Service:** do you look after someone?
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- Is a voice for carers
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in Anglesey, Gwynedd and Conwy.

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☎ 01248 370797

🌐 www.carersoutreach.org.uk

✉ help@carersoutreach.org.uk

📍 Unit G1, Intec
Parc Menai
Bangor
LL57 4FG



Bangor

- **Pontio:** Pontio is Bangor University's centre that offers an exciting and unique blend of arts and culture, innovation, education and community.

Pontio showcases the very best from the world of arts and culture, including drama, music, dance, and contemporary circus, local and international.

It serves as a focal point for students, with new Students' Union offices and teaching and social spaces to be enjoyed by all, and adds significantly to the amenities in Bangor and the surrounding areas for the economic, social and cultural benefit of the University and of the wider community.

Pontio has been funded by Bangor University, with assistance from the Welsh Government, the European Regional Development Fund and the Arts Council of Wales.

📍 Pontio
Deiniol Road
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Gwynedd
LL57 2TQ

✉ info@pontio.co.uk

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📅 Events
<https://tickets.pontio.co.uk/Online/default.asp>

📍 Pontio Bangor
www.facebook.com/PontioBangor/

☎ Box Office
01248 382828



Beaumaris

- **Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club:** Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club fielded eight teams last year in five different Leagues.

We would like to welcome new members, young or old, male or female.

The Club is at Happy Valley by the beautiful Beaumaris Castle.

For more information and/or a taster session please contact Dave Mathias, Secretary.

✉ davemathias49@gmail.com

☎ 07712 121147

📍 Beaumaris Bowling Club
<https://beaumarisbowlingclub.yolasite.com/>

🌐 Beaumaris Bowling Club
www.facebook.com/people/Beaumaris-Bowling-Club/100063490482942/

See also page 43.

- **Beaumaris Cricket Club:** we welcome new members; our average age is somewhere around 50, a few younger and some older! If you'd like to join us give one of us a call:

Chairman: Ian Gorst Jones

☎ 01248 811248

Captain: David Graves

☎ 07851 632881

Vice-Captain: Evan Hughes

☎ 07999 505001

Match organiser: Philip Lewis

☎ 07484 262297

🌐 www.facebook.com/people/Beaumaris-Cricket-Club/100057043976040/

- **Beaumaris Over 50s Club:** you're welcome to join us if you're 50+ and live in or near Beaumaris.

Club meetings take place at 2.00pm on the last Monday of the month.

Annual cost of membership is only £5; contributions are taken at each meeting towards tea/coffee and raffle prizes, and we extend a warm welcome to new and old members.

For more details, please contact the Chair, Mike Davies:

☎ 01248 812157, 07483 827069

✉ dmikedmail@gmail.com

📍 The Iorwerth Rowlands Centre
Steeple Lane
Beaumaris
LL58 8AE

- **Beaumaris Singing For Pleasure Group:** do you want to:
 - Improve your memory?
 - Relieve stress and anxiety?
 - Boost your immune system?
 - Improve your lung function?
 - Uplift your mood?
 - Make new friends?

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If the answer's YES, join us on Mondays, 11.00am-12.00 noon: £2.50 per session, including tea, coffee, biscuits. New members will be very welcome!

For more information, please contact Mike Davies:

☎ 01248 812157, 07483 827069

✉ dmikedmail@gmail.com

📍 The Iorwerth Rowlands Centre
Steeple Lane
Beaumaris
LL58 8AE

- **Beaumaris Film Night:** put the first Thursday of every month in your diary! Have a look below at what's coming in the next three months.

Refreshments are available from 7.00pm; the film starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are still just £5 each and are available in advance from reception, or telephone to book.

📍 Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris
Leisure Centre
Rating Row
Beaumaris
Anglesey
LL58 8AL

☎ 01248 811200

Volunteers are always welcome; please contact Stephen Marsden for more information.

☎ 07774 699685

Put these dates in your diary:

- **6 August:** *I Swear* (2025), starring Robert Aramayo, Maxine Peake, Somerled Campbell.

Compassionate and funny real-life drama about

puffinpages@gmail.com

Tourette's sufferer John Davidson and his quest for a



normal life. Robert Aramayo won this year's BAFTA Film Award for his leading role. (2hr 00min; 12A)

- **3 September:** *Roofman* (2025), starring Channing Tatum, Kirsten Dunst, LaKeith Stanfield.



A charismatic criminal hides in a toy store. There, he adopts a new identity and becomes involved with an employee, beginning a relationship as unlikely as it is risky. (2hr 6min; 15)

- **1 October:** *The Christophers* (2025), starring Michaela Coel, Ian McKellen, Jessica Gunning.



The children of a once-famous artist hire a forger to




Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol

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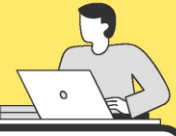




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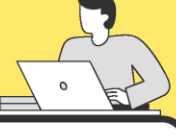




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CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MONDAY 10 AUGUST

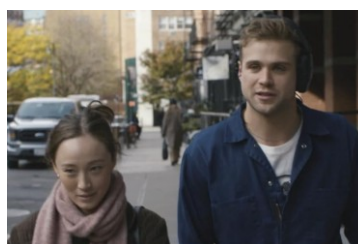
complete some unfinished, abandoned long ago canvases so they'll have an inheritance when he dies. (1h 40min; 15)

- 5 November: *Rebuilding* (2025), starring Josh O'Connor, Lily LaTorre, Meghann Fahy.



After wildfires take his ranch, a cowboy winds up in a FEMA camp. He finds community with others who lost homes, while reconnecting with his daughter and ex-wife. (1h 36 min; PG)

- 3 December: *Tuner* (2025), starring Leo Woodall, Dustin Hoffman, Alisen Richmond-Peck.



A talented piano tuner who suffers from hyperacusis discovers an unexpected aptitude for cracking safes, turning his life upside down. (1h 47 min; 15)

- Could you be a Firefighter? Join the team at Beaumaris Fire Station!

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service is continuing its recruitment drive for On-Call Firefighters based at Beaumaris Fire Station.

Turn to page 30 to read more about it



- Clwb Rhwyfo Beaumaris Rowing Club: there's a long history of competitive rowing on the Strait. The Club runs taster events during April and September for people to learn about, and have a go at, rowing a Celtic. It doesn't matter if you've never rowed before; we'll show you the ropes.

Visit our website if you'd like to know more about us.

www.beaumarisrowingclub.org.uk/



enquiries@canolfanbeaumaris.org.uk

- Bridge Club: if you enjoy playing cards and think playing in a club would be fun, why not consider bridge?

If you're an experienced card player bridge may not be as difficult as you think if you have some help to get started. I'm an experienced player who would be happy to take on a few learners with a view to their playing in a local club quite quickly.

I'd also be happy to update and improve the knowledge of anyone who is a 'rusty' player keen to join others enjoying the game.

It's a small and friendly Club. We hold meetings each Mon-

www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/

day morning.

For more information please phone me, Gayda Young.

☎ 01248 564249.

- **Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris Leisure Centre:** There's so much happening at the Canolfan!

Read more about it on pages 24-25, and see the Canolfan and Seiriol Alliance advertisements on this page and pages 12, 14 and 16.

📧 Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris
Leisure Centre
Rating Row
Beaumaris
Anglesey
LL58 8AL

☎ 01248 811200

✉ enquiries@canolfanbeaumaris.org.uk

📧 Canolfan Beaumaris
www.canolfanbeaumaris.org.uk/



- **Dancing at the Canolfan!** Want to learn to dance? You can dance but want to improve?

Come along to Caroline's friendly classes at Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris on Fridays, 7.00pm-9.00pm; everybody welcome.

☎ 01248 811200

- **Seiriol Good Turn Scheme:** if you live in the Seiriol Ward area (Beaumaris, Glanrafon, Llandegfan, Llanddona, Llanfaes, Llangoed, Llansadwrn and Penmon) the Seiriol Good Turn Scheme may be able to help you.

The services offered by the Scheme are provided by volunteers, and offer help to any person living in the Seiriol Ward who, due to illness, incapacity or some other need, may benefit from the help that is available.

If you feel that the Scheme could help you please telephone us and we will arrange a home visit to discuss your needs.

☎ 01248 305014
Monday-Friday,
9.00am-5.00pm

See the Canolfan and Seiriol Alliance advertisements on this page and pages 12, 14 and 16.



- **Hwyllo Treftadaeth Afon Menai:** mae Hwyllo Treftadaeth Afon Menai (HTAM) yn Elusen Gofrestredig, wedi'i lleoli yn Gallows Point, Biwmares.

Un o brif flaenoriaethau HTAM yw cadw'r hyn sydd yn ôl pob tebyg yn un o'r fflydoedd treftadaeth hynaf o gychoed hwyllo yn y byd, ar yr un pryd yn cynnig hwyllo at ddibenion ieuchyd a lles.

Dewch i hwyllo gyda ni, fel unigolyn neu fel elusen, sefydliad neu wasanaeth! Gallech elwa o hwyllo er mwyn ieuchyd a lles, efallai fel profiad unigryw. Efallai y byddwch yn cael blas ar hwyllo ac eisiau cymryd rhan yn fwy a hwyllo'n rheolaidd!

Rydym wedi cynhyrchu ein rhaglen hwyllo ar gyfer 2026, felly os hoffech ragor o wybodaeth e-bostiwrch Victoria Craig.

puffinpages@gmail.com

✉ vcraig.mshs@yahoo.co.uk



- **Menai Strait's Heritage Sailing:** Menai Strait's Heritage Sailing (MSHS) is a Registered Charity, based at Gallows Point, Beaumaris.

One of MSHS's main priorities is the preservation of what is probably one of the oldest heritage fleets of sailing yachts in the world, at the same time offering sailing for health and wellbeing purposes.

Come and sail with us, as an individual or a charity, organisation or service! You could benefit from sailing for health and wellbeing purposes, as a one-off experience, perhaps. You might just get the bug for sailing and want to get more involved and sail more regularly!

We've produced our sailing programme for 2026, so if you'd like more information please e-mail Victoria Craig.

✉ vcraig.mshs@yahoo.co.uk

- **Royal Anglesey Yacht Club:** The Royal Anglesey Yacht Club (RAYC) can trace its roots back to 1802 when the Beaumaris Book Society was founded at Ye Olde Bulls Head Inn, Beaumaris.

In 1826 the Society moved to Green Edge, where the club house is today. Members of the Society played a prominent part in the Beaumaris regatta of 1830 and in the years to come. In 1885, the year after Bangor University was established, the club became the RAYC after Queen Victoria granted the club a Royal Warrant.

The RAYC has two adopted classes of yacht: the Fife One Design and the Menai Strait One Design.

📧 Royal Anglesey Yacht Club
6/7 Green Edge
Beaumaris
Anglesey
LL58 8BY

📧 Royal Anglesey Yacht Club
<https://royalangleseyyc.org.uk>

✉ secretary@royalanglesey.org.uk



- **Seindorf Beaumaris Band events:** Seindorf Beaumaris Band has been at the forefront of local music-making for over a century.

Follow our activities by keeping an eye on social media and local noticeboards.

📧 Seindorf Beaumaris Band
Canolfan Gerdd
New Street
Beaumaris
Anglesey
LL58 8EL

✉ post@beaumarisband.org.uk

📧 Seindorf Beaumaris Band
www.beaumarisband.org.uk

📧 Seindorf Beaumaris Band
www.facebook.com/beaumarisband/

Read more about the Band's recent activities on page 41.





CYNLLUN TRO DA SEIRIOL



ANGEN GWIRFODOLWYR



HYBLYG – O UNWAITH Y MIS YMLAEN
CYNLLUN TRO DA SEIRIOL

FFONIWCH NI: 01248 305014

E-BOSTIWCH NI: CTDSEIRIOLGTS@GMAIL.COM



SEIRIOL GOOD TURN SCHEME



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



VOLUNTEER PASSENGER ASSISTANTS

FLEXIBLE - FROM ONCE A MONTH
SEIRIOL GOOD TURN SCHEME

CALL US 01248 305014

EMAIL US CTDSEIRIOLGTS@GMAIL.COM

- **RNLI: volunteers wanted!** The RNLI is working hard to make itself inclusive, with the Fundraising Team, shop helpers and crews all working together as a team.

We'd welcome anyone who would like to volunteer in any capacity.

If you're interested do call in at the RNLI shop at the boat-house or telephone Valary Wakefield:

☎ 01248 811375.

- o **Fashion Show:** Friday 25 September, 7.30pm-9.30pm, Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris.

Put the date in your diary!



The Fashion Show is being presented by Butterfly Boutique, Menai Bridge in support of the RNLI.

☒ Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris
Leisure Centre
Rating Row
Beaumaris
Anglesey
LL58 8AL

☎ 01248 811200

Keep a lookout for notices in Beaumaris, and check Facebook regularly.

☒ Beaumaris RNLI Lifeboat
www.facebook.com/beaumaris.rnli.lifeboat/

☒ Find my nearest lifeboat station
<https://rnli.org/find-my-nearest/lifeboat-stations>



Lifeboats

- **Beaumaris Artisan Market:** Rating Row, Beaumaris LL58 8AP (in front of the David Hughes Community Centre).

☒ Beaumaris Artisan Market
<https://beaumarisartisanmarket.blogspot.com>

☒ beaumariswelshartisanmarket@outlook.com

- **Beaumaris Makers Market:** Castle Square, Beaumaris LL58 8AL (in front of the Castle Court Hotel, adjacent to the castle).

☒ Beaumaris Makers Market
www.facebook.com/beaumarismakersmarket/

- **Beaumaris Artisan Market:** Rating Row, Beaumaris LL58 8AP (in front of the David Hughes Community Centre).

☒ Beaumaris Artisan Market
<https://beaumarisartisanmarket.blogspot.com>

☒ beaumariswelshartisanmarket@outlook.com

- **Beaumaris Makers Market:** Castle Square, Beaumaris LL58 8AL (in front of the Castle Court Hotel, adjacent to the castle).

☒ Beaumaris Makers Market
www.facebook.com/beaumarismakersmarket/

www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/

- **Beaumaris Town Council:** last but not least, turn now to the spread on pages 14-17 to read more about what's happening in our lovely and vibrant town!

There's no doubt that Beaumaris is a rather special place, and **The Puffin** is proud to feature four such colourful and informative pages.

The Puffin's typesetter will be off for a trip on the Ferris wheel as soon as it's set up and running...

- 📄 Ferris wheel
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferris_wheel
- 📄 Ferris wheel (1893)
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferris_Wheel_\(1893\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferris_Wheel_(1893))

Holyhead

- **Canolfan Ucheldre Centre:** Holyhead may be 'over there' on the other side of Anglesey, but Canolfan Ucheldre Centre has a lot to offer the residents of Anglesey and those further afield.

Ucheldre is a leading performing and visual arts centre housed in a former convent chapel that sits within its own grounds and gardens.

Find out about what's happening at Canolfan Ucheldre Centre via the links below.

- 📄 Canolfan Ucheldre Centre
Millbank
Holyhead
Anglesey
LL65 1TE

Monday-Saturday
10.00am-5.00pm
Sunday
2.00pm-5.00pm

☎ 01407 763361
✉ box@ucheldre.org
📄 Ucheldre
<https://ucheldre.org>
📄 Ucheldre Holyhead
www.facebook.com/ucheldre.holyhead/



Llanddona

- **Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall:** we are a small and dedicated group of Committee Members and volunteers. We would love to welcome more people on board!

The Hall is available for hire. Please contact us if you would like more information or to make a booking.

- ✉ secretary@neuaddbentrefllanddona.co.uk

☎ 07733 176004, 07768 018370

- 📄 Neuadd Bentref Llanddona
Village Hall
Llanddona
Anglesey
LL58 8TS

- 📄 Neuadd Bentref Llanddona
Village Hall
www.facebook.com/llanddonavillagehall/

- 📄 Cymuned Llanddona Community
www.facebook.com/groups/llanddona/

VH indicates that the event is at Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall.

Be sure to keep your eye on social media, notice boards

puffinpages@gmail.com

and **The Puffin** for updates.

Mae angen **GWIRFODDOLWYR** arnon ni!
Mae angen **CHI**!

Ymunwch â ni fel **GWIRFODDOLWR**!

Rydym yn grŵp cyfeillgar, a byddwn yn eich croesawu'n gynnes, p'un a allwch roi diwrnod neu fwy yr wythnos neu dim ond awr neu ddwy o dro i dro

Cysylltwch â
Pat **07768 018370** • Miriam **07733 176004**
am fwy o wybodaeth neu
os hoffech ymuno â ni!

Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall

We need **VOLUNTEERS!**
We need **YOU!**

Please join us as a **VOLUNTEER!**

We're a friendly group, and will welcome you with open arms, regardless of whether you can give a day or so a week or just an hour or two here and there

Please contact
Pat **07768 018370** • Miriam **07733 176004**
for more information or
if you'd like to join us!



- **Caffi Ni:** every Friday, 11.45am-2.00pm (**VH**).

NEWS! We're pleased to announce that, following a recent inspection, Caffi Ni has retained its five-star hygiene rating.



Come and enjoy a home-cooked two-course meal and a drink in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for only £9 per person.

A special roast dinner and dessert are available on the first Friday of every month.

All food is freshly prepared on the premises by volunteers.

Booking is advisable; please telephone Pat:

☎ 07768 018370.

Please note: Caffi Ni is closed for the summer break and will reopen on 11 September.

- **Paned a Sgwrs:** every Tuesday, 2.00pm-3.00pm (**VH**).

Improve your Welsh-speaking skills with this small, friendly group over a complimentary paned/cuppa and biscuits.

Welsh speakers of all levels are welcome.

Sessions are informal so that people can drop in for a quick chat or stay for the full session if preferred.

For more information contact Gill Vaughan or Sheila Healey.

☎ Gill Vaughan 07925 184476

☎ Sheila Healey 01248 810619



- **Dru Yoga:** every Thursday, 9.30am-10.30am with Saroj (**VH**).

(continued on page 18)

BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL YN GWEITHIO DROS Y GYMUNED



YN CEFNOGI EIN CYMUNED A'CH CADW CHI'N GYFOES.



MAE'R OLWYN FAWR YN OL!

Rydym yn falch iawn o groesawu dychweliad un o Olwynion Mawr teithiol mwyaf Ewrop i Fiwmares. Bydd yr atyniad yn agor ar benwythnos 10 Gorffennaf ac yn aros drwy gydol gwyliau'r haf, gan gynnig golygfeydd godidog dros Afon Menai ac Eryri. Bob blwyddyn, mae'n denu miloedd o ymwelwyr i'r dref, gan gefnogi busnesau lleol a rhoi cyfle gwych i fwynhau harddwch Fiwmares a'r ardal gyfagos.

EISTEDDFOD YR URDD



Roedd Beaumaris yn falch iawn o groesawu Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2026 i Ynys Mon, wrth i'n hysgyfaint gynnal gwyl ieuenctid fwyaf Ewrop. Croesawodd y Dref y digwyddiad trwy addurno ein strydoedd a'n mannau cyhoeddus mewn coch, gwyn a gwyrdd, gan greu awyrgylch morwrol a bywiog. Roeddem yn falch iawn o groesawu miloedd o gystadleuwyr, teuluoedd a ymwelwyr a deithiodd i Ynys Mon i ddatlu'r iaith, adiwylant a thalent ein pobl ifanc.

Yn Dod yn Fuan: Sesiynau Cyngorwyr

Mae'r Cyngor Tref Beaumaris wedi cytuno i gynnal sesiynau cyngorwyr rheolaidd, gan roi cyfle i drigolion gyfarfod a'u cyngorwyr etholedig, codi pryderon, trafod materion lleol a rhannu syniadau ar gyfer y dyfodol y dref. Cynhelir y sesiynau yn Neuadd y Dref, a cyhoeddir y dyddidau a'r amseroedd yn fuan. Cadych lygad ar ein gwefan a chyfryngau cymdeithasol am ragor o wybodaeth a manylion ynglyn a sut i gymryd rhan.

CYFARFOD BLYNYDDOL CYFFREDINOL



Cynhaliodd Cyngor Tref Beaumaris ei Gyfarfod Blynnyddol Cyffredinol ar nos Fawrth 5 Mai yn Neuadd y Dref, gan nodi dechrau blwyddyn ddinesig 2026/2027. Etholwyd y Cynghorydd Rhian Aledwen Jones yn Faer Beaumaris yn ffurfiol, gyda'r Cynghorydd Michael Davies yn cael ei ethol yn Ddirprwy Faer. Bu tua 40 o westion nodedig yn bresennol yn y seremoni, gan gynnwys cyn-feiri, cynrychiolwyr dinesig ac urddasolion lleol, gan wenu yr achlysur yn ddatliad teilwng o draddodiadau dinesig y Dref. Yn dilyn y cyfarfod, ymgasglodd y gwesteion yng Ngwesty'r Bulkeley ar gyfer cino croeso, gan roi cyfle i edrych ymlaen at y flwyddyn sydd i ddod ac i gryfhau'r cysylltiadau gwerthfawr o fewn y gymuned leol. Diolchodd y Faer, i bawb a oedd yn bresennol ac edrychodd ymlaen at gydweithio a'i chyd-gyngorwyr, sefydliadau lleol a thrigolion lleol er lles Beaumaris yn ystod y flwyddyn.

BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY AND KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE



THE BIG WHEEL RETURNS

We're delighted to welcome the return of one of Europe's largest travelling Ferris Wheels to Beaumaris. Opening on the weekend of July 10th, the attraction will remain throughout the summer holidays, offering spectacular views across the Menai Strait and Snowdonia. Its return attracts thousands of visitors to Beaumaris each year, helping to support local businesses while showcasing our town's stunning scenery and warm welcome.

EISTEDDFOD YR URDD



Beaumaris was proud to welcome the 2026 Eisteddfod yr Urdd to Ynys Mon, as our island hosted Europe's largest youth festival. The town embraced the occasion by dressing its streets and public spaces in the colours of Wales, creating a vibrant sea of red, white and green. We were delighted to extend a warm 'croeso' to the thousands of competitors, families and visitors who travelled to Anglesey to celebrate Welsh language, culture and young talent.

Coming Soon: Councillor Surgeries

Beaumaris Town Council has agreed to introduce Councillor Surgeries, providing residents with an opportunity to meet their elected councillors, raise concerns, discuss local issues and share ideas for the future of the town. The surgeries will be held at Beaumaris Town Hall, with dates and times to be announced shortly. Please keep an eye on our website and social media channels for further updates and details of how you can attend.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Beaumaris Town Council held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 5 May in the Town Hall, marking the beginning of the 2026/27 municipal year. Councillor Rhian Aledwen Jones was formally elected Mayor of Beaumaris with Councillor Michael Davies elected as Deputy Mayor. Around 40 distinguished guests attended the ceremony, including former Mayors, civic representatives and local dignitaries, making it a fitting occasion to celebrate the town's civic traditions. Following the meeting, guests gathered at the Bulkeley Hotel for the Annual Dinner, providing an opportunity to reflect on the year ahead and strengthen the valued relationships within the local community. Mayor Rhian Aledwen Jones thanked those in attendance and expressed her enthusiasm for working with fellow councillors, local organisations and residents throughout the coming municipal year.

BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL

BE' SY'N DIGWYDD YN Y GYMUNED NI?



BE' SY 'MLAEN YN Y DREF YN YSTOD YR HAF?



ABOVE: SAILING BOATS OFF THE COAST OF YNYS SEIRIOL DURING THE MENAI STRAITS REGATTA

REGATAU AFON MENAI

Mae'r Regattas yn ol!

Mae'r Regatas yn rhan fawr o haf Beaumaris, ac o 27 Gorffennaf tan 8 Awst bydd y dref unwaith eto'n llawn bywyd. Bydd y culfor yn llawn cychod hwyllo a'r dref yn llawn pobl yn mwynhau'r awyrgylch. Mae'n gyfle gwych i ddod i weld y rasio, cefnogi'r busnesau lleol a mwynhau popeth sydd gan Beaumaris i'w gynnig. Mae'r Regatas wastad yn un o uchafbwyntiau'r haf. Edrychwn ymlaen at groesawu pawb i Beaumaris am bythefnos arbennig arall.



Cerddoriaeth Fyw ar Sgwar Y Castell:

Mae Miv, Kev a Dave yn dychwelyd i Sgwar y Castell ar 19 Gorffennaf, 9 Awst a 6ed o Fedi. Mae eu cymysgedd o ganeuon poblogaidd y 60au, clasuron y 70au, caneuon gwerin ac alawon Gwyddelig wastad yn denu torf. Dewch yn gynnar, ewch i nôl diod, ac ymunwch â ni am brynhawn gwych o gerddoriaeth fyw yng nghanol Beaumaris.

'Runfest Beaumaris'

Os dach chi'n mynd am record bersonol, neu jyst isio mwynhau'r awyrgylch, mae Beaumaris RunFest yn ôl ar 12 a 13 o Fedi. Gyda rasys i blant, ras hwyl, 10K a Hanner Marathon, mae'r penwythnos yn denu cannoedd o redwyr i Feaumaris bob blwyddyn. Mae pob ras yn gorffen o fewn muriau Castell Biwmares, gyda'r elw'n mynd at elusennau lleol. I gael mwy o wybodaeth, ewch i www.beaumarisrunfest.co.uk.



MAE'R SYRCAS YN Y DREF!

Fel petai'r Olwyn Fawr ddim yn ddigon, mae mwy fyth o hwyl ar y ffordd i Feaumaris yn ystod yr haf yma! Mae Syrcas Pinders yn dychwelyd i'r Farian Beaumaris rhwng 25 a 27 Gorffennaf, gyda pherfformiadau yn ystod y dydd a gyda'r nos. Gyda'r Olwyn Fawr eisoes yn codi uwchben y Farian, mae'r cyfan yn argoeli i fod yn benwythnos arbennig o hwyl i'r teulu, adloniant a digon o resymau i dreulio amser yn ein tref hardd.

BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL

WHAT'S GOING ON IN TOWN?



JUST A SAMPLE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS SUMMER



ABOVE: SAILING BOATS OFF THE COAST OF YNYS SEIRIOL DURING THE MENAI STRAITS REGATTA

MENAI STRAITS REGATTAS

The Regatta is back!

Few events capture the spirit of a Beaumaris summer quite like the Menai Strait Regattas. Returning from 27 July to 8 August, the Regattas will once again fill the Strait with sails and the town with visitors. It's a wonderful opportunity to experience the town's unique maritime heritage, enjoy the lively atmosphere and support the many local businesses that make Beaumaris such a special place, while creating lasting memories for residents and visitors of all ages alike.



Live Music on Castle Square

Back by popular demand, Miv, Kev & Dave return to Castle Square on 19th July, 9th August and 6th September. Their mix of 60s favourites, 70s classics, folk tunes and Irish singalongs always draws a crowd. Get there early, grab a drink and enjoy another fantastic afternoon of live music in the heart of Beaumaris.

Runfest Beaumaris

Whether you're chasing a personal best or simply soaking up the atmosphere, Beaumaris RunFest is back on 12th & 13th September. Featuring children's races, a fun run, 10K and Half Marathon, the event attracts runners from across the country. With every race finishing inside Beaumaris Castle and proceeds supporting local charities, it's a weekend that's become a firm favourite in the town's calendar. To find out more visit: beaumarisrunfest.co.uk



'THE CIRCUS IS IN TOWN'

If the Big Wheel wasn't enough, there's even more excitement heading to Beaumaris this summer! Pinders Circus returns to Beaumaris Green from 25-27 July, with both daytime and evening performances. With the Big Wheel already towering over the Green, it's shaping up to be a fantastic weekend packed with family fun, entertainment and plenty of reasons to spend time in our beautiful town. The Town Council thanks Pinders Circus for their continued support.

BEIC TRYDAN CYMUNEDOL

Benthycwch ein beic cargo trydan cymunedol a mwynhewch ffordd fwy gwyrdd ac iach o deithio. Mae'n ddelfrydol ar gyfer siopa, negeseuon bob dydd neu grwydro'r ardal leol, gyda llogi fforddiadwy, hyfforddiant llawn a chymorth wedi'u cynnwys.



- £2 y dydd
- Llogi am hyd at pythefnos
- Delfrydol ar gyfer siopa a negeseuon bob dydd
- Lleihau eich ôl troed carbon
- Cyflwyniad llawn wedi'i gynnwys



**DIM OND
£2**

ARCHEBWCH
HEDDIW!



AM RAGOR O WYBODAETH:



CTDSEIRIOLGTS@GMAIL.COM



01248 811200

COMMUNITY E-BIKE

Borrow our community e-cargo bike and enjoy a greener, healthier way to travel. Perfect for shopping, errands or exploring the local area, with affordable hire, full training and support included.



- £2 per day
- Hire for up to 2 weeks
- Ideal for shopping & errands
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Full induction included



JUST £2

BOOK TODAY!



FOR MORE INFORMATION:



CTDSEIRIOLGTS@GMAIL.COM



01248 811200

(from page 13)

A gentle form of yoga involving a lot of stretching; can be done whilst sitting on a chair if needed.

Dru Yoga is suitable for beginners and advanced practitioners.

All are welcome: £5.00 per session.

- **Nifty 60s:** every Wednesday, 10.00am-11.00am (VH). Come and improve your core strength, flexibility, balance, mental and physical strength and mental wellbeing.

This successful class aims to reduce slips, trips and falls, so begin your journey to a better version of yourself for only £2.00 per session. There's no need to book: just show up!

- **Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed/Llangoed Young Farmers Club:** meets every Monday, 7.45pm (in Llanddona, not in Llangoed) (VH).

Wales Federation of Young Farmers Clubs
<https://yfc.wales>



STOP PRESS Please see the additional notes on page 46.

- **Llanddona Writing Group:** thinking of a family memoir, or short story, or just the chance to do a little writing alongside friends?

We meet every three weeks on a Friday at 11.00am (VH).

We enjoy hearing from and encouraging each other, and maybe having a try at something new, so why not come along and see...

For more information contact Stephen Marsden.

☎ 07774 699685.



- **Llanddona Table Tennis Group:** we are a friendly social table tennis group who play every Monday, 10.00am-12.00 noon (VH). We welcome new players of any ability.

There are usually around 12 players of mixed abilities and roughly equal numbers of men and women. We have three tables and have bats and balls that everyone can use.

We play for most of the two hours, with a tea/coffee break halfway through.

For more information contact Mark Simpson.

✉ marksimpson@hotmail.com

☎ 07785 762580



- **Village Knit Club:** every Monday at yr Owain Glyndŵr, at 7.15pm... looking forward to seeing you all!

For more information contact Meg Marsden.

☎ 07913 223435

- **Rali Tractor Llanddona Tractor Rally 2026:** make sure that 15 August 2026 is in your diary!

Come along and support your local farmers and tractor drivers at the 6th Rali Tractor Rally, raising money for local charities along the way.

It starts at yr Owain Glyndŵr at 11.00am and takes in some fantastic views along the way, travelling through Llandegfan, Llansadwrn, Menai Bridge, a stop at Beau-

maris Green, then off to Llangoed, Haulfre Residential Home and Penmon before returning to yr Owain Glyndŵr for some beer and cheer.

With food, stalls and live local entertainment through the afternoon, great live bands into the evening and Hogs Môn providing pulled pork baps.

There's more information in the enclosed leaflet; copies will be available at yr Owain Glyndŵr as well, and you'll find one on-line as the last two pages of The Puffin 57, or contact Lucy Low at lucylow2013@gmail.com.

There's more about the Rali on page 21 as well.



- **Yr Owain Glyndŵr:** a Community Pub Hero Award-winning family-run pub in the heart of Llanddona.

We offer delicious food during the week with mid-week specials, including Pie Night, Burger Night, Curry Night, chef's specials, Fish Friday deals, and home-made pizza on Saturday evenings and home-cooked Sunday dinners.

There's a wide selection of beers, wines, spirits, our exclusive Llanddona Witches Ale, and much more!

With seating for up to 84 people and a new covered beer garden outside we offer a family- and dog-friendly place to eat, drink and socialise.

We cater for family functions with buffets and Christmas dinner parties, and there's room upstairs with five Airbnb rooms for the perfect weekend getaway.

☎ 01248 810710

📧 Yr Owain Glyndŵr
Llanddona
Anglesey
LL58 8UF

✉ mwilliams21061974@gmail.com

📱 Cymuned Llanddona Community
www.facebook.com/groups/llanddona/



Llanfairpwll

- **Marquess of Anglesey's Column:** climb the column's 115 steps for spectacular views over Anglesey, the Menai Strait and Eryri/Snowdonia.

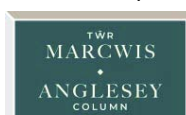
✉ post@angleseycolumn.org

☎ 07748 807402

📱 Tŵr Marcwis/Anglesey Column
www.angleseycolumn.com

📧 Marquess of Anglesey's Column
Parc Tŵr
Llanfairpwll
Anglesey
LL61 5NJ

🕒 Wednesday-Sunday
April-September: 9.00am-5.00pm
October-March: 10.00am-4.00pm



- **Plas Newydd:** guided red squirrel walks take place until the end of October.

Red squirrels were once a rare sight, but they are now thriving on Ynys Môn/Anglesey thanks to a reintroduction programme at Plas Newydd, part of the Anglesey Red Squirrel Project. You might be lucky enough to spot these lovely animals during the walk.

The walks are volunteer-dependent; they take place on Saturdays and Mondays and last for about one hour.

✉ plasnewydd@nationaltrust.org.uk

☎ 01248 714795

📱 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/wales/plas-newydd-house-and-garden

📱 Guided red squirrel walks 2026
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/wales/plas-newydd-house-and-garden/events/fa268b5f-bc34-47eb-b08f-fa1b660e70e8

📧 Plas Newydd
Llanfairpwll
Anglesey
LL61 6DQ

🕒 Saturday, Monday
June-October: 10.30am-11.30am, 12.30pm-1.30pm

📱 Anglesey Red Squirrel Project
www.entrust.org.uk/projects/anglesey-red-squirrel-project-arsp/



Llangefni

- **Oriel Môn:** Llangefni is another place that's not on our immediate doorstep. Like Holyhead's Canolfan Ucheldre Centre, though, it has a lot to offer the residents of Anglesey and those further afield.

Oriel Môn is a museum and art gallery, and Oriel Kyffin offers exhibitions of national and international significance.

Find out about what's happening via the links below.

📧 Oriel Môn
Rhosmeirch
Llangefni
Anglesey
LL77 7TQ

Opening times:
Tuesday-Sunday
10.00am-5.00pm

☎ 01248 724444

✉ orielynysmon@anglesey.gov.uk

📱 Oriel Môn
www.orielmon.org/

📱 Oriel Môn
www.facebook.com/orielmon/



Llangoed

- **Neuadd Bentref Llangoed Village Hall:** built in 1910, Neuadd Bentref Llangoed Village Hall has been a central gathering point for the community for over 115 years.

Run entirely by volunteers, the Hall hosts a wide range of

Aerial footage and photographs made easy!



You've worked hard on your home, garden, farmland... so what could be better than a top-quality bird's eye view photograph of it to cherish?

The possibilities are endless...

I have a dji drone that gives outstanding picture quality.

For approximately £115 for a 10-15 minute drone flight you'll have a video from which you can select any number of photographs.

I'm Wayne, and I'm based in Anglesey.

If you'd like more information please contact me on 07889 980705 or waynewalters12@googlemail.com

Tabledi a Ffonau clyfar i Ddechreuwr

Tablets and Smartphones for Beginners

Mis Medi / September
10 Wythnos / 10 Weeks
Llyfrgell Beaumaris Library



01248 305014



communitymenai@gllm.ac.uk



AM DDIM / FREE

Gan gynnwys cynllun benthg tabledi
Including a tablet loan scheme

Am mwy o wybodaeth ffoniwch:
Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol

For more information phone:
Seiriol Good Turn Scheme

01248 305 014

events, including concerts, wellbeing classes, workshops, children's playgroups, and now, a vibrant cinema programme.

The Hall is available for parties, functions and weddings.

Please contact us for more information or to make a booking.

✉ info@llangoedvillagehall.com

Visit our website and Facebook page for more details.

📱 www.llangoedvillagehall.com

📱 www.facebook.com/llangoed.villagehall

📱 www.instagram.com/llangoedvillagehall

Sign up for our monthly newsletter!

📱 www.llangoedvillagehall.com/subscribe

VH indicates that the event is at Neuadd Bentref Llangoed Village Hall.

Be sure to keep your eye on social media, notice boards and The Puffin for updates.



Regular events (VH):

- **Yoga:** Mondays, 6.30pm-7.45pm.

✉ emilykyleyoga@gmail.com

- **Pilates:** Tuesdays, 9.30am-10.30am.

✉ andreacross@hotmail.co.uk

- **Clog dancing:** Tuesdays, 7.30pm-8.00pm.

✉ info@llangoedvillagehall.com

- **Latin Line Dance:** Tuesdays, 7.00pm-9.00pm.

✉ info@llangoedvillagehall.com

- **Sinema Llangoed:** third Thursday of every month: doors open at 7.00pm, film starts at 7.30pm.

Join our monthly film club at Sinema Llangoed! We present a carefully selected variety of Welsh-language films, historical classics and contemporary documentaries.

Visit our website to see the film programme and to purchase tickets.

📱 Events at the Hall

www.llangoedvillagehall.com/events

- **National Theatre Live at Sinema Llangoed:** we now show the full programme of National Theatre Live Screenings.

Visit our website to see the film programme and to purchase tickets.

📱 Events at the Hall

www.llangoedvillagehall.com/events

- **Citizens Advice + Gwreiddiau Môn Roots:** third Friday of every month, 9.30am-11.30am.

The Gwreiddiau Môn Roots project provides a range of services with its partners that aim to prevent homelessness and address the stigma and prejudice that homeless people face.



- **Library Bus:** third Friday of every month, 10.30am-

www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/



Rali Tractor Llanddona

Tractor Rally 2026



Dydd Sadwrn/Saturday
15 Awst/August 2026
Yr Owain Glyndŵr, Llanddona, Ynys Môn LL58 8UF

**Dewch i ymuno â ni, mwynhewch ddiwrnod
hyfryd a chefnogwch achosion da!**

**Come and join us, have a wonderful day
and support good causes!**

Get ready for the Event you've been waiting for: Llanddona's biggest Event of the year and the Best Tractor Rally on the Island!

Enjoy the fantastic scenery along the route and a day of free entertainment at yr Owain Glyndŵr!

Now in its 6th year, the Event grows bigger and better every year. There were over 50 tractor entries last year and we hope that there'll be even more this year.

All tractor entrants are invited to register and collect a free tea or coffee and bacon or sausage bap to start the day from 10.00am at yr Owain Glyndŵr. Supporters are welcome to come and cheer them off, and the kitchen will be open from 10.00am to all!

The tractors set off at 11.00am, travelling along the local roads through Llanddona, Llandegfan, Llansadwrn, Menai Bridge, Beaumaris for a brief stop on the Green – photo opportunity number 1 – so be sure to come and support them. After that it's off to Llangoed and a well-deserved stop and refreshments at Haulfre Residential Home where the drivers will receive the usual warm welcome from the residents and staff.

Photo opportunity number 2 is at the next stop, the Deer Park near Penmon Point, after which the cavalcade will head back to yr Owain Glyndŵr via Penmon village, Lleiniog and the middle road back to Llanddona. That's where the drivers will have the option of returning to yr Owain Glyndŵr or braving the winding descent down to Llanddona beach and back again!

The Event is not just for the tractors. Food will be available from 10.00am at yr Owain Glyndŵr: breakfast baps, tea and coffee during the morning, with the bar open from 11.00am,

serving food and drink throughout the day.

Stalls are welcome, and North Wales Fire & Rescue Service will be there as well with their Bremach Extreme 60 4x4 fire appliance in attendance.

Music all day, live entertainment from 3.30pm with popular local band Miv, Kev and Dave, a special debut by Gwrachod Eryri, before continuing with Elliw a Carwyn and Meilir, who will provide a mix of traditional Welsh songs before local boys Adelphi headline with guests to close the evening.

Hogs Môn will be selling burgers and pulled pork baps to keep you well fed.

The Event was created to support local charities. Last year it raised over £3,000, so please be generous and donate to the causes and raise some money towards this year's local charities: LimBo, Blaen y Coed, Tir Dewi, Llangoed Young Farmers, St Iestyn Church, Llangoed Primary School, Haulfre Residential Home and The Community Minibus Service.

We've produced a leaflet with the expected times and a map so you can pick a spot from the map and cheer the tractors on... that really does make a difference.

A special 'thank you' goes to all those who have sponsored or contributed to the Event in some way... and to the tractor drivers as well!

For more information or to register contact Lucy Low at lucylow2013@gmail.com. There's more information in **The Puffin** 57 on-line as well at www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/.

It really is a Great Local Community Event, so don't miss it! Come along and support your local charities, local farmers, local artists and your local family-run pub.

Mae rhywbeth i bawb! | There's something for everyone!

11.30am.



• **Other events (VH):**

- *A Celebration of Simon & Garfunkel*
Saturday 8 August, 7.00pm
Tickets £15
- *Quadrophenia at Sinema Llangoed*
Saturday 22 August: doors 3.00pm, film 4.00pm
- *Party: DJ Tamla Mala*
Saturday 22 August, 6.00pm-9.00pm
Tickets £5
- *Frida Kahlo: Exhibition on Screen at Sinema Llangoed*
Thursday 3 September: doors 7.00pm, film 7.30pm
Tickets £10

A new documentary about Frida Kahlo, an intimate, cinematic exploration of the artist's life, art, and cultural legacy.
- *Ben Creighton Griffiths Jazz Trio*
Saturday 12 September: doors 7.00pm, music 7.30pm
Tickets £10

Come and relive the era of swing with harp, bass and guitar.
- *Effi o Blaenau at Sinema Llangoed*
Welsh language film with English subtitles
Thursday 17 September: doors 7.00pm, film 7.30pm
Tickets £5

Based on Gary Owen's monodrama, *Iphigenia in Splott*, Effi o Blaenau is director Marc Evans' cinematic interpretation set against the wide open landscapes of North Wales.
- *Bingo Night!*
Friday 25 September: doors 7.00pm, eyes down 7.30pm

All money raised will go towards Llangoed and Penmon Churches.
- *Filkin's Drift*
Wednesday 7 October: doors 7.00pm, music 7.30pm
Tickets £10

A nomadic folk duo which reimagines traditional melodies through pizzicato grooves, intricate guitar tunes, and boundless improvisation.
- *Underland + The Rocks - Nature's Sound at Sinema Llangoed*
Thursday 15 October: doors 7.00pm, films 7.30pm
Tickets £5

A poetic journey beneath the Earth's surface, exploring hidden worlds, deep time and our connection to the unseen. Also *The Rocks - Nature's Sound*, an experimental short.
- *Llangoed Harvest Festival*
Saturday/Sunday, 17/18 October, 10.00am-4.00pm

It's harvest time at Llangoed Village Hall with our community apple press, the scarecrow trail, the historical well celebration, stalls with local produce and crafts, tool-sharpening and workshops.

- **Llangoed WI:** we meet on the first Wednesday of the month in Neuadd Bentref Llangoed Village Hall; meetings begin at 2.00pm.

We're a lively group of mixed ages, so, ladies, do feel welcome to join us.

Please contact our President, Mrs Christina Linford, for

more information.

☎ 01248 490184

See also page 33.



- **Camau Bach:** Llangoed Village Hall, every Friday during term-time, 9.30am-11.00am: for babies, pre-school children and their carers.

☎ Rev Lesley Rendle 07817 873080

- **Llangoed Knitting Club:** we meet at the Pont y Brenin Hub on the third Monday of the month, 2.00pm-4.00pm.

If you'd like to join us, contact:

Elizabeth Roberts
Bodwyn
Llangoed
LL58 8NP

- **Seiriol Men's Shed:** we're a busy and active group, and meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00am-1.00pm, in our workshop adjacent to Haulfre Residential Home, Llangoed.

From the direction of Beaumaris:

- Go through Llangoed, past Morrisons Daily on the right, and down the hill
- Go over the little bridge over the stream at the bottom and up the hill for about 200 yards
- Turn right at the *Gerddi Haulfre Gardens* sign into the Haulfre Residential Home car park and walk down the slope (to the right if you're facing Haulfre) towards the gardens
- Our premises are very close; our workshop is on the left, and our other premises are on the right.

Please park thoughtfully; the car park is used by others as well.

For more information, or if you'd like to join us, please contact:

☎ Steve Jones 07368 219048

✉ mensshedseiriol@gmail.com

📍 Seiriol Men's Shed
The Flat
Gerddi Haulfre
Llangoed
LL58 8RY

📱 Seiriol Men's Shed
www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564967474652



Llansadwrn

- **Tŷ Neuadd Hafoty/Hafoty Medieval House:** Tŷ Neuadd Hafoty was originally a timber-framed house, probably built in the 14th century; it is recorded as Bodiordderch, the 'House of Iordderch', in 1352. It was later encased in stone and was modified and restored in the 19th- and late 20th centuries, though its medieval layout remains.

It is usually open for viewing for a couple of days each September, but from Cadw's lacklustre website: 'Currently, Hafoty Medieval House can only be viewed externally'. On the same webpage, though, it is shown as being on Cadw's

guided tour programme in May-August, and should be open on Sunday 16 August, 11.00am-12.00 noon, 2.00pm-3.00pm.

In 2008 Cadw produced a very interesting and informative document about the rich history of Tŷ Neuadd Hafoty; astonishingly, it does not feature on Cadw's website. It is attached (bilingual, 4 pages) at the end of the on-line edition of **The Puffin** 57.

It is well worth visiting, and tickets may be booked via the link below.

📄 Hafoty Medieval House Guided tours
<https://cadw.gov.wales/hafoty-medieval-house-guided-tours>

📄 Tŷ Neuadd Hafoty
Llansadwrn
Anglesey
LL59 5SR



Llansadwrn: Clwb Sadwrn, Sadyrnau Agored a mwy 🌸

Gwylan Williams

Neuadd yr Eglwys

Mae'r Neuadd gyferbyn ag Eglwys Sant Sadwrn. Cofiwch fod modd llogi y Neuadd ar gyfer cyfarfodydd, dosbarthiadau, partion teulu ac yn y blaen. I logi y Neuadd, ewch:

📄 Eglwys Bro Tysilio Churches: neuaddau
www.brotysilio.church/neuaddau/

Clwb Sadwrn

Mae'r Clwb Sadwrn yn cyfarfod yn Neuadd yr Eglwys ar y trydydd Sadwrn bob mis, o 10.00yb hyd 12.00 hanner dydd. Felly dyddiadau y tri mis nesaf fydd 15 Awst, 19 Medi a 17 Hydref. Dewch am glonc a phaned.

Mae gemau bwrdd ar gael i chwa-rae os liciwch chi ac mae croeso i chi ddod a gwaith crefft gyda chi i weithio arno hefyd. Sesiynau gwbl anffurfiol ydi rhain a rydym yn agored i syniadau gennych chi am weithgareddau newydd. Bydd yr Eglwys ar agor hefyd a croeso i chi ymweld a chael amser tawel yna.

Dathlu gwasanaeth Neil Evans

Ar 29 Mehefin 1976, yng Nghadeirlan Llanellwyr, cychwynnodd Neil Evans ei daith o wasanaethu fel darllenwr yn yr Eglwys yng Nghymru. 'Rydym ni yn Eglwys Llansadwrn yn un o wyth cynulleidfau Bro Tysilio sydd yn awr yn elwa yn fawr o'i wasanaeth. Mae'n arwain gwasanaethau Boreol a Hwyrol Weddi a Gwasanaethau Teulu, oll yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg, ac mae neges ei bregeth wastad yn destun cnoi cil. 'Does rhyfedd felly mai ef sydd hefyd yn arwain sesiynau *Amser i Feddwl* yn Neuadd y Pentref Llandegfan bob pythefnos.

Yn ddiweddar, buom yn dathlu hanner can mlynedd o'i wasanaeth yn Eglwys Sant Sadwrn, Llansadwrn.



Llansadwrn: Clwb Sadwrn, Open Saturdays and more

Gwylan Williams

Church Hall

The Church Hall is opposite Sant Sadwrn's Church. Remember that it is available to hire for meetings, classes, family parties, etc. To book visit:

puffinpages@gmail.com

📄 Eglwys Bro Tysilio Churches: neuaddau
www.brotysilio.church/neuaddau/

Clwb Sadwrn

Clwb Sadwrn meets at the Church Hall on the third Saturday morning of each month, from 10.00am until 12.00 noon. The dates for the coming three months are therefore 15 August, 19 September and 17 October.

Call in for a chat and a cuppa. There are board games to play if you like and you are welcome to bring any craftwork with you to work on. These are completely informal sessions and we are open to your suggestions about new activities.

The Church will also be open and you are welcome to visit and spend quiet time there.

Celebrating Neil Evans's service

On 29 June 1976, at St. Asaph's Cathedral, Neil Evans started his journey as a reader in the Church in Wales. We at Llansadwrn are one of the eight congregations of Bro Tysilio who now benefit greatly from his service. Neil leads Morning and



Dathlu gwasanaeth Neil Evans
Celebrating Neil Evans's service
(Bethan Roberts)

Evening Prayer and Family Services, in both Welsh and in English, and his sermon message never fails to make its mark. It is not surprising, therefore, that it is Neil who leads the fortnightly *Food for Thought* sessions at Llandegfan Village Hall.

We recently marked his 50 years' service at Llansadwrn Church.

Digwyddiadau'r haf yn Llandegfan 🌸

Siân Arwel Davies, Cydlynnydd, Merched y Wawr

Merched y Wawr

Daeth ein tymor i ben gyda trip i Brondanw, Llanfrothen, cartref teulu Clough Williams-Ellis. Treuliwyd amser yn mynd o gwmpas y ty a chael dipyn o'r hanes a'r addasiadau wnaethpwyd wedi'r tân yn 1951. Mae esiamplau o grochenwaith cain wedi'i ddylunio gan Susan Williams-Ellis ynghyd ag arddangosfa o waith celf cyfoes.

Mwynhawyd cinio ysgafn yn y caffi bach croesawgar a diweddwyd y pŵn drwy gerdded o gwm-pas y gerddi hynod cyn troi am adra. Byddwn yn ail-ddechrau ein cyfarfodydd ar 16 Medi ac mae croeso i unrhyw un ymuno gyda ni ar bawn Mercher.

Criw Bore Iau

Mae Criw Bore Iau yn dal i gyfarfod yn Neuadd y Plwyf bob

(continued on page 26)

NEWYDDION



Mae Canolfan Beaumaris wrth ei bodd wedi dod yn Aelod Llawn o Gymdeithas Chwaraeon Cymru (WSA).

Mae'r garreg filltir hon yn cryfhau ein rôl fel canolfan llesiant gymunedol ac yn darparu mynediad at gymorth gwerthfawr, partneriaethau a chyfluoedd ariannu i'n helpu i barhau i ddatblygu ein cyfleusterau a'n gwasanaethau.

GWEITHGAREDDAU WYTHNOSOL

- Clwb Pont Beaumaris**
Dydd Llun
9.30yb-12.00 hanner dydd
- Bore Coffi Seiriol**
Dydd Mawrth
9.00yb-12.15yp
- Ymwybyddiaeth Ofalgar**
Dydd Mawrth
1.00yp-2.30yp
- Gymnasteg Plant**
Dydd Mawrth, Dydd Mercher
4.00yp-4.45yp
- Trampolinio**
Dydd Mercher
4.00yp-5.00yp
Dydd Iau
7.30yp-9.00yp
- Clwb Scrabble**
Dydd Mercher
2.00yp-4.00yp
- Grŵp Babanod**
Dydd Iau
10.00yb-11.30yb
- Disgo Rholio**
Dydd Sadwrn
10.00yb-11.15yb

BETH SY'N DOD I FYNY?

Nosweithiau Soul

Yn dilyn llwyddiant ysgubol ein Noson Soul ym mis Mehefin, penderfynwyd gwneud hwn yn ddigwyddiad rheolaidd.

Cadwch lygad allan am yr un nesaf!



Sioe Ffasiwn RNLI

Dydd Gwener 25 Medi



Lifeboats

Cynhadledd Flynyddol Druid Ynys Môn

Dydd Sadwrn 28 Tachwedd



CYNHADLEDD FLYNYDDOL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Marchnad Nadolig

Dydd Sul 29 Tachwedd



Mae ceisiadau gan stondinwyr bel-lach ar agor ar gyfer ein Marchnad Nadolig – sicrhewch eich bwrdd ac ymunwch â ni am ddiwrnod Nadolig-gaidd o siopa ac ysbryd cymunedol.

DOSBARTHIAU NEWYDD

Dosbarth sbinio i ddechreuwr



Ymunwch â Chris ar gyfer ein dosbarth sbinio newydd nos Wener a dechreuwch y penwythnos gyda hwb egni!

Dosbarth ymarfer corff yn yr eistedd

SEATED EXERCISE CLASS DOSBARTH YMARFER CORFF YN YR EISTEDD



Cadwch yn heini gyda dosbarth ymarfer corff ar gadair Annette bob dydd Iau – cynhwysol, croesawgar ac addas i ddefnyddwyr cadeiriau olwyn.

Trampolinio i blant ac oedolion



Dosbarthiadau trampolinio dydd Mercher i blant ac oedolion gyda Sarah, hyfforddwraig Faye Harwood, a ddaeth yn bumed yn ddiweddar ym Mhencampwriaethau Trampolinio Oedolion Prydain.

GWEITHGAREDDAU MISOL

- Noson Ffilm
Dydd Iau cyntaf y mis
- Noson Gwis
Dydd Gwener cyntaf y mis
- Baddon Sain
Ail ddydd Gwener y mis
- Bingo
Pedwerydd dydd Gwener, bob yn ail fis
- Ffair Hen Bethau
Trydydd dydd Sul y mis



Canolfan
Hamdden
Beaumaris

MORE THAN JUST A LEISURE CENTRE

NEWS

WSA

Welsh Sports Association
Cymdeithas Chwaraeon Cymru

Canolfan Beaumaris is delighted to have become a Full Member of the Welsh Sports Association (WSA).

This milestone strengthens our role as a community wellbeing hub and provides access to valuable support, partnerships and funding opportunities to help us continue developing our facilities and services.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- **Beaumaris Bridge Club**
Mondays
9.30am-12.00 noon
- **Seiriol Coffee Morning**
Tuesdays
9.00am-12.15pm
- **Mindfulness**
Tuesdays
1.00pm-2.30pm
- **Kids Gymnastics**
Tuesdays, Wednesdays
4.00pm-4.45pm
- **Trampoline**
Wednesdays
4.00pm-5.00pm
Thursdays
7.30pm-9.00pm
- **Scrabble Club**
Wednesdays
2.00pm-4.00pm
- **Baby Group**
Thursdays
10.00am-11.30am
- **Roller Disco**
Saturdays
10.00am-11.15am

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Soul Nights

Following the huge success of our Soul Night in June, it has been decided to make this a regular event.

Keep an eye out for the next one!



RNLI Fashion Show

Friday 25 September



Lifeboats

Anglesey Druid Conference

Saturday 28 November



CYNHADLEDD FLYNYDDOL
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Christmas Market

Sunday 29 November



Stallholder applications are now open for our Christmas Market – secure your table and join us for a festive day of shopping and community spirit.

NEW CLASSES

Beginners' spinning class



Join Chris for our new Friday Night Spin class and kick off the weekend with an energy boost!

Seated exercise class

SEATED EXERCISE CLASS

DOSBARTH YMARFER CORFF
YN YR EISTEDD



Keep moving with Annette's Thursday seated exercise class – inclusive, welcoming and suitable for wheelchair users.

Kids' and adults' trampolining class



Wednesday trampoline classes for children and adults with Sarah, coach of Faye Harwood, who recently placed 5th at the British Adult Trampolining Championships.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

- Film Night
1st Thursday of the month
- Quiz Night
1st Friday of the month
- Sound Bath
2nd Friday of the month
- Bingo
4th Friday, every other month
- Antiques Fair
3rd Sunday of the month

☎ 01248 811200

✉ enquiries@canolfanbeaumaris.org.uk

🌐 www.canolfanbeaumaris.org.uk/

🌐 www.facebook.com/canolfan.beaumaris.7/



Snowdonia Physiotherapy

A new physiotherapy clinic in Beaumaris with Denry Aal, Chartered Physiotherapist



- Muscle and Joint Pain
- Sprains and Strains
- Tendon Problems
- Arthritis
- Sports Injuries
- Work-Related Injuries
- Rehabilitation following Orthopaedic Surgery, Fractures and Joint Replacements

CANOLFAN LLES SEIRIOL WELLNESS CENTRE



Get in touch to see how we can help:

07900 339605

Seiriol Wellness Centre,
Beaumaris Library, LL58 8AL

snowdoniaphysiotherapy.co.uk



PHYSIO FIRST

hpcp registered

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy is the professional, educational and trade union body for the UK's 65,000 chartered physiotherapists, physiotherapy students and assistants.

Denry Aal is registered with the Health & Care Professions Council (PH84906) and is a member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists.

(from page 23)

bore lau i fwynhau panad a sgwrs. Mae bwrdd ymarfer y Gymraeg yn brysur gydag ambell un yn derbyn hyfforddiant ychwanegol i loywi'r Gymraeg.

Croeso i unrhyw un i daro'i mewn rhwng 10.00 a 11.30. Yn dilyn ar y dydd lau cyntaf a'r trydydd o'r mis, mae *Amser i Feddwl* pryd daw criw ohonom at ein gilydd i drafod pynciau diwynyddol a chael cinio ysgafn.



Summer events in Llandegfan

Siân Arwel Davies, Co-ordinator, Merched y Wawr

Merched y Wawr

We ended our term with a trip to Brondanw, Llanfrothen – the family home of Clough Williams-Ellis. We spent time going around the house and learning some of its history and the alterations made after the fire of 1951. There are examples of beautiful porcelain designed by Susan Williams-Ellis together with an exhibition of modern craftware.



Criw Merched y Wawr ar eu trip
(Siân Arwel Davies)

We enjoyed a light lunch at the little cafe and finished the afternoon with a walk around the gardens before turning for home. We will resume our meetings on 16 September and there will be a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to join us on Wednesday afternoons.

Criw Bore lau

Criw Bore lau still meets in the Parish Hall every Thursday morning to enjoy a cuppa and a chat. The table for practising Welsh is still busy with one or two receiving extra tuition in Welsh.

There is a warm welcome for anyone to call in between 10.00 and 11.30. On the first and third Thursdays, there is a meeting of *Food for Thought* when a crowd of us come together to discuss theological topics before enjoying a light lunch together.



Wellness: the benefits of having a dog

Andrew Perrott (from an article in *The Guardian*, 17 March 2020)

There has always been at least one dog in my family's various households so I know what the many benefits of having a dog are. There is another side to the dog-ownership coin, of course: the responsibility, the caring, the mess, the training...

Dogs can be messy, so if you're a stickler for neatness and order you need to think carefully before taking the plunge. I'm not such a person: my home is clean, but can be chaotic and untidy. It's a building site at the moment as well, so that's a heaven-sent opportunity to lose even less sleep over tidiness and order.

The therapeutic value of our relationship with our pets, particularly dogs, is increasingly recognised by researchers. Cats can be wonderful as well, but dogs have been domesticated by humans for much longer, and, as even the most devoted cat-lover is likely to admit, dogs make much easier companions.



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SCAN ME

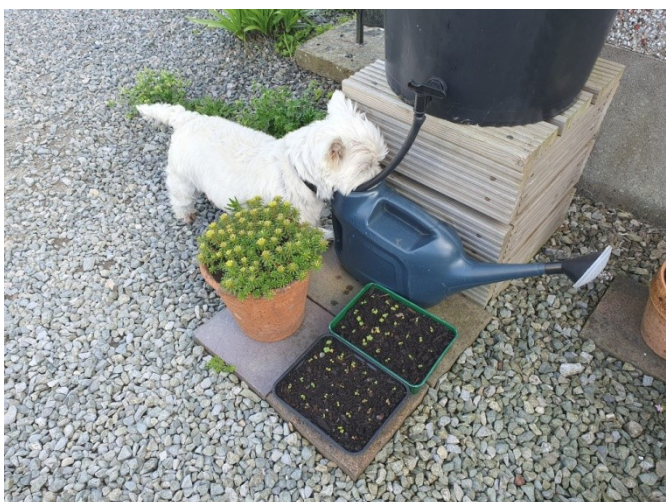
Canine companions trigger similar neural pathways to the parent-baby bond, and reduce loneliness and depression.

Dogs teach us a whole range of lessons. They love unconditionally, and are paragons of equal opportunity; they don't care a fig about things like race, gender, star signs, CVs, clothes sizes, and so on... The simplicity and depth of this love is a continuous joy, as are the health benefits of daily walks and the social delights of chats with other dog walkers. Dogs teach children to be responsible, altruistic and compassionate and, valuably but sadly, how to cope when a loved person or family member dies.

One person felt this effect when his health took a downward turn: he'd been working very long hours for too long. One day he started crying and couldn't stop; he'd been overdoing everything for so long and just couldn't continue. It took a long time for him to start getting better: therapy helped, as did another job and changes to his family life. The main factor, though, was a small rescue dog.



The joys of a dog's company: you garden and Lucy assists (?) by lying where you've just dug and/or planted, and uses the watering can as a water bowl...



"Taking her out for walks," he said, "getting out into fresh air, just putting one foot in front of the other, that lifts your spirits. And then there's nothing like having a dog curled up beside you, even when you feel absolutely miserable. She'll check my face anxiously, as if she knows something is wrong. And that makes me smile – and that somehow makes you feel better. There is just something magic about dogs. Honestly, she got me through."

Why should this be? What causes these therapeutic effects? One important aspect appears to be social recognition: the process of identifying another being as someone important and significant to you. It seems that the bond that forms between owner and pet is similar to the bond that a mother forms with her baby. The importance of social recognition is acknow-

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ledged more and more for the role it plays in helping us to form networks. We understand now that healthy social bonds can play a vital role in mental health; without them, we become lonely, depressed and physically unwell... and it seems that pets can fulfil that role. They can be a lifeline for socially-isolated people.

Caring for a dog and the responsibility of having a dog can be a big burden, so if you have doubts about whether you can cope – or whether you *want* the responsibility – don't acquire one, because a dog doesn't come 'ready to use'. You have to choose one that'll suit your circumstances. To have a large dog in a tower block really wouldn't be sensible, for example, so consider things like where you live (town or country?), where you'll exercise the dog, and so on. You'll have to commit to training the dog, and to teaching it that *you* are the boss, otherwise the dog will rule your life.

Once you've taken the plunge you'll soon realise that pet care and self-care are intimately linked. Take a dog out for a walk and people talk to you: that may be an isolated person's only social contact the whole day. If you have a cat, you can have a conversation with someone standing in the pet food aisle in the supermarket, deciding which brand to buy. When a pet-owner leaves home to buy pet food, he/she is more likely to buy food for himself/herself; when he/she feeds a pet, he/she will sit down to eat as well. People with disabilities often find that able-bodied people are socially awkward with them; if they have a dog it breaks down barriers and allows a more comfortable and natural interaction.



Rhos Llaniestyn early one April morning as the fog was lifting, the gorse in bloom and every web covered in dew as far as the eye could see. Such a sight, but would I have seen it had I not been out and about with Lucy and my smartphone?...

Social recognition is something that humans share with a few mammals, including sheep and prairie voles. We are primed to look after those with whom we've made social bonds: for example, we don't take any old dog home with us from the park.

Scientists have some understanding of social recognition and where it takes place in the brain, but don't entirely understand how it happens. The missing link could be oxytocin, the so-called *hug, love, cuddle* hormone. It has a vital role in childbirth, lactation and sperm movement, but it also has an increasingly recognised role in our social behaviour, acting as a chemical messenger in pathways that control sexual arousal, recognition, trust, mother-infant and human-pet bonding. It works in tandem with another brain hormone, vasopressin, to help to modulate our response to stress and deal with social situations. Unsurprisingly, there's a lot of interest in a possible role for oxytocin in addiction, brain injury, anorexia, depression, autism and severe anxiety.

Pets and therapy animals are recognised as being good for our mental health in other ways. As well as helping to alleviate stress, anxiety, depression and loneliness, there are all the benefits that come from having to exercise a dog. Daily walks

outdoors boost our physical and emotional wellbeing. Throwing sticks, picking up balls and playing with a dog can provide an all-round workout.

I have Little Lucy, successor to my much-missed Tilly. I live on my own but I'm not depressed or lonely. I'm sure, though, that I wouldn't take nearly as much exercise as Lucy makes me take... I say 'makes' because, small though she is, she takes a lot of walking, and seems not to mind what the weather's like... so I have to gird my loins when it's cold and wet and wrap up well... and I end up thoroughly enjoying the walk.



Mid-June, Lôn Capel Peniel, Llanddona, waiting for Lucy to sniff a blade of grass at the side of the lane... I saw a small metallic green insect on a wild rose, pointed my smartphone at it and was photobombed by a bee! Such an uplifting experience...

I meet other people. We grizzle about the weather. Lucy sniffs *everything*: the grass, the lamp posts, other dogs, what other dogs produce, people. She takes her time doing so: anything up to a minute 'reading' a blade of grass. That means no rushing, and that means I look at my surroundings. It's astonishing just how much of the minutiae of life I see while I'm waiting for Lucy to sniff something (usually) unsavoury or root about in the undergrowth, so I rarely go for a walk with her without pocketing my smartphone, not because it's a phone but because it has a good camera in it for capturing a bee on a flower, spider webs in the misty early sun after a foggy night... and, of course, there's Lucy's company as well.

That brings me back to the beginning of this article. The therapy of having a dog, walking a dog, caring for a dog: there are so many spin-offs, so many benefits... and so many responsibilities. If you don't have a dog, don't want one or are unable to have one there's nothing to stop you asking a friend or neighbour who has a dog if you might accompany him/her on a dog walk. The answer will almost certainly be 'yes'.

Be sure to read our article on the subject of loneliness in **The Puffin** 58, November 2026. It will cover the sources of help that are available.

I could go on, but I won't. My on-line search criterion was *benefits of having a dog*, and it was amazing how many useful links appeared. Here are a few of the links.

- 'Dogs have a magic effect': how pets can improve our mental health
www.theguardian.com/society/2020/mar/17/dogs-have-a-magic-effect-the-power-of-pets-on-our-mental-health
- Pet ownership and human health: a brief review of evidence and issues
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC1289326/>
- The health benefits of owning a dog, according to science
www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/dog-health-benefits-study-manage-stress-b2839695.html



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- Sbasmau a chrampiau cyhyrau; Muscle spasms and cramps
- Fasgiitis plantar; Plantar fasciitis
- Tensiwn ac anallu i ymlacio; Tension and inability to relax



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📰 New Study Reveals Dogs' Remarkable Impact on Mental Health: 81% of Brits Experience Reduced Stress And Anxiety
www.yourpetsdaily.co.uk/article/2024/01/07/new-study-reveals-dogs-remarkable-impact-mental-health-81-brits-experience

Allech chi fod yn Ddiffoddwr Tân? 🐾

Andrew Perrott & Mavis Bishop

Ymunwch â'r tîm yng Ngorsaf Dân Biwmares!

Mae Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Gogledd Cymru yn parhau â'i ymgyrch recriwtio ar gyfer Diffoddwyr Tân Ar Alwad yng Ngorsaf Dân Biwmares.

Mae Rhys Williams, Rheolwr Recriwtio ac Argaeledd ar gyfer ardal y Gorllewin yng Ngwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Gogledd Cymru, yn egluro mwy:

"Mae Diffoddwyr Tân Ar Alwad yn unigolion medrus sy'n dod o amrywiaeth eang o gefndiroedd ac sy'n darparu gwasanaeth gyda'r nos, yn ystod y dydd neu ar benwythnosau er mwyn helpu i ddiogelu'r cymunedau lle maent yn byw neu'n gweithio.

"Rwy'n falch iawn o allu rhannu ein bod wedi recriwtio dau Ddiffoddwr Tân Ar Alwad newydd yn ddiweddar iawn yng Ngorsaf Dân Biwmares – Henri a Bryn.

"Mae gennym hefyd ragor o bobl sydd wedi mynegi diddordeb ac rydym yn gobeithio y byddant yn mynychu cwrs cychwynnol yn fuan ac yn ymuno â'r tîm yma ym Miwmares.

"Hoffwn ddiolch i bawb sydd wedi cefnogi ein hymdrechion recriwtio i helpu i ddiogelu ein cymuned, ac annog trigolion i ystyried – allech chi fod yn Ddiffoddwr Tân?"

Bydd Henri a Bryn yn ymuno â'r Rheolwyr Criw Geraint a Kelwyn, ynghyd â'r Diffoddwyr Tân Carwyn a Dai yn yr orsaf.

Ymwelwyd â'r orsaf ym mis Mehefin, lle cawsom gyfle i gyfarfod â Rhys, Geraint, Dai, Henri a Bryn.

Darllenwch ymlaen i ddysgu mwy amdanynt!

Geraint

"Ymunais â chriw Biwmares 39 mlynedd yn ôl – ac mae'r 39 mlynedd hynny wedi hedfan.

"Mae criwiau Ar Alwad yn yn dod â chymaint o sgiliau gwahanol at ei gilydd, ac mae hynny'n creu tîm arbennig o gryf – tîm rwy'n falch iawn o fod yn rhan ohono.

"Dilynaïs ôl traed fy nheulu – bu fy nhad yn gwasanaethu am 23 mlynedd o'm blaen. Mewn gwirionedd, rydym i gyd yn un teulu.

"Mae'n ymrwymiad mawr, yn sicr – ond mae'n wirioneddol werth chweil."

Dai

"Ymunais fel Diffoddwr Tân Ar Alwad ym Miwmares dair blynedd yn ôl, a dyma'r peth gorau i mi ei wneud erioed. Dechreuais gyda'r Cadetiaid Tân, a rhoddodd hynny gymaint o hyder i mi. Mae'n deimlad gwych gallu helpu a chefnogi fy nghymuned.

"Rwy'n hunangyflogedig ac yn gweithio yn y dref, felly rwy'n gallu darparu argaeledd da yn yr orsaf.

"Mae cwrdd â phobl newydd yn wych, ac rwy'n mwynhau gweithio fel rhan o dîm.

"Byddwn yn ei argymhell i unrhyw un!"

Henri

"Rwyf newydd gwblhau fy nghwrs cychwynnol wythnos o hyd, ac fe wnes i ei fwynhau'n fawr – mae'n rhywbeth hollol wahanol i unrhyw beth rwyf wedi'i wneud o'r blaen.

"Heddiw, cefais fy mhejar ac rwyf bellach yn rhan o dîm yr orsaf.

"Mae llawer mwy i'r swydd nag oeddwn i'n ei feddwl i ddechrau – nid diffodd tanau yn unig yw hi.

"Mae'r Gwasanaeth a'r criw wedi bod yn hynod groesawgar, ac rwy'n edrych ymlaen yn fawr at ddysgu mwy."

Bryn

"Rwyf wedi cael lle ar fy nghwrs cychwynnol y mis nesaf ac alla' i ddim aros.

"Roeddwn yn chwilio am waith gwirfoddol pan welais yr hysbysebion ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol am yrfa fel Diffoddwr Tân Ar Alwad.

"Rwy'n hoffi'r ffaith ei fod yn eich helpu i gadw'n heini ac yn llawn cymhelliant, ac yn rhoi'r cyfle i chi ddysgu sgiliau newydd.

"Mae'r tîm wedi bod mor groesawgar – rwyf wedi mwynhau'r profiad hyd yn hyn ac yn edrych ymlaen at ymuno â'r criw a mynd allan ar alwadau."

Ychwanegodd Rhys:

"Rydym yn dal ati i recriwtio yn yr orsaf – mae eich gorsaf dân leol eich angen chi! Byddwn yn annog unrhyw un sydd â diddordeb i gael gwybod mwy am ymuno â'r tîm gwych yma ym Miwmares.

"Mae ein Diffoddwyr Tân Ar Alwad yn dod o bob cefndir – nid oes y fath beth â diffoddwr tân 'nodweddiadol'.

"Ewch i edrych ar ein gwefan, ffoniwch fi'n uniongyrchol, neu dewch draw i noson ymarfer yr orsaf ar nos Lun i gael gwybod mwy."

Rhagor o wybodaeth

I gael rhagor o wybodaeth ac i gofrestru eich diddordeb, sganiwch y codau QR.



Cymraeg



English

📰 North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
www.tangogleddcymru.llyw.cymru
www.northwalesfire.gov.wales



Could you be a Firefighter?

Andrew Perrott & Mavis Bishop

Join the team at Beaumaris Fire Station!

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service is continuing the recruitment drive for On-Call Firefighters based at Beaumaris Fire Station.

Rhys Williams, Recruitment and Availability Manager for the West area at North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, explains more:

"On-Call Firefighters are skilled individuals who come from a wide variety of backgrounds and provide evening, daytime or weekend cover to help protect the communities in which they live or work.

"I'm thrilled to share that we have very recently recruited two new On-Call Firefighters at Beaumaris station: Henri and Bryn.

"We've also got more interested people who will hopefully be attending an initial course soon and will be joining the team here at Beaumaris.



Geraint



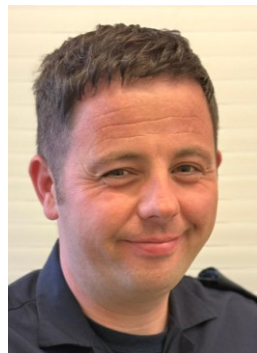
Dai



Henri



Bryn



Rhys

"I'd like to thank everyone who has supported our recruitment efforts to help safeguard our community, and appeal to residents to consider – could you be a Firefighter?"

Henri and Bryn will be joining Crew Managers Geraint and Kelwyn and Firefighters Carwyn and Dai at the station.

We visited the station in June and met Rhys, Geraint, Dai, Henri and Bryn.

Read more and find out more about them!

Geraint

"I joined the crew at Beaumaris 39 years ago – and those 39 years have flown.

"On-Call crews bring so many skills together, which makes for such a strong team – a team I am so proud to be part of.

"I've followed the footsteps of my family – my Dad served for 23 years before me. In reality, we're all one family.

"It is definitely a big commitment – but it really is worth it."



Cefn (o'r chwith i'r dde): Dai, Rhys, Geraint
Blaen (o'r chwith i'r dde): Henri, Bryn
(lluniau'r criw/crew photographs: Rhian Williams)

Dai

"I joined as an On-Call Firefighter at Beaumaris three years ago and it's the best thing I've ever done. I initially joined the Fire Cadets, and it gave me so much confidence. It feels so good to be able help and support my community.

"I'm self employed and work in the town so able to offer good cover on station.

"Meeting new people is brilliant, and I really enjoy working as part of a team.

"I'd recommend it to anyone!"

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Henri

"I've just finished my week-long initial course, and I really enjoyed it- it's something totally different to anything I've done before.

"I picked up my pager today and will now be part of the team on the station.

"There is so much more to the job than I first thought – it's not just fighting fires.

"The Service and the crew have been really welcoming, and I'm really looking forward to learning more."

Bryn

"I'm booked on to complete my initial course next month and I can't wait.

"I was looking to do some volunteering work and saw the adverts come up on social media for a career as an On-Call Firefighter.

"I like that it helps you to keep fit and motivated and allows you to learn new skills.

"The team has been so welcoming - I've really enjoyed the experience so far and I'm looking forward to joining the crew and getting on the run."

Rhys added:

"We're still actively recruiting on station – your local station needs you! I'd encourage anyone interested to find out more about joining the amazing team here at Beaumaris.

"Our On-Call Firefighters come from all walks of life – there is no such thing as a typical firefighter.

"Take a look at the website, or you can call me direct or come along to our drill night on station on a Monday evening to find out more."

More information

To find out more and register your interest scan the QR codes.



Cymraeg



English

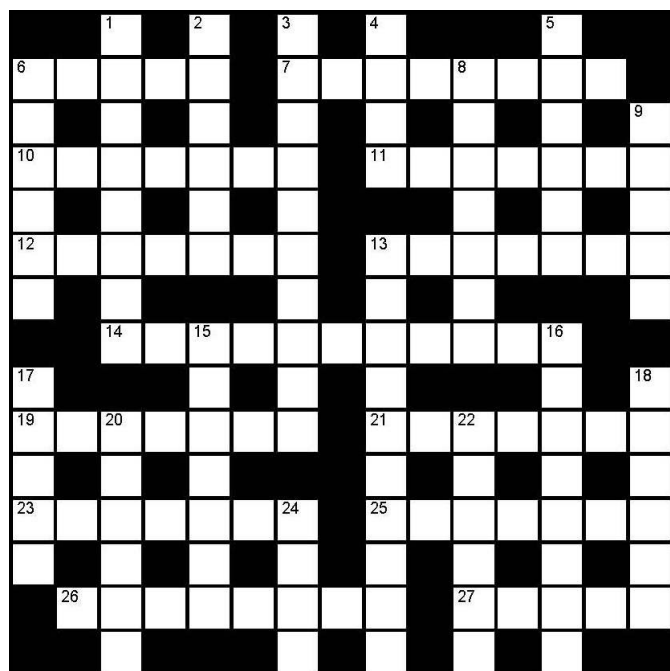
North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
www.tangogleddecymru.llyw.cymru
www.northwalesfire.gov.wales

Are you a fire appliance anorak?

Andrew Perrott, with thanks to Rhys Williams, Recruitment and Availability Manager, West Area

The Beaumaris fire appliance is a Bremach Extreme 60 4x4, custom built on a Bremach chassis by coachbuilders Angloco.

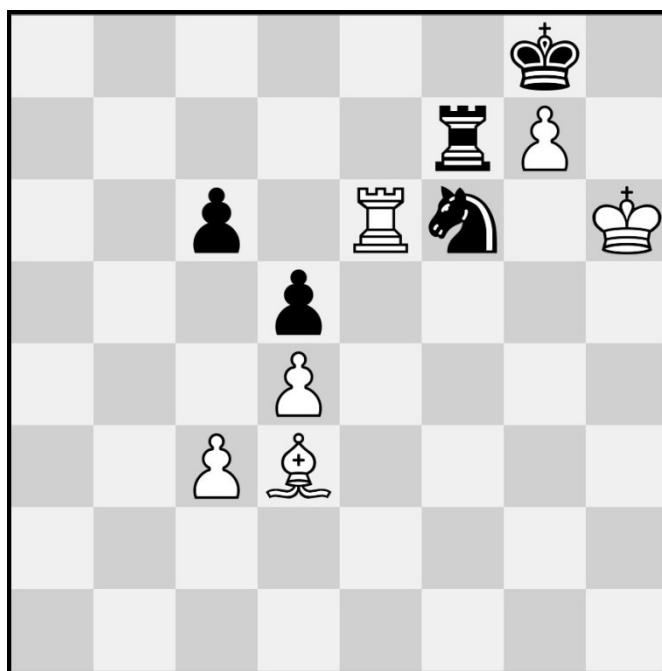
The Governor's Quick Crossword 25



Across

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 6 Split (5) | 19 Five singers? (7) |
| 7 Plane velocity (8) | 21 Planet (7) |
| 10 Public speaking (7) | 23 To blink (anag) (7) |
| 11 Hostile to norms (7) | 25 Writers (7) |
| 12 Object to (7) | 26 Resent (8) |
| 13 Last day of Christmas? (7) | 27 Hit (5) |
| 14 Tinged with sadness (11) | |

Fianchetto 66's Chess 16



Down

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Ritual killing (8) | 13 Foreman? (10) |
| 2 In (2,4) | 15 Signifying status? (7) |
| 3 Financial security (4,6) | 16 Sign of agreement (6-2) |
| 4 Fertiliser (4) | 17 Fit out (5) |
| 5 Religion, maybe? (6) | 18 Mint plant (6) |
| 6 Rough (6) | 20 Printer type (3-3) |
| 8 Speech sound (7) | 22 Scarcity (6) |
| 9 Pacific greeting? (5) | 24 May be high or low (4) |

The solutions are on page 42

It's one of a fleet of five used by North Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

The Bremach is engineered specifically for narrow access and challenging terrain. It has an 800-litre water tank and carries much of the same equipment as a standard fire appliance, albeit in smaller quantities due to its compact size.



Beaumaris's Bremach Extreme 60 4x4 at rest in the Fire Station

Bremach

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bremach>

It offers all the essential capabilities of a standard appliance, but in a much smaller package, allowing it to reach locations that larger fire engines cannot reach. It is also fitted with a fogging system that uses a low water volume mist to cool flames and saturate vegetation when dealing with wildfires.

Bremach

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bremach>

Chess: Bletchley Park and its influence on the outcome of the Second World War

Fianchetto 66

In its infancy, some might say that Bletchley Park could have been referred to as the "Home of the Chess Players", and a popular nickname for the Government Code and Cypher School (GC&CS) at the time was in fact the "Golf, Cheese and Chess Society".

In his book *Chess and Machine Intuition*, George Atkinson stated that the Bletchley Park Director, Commander Alastair Denniston, 'understood that chess players tend to make good cryptographers... both activities depend on trained intuition, the ability to recognise patterns within specific contexts'.

Intriguingly, the most famous member of the Bletchley pantheon, Alan Turing, wasn't the supreme chess player in the Park. That accolade goes to Hugh Alexander, a fascinating character who might eventually have become a Grandmaster had the war not intervened. A brilliant man, Alexander succeeded Alan Turing as Head of Hut 8, was the Sunday Times chess columnist in the sixties and seventies, became Head of Cryptanalysis at GCHQ, and in popular culture was played by Matthew Goode in the 2014 film *The Imitation Game*.

There were many other chess titans at Bletchley Park, but Alexander remains my favourite, if only for his wit. He once wrote, that in his opinion '...it is very difficult to lose at chess with good grace. This is because in chess, being entirely a game of skill, you cannot sooth your wounded vanity by thinking that the cards were against you, that you find grass so slow after hard courts, that the sun was in your eyes when you missed the catch – there are no extraneous influences on which your defeat can be blamed; you are the sole cause of your own downfall'.

I visited "The Park" last summer and was struck by the immense influence on the outcome of the Second World War that the men and women there had, so must pay tribute to them within this column.

The connections between the development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the pioneers at Bletchley Park are legion, so it seemed right to turn in that direction for this issue's puzzle. When asked for a two-move (white to play) checkmate puzzle, this is what AI came up with.

📄 Bletchley Park

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bletchley_Park

📄 Bletchley Park

<https://www.bletchleypark.org.uk>

📄 George Atkinson: Chess and Machine Intuition (free download)

https://archive.org/details/chessmachineintu0000atki_v9d2

📄 Alan Turing

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Turing

📄 Conel Hugh O'Donel Alexander

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conel_Hugh_O%27Donel_Alexander

📄 Hugh Alexander - The Imitation Game

www.awesomestories.com/pdf/make/153326

Llangoed WI

Deborah Booth, Press Officer

April

We were visited by Peter Hughes from the Marie Curie end-of-life charity. Peter gave an interesting talk about the charity, from its foundation in 1948 up to and including its work in the present day. I am sure that at some time or another, all readers of **The Puffin** have had, or will have, experience of the wonderful care and attention provided by this completely donation-funded organisation.

The scientist, Marie Curie, gave her permission for an inaugural hospital to use her name; it was founded in 1930 in London and opened by Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin. The hospital was staffed entirely by women to treat female cancer patients using radiology, and included research facilities. The hospital was destroyed during an air raid in 1944.

The Marie Curie International Memorial was formally established in 1948 and shortly afterwards became the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation. This was the beginning of the charity now known as Marie Curie. It began by dedicating itself to caring for people with cancer, but today has evolved into the leading UK end-of-life charity for people with any terminal illness, including motor neurone disease, Parkinson's and dementia.

📄 Marie Curie

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marie_Curie

📄 Marie Curie

www.mariecurie.org.uk

May

If you have ever walked any of the local footpaths, you will have undoubtedly come across work carried out by Grŵp Natur Seiriol; see also page 6. At our May meeting, the Group's secretary, Janet, came to tell our ladies all about its activities, which include pruning, building bridges and fire-breaks, hedging, coppicing and installing wool paths, to mention just a few. The Group consists of around 40 members of various ages, who pay an annual subscription of just £5.

Grŵp Natur Seiriol was lucky enough to be awarded a grant at the end of 2025 which has enabled them to carry on the work started by Cwllwm Seiriol, whose funding ended in 2024.

puffinpages@gmail.com

The Group also holds regular community events, including craft days, insect studies and fungi identification.

📄 Grŵp Natur Seiriol

www.facebook.com/groups/1123620066159478/

One of our members, Yvonne, gave a report of the WI Federation's annual meeting, which was held at Llangevni town hall at the end of April. The report included an overview of the Federation's work over the last year, and an introduction of the new Federation Board of Trustees members. The speaker was our own Steve MacVicar, and his talk was very informative and entertaining.

June

We had a globally holistic time at our meeting in June (!), when Tanya Hughes (who can be found at the Wellness Clinic in Beaumaris), came to demonstrate the healing techniques of reiki, reflexology and Indian head massage, thanks to willing victims, I mean *volunteers*, Sue Flack, Chrissy Newsham, Annie Barstow and me. Tanya described all the benefits which can be achieved through the use of holistic therapies, including insomnia, depression, joint pain and weight problems.

Reflexology is a Chinese practice, and generally involves applying pressure to hands, feet and ears. It was fascinating to learn how parts of the body are mirrored in the feet. Sue really enjoyed her treatment.

I achieved the much sought after 'bed-head' hair-do, after experiencing the Indian head massage, which uses pressure points in the head, neck and shoulders to help with insomnia, hair growth and improved concentration. Headaches can also be alleviated through this technique. Annie and Chrissy had the reiki treatment, which is of Japanese origin, and which can be used to achieve balance and well-being, and to combat depression, anxiety and joint pain.

There was quite a queue of ladies waiting to write their names in Tanya's appointment book at the end of the session!

Contact Tanya:

☎ 07799 319 581

✉ tanyamariehughes@gmail.com

July

We were joined by Kristoffer Hughes, celebrated author, presenter and Chief Druid of the Anglesey Druid Order. He gave a fascinating and entertaining talk about the origins, history and practice of Druidism. We were all riveted, and could have happily listened to him for another hour.

📄 Anglesey Druid Order

<https://www.angleseydruidorder.co.uk/>

Meetings, etc.

The WI does not officially meet in August, but we are having an informal picnic at the Village Hall. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 2 September, and will be a craft session. In October Caitlin McGonigle, a police support officer, is coming to tell us how to be safe at home and on line.

There's so much to look forward to!

Llangoed WI meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in the back room of Neuadd Bentref Llangoed Village Hall. You can come along to three meetings to 'try before you buy', so please do feel free to join us. We're a friendly bunch who welcome new members.

For more information, please contact our secretary, Chrissy Newsham:

☎ 07836 272488

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Sioe Flodau Llangoed 2026 🌸

Julie Upmeyer

Trawsnewidiodd Sioe Flodau Llangoed 2026 Neuadd Bentreff Llangoed unwaith eto yn ddathliad o flodau, llysiau, pobi, cyff-eithiau, ffotograffiaeth, barddoniaeth, crefftau a chreadigrwydd.

O giwcymbrau wedi'u tyfu'n ofalus a chacennau teilwng o wobri i ffotograffau, cerddi a gweithiau celf dychmygus, roedd y Neuadd yn llawn lliw, sgwrsio ac ysbryd cymunedol. Fel erioed, roedd adran y plant yn uchafbwynt arbennig, gan arddangos creadigrwydd a brwdfrydedd gwneuthurwyr, tyfwyr a chrewyr ifanc y pentref.

Ymhlith y dosbarthiadau newydd eleni roedd y categori poblogaidd 'Anifail wedi'i Wneud o Ffrwythau a Llysiau' ar gyfer plant ac oedolion. O'r hynod ddoniol i'r rhyfeddol o realistig, profodd y ceisiadau fod llysiau'n gallu bod yn llawer mwy na rhywbeth ar ochr cinio dydd Sul.

Mae Sioe Flodau Llangoed yn parhau i ddangos bod sioeau garddwriaethol yn ymwneud â llawer mwy na blodau. Maent yn gyfle i rannu sgiliau, dathlu creadigrwydd, dysgu oddi wrth ein gilydd a dod â'r gymuned ynghyd.

Diolch yn fawr i'n holl arddangoswyr, beirniaid, gwirfoddolwyr

photographs, poems and imaginative artworks, the Hall was filled with colour, conversation and community spirit. As always, the children's section was a particular highlight, showcasing the creativity and enthusiasm of the village's younger makers, growers and creators.

Among the new classes this year was the eagerly anticipated 'Animal Made from Fruits & Vegetables' category for children and adults. From the mildly ridiculous to the surprisingly life-like, the entries proved that vegetables can be much more than something served with Sunday lunch.

The Llangoed Flower Show continues to demonstrate that horticultural shows are about far more than flowers. They are an opportunity to share skills, celebrate creativity, learn from one another and bring the community together.

A huge thank you goes to all our exhibitors, judges, volunteers and committee members, whose hard work and enthusiasm made the day possible. We would also like to thank our generous category sponsors for their continued support.

More photographs and a full list of winners can be found at:

📁 Sioe Flodau Llangoed Flower Show

www.facebook.com/sioe.flodau.llangoed.flower.show/



(lluniau/photographs: John Draper)



ac aelodau'r pwyllgor, y gwnaeth eu gwaith caled a'u brwdfrydedd wneud y diwrnod yn bosibl. Hoffem hefyd ddiolch i'n noddwyr dosbarthiadau hael am eu cefnogaeth barhaus.

Mae rhagor o luniau a rhestr lawn o'r enillwyr ar gael yn:

📁 Sioe Flodau Llangoed Flower Show
<https://cy.llangoedflowershow.com>

📁 @llangoedflowershow

📁 Sioe Flodau Llangoed Flower Show
www.facebook.com/sioe.flodau.llangoed.flower.show/

Welwn ni chi yng Ngŵyl y Cynhaeaf ar 17/18 Hydref!



Llangoed Flower Show 2026

Julie Upmeyer

The 2026 Llangoed Flower Show transformed Llangoed Village Hall once again into a celebration of flowers, vegetables, baking, preserves, photography, poetry, crafts and creativity.

From carefully cultivated cucumbers and prize-worthy cakes to

📁 @llangoedflowershow

📁 Sioe Flodau Llangoed Flower Show
www.facebook.com/sioe.flodau.llangoed.flower.show/

See you at the Harvest Festival on 17/18 October!

Nature notes: lizards and snakes, our native reptiles... and a few bird observations

Roz Hattey

It's been a strange spring and early summer this year: an official heatwave of several days in late May followed by many days in June with below average temperatures, strong winds and some heavy rain, too, and then another very hot spell at the end of June!.

These haven't been easy conditions for some of our breeding birds, especially those dependent on flying insects for their food supply, like swallows, house martins and swifts. In late June however, and now heading into another official heatwave, it's been encouraging to see good numbers of recently fledged house martins flying around Beaumaris and a family of swallows managing to raise four of their six chicks successfully. We watched five fledglings huddled together on a wire above the nest every evening for a week in cool, wet conditions

with an adult preening and chattering encouragement on a nearby TV aerial. Then the four surviving fledglings were off flying and feeding in ideal conditions.

Below, when the lawn hadn't been mown for a while, a young pied flycatcher was learning to dart around after insects. Its expert parents were jumping up and almost doing headstands as they pursued their food! Six swifts are thrilling us again on fine evenings as they speed overhead, screaming. Hopefully they are still nesting in the town. We are still hoping to confirm that at least one pair is nesting in the new nest-boxes on the Canolfan. Twice last year a swift was seen entering the box at the front of the building, so they certainly know the boxes are there!

Let's have a look at reptiles now, focusing on our six native species. This article was prompted by **The Puffin's** typesetter, Andrew Perrott, who was delighted to find a slow-worm in his Llanddona garden in April.

I was hoping to attract slow-worms to my own garden over the last few years by laying down a sheet or two of corrugated iron to provide a warm, dark retreat. So far unsuccessful, but I did spot an interesting incident in Llanddona some years ago when driving home along the narrow land leading to the police radio mast. A buzzard was trying to predate quite a large slow-worm which was writhing on the road. The bird repeatedly picked it up and tried to fly off with it but it wriggled free and dropped back onto the road. The buzzard did win in the end but only after quite a struggle.

Another slow-worm memory takes me back to childhood days. Two of my primary school friends were each given a young slow-worm as a pet (hopefully they are no longer sold in pet shops). I thought Samantha and Sammy (or was it Sally?) were beautiful in their shiny, bronze-coloured armour with black stripes along their backs. I was quite envious of my friends but had to be satisfied with Tommy the tortoise. The trouble with him was he was rather grumpy, always retreating into his shell when approached with a lettuce-leaf. He was also an escape artist, often disappearing from our garden for days, only to be returned by a kind neighbour (we'd put his name and address on the underside of his shell). Once he walked about half a mile, uphill, and was found heading towards a busy main road. Perhaps we should have tethered him, but we didn't and eventually he disappeared for good. Tommy was probably a Hermann's tortoise, from southern Europe, so maybe not surprising that he wasn't much smitten by our suburban London garden.

A life-long interest in amphibians and reptiles began when I was young, sparked by Tommy and the slow-worms. We also had a population of smooth newts in our small garden pond and I knew when they returned there in the spring and the males developed lovely orange tummies with black spots and a wavy crest along their backs, showing that it was time for them to breed. We sometimes watched their lively courtship which resulted in eggs being laid and fertilised, singly, in the water on pondweed leaves. I also knew, to my shame, that if they are taken out of the water and not kept somewhere damp, even for quite a short time, newts' skins will dry and they gradually die of desiccation.

Reptiles are different. Evolving from water-dependent amphibians in the swamps of the late Carboniferous period, 310-320 million years ago, reptiles developed the all-important amniotic egg. This has a tough, protective shell which is a self-sufficient structure that can be laid on land. The amphibians' aquatic larval phase was dispensed with as reptilian eggs contain a special fluid-filled sac with a yolk full of nutritional substances. There were other major evolutionary changes in the reptiles. Their skin thickened, protecting them from dehydration and shocks on dry land, and their lungs allowed them to breathe in air, so the skin was needed for gaseous exchanges no longer. Reptiles' skeletons also developed strong bones which strengthened the limbs enabling them to support the

body on dry land and allow much faster and more co-ordinated movement.

Reptiles are not really cold-blooded as much of their lives are spent with their bodies almost as warm as a warm-blooded animal. It's more accurate to describe them as *ectothermic*, that is having variable body temperatures. They regulate their body temperature mostly by exchanging heat with their surroundings. If they are cold lizards and snakes seek warmer areas on rocks, sand or vegetation heated by the sun so they can warm up and become more active. I think that's the only time I've seen common lizards, basking on rocks or walls in the sun. Reptiles have no way of producing and maintaining their own body heat. They can survive very cold weather by going into a hibernation-like state known as *brumation*.

Reptiles now inhabit terrestrial environments almost everywhere on Earth, with the majority of species found in tropical and sub-tropical regions. There is none in the intensely cold regions of Antarctica, Greenland, Iceland or land around the Arctic Circle. There is an enormous variety of species ranging from the largely tree-dwelling chameleons, geckos and some iguanas, to the turtles and crocodiles of freshwater and marine habitats.

There are more than 7,000 formally described species of lizard in the world, across more than 40 classified families. Some are very large, like the famous Komodo Dragon of Indonesia, which can be more than 3m (10') long and up to 140kg (310 lb) in weight, and the Nile Monitor, Africa's largest lizard.

Then there are the snakes. There are 4,170 species of snake world-wide, across 30 different families. The longest is the Reticulated Python, from south and south-east Asia, which is around 7m (more than 20') long. The heaviest is the Green Anaconda of South America, weighing in at more than 227kg (500 lb).

The UK has very few native reptiles in comparison even with mainland Europe. We have three lizards (the common wall lizard, the sand lizard and the slow-worm) and three snakes (grass snake, smooth snake and adder). All are legally protected in some way under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This is because their populations have declined over recent decades owing to habitat loss and degradation as a result of agricultural intensification, building development, new roads, mineral extraction and afforestation. Increased public access, especially by off-road vehicles, disturbs animals and damages habitats. Domestic cats and roaming pheasants (originally introduced from Asia) kill and injure many reptiles, and snakes often die after getting caught in narrow-mesh netting used to protect ponds and vegetable patches. Toxic slug bait can also kill reptiles.

The common wall- or viviparous lizard (illustration ①), *Podarcis muralis*, inhabits rocky slopes, dry walls, ruined buildings, sea-cliffs, moorland, heathland and woodland margins and scrub. It is the most abundant and widespread reptile in the UK. Its colour and patternings are very variable. It is very agile, able to climb vertical surfaces and to leap quite long distances. It will dive into water to escape predators. Active only by day, it feeds on insects and small spiders. It is hunted by weasels, shrews, birds, other lizards and snakes. Partial legal protection makes it an offence to kill, injure or sell common lizards.

The sand lizard (illustration ②), *Lacerta agilis*, is now rare in the UK and given full legal protection, largely due to habitat loss and fragmentation. Natural native populations only survive in lowland heathlands in Dorset, Hampshire and Surrey and coastal dunes in Merseyside. These lizards have been successfully re-introduced by conservation groups in north and west Wales, Kent, West Sussex, Devon, Cornwall and the Hebrides. They need south-facing sand, bare and undisturbed, for females to dig and lay eggs. The sand lizard's overall colour is green, grey or brownish, with a wide dark band along



① Common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), Otmoor RSPB Reserve, Oxfordshire (Charles J. Sharp)
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Quality_images_of_Zootoca_vivipara#/media/File:Common_lizard_\(Zootoca_vivipara\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Quality_images_of_Zootoca_vivipara#/media/File:Common_lizard_(Zootoca_vivipara).jpg)



② Sand lizard (George Chernilevsky)
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Quality_images_of_Lacerta_agilis#/media/File:Sand_Lizard_2008_G3.jpg



③ 27 April 2026: the head of a slow worm in a Llanddona garden; the colouring is spectacular, a beautiful mottled metallic gold on the dorsal surface

the centre of its back and a series of dark spots or blotches. Its flanks often have similar marks. The male has greenish flanks. It feeds on insects and spiders. Sand lizards are given full legal protection making it illegal to capture or intentionally disturb them without a licence or to damage their breeding or resting places.

The slow-worm (illustration ③), *Anguis fragilis*, is our third species of lizard. It is often thought to be a snake as it is limbless and moves in a serpentine way. It is often found in decaying woodland leaf litter as well as in damp habitats associated with human activity: gardens, rubbish dumps and quarries. It feeds on earth-worms, small snails, insects and especially slugs, so it's good news to find a slow-worm in your garden! These animals are partially protected by law so that it is illegal to intentionally or recklessly kill or injure them or to trade them.

The grass snake (illustration ④), *Natrix natrix*, is also sometimes found in gardens, especially where there is a good-sized pond or a damp compost heap. It is also often found in wet meadows, marshes and along banks of rivers, streams, canals and drainage ditches. It feeds on frogs, toads and fish and can swim well.

The grass snake can be quite large, up to 2 metres (more than 6 ft) in length. It has an elongated head with large round eyes and round pupils. It is not aggressive, seldom bites and is non-venomous. The colouration is very variable ranging from olive-brown to steel-grey or black. Some of these snakes have dark cross-bars and spots on their sides and backs. Most populations have a dark-bordered white, yellow or orange collar behind the head. The females lay eggs in hollow logs or under compost heaps or piles of manure.

The smooth snake (illustration ⑤), *Coronella austriaca*, is another harmless creature. It frequents dry, sunny habitats such as sandy heathlands in the south of England. Sadly, these habitats have largely disappeared with agricultural reclamation and housing development, so this species is now rare in the UK. There are still good populations on some Dorset heaths and in the New Forest, where they can be found in long heath-

er and in underground retreats. The longest specimens of are 92cm (3 ft) in length. The smooth snake has a small head and tiny eyes with round pupils. The back is brown, pinkish or grey with pairs of dark spots running along the middle. There is a thin, dark line on the sides of the head, running from the nostril, through the eye onto the neck. These snakes hunt small lizards and young snakes, usually killing them by coiling around them and suffocating them. This is another egg-laying species. Smooth snakes are given full legal protection under both British and European law so that it is illegal to capture or disturb them without a licence or to intentionally damage their habitat.

The UK's only venomous reptile is the adder (illustration ⑥), *Vipera berus*. It can reach 89 cm (almost 3 ft) in length. It has a flat head and snout. The eyes are quite small with vertical pupils (cf grass and smooth snakes). On the back of the head are two dark, converging stripes, sometimes joined to form an X or an inverted V. The overall colour can be grey, brownish or reddish. There is a dark band or zig-zag stripe along the vertebral line which extends from the nape of the neck to the tip of the tail. Adders can be found on coastal dunes (I encountered one on the short board-walk to Llanddona beach, opposite the car-park), heaths, moors and peatlands (I encountered another on an upland peat-bog amongst heather and gorse). They have a varied diet, including small mammals, nestlings, amphibians and lizards.

Adders are viviparous, that is giving birth to live young, unlike our other snakes. They produce between three and 20 tiny offspring in late summer. During the spring breeding season rival males compete in a dramatic territorial wrestling match known as the 'adder dance'. Depending on climate, altitude and natural food supply, they may only reproduce every two or three years, rather than annually. If you do come across an adder, stand still and it will eventually move away from you: it is not programmed to attack unless hunting suitable prey or if surprised or directly threatened. Keep dogs on a lead if you are in known adder habitats. Adders are now highly threatened facing severe population declines owing to habitat loss



④ Grass snakes, Lower Moor Nature Reserve, Gloucestershire (Gail Hampshire)
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Natrix_natrix#/media/File:Grass_Snake_-_Natrix_natrix_\(52395240773\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Natrix_natrix#/media/File:Grass_Snake_-_Natrix_natrix_(52395240773).jpg)



⑤ Smooth snake (Christian Fischer)
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Coronella_austriaca#/media/File:CoronellaAustriaca1.jpg



⑥ Adder (Józef Kazimierz Sokółowski)
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e8/Vipera_berus.jpg

and fragmentation and sometimes they are still illegally killed.

There are many threats to reptiles all over the world and many species are now in decline. Threats range from direct persecution, often due to ignorance or fear, hunting for their skins or eggs, collecting for captivity or habitat destruction or fragmentation.

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust
www.arc-trust.org

The Herpetological Conservation Trust
www.herpconstrust.org.uk

The Macdonald Encyclopaedia of Amphibians and Reptiles (1990)
Massimo Capula
ISBN 978 0 35618 813 3
Time Warner Books UK

Dr Ziggy Otto, Elen Angharad Hall
A cold-blooded tale of sun-worshippers
Natur Cymru Issue 40, Hydref 2011

Natur Cymru
www.natureconservation.wales/natur-cymru/

June Weathers

Roz Hattey (with apologies to Thomas Hardy)

This is the weather the visitors hate
And so do I,
When chill winds whip over The Green
And storm-clouds fly
And showers develop into heavy rain
And families scowl and say "Oh not again!"
And dog-walkers growl as they trudge up the lane
And Dad grumbles "Another June's gone down the drain!"
And so do I!

Next day, at last!...

This is the weather the swallows like
And so do I
When rain-clouds part and great white clouds fly in the sky
Where the buzzards glide high
And young swallows learn to speed after flies
And the long grass dries
And foxglove bells provide food for the bees
And the old dog dozes under the trees
And so do I!

Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd 2026: myfyriwr o Lansadwrn yn ennill gwobr fawreddog ym maes theatr gerddorol

Ceri Walker

Mae perfformiwr ifanc dawnus o Lansadwrn wedi cael ei chyd-nabod fel un o sêr disgleiriaf Cymru ar ôl ennill gwobr fawreddog ym maes theatr gerddorol yn Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd 2026.

Cyflwynwyd Gwobr Callum Scott Howells, sy'n uchel ei bri, i Anna Walker, sy'n 19 oed, gan Goleg Brenhinol Cerdd a Drama Cymru (RWCMD) yn ystod penwythnos agoriadol yr Eisteddfod. Mae'r wobwr flynyddol yn dathlu perfformwyr eithriadol ym maes theatr gerddorol rhwng 19 a 25 oed ac yn cynnig cyfleoedd amhrisiadwy i'r enillwyr ddatblygu eu gyrfaedd.

Fel rhan o'i gwobr, bydd Anna yn derbyn mentora proffesiynol gan rai o berfformwyr amlycaf Cymru, a bydd yn teithio i Siapan yn ddiweddarach eleni i berfformio mewn digwyddiadau'r Urdd ym mis Rhagfyr. Mae'r wobwr yn un o nifer a gyflwynir gan Goleg Brenhinol Cerdd a Drama Cymru i gydnabod talent ifanc eithriadol ar draws amrywiaeth o ddisgyblaethau'r celfyddydau perfformio. Bwriad y gwobrau yw cefnogi cam nesaf taith greadigol pob enillydd, gan gynnig cyfleoedd sy'n ymestyn ymhell y tu hwnt i'r Eisteddfod ei hun.

puffinpages@gmail.com

Yn ddiweddar cwblhaodd Anna dair blynedd yn astudio Theatr Gerddorol yng Ngholeg Menai. Ei pherfformiad buddugol oedd cân yr oedd wedi'i pherfformio'n wreiddiol yn Saesneg ar gyfer cynhyrchiad coleg, cyn cael cais i'w chanu yn Gymraeg ar gyfer cystadleuaeth theatr gerddorol 19-25 oed yr Eisteddfod. Mae'r llwyddiant hwn yn ychwanegu at restr drawiadol o gyflawniadau ym myd y theatr a ffilm. Mae Anna wedi ymddangos mewn dwy ffilm fer a gynhyrchwyd gan It's My Shout mewn partneriaeth â BBC Cymru. Enillodd wobwr yr Actores Orau am ei pherfformiad yn *I'm Not Awake and Neither Are You*, a ffilmwyd ym Mangor, tra cafodd ei henwebu am wobwr yr Actores Gefnogol Orau am ei rhan yn *Pants*, a ffilmwyd ym Miwmares.



Anna Walker yn Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd
Anna Walker at Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd
(via Ceri Walker)

Dechreuodd angerdd Anna dros berfformio yn Ysgol Gynradd Llangoed, lle roedd yn mwynhau canu a chymryd rhan mewn cynrychiadau ysgol, yn enwedig sioeau Nadolig blynyddol. Yn ddiweddarach aeth ymlaen i Ysgol David Hughes, lle chwaraeodd ran flaenllaw yng nghynhyrchiad yr ysgol o *School of Rock*.

Yn ystod ei chyfnod yng Ngholeg Menai, bu Anna'n chwarae prif rannau mewn nifer o gynrychiadau, gan gynnwys y brif ran yn *Sweet Charity* a rhan Rusty yn *Footloose*. Hyfforddodd hefyd yn West End Academy ym Mangor, gan ennill graddau Rhagoriaeth mewn arholiadau Theatr Gerddorol Academi Cerdd a Chelf Ddramatig Llundain (LAMDA).

Ym mis Medi, bydd Anna yn dechrau ar radd BA (Anrh.) tair blynedd mewn Theatr Gerddorol yn Liverpool Media Academy (LMA), lle mae'n gobeithio adeiladu ar ei llwyddiant wrth ddilyn gyrfa broffesiynol ar y llwyfan. Gyda chydabyddiaeth genedlaethol eisoes iddi a chyfleoedd rhyngwladol cyffrous o'i blaen, mae dyfodol Anna ym maes theatr gerddorol yn edrych yn arbennig o ddisglair.



Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd 2026: Llan-sadwrn student wins prestigious musical theatre award

Ceri Walker

A talented young performer from Llan-sadwrn has been recognised as one of Wales's rising stars after winning a prestigious musical theatre award at Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd 2026.

Nineteen-year-old Anna Walker was presented with the coveted Callum Scott Howells Award by the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD) during the Eisteddfod's opening weekend. The annual award celebrates outstanding musical theatre performers aged between 19 and 25 and offers winners invaluable opportunities to further their careers.

As part of her prize, Anna will receive professional mentoring from some of Wales's leading performers and will travel to Japan later this year to perform at Urdd events in December. The award is one of several presented by RWCMD to recognise exceptional young talent across a range of performing arts disciplines. Designed to support the next stage of each winner's creative journey, the prizes provide opportunities that extend far beyond the Eisteddfod itself.

Anna recently completed three years studying Musical Theatre at Coleg Menai. Her winning performance was a song she had originally performed in English for a college production before being asked to sing it in Welsh for the 19-25 musical theatre competition at the Eisteddfod. Her success follows an impressive list of achievements in theatre and film. Anna has appeared in two short films produced by *It's My Shout* in partnership with BBC Wales. Her performance in *I'm Not Awake and Neither Are You*, filmed in Bangor, earned her the Best Actress award, while her role in *Pants*, filmed in Beaumaris, saw her nominated for Best Supporting Actress.

Anna's passion for performing began at Llangoed Primary School, where she enjoyed singing and taking part in school productions, particularly the annual Christmas shows. She later attended David Hughes School, where she played a principal role in the school's production of *School of Rock*.

During her time at Coleg Menai, Anna took leading roles in several productions, including the title role in *Sweet Charity* and Rusty in *Footloose*. She also trained at West End Academy in Bangor, achieving distinction grades in Musical Theatre examinations with the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA).

In September, Anna will begin a three-year BA Hons degree in Musical Theatre at Liverpool Media Academy (LMA), where she hopes to build on her success as she pursues a professional career on the stage. With national recognition already under her belt and exciting international opportunities ahead, Anna's future in musical theatre looks exceptionally bright.

• • • • •

Colofn Puffin Pie Lucy Low: arholiadau ffug TGAU a mwy

Lucy Low

Rwyf wedi bod yn ceisio helpu ein mab Tomos gyda'i arholiadau ffug TGAU. Faint rydw i wedi'i ddysgu, a sawl gwaith rydw i wedi dweud: 'doedden ni ddim yn gwneud pethau fel hyn yn fy nydd i'!

Mae mathemateg fel lseidreg ddwbl, mae cemeg, ffiseg a bioleg yn cynnwys llawer mwy o gyfrifiadau nag yr wyf yn cofio erioed, ac nid wyf yn meddwl bod llosgydd Bunsen erioed wedi'i danio: mae'n debyg am resymau iechyd a diogelwch. Nid yw daearyddiaeth yn seiliedig ar Wastadeddau America a chasglu cotwm mwyach... beth bynnag, sut mae hyn i gyd yn fy arwain at y golofn goginio? Wel, un o'i bynciau yw Technoleg Bwyd. 'Aha, meddyliais wrthyf fy hun, 'byddaf yn gwybod tipyn am hyn!' Mor anghywir oeddwn i. Ydych chi'n gwybod, er enghraifft, beth yw dolen Möbius? Darllenwch ymlaen a chewch wybod.

Wel... fe ddechreuon ni gyda'r pethau sylfaenol: hylendid bwyd a storio bwyd, bwyd yn pydru a dulliau cadw bwyd, hydradiad a ffibr dietegol. Mae'r *Canllaw Bwyta'n Iach* (eich 5 y dydd o ffrwythau a llysiau) yn 'offeryn polisi a ddefnyddir i ddiffinio argymhellion y llywodraeth ar fwyta'n iach a sicrhau deiet cytbwys', ac mae'n cynnwys maint dognau: beth i'w fwyta o bob grŵp bwyd er mwyn sicrhau deiet iach a chytbwys. Buom hefyd yn edrych ar dlodi bwyd ac ansicrwydd bwyd mewn cartrefi sydd, yn anffodus, yn broblem gynyddol gyffredin yn ein cymdeithas heddiw; mae banciau bwyd a mannau casglu bwyd yn rhy gyffredin y dyddiau hyn.

Y pwnc olaf oedd labelu bwyd, ac rwy'n gobeithio ei rannu â chi mewn rhifyn o **The Puffin** yn y dyfodol. Yn y bôn, mae'n

faes cymhleth iawn o wybodaeth: gofyniad cyfreithiol a statudol ar gyfer pob cynhyrchydd bwyd i roi gwybod i'r defnyddiwr am y cynnwys, olrhain, gwybodaeth ddeietegol ac ailgylchu. Rhaid imi gyfaddef: os byddaf yn cyrraedd archfarchnad ar frys ac wedi anghofio fy sbectol, mae'n fater o gipio beth bynnag sy'n ymddangos yn debyg i'r grawnfwyd brand arferol sydd gennyf, dim ond i ddychwelyd adref a darganfod fy mod wedi gwneud camgymeriad enfawr!

📖 The Eatwell Guide
www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-eatwell-guide

📖 Eatwell Guide [1 page]
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5bbb790de5274a22415d7fee/Eatwell_guide_colour_edition.pdf

📖 Using a food bank
www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/food-bank/using-a-food-bank/

📖 Food banks
www.salvationarmy.org.uk/foodbanks

Y ddolen Möbius

Felly: rwy'n gobeithio nodi rhai o'r symbolau a ddefnyddir, ac ymddiried y byddwn ni i gyd yn edrych yn agosach ar labeli cynhyrchion yn y dyfodol ac yn cofio beth yw dolen Möbius! Mae'n debyg mai dyma un o'r symbolau ailgylchu mwyaf adnabyddus yn y byd. Gyda'i thair saeth werdd yn dilyn ei gilydd, byddai'n hawdd tybio y gellir ailgylchu unrhyw beth sydd â'r symbol hwn wedi'i argraffu arno ym mhobman, ond mae'r dybiaeth honno'n anghywir mewn gwirionedd.

Fel gwrthrych mathemategol, darganfuwyd y ddolen Möbius (neu'r stribed Möbius) gan Johann Benedict Listing ac August Ferdinand Möbius yn 1858, ond roedd eisoes wedi ymddangos mewn mosaigau Rhufeinig o'r 3^{ed} ganrif CC. Fe'i mabwysiadwyd yn 1970 i symboleiddio *Lleihau – Ailddefnyddio – Ailgylchu*, gan gynrychioli cylch parhaus.

📖 Everything You Didn't Know About the Mobius Loop
www.woodfordrecycling.co.uk/news/everything-you-didnt-know-about-the-mobius-loop/

Wrth i mi ymchwilio i'r pwnc cymhleth hwn, fe wnes i ddarganfod nad yw pob un o'r symbolau wedi'u safoni: mae hynny'n arwain at ddryswch a diffyg eglurder, ac weithiau nid yw gormod o wybodaeth o gwbl yn ddefnyddiol... ni ellir dweud hynny, fodd bynnag, am bob un o'r disgyblion TGAU presennol. Rwy'n disgwyl canlyniadau Tom!

Nawr trowch i dudalen 39 am y ryseitau...



Lucy Low's Puffin Pie column: GCSE mock exams and more

Lucy Low

I've been endeavouring to help our son Tomos with his GCSE mock exams. What a lot I've learnt, and the number of times I've said 'we didn't do it like this in my day'!

Mathematics is like double-Dutch, chemistry, physics and biology have more calculations than I ever remember and I don't think a Bunsen burner has ever been lit, probably on the grounds of health and safety. Geography isn't based on the American Prairies and cotton picking... anyway, however how does all this lead me into the cookery column? Well, one of his subjects is Food Technology. 'Aha,' I said to myself, 'I'll know a bit about this!' How wrong I was. Do you know, for instance, what a Möbius loop is? Read on and you'll find out.

Well... we started off with the basics: food hygiene and food storage, food spoilage and preservation, hydration and dietary fibre. The *Eatwell Guide* (your 5 a day fruit and veg) 'is a policy tool used to define government recommendations on eating healthily and achieving a balanced diet', and covers portion sizes: what to eat from each food group to achieve a heal-

thy balanced diet. We also looked at food poverty and household food insecurity which is, sadly, an increasingly common problem in our society today; food banks and food collection points are all too common nowadays.

The final topic was food labelling, which I hope to share with you in a future edition of **The Puffin**. Basically it's a minefield of information: a legal and statutory requirement for all food producers to inform the consumer of contents, traceability, dietary information and recycling. I must be honest: if I arrive at a supermarket in a hurry and having forgotten my glasses, it's a matter of grabbing whatever I think resembles my usual brand preference only to return home to find I have made a massive error!

📖 The Eatwell Guide

www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-eatwell-guide

📖 Eatwell Guide [1 page]

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5bbb790de5274a22415d7fee/Eatwell_guide_colour_edition.pdf

📖 Using a food bank

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/food-bank/using-a-food-bank/

📖 Food banks

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/foodbanks

The Möbius loop

So: I'm hoping to identify some of the symbols used, and trust that we will all look more closely at the labels on products in the future and remember what a Möbius loop is! It's perhaps one of the most widely recognised recycling symbols in the world. With its three green chasing arrows, it would be easy to assume that anything with this symbol stamped onto it can be recycled everywhere, although this assumption is actually wrong.

As a mathematical object, the Möbius loop (or strip) was discovered by Johann Benedict Listing and August Ferdinand Möbius in 1858, but it had already appeared in Roman mosaics from the 3rd century BC. It was adopted in 1970 to symbolise *Reduce – Reuse – Recycle*, representing a continuous loop.

While I was researching this complicated subject I found that not all the symbols are standardised: that leads to confusion and lack of clarity, and sometimes too much information is not at all helpful... that cannot be said, however, to all the current GCSE students. I await Tom's results!

📖 Everything You Didn't Know About the Mobius Loop

www.woodfordrecycling.co.uk/news/everything-you-didnt-know-about-the-mobius-loop/

Now for the recipes...

Andrew Perrott's sloe gin

The 2025 crop of sloes was abundant beyond belief... home-made sloe gin is so much better than anything you can buy in the shops. Now's the time to keep an eye on the hedgerows. If the sloes look slightly larger they might well be bullace, and can be used in just the same way.

📖 Bullace

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bullace>

Equipment

1 large wide-mouthed jar; a 2-litre jar of *le Parfait* or *Kilner* type is a sensible size.

Ingredients

750ml dry gin (a standard bottle of supermarket own-brand will be fine)

500g sloes

250g of sugar (adjust to taste)

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Instructions

Forage for sloes when they are purple and plump and beginning to soften. Resist the temptation to eat any, they are sour beyond belief, making limes seem sweeter than sweet.

- Rinse the sloes and freeze for 48 hours to burst the skins.
- Put the frozen sloes, sugar and gin into the jar.
- Shake the jar daily until sugar has dissolved (this may take a couple of days), then on and off afterwards; part of the fun is watching the colour change slowly day by day...
- Leave jar somewhere dark, or out of direct sunlight, shaking it daily for 2 weeks or so.
- Keep shaking the jar now and again.
- After three months strain off the sloes; there's no harm in leaving them longer.
- Filter the gin through a filter paper; this can take ages, and should be done a couple of times, at least.
- Label the bottle.

It's so long since I made sloe gin that I can't remember how I filtered it so I'm going to use a muslin bag for the first filter, then *Melitta* coffee filter papers thereafter.

It's drinkable immediately, but may improve if kept.

be drinkaware.co.uk

Andrew Perrott's sloe vodka

Two similar recipes... what will **The Puffin**'s readers think: that AP dips his bread in it? Never! A nip is nice once in a while, though, and it makes an interesting alternative to crème de cassis if one is being posh and having a Kir or (posher) a Kir Royale.

The recipe is the same, apart from the use of vodka instead of gin. A recipe I saw suggested using maple syrup (100m-250ml; adjust to taste) instead of sugar, so that's what I've done.

Other fruit to use

Damsons, strawberries, blackcurrants, blueberries... the same quantities.

be drinkaware.co.uk

Two smashing marinades

Our lovely corner of Anglesey became 'el tropicana' in June after a long period of really lacklustre weather. It might continue on and off so here are two excellent marinades that AP has used over the years... just the things to turn your barbecue into an Event!

• Marinade of Dreams

Ingredients (the quantities are approximate)

½ mug olive oil

½ mug red wine

2-3 large cloves of garlic, minced

2-3 tbsp tomato purée

2-3 tbsp golden syrup, pomegranate molasses or honey

2 tbsp soy sauce

1 tbsp mustard

1 tbsp balsamic vinegar

1 tsp herbes de Provence/mixed herbs

1 tsp freshly-ground black pepper

Instructions

- Find a large screw-top jar, put all of the ingredients in it and shake it vigorously until all of the ingredients are well-mixed; screw the lid on tightly. The marinade will freeze.
- Use it to marinade meat (chicken, steak, ostrich, buffalo, warthog, kudu, squirrel, you name it) well before use, ideally overnight, and/or to baste it while barbecuing it.

Variations

- Use the oil from jars of sun-dried tomatoes, artichoke

hearts, olives or other vegetables; use white wine; use sherry or Madeira; add lemon juice; add paprika or cayenne pepper; add Encona Hot Pepper Sauce or Tabasco sauce, sparingly; add ginger purée; leave out the mustard. The variations are endless.

• **Another Marinade of Dreams**

Ingredients (the quantities are approximate)

160ml/¼ pt olive oil
juice of 1 lemon
2 onions, chopped and crushed to extract juices (I grate them but you can put them in a blender)
2 bay leaves, cut into small pieces
2 tsp dried rigani (this is the Greek version of oregano and apparently tastes different – use oregano if you can't get it)
pulp of 2 large tomatoes, sieved (optional)
salt and black pepper

The Grove
Caffi-Bar-Cegin

"The best restaurant in Beaumaris by a long way. Delicious food in a stylish environment, and very good value. Highly recommend."

★★★★★

13 Castle Street, Beaumaris, LL58 8AP
By day: Coffee & Brunch
By Night: Cocktails & Share Plates
01248 855834

Instructions

- Mix the ingredients together in a large bowl and marinate the cubed meat for at least 2 hours – but the longer the better.

The Grove

Kath Tere

You might think that purchasing a business sight unseen from the other side of the world could be described as barmy.

You might be right, but sometimes it's the barmy things in life which work out. Anyway, that's what Abigail Howard did when, after spending eight years in Australia, she saw Tredici in Beaumaris's Castle Street advertised on a British website.

She didn't entirely lack all connection with Beaumaris. Her mother and stepfather had moved here a few years ago and she has been visiting for a couple of years; however, she had

never been in Tredici.

Beaumaris has lots of small businesses, and purchasing a new café represented considerable confidence in our lovely little town. In the summer the town is bustling, but out of season running a business can be quite challenging. I think that any local business-owner reading this might allow himself/herself an ironic laugh at that description, and rather take the view it is 'b challenging'! So far, however, the gamble seems to have paid off and The Grove has taken its place alongside the numerous other excellent eateries with which we are blessed here in Beaumaris.

You may be thinking: 'Why *The Grove*?'. Like me, you'll have failed to note any actual grove in the immediate vicinity of Castle Street. It turns out that Abbie has chosen the name for a number of reasons. A convict ship, the *Garland Grove*, carried female convicts, including some from Beaumaris, to Australia. The only female Beaumaris convict whose name could be identified was one Anne Williams, and she was transported on the *Garland Grove*. Abbie decided that one named woman went one way, and another, herself moved the other way – definitely worth celebrating – so *The Grove* celebrates both the ship and the convict, not to mention woman power!

You'll be able to read more about the *Garland Grove* in **The Puffin** 58, November 2026.

Another link with Australia is a definite nod to the cuisine of Down Under as the Grove seeks to bring the Australian liking for relaxed brunches and a culture of sharing food to the good people of Anglesey... and our visitors, of course.

A note: if the proprietor of any other café, restaurant or, indeed any local retailer, locally feels that he/she has a back story that might be of interest to **The Puffin's** readers please let us know (puffinpages@gmail.com) and we'll send Kath around to find out more.

See Roger Vincent's interesting article, *Anglesey criminals and transportation to Australia*, in **The Puffin** 54, November 2025, page 15.

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The Puffin for children: School

John Nunn

"...but I won't know anyone," wailed Simon.

"Of course you will," said his father. "There are several of your friends starting tomorrow, as well as you."

"Well, who?" demanded Simon. "Tell me just one."

"OK," said Mr Squirrel. "For a start there's your best friend, Ben."

"He never said anything to me," Simon said. "Surely he would have mentioned it."

"Ben's Mummy and Daddy and your mother and I decided we'd leave you to play in the woodland over the summer and tell you when the time was nearer. And Ben's not your only friend starting, either. Beti and Boris will be there too. You've spent most of the summer splashing around in the river with them. And Ffion goes there too, though she's a bit older, but you know her as well."

"OK," admitted Simon. "Sounds as if it might be quite good fun."

"And one of the best things," said Daddy, "is that you'll get to meet loads of new friends as well as learning lots of new things."

In case you haven't realised by now, it was autumn in the wild wood and the new school term was about to begin. Simon and quite a few of his friends were preparing for their first day at school.

The teacher was someone that they all knew about. It was Tegwen Tawny Owl, the wife of Tomos. She knew all about how Simon and Ben had the knack to get into trouble, but her husband was very fond of Simon and Ben and she had promised him to keep an eye on them.

The exciting morning arrived, and Ben met Simon at the foot of Simon's tree. Complete with school bags, they set off for school. The schoolroom was set in the roots of one of the largest trees in the wood, and Ben and Simon met up with Beti and Boris on the way into their classroom.

The school was obviously a happy place because the sound of laughter could be heard echoing all round the little dale where the tree and school was situated. Eventually it was home time and all the new arrivals rushed home to tell their parents all about it. There was no more talk from Simon about not knowing anyone.



"Well, how was it?" asked his Mummy.
 "It was fantastic," said Simon. "Mrs Tawny Owl got us all to tell everyone about our adventures. Ben and I told them about Ben getting stuck on a log floating down the river and nearly being swept over the waterfall in the spring, and you should have heard everyone laugh. Boris and Beti told everyone about swimming in the river. I think next summer there might be quite a lot more people swimming there. And, of course, other animals told us of some of the things they had been doing too."
 "What was the best story?" asked Daddy.
 "There was a cat who lives with humans," said Simon. "The humans don't know about our school so she had to sneak out when they weren't looking. She told us that when she was a much younger kitten she got into really big trouble for sharpening her claws on the wallpaper. I suppose it wasn't really funny but the way she told it, it made us all laugh."
 "So are you making new friends?" asked Daddy. Simon looked at his father as if he'd grown two heads.
 "Of course I have," he said. "It's been the best day of my life!"
 Mummy and Daddy just looked at each other and smiled.

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 Band leuenctid Biwmares yn cystadlu yn Linz 🇷🇺
 Kirsty Lindenbaum & Nia-Wyn Kilminster

Mae'n anodd credu ei bod hi eisoes yn ddwy flynedd ers i Fand leuenctid Biwmares deithio i Palanga yn Lithwania i gystadlu fel rhan o Bencampwriaethau Bandiau Pres Ewrop. Wel, nawr rydym yn dathlu eu perfformiad yn Linz, Awstria yn yr un digwyddiad ddiwedd mis Ebrill eleni.

Mae Pencampwriaethau Bandiau Pres Ewrop yn ddigwyddiad mawreddog ac yn awr yn un o uchafbwyntiau y blwyddyn bandio. Wedi'i sefydlu ddiwedd y '70au, mae'n dod â'r bandiau pres gorau ledled Ewrop ynghyd i gystadlu, gan ychwanegu cystadleuaeth leuenctid yn 2014. Mae'r safon yn andros o uchel, gyda phob band sy'n cystadlu wedi ennill eu lle i gynrychioli eu gwlad. Yng Nghymru, mae hyn trwy ennill yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol.

Mae Band Biwmares bellach wedi cynrychioli Cymru yn y gystadleuaeth dair gwaith. Mae hwn yn gamp anhygoel, yn en-

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wedig o ystyried colli chwaraewyr hŷn yn gyson (na allant gystadlu mwyach ar ôl iddynt basio 21 oed) a'u disodli gan chwaraewyr iau sy'n dod i fyny trwy ein Bandiau Iau a Chanolradd. Mae gan arweinydd ein Band leuenctid, Pete Cowlshaw, berthynas wych â'n pobl ifanc ac mae'n gweithio gyda nhw'n ddiflino i ysbrydoli ac annog.



I gyd wedi gwisgo lan ar gyfer y digwyddiad mawr
 All dressed up for the big event
 (Gary Pritchard)

Felly, beth sydd ei angen i baratoi ar gyfer cystadleuaeth fel hon? Rhoddir Darn Prawf i bob band ac yna gallant lunio eu slot amser o 25 munud gyda cherddoriaeth arall o'u dewis. Y darn prawf ar gyfer Linz oedd y darn heriol iawn *Burn the Church* gan Otto Schwarz. Dim ond ar ddechrau mis Chwefror y cyhoeddwyd hwn, gan roi ychydig o dan tri mis i bob band ei baratoi ar gyfer y gystadleuaeth. Perfformion ni hefyd dair darn arall gan gynnwys unawd corn tenor 'Time for Peace' a chwaraewyd yn hyfryd gan Ava O'Brien.

Ymroddodd ein pobl ifanc i fisoedd o ymarferion yn y cyfnod cyn y gystadleuaeth, nid yn unig yn eu slot ymarfer arferol nos Fawrth yn ystafell y band, ond ar benwythnosau ac yn ystod hanner tymor a gwyliau'r Pasg. Ymarferodd y band gyda'i gilydd, a hefyd rhannu'n adrannau gyda llawer o aelodau'r band hŷn yn garedig yn rhoi eu hamser i weithio gyda grwpiau llai.



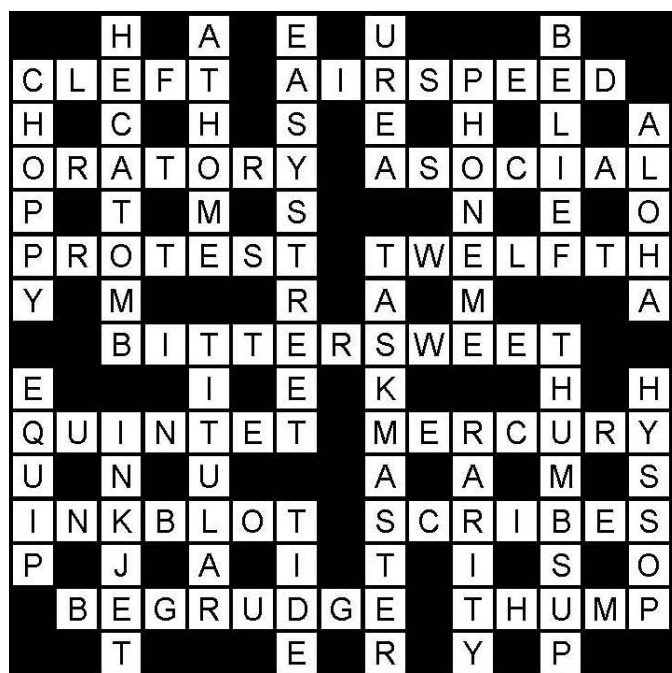
Dathlu perfformiad gwych yn y Brucknerhaus
 Celebrating a great performance at the Brucknerhaus
 (Gary Pritchard)

Wrth gwrs, mae mynd â band o 47 ar draws Ewrop gyda'u hofferynnau yn gostus ac yn gymhleth! Cododd aelodau'r band arian drwy deithiau beicio nodedig; rhedeg; canu yn ogystal â gwerthu gemwaith a mêl. Roedd ein cyngerdd ac ocsiwn yn Neuadd Bentref Llangoed yn llwyddiant ysgubol ac rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn am y gefnogaeth a gawsom gan y gymuned gyfan i helpu i gael y band i Linz.

Ar ôl yr holl waith caled hwnnw, fe wnaethon ni lwytho'r offerynnau ar fan, a deithiodd yr holl ffordd i Awstria (trwy garedigrwydd dau riant ymroddedig i'r Band, Tim a Sara yn dreifio), a llwytho ein pobl ifanc ar fws yng nghanol y nos i ddechrau'r daith hir i Linz trwy Fanceinion; Amsterdam a Miwnich.

Gan gyrraedd yn hwyr brynhawn Gwener, ymgartrefodd y band yn eu gwesty a llwyddon nhw i gerdded i ddinas hardd

The Governor's Quick Crossword 25: solution



Fianchetto 66's Chess 16: solution

1. Re8+ Nxe8 2. Bh7# or 1. Re8+ Rf8

In plain language, the white rook moves up two spaces, putting the black king in check. The black knight is then forced to take the white rook, leaving the white bishop free to move four spaces diagonally to the right, mating the king. In the alternative where the black rook interposes between the white rook and the black king, the white rook simply moves one space to the right, delivering checkmate once again.

Linz i gael teimlad o'r lle (neu stocio Haribos). Wedi'i lleoli ar lan y Danube, y ddinas hanesyddol hon oedd man geni'r cyfansoddwr Anton Bruckner ac mae'n ymfalchïo mewn pensaernïaeth wych ochr yn ochr â sîn gelfyddyd modern ffynianus. Yn gyn-Brifddinas Diwylliant Ewrop, mae hefyd yn enwog am y Linzertorte (felly roedd rhoi cynnig ar hwn yn hanfodol i rai ohonom yn ystod y daith...).

Daeth dydd Sadwrn â mwy o weld golygfeydd ac ymarfer olaf, yn ogystal ag ymweliad a'r Brucknerhaus gan Pete a'r adran offerynnau taro i wneud rywfaint o waith gosod mawreddog ar gyfer eu perfformiad.

Cynhaliwyd y gystadleuaeth ei hun ar y dydd Sul. Roedd llawer o'r bandiau eraill a oedd yn cystadlu yn fandiau cenedlaethol neu Brifysgol o bob cwr o Ewrop ac roedd y safon yn anhygoel o uchel. Roeddwn i'n ddigon ffodus i fod yn y gynulleidfa ynghyd â sawl rhiant band arall. Wrth i Beaumaris gymryd y llwyfan a dechrau chwarae, roedd yna gymeradwyaeth, dagrau a chroen gŵydd – roedd yn berfformiad trydanol yn dangos faint roedd eu gwaith caled wedi talu ar ei ganfed.

Gosodwyd Band Ieuencid Biwmares yn chweched yn Ewrop, cyflawniad aruthrol yn enwedig i fand lleol fel ein un ni. Cafodd ein pobl ifanc brofiad anhygoel o deithio a chreu cerddoriaeth gyda'u gilydd. Atgofion yr ydym yn gobeithio y bydd yn para oes. Cadwch lygad ar y gofod hwn am eu hanturiaethau nesaf!



Beaumaris Youth Band competes in Linz
Kirsty Lindenbaum & Nia-Wyn Kilminster

It's difficult to believe that it is already two years since Beaumaris Youth Band travelled to Palanga in Lithuania to compete

as part of the European Brass Band Championships. Well, now we've celebrated their performance in Linz, Austria at the same event at the end of April this year.

The European Brass Band Championships is a prestigious event and now one of the highlights of the banding year. Established in the late '70s, it brings together the top brass bands across Europe to compete, adding a Youth contest in 2014. Standards are extremely high, with all bands competing having won their place to represent their country. In Wales, this is by winning at the National Eisteddfod.

Beaumaris Band has now represented Wales at the competition three times. This is an incredible achievement, particularly given the constant loss of older players (who can no longer compete once they pass around 21) and their replacement by younger players coming up through our Junior and Intermediate Bands. Our Youth Band conductor, Pete Cowlishaw, has a brilliant rapport with our young people and works with them tirelessly to inspire and encourage.

So, what does it take to prepare for a competition like this? Each band is given a Test Piece and can then make up their time slot of 25 minutes with other music of their choice. The test piece for Linz was the highly challenging *Burn the Church* by Otto Schwarz. This was announced only at the beginning of February, giving all bands just under three months to prepare it for competition. We also performed three other pieces including a tenor horn solo, *Time for Peace*, played beautifully by Ava O'Brien.



Adran offerynnau taro Band Ieuencid Beaumaris gyda'r arweinydd, Pete Cowlishaw

The percussion section of Beaumaris Youth Band with the leader, Pete Cowlishaw (Gary Pritchard)

Our young people dedicated themselves to months of rehearsals in the run up to the competition, not only on their usual Tuesday evening slot in the band room, but at weekends and in half-terms and Easter breaks. The band rehearsed together, and also split into sectionals with many of our senior band members kindly giving up their time to work with smaller groups.

Of course, taking a band of 47 across Europe with their instruments is both costly and complicated! Band members raised money through sponsored bike rides; runs; singing as well as jewellery and honey sales. Our concert and auction in Llangoed Village Hall was an amazing success and we are enormously grateful for the support we have had from the whole community to help get the band to Linz.

After all that hard work, we loaded the instruments onto a van, which travelled by road all the way to Austria (courtesy of two dedicated Band parents, Tim and Sara), and loaded our young people onto a coach in the middle of the night to start the long journey to Linz via Manchester; Amsterdam and Munich.

Arriving late on the Friday afternoon the band got settled into their hotel and were able to walk into the beautiful city of Linz to get their bearings (or stock up on Haribos). Nestled on the

edge of the Danube, this historic city was the birthplace of the composer Anton Bruckner and boasts fantastic architecture alongside a thriving modern arts scene. A former European Capital of Culture it is also famous for the Linzertorte (so trying this was a must for some of us during the trip...)

Saturday brought more sightseeing and a final rehearsal, as well as a visit to the Brucknerhaus – the prestigious venue for their performance – by Pete and the percussion section to do some setting up.

The competition itself fell on the Sunday. Many of the other bands competing were national or university bands from across Europe and the standard was incredibly high. I was lucky enough to be in the audience along with several other band parents. As Beaumaris took the stage and started to play, there was cheering, tears and goosebumps - it was an electrifying performance demonstrating how much their hard work had paid off.

We can proudly place Beaumaris Youth Band as the sixth in Europe, an immense achievement, particularly for a local band like ours. Our young people had an incredible experience travelling and making music together that we hope will last a lifetime. And watch this space for their next adventures!

Newyddion Eglwys Bro Seiriol

Parch Huw Butler, Arweinydd Ardal Gweinidogaeth Bro Seiriol

Llwybr Cybi a Seiriol

Mae Llwybr Cybi a Seiriol yn eich tywys ar daith bum niwrnod fythgofiadwy ar draws Ynys Môn, o dref harbwr hanesyddol Caergybi i benrhyn gwyllt ac anghysbell Penmon. Dilynwch yn ôl traed dau sant, Cybi a Seiriol, a gerddodd yr ynys hon bedair canrif ar ddeg yn ôl.



Pererindod gyfoes 57 milltir yw Llwybr Cybi a Seiriol, sy'n seiliedig ar hanes Cybi Sant a Seiriol Sant, dau sant o'r chweched ganrif a oedd yn byw ar Ynys Môn. Darganfyddwch eu stori dros bum dydd o gerdded ar hyd lonydd gwledig tawel ac mewn eglwys hynafol, gyda chefnid o rai o olygfeydd arfordirol mwyaf trawiadol Cymru. Yn rhannol yn antur ac yn rhannol yn daith ysbyrdol, mae'r Llwybr pererindod hwn yn cynnig cyfle i arafu, gadael prysurdeb bywyd modern ar ôl, a chwrdd â Duw yn hanes, tirwedd a mannau sanctaidd Ynys Môn.

Cafodd Llwybr Pererindod Cybi a Seiriol ei lansio'n swyddogol yn ystod penwythnos cyntaf mis Gorffennaf. Rydym yn falch iawn fod tair o'n heglwys ym Mro Seiriol ar hyd y Llwybr: Eglwys Sant Dona, Llanddona; Eglwys Sant Mihangel, Llanfihangel; ac Eglwys Sant Seiriol, Penmon.

A fydddech chi'n bererin? I gael gwybod mwy, ewch i'r wefan Pererin a dechreuwch ar daith o ddarganfod.

Pererin

<https://pererin.com>

<https://pererin.com/en/home>

Gwasanaethau a digwyddiad

Gellir dod o hyd i fanylion pob gwasanaeth a digwyddiad ar wefan a thudalen Facebook Broseiriol.

Os hoffech dderbyn ein bwletin newyddion wythnosol am wasanaethau a digwyddiadau, neu os hoffech ragor o wybodaeth, anfonwch e-bost at y cyfeiriad isod.

☎ 07864 765382

✉ huwbutler@churchinwales.org.uk

puffinpages@gmail.com

■ Ardal Weinidogaeth Bro Seiriol Ministry Area
www.broseiriol.net

■ Eglwys Bro Seiriol Churches
www.facebook.com/BroSeiriol/



Bro Seiriol Churches News

Rev Huw Butler, Ministry Area Leader of Bro Seiriol

The Cybi and Seiriol Pilgrimage Path

The Cybi and Seiriol Pilgrimage Path takes you on an unforgettable five-day journey across Anglesey, from the historic harbour town of Holyhead to the wild, remote peninsula of Penmon. Follow in the footsteps of two saints, Cybi and Seiriol, who walked this island fourteen centuries ago.



The Pilgrimage Path is a 57-mile contemporary pilgrimage route based on the story of St Cybi and St Seiriol, two sixth-century saints based on Anglesey. Discover their story over five days of walking in quiet country lanes and ancient churches, against a backdrop of some of the most breathtaking coastal scenery in Wales. Part adventure, part spiritual journey, this pilgrim path offers the chance to slow down, leave the rush of modern life behind, and to encounter God in the history, landscape and sacred places of Anglesey.

The Pilgrimage Path was formally launched during the first weekend in July. We are very excited to have three of our churches in Bro Seiriol along the route: St Dona's, Llanddona; St. Michael's, Llanfihangel; and St. Seiriol's, Penmon.

Would you be a pilgrim? To find out more please visit the Pererin website and begin a journey of discovery.

■ Pererin

<https://pererin.com>

<https://pererin.com/en/home>

Services and events

Details of all services and events can be found on the Broseiriol website and Facebook page.

If you would like to receive our weekly news bulletins for services and events or would like further information please send an e-mail to the address below.

☎ 07864 765382

✉ huwbutler@churchinwales.org.uk

■ Ardal Weinidogaeth Bro Seiriol Ministry Area
www.broseiriol.net

■ Eglwys Bro Seiriol Churches

www.facebook.com/BroSeiriol/

Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club: the latest news

Dave Mathias, Secretary

The 2026 bowling season is now fully under way, with Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club fielding six teams in five different Leagues.

The Club has already achieved some notable achievements:

- In May, born-and-bred Beaumaris player Adam Harris won the Anglesey, Bangor and District Bowling Association

Doubles Trophy at Caernarfon Bowling Club with his partner Geraint Booth from Llanfair Bowling Club.



(L) Adam Harris and (R) Geraint Booth
(Dave Mathias)

- On Monday 1 June four Beaumaris players – Barry Harris, Tim Williams, Gwyn Thomas and Simon Jones – played for the Gwynedd Veterans team against the Wrexham Veterans Team at the Johnstown Bowling Club.



The Gwynedd Veterans Team played the Wrexham Veterans Team at the Johnstown Bowling Club in Wrexham on Monday 1 June, with four Beaumaris players in the Team
(Dave Mathias)

On Sunday 7 June five Beaumaris players were selected for the Wales Men's Team squad to play against the Yorkshire Men's team at Benllech Bowling Club. John Short won the Player of the Match Trophy for winning 21/3.



Rhos Llaniestyn: Olivia and Awel

Andrew Perrott

Early one morning in mid-June I was taking Lucy for her early morning walk down towards Eglwys Llaniestyn. I'd read the interesting and informative notice that was posted by the Llaniestyn crossroad (there are others dotted about) and was on the lookout, and soon we encountered Olivia and Awel, who made a lot of noise about it.

Who are Olivia and Awel? They are 'land management agents' in the form of two attractive black-and-white Shetland cattle. There's more below about how they work on the land.

I was interested, but Lucy wasn't convinced: it's one thing to go nose-to-nose with horses when they're in a field the other side of her garden wall, but noisy cattle 'in the wild' are another thing entirely, and she kept quiet and very close by my side.

Rhos Llaniestyn

Rhos Llaniestyn is part of the Rhosydd Llanddona Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and has two special features:

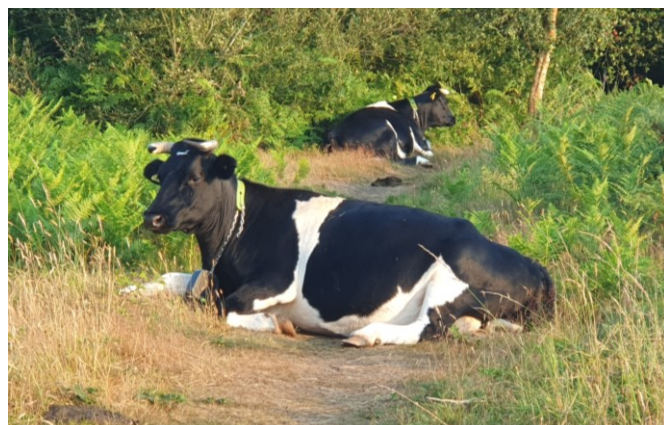
- Lowland heathland: dry heathland is characterised by heather, western gorse and bell heather. Wet heathland is characterised by cross-leaved heath.
- Black bog-rush: blunt-flowered rush fen.

As well as these features, Rhosydd Llanddona has other habitats that contribute to the special wildlife interest. These include fen, mire, woodland and grassland. This mixture of habitats is important for much of the wildlife.

tats that contribute to the special wildlife interest. These include fen, mire, woodland and grassland. This mixture of habitats is important for much of the wildlife.

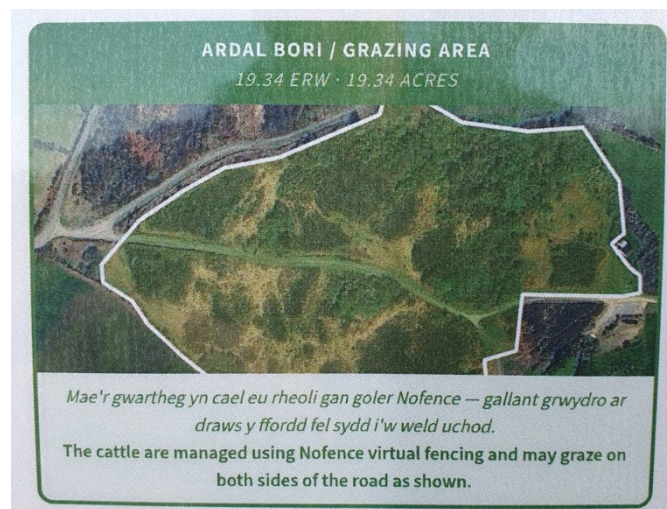


Olivia and Awel working and resting; footpath or not, they showed no inclination to move, so we turned back



Rhosydd Llanddona's special features have originated from natural factors such as thin, infertile soil, exposure to wind and poor drainage in conjunction with traditional farming methods such as extensive grazing and small patch burning. Changes in farming practices, such as the use of more intensive farming methods or a cessation of grazing, could damage the wildlife of the SSSI.

The area is an excellent place for wildlife/geology, but will remain so only if the necessary management continues, and the priority of Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru/Natural Resources Wales is to ensure that this management continues.



This is Olivia's and Awel's 'land management' site; the Llaniestyn crossroads is to the far left and the road towards Llaniestyn Church is across the centre of the picture

There's a link below to an informative document, *Rhosydd Llanddona Site of Special Scientific Interest*.

Grazing for wildlife

Olivia and her calf Awel took up residence in June to graze the area. They are rare-breed Shetland cattle from a local farm, and will be resident for a few months to improve conditions for wildlife. They do this by grazing plants, attracting insects, trampling bracken and keeping the heathland open. They are checked daily and are accustomed to conservation grazing.

They are managed using Nofence virtual fencing; this allows them the freedom to roam all over the site either side of the road from Llanddona to Llaniestyn, an area of 19.34 acres.

Enjoy watching them at work, but do take care – they're big animals and they're not tame – and keep your dog on a lead and under control.

Finally, if you notice any problems please contact Ben at Llais Aderyn.

☎ 07764 484172

📖 Rhosydd Llanddona Site of Special Scientific Interest
[5 pages]
www.angleseynature.co.uk/webmaps/rhosydd%20llanddona%20sms%20english.pdf

📖 Shetland cattle
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shetland_cattle

📖 Limitless livestock management
www.nofence.com



Ariennir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Funded by
Welsh Government

The Golden Age

Anonymous by request

It's time to go to bed, my friends
Up the wooden stairs
Time to lay my body down
Time to say my prayers.

First of all I wash my face
Clean my teeth
Remove my brace
Take out my hearing aids
Comb my hair.



That doesn't take long (at least some of it's there)
My knees they ache, my hands they sting
There's something wrong with everything

puffinpages@gmail.com

My eyes are dry and they need cream
My toenails brown (you get the theme).

My hair is falling along with my skin
But I'm doing quite well for the shape I'm in.
Half an hour later I crawl into bed and pull the covers over my head.
I lie there feeling very 'zen', but tomorrow it starts all over again.

Feeding garden birds

May Blossom

Recent research has shown a worrying decline in some garden birds due to a highly contagious disease, trichomonosis, that can spread where birds gather in large numbers, such as at bird-feeders. For example, the number of greenfinches has fallen by over 65% in the last 30 years.

Feed seasonally

During summer and autumn, there's a higher risk of disease spreading, but it's also a time when there are more natural foods available to birds, such as seeds and insects.

• 1 May to 31 October

- o Pause filling your bird feeders with seeds or peanuts.
- o Continue to offer small amounts of mealworms, fatballs or suet.

• 1 November to 30 April

- o Feed birds a full range of bird foods, including seeds and peanuts.

Feed safely

Busy bird feeders can become hotspots for disease. It is vital to keep things clean to help keep birds healthy.

The RSPB recommends that you:

- Clean feeders and water baths at least once a week: use hot soapy water and disinfect with a non-toxic disinfectant such as Ark-Klens or a mild (5%) bleach solution. Clean any old food or droppings from beneath feeders.
- Place feeders in a different spot every week; this will help to prevent any build-up of contaminated debris underneath. If you have more than one feeder, put them in different areas to reduce the number of birds in one place and the mixing of different species.
- Avoid putting feeders under places where birds roost, such as under trees, to avoid contamination by droppings.
- Don't use feeders with flat surfaces, such as bird tables, window feeders and feeders with trays. Research has confirmed that there's a higher risk of disease spreading on flat surfaces, where contaminated food can collect.
- Feed in moderation, making sure that all the food you put out is eaten within one to two days. Adjust the amount you offer based on demand to avoid overfeeding.
- Keep food as dry as possible: damp food allows disease to survive and spread. Choose feeders that prevent rain getting in and limit condensation.
- Change water in bird baths daily. Offer water only if you're able to change it every day and make sure it's tap water. A pond is the best way to provide birds and other wildlife with water.
- Help birds to find their own food. One of the best ways to support garden birds in the long term is to help them find their own food, so fill your outdoor space with bird-friendly plants such as sunflowers, teasels and ivy. These help to provide natural food sources for birds.

📖 Our latest guidance on what and when to feed garden birds:
Feed seasonally. Feed safely.
www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/news/how-to-help-garden-birds

Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall

This information reached **The Puffin** rather late, but we've managed to shoehorn it in...

- **Digital skills training:** Wednesday 16 September, for three weeks.

This is a *free* course for older people and disabled adults, each session lasting 2 hours.

- **Session 1:** on-line safety and how to avoid scams
- **Session 2:** Introduction to AI (artificial intelligence)
- **Session 3:** Using social media, such as Facebook

If you'd like more information please contact:

☎ Pat 07768 018370, Miriam 07733 176004

- **Children's Hallowe'en Party:** Friday 23 October, starting at 5.00pm.

If you'd like more information please contact:

☎ Miriam 07733 176004

- **Christmas Fair:** Saturday 5 December, 11.00am-3.00pm.

If you'd like to reserve a stall please contact:

☎ Miriam 07733 176004

- **Christmas Lunch:** Friday 11 December.

If you'd like more information please contact:

☎ Pat 07768 018370

Tailpiece: Little Lucy's sad news about Billy, and a little about being a seadog

Little Lucy & Andrew Perrott

The Boss said the word 'dogtation' to me again the other day... how quickly those three months go by... and I was ready for him.

"You need to dogtate a few words about Billy," he said to me.

"I know," I said, "and I've been thinking about it. Will you do it for me? You're much better at serious words, and you'll know what to say..."

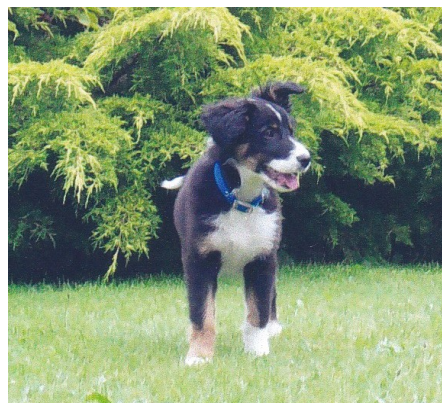
"Of course I will," he said, "then you can dogtate your piece."

So... Dogtation Boss here: Billy (5 May 2010-24 June 2026) was a Very Nice Dog, a big, handsome *gentleman* with such a gentle nature. Little Lucy didn't



20 June 2026: Little Lucy saw Billy in his car just as he was going home, so she had to jump in to say 'hello'... or it might have been 'goodbye'...

know Tilly, but I've told her all about how



The handsome Billy at 11 weeks old (Kath Moore)

she used to flirt with Billy whenever she met him. Tilly could be a bit of a grump at times because she had very poor eyesight, but Billy was her *matinée* idol. She'd make a bee-line for him and bounce about like a pup... sometimes it was all a bit much for him and he'd try to walk away from Tilly as she jumped about.

Billy was well-known in Llanddona and will be very much missed by a lot of people... and by Little Lucy, of course. She loved Billy, but wasn't quite so besotted, and met him in late in June. She jumped up into the car (he was on his way home) to say 'hello'... or was it 'goodbye', perhaps?

We'll never know, will we?... goodbye, Billy.

Little Lucy: now I'm dogtating my piece. Do you know that I'm a seadog? The Boss has always pulled my leg about dipping just my paws in The Sea. Well, we went down to Wern y Wylan in the hot spell last month, and there it was: lots of sea. There were lots of people and dogs about, and I was in The Sea before I knew it.

It was very, well, splashy, and I did enjoy myself. The Boss said that I was so clean that I wouldn't need a shower. Thank goodness, I thought; that gives me a chance to get dirty in the garden... I like helping in the garden, but the people don't seem to appreciate my help. I lie just where they've dug, and they don't



Tilly adored Billy, and lost no time in going into 'flirt overdrive' mode whenever they met

seem to understand when I tell them that I'm pressing the soil down to make it nice and tidy.



This is me being a seadog... it was a lot of fun



I just can't win... but they do give me a bowl of tea with my treats when they have their afternoon cuppa. It's supposed to be good for my coat, I think, but I like it anyway.

There. That's my dogtation done until the next time. I'm sure there are lots of things that I haven't told you, but such a lot of brain exercise has made me very tired. I need a zed. Goodbye!



Little Lucy was another of Billy's admirers, but perhaps just a little less passionate than Tilly was...

Editorial information and other 'useful to know' stuff

The Editorial Team

Richard Adams	John Nunn
Mavis Bishop	Andrew Perrott
Paul Bishop	Owen Williams
Robert Macaulay	✉ puffinpages@gmail.com

Editorial Policy

- **The Puffin** is a community journal. It does not become involved in matters such as politics, local or national, but is intended to be a means of bringing people and communities together, celebrating our 'sense of community' and the beautiful part of the world in which we live, so please be kind, courteous and respectful. 'Hot' topics related to the local context are fine, but we ask that people respect the fact that alternative views may be valid as well.
- We welcome news, letters and interesting articles, in Welsh and in English, as long as they are attributed to an author; please don't send us anything marked 'not for publication'.
- The views expressed in **The Puffin** do not necessarily represent those of the Editorial Team.
- We review all items for material that is obviously libellous or offensive, but we cannot check for factual accuracy because we might not be sufficiently expert on the topic, and because of time constraints.
- If you have strong feelings about what is said, or is not said, in **The Puffin**, don't bottle it up: get in touch with us or join the group of volunteers who form the Editorial Team who enable its production.

General information and publication dates

- We will do our best to reply to your e-mails quickly.
- If you e-mail photographs and other pictures to us for inclusion in **The Puffin**, please send them in .jpg format if possible. If you send photographs or documents to us by post, be sure to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope so that we can return them to you after they've been scanned.
- The word count per column is c.350 (three-column page) and c.520 (two-column page).
- **The Puffin** is published in:
 - **February:** submissions **must** be in by 1 January
 - **May:** submissions **must** be in by 1 April
 - **August:** submissions **must** be in by 1 July
 - **November:** submissions **must** be in by 1 October

Submissions and donations by post

- We are happy to receive submissions – and donations, of course! – by post. Please send them to:
 Andrew Perrott
 Glangors
 Llanddona
 Anglesey
 LL58 8TU
 Mark the envelope **The Puffin** and enclose your address, an e-mail address and/or telephone number so that we can let you have an acknowledgement and a 'thank you'.
- If you would like to make a donation by bank transfer, our details are:
 Bank: **NatWest**
 Account name: **The Puffin**
 Account number: **88609782**
 Sort code **54-10-01**

Sponsorship and advertising

- Please contact us by e-mail if you would like to sponsor **The Puffin** or place an advertisement in it.

Where to pick up your copy of The Puffin

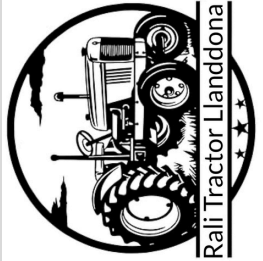
- **Beaumaris**
 ABC Service Station, Gallows Point, LL58 8YH
 Beaumaris Library, Rating Row, LL58 8AL
 Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris, Rating Row, LL58 8AL
 Central Bakery, 22 Margaret Street, LL58 8DN
 Ena's Newsagents, 24 Castle Street, LL58 8AP
 Spar, 11 Castle Street, LL58 8AB
 Town Hall (entrance lobby), Castle Street, LL58 8AP
- **Llanddona**
 Yr Owain Glyndŵr, LL58 8UF
 Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall, LL58 8TS
 Wern y Wylan, LL58 8TR (at Wern y Wylan Court)
- **Llandegfan**
 Siop Llandêg, Lon Ganol, LL59 5UA
- **Llangoed**
 Morrisons Daily, China House, LL58 8NW
 Neuadd Bentref Llangoed Village Hall, LL58 8NY
- **Penmon**
 The Pilot House Café, Black Point, LL58 8RR
- **On-line**
www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/

Some useful contacts

Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 917 7650
Canolfan Iechyd Beaumaris Health Centre	01248 810818
Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris	01248 811200
Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol Good Turn Scheme	01248 305014
Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water:	leaks
	water services and emergencies
	sewerage services and emergencies
Electricity (SP Energy Networks):	information about power cuts
Floodline	0345 988 1188
Gas:	National Gas Emergency Service
Isle of Anglesey County Council:	Beaumaris library
	Children's Services
	missed waste collections
NHS (NHS Direct closed in 2014):	for non-emergency medical help
NSPCC:	help for adults concerned about a child
	help for children and young people
Police: non-emergency	101
PCSO: not known	-
PCSO: not known	-
Post Office:	customer helpline
	Morrisons Daily, Llangoed
	Spar, Beaumaris
RSPCA:	daily, 9.00am-6.00pm
Samaritans:	English language
	Welsh language
Ysbyty Gwynedd Hospital	

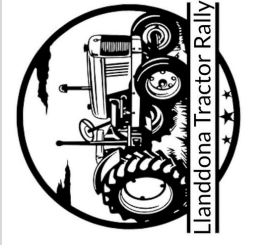


Bar & Bistro
Rhos-on-Sea



Llanddona

15th Awst 2026



Yr Owain Glyndwr, Llanddona , Ynys Mon, LL58 8UB

Codi arian ar gyfer elusennau lleol - Raising money for local charities



General info of Day -

- Register from 10am at Yr Owain Glyndwr - £15 per entry
- Mae Bob Mynediad gyda bap bacwn/selsig a panad te/coffi am ddim i pob gyrw tractor
- All Entries get a free bacon/sausage bap and tea/ coffee for all tractor drivers.
- Gwobrau ar gyfer/ Awards for - Best Vintage, Best working, Dirtiest, Best dressed , Best Dressed Driver and Judges Choice.
- Gwobrau Raffl am £100 hefo wobrau cash a mwv
- £100 Cash Raffle prize and more (donations welcome)
- Free entry to the event, Families welcome.
- Garden & Market stalls welcome during day
- N.Wales Fire Brigade Engine.

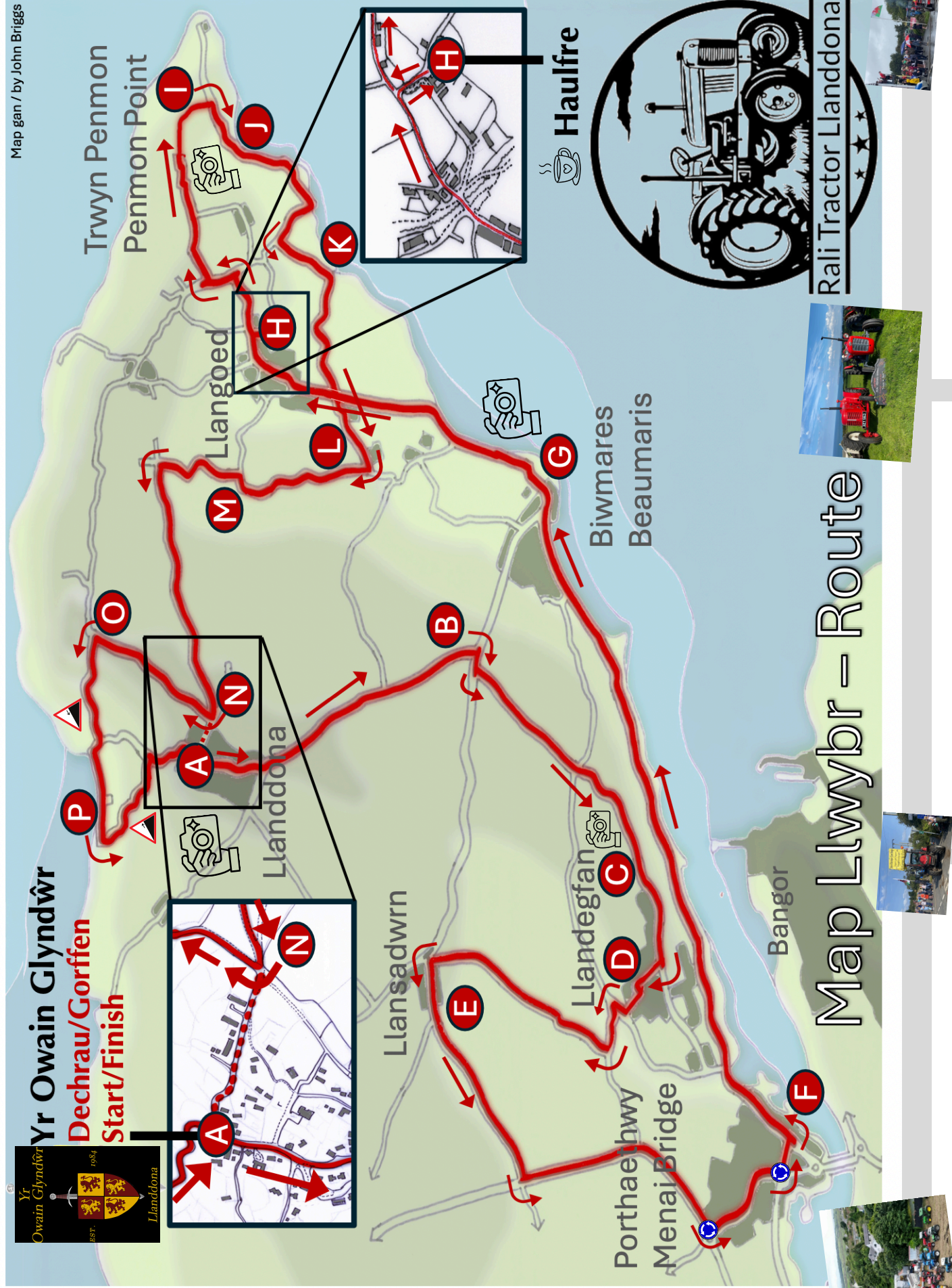


Food and Refreshments -

- 10am -12pm - Breakfast Baps, tea / coffee
- 12.00pm - 8pm OG kitchen open for pizza, hotdogs, chips, snacks and drinks.
- 5.00pm - 8pm Hogs Mon, fresh pulled pork baps and burgers.
- Bar Agor / Bar Open 11am - 11.45pm

Entertainment on the Day

- 3.30-4pm -Tractors Return
- 3.30pm - Miv, Kev & Dave
- 5pm - Awards and Raffle
- 5.30pm - Gwrachod Eryri
- 6.30pm - Elliw a Carwyn
- 7.30pm -Meilir
- 8.30pm Adelphi and /guests
- 11pm Finish



Stage 1- Approx times

- A- 11.00am Depart Yr Owain Glyndwr, LLanddona.
- B- 11.10am Red Hill Jct.
- C- 11.20am LLandegfan look out via Lon Ganol.
- D- 11.35am Ysgol LLandegfan.
- E- 11.45am LLansadwrn via Lon Plas.
- F- 12.05pm Menai Bridge Square.
- G- 12.30pm Beaumaris Green.



Stage 2 - Approx times

- G- 1.00pm Depart Beaumaris
- H- 1.15pm Haulfre (45mins Panad stop)
- I - 2.00pm Depart Haulfre
- I - 2.05pm Caim and drive through Deer Park.
- J - 3.00pm Penmon Priory
- K - 3.10pm Lleinio
- L - 3.15pm KingsBridge Park
- M- 3.20pm Middle Road Jct
- N- 3.28pm Llaniestyn Jct
- A- 3.30pm Finish Owain Glyndwr

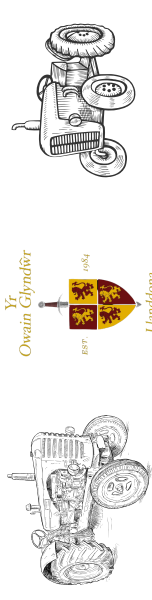


Driver Option Via



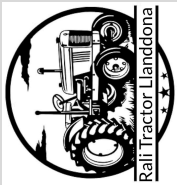
- N- 3.28pm Llaniestyn Jct
- O- 3.35pm Lon Goch Jct
- P - 3.45pm Llanddona beach
- A - 4.00pm Finish Owain Glyndwr

! Steep hill up and down!
!Narrow road!



Donations in aid of -

- LimBo: elusen gymorth hanfodol i blant â gwahaniaethau yn eu coesau neu eu breichiau.
- Blaen y Coed: canolfan ddysgu i oedolion ag anawsterau dysgu wedi'i lleoli yn Llangoed.
- Tir Dewi: elusen sy'n cynnig cymorth i'r gymuned wledig, yn enwedig i'r gymuned ffermio ac amaethyddol.
- Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed: wedi'i lleoli yn Llanddona ac yn cynrychioli'r ardal ym mhob agwedd ar fywyd gwledig; mae'r aelodau ifanc yn cynrychioli Ynys Môn ymhellach yn rheolaidd.
- Eglwys Sant Iestyn, Llanddona: mae'r Eglwys wedi cael adferiad rhannol ac yn codi arian i dalu costau cynnal a chadw cynyddol er mwyn aros ar agor i bawb; mae Eglwys Sant Iestyn a Sant Dona yn gweithredu polisi drws agored.
- Ysgol Gynradd Llangoed: mae angen cymorth ar yr ysgol i greu clwb garddio er budd y plant: dysgu, mwynhau a chwarae.
- Cartref Preswyl Haulfre i'r henoed: mae'r trigolion yn rhoi croeso cynnes i ywyr y tractorau bob blwyddyn.
- Gwasanaeth Bws Mini Cymunedol (Cynghrair Seiriol): cynllun trafnidiaeth lleol gwerthfawr Ward Seiriol.

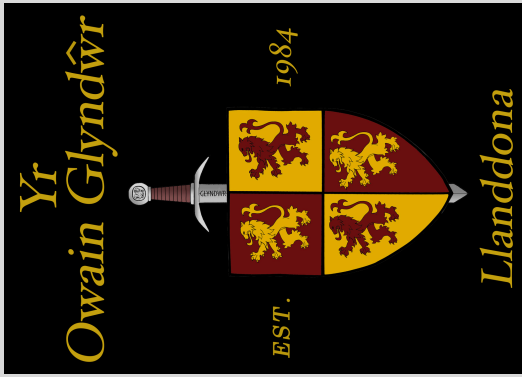


Donations to "Llanddona Church"
Sort code 40-32-15
Account number 21393480
For further info contact - LucyIw2013@gmail.com
Charity Registration No - 1201930

- LimBo: a vital support charity for limb-different children.
- Blaen y Coed: a learning centre for adults with learning difficulties based in Llangoed.
- Tir Dewi: a charity offering support to the rural community, in particular to the farming and agriculture community.
- Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed/Llangoed Young Farmers Club: based in Llanddona and representing the area in all aspects of rural life, the young members regularly representing Ynys Môn further afield.
- St Iestyn's Church, Llanddona: the Church has had a partial restoration and is raising money to cover the ever-increasing maintenance costs involved in staying open for everyone; the Churches of St Iestyn and St Dona operate an open-door policy.
- Llangoed Primary School: the school needs help to create a gardening club for the benefit of the children: learning, enjoying, playing.
- Haulfre Residential Home for the elderly: the residents give a hearty welcome to the tractor drivers every year.
- The Community Minibus service (Cynghrair Seiriol Alliance): the invaluable local Seiriol Ward transport scheme.

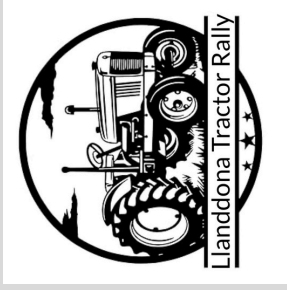


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strwythur cerrig diweddarach. Byddai'r ffenestr fawr wedi goleuo'r bwrdd uchel ym mhen gorllewinol y neuadd.

Bellach dominyddir y brif neuadd gan y lle tân, a adeiladwyd gan y teulu Bulkeley yn yr unfed ganrif ar bymtheg yn lle'r aelwyd agored ganolog.

Defnyddiwyd y lle tân ganddynt i arddangos eu heiconograffi teuluol a chadarnhau eu meddiant o'r tŷ. Pennau teiwr a'r pen Sarasen nodweddiadol ar ochr dde'r lle tân yw arwyddlunia'r teulu Bulkeley. Mae'r fersiwn Saesneg o'r arysgrif — *Si deus nobiscum, quis contra nos* (If God is with us, who can be against us) — a gerffwyd ar y lle tân yn hysbys i ni o hen gartref y teulu Bulkeley yn Henblas ger Biwmares.

Un o nodweddion prin y lle tân yw bod rhywfaint o'r arwyneb paentiedig wedi goroesi mewn mannau. Dangosodd gwaith dadansoddi bod y garreg wedi'i gorchuddio'n gyntaf â phaent plwm coch. Gallai fod wedi bod yn lliw addurniadol, ond gallai hefyd fod wedi darparu is-haen sefydlog ar gyfer y cefndir lledwyn, a addurnwyd wedyn â llinellau du tonnog afreolaidd megis gwythiennau i greu effaith marmor. Mae addurniadau ffugiol o'r fath yn nodweddiadol o'r unfed ganrif ar bymtheg ac yn dangos ymwybyddiaeth gref o ffasiwn ac awydd i arddangos statws y teulu.

Yr Adain Ddwyreiniol

Mae tri drws yn arwain o'r dramwyfa sgriniau i'r adain ddwyreiniol, sy'n cynnwys dau lawr ag ystafelloedd preifat moethus — siambr fawr — uwchben y ddwy ystafell. Yn wreiddiol, ailadeiladwyd yr adain ddwyreiniol ffrâm bren â cherrig yn fuan ar ôl dechrau codi'r tŷ, rywbryd yn y bymthegfed ganrif. Fe'i haddaswyd yn sylweddol yn y ddeunawfed ganrif a'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg.

Gan wynebu'r drysau, sydd i'r dde yn arwain at siambr fach **[3]**, sy'n cynnwys olion lle tân cynnar; a addaswyd wedi hynny i fod yn ddrws ac yna ffenestr **[4]**. Goleuwyd yr ystafell yn wreiddiol gan ffenestr eangled, a gulhawyd yn ddiweddarach **[5]**. Noder y darluniau o longau a ysgythrwyd i mewn i'r gwaith plastro yng nghanol y ddeunawfed ganrif.

Yn ôl yn y dramwyfa sgriniau, mae'r drws i'r chwith yn arwain at yr hyn a oedd yn ystafell wasanaeth neu storfa o bosibl **[6]**.

Ewch drwy'r drws canol **[7]**, a oedd yn arwain yn wreiddiol ar hyd tramwyfa, a nodir gan blât pren yn y llawr; i ddrws (sydd bellach wedi'i flocio) yn y wal ddwyreiniol ac i gegin allanol y tu hwnt. Mae'r grisiau modern (a oedd yn risiau ysgol syml yn wreiddiol) yn mynd â chi heibio i le tân bach a chwprwrdd wal, a ychwanegwyd yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg, ac sy'n rhoi mynediad i'r siambr uchaf neu'r siambr fawr gain **[8]**.

Mae'r cyplau canolog a gogleddol yn y siambr sengl fawr hon yn rhan o'r adeilad ffrâm bren gwreiddiol. Mae trydydd cwpl wedi ei orchuddio gan y gwaith maen diweddarach. Mae'r pren fertigol ar y wal wedi pydru gan adael ei ôl yn y mortar ac ar y gwaith maen yn y gornel de-orllewinol. Heb y plastr, mae'n bosibl gweld y camau adeiladu gwahanol gan fod wal gerrig wedi cymryd lle'r wal glai **[9]**.

Nodwch y ffenestr ddeheuol **[10]** lle cafodd y dam ar led gwreiddiol ei gulhau yn ddiweddarach, efallai yr un pryd ag y cafodd ffenestr ar yr ochr orllewinol ei blocio **[11]**. Mae olion y lle tân wedi goroesi ar y wal ddwyreiniol **[12]**. Yn ddiweddarach cafwyd gwared â'r simnai ac addaswyd y lle tân i fod yn ffenestr, ond gellir gweld gwaith mowldio addurniadol y cerrig o'i amgylch o hyd. Mae uchder y lle tân yn dangos tefel llawr wreiddiol yr adeilad ffrâm bren, 10 modfedd (02.5m) uwchben y llawr modern.

Roedd drws, y mae'n debygol iddo gael ei lenwi ar yr un pryd â'r ffenestr; yn rhoi mynediad i tŵr geudy yng nghornel de-ddwyreiniol yr ystafell **[13]**.

Yr Adain Orllewinol

Dychwelwch i'r neuadd ac ewch i'r adain orllewinol **[14]** drwy'r drws gyferbyn â'r dramwyfa sgriniau. Mae'r adain orllewinol yn cynnwys dau lawr gyda seler ym mhen deheuol yr adain. Mae'n bosibl y dechreuwyd adeiladu'r adain â phren, gyda cham cerrig cynnar, ond mae'n debygol yr adeiladwyd yr hyn sydd i'w weld heddiw ar ôl i deulu Bulkeley gymryd meddiant o'r tŷ yn 1511. Bu nifer o addasiadau ers hynny. Mae'n debygol y bu'r ystafelloedd llawr daear yn ystafelloedd preifat gyda heulfa, neu ystafell deuluol uwchben.

Mae'r ystafell ogleddol yn cynnwys ffenestr gain â thair chwarel o wydr **[15]**, a ddarganfuwyd yn ystod y gwaith cadwraeth. Darganfuwyd damau o'r cerrig addurmiedig cerfiedig yn y deunydd blocio, ac fe'u defnyddiwyd fel sail ar gyfer y ffenestr a ailadeiladwyd.

Fel y tŵr geudy yn yr adain ddwyreiniol, yn wreiddiol roedd darpanaeth debyg yng nghornel gogledd-orllewinol yr ystafell hon, a waredwyd yn ddiweddarach, a blociwyd y drws **[16]**, mae'n debyg pan yr addaswyd y rhan hon o'r adeilad i'w defnyddio gan weithwyr ffem. Gellir mynd i'r seler o'r ystafell gyfagos.

Ewch i fyny'r grisiau modern i'r heulfa **[17]** ar lawr cyntaf yr adain orllewinol. Roedd hon yn ystafell fwy preifat lle dim ond aelodau o'r teulu a chyfeillion mynwesol a fyddai'n cael mynd iddi.

Ailadeiladwyd y ffenestr ym mhen gogleddol **[18]** yr heulfa gan ddefnyddio pren, yn seiliedig ar ddarnau o'r addurniadau ffenestr a adferwyd yn ystod y gwaith cadwraeth. Mae'n cyd-fynd yn union â'r ffenestr ar y llawr daear a gallai fod ffenestr arall debyg wedi bod ym mhen arall y siambr; ond collwyd hon pan ailadeiladwyd y wal ddeheuol yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg.

Mae'r lle tân **[19]** ar y wal orllewinol yn cynrychioli un o ddirgelion Hafoty. Mae'r gwaith mowldio'r un fath â'r lleoedd tân yn yr adain ddwyreiniol, sy'n gynharach na'r adain orllewinol. Gallai hyn olygu bod y lle tân wedi'i aildefnyddio o siambr gerrig gynharach a allai fod wedi sefyll ar safle'r adain orllewinol a adeiladwyd yn yr unfed ganrif ar bymtheg.

Mae'r cyplau to anferth yn wahanol i'r rheini yn yr adain ddwyreiniol a'r neuadd, gan eu bod yn gorffwys ar walblat bren sy'n eistedd yn union ar ben y waliau. Mae dendrocronoleg yn dweud wrthym y torrwyd y coed ar gyfer y trawsiathau (y darnau pren mawr sy'n rhedeg o un cwpl i gwpl arall) yn hanner cyntaf yr unfed ganrif ar bymtheg, a'r dystiolaeth hon sy'n awgrymu dyddiad adeiladu'r adain orllewinol.

Y Tu Allan i Hafoty

Mae'n werth edrych ar y tu allan i'r tŷ i weld rhai o'r addasiadau amrywiol a ddisgrifiwyd o'r tu mewn. Nodwch yn arbennig y cerrig bargodol yn y corneli gogledd-orllewinol a de-ddwyreiniol, sy'n nodi lleoliadau'r ddau dŵr geudy a gollwyd. Nodwch hefyd yr uniad rhwng y neuadd a'r adain orllewinol ar yr wyneb gogleddol. Natur arw'r caregwaith ar y neuadd sy'n awgrymu yr ychwanegwyd yr adain orllewinol yn ddiweddarach.

Deunydd Darllen Pellach

Philip Dixon, 1995, 'Hafoty, Llansadwrn, Anglesey: Excavations and Survey of a Medieval House', *Studia Celtica*, XXIX, 53–26. David Longley, 2007, 'Hafoty and its Occupiers', *Trafodion Cymdeithas Hynafiaethwyr a Naturiaethwyr Môn*, 25–40. Peter Smith, *Houses of the Welsh Countryside*, argraffiad diwygiedig (Llundain 1988).

Tŷ Neuadd Hafoty Llansadwrn, Ynys Môn

M. J. Yates BA, Ph.D, FSA



Hafoty o'r gogledd-orllewin gyda'r adain orllewinol yn y blaendir.

Y Perchenogion a'r Deiliaid

Bu ffurwythlondeb ac adnoddau naturiol Ynys Môn yn nodedig ers tro byd, ac erbyn y bymthegfed ganrif roedd yn llawn cyfle. Arweiniodd methiant gwrthryfel Owain Glyn Dŵr yn y 1400au at fwy o ddiogelwch, ac yn y degawdau dilynol ymsefydlodd teuluoedd Seisnig uchelgeisiol ym mhrif dref Biwmares a dechreuodd ystadau mawr ymddangos.

Roedd gŵr o'r enw Thomas Norres o Orllewin Derby yn Swydd Gaerhirfryn yn un o blith y sefydliad Seisnig hwnnw.

Yn 1439 ef oedd capten gwarchodlu Castell Biwmares ac erbyn 1456 gwyddom ei fod wedi meddiannu Bodarddar — sef yr enw brodorol ar y pentrefan a'r eiddo a elwir bellach yn Hafoty — yn nhrefgordd ganoloesol Cremlyn.

Etifeddwyd Bodarddar gan Leticia, merch Thomas, a oedd yn briod â gŵr arall o'r enw Thomas Norres (o Speke yn Swydd Gaer). Pan farwodd Leticia, gwnaed darpariaeth i ddychwelyd

yr eiddo i'r gangen o deulu Norres o Orllewin Derby — a gynrychiolwyd erbyn hynny gan Thomas Aspull. Fodd bynnag, yn 1498 trosglwyddodd Thomas Aspull bob hawl a theitl yn perthyn i Bodaddar i Syr William Norres, mab Leticia.

Bu farw Syr William yn 1506 ac fe'i olynwyd gan ei fab, Henry. Yn y cyfamser roedd teulu pwysig arall o Fiwmares yn ehangu ei fuddiannau. Roedd teulu Bulkeley wedi ymsefydlu



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

yn y dref ers y 1440au, ac yn 1511 trosglwyddodd Henry ei holl diroedd ym mhentrefan Bodarddar (a elwid bellach yn Bothyorthorch) i Richard Bulkeley, archddiacon Ynys Môn. Er nad yw'r rheswm dros drosglwyddo'r eiddo'n hysbys, llofnodwyd y grant ym Mothyorthorch, am gydnabyddiaeth fwy na thebyg. Prydleswyd 'Botyorthorch' i Richard Lewis yn 1577, ac yn ddiweddarach cafodd cyfeiriad a wnaed yn 1585 i 'dayre house in Llansadwrn', a oedd yn eiddo i Edward Lewis Gethin, ei ardstio'n 'Hafodty Ordderch'.

Er i'r tŷ aros ym meddiant teulu Bulkeley (sydd â'r rhydd-ddaliad hyd heddiw), bu cyfres o ffermwyr tenant wedi hynny ac o ganlyniad gwelwyd pwyslais cynyddol ar ofynion ymarferol ffemdy yn yr ail ganrif ar bymtheg a'r ddeunawfed ganrif. Erbyn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg a'r ugeinfed ganrif roedd hanes y cyfoeth a'r safle cymdeithasol a oedd yn perthyn i'r tŷ bron yn angof.

Yn 1937 cyhoeddodd Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru ei gofrestr ar gyfer Ynys Môn a oedd yn cydnabod pwysigrwydd hanesyddol yr adeilad, ac yn 1970 gosodwyd y tŷ yng ngofal y Wladwriaeth gan deulu Bulkeley. Yn ystod y 1970au cynhaliwyd gwaith ymchwil helaeth a datgelwyd cymhlethdod llawn hanes strwythurol yr adeilad. Gobeithiwn y gall y canllaw byr hwn roi blas i chi o'r dystiolaeth o newid a ddatgelwyd.

^[1] © 2008 Cadw (Hawlfraint y Goron). Cadw, Plas Carew, Uned 5/7 Cefn Coed, Parc Namgarw, Caerdydd CF11 5 7QQ.

Y Tŷ Neuadd

Mae Hafoty yn fath o annedd ganoloesol a elwir yn 'dŷ neuadd'. Mae'n adeilad o statws uchel ac yn gartref priodol i aelod o deulu dylanwadol fel teulu Norres neu Bulkeley.

Gelwid adeiladau o'r fath yn dai neuadd oherwydd y neuadd fawr agored lle cynhaliwyd busnes cyhoeddus.Yn wreiddiol, byddai wedi bod tân agored yng nghanol y neuadd gyda'r mwg yn dianc drwy dwll, neu lwfer; yn y to. Mae'r lle tân mawr addurniadol yn y neuadd yn addasiad diweddarach gan deulu Bulkeley.

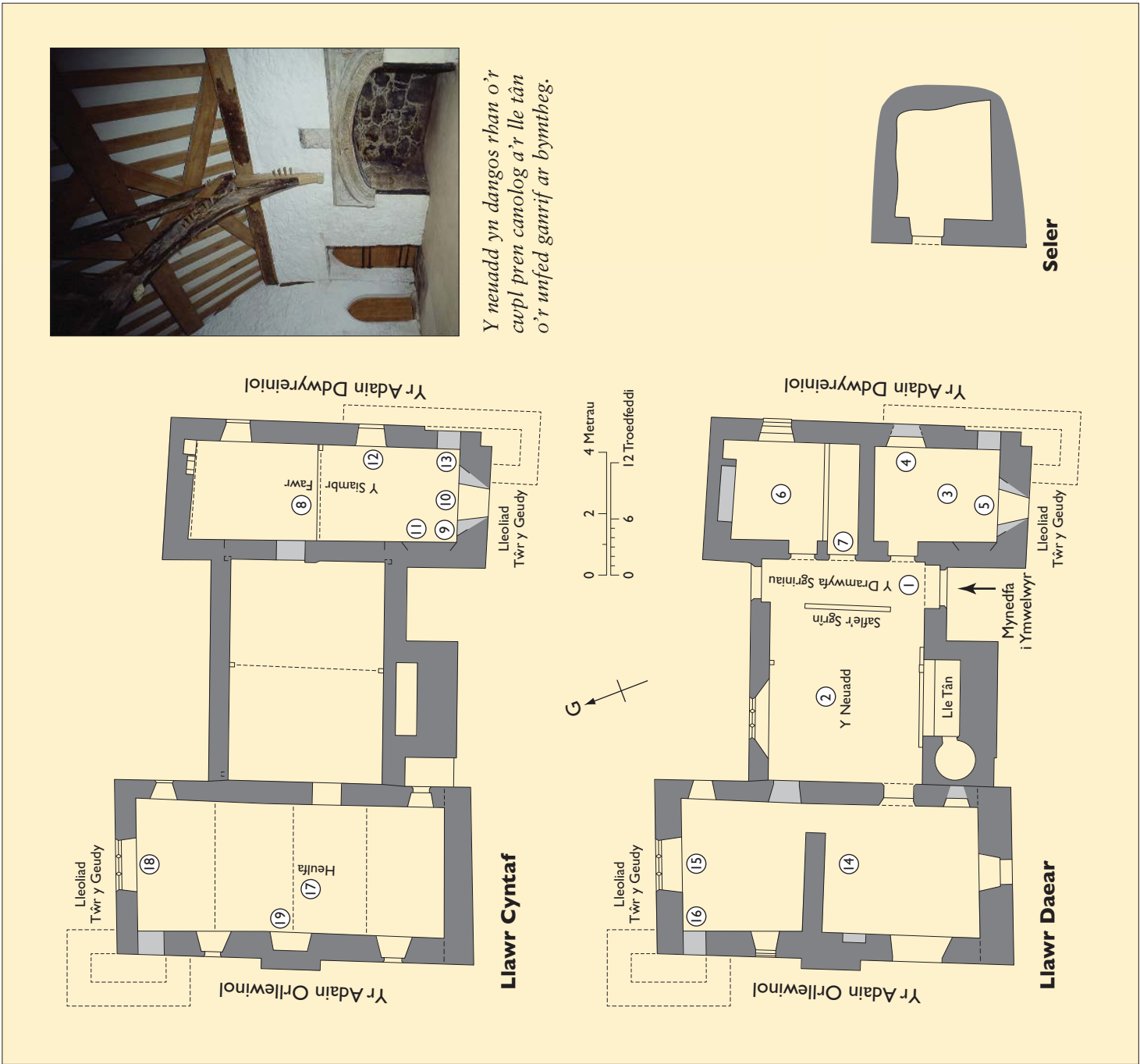
Byddai bwrdd uchel wedi sefyll ym mhen pellaf y neuadd a oleuwyd gan y ffenestr ogleddol gain. Dyma lle byddai'r teulu a gwesteion pwysig wedi eistedd. Mae'n bosibl y byddai'r bwrdd wedi ei osod ar lwyfan — a oedd fwy na thebyg yn angenrheidiol yma oherwydd y llawr anwastad

— a gellid bod wedi ei gysgodi rhag huddygl o'r tân gan ganopi.

Safai sgrŵn bren, addurnedig o bosibl, ym mhen arall y neuadd, gan ei gwahanu o'r dramwyfa rhwng y ddau ddrws allanol gyferbyn â'i gilydd. Roedd y sgrŵn yn lleihau unrhyw ddrafftiau ac yn gwahanu'r ardal gyhoeddus o'r ystafelloedd gwasanaeth a'r ystafelloedd mwy preifat.

Er bod y gymdeithas ganoloesol yn hierarchaeth lem, roedd bwyta a difyrwch yn aml yn weithgareddau cymunedol a darparai'r neuadd y lleoliad i bobl bwysig ailgadarnhau eu statws i bawb a oedd yn bresennol.

Yn ogystal â'r neuadd roedd ystafelloedd mwy preifat. Yn aml roedd 'siambr fawr' yn lleoliad ar gyfer busnes mwy preifat, tra byddai 'heulfa', neu oruwchystafell, wedi'i chadw ar gyfer y teulu a'u cyfeillion mynwesol. Defnyddid ystafelloedd llai moethus fel storfeydd ac ar gyfer gweithgareddau domestig.



Golygfa o'r neuadd yn edrych tuag at y tri drws sy'n arwain o'r dramwyfa sgriniau i'r adain ddwyreiniol. Roedd y drws yn y canol yn arwain at dramwyfa a chegin allanol y tu hwnt.

Adeiladu Hafoty — Ditectifs Tai

Mae hanes strwythurol Hafoty mor gymhleth â hanes y teuluoedd a fu'n byw yno. Mae darganfod y gwir yn her i arbenigwyr ac ymwelwyr fel ei gilydd. Nid ydym yn gwybod yn union pryd yr adeiladwyd y tŷ gyntaf, ond os mai Thomas Norres fu'n gyfrifol, mae'n debygol i'r gwaith gychwyn tua chanol y bymthegfed ganrif. Fodd bynnag, gallai adeiladwr cynharach fod wedi bodoli, er nad ydym yn gwybod dim amdano eto.

Cam 1

Gwyddom mai cam cyntaf y strwythur a welwn heddiw oedd adeilad ffrâm bren, yn debyg i'r tai ffrâm bren rhannol sy'n nodweddiadol o orllewin Swydd Gaerhirfryn, Swydd Gaer a'r Gororau. Byddai hyn yn hollol gydnaws â thŷ a adeiladwyd gan Thomas Norres o Orllewin Derby, ond wrth gwrs nid ef oedd yr unig Sais yn yr ardal ar y pryd.

Roedd y tŷ yn cynnwys neuadd fawr gydag adain ddwyreiniol ddeulawr ar ongl sgwâr (siâp T) yn cynnwys ystafelloedd gwasanaeth a siambr fawr. Mae'r prif gyplau pren o'r adeilad hwn i'w gweld o hyd yn y neuadd ac maent wedi'u claddu yn waliau'r adain ddwyreiniol. Nid oedd y pren ar gyfer y tŷ cyntaf hwn yn addas ar gyfer olrhain dyddiad blwyddgylch (dendrocronoleg).

Cam 2

Mae'n amlwg i'r strwythur ffrâm bren fethu yn fuan ar ôl iddo gael ei godi, oherwydd ailadeiladwyd yr adain ddwyreiniol, ac yna'r neuadd ei hun, gan ddefnyddio cerrig. Fodd bynnag, cadwyd ffrâm bren yr adeilad cynharach ac fe'i gorchuddiwyd â cherrieg.

Ychwanegwyd lleoedd tân o gerrig wedi'u mowidio gyda simnai allanol yn yr adain ddwyreiniol ynghyd â geudy yn y gornel de ddwyreiniol. Ar y llawr uchaf, roedd ffenestri gyda cherrieg addurnedig cain a darnau ar led mewnol sy'n arwydd o fuddsoddiad sylweddol mewn cysur ac ansawdd, sy'n awgrym pellach mai hon oedd y siambr fawr.

Hefyd gosodwyd wal gerrig yn llei'r wal a oedd yn gwahanu'r adain ddwyreiniol o'r neuadd, gyda thri drws bwaog yn arwain at ystafelloedd gwasanaeth a thramwyfa i gegin allanol.

Mae hefyd yn bosibl y bu siambr arall i'r gorllewin o'r neuadd ar yr adeg hon.



Uwchben y lle tân a ychwanegwyd at y neuadd gan deulu Bulkeley ceir yr arysgrif Si deus nobiscum, quis contra nos (Os yw Duw o'n plaid, pwy all ein gurthuynebu).

Cam 3

Gwyddom y trosglwyddwyd y tŷ i Richard Bulkeley yn 1511 a gwnaed gwelliannau pellach rywbryd ar ôl hynny. Os oedd siambr ym mhen gorllewinol y neuadd yn barod, fe'i disodlwyd gan yr adain orllewinol gain a adeiladwyd â cherrieg yn hanner cyntaf yr unfed ganrif ar bymtheg i greu'r tŷ siâp H a welir heddiw. Torrwyd y coed ar gyfer y to rywbryd rhwng 1509 ac 1533 felly efallai na wnaed y gwelliannau ar unwaith. Ymddengys yn debyg fod y strwythur newydd hwn yn cynnwys elfennau — yn enwedig y lle tân yn yr 'heulfa' (sef y siambr breifat ar y llawr cyntaf) — a achubwyd o'r strwythur cynharach.

Cyflwynodd y teulu Bulkeley arddull a safonau newydd. Ymddengys fod anghyfleuster yr aelwyd ganolog yn ormod iddynt, felly yn unol â ffasiwn y cyfnod, ychwanegwyd lle tân afradlon i'r neuadd, gan gael gwared ar y pyst pared cwpl i'r de. Roedd y simnai allanol anferth bron yn gorchuddio ffenestr fach ar ochr yr adain orllewinol, felly rhaid bod y lle tân yn dyddio o gyfnod diweddarach, ond efallai nid o nifer o flynyddoedd.

Cam 4

Yn ystod y ddeunawfed ganrif, ond yn enwedig y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg, ychwanegwyd rhaniadau newydd i'r llorïau a'r ystafelloedd. Er i'r rhan fwyaf o'r addasiadau hyn gael eu newid yn ôl yn ystod y broses gadwraeth, gellir gweld eu creithiau o amgylch y tŷ hyd heddiw.

Taith o amgylch Hafoty

Y Neuadd

Unwaith i chi fynd drwy'r drws, rydych yn nhramwyfa sgriniau **[1]** y neuadd ganoloesol. Byddai sgrŵn bren a safai ar ei phen ei hun, a nodir gan blât pren yn y llawr; wedi bod i'ch chwith (gorllewin), a oedd yn creu tramwyfa rhwng y ddau ddrws allanol gyferbyn â'i gilydd. Byddai bylchau i'r naill ochr o'r sgrŵn wedi darparu mynediad i'r neuadd **[2]** go iawn.

Yn wreiddiol roedd y neuadd yn strwythur ffrâm bren, y mae'r prif gwpl pren wedi goroesi (noder y mowidio a'r bogail canolog cerfiedig). Gellir gweld olion dau gwpl arall yn y naill ben o'r neuadd, wedi'u gorchuddio gan waith maen y

The main hall is now dominated by the fireplace, which the Bulkeleys built in the sixteenth century to replace an open central hearth.

They used the fireplace to display their family iconography and affirm their possession of the house. Bulls' heads and the distinctive Saracen's head on the right-hand side of the fireplace are Bulkeley family emblems. The English version of the inscription — *Si deus nobiscum, quis contra nos* (If God is with us, who can be against us) — carved on the fireplace is known from the Bulkeley family's former house at Henblas, near Beaumaris.

A rare feature of the fireplace is the survival of its original painted surface in a few places. Analysis has shown that the stone was first covered with red lead paint. This may have been a decorative colour but it might also have provided a stable base for the off-white ground, which was then decorated with irregular wavy black vein-like lines to give the effect of marble. Such fictive decoration is typical of the sixteenth century and shows a strong awareness of fashion and a desire to display the status of the family.

The East Wing

Three doors lead from the screens passage into the east wing, which consists of two floors with comfortable private accommodation — a great chamber — above two rooms. Originally, timber-framed, the east wing was rebuilt in stone not long after the house was begun, sometime in the fifteenth century. It was altered extensively in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Facing the doorways, that to the right leads to a small chamber [3], containing traces of an early fireplace, which was later converted to a door then a window [4]. The room was originally lit by a wide-played window, which was later narrowed [5]. Note the drawings of ships etched into the plasterwork in the mid-eighteenth century.

Back in the screens passage, the doorway to the left gives access to what was perhaps a service room or store [6].

Take the central doorway [7], which originally led via a passage, marked by a wooden plate in the floor, to a doorway (now blocked) in the eastern wall and to an external kitchen beyond. The modern stair (originally a simple ladder stair) takes you past a small fireplace and wall cupboard, which were added in the nineteenth century, and gives access to the fine upper or great chamber [8].

The central and northern trusses in this large single chamber are part of the original timber-framed building. A third truss is encased by the later masonry. Its vertical wall timber has decayed leaving an impression in the mortar and stonework in the south-west corner [9]. With the plaster removed, it is possible to see different phases of construction as the clay wall was replaced in stone.

Note the south window [10] where the original wide splay has been narrowed at a later date, perhaps at the same time as a window on the west side [11] was blocked. The remains of a fireplace survive on the east wall [12].

At a later date, its chimney was removed and the fireplace was converted into a window, but the decorative moulding of the stone surround can still be seen. The height of the fireplace indicates the original floor level of the timber-framed building, 10 inches (0.25m) above the modern floor.

A door, probably blocked at the same time as the window, gave access to a latrine tower in the south-east corner of the room [13].

The West Wing

Return to the hall and enter the west wing [14] via the doorway opposite the screens passage. The west wing consists of two floors with a cellar at the south end of the wing. It may have been begun in timber, with an early stone phase, but what we see today was built most probably after the Bulkeley family took possession of the house in 1511. It has undergone much alteration since. The ground-floor rooms are likely to have been private rooms with a solar, or family room, above.

The north room contains a fine three-light window [15], which was discovered during conservation work. Fragments of the carved stone dressings were found in the blocking material and used as the basis for the reconstructed window.

Like the latrine tower in the east wing, there was originally similar provision accessed from the north-west corner of this room, which was subsequently removed and the doorway blocked [16], probably when this part of the building was modified for use by farm workers. The cellar can be reached from the adjacent room.

Take the modern stair up to the solar [17] on the first floor of this west wing. This was a more private room where only family members and close confidants would have had access.

The window at the north end [18] of the solar has been reconstructed in timber based on fragments of window dressings recovered during conservation work. It matches exactly the ground-floor window and there may have been another similar window at the other end of the chamber, but this was lost when the south wall was rebuilt in the nineteenth century.

The fireplace [19] on the west wall represents one of the mysteries of Hafoty. The moulding is identical to the fireplaces in the east wing, which is earlier than the west wing. This may mean that the fireplace has been reused from an earlier stone chamber perhaps on the site of the sixteenth-century west wing.

The huge roof trusses differ from those in the east wing and hall because they rest on a timber wall plate, which sits directly on the top of the walls. Dendrochronology tells us that the purlins (the large timbers that run from one truss to another) were felled in the first half of the sixteenth century and it is this evidence that dates the building of the west wing.

The Exterior of Hafoty

It is worth looking at the outside of the house to identify some of the various alterations that have been described from the inside. Note in particular the projecting stones at the north-west and south-east corners, which mark the positions of the two lost latrine towers. Note also the junction between the hall and west wing on the north face. It is the ragged nature of the masonry on the hall that indicates that the west wing was a later addition.

Further Reading

Philip Dixon, 1995, 'Hafoty, Llansadwrn, Anglesey: Excavations and Survey of a Medieval House', *Studia Celtica*, XXIX, 53–26.

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Hafoty Hall House Llansadwrn, Anglesey

M.J.Yates BA, Ph.D, FSA



Hafoty from the north-west with the west wing in the foreground.

The Owners and Occupiers

Anglesey had long been noted for its fertility and natural resources and by the fifteenth-century it had become a land of opportunity. The suppression of the revolt of Owain Glyndwr in the 1400s led to increased security and in the decades that followed ambitious English families established themselves in the principal town of Beaumaris and large estates began to emerge.

Part of that English establishment was one Thomas Norres from West Derby in Lancashire. In 1439 he was captain of the guard of Beaumaris Castle and by 1456 we know he was in possession of Bodarddar — the early name for the hamlet and the property we now know as Hafoty — in the medieval township of Crymlyn.

Bodarddar passed from Thomas to his daughter, Leticia, who was married to another Thomas Norres (from Speke in Cheshire). On her death, provision was made for the property to return to the West Derby side of the Norres family — by then represented by Thomas Aspull. However, in 1498 Thomas Aspull transferred all rights and titles to Bodaddar to Sir William Norres, Leticia's son.

Sir William died in 1506 and was succeeded by his son, Henry. Meanwhile another important Beaumaris family was

extending its interests. The Bulkeleys had been established in the town since the 1440s and in 1511 Henry transferred all his lands in the hamlet of Bodarddar (by now known as Bothyorthorch) to Richard Bulkeley, archdeacon of Anglesey. Although the reason for the transfer is unknown, the grant was signed at Bothyorthorch, presumably for a consideration.

1577 saw 'Botyorthorch' leased to Richard Lewis and a 1585 reference to Edward Lewis Gethin's 'dayre house in Llansadwrn' was later endorsed Hafody Ordderch.

Although the house remained in the possession of the Bulkeley family (who retain the freehold to this day), a succession of tenant farmers followed and as a result the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries saw an increasing emphasis on the practical requirements of a farmhouse. By the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the story of wealth and position was all but forgotten.

In 1937 the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales published their inventory for Anglesey which recognized the historic importance of the building and in 1970, the Bulkeley family placed it in the guardianship of the State. During the 1970s extensive research was carried out and the full complexity of the structural history was revealed. We hope this brief guide can give you a flavour of the evidence for change which was uncovered.

The Hall House

Hafoty is a type of medieval dwelling known as a ‘hall house’. It is a high status building and an appropriate home for a member of an influential family such as the Norres or the Bulkeleys.

Hall houses take their name from the large open hall where public business took place. Originally, there would have been an open fire in the centre with the smoke escaping through a hole, or louver, in the roof. The large decorative fireplace in the hall is a later modification by the Bulkeley family.

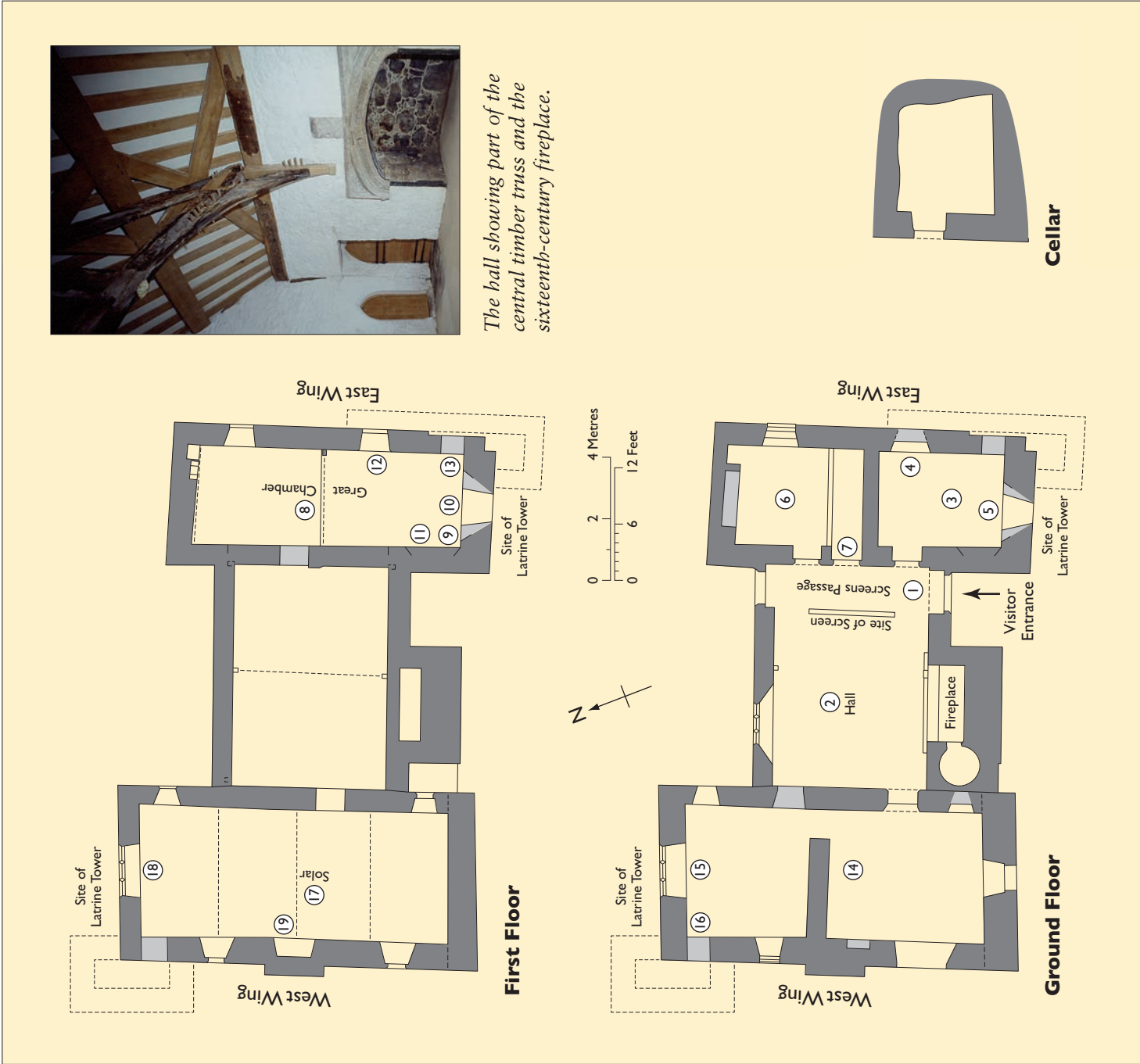
A high table stood at the end of the hall lit by the fine north window. Here the family and guests of high status sat. The table may have been raised on a dais — probably necessary here because of the irregular floor —

and may have been sheltered from smuts from the fire by a canopy.

A wooden screen, perhaps highly decorated, stood at the other end of the hall, separating it from the passage between the two opposing external doors. The screen reduced draughts and separated the public space from the service rooms and the more private apartments.

Although medieval society was strictly hierarchical, activities such as eating and entertaining were often communal and the hall provided the setting for people of position to reaffirm their status to those around.

As well as the hall there were more private apartments. Often a ‘great chamber’ provided a setting for more private business while a ‘solar’ room was reserved for family and the closest confidants. Less well-appointed rooms were used for storage and domestic activities.



The hall looking towards the three doorways that open from the screens passage into the east wing. The central doorway led to a passage and external kitchen beyond.

The Building of Hafoty — House Detectives

The structural history of Hafoty is as complex as the history of the families who lived here. Disentangling this story is a challenge to experts and visitors alike. We do not know exactly when the house was first built, but if Thomas Norres was responsible, it is likely to have been begun towards the middle of the fifteenth century. However, there may have been an earlier builder of whom we know nothing as yet.

Phase 1

We do know that the first phase of the structure we see today was a timber-framed building, similar to the half-timbered houses, which characterize west Lancashire, Cheshire and the Borders. This would be entirely compatible with a house built by Thomas Norres from West Derby but of course he was not the only Englishman in the area at that time.

The house comprised a main hall with a two-storey eastern wing set at right angles (T-shaped), containing service rooms and a great chamber. The main timber trusses from this building survive in the hall and buried in the walls of the east wing. The timbers for this first house were unsuitable for tree-ring dating (dendrochronology).

Phase 2

Clearly the timber-framed structure failed soon after construction because first the east wing and then the hall itself were rebuilt in stone. However, the timber frame of the earlier building was retained and encased in stone.

Moulded stone fireplaces served by an external chimney were added in the east wing together with a latrine in the south-east corner. On the upper floor, there were windows with fine stone dressings and wide internal splay indicating significant investment in comfort and quality, further suggesting that this room was a great chamber.

The wall dividing the east wing from the hall was also replaced in stone with three arched doorways, leading to service rooms and a passage through to an external kitchen.

There may also have been another chamber to the west of the hall at this time.



The fireplace added to the hall by the Bulkeley family bears the inscription Si deus nobiscum, quis contra nos (If God is with us, who can be against us).

Phase 3

We know that the house passed to Richard Bulkeley in 1511 and some time after this, further improvements took place. If there was already a chamber at the west end of the hall, it was replaced by the fine stone-built west wing in the first half of the sixteenth century to create the H-shaped house we see today. The timbers for the roof were felled some time between 1509 and 1553 so the improvements may not have been immediate. It seems probable that this new structure included elements —notably the fireplace in the ‘solar’ (the exclusive first-floor chamber) — salvaged from the earlier structure.

The Bulkeleys also brought new style and standards. It seems the inconvenience of the central hearth became too much so, in keeping with the fashion of the day, an extravagant fireplace was added to the hall, cutting away the truss wall-post on the south side. The massive external chimney almost blocked a small side window on the west wing so the fireplace must be later in date although perhaps not by many years.

Phase 4

During the eighteenth, but especially the nineteenth century, new floor and rooms divisions were inserted. Although these alterations have mostly been reversed during the conservation process, scars of their positions can still be seen around the house today.

A Tour of Hafoty

The Hall

Once through the door, you are in the screens passage [1] of the medieval hall. To your left (west) there would have been a freestanding wooden screen, marked by a wooden plate in the floor, which created a passage between the two opposing external doors. Gaps either side of the screen would have given access to the hall [2] proper.

Originally the hall was a timber-framed structure of which the main central truss survives (note the moulding and the carved central boss). Traces of two more trusses can be seen at either end of the hall, encased by the masonry of the later stone structure. The large window would have lit the high table at the west end of the hall.

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i wisgo'r esgidiau rhedeg a dechrau
paratoi ar gyfer eich her ym mis Medi.



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- **10k a Hanner Marathon: 13 Medi**



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