# The Ruffin

**FREE** community magazine • published quarterly

Number 46 • November 2023

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Beaumaris
Glanrafon
Llanddona
Llandegfan
Llanfaes
Llangoed
Llansadwrn
Penmon

Serving...

...and on-line

NADOLIG LLAWEN A BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA!

#### Imbyism and that speed limit John Nunn

I think I may have invented a new word.

Most people have heard of "nimbyism": nimby – not in my back yard. This is where we all agree that something should be done about it, but not near us, thank you very much! Whether it is housing refugees, hostels for released prisoners, a new factory: we all agree, all absolutely necessary but not near me. Well, "imbyism" is when you *do* want something in your back yard.



By the time you read this we shall all be well into our new 20mph limits in certain built-up areas. According to the leaflet which we have all received, 63% of the population of Wales support the idea of a reduced speed limit near where they live; however, everyone I chat to seems very concerned about the inevitable delays and seem to adopt attitudes quite incompatible with the Welsh Government survey. I am not cynical enough to assume that the survey results are made up. It's just that we like the idea of slower traffic "in my back yard" but not in places where we need to drive.

Within a week of moving to Llangoed I was done for speeding. I was clocked by the mobile traffic camera which was parked below Plas Cadnant. I hadn't even registered the speed sign for Porthaethwy/Menai Bridge, assuming it was nearer to the town proper. I was clocked at 35mph and, to be honest, was pretty cheesed off to be booked for being so little over the limit. I was offered a course instead of a fine, and learned that if you are hit by a vehicle travelling at 35mph you are twice as likely to die than if you are hit at 30mph. Suddenly I wasn't so cheesed off; and now, the Welsh Government leaflet shows that you are five times more likely to die if you are hit at 30mph than at 20 mph. If that is correct it at least needs careful thought.

Undoubtedly, the new limits will make a difference to our lives. Certainly there will be delays, though how long the average delay will be is a matter of debate. If the statistics are correct, and there is no reason to suppose they are not, lives will be saved. It is fairly obvious that if you are a pedestrian and hit by a vehicle, the faster the vehicle is going the more likely you are to die; however, saved lives from collisions do not tell the whole story. Will emergency vehicles be delayed and, if so, will that affect survivability? Will there be an increase in atmospheric pollution as a result of vehicles being on the road longer? If so, how will that affect life expectancy? At the moment there are no real answers to these questions, but they do at least show that the issue is not entirely straightforward. It is also worth remembering that as experience of the limits is gathered undoubtedly there will be changes.



A steam road locomotive, built by Mr Rickett of Buckingham for the Earl of Caithness, in which the Earl and Countess and the Rev W Ross drove over 120 miles from Inverness to John o'Groats, Caithness, in two days in 1860; what a hair-raising journey it must have been! (Universal History Archive/Universal Images

(Universal History Archive/Universal Images Group via Getty Images)

Debate about the imposition or abolition of speed limits have been going on for a very long time. Perhaps we can learn from the past because, of course, we have been here before. The history of motoring in the UK has been one of changing speed limits, often accompanied by cries of outrage. In 1865 the famous Red Flag Act or Locomotive Act required a pedestrian to walk 60 yards in front of a road steam locomotive waving a red flag to warn of its approach. In the light of the unreliability of these machines (sometimes a boiler would blow up) it was probably a wise precaution. An Act of 1878 laid down a speed limit in towns of 2mph (and yes, I do mean 2mph). On country roads you could veritably speed along at 4mph. In both cases, though, a pedestrian "escort" was required to walk 20 yards in front to warn folk that you were coming ( no red flag anymore, though).

The Locomotives on Highways Act 1896 finally released poor frustrated drivers from the tyranny of the law as national speed limits were abolished and local authorities empowered to make their own. The average is usually accepted as being about 14mph. To celebrate, an "Emancipation Run" was organised in that year in which vehicles engaged in a mad dash from London to Brighton. It is reported that some of the participants managed to sustain an average mindblowing speed of 20mph!

In 1927 the drive was revived as the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run (not a race, incidentally) open to cars built before 1905, and has been held in virtually every year since when the country was not at war: the famous London to Brighton rally for classic cars.

The absence of a national speed limit did not last long and in 1903 was introduced at 20mph. In 1930, however, all speed limits were once again abolished. Be wary of what you ask for, though. A spate of road-related injuries and deaths soon brought a return to limits with the now familiar limit of 30mph being introduced in built-up areas. These limits were every bit as popular in some quarters as the return to the 1903 20mph limit is in some quarters today, with a spate of incidents where the new 30mph signs were torn down and thrown in fields or rivers.

Authorities continued to tinker with the rules, and when the 70 mph limit was introduced on motorways in 1967 there were howls of protests from the owners of high-powered vehicles, with accusations that these were "dawdling limits". BBC archive material shows hundreds protesting at this new limit on the M1. In 1974, while 70 mph remained the limit on motorways, the limit for other dual carriageways was reduced to 60 mph and to 50 mph on all single lane (in each direction) roads. Before these latest reductions to 20mph, which apply only to Wales, the last alterations were in 1977, when the limits became 30ph (in built-up areas), 60mph (on singlelane highways) and 70mph on all dual carriageways (motorways and nonmotorways).

So, if we learn anything at all from all this, it is that speed limits have frequently been changed; ostensibly, in the interests of road safety and latterly air quality, but often, when one probes a bit deeper, for reasons related to the price or supply of fuel. On the rare occasions when limits are raised there are celebrations, but when limits are reduced, there are howls of protest initially, but gradually the limits become normalised and accepted, and at the end of the day, it does seem that if the Welsh Government statistic - that you are five times more likely to die if you are hit by a vehicle doing 30mph than by one doing 20mph is correct - the reduction in the speed limit should save lives (never start a sentence with a conjunction, my English teacher used to say...what did he know?).

I have raided a fair variety of sources publicly available on the internet to compose this epistle. I am grateful to all of them.

## Our Christmas front cover

Andrew Perrott

Once again, we should make it clear that no Westies were harmed during the production of this Christmas cover. There wasn't even any bribery involved; Tilly just decided to sit in front of me and think deep thoughts...

The picture is another of my famous/ infamous art forgeries, and features Tilly posing in a little red just-on-the-shoulder number just after Christmas 2023. The number in question is a rather chic

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Photographs by Andrew Perrott unless stated otherwise

handmade fleece coat with sheep on it. It was bequeathed to Tilly after her friend, Beti, went to the Great Kennel in the Sky a couple of years ago. Tilly and her best friend Edie (she of the hat and sunglasses in **The Puffin** 45, page 31) were enjoying a post-Christmas breakfast with their friend Daisy.

The year 2023 was notable in all sorts of ways, not least for the appalling summer that we had to endure: a lovely May and June were followed by what seemed like week after week of nothing but wind and rain. I'm typing this towards the end of August, having just watched a weather forecast on TV which gave little hope of anything other than 'more of the same'. Never mind...

Now, all that remains is for Tilly, and all of us at **The Puffin**'s Editorial Team, to wish you all...

#### NADOLIG LLAWEN A BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA! MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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#### What's happening where?

What's happening where? continues to grow, and we hope that you find it useful.

If you think that an event is missing and should be mentioned, do make sure that you let us know in good time.

Our 'submissions by' dates are:

- 1 January for February
- 1 April for May
- 1 July for August
- 1 October for November

Our contact details are always given in *Editorial information and other 'useful to know' stuff* on the back page.

We want to support you, but we can't do so if you don't support us by feeding information to us...support us to support your community!

Keep an eye on websites, local advertising and social media, Facebook and the like, because changes can affect events either way, some happening suddenly or being cancelled just as suddenly:

- Check beforehand to make sure that an event is happening.
- Remember to take a mask with you.

Attention, voluntary groups! If your organisation has opportunities to fill, think about placing an advertisement in The Puffin.

Our contact details are always on the back page.

#### Some useful local services

 Cashpoints: there are now no banks in the Seiriol area, but we

puffinpages@gmail.com

know of two cashpoints:

- Jolly's, 5 Bulkeley Terrace, Beaumaris LL58 8AU, outside, at what used to be the NatWest bank
- Spar, 11 Castle Street, Beaumaris LL58 8AB: inside, during opening hours

Please let us know if you know of any others so that we can list them here.

**Post Offices**: note also that you can withdraw cash with your bank card at any Post Office counter (Spar, Beaumaris, and Morrisons Daily, Llangoed, for example) free of charge.

 Beaumaris library: Beaumaris library is at:

David Hughes Community Centre Beaumaris Anglesey LL58 8AL

Opening times are:

Monday 2.30pm-6.00pm Wednesday 10.00am-12.30pm Friday 9.00am-1pm

2 01248 810659

#### 🖂 .ddxlh@anglesey.gov.wales.

 Mobile library: the mobile library visits communities which are more than ¾ mile from one of Anglesey's libraries. It carries a small but comprehensive selection of books and tapes, and also provides a gateway to other library services.

The mobile library visits the following communities on the third Friday of the month:

- Llanddona: Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall 11.30am-12.30pm Maes Gwyn 1.10pm-1.45pm
- Llanfaes: Siop Llandêg
   9.30am-10.00am
- Llangoed: Pont y Brenin 10.10am-10.40am Aberlleiniog car park 10.45am-11.15am
- Llansadwrn: Tan-y-Ffordd 2.00pm-2.30pm
- 1248 752093, 01248 752095

Telephone Llangefni Library if you would like more information about the doorstep delivery service.

- 01248 752093
- Mobile and Home Library Service www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/ Residents/Libraries/Mobileand-Home-Library-Service. aspx.

 Household waste recycling: Anglesey residents do not need to book a slot to use the Penhesgyn Household Waste Recycling Centre (Menai Bridge LL59 5RY):

Vehicles must be no longer than 5.0m and no higher than 2.1m, including any attachments.

Householders must produce proof of residency on the Isle of Anglesey, such as a current Council Tax bill, driving licence or recent (less than 3 months old) utility bill.

Opening times are:

Monday 10.00am-4.30pm Tuesday 10.00am-4.30pm Friday 10.00am-4.30pm Saturday 10.00am-4.30pm Sunday 10.00am-4.30pm

- Penhesgyn Household Waste Recycling Centre
   www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/.
   Residents/Bins-and-recycling/.
   Recycling-centres-and-.
   recycling-banks/Penhesgyn-.
   Household-Waste.
- Waste Management 01248 752093



**Mobile banking**: NatWest appears to be alone among the main banks in providing a mobile banking service.

A Mobile Branch visits Beaumaris and Menai Bridge every week:

o Beaumaris:

- Castle Square LL58 8DA Wednesday 10.30am-11.15am
- Menai Bridge: Wood Street car park LL59 5QW Wednesday 3.35pm-3.55pm
- A directory for your local banking services www.natwest.com/bankingwith-natwest/other-ways-tobank-with-natwest-bankingme.html#mb.

# 🕹 NatWest

• **Mobile Post Office**: the Post Office provides a mobile service across Anglesey.

It makes the following weekly local stops at Llanddona and Llandegfan:

 Llanddona: Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall LL58 8TS Tuesday 2.30pm-3.00pm Maes Gwyn LL58 8TP Tuesday 3.05pm-3.30pm

 Llandegfan: Bro Llewelyn LL59 5UP Tuesday 3.45pm-4.15pm Maes Ffynnon LL59 5PS Tuesday 4.15pm-4.45pm

All the usual Post Office services are available.

Visit Maesgeirchen Mobile Post Office's Facebook page for up-todate information about the mobile Post Office service.

Maesgeirchen Mobile Post Office www.facebook.com/people/ Maesgeirchen-Mobile-Post-Office/100057490246225/

> POST OFFICE

#### Anglesey, Gwynedd

 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 is 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 have a zoom meeting to chat every fourth Saturday evening of the month.

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

We use **www.meetup.com** for information about events and to keep in touch.

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

# ☎ 07474 224246 ☑ lyn2910@yahoo.co.uk

#### Beaumaris

• **RNLI: volunteers wanted!** The RNLI is working hard to make itself inclusive, with the Fundraising Team, shop helpers and crew all working together as a team. We'd give a big welcome to anyone who would like to volunteer in any capacity.

Like most charities, we do need more volunteers to help with our shop and events.

**200<sup>th</sup> anniversary!** Next year will be the RNLI's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, a very special year, with national and local

celebrations being planned, as well as many extra events.

If you are interested please call in at the RNLI shop or contact Valary Wakefield on 01248 811375.

Keep an eye on social media and **The Puffin** for updates.



• Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club: Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club fielded eight teams this year, in five different Leagues, and 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

- 1248 490222, 07712 121147
- Beaumaris Bowling Club https://beaumarisbowlingclub. yolasite.com/
- Beaumaris Bowling Club www.facebook.com/people/ Beaumaris-Bowling-Club/1000 63490482942/

There's more to read on page 25.

 Clwb Rhwyfo Beaumaris Rowing Club: there's a long history of competitive rowing on the Menai 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/



• 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 Film Night: put the first Thursday of every month in your diary! Have a look below at what's coming this autumn/winter.

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.

#### 201248 811200

**2 November**: *Living* (2022): London, 1953: Bill Nighy is a reserved accountant who works to strict routine. Faced with a dire medical diagnosis, he learns to live life anew and find meaning before it's too late (1h 42m).

**7 December**: *Bank of Dave* (2023): True story: a Burnley van magnate wants to open a community bank to help to fund local businesses. To do so he must battle London's elite financial institutions and compete for the first banking licence in over 100 years (1h 47m).

Volunteers are always welcome at Beaumaris Film Night; please contact Stephen Marsden to find out more.

- 07774 699685
- Beaumaris Over 50's Club: Club meetings take place at 2.00pm on the last Monday of the month at:

The lorwerth Rowlands Centre Steeple Lane Beaumaris LL58 8AE

We extend a warm welcome to new and old members.

Put these dates in your diary!

- 30 Hydref/30 October: Fiona Braithwaite, siaradwr o Erddi Bodnant/Fiona Braithwaite, speaker from Bodnant Gardens
- 27 Tachwedd/27 November: Canu ar gyfer Pleser ac Eitemau Nadolig/ Singing for Pleasure and Christmas Items.
- **Rhagfyr/December**: dim cyfarfod/no meeting.
- 29 Ionawr/29 January: Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol a Bingo/ Annual General Meeting and Bingo Session.

For more details and bookings, please contact the Chair, Mike Davies.

01248 812157, 07483 827069

#### 🖂 dmikedmail@gmail.com

We ran two trips in September:

• **14 September**: to the Golf Club, Caernarfon, where we had an



excellent lunch

26 September: to the Llangollen Canal, with lunch on the canal boat.

H'Artworks: Anne Snaith is 'Artist in Residence' at the Bulkeley Hotel, Castle Street, Beaumaris.

Go to page 6 to read about the workshops that Anne runs, and read her article on page 22.

Seindorf Beaumaris Band: come along to hear some excellent music!

We'll be holding a Christmas Fair, with live music, crafts and cakes to buy, in Beaumaris Town Hall on Saturday 25 November (11.00am-1.00pm).

Our Christmas Concerts will be held at the Canolfan in Beaumaris on Friday 8/Saturday 9 December (times to be confirmed; watch out for more information locally or follow us on Facebook).

Do come and celebrate with us!

Are you interested in music? We have a range of bands catering to all levels of musical ability, including absolute beginners! All rehearsals take place at the Band Hall in Beaumaris (next to the fire station):

The Junior Band rehearses on Mondays, 5.30pm-6.30pm (conductor: Maggie Williams)

- The Intermediate Band rehearses on Mondays, 6.45pm-8.15pm (conductor: Maggie Williams)
- Youth Band rehearses on Tuesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm (conductor: Pete Cowlishaw)
- LSW ('Last of the Summer Wind') 0 rehearses on Wednesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm (conductor: Fred Evans)
- Senior Band rehearses on Thursdays, 7.30pm-9.30pm (conductor: Bari Gwilliam)

Contact the Band at post@beau marisband.org.uk for more information, and read more about it on page 12.

Seindorf Beaumaris Band www.facebook.com/beaumaris band



**Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris** Leisure Centre: There's so much happening at Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris that we don't have room for it here, so see our centre-spread on pages 16-17 and the article on page 21 to find out what's going on, and keep up-to-date with everything via social media.

- Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris Leisure Centre Rating Row Beaumaris Anglesey LL58 8AL
- 01248 811200
- 🖂 enquiries@canolfan beaumaris.org.uk
- 🗕 Canolfan Beaumaris www.canolfanbeaumaris. org.uk/
- Canolfan Beaumaris www.facebook.com/ canolfan.beaumaris.7/



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.

Hello...I'm Anne Snaith; I'm 'Artist in Residence' at the Bulkeley Hotel, Castle Street, Beaumaris, where I run a variety of workshops and much more besides.

I have lots of wonderful things planned for the Christmas season 2023!

There will be different activities for children and adults alike, with a selection of fun festive workshops available.

#### Tuesdays 4.30pm-5.30pm

#### **Children's Art Club for ages 7-12**: the cost is £15.00 per head, and includes professional tuition in a wide variety of media.

Running now; contact me for more details.

Limited spaces still available.

#### Wednesdays 1.00pm-3.00pm

Watercolours: beginners and intermediate: it's fun and friendly, and a block of ten sessions costs £150.

Each session is 'stand alone', so people can join later and create a picture each session.

If you are late joining the course, fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Spaces still available.

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.

O1248 305014 Monday-Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm



• Beaumaris Victorian Christmas: Saturday/Sunday 2-3 December.

There will be lots to see and do for all the family, including:

- Santa's Grotto
- o Carriage rides
- o Music

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# THE ART STUDIO

#### Available all year round for Workshops, Classes, Clubs and more





#### BOOK A WORKSHOP/REGISTER FOR A CLASS VIEW PAINTINGS/BUY MATERIALS

for more information please contact Anne on 01248 810631 or 07531 384434, or e-mail hartworks@btinternet.com

Available all year round, except Sundays

#### Thursdays 1.00pm-3.00pm

**Watercolours and mixed media**: it's fun and friendly, and a block of ten sessions costs £150. Each session is 'standalone', so people can join later and create a picture each session.

If you are late joining the course, fees will be adjusted. The class is now full but I can put your name on my waiting list.

- o Games
- o A Parade
- Stalls
- Fancy dress competition
- ...and much more!

The event is in aid of charity, and the funds raised will be distributed thus:

- 50% for the national charity, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)
- 50% between local charities

The event will take place over the whole weekend, with additional entertainment, competitions, etc., on the Sunday for, and by, the local community.

Beaumaris Victorian Christmas www.beaumarisvictorian christmas.com

Make a note in your diary!

Beaumaris Makers Market: Castle Square, Beaumaris LL58 8AL (in front of the Castle Court Hotel, and

#### Thursdays 4.30pm-5.30pm

Young People's Art Group for ages 12-18: The cost is  $\pounds$ 15.00 per head, and includes professional tuition in a wide variety of media.

Materials are included.

#### Fridays 1.00pm onwards

**One-to-ones**: spaces are available for one-to-one private tuition in 1- or 2-hour blocks to suit.

#### For more information...

Keep an eye on social media, such as Facebook and Instagram!

If you would like more information or would like to book a place please contact me, Anne Snaith:

© 01248 810631 or 07531 384434

⊠ hartworks@btinternet. com

www.facebook.com/ anne.snaith.1

#### **STOP PRESS**

I'm running art events and workshops during the Beaumaris Victorian Christmas weekend, 2-3 December; see below.

It's advisable to book ahead for these workshops. More details will be released soon.

adjacent to the castle).

Here are the dates for the remainder of 2023; all times are 10.00am-4.00pm:

November: 26 December: 10

- Beaumaris Makers Market www.facebook.com/beaumaris makersmarket/
- Beaumaris Artisan Market: Rating Row, Beaumaris LL58 8AP (in front of the David Hughes Community Centre).

It's open every Sunday until the end of the year, 10.00am-4.00pm.

- Beaumaris Artisan Market https://beaumarisartisan market.blogspot.com
- ⊠ beaumariswelshartisanmarket @outlook.com
- Artists & Makers Collective: Winter Fair, Saturday/Sunday 9/10 December, at the David Hughes



Community Centre, Rating Row, Beaumaris LL58 8AF (the old grammar school), Saturday 10.00am-5.00pm, Sunday 11.00am-4.00pm.

Eleven artists and makers...

Jo Alexander Jay Butters Jane Evans Maggie Evans Sally Fairclough Lille Latham Lydia Latham Marion Rose Lynne Stuart Mary Thomas Cara White

...have come together to exhibit their unique work for sale for one weekend only.

Read more about the Winter Fair on page 25.

Keep an eye on social media; for more information please contact Sally Fairclough at Stiwdio Biwmares, 17 Margaret Street, Beaumaris LL58 8DN

07971 602325

 Beaumaris Rotary: go to page 26 to read about Beaumaris Rotary's recent activities.

All Beaumaris Rotary news can also be found on our Facebook page.

Beaumaris Rotary www.facebook.com/beaumaris. rotary/



Hyb Biwmares Beaumaris Hub

#### Llanddona

 Act of Remembrance: there will be a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial outside Capel Peniel, Llanddona, on Sunday 15 November at 2.30pm.

The War Memorial has a special place in the hearts of many people living in the village.

After the closure and sale of Capel Peniel this year it will be a fitting tribute to honour and respect our local fallen in the two World Wars at the much-loved and well-tended War Memorial.

We ask you to join us on this special day of national Remembrance.

If poor weather threatens our service, the new owners of Capel Peniel, James and Helen, have given their kind permission to allow us to shelter and hold it in the old chapel.

We do hope you can join us.

Contact Lucy Low, Church Warden,

puffinpages@gmail.com

for more information.

2 01248 490167.



• National Open Garden Scheme 2024: here's an appetiser...

The National Open Gardens Scheme is coming to Llanddona next



Award-winning pizzas, burgers & cocktails Vegan & gluten-free options available Dog-friendly Black Point, Penmon, Anglesey LL58 8RR ☎ 01248 490140

www.pilothousecafe.com/

summer, on Saturday 13 July, with nine gardens participating. Put the date in your diary!

There'll be more news in the next two numbers of **The Puffin**. In the meantime, turn to page 20 for a flavour of what will be happening.

- National Gardens Scheme https://ngs.org.uk
- National Gardens Scheme: Open your garden
  - https://ngs.org.uk/get-involved/ open-your-garden/



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

Please contact us if you'd like to become involved in any way.

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

- Secretary@neuaddbentref. Ilanddona.co.uk
- 🖀 07733 176004, 07768 018370
- Neuadd Bentref Llanddona
   Village Hall
   Llanddona
   Anglesey
   LL58 8TS
- Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall www.facebook.com/ Ilanddonavillagehall/
- Cymuned Llanddona Community www.facebook.com/groups/ Ilanddona/



**Caffi Ni**: every Friday, 11.45am-2.00pm, Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall.

Come and enjoy a home-cooked two-course meal and a drink in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for only £8 per person.

A special roast chicken dinner is available on the first Friday of every month.

All food is freshly prepared on the premises by volunteers.

Booking is advisable; please telephone Pat on 07768 018370.

Paned a Sgwrs: every Tuesday, 2.00pm-3.00pm, at Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall.

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

☎ 07925 184476 Gill Vaughan
 ☎ 01248 810619 Sheila Healey

• **Caffi Cofio**: the first and third Wednesdays of the month, 2.00pm-4.00pm, Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall.

Caffi Cofio is provided by Carers Trust North Wales Crossroads Care Services. It's a friendly service for



people who live with memory loss, and their carers.

Transport to and from the group can be arranged, organised by the Seiriol Good Turn Scheme for a small fee.

Please telephone for more information or to book a place.

01492 542212



Crossroads Care Services

**Gong Bath**: the first Tuesday of the month, starting at 7.00pm, Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall.

It's relaxation and meditation through sound...lying on a mat, you close your eyes and relax for an hour whilst being bathed in powerful sound waves.

Please contact me, Steph Healy, for more information or to book a place.

🖀 07534 118899

#### Dure.sound@outlook.com

Free guitar lessons: Monday evenings, Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall:

o Under 10s: 5.30 pm

o 11+ years: 6.00pm

You don't have a guitar? That's not a problem; we have some guitars available for use in the classes.

Please contact Miriam Williams for more information.

2 07733 176004

 Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed/ Llangoed Young Farmers Club: meets every Monday, 7.45pm, at Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall (not Llangoed!).



• Llanddona Table Tennis Group: we meet every Monday at Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall, 10.00am-12.00 noon.

Please contact Kirsty Simpson if you're interested.

kirstyalisonsimpson@hotmail. .com

 Llanddona Writers 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.

We enjoy hearing from and encouraging each other, and maybe having a try at something new.

Why not come along and see...

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If you'd like to know more, please contact Stephen Marsden.

**2** 07774 699685.

Village Knit Club: every Monday at the Owain Glyndŵr, at 7.15pm.

Looking forward to seeing you all!

For more information contact Meg Marsden.

🖀 07913 223435

 The Owain Glyndŵr: there's always a lot happening at the Owain Glyndŵr.

Contact us for information about what's on.

201248 810710

- The Owain Glyndŵr Llanddona Anglesey
- LL58 8UF

Contact@ogdllanddona.co.uk

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

#### Llangoed

 Llangoed Village Hall: Llangoed Village Hall is available for parties, functions and weddings.

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

🖂 Ilangoedvillagehall@gmail.com

Visit our website and Facebook page for more details.

- www.llangoedvillagehall.com
- www.facebook.com/llangoed. villagehall

Sign up for our newsletter!

www.llangoedvillagehall.com/ subscribe



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

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

Go to page 11 to read about our recent activities.



• **Yoga**: Llangoed Village Hall, Mondays 6.30pm-7.45pm: just right for beginners as well.

For more information please contact **emilykyleyoga@gmail.com**.

- **Camu Bach**: Llangoed Village Hall, every Friday during term-time, 9.30am-11.00am: for children and their carers.
- Zumba: Llangoed Village Hall, Wednesdays, 6.30pm-7.30pm.
  - Seiriol Men's Shed: we meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00am-1.00pm, in our workshop adjacent to Haulfre Residential Home, Llangoed.

To find us 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.

PS: it's men only!...and 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:

- The steve Jones 07368 219048
- Mike Thomas 07941 103386

Imensshedseiriol@gmail.com

Go to page 23 to read something about our projects and activities.



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

Please contact Elizabeth Roberts, Bodwyn, Llangoed LL58 8NP if you'd like to join us.

 Halloween Crafts: Llangoed Village Hall ,Tuesday 31 October, 1.00pm-3.30pm. Come for a spooky craft session!

For more information please contact **sioned.elen.roberts@gmail.com** 

• Halloween Party: Llangoed Village Hall, Friday 3 November, 6.00pm-10.00pm.

The famous Llangoed Village Hall Halloween Party is here! Do join us.

**Christmas Market**: Llangoed Village Hall, Sunday 18 November, 2.00pm-5.00pm.

Do come...it's Christmas shopping time!

Seindorf Beaumaris Band: the Band will be at the Christmas Market in Llangoed as well, so come along to enjoy some good music and browse the stalls!

Read more about the Band on page 12.

Seindorf Beaumaris Band www.facebook.com/beaumaris band



- Film: The Polar Express: Llangoed Village Hall, Sunday 10 December, 3.00pm-5.30: join us for a free Christmas film.
- Christmas Bingo: Llangoed Village Hall, Friday 15 December, 7.00pm-11.00pm.

Doors open 7.00pm, eyes down 7:30pm.

• Christmas Carol Café: Saturday 9 December, 2.00pm-4.30pm.

Join us for carols and Christmas Nativity. It's free, and everybody will be welcome! See also page 30.

• Cymanfa Garolau/Carol Singalong: Ysgoldy Llanfihangel Chapel, Llangoed (ar y ffordd rhwng Glanrafon a Llanddona/on the road between Glanrafon and Llanddona), dydd Sul 10 Rhagfyr/Sunday 10 December, 2.00yp/2.00pm.

Arweinydd/Leader: Edward Morus Jones.

• Llangoed Flower Show 2024: put this date – 6 July 2024 – in your diary and start gardening!

Let's make 2024's Show even more exciting!

- Sioe Flodau Llangoed Flower Show www.llangoedflowershow.com
- Sioe Flodau Llangoed Flower

Show www.facebook.com/groups/ 1204789246940259



#### Disgleirio goleuni yn Llangoed y Nadolig hwn! Wendy Davies

Hoffech chi ymuno â ni i oleuo arddangosfa ar thema'r Nadolig yn eich ffenest neu'ch gardd flaen eleni?

Fe fydd hyn yn cael ei wneud yn ystod cyfnod Adfent, sydd yn cychwyn ar 3 Rhagfyr, yn arwain at y cyfnod cyn digwyddiad traddodiadol Caffi Carolau prynhawn yn Neuadd Bentref Llangoed ddydd Sadwrn 9 Rhagfyr.

Gobeithiwn greu llwybr ar hyd prif stryd Llangoed o Bont y Brenin i Neuadd y Bentref. Yr oll fydd rhaid i chi ei wneud yw creu arddangosfa ar thema Nadolig yn eich ffenestr neu'ch gardd y gall eraill ei gweld o'r ffordd neu'r palmant y tu allan. Y bwriad yw i godi calon pobl sy'n mynd heibio; ni fydd yn golygu gwahodd pobl i'ch cartref neu ardd.

Rydym yn gobeithio trefnu taith gerdded i neuadd y pentref cyn i'r Caffi Carolau ddechrau a fydd yn cymryd yr arddangosfeydd i mewn.

Bydd gwobr am yr arddangosfa orau/mwyaf dychmygus a gwobr ar wahân am yr arddangosfa orau a wneir gan blant. Nid oes rhaid i'ch arddangosfa fod yn grefyddol ond byddai'n wych pe bai rhai'n dweud rhan o stori'r Nadolig ac felly yn ychwanegu at ein paratoadau ar gyfer hyn, yn ogystal â chodi calon pawb sy'n eu gweld.

Os hoffech chi daflu goleuni ar yr Adfent i'r Nadolig hwn, anfonwch neges at Wendy Davies am fwy o wybodaeth naill ai drwy neges destun neu WhatsApp.

**2** 07794 455796

Y Parch Lesley Rendle Ficer Cysylltiol Bro Seiriol

07817 873080



#### Shine a light in Llangoed this Christmas!

Wendy Davies

Would you like to join us in lighting up a Christmas-themed display in your window or front garden this year?

This would be during Advent, which begins on 3 December, in the lead up to

the traditional afternoon Christmas Carol Café in Llangoed Village Hall; see page 30.

We hope to create a trail along Llangoed's main street from Pont y Brenin to Llangoed Village Hall. All that you have to do is create a Christmasthemed display in your window or garden which others can see from the road or pavement outside. It's meant to cheer passers-by; it won't involve inviting people into your home or garden.

We hope to arrange a walk to the village hall before the Christmas Carol Café starts, to take in the displays.

There will be a prize for the best/most imaginative display, and a separate prize for the best display made by children. Your display doesn't have to be religious, but it would be great if some were to tell part of the Christmas story and so add to our preparations for this, as well as cheering up all who see them.

If you would like to join us, please send me, Wendy Davies, a message, by text or by WhatsApp:

**2** 07794 455796

Rev Lesley Rendle Associate Vicar Bro Seiriol

#### 07817 873080

# Embrace wellness in autumn

Vivien Shaw PhD Dip Ac MBAcC

This article is the first of a regular series in **The Puffin**.

I hope that you enjoy it and find it interesting.

#### **Embracing autumn**

We're coming into the season of shorter days and wilder weather, so it's time to focus on staying well by strengthening your immune system.

As the days get cooler, we pack away our summer shorts and replace them with cosy sweaters, warm fires, and time spent at home.

This seasonal shift also brings with it the onset of the flu season, and it's essential to prioritise our own wellbeing to ensure a healthy and enjoyable autumn.

From alternative remedies to the flu jab, there are various ways in which to bolster our immune systems and stay fit and strong.

- House Hotel
- All meals are freshly prepared by our chefs, using local produce wherever possible

We are the only AA Rosette awarded restaurant in Beaumaris

• £10 discount for readers of The Puffin if this banner is presented



Bishopsgate House Hotel and Restaurant, Castle Street, Beaumaris, Anglesey LL58 8BB •

#### Understanding the onset of the flu season

The flu, caused by influenza viruses, is a highly contagious respiratory illness. Although usually manageable with rest and paracetamol, some more severe cases can lead to hospitalisation or even death.

The colder weather and the tendency for people to spend more time indoors creates an ideal environment for the flu virus to spread. If you are vulnerable, it would be wise to be careful around family members who are coughing and sneezing, and to consider wearing your mask in public places. The flu season starts typically in the autumn and peaks in the winter, lasting until the spring. During this time, it's important to take proactive measures to protect ourselves and our loved ones from the flu.

Fortunately, there are several approaches to bolstering our immune systems that will help to mitigate the risk of falling ill.

#### Strengthening the immune system: alternative remedies

Boosting your immune system is a proactive step you can take to stay healthy. Here are some alternative remedies and lifestyle practices that can help.

#### 1 Healthy diet

We all know about eating our 'five a day', and that a good balanced diet provides the essential vitamins and minerals that we need to support a robust immune system.

Eating foods such as citrus fruits, bell peppers, and broccoli provide us with vitamin C, and fatty fish, fortified dairy products, and sunlight exposure will help top up your vitamin D levels.

Increasing your uptake of these two vitamins will help to maximise their protective effect.

#### 2 **Regular exercise**

Regular exercise enhances overall wellbeing and helps

#### YR HE ISLAND **OSTEOPATH** Osteopathic care for adults, 4ND OS babies and children from your local family Osteopath @ Seiriol Wellness Centre, Canolfan Beaumaris & Beaumaris Library, LL58 8AL Back pain Joint pain Shoulder pain Sciatica Babies and children Sport injuries Fibromyalgia Neuralgia Tension Book online at: www.theislandøsteopath.com or SCAN ME www.osteoyrynys.com Tel: 07986 340578







#### Acupuncture Vivien Shaw PhD Dip Ac MBAcC

Vivien is a professional acupuncturist with over 30 years' experience. She specialises in helping with pain relief and anxiety disorders.

Call or email to see if acupuncture could help you

07971 536205

https://seiriolwellnesscentre.co.uk/acupuncture https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/acupuncture/

boost the immune system. Aim for a mixture of exercises like walking, cycling or a fitness class every week.

If you can get to the gym, weight training exercises will help to keep your bones and muscles robust. Canolfan Beaumaris runs a variety of exercise classes designed to include everyone, and whether you are already fit, or fitness is a dim memory from a few decades ago, you can find a class to suit you. There is also a well-equipped gym with machines to help you work out, and free weights if you prefer them.

#### 3 Adequate sleep

Prioritise a consistent and sufficient amount of sleep each night to allow your body to rest, repair, and regenerate. Aim for 7-9 hours of quality sleep to support a strong immune response.

#### 4 Stress management

Chronic stress can weaken the immune system. Incorporate stress-reducing practices like mindfulness, meditation, deep breathing exercises, yoga, or hobbies that help you relax and unwind.

The Seiriol Wellness Centre offers mindfulness sessions every week, and there are opportunities to do yoga, Pilates or tai chi at Canolfan Beaumaris as well.

#### 5 Herbal supplements

Certain herbs and supplements, such as echinacea, elderberry, ginger, and turmeric, have been traditionally used to support the immune system. Many of these supplements come as herbal teas as well, helping you to stay hydrated at the same time. A tasty way to give your body a boost!

#### 6 Get outside

Simply being calm and guiet amongst the trees, observing

nature around you whilst breathing deeply can help you to destress and boost your wellbeing in a natural way.

Sunlight is also one of the best ways to get enough vitamin D, so a walk every day will help to boost your immune system and improve your mood. There are also organised activities like the Cwlwm Seiriol project run by Menter Môn, which get people out into nature whilst helping to protect and improve their local environment.

You can do something good for your health, and help the environment at the same time!

#### Embrace wellness this autumn

As the leaves fall and the air turns crisper, let us embrace the beauty of autumn while prioritising our wellness. Adopting a holistic approach to health through a nutritious diet, regular exercise, sufficient sleep, and stress management can fortify our immune systems and contribute to a thriving autumn.

Stay well, stay healthy, and enjoy all that this beautiful season has to offer!

#### 07971 536205

#### ⊠ vivienshaw3@gmail.com

- Acupuncture for Health and Wellbeing https://seiriolwellnesscentre.co.uk/ acupuncture
- Acupuncture https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/ acupuncture/

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#### Clwb Pêl Droed Llangoed Football Club Owen Williams

Owen Williams

At Clwb Pêl Droed Llangoed Football Club we have a batch of congratulations and best wishes!

- Congratulations to Dion Wyn Williams on his success with Menai Bridge Tigers. He was chosen as the under-12s Manager's Player of the Year 2023 and Parents' Player of the Year 2023.
- Congratulations also to Owen Parry, Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed/ Llangoed Young Farmers Club, on his success with Menai Bridge Tigers under-16s, and for having been one of the judges at the Sioe Frenhinol Cymraeg 2023/Royal Welsh Show 2023.
- The Club's midfielder Sam Gregson was a member of the team that represented Ynys Môn men's football at the 19<sup>th</sup> Island Games in Guernsey in July, at which the team gained a silver medal. Sam is currently playing university football in the USA.



Dion Wyn Williams, Menai Bridge Tigers: Parents' Player of the Year 2023 (via Owen Williams)



Sam Gregson, now playing university football in the USA (via Owen Williams)



Zach Price and his bronze medal at the 19<sup>th</sup> Island Games in Guernsey in July (via Owen Williams)

- We'd like to congratulate Zach Price on winning silver for relay and bronze in the 100m at the 19<sup>th</sup> Island Games in Guernsey in July. Zach is not a Llangoed lad but his mother's family was supporting and his grandfather is a former player.
- Finally, we'd like also to wish three of our players all the best at university: Aidan Griffiths at Nottingham, Dewi Roberts at Liverpool and Harri Gregson at Edinburgh. Good luck!



#### Llangoed WI news

Anne Lindley, Press Correspondent, Llangoed WI

We met up on the grass at the Llangoed Village Hall on one of the hottest days of the summer...picnic tables, sunshade brollies, lots of chatting and sharing of food...

Later in the summer we car-shared to visit Swtan Cottage at the Swtan Heritage Museum, close to the cliff tops at Church Bay. It's a 17<sup>th</sup> century thatched cottage; the thatched roof has an under-thatch of local gorse. Most of the ceiling had calico fabric to catch the bugs, and an earth floor. There was a family bible on a small table, a weaving loom on the wall and a spinning wheel, a repair/make items area, fishing nets up in the ceilings.

Outside there was a herb garden and small orchard.

It's well worth a visit.

#### 😐 Swtan

#### https://swtan.cymru/home.html

Later on we visited Llynon Mill, the only working windmill on Anglesey. When there's a miller working there flour can be made, and visitors may climb up inside mill, which I did years ago on a walk around the area. Two round houses can be visited, built by Bangor archaeology students in the 1970s.

We had our picnic there, then ate some of Richard Holt's wonderful cakes!

#### Melyn Llynon

#### https://melinllynon.co.uk/pages/ windmill-roundhouses

Later in the summer we visited the home of a local member in the Amlwch area on one of the wettest days of the month. WI members across Môn were invited to a cream tea and chat to get to know members from the other WIs. There was a cake sale, a plant stall and a lucky dip.

There were over 50 WI members there.



#### Llanddona's Annual Sandcastle Competition 2023

Rev Lesley Rendle

A mermaid, a car, a boat, Beaumaris and Caernarfon castles, Penmon lighthouse, the temple in Jerusalem, a tractor (well, it was Llanddona), the Principality Stadium, rock ammonites and a wide range of imaginary castles and kingdoms with fortifications, moats, pools, magic fish, drawbridges, a canal system and a volcano...all these and more, created out of sand on Llanddona beach on Bank Holiday Monday! The event was co-ordinated by a team from the Churches of Llanddona and Llaniestyn, and drew 18 teams from near and far, teams with just one hour to build their entries.

All sorts of implements were used, from small plastic beach spades to full-size gardening tools; some teams had planned and designed their constructions carefully, while others were more ad hoc; whatever their methods, they were all absolutely fantastic creations.

Children were employed collecting shells, stones and seaweed for decorations while many parents showed their competitive side and got stuck in with the digging and building. Most importantly, all enjoyed themselves and there was a lot of laughter and fun.

Judging was next to impossible, and all the children who took part were rewarded with sweets: first prize went to the Principality Stadium, second prize to Penmon Lighthouse and third prize to a fabulously decorated and imaginatively constructed fortified castle.

A date for your diary Make a start on your designs! You have a whole year to practice them, and we'll see you next year on Bank Holiday Monday, 26 August 2024.

A flashback How many people will remember the 2017 Competition in those heady pre-COVID days? Among the sandcastles was an excellent Dalek... You can watch its construction on YouTube via the link below..

DIY Dalek of Llanddona Beach www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ueisj KZnPv8

. . . . . .

#### Seindorf Beaumaris Band: cerddoriaeth wrth galon ein cvmuned %

Kirsty Lindenbaum (cyfieithwyd gan Nia-Wyn Kilminster)

Pan symudais i Langoed o Borthaethwy yn 2009 roeddwn i eisoes wedi clywed am Fand Biwmares. Yn ystod mis Rhagfyr wedi clywed am Fand Biwmares. Yn ystod mis Rhagfyr am nifer o flynyddoedd fe wnaethon ni yrru arwyddion yn y gorffennol yn hysbysebu'r Cyngerdd Nadolig ond byth yn mynd i un...cyrhaeddodd babanod ac nid ein hamser ni oedd ein hamser ein hunain mwyach.



Here's a small selection of the amazing castles that were built in this year's Sandcastle Competition (John Nunn)



Seindorf Beaumaris: Adran Gyntaf, Pencampwriaethau Cymru Abertawe, Mawrth 2023, Bari Gwilliam, arweinydd Seindorf Beaumaris: Senior Band: First Section, Welsh Regional Championship, Swansea, March 2023, Bari Gwilliam, conductor (via Kirsty Lindenbaum)

Yn gyflym ymlaen at 2019, a phenderfynodd ein hail blentyn yr hoffai chwarae'r cornet. Cyrraedd adref o'r ysgol gydag achos eithaf mawr fe wnaethon ni ddarganfod corn tenor, offeryn nad oedd gen i syniad beth i'w wneud ag ef! Fodd bynnag, cymerodd y sylw ato mewn gwirionedd, ac unwaith iddo gael y hongian o wneud sŵn, nid oedd unrhyw atal ef: daeth Pink Panther a Men of Harlech yn gyflym yn sŵn pandemig COVID yn ein tŷ, lle parhaodd gwersi cerddoriaeth ar-lein diolch byth, ac roeddent bron yn uchafbwynt yr wythnos.

Roedd yn awyddus i ymuno â'r band lleol ond yn anffodus roedd hynny allan o'r cwestiwn yn llwyr yn ystod y pandemig, ond yn y pen draw cafodd cyfyngiadau eu llacio a chafodd ei ymarfer cyntaf gyda'r Band Iau. Roedd yn ddoniol ac yn hwyl ac roedd wrth ei fodd! Ond sylweddolais yn gyflym cyn lleied roeddwn i'n ei wybod am y byd bandio, a pha mor bwysig yw hi i hanes a dyfodol ein cymuned.

Rwy'n siŵr y bydd llawer ohonom wedi clywed a gweld y band yn gorymdeithio drwy Fiwmares mewn digwyddiadau lleol pwysig fel Sul y Cofio a Sul y Maer, ond mae Seindorf Beaumaris yn deulu o bum band mewn gwirionedd, ac mae nifer ohonynt yn cystadlu ar y lefel uchaf yn genedlaethol ac yn rhyngwladol ac yn dathlu llawer o lwyddiant. Eleni, daeth y Band leuenctid yn gyntaf yn eu hadran yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ym Moduan a byddant nawr yn cynrychioli Cymru ym Mhencampwriaeth Band Pres leuenctid Ewrop yn Lithwania. Enillodd y Band Canolradd a'r 'Last of the Summer Wind' (LSW) wobrau ym mis Mawrth y Drenewydd a'r Gystadleuaeth Emyn yn gynharach eleni.

Pan fynychais Gyngerdd Band Biwmares am y tro cyntaf, eu cyntaf ar ôl i'r cyfnod clo ddod i ben, roeddwn yn hollol anbarod ar gyfer safon y gerddoriaeth. Nhw yw pinacl y gyfres o fandiau, gan chwarae i safon uwchlaidd: yn ddiweddar fe wnaethon nhw gyrraedd y trydydd safle yn Adran Gyntaf Pencampwriaethau Band Pres Cenedlaethol Prydain Fawr yn Cheltenham. Mae cystadlu ar y lefel hon yn gofyn am ymroddiad eithafol gyda'r Band yn ymarfer yn ddyddiol yn y cyfnod cyn cystadlaethau.

Felly...mae'r Band yn rhoi Biwmares ar y map drwy ei lwyddiannau yn y gystadleuaeth, ond yn agosach at adref mae'n gwbl ganolog i'r gymuned. Mae'r Band Iau yn croesawu dechreuwyr, gan ddarparu offeryn iddynt a sbarduno angerdd am chwarae gydag eraill a chael hwyl yn creu cerddoriaeth.

Mae llawer o blant lleol wedi dechrau yn y Band lau ac wedi symud drwy'r teulu i gyrraedd safonau manwl y bandiau ieuenctid ac uwch. Ac ar ben arall y sbectrwm, LSW yw'r bandiau mwyaf a mwyaf cymdeithasol, gan roi cyfle i oedolion sy'n dymuno chwarae mewn ffordd llai cystadleuol...er eu bod nhw'n gwneud y gystadleuaeth od pan mae'r hwyliau yn mynd â nhw!

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Nawr fy mod i'n 'fam band' gwbl ymroddedig gyda phlentyn ym mhob un o'r Bandiau lau ac leuenctid, rydw i wedi cymryd rhan yn y Pwyllgor yn ddiweddar. Mae rhedeg band pres yn fusnes drud. Mae'r Band yn berchen ar ei holl offerynnau, sy'n dioddef traul ac angen gwasanaethu i'w cadw mewn cyflwr da. Mae teithio i gystadlaethau yn gostus, ac yn anffodus, effeithiodd pandemig COVID yn ddrwg ar y bandiau oherwydd, ar ben methu ymarfer a recriwtio llai o aelodau newydd, ni lwyddodd i gynnal cyngherddau am gyfnod estynedig. Mae cael y Band leuenctid i Lithwania yn 2024 yn mynd i fod yn ffocws allweddol o godi arian i ni yn ystod y flwyddyn i ddod.

Sut allwch chi gefnogi'r Band? Dewch draw i gyngerdd! Os nad ydych erioed wedi bod i un; rydych chi'n mynd i mewn am bargen! Cynhelir y Cyngerdd Nadolig ar 8/9 Rhagfyr yn y Ganolfan ym Miwmares. Gwnewch hyn yn rhan hanfodol o'ch cyfnod cyn y Nadolig. Mae creu cerddoriaeth ac adloniant wrth wraidd yr hyn y mae'r Band yn ei olygu, ac rydym yn cael ein bendithio â llawer iawn o dalent ar ein safle drws: mae yno i'w fwynhau!

Cadwch lygad am y Band pan fydd yn chwarae'n lleol, a chefnogi rhai o'n gweithgareddau codi arian os gallwch. Byddwn yn cynnal ffeiriau Nadolig yn Neuadd Bentref Llangoed ar 18 Tachwedd ac yn Neuadd y Dref Biwmares ar 25 Tachwedd.

Efallai bod eich plant yn dangos diddordeb mewn cerddoriaeth: does dim lle gwell iddyn nhw gael hwyl wrth ddysgu offeryn, ar yr un pryd â gwrando ar eraill a chwarae gydag ef. Mae'r Band lau yn ymarfer ar ddydd Llun, 5.30yp-6.30yp, a'r Canolradd ar ddydd Llun, 6.45yp-8.15yp. Efallai eich bod yn oedolyn sydd eisiau dysgu, neu lwch oddi ar offeryn: mae'r LSW yn ymarfer ar ddydd Mercher, 7.00yp-8.30yp.

Cysylltwch â'r Band yn **band@beau marisband.org.uk** os hoffech gael gwybod mwy am gymryd rhan.



#### Seindorf Beaumaris Band: music at the heart of our community Kirsty Lindenbaum

When I moved to Llangoed from Menai Bridge in 2009 I had already heard of the Beaumaris Band. During December for several years we drove past signs advertising the Christmas Concert but never quite got ourselves along to one...babies arrived and our time was no longer our own.

Fast forward to 2019, and our second child decided he would like to play the

puffinpages@gmail.com

cornet. Arriving home from school with a pretty large case we discovered a tenor horn, an instrument I had no idea what to do with! He really took to it, however, and once he got the hang of making a noise, there was no stopping him: Pink Panther and Men of Harlech quickly became the sound of the COVID pandemic at our house, where thankfully music lessons continued on-line, and were pretty much the highlight of the week.



Seindorf Ieuenctid Beaumaris: Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, Boduan, Awst 2023 Beaumaris Youth Band. National Eisteddfod Winners, Boduan, August 2023 (via Kirsty Lindenbaum)

He was keen to join the local band but sadly that was completely out of the question during the pandemic, but eventually restrictions were eased and he had his first rehearsal with the Junior Band. It was noisy and fun and he loved it! But I quickly realised how little I knew about the banding world, and just how important it is to the history and future of our community.

I'm sure that many of us will have heard and seen the band parade through Beaumaris at important local events such as Remembrance Day and Mayor's Sunday, but Seindorf Beaumaris is actually a family of five bands, several of which compete at the top level nationally and internationally and celebrate much success. Just this year, the Youth Band came first in their section at the National Eisteddfod in Boduan and will now be representing Wales at the European Youth Brass Band Championship in Lithuania. The Intermediate Band and the 'Last of the Summer Wind' (LSW) won awards at the Newtown March and Hymn Contest earlier this year.

When I first attended a Beaumaris Band Concert, their first after lockdown ended, I was totally unprepared for the calibre of musicianship displayed by the Senior Band. They are the pinnacle of the series of bands, playing to a superlative standard: recently they achieved third place in the First Section of the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain in Cheltenham. Competing at this level requires extreme dedication with the Band practising daily in the run up to competitions.

So...the Band puts Beaumaris on the map through its competition successes, but closer to home it is absolutely at the heart of the community. The Junior Band welcomes beginners, providing them with an instrument and sparking a passion for playing together with others and having fun making music. Many local children have started in the Junior Band and moved right through the family to reach the exacting standards of the Youth and Senior Bands. And at the other end of the spectrum, LSW is the largest and most social of the bands, giving an opportunity for adults who wish to play in a less competitive way...though they do the odd competition when the mood takes them!

Now that I'm a fully committed 'band mum' with a child in each of the Junior and Youth Bands, I've recently got involved with the Committee. Running a brass band is an expensive business. The Band owns all of its instruments, which suffer wear and tear and need servicing to keep them in top condition. Travel to competitions is costly, and sadly, the COVID pandemic impacted badly on the bands since, on top of not being able to rehearse and recruiting fewer new members, it was unable to put on concerts for an extended period. Getting the Youth Band off to Lithuania in 2024 is going to be a key focus of fund raising for us in the coming year.

How can you support the Band? Come along to a concert! If you've never been to one; you're in for a treat! The Christmas Concert will be held on 8/9 of December at the Canolfan in Beaumaris. Make it an essential part of your run up to Christmas. Music-making and entertainment is at the heart of what the Band is about, and we're blessed with an incredible amount of talent on our doorstop: it's there to be enjoyed!

Please look out for the Band when it's playing locally, and support some of our fundraising activities if you can. We will be holding Christmas Fairs in Llangoed Village Hall on 18 November and in Beaumaris Town Hall on 25 November.

Perhaps your children are showing an interest in music: there's no better place for them to have fun whilst learning an instrument, at the same time as listening to and playing with others. The Junior Band rehearses on Mondays, 5.30pm-6.30pm, and the Intermediates on Mondays, 6.45pm-8.15pm. Maybe you're an adult wanting to learn, or dust off an instrument: the LSW rehearses on Wednesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm.

Contact the Band at **post@beaumaris marisband.org.uk** if you'd like to find out more about getting involved.

#### • • • • • • • •

#### Light!

Tamara Rogers, Llanddona Writers Group

I am the lamp!

I bring a light into houses and hearts. I reflect myself in myriad shades In the lustrous world of the rich, I bring some dim light into basements of the poor.

I remember the girl,

She was eight or nine years old.

She lived in a small cottage made from clay and ash.

She did her homework under the kerosene lamp.

One day her granddad brought a small forty watt lamp.

He attached it to the bare wire on the ceiling.

My light wasn't bright enough to light the room

But it was better than the kerosene lamp.

One evening the girl cut a piece from the newspaper called 'Pravda'.

She made holes in it with her scissors and wrapped a shade around the lamp.

- I began to shine through the holes.
- The humble room turn into a palace full of fairies, snow maidens, princes and princesses,
- Paper dolls danced on the shelf decorated by the paper's crochet.

She looked at her world transformed by the magical lantern,

And dreamed of what her future would be.

• • • • • •

To blow the gaff Andrew Perrott

'to blow the gaff' is a slang phrase meaning to reveal a secret.

It may derive from the French *gaffe*, a blunder, but is more likely to come from 'gab', the informal English word for

'speech', which in turn derives from 'gob', meaning 'mouth' or 'beak'; the expression 'gift of the gab' comes from the same source.

'Gaff' is also archaic English slang for someone's home, as in 'let's go round to his gaff'.

• • • • • • • •

#### Beaumaris Cricket Club: update

#### update

Philip Lewis

Beaumaris Cricket Club in its new form has had an excellent season, with matches against Bethesda, Llanarmon yn Ial, Burton (Wirral), Llanelidan and RAF Valley and, most importantly, Menai Bridge, three times. I say most importantly, because without them we would only play away; Menai Bridge



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The Team that played against Llanelidan; see how many you know! (Philip Lewis)

generously hosts us, and we have played their 3rd XI into submission on the final game of three, beating them by one run! At the time of writing (mid-August), the traditional end-of-season game is eagerly awaited. It takes place against a new opponent, Prestatyn, of the Liverpool Competition on Sunday 3 September. We are indebted to one of our players, Steve MacVicar, who volunteers each year to drive the community minibus. Last year's match, versus Llanarmon yn Ial in St Asaph, provided a win, but also provided an inquest as to where top batsman Freddie Jones's prized cricket bat ended up.

Beaumaris rounded the season off in fine style, beating Prestatyn away on 3 September: top performances from Evan Hughes and new player Paul Gower, both 36 not out, and some top fielding from Paul Lloyd Williams and Tom Lewis. Beaumaris 158 for 6... Prestatyn 141 all out...

Plans for next year include a match against the Duke of Westminster's XI at Eccleston.

We welcome new members; our average age is somewhere around 50, a few younger and some older! Our contact details are given below.

#### Rali Tractor Llanddona 2023: fersiwn Lucy Lucy Low

Gwawriodd y diwrnod gogoneddus, llwyd, gwlyb a gwyntog iawn, a oedd yn lleddfu gweithrediadau a llawenydd pur 53 o dractorau a brwdfrydedd 'Tîm Owain Glyndŵr'? Na!

Cafodd arwyddion, brecio a baneri eu gadael yn wyneb Storm Betty ond daeth y tractorau allan mewn grym. Roedd gennym 53 o yrwyr tractor wedi'u casglu ar gyfer taith gyffrous.

Gwnaeth y stondinau a gafodd eu pwysoli i lawr ac na wnaethant hedfan i ffwrdd ym maes parcio'r dafarn yn dda iawn i gefnogi Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed a'r Cylch,

Eglwys St lestyn, Blaen y Coed (canolfan ar gyfer anableddau dysgu yn Llangoed) ac Ysbyty Plant Alder Hey.

Diolch hefyd i'n gwerthwyr raffl dirgel Debbie, Mavis ac Eirian, a lwyddodd i gadw gafael yn dynn ar yr holl docynnau raffl yn y gwyntoedd chwyrlio.

Roedd gan yrwyr y tractor goed i'w clirio, eu phurio a'u chwalu i ddelio â nhw ar eu taith, heb sôn am gawodydd trwm a blaenwynt i'r holl yrwyr heb gabiau.

Daeth eu llwybr i ben rownd a rownd ac yn fuan roeddent i'w cyfarch ym Miwmares i sŵn y Band yn chwarae Dynion o Harlech a oedd allan i gefnogi Diwrnod y Bad Achub, ac rydym yn hyderus bod criw y Bad Achub i gyd wedi mwynhau diwrnod llwyddiannus yn ein Gorsaf Bad Achub mawr ym

Miwmares. Ymlaen i Langoed; unwaith eto roedd Haulfre yn cynnal y tractorau tra bod Sioned Roberts yn darparu paned a sleisen o fara brith mawr ei angen.

Fe wellodd y tywydd ar gyfer y llwybr trwy Benmon ac ar draws Parc y Ceirw, a chyrhaeddodd y cymal olaf, er ei oedi, Gaban Traeth Liz Pritchard yn Llanddona i dderbyn hufen iâ croeso. Gorffennwyd diwrnod da gyda noson wych yn Owain Glyndŵr. Darparwyd rhost mochyn yn garedig gan Hogs Môn a cherddoriaeth fyw gan Miv, Kev a Dave a oedd yn diddanu pawb wrth aros am ddychwelyd y tractorau. Cadwodd Owain Glyndŵr y momentwm i fynd gyda mwy o gerddoriaeth fyw gan ein band lleol Adelphi a'r cwrw yn llifo drwy'r nos.

Diolch yn fawr i bawb a helpodd, cefnogaeth, rhoddion, ac i bawb a ymunodd a mwynhau'r diwrnod. Rydym wedi codi ffigwr gwych o tua £4,000.

Mae'r arian a godwyd dros y tair blynedd diwethaf wedi galluogi cam cyntaf adfer eglwys St lestyn a'n galluogi i gadw'r adeilad hardd hwn ar agor ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol.

#### Rali Tractor Llanddona 2023: fersiwn Tomos

Tomos Griffiths

Dydd Iau: dewiswch llysiau, cloddio tatws.

Dydd Gwener: Mam yn pobi rhan fwyaf o'r dydd, fe wnes i sortio arwyddion allan a llwytho'r lori codi.

Dydd Sadwrn: Dechrau cynnar (dim gwahaniaeth yno).

Llwythwch i fyny a mynd â phopeth i'r dafarn, cerddodd Mam a Mark o'r dafarn yn ôl ac ymlaen lot.

Cyrhaeddodd Tractor 1<sup>af</sup> yn gynnar, 9.30am! Paneds yn y bacs parod a bacwn.

Stondinau wedi'u sefydlu, y tu mewn i'r babell, y tu allan, uh oh yn ôl y tu mewn i babell, rhy wyntog i'r holl faneri a fflagiau.

11.00yb i ddechrau, mae seiren yn seinio'r dechrau. Cyfri 53 o dractorau, fy ffefryn yw'r Case Pro. Rwy'n cael fy ngadael ar ôl i ddyn y stondinau a helpu.

Mae torfeydd mawr yn cyrraedd o bob cwr o'r ynys a'n pentref!

Mae amser yn hedfan, mae'r henoed yn dechrau dawnsio i Miv, Kev a Dave sy'n ein cadw ni i gyd i fynd.

Yn olaf, dychweliad y tractorau a'm hoff ddarnau, y rhost mochyn. Mae bwyd yn cael ei weini, diodydd yn feddw ac mae Caroline Egan yn gwneud gwaith gwych o gyhoeddi'r raffl, arwerthu eitemau gwych a dyfarnu gwobrau'r tractorau.

Y gwobrau:

puffinpages@gmail.com













Dyma ddetholiad bach o'r tractorau yn y maes gan yr Owain Glyndŵr wedi'r rali; cymerodd yr ystod Fergie Bach yn 1948 (y llysenw Ffrengig ar eu cyfer oedd 'Peit Gris'), y tractor hynaf yno, rhai bwystfilod mawr a Nuffield o'r 1960au. Roedd hi'n ddiwrnod mawr er gwaetha'r tywydd garw yn y bore

Here's a small selection of the tractors in the field by the Owain Glyndŵr after the rally; the range took in a 1948 Fergie Bach (the French nickname for them was 'Petit Gris'), the oldest tractor there, some big beasts and a 1960s Nuffield...it was a grand day in spite of the bad weather in the morning

- Tractor wedi'i addurno orau: Mr & Mrs R Parry, Ford New Holland, Y drydedd flwyddyn yn olynol
- Tractor hynaf: Mr Now Roberts, 1948
   Ferguson llwyd
- Tractor sy'n sgleinio orau: Mr Dafydd Owen, Ferguson TED Gofal 'r chariad tyner: Mr Richard Jones, Case 895 XL, ail flwyddyn yn olynol, er ei fod wedi gwella trwy ychwanegu sychwyr sgrin wynt newydd (sydd eu hangen yn fawr yn yr amodau)

PS...flwyddyn nesaf dwi'n anelu i ffeindio clustog a mynd ar y tractor run yng nghefn Case Pro Uncle Keith (ond dyw Dad ddim yn gwybod hynny!)...



#### Llanddona Tractor Rally 2023: Lucy's version Lucy Low

The glorious day dawned, grey, wet and very windy; did it dampen down the proceedings and sheer joy of 53 tractors and the enthusiasm of 'Team Owain Glyndŵr'? No!

Signs, bunting and flags were abandoned in the face of Storm Betty but the tractors came out in force. We had 53 tractor drivers gathered for bacon baps and a paned before being waved off at 11.00am prompt for an eventful journey.

The stalls that were weighted down and didn't fly away in the pub car park did very well in support of Llangoed and District Young Farmers, St lestyn Church, Blaen y Coed (a centre for learning disabilities in Llangoed) and Alder Hey Childrens Hospital. Thanks go also to our intrepid raffle sellers Debbie, Mavis and Eirian, who managed to keep a tight hold of all the raffle tickets in the swirling winds.

The tractor drivers had trees to clear, punctures and a breakdown to deal with on their journey, not to mention heavy showers and a headwind for all the drivers without cabs.

Their route wound round and round and they were soon to be greeted in Beaumaris to the sound of the Band playing Men of Harlech who were out in support of the Lifeboat Day, and we trust that the Lifeboat crew all enjoyed a successful day at our great Lifeboat Station in Beaumaris. Onwards to Llangoed; Haulfre once again hosted the tractors while Sioned Roberts provided a much-needed paned and slice of bara brith.

The weather improved for the route through Penmon and across the Deer Park, and the final leg, albeit delayed, reached Liz Pritchard's Beach Cabin at

(go to page 18)





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#### (from page 15)

Llanddona to receive a welcome ice cream A good day was finished off with a great evening at the Owain Glyndŵr. A hog roast was kindly provided by Hogs Môn and live music from Miv, Kev and Dave who kept everyone entertained whilst waiting for the return of the tractors. The Owain Glyndŵr kept the momentum going with more live music from our local band Adelphi and the beer flowed throughout the evening.

Many thanks to all who helped, supported, donated, and to all who joined in and enjoyed the day. We have raised a fantastic figure of approximately  $\pounds4,000$ .

Monies raised over the last three years have enabled the first phase of the restoration of St lestyn church and enabled us to keep this beautiful building open for future generations.

#### Llanddona Tractor Rally 2023: Tomos's version

Tomos Griffiths

Thursday: pick veg, dig tatws.

Friday: Mum baking most of the day, I sorted signs out and loaded the pick-up truck.

Saturday: Early start (no difference there).

Load up and take everything to the pub, Mum and Mark from the pub walked backwards and forwards a lot.

First tractor arrived early, 9.30am! Paneds at the ready and bacon baps.

Stalls set up, inside tent, outside tent, uh oh back inside tent, too windy for all the flags and bunting.

11.00am start, siren signals the start. I counted 53 Tractors, my favourite is the Case Pro. I'm left behind to man the stalls and help.

Big crowds arrive from all over the Island and our village!

Time flies, the oldies start dancing to Miv, Kev & Dave who keep us all going.

Finally, the return of the tractors and my favourite bit, the hog roast. Food is served, drinks are drunk and Caroline Egan does a great job of announcing the raffle, auctioning off great items and awarding the tractors' prizes.

The awards:

- Best-decorated tractor: Mr & Mrs R Parry, Ford New Holland, third year running
- Oldest tractor: Mr Now Roberts, 1948 grey Ferguson
- Shiniest tractor: Mr Dafydd Owen, Ferguson TED
- Tractor in need of TLC: Mr Richard Jones, Case 895 XL, second year running, although improved by addition of new windscreen wipers

(much needed in the conditions)

PS...next year I aim to find a cushion and go on the tractor run in the back of Uncle Keith's Case Pro (but Dad doesn't know that!)...

· • • • • • • • •

#### Nature notes: early autumn glory Roz Hattey

A glorious morning in early September. Our late summer has arrived! Never mind the housework, even the gardening, today I am going to do that long walk I've been dreaming of for weeks! No need to drive anywhere, just walk out of the back door with hat,



Black bryony (*Tamus communis*): (L) Bonsai Bank, Kent, 2 June 2007; (R) Helsby, Cheshire, 18 September 2009 (www.ukwildflowers.com/Web\_pages/tamus\_



Speckled wood butterfly (*Pararge aegeria*), male, Fermyn Woods, Northamptonshire, 5 August 2016

(Charles J Sharp, www.sharpphotography.co.uk, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speckled\_wood\_% 28butterfly%29)

binoculars and picnic in rucksack. Past the Owain Glyndŵr and down the steep hill. 22°C already and a cloudless sky. Once I've checked the tides, no need to look at my watch for hours; the day is mine.

I usually do this walk in the spring when hedge-banks along the narrow lanes are full of primroses and violets. Today, amongst the elegant hart's tongue ferns and the stiff fronds of the hard fern, there are delicate, pale blue harebells and the striking yellow spikes of common toadflax, Linaria vulgaris, the wild 'snapdragon'. Higher up the bank, late flowers of wild honeysuckle and clematis, 'Old Man's Beard', are entwined with stems of silvery clematis seed-heads and autumn berries. This year, rose-hips, haws and blackberries are abundant, and there are trailing strings of large, red berries on the black bryony, Tamus communis. This species has glossy, 'ace of spades' shaped

leaves, distinguishing it from the less common white bryony, *Bryonia dioica*, with its long, deeply lobed leaves and berries which eventually become black. A word of caution: both species of bryony are poisonous to humans, dogs and horses.

Speckled wood butterflies are everywhere today, along the hedgebanks and in the shade of trees and shrubs as I make my way down the hill. Acorns and hazel-nuts are developing on the branches above. Some are on the road and I wonder if they have been discarded by red squirrels eager for them to be ripe. A buzzard mews overhead.

Rounding a corner, I once again marvel at the great expanse of Traeth Coch/Red Wharf Bay at low tide which is laid out far below. This wonderful bay stretches 8km (5 miles) between Llanddona and Benllech. At low tide more than 25km<sup>2</sup> (10 sq miles) of sand and mud flats are exposed. No wonder, I suppose, that every house or cottage that comes onto the market here now is snapped up and renovated, usually as a second home or holiday let. In earlier times, local people around the bay were often fishermen. There are the remains of a fish weir at the eastern end of the bay below Llanddona. Other men worked on farms or in guarries. At Trwyn Dwlban, on the western shores of Traeth Coch, the dramatic limestone cliff known as Castell Mawr is a remnant of quarrying. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century around two hundred men worked this limestone guarry. Near the Ship Inn at Red Wharf Bay there used to be a small shipbuilding industry.

At the bottom of the hill I branch off onto a very narrow, muddy path overhung by trees. This soon opens out onto a wide, open area of dune-grassland with a few small tidal creeks. Paths criss-cross the tawny autumn grassland, some leading out through the low sand-dunes onto the intertidal sand-flats. I find a place to sit behind a dune, out of the wind, and unpack my picnic.

Scattered around me are clumps of rigid-stemmed sea spurge, *Euphorbia paralias*. Small glaucous (grey-green) spiky leaves clasp the stems. At the top are greeny-yellow flowers, typical of the euphorbias. This is a native succulent shrubby plant which can tolerate salty conditions. It can be quite common on dunes and on the strandline of sandy beaches. Here it's growing with sea lyme grass and marram grass. Sea spurge is another poisonous plant and the sap causes skin and eye irritation.

As I try to focus my binoculars on two buzzards soaring high over the woodland behind the beach, a black and yellow striped insect approaches me at eye-level. No, not a wasp, just an

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inquisitive hoverfly. There are many species of hoverfly and, just like bees, wasps and hornets, they are all important pollinators. Many species of hoverfly mimic the markings of bees, wasps or hornets to help protect them from predators.

Their larvae feed on aphids so we should welcome them to our gardens! Disturbing news reports this week talk of the continuing spread across southern England of the Asian Hornet, *Vespa veluntina,* an aggressive, invasive relative of our native European hornet, *Vespa crabro.* 

The Asian species preys on our native insects, including the pollinators, and spiders. The British Beekeepers' Association has announced this week (4-10 September) as Asian Hornet Week to raise awareness of the threat and how we can identify and report the presence of this insect if we spot one. A key feature of the Asian Hornet is its dark body with only very fine yellow stripes.

Not wanting to dwell on dark thoughts, I take off my shoes and walk out towards the distant line of breakers. The retreating tide has left an intricate picture in the wet sands of recent waves, ripples and eddies. Some areas are mosaics of polygons in countless shapes and sizes. The most extensive areas are made up of endless wavy, ridged lines of compressed sand which are very uncomfortable to walk across with bare feet! Only a few dog-walkers share with me this huge expanse of beach and when I reach the breakers and look back I can only see tiny figures in the distance at the far end of the bay below Llanddona. As I paddle through the shallow waves south-westwards towards Wern y Wylan I once again feel the elation of being 'far from the madding crowd' of summer visitors in Beaumaris!

Heading inland again I pick my way through a graveyard of empty razorshells, large and small, that have been washed up by the tide. It's fascinating to think that these long, narrow shell-fish live deep down amongst the intertidal sands. They burrow themselves into the sand around the low tide mark and on the sea-bed out to about 60m deep. They use their strong muscular 'foot' to dig into the sand. They can also move very rapidly up through the sand. There are three species of razor shell in the UK, all of which are filter-feeders, living on plankton and detritus.

Further along the beach there is a much more varied array of sea shells scattered along the sands. Cockles, mussels, whelks, periwinkles, limpets, oysters, a small, russet-coloured scallop shell and long oval otter shells. I select a few empty shells to take home as a reminder of the walk and wish again that I knew more about marine life. It seems surprising at first that Traeth Coch is not noted for large numbers of wildfowl and wading birds as are other large expanses of intertidal flats such as the Dee Estuary. The reason is likely to be that the Traeth Coch flats are mostly made up of sands. Mudflats and saltmarsh, which are not very extensive here, are much richer in nutrients so can support a more diverse invertebrate population: worms, crustaceans and so



Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) (www.viveiro.es/noticias/vespa-velutina-66621)



Sea spurge (Euphorbia paralias), Newborough Warren, Anglesey, 18 July 2004 (www.ukwildflowers.com/Web\_pages/euphorbia\_ paralias sea spurge.htm)



Common Otter shell (*Lutraria lutraria*) with unextended siphons (Jan Johan ter Poorten, www.spirula.nl/images/nl\_ soorten/marien/Lutraria\_lutraria.jpg)

on. This in turn provides an abundant food source for wildfowl and waders. Locally, Traeth Lafan and Malltraeth are much more important for these birds.

Further along the bay, towards Wern y Wylan, the sand-dunes and dune grassland gradually give way to saltmarsh and wider tidal creeks. The tide is coming in now, and it can move very fast here, so I must cross these creeks before the water gets too deep. There is a tide-proof footpath at the back of the bay, with an excellent raised board-walk, but I do love to feel the squelchy mud between my toes! I shed some of the mud by walking across the salt-marsh, now speckled with sea aster flowers.

Shoes back on, I walk along the short, sandy path from the shore and begin the long but steady climb up the lane to Wern y Wylan, along the eastern edge of Pentraeth Forest. This is mainly a plantation of conifers, clothing the steep, rocky ridge of Mynydd Llwydiarth. Buzzards and sometimes ravens frequent the area. This woodland had supported one of the few remaining populations of native red squirrels on Anglesey. Over the last twenty years or so, the island's wild red squirrel population has increased significantly as a result of a captive breeding programme and successful reintroductions as well as the removal (sometimes controversial) of non-native grey squirrels.

Above Wern y Wylan I leave the lane and cut across rough pasture, following a public footpath, up a steep, rocky slope towards the radio mast. It's amazing to think that the red squirrels I've seen half a dozen times or so in my garden this year during July and August may well have crossed all this open ground beyond the cover of Pentraeth Forest in search of food and new breeding territories. My circular walk is complete and I flop down on my garden seat with a paned, looking down to the great bay now covered by the tide.

During that same week, while the heatwave continued and the air was heavy with humidity, a friend and I were entertained every evening by spectacular avian displays as we sat outside in a Beaumaris garden, eating our meal!

Between twenty and thirty house-martins and around twenty swallows were flying all around us, at dizzying speeds, weaving and swooping in pursuit of insects. The martins would suddenly sweep skywards in a large, buzzing flock, which gradually dispersed again. One evening a nearby slate roof was abuzz with them, all perched precariously on the sloping roof as they preened and socialised, apparently enjoying the warmth of the slates.

The swallows shouted out loud 'tsweets' as they darted past us, sometimes flying so low they made us gasp! Adult martins and swallows could often be seen feeding juveniles in the air. Both species have bred very successfully in the town this year, courtesy of a few tolerant house-holders. This hot, humid week obviously provided a great feeding bonanza, very valuable to them all as they prepare to fly south again across the Sahara Desert later this month. Our swallows will fly on to South Africa and the house-martins will spread out across a wider front in central and southern Africa. What stamina!

Another lovely spectacle was provided that first week of September by a large flock or 'charm' of around thirty goldfinches. They suddenly arrived in my garden in Llanddona and settled en masse on a tall thicket of knapweed to devour the seeds. Several times they all

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#### Across

7 Narrow sea channel (6)
8 Telford or Britannia? (6)
9 Could be a beauty (4)
10 Ours is the eighth (8)
11 Ship run out of water (7)
13 A tree (5)
15 Our number seven (5)
17 Carves out of stone, possibly (7)
20 Our island home (8)
21 US state (4)
23 Niche (6)
24 Gold bars, maybe (6)

flew up into the nearby birch and oak trees, then descended again to continue their feast. I was lucky to see them as they only stayed about ten minutes, then they were gone, searching the hedgerows and roadside verges for more seeds. It's certainly worthwhile keeping unmown areas of 'meadow' grassland in your garden.

# World Chess Championship 2023

Fianchetto 66

Earlier this year the World Chess Championship was held in Astana, Kazakhstan.

It produced the first new champion for a decade when the only Chinese male ever to win the Championship, 30-year-old Ding Liren, the highestrated Chinese chess player in history, became the 17<sup>th</sup> World Chess Champion.

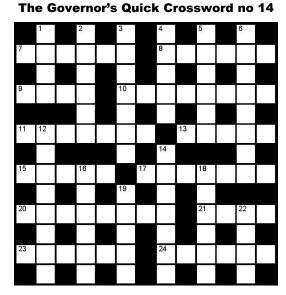
Surprising his Russian opponent, Ian Nepomniachtchi, with an audacious self pin on move 46, Ding psychologically wrong-footed Nepomniachtchi, who then ended up under time pressure and made some critical errors that cost him the game and the match.

This decisive moment came during the last of four tie-break games played under a rapid (25 minute) time control.

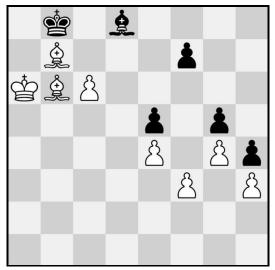
In many ways, the excitement of Ding's risk-laden move, combined with his disadvantage of playing with the black pieces and the fact that until this point his opponent had led, removed the match from the shadow of Magnus Carlsen's decision last year not to defend his crown as reigning World Champion.

In the 137-year history of the World Championship, this was only the second time this had happened, the first being when Bobby Fischer forfeited the title in 1975 after heated discussions relating to format.

It is rare for games by top-level players to end in checkmate; one of them usually resigns when an



Fianchetto 66's Chess no 5





Concentration! Ian Nepomniachtchi and Ding Liren (from YouTube footage)

Solutions are on page 29.

A lack of space in **The Puffin** 46 means that Debbie's Alphanumerica is taking a rest for the time being.

untenable position is reached.

Accordingly, for our two-move challenge we wind the clock back to the Chinese Team Championship of 2001 in Kallithea, Greece, when an eight-year-old Ding was playing Zhang Jianhua in a game which did end in checkmate, and thus serves us well.

#### Down

- 1 Pets back up or down? (4)
- **2** Body art (6)
- 3 Ability to keep effort going (7)
- **4** Farm building (1,4)
- **5** Work out or a body? (6) **6** Distant times (4,4)
- 12 Garden pest (8)
- **14** Type of paint (7)
- **16** In flower (6)
- **18** Relaxing room? (6)
- **19** Another tree (5)
- 22 Painting, sculpture or acting? (4)

It is Ding as white to play and mate in two moves.

Can you spot them?

World Chess Championship 2023 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ World\_Chess\_Championship \_2023

#### National Open Garden Scheme 2024: Llanddona Paul Bishop

2024 will be a busy year for gardeners in Llanddona. On Saturday 13 July nine gardens will be open for public viewing as part of the National Open Garden Scheme.

The National Garden Scheme (NGS) was founded in 1928 when 609 gardens opened in the UK. Today it is a major charity that provides critical financial support to nursing and health charities, including Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, The Queen's Nursing Institute and Parkinson's UK.

After the COVID pandemic, 2022 saw a return to near-normality for garden opening and visiting, and across the UK thousands of keen gardeners welcomed the public back into their gardens, raising an impressive £3.11 million. As far as we're aware there has been no village opening Scheme on Anglesey in the last 20 years or more, and no gardens in Llanddona have ever opened in support of the Scheme, so make a note in your diary and come along and support us in raising money for this very worthy cause.

There will be more information in the next two numbers of The Puffin, including a cut-out listing of open gardens in Anglesey and Gwynedd, and you'll be able to find out more by visiting the National Garden Scheme website.

- National Gardens Scheme https://ngs.org.uk
- National Gardens Scheme: Open your garden https://ngs.org.uk/get-involved/ open-your-garden/

Andrew Perrott and Mavis Bishop are the Joint Co-ordinators for the Llanddona Open Gardens.

#### ⊠ ajbperrott@yahoo.co.uk ⊠ mavis.bishop@outlook.com

Who knows?...the National Open Garden Scheme in Llanddona might become an annual event!



#### A Llanddona garden: Glangors, looking less wild by the week Andrew Perrott

Before the COVID pandemic, our garden was a bit wild and woolly in places, but it looked quite respectable as long as one didn't look too closely. During the pandemic, though, little was done to it other than mowing and an attempt to keep the brambles at bay, so it had become much wilder and woollier by the beginning of this year.

Years of diligent gardening by my mother means that the garden is full of interesting plants, some of them unusual, plants that seem to thrive in spite of the near-constant wind, the up-and-down rocky landscape and the very stony soil.

The conditions seem to suit a plant that a lot of people find difficult, the African lily, or agapanthus, which thrives, and seeds like grass in the gravel drive and parking area.

Llanddona's participation in the National Open Garden Scheme 2024 is down to Mavis Bishop. In the spring, Mavis decided that she'd like to take on our garden as 'a challenge', and how it's changed over the months! Beds have been thinned, one has been cleared and replanted, and there's been a lot of new planting as well.

Besides gardening, planting and replanting, a couple of slippery pre-COVID wood pathways are being replaced with sandstone stepping-stone slabs; they look very smart and will be much safer when wet.

It feels as if money's been spent like water; averaged out over the period between the start of the pandemic and now, though, the annual spend will probably be no more than such a spend would have been in normal times.

The garden is improving day by day, and should look pretty good by next July, but it will still be a 'work in progress' garden, which is all part of the fun!

We mentioned to people what we were thinking of doing, and others decided that they'd like to participate, until the group had grown to nine; any larger and puffinpages@gmail.com



21 July 2023: agapanthus in full bloom



13 July 2023: the really wild part of the garden, hiding all sorts of interesting plants; this area will be tamed, but will remain semi-wild, with stepping-stone paths through it



Lou, Nicola Day (Kath Knowles)



Clwb Pickleball Club (Kath Knowles)



Ras oedolion 10k/Adult 10k race (Kath Knowles)

it would have become unmanageable ...

There's an interesting assortment of gardens, ranging from a small, neat and almost suburban garden, through an organised raised-bed vegetable garden and our still-wildish garden, to a lovely farm garden with a herd of inquisitive goats.

Roll on 2024!

• • • • • • • • •

#### Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris: newyddion %

Steve MacVicar

#### Llongyfarchiadau i'n henillwyr

**medalau!** Ar hyn o bryd mae Gilly Prior yn ymarfer yng Nghanolfan Hamdden Biwmares ac enillodd Fedal Aur ym Mhencampwriaethau Trampolinio Oedolion Prydain! Llongyfarchiadau mawr iddi hi fe a'r tîm.

Nicola Day a'i phartner Lou enillodd deitl Dwbl y Merched yn y Pickleball English Open. Enillwyr medalau eraill o'r Clwb Pickleball ffyniannus oedd Dave Barker a enillodd fedalau arian, ac efydd i John Humphries, Rachel Moore, Sue Jones, Ann Banks a Peter Hope. Tîm grêt!

#### Gŵyl Rhedeg Biwmares Midland

**Tapas, 16/17 Medi** Diolch yn fawr iawn i bawb a gefnogodd Gŵyl Rhedeg Biwmares yn ddiweddar.

Diolch yn arbennig i Mike, Kate a'r tîm yn y Castell, Ystâd Baron Hill, CADW, Barri a'i dîm vn Môn Actif. Rhedwyr Ffordd Tref Biwmares, Jayne Lloyd a Marathon Eryri, dros 50 o wirfoddolwyr lleol, Dr Hywel a Chanolfan lechyd Biwmares, Catrin, Gwyn, Nick a Wyn yng Nghyngor Tref Biwmares, Dave ac Emma yn Midland Tapas, Kim a'r tîm yn Happy Valley Café, HPB Henllys, Sefydliad Blakemore (Spar, Biwmares), ABC Powermarine, Bishopsgate, Bold Arms, Gwesty Bulkeley, Gwesty Castle Court, Central Bakery, Cole and Co, Griffiths Construction, Janet Bell, Canolfan Gymunedol Llanfaes, Ffermwyr Ifanc Llangoed, Liverpool Arms Biwmares, Morrisons Llangoed, Neptune Seafood Bistro, Pilot House Café, Digwyddiadau TDL, Tesco, Bangor, y Jewellery Studio, Tredici/Pier House Bistro, Waitrose & Partners a Wonderful Wild am eu holl gefnogaeth a'u help. Gwerthfawrogir yn fawr.

**Gŵyl Rhedeg lau Biwmares yng Nghastell Biwmares, 16 Medi** Roedd yn hyfryd gweld yr holl blant a'u teuluoedd yng Nghastell Biwmares ar gyfer yr ail Ŵyl Rhedeg lau. Cymerodd 115 o blant ran eleni ac roedden nhw'n llawn haeddu eu medal! Gobeithio bod pawb wedi mwynhau eu hunain ac rydym yn edrych ymlaen at ei gynnal eto y flwyddyn nesaf! Mae canlyniadau llawn ar gael ar wefan Digwyddiadau TDL.

#### www.tdleventservices.co.uk/en/ results-embed.php?event=3972

#### Rasys 10k a hanner-marathon

oedolion, 17 Medi Roedd hi'n wych gweld Gŵyl Rhedeg Biwmares Midland Tapas yn ôl wedi seibiant gorfodol oherwydd pandemig COVID. Hwn oedd trydydd rhifyn y digwyddiad a gwelsom 63 o redwyr yn gwneud yr hanner marathon bryniog a 136 yn cwblhau'r ras 10k.

Llongyfarchiadau iddynt i gyd! Fel o'r blaen, roedd y gorffeniad I'r rasys y tu mewn i Gastell Biwmares, lleoliad gwirioneddol eiconig. Mae canlyniadau llawn ar gael ar wefan Digwyddiadau TDL.

#### Lle Croeso Cynnes bob dydd Gwener,

**1.00yp-3.30yp** Dewch i ymuno â'r gweithgareddau am ddim a drefnir ar gyfer ein gofod croeso cynnes gan Jane a Marie bob dydd Gwener. Mae rhaglen amrywiol o weithgareddau crefft dros y misoedd nesaf. Gellir trefnu cludiant I'r lleoliad ac o'r lleoliad gan y Cynllun Tro Da os oes angen. Archebwch eich lle drwy ffonio'r Ganolfan ar 01248 811200.

**Prosiect Cysylltu Seiriol Connect** Bu'n rhaid i ni oedi cyn dechrau adeiladu'r estyniad oherwydd hyd yma rydym wedi methu â chael arian cyfatebol ar gyfer ein cais Loteri Genedlaethol. Rydym yn parhau i fod yn obeithiol y byddwn yn llwyddiannus yn y pen draw ac rydym yn parhau i archwilio sawl opsiwn. Byddwn yn eich hysbysu.



#### Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris: news

Steve MacVicar

#### Congratulations to our medal

winners! Gilly Prior currently practices at Canolfan Hamdden Beaumaris and won a Gold Medal at the Adult British Trampolining Championships! Many congratulations to her and the team.

Nicola Day and her partner Lou won the Ladies Double title at the Pickleball English Open. Other medal winners from the thriving Pickleball Club were Dave Barker (see photo with partner Paul) who won silver, and bronze medals for John Humphries, Rachel Moore, Sue Jones, Ann Banks and Peter Hope. What a team!

Midland Tapas Beaumaris Run Fest, 16/17 September A massive thank you to everyone who supported the

#### Beaumaris Run Fest weekend recently.

A special thank you to Mike, Kate and the team at the Castle, Baron Hill Estate, CADW, Barry and his team at Môn Actif,



Cerddoriaeth Fyw, 4 Awst: "Forever Elton" yng Nghanolfan Biwmares Live Music, 4 August: "Forever Elton" in Canolfan Beaumaris



Cerddoriaeth Fyw, 30 Medi: Cantorion Gogledd Cymru yn perfformio yng Nghyngerdd Elusen Hosbis Dewi Sant er cof am Sallyann Williams Live Music, 30 September: Cantorion Gogledd Cymru performing at the St David's Hospice Charity Concert in memory of Sallyann Williams (via Steve MacVicar)



Lle Croeso Cynnes bob dydd Gwener Warm Welcome Space every Friday (via Steve MacVicar)

Beaumaris Town Road Runners, Jayne Lloyd and Marathon Eryri, over 50 local volunteers, Dr Hywel and Beaumaris Health Centre for First Aid, Catrin, Gwyn, Nick and Wyn at Beaumaris Town Council, Dave and Emma at Midland Tapas, Kim and the team at Happy Valley Café, HPB Henllys, Blakemore Foundation (Spar, Beaumaris), ABC Powermarine, Bishopsgate, Bold Arms, Bulkeley Hotel, Castle Court Hotel, Central Bakery, Cole and Co, Griffiths Construction, Janet Bell, Llanfaes Community Centre, Llangoed Young Farmers, Liverpool Arms Beaumaris, Morrisons Llangoed, Neptune Seafood Bistro, Pilot House Café, TDL Events, Tesco, Bangor, the Jewellery Studio, Tredici/Pier House Bistro, Waitrose & Partners and Wonderfully Wild for all their support and help. Much appreciated.

#### Beaumaris Junior Run Fest in

Beaumaris Castle, 16 September It was lovely seeing all the children and their families at Beaumaris Castle for the second Junior Run Fest. 115 children took part this year and fully deserved their medal! We hope everyone enjoyed themselves and we are already looking forward to holding it again next year! Full results are available on the TDL Events website.

#### www.tdleventservices.co.uk/en/ results-embed.php?event=3972

Adult 10k and half-marathon races, 17 September It was great to see the Midland Tapas Beaumaris Run Fest back after an enforced break due to the COVID pandemic. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the event and we saw 63 runners tackle the hilly half-marathon route and 136 complete the 10k run. Congratulations to them all! As previously, the finish to the races was inside Beaumaris Castle, a truly iconic setting. Full results are available on the TDL Events website.

Warm Welcome Space every Friday, 1.00pm-3.30pm Come and join the free activities arranged for our warm welcome space by Jane and Marie every Friday. There is a varied programme of craft activities over the next few months. Transport can be arranged to and from the venue by the Good Turn Scheme if needed. Please book your space by calling the Canolfan on 01248 811200.

#### H'Artworks and Creu Heulwen Caergybi

Anne Snaith

In June I was approached by a fellow community artist, Deb MJ of "Wispy Willow" fame, about a collaborative project involving the creation of a silk banner. Deb had recently got funding as part of the "Creating Sunshine" project (Creu Heulwen Caergybi) based at the Ucheldre Centre in Holyhead, to instigate creative workshops for local

- Bishopsgate House Hotel
- We are the only AA Rosette awarded restaurant in Beaumaris
- All meals are freshly prepared by our chefs, using local produce wherever possible
- £10 discount for readers of The Puffin if this banner is presented



Bishopsgate House Hotel and Restaurant, Castle Street, Beaumaris, Anglesey LL58 8BB

children. I was asked if I would like to join forces with her to help in the creation of a silk banner. Of course, my answer was a resounding "yes"!

The vision was to complete a 3.3m x 90cm banner to be used in the Holyhead Festival at the end of July. It was to head up the procession mounted on two poles and then to be hung permanently in the Ucheldre Centre and used on other high days and holidays.

We were to incorporate as many different landmarks, natural features and flora and fauna from the area to give a true flavour of Holyhead. Deb had recently taken over a new job pioneering the "Creating Sunshine" project (Creu Heulwen Caergybi), and we had very limited time to complete the banner.

I have to say that panic ruled the day for about two weeks. There were costing sessions and buying sessions and we pre- guttered the whole banner over a weekend in my studio in Beaumaris. It was quite labour intensive because of the sheer scale of it. Transporting it backwards and forwards from both our studios was a nightmare; we had to carefully measure how we could fit a large silk frame in Deb's van as we worked on it.

After advertising for participants, we spent a very industrious weekend in Holyhead at the Ucheldre Centre working with groups of children while they learnt how to silk paint. We took the children in small groups using a mixture of pebeo silk paints, lumière acrylic paints and some white gouache.

Back in Beaumaris we attempted to back the Habotai 10 fabric with Vilene to give it some extra strength. There were concerns about the long procession walk and possible bad weather and wind predicted! After the fifth attempt we decided to ditch the Vilene and hem cotton twill round the edges to put eyelets in order to lace our poles...and after a few more tweaking sessions everything was good to go; we just had to pray for sunshine, and no wind. The weather on the last Saturday in July was indeed wonderful, and the banner took pride of place in the procession.

As part of the whole weekend my husband and I helped run free crafts events, making kites, windmills, and facemasks. It was a really successful and happy occasion, with over 150 children making crafts with us, and I look forward to many other collaborative projects with Deb in the future.

There's always a special joy when working on a community project which brings great personal satisfaction, and I have plans for other community ventures with Deb in due course.

We called ourselves the "Dream Team", and hopefully more original artwork can puffinpages@gmail.com be produced with local children and our united efforts.



The beautiful silk banner (Anne Snaith)



Silk painting (Anne Snaith)



A study in concentration (Anne Snaith)

I want to say a big "thank you" to the Ucheldre Centre for being allowed to take part in such a wonderful project!

#### Shedding light on Seiriol Men's Shed!

David Huntington

What goes on at the Shed? Plenty!

For the garden, we've recently received a grant from Beaumaris Rotary to refurbish our large polytunnel, and work will start on that once we receive the materials.

There has been plenty of work going on in the workshop. For Llangoed Village Hall we have just finished an arbour, several large planters, bird boxes and bat boxes. A bench from outside Canolfan Beaumaris has just been refurbished and is back in place, looking as good as new. Our next major project is restoring an observatory for the Wales Dark Sky Project.

We have a crafting room. Once some electrical improvements have been made we are hoping to open it to the people who attend the Centre for learning difficulties which is situated on the site. They will be able to use the potter's wheel and kiln that we have.

Funding will be provided by the local authority if approved.

The more members we can get, the more we can develop the social side of things such as crafts and games: darts, cards, Scrabble and dominoes, for example.

If you're interested in joining us please get in touch.

You'll find all of our contact details on page 8.

Menter Mon, Mon a Menai and

#### community projects in Seiriol Ward

Rosie Frankland, Swyddog Prosiect Amgylcheddol/Environmental Project Officer, Menter Môn

#### Seiriol Men's Shed Llangoed In

September, Seiriol Men's Shed received a defibrillator from Menter Môn. Seiriol Men's Shed is part of a UK-wide network of over 900 sheds that aim to tackle loneliness and connect like-minded people.

Steve Jones, who co-ordinates Seiriol Men's Shed activities, said "We're delighted to receive the defibrillator here at the Men's Shed. We meet regularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays to undertake a variety of woodworking and other practical projects. A defibrillator is such a life-saving asset, and we're grateful to have been given this resource for the benefit of the Men's Shed community at Haulfre."

#### St Mary's Serenity Garden,

**Beaumaris** Another community project to receive a defibrillator recently is St Mary's Serenity Garden in Beaumaris.

The garden has been developed by the Church in Wales with volunteers led by Chrissy Newsham to create a tranquil setting which includes a trail and leaflet to encourage peaceful reflection.

Llangoed Village Hall garden and Môn a Menai Môn a Menai is a project that aims to enable community wellbeing through improvement of community green spaces. It is funded through the Welsh Government's Enabling Natural Resources and Wellbeing in Wales (ENRaW) fund. Môn a Menai aims to enable local communities in Anglesev and parts of Arfon in Gwynedd to transform their residential areas into more attractive spaces to live, work and visit. By supporting local action, the initiative aims to improve community green spaces and local biodiversity, encourage volunteering activity and enhance access to the countryside.

Môn a Menai has included the creation of community gardens, allotments and improvements to community woodland and green space around two churchyards. Projects in Seiriol Ward include the development St Mary's Serenity Garden in Beaumaris and the improvement of the garden at Llangoed Village Hall, both of which have involved Seiriol Men's Shed.

Menter Môn The defibrillators were secured by Menter Môn from Transport for Wales as part of an initiative to gift any unrequired automated external defibrillators (AED) to community groups across Wales. The equipment was linked to Menter Môn's Môn a Menai Project, a Welsh Government-funded project that has supported 14 community groups across Anglesey and North Gwynedd in improving their green spaces.

Here are some contact details:

Seiriol Men's Shed

Seiriolmensshed@gmail.com 2 07368 219048 Steve Jones 2 07941 103386 Mike Thomas

- St Mary's Serenity Garden Chrissynewsham@gmail.com 07836 272488
- Llangoed Village Hall ⊠ llangoedvillagehall@gmail.com
- Menter Môn

For more information about any of Menter Môn's environmental projects, including Môn a Menai, Cwlwm Seiriol, which works with communities in the Seiriol Ward connecting people to green spaces, and the Menai Rivers project, which aims to conserve the water vole, please contact Rebecca Pritchard.

⊠ rebecca@mentermon.com **2** 07917 759910

Môn a Menai

www.mentermon.com/en/prios 🗕 ectau/mon-a-menai/



celebration of the life of Thomas Rowan at Bangor University Management Centre Hall.

Rowan

Mike Blyth



**Celebrating the life of Thomas** 

On Friday 5 May 2023 people travelled

from all over the UK, and much further

afield, to attend the burial and

Steve Jones, Seiriol Men's Shed, receives a defibrillator from Rosie Frankland, Menter Môn (Menter Môn)



Llangoed Village Hall Garden, showing the impressive works undertaken this year by Seiriol Men's Shed (Menter Môn)



St Mary's Serenity Garden, Beaumaris: Ken Pugh and Chrissy Newsham receive a defibrillator from Rosie Frankland, Menter Môn (Menter Môn)



Thomas Rowan sitting at the front in a seat of honour in 2015 with a crowd of Baha'is who visited Builth Wells where Thomas lived for a couple of years, and where he developed a Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Group in collaboration with the Local Authority Youth Leader (via Mike Blyth)

Dr Wendi Momen OBE was unable to represent the National Assembly of the Baha'is of the United Kingdom as she had the duty of leading the procession, as the only woman, of the UK's Heads of other Religions at the Coronation of King Charles III in Westminster Abbey the following day.

Thomas Rowan was raised in the Bronx, New York City in a loving, devout Irish American Catholic family with his mother, father and six siblings. When Thomas, an MA-qualified Children's Special Needs Teacher, heard about the Baha'i Faith in 1969, he studied it carefully and wrote to his sister Ann, then in Germany: "This is it!" Within a month, Thomas had left to pioneer in Cameroon, and to spread what, as a Catholic, he had prayed for all of his life, the latest Revelation from God, the one promised by Jesus Christ himself, a belief held by all Baha'is: "The Second Coming...and...He who will lead you unto all truth."

Thomas spent the next 54 years spreading this good news in over 15 countries across four continents: Africa, South America, North America and Europe.

The renowned Welsh leader and singer, Edward Morus Jones, opened the Burial Prayers with the Lord's Prayer in Welsh at the graveside in the morning, and at the Celebration of the Life of Thomas in the afternoon opened the proceedings with a rousing version of the Bob Dylan/Woody Guthrie song, This is my Land in Welsh. What followed were illuminating and sometimes humorous revelations by family and friends about Thomas, where he had lived and what he had done.

The Celebration ended with food and a selection of musical favourites and Irish folk songs sung by well-known local folk singer and Baha'i Gerald Williams.

What did Thomas do? Here are some examples. During a life of social action Thomas started a Fish Farm in Chad which is still going today, and a desertgreening project, also in Chad, whose success can be seen from space. He spent six years on a boat on the Amazon bringing young people to an understanding of this progressive faith, offering them hope and personal development in the service-based Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Groups.

Thomas first moved to North Wales 19 years ago, living in Menai Bridge, Rhoscolyn, Carmel and Benllech.

The focus of Thomas, as with all Baha'is, is with others, to build vibrant spiritual communities where such principles as the oneness of mankind, the fundamental oneness of religion, the equality of women and men and the elimination of the extremes of wealth as

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well as poverty are given full and lasting effect.

Thomas loved Wales and, being asked at the great age of 83, to help develop a Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Group on Anglesey he moved back here lock stock and barrel on 4 April. Sadly, after only four days back in North Wales Thomas died suddenly on 8 April. He is buried in a place he loved: Porthaethwy/ Menai Bridge, Ynys Môn/Anglesey.

For more information about this extraordinary life please contact Mike Blyth at **mjdblyth@gmail.com**.

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#### Gwibio yng Ngemau Ynysoedd Rhyngwladol NatWest Carwyn Elias Jones

Nôl ym mis Gorffennaf bu Eli Jones o Llansadwrn yn ffodus i gynrychioli Ynys Môn yn Guernsey ar gyfer rhifyn XIX o Gemau'r Ynysoedd. Fe wnaeth Ynys Môn fynd a tîm o 116 o gystadleuwyr ynghyd â swyddogion i'r gemau a chipiodd y tîm gyfanswm o 18 medal ar draws yr holl chwaraeon sef y nifer fwyaf erioed i'r Ynys.

Llwyddodd Eli, sy'n 17 ac yn mynychu Ysgol David Hughes, gael drwodd i'r rownd derfynol yn y 100m ac yn y 200m i ferched a daeth yn 4<sup>ydd</sup> yn y ddau ddigwyddiad a chael amser gorau personol yn y ddau ddigwyddiad. Angorodd Eli hefyd dîm ras gyfnewid 4x100m y Merched i'r 4<sup>ydd</sup> safle yn y Rownd Derfynol a thorrodd y tîm record Ynys Môn a ddaliwyd am 25 mlynedd.

Dywedodd Eli Jones: "Cymryd rhan yng Ngemau'r Ynysoedd oedd y profiad mwyaf anhygoel fy mywyd hyd yn hyn ac mae'n rhywbeth y byddaf yn ei gofio am byth, mae wedi fy ysbrydoli nawr ar gyfer y dyfodol. Hoffwn ddiolch i bawb wnaeth fy nghefnogi i fynychu'r gemau ac am yr holl gefnogaeth a gawsom wrth gystadlu, mae'n golygu llawer."

Mae paratoadau bellach ar y gweill ar gyfer y gemau nesaf, a fydd yn cael eu cynnal yn yr Orkneys yn 2025, ac ar gyfer yr un fawr pan ddaw'r gemau i Ynys Môn am y tro cyntaf erioed yn 2027.



#### Sprinting at the NatWest International Island Games Carwyn Elias Jones

Back in July Eli Jones from Llansadwrn was fortunate to represent Ynys Môn in Guernsey for the XIX edition of the Island Games. Ynys Môn took a team of 116 competitors and officials and the team took 18 medals in total across all

ng sports, which was the largest ever haul for the Island.

> Eli, who is 17 and attends Ysgol David Hughes, made it through the Final of both the women's 100m and 200m sprint events and came  $4^{th}$  in both the 100m and 200m and achieved a personal best time in both events. Eli also anchored the Women's 4x100m relay team to the  $4^{th}$  place in the final and the team broke the Ynys Môn record, previously held for 25 years.

> Eli Jones commented: "Taking part in the Island Games was the most amazing experience of my life and is something I will remember for ever, it has inspired me now for the future. I wish to thank everyone who supported me to attend the games and for all the support we received while competing, it means a lot."



Yn barod i fynd! Eli Jones ar y blociau cychwyn 200m Ready to go! Eli Jones on the 200m starting

blocks (via Carwyn Elias Jones)

Preparations are now under way for the next games, which will be held in the Orkneys in 2025, and for the big one when the games come to Ynys Môn for the first time ever in 2027.

#### Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club

David Mathias, Secretary

With the 2023 bowling season coming to an end, Clwb Bowlio Beaumaris Bowling Club would like to congratulate the following Club Members on their achievements this season:



The victorious Beaumaris Super League Team (David Mathias)

 Tim Williams on winning both the Anglesey and Bangor and District Bowling Association's League Singles Competition at the Llanfair PG Bowling Club in August, and their President's Day Competition at the Holyhead Bowling Club in September.

- Adam Harris and Geraint Booth on winning the Bethesda Bowling Club Doubles Competition in August, after having also won the Llanfairfechan Bowling Club Doubles Competition in July.
- Big congratulations to the Beaumaris Team on winning the Premier Toyota Super League Trophy for the second time, after previously winning it in 2021.

#### 🖂 davemathias49@gmail.com

01248 490222, 07712 121147

- Beaumaris Bowling Club https://beaumarisbowlingclub. yolasite.com/
- Beaumaris Bowling Club www.facebook.com/people/ Beaumaris-Bowling-Club/1000 63490482942/

# Not just for Christmas...

Maggie Evans

It's showcase time for a group of contemporary artists and makers from Anglesey and Gwynedd. For two days only, the Artists and Makers Collective are holding a Winter Fair in the atmospheric David Hughes Centre, Beaumaris, giving you the opportunity to purchase a meaningful and unique present or a long-term piece for yourself.

The collective is a mixture of emerging talent and established names. One thing their work has in common is a focus on the beauty of this North Wales environment, be it in the images depicted or in the raw materials used.

The artists and makers are:

- Jo Alexander, mixed media artist, chair-maker extraordinaire, and ceramicist
- Jay Butters, woodturner, maker of mugs and vessels worked by footpowered lathe
- Jane Evans, gyotaku artist, a Japanese print technique, applied to local marine life
- Maggie Evans, basket maker, working with willow, rush and various natural materials
- Sally Fairclough, striking mixed media painter and owner of Stiwdio Biwmares
- Lillemor Latham, aka The Crafty Guillemot, wheel-thrown ceramics
- Lydia Latham, spoon carver, specialising in fine kolrosing decoration
- Marion Rose, printmaker, specialising in etchings and lino-cuts inspired by nature
- Lynne Stuart, fine art painter, vividly evoking local life and community
- Mary Thomas, printmaker, specialising in the photographic

process of cyanotype prints

• Cara White, aka Seapig, showcasing fabulous sea-glass jewellery designs

The event is planned as a social gathering time for friends, far and wide. Stop by, say hello and have a browse.

We're open at the David Hughes Community Centre, Rating Row, Beaumaris LL58 8AF (the old grammar school) on Saturday 9 December, 10.00am-5.00pm, and Sunday 10 December, 11.00am-4.00pm.

Keep an eye on social media; if you have any queries please contact Sally Fairclough at Stiwdio Biwmares.

2 07971 602325

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#### **Bangor Rotary news**

Pauline Kenyon, Bangor Rotary Service Team Leader

We are delighted to report that Bangor Rotary Club's 'Charity Fair on Beaumaris Green' on Sunday 27 August broke records!

Firstly, we were able to provide more free pitches than ever for local charities and not-for-profit organisations this year, and all those who had stalls reported that they had enjoyed a successful event, raised much-needed funds and gained much publicity and more support for their respective good causes.

Secondly, we were able to support many local traders. Attendance by the local community and holidaymakers was high throughout the event, and the atmosphere was happy and summery, with many families staying all day long for the children's activities. The tug of war, circus skills, Rainbow Jan's infectious and energetic 'danceathon' were a huge hit (not only with the kids!), and everyone enjoyed the non-stop performance of Rocking Ron with his lively and entertaining journey through *Top of the Pops*.

There were also many great bargains to be found on the bric-à-brac stalls and the vintage jewellery site amongst many others, and gorgeous tea and refreshments provided by Bangor Inner Wheel to keep everyone well-fuelled for the fun day.

Even the recent dodgy weather was kind to us, with sunshine for much of the Charity Fair, rain appearing only when it was due to close.

Once again, we're very grateful to Beaumaris Town Council's kind support for the Charity Fair, our sixth such event on the Green, and we were delighted that Beaumaris's Mayor, Councillor David Evans, and Rotary District Governor, Norman Waddell, were there to jointly open proceedings!

Rotarians, Inner Wheel members and friends concluded their busy and very

successful day by enjoying excellent local fish and chips all together in a convivial setting under the last of the



(L-R) Beaumaris Mayor Councillor David Evans, President Ian Thompson and Rotary District Governor Norman Waddell at the opening of the Charity Fair (Ian Thompson)



Rotarians, Inner Wheel members and friends enjoying fish and chips in a convivial setting before going home (Ian Thompson)



Kevin Sivyer and Virginia Crosbie MP with Loki (looking very pleased at being 'best in show') and his family (Jeaves Photography)



L-R: Angie Haywood with Spirit, Fiona Kilduff with Bryan, Lisa Tunnah with Hunter, Kevin Sivyer with Meg, Jan Morgan, Guide dogs Anglesey Co-ordinator (Kevin Sivyer)

gazebos before going home! Bangor Rotary President Ian Thompson thanked everyone who had contributed and concluded that this had been possibly

#### the best yet!

Bangor Rotary's future plans include another Charity Auction on 26 October, by kind permission and support from Morgan Evans Auctioneers, to raise funds for more community needs. You'll be able to read about this in **The Puffin** early next year.

We are also collecting good quality reading books for primary school children as part of our education project. This is a project to support children and their families by providing books to keep at home to promote the development of reading skills. If you have any books for 3-11-year-olds in good condition that you would like to donate, we'd be delighted to receive them. Please contact the Bangor Rotary Service Team via **paulinekenyon20@gmail.com**.



Beaumaris Rotary news

Kevin Sivyer, Beaumaris Rotary Hub Lead

Beaumaris Rotary Dog Show 2023 People (and dogs, of course) had a great afternoon on Sunday 30 July at Beaumaris Rotary Dog Show in the Canolfan, Beaumaris.

There were 68 entries for the seven classes, with the 'best in show' winner being Loki.

The event raised £200 from entry fees and donations, all of which will be shared between local Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs groups. Special thanks go to the various sponsors – Spar, Tesco, Lily's Kitchen, Jeaves Photography and Castle Gardens – and to lan Davies as compère and Virginia Crosbie MP who judged the classes with help from junior members of the large audience, and last but not least, the Canolfan staff for the use of the venue.

It was a lovely day, with lovely dogs (and owners!) and a great outcome. Roll on 2024!

Fellow Rotarian Michael Davies and I were delighted to present cheques to representatives from Guide Dogs, Anglesey, and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People, at the Bulkeley Hotel, Beaumaris.

Seiriol Men's Shed Our Seiriol Men's Shed members have recently received a £1,600 Rotary grant to adapt and upgrade a polytunnel at Haulfre to enable wheelchair users to gain access to the tunnel and grow produce in raised beds. Turn to page 23 to read more about Seiriol Men's Shed's recent activities.

Autumn Arts 2023 Last, but not least, a varied programme of events took place

in various venues over the period 4-8 October, starting with a fashion show by 'Soulful Living' in aid of Llangoed Guides. Kerry and Den organised a brilliant show, topped off by the three local male models...

The Bull Hotel provided the perfect setting for the acoustic guitar/flute combination of John Harley and partner Sarah for an appreciative audience on Thursday.

The 'All that Malarkey' professional cabaret act took the Bulkeley ballroom by storm on Friday and had the audience roaring for more after a riotous performance.

During the evening, Community Service awards were presented to Gareth Parry, Michael Davies. Jason and Sarah Zalot. with another being presented later to The Puffin's own Andrew Perrott!

Our thanks and appreciation go to Ynys Môn's MP, Virginia Crosbie, and RNLI President representative Richard Bulkeley for doing the honours.

A variety of musical acts were enjoyed on Saturday, with a showcase of talents by students from Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias, and ending with a fun evening of music and singing from Newborough Ukulele group.

During the afternoon artist Ian Walton judged the adult art submissions on the 'War on Waste' theme, with Victoria Craig declared the winner of a personal art class from Sally Fairclough who unfortunately could not attend due to illness.

The judges are now assessing many junior paintings from Beaumaris and Llangoed schools; the results will appear in The Puffin 47, February 2024.

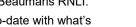
'Autumn Arts' concluded on Sunday with a choice of local legends Miv, Kev & Dave in the RAYC and a festival of hymn singing in Capel y Drindod, with local soloists Carys Williams and Ian Jones.

Huge appreciation is due to the Bulkeley Hotel, the Bull Hotel and their staff for the use of their premises, and to Joan Hopkins, Bishopsgate House Hotel and Beaumaris Jewellery Studio for their generous sponsorship.

A personal 'thank you' goes to the Beaumaris Rotary team of Michael Davies, who managed the administration of the whole event, Michael Burkham, Robert Macaulay and Ian Davies for their organisational support.

Once again, the main beneficiary of this event will be Beaumaris RNLI.

To keep up-to-date with what's happening, follow us on social media, such as Facebook, and be sure to keep an eye on The Puffin for future announcements.





Gareth Parry, 'All that Malarkey' and fellow RNLI volunteers (via Maxine Muir)



'All that Malarkey', getting up to some malarkey, by the look of things ... (via Maxine Muir)



Andrew Perrott receiving his award from Kevin Sivyer at Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall; Meg doesn't look impressed, and Tilly is giving a typically Westie 'I don't believe it' look ... (Kevin Sivyer)



Victoria Craig with judge Ian Walton and her winning entrant on 'War on Waste' Kevin Sivyer

#### E Friends of Beaumaris www.facebook.com/groups/ 521368261344315/





Pasbort G Cymru a GO Lloeg Vales & NW England Passpor

#### When do you say goodbye to your child? **Elizabeth Jones**

- Is it time to say goodbye to your child when the babysitters call?
- Or maybe at the nursery, goodbye waves, across the hall.
- Or maybe when he's starting school, his education it begins,
- It's only goodbye for a few hours, he returns home again with friends.
- Do you say goodbye in the evening, when you're putting him to bed,
- Or when he goes out with his friends, or maybe it is not said?
- How about when he goes camping; perhaps gone fishing for a while,
- Or is it when he goes out dancing, I'll bet he does It all in style?
- School days; they now are over and oh, so quickly, how he has grown;
- College days they are just beginning, so we chat more on the phone.
- His working life it does begin, and so soon he'll find a mate,
- Maybe one he will take forever; goodbyes, they'll have to wait.
- So busy with his new life; this happy, proud young man,
- He now has got a new wife; a new family, and new home.
- His family it gets bigger, more demands, and they are met,
- Love and humour you have plenty, are needed now, you bet.
- You'll wonder, too, what happened, to the years; where have they gone?
- I have loved you and that was easy, my proud and handsome son.
- I don't want this to sound too bitter, but is this me or you,
- When that wheel will come full circle, then what will you do?
- For goodbye is never easy, when they're babies or they're grown,
- You'll love them whilst you have them, and then you're on your own!

# Black market

Mike Thomas

1951. Six years after World War 2 had ended. A small market town in Lancashire.

Four boys aged about eleven, that age just before life ceases to be a constant wonder...they're sitting in their secret den in the woods, chatting about things. It was a time of shortages, of always being a bit hungry, of ration books and, well...none of them had seen a banana, for instance, or a teabag, none of them had a telephone or a television or even a fridge or a washing machine at home. Their fathers earned about £6 a week and you could buy a ginger biscuit for a farthing, or chips wrapped in newspaper for three pence. They wore socks which had been darned, wellies and gabardines if it was raining, sandals and shorts if it was sunny.

Today it was raining. Their den was an old stacksheet draped over a branch, a tatty old tarpaulin which a farmer had dumped. It was leaking.

Sam had brought yesterday's *Echo* newspaper and some matches which he had dipped in candle wax to keep them dry, this to light a fire. A fire was considered essential, a ritual, nobody knew why but today all the twigs and branches were soaking wet so they huddled away from the leaks, forgot about the fire and had a little grumble about the weather.

"Did you manage to get a cigarette?" David asked William.

"Yes, but it's got a bit wet". He took a mangled wet cigarette out of his pocket. "That's no good, it's had it". The cigarette was to be passed around and was eagerly anticipated.

"Let's see the paper," said William, taking it from Sam. "What does this mean?" He read the headline aloud with slow concentration: BLACK MARKET IS ABOUT 5% OF G.D.P shouted out of the page in big black capitals... There was silence; nobody knew. "Is it about our market?" asked David. "Must be the one on Thursday," said Sam, "I've been to the Saturday one and there aren't any black stalls there." "It must be something bad," said David, "it wouldn't be headlines if it was something good." Sam was reading the article under the headline with a furrowed brow.

"Well," David asked, "what does it say?" "Something about a 'scourge of public dishonesty in trying times'," Sam said; he couldn't understand it.

"Who does it say is trying?" asked William, "is it to do with exams?" They all looked at him.

"Don't be silly," said David. "What is GDP, then?" said Sam, "what does it mean, how many words begin with a G?" They all started shouting

suggestions. Good, great, grand, God, grey, glad.

"OK, OK," said Sam. "G.D.P. What can it stand for?"

"Great dead people," said William triumphantly.

"Doesn't make sense," said Sam.

"My Mum's getting a Biro for her birthday," said Charlie, the quiet one.

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"A what?" asked David. "A Biro," Charlie said. "It's a pen that writes forever and it doesn't need ink."





Autumn Arts 2023 at the Bulkeley Hotel, Beaumaris: a fashion show by 'Soulful Living' in aid of Llangoed Guides (Kevin Sivyer)





Black market: the four boys, chatting about things...

(Mike Thomas)

"Generous dirty person," said William, who had been thinking hard. "Not possible," said David, "simply couldn't happen." "It's an American thing," said Charlie, "a new invention."

The distant Church bell clock began to chime the Westminster...

"Hey, quiet," said David. "What time is it? I've got to be home by five." "So have I," said William. "Shhhh!" So they listened.

Bing bong bing bong...

Bong bing bong bing...

Bong...

David and William were on their feet at the first stroke...

Bong...

Panic! The fifth stroke! They were gone...!

Llandegfan: more about work at St Tegfan's churchyard Jane Cherrett

This article follows on from that published in **The Puffin** 42, November 2022.

For some years, the church committee (replacing the old PCC) had been aware of the overgrown nature of some parts of the graveyard.

Curiosity to know more started after the finding of the grave of master mariner, Captain Rowlands, from Cadnant, who died at sea off the coast of Peru in 1869. What was his story? What other graves were hidden in the undergrowth? What were their stories? To clear the graves seemed an impossible job, requiring younger folk to tackle the hard work, so nothing was done.

Everything changed after local resident Paul Smith's lecture on the Rathbone family. Given in the Parish Hall, the lecture to the Civic Society reminded us of the founders of the Hall, built and paid for by the Rathbone family of Liverpool and Glan y Menai, their summer residence. Paul needed to find the Rathbone grave to complete his research into the Rathbone family.

We knew that the grave was in section E, an area full of undergrowth...and suddenly, using Facebook and word of mouth, we had a team of church folk and local villagers ready to tackle the rampant vegetation.

The first day of action, 24 May 2022...and Howard Massey and his brushcutter revealed the Rathbone grave. Great excitement all round. The team went on to uncover seven rows of graves in section E. Cutting up and bagging the debris was a major task, six bags at a time, after each session were taken away to Penhesgyn recycling tip.

We were anxious to restore the Rathbone grave and its memorial cross, so we sought the advice of Aled

Roberts, the local stonemason. The cross was too heavy to return to its original position: the inscription at its base was cut off and the block placed in its original holding, and the rest of the cross was laid flat on a bed of broken slate. The cost was borne by the Rathbone family. Three other graves were improved in section E, and our thanks go to Mr Terry Williams for his donation, and also for more copies of his booklet 'The Parish Church, Eglwys y Plwyf, Llandegfan'.

At the same time, Paul started updating the churchyard inventory. We had The Gwynedd Family History Society survey, but this ended in 1989. All burials since then are recorded in the Burial Register kept in the church, but this does not help anyone seeking to find the grave *in situ*.

We photographed all the new graves and marked their positions and inscriptions on a revised map. Paul's ability on the computer made all this possible. The result is a new Directory, which incorporates the GHH Society with the latest entries. The Print Unit in the University produced spiral bound copies which include names, dates, house names, type of work, inscriptions, all within a designated mapped area. This is a greatly valued document which allows relatives to locate graves with ease.

All this activity led to research into the lives of a few of the village people. Paul Smith, Angela Ungoed Hughes and Jane Cherrett went on to produce a leaflet, 'Stories from the churchyard: St Tegfan's hidden histories'.

This was on sale at our 'Love Your Churchyard Week' event held on Saturday 8 June 2023. It was a lovely summer's day, with the church open, special tea and cake available, and a self-guided walk to see the graves mentioned in the leaflet. Since then we have had more copies run off, Welsh and English versions being sold for £1 in Siop Llandêg, Llandegfan.

To date, £64 has been taken, indicating the general interest in this local history.

Work party activity has continued throughout the summer of 2023, and several other areas of rampant undergrowth have been cleared, and more graves revealed.

Now, as I write in the autumn, we've hung up our rakes, loppers, saws and gloves for the winter, and work continues on the 'histories' leaflet; we're planning a second edition.

The Governor's Quick Crossword no 14: solution



# Fianchetto 66's Chess no 5: solution

Bxd8 f5 2. c7#

In plain language, the lower of the two white bishops moves two spaces diagonally to the right taking the remaining black bishop. The only move that black can then realistically make is a pawn move, following which white moves the pawn to the far left one space forward, mating the black king.



L-R: Paul Smith with spade, Gareth Williams, Aled Roberts, stonemason

Our thanks go to all who have taken part in this venture: Gareth Williams, Tom and Ruth Brown, Deirdre de Palma, Eufryn Davies, Nia Williams, Pat and Roger Borlace, Angela Ungoed Hughes, John and Angela Williams, Howard Massey, Liz Moyle, Eunice Smith, Elizabeth Youren, Alan Davies, and Paul Smith, Ffion and Richard in Siop Llandêg. Also, our thanks to David Roberts, the church gardener, for his help; he's left now with a mountain of a bonfire to eventually burn away.

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#### Assistance dog owners and their rights Andrew Perrott

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has produced a guide to help tourism businesses to welcome people with access requirements. It explains what their legal duties are to assistance dog owners.

Assistance dogs are not pets: they are

'auxiliary aids'. They are highly trained, which means that they:

- Will not wander freely around premises
- Will sit or lie quietly on the floor next to their owner
- Are unlikely to foul in a public place.

Many are instantly recognisable by a harness or jacket, but it is not a legal requirement that the dog wear a harness or jacket to identify it as an assistance dog.

Many assistance dog users will carry an ID book that gives information about the assistance dog and the training organisation, with other useful information.

Again, this is not a legal requirement, and no assistance dog user should be refused a service simply because he/she does not possess an ID book.

Assistance dogs can also be ownertrained, the owner selecting his/her dog to fit his/her requirements.

Thousands of disabled people rely on an assistance dog to help them with day-to-day activities that many people take for granted. It's not only blind people that are helped by assistance dogs; assistance dogs are also trained to help people with hearing difficulties, epilepsy, diabetes, physical mobility problems and more.

Assistance dogs undertake a variety of practical tasks for people as well as supporting their independence and confidence.

While the EHRC's guidance is aimed at businesses, much of the information in it will be of use to people with access requirements, and will enable them to know what the legal duties of businesses are to assistance dog owners.

Take the lead: a guide to welcoming customers with assistance dogs www.equalityhumanrights. com/en/publication-download/ take-lead-guide-welcomingcustomers-assistance-dogs

It is a sad fact of life that guide dog owners continue to face access refusals from businesses and services, including cafés, shops, and taxis, because they are accompanied by their guide dog, despite the fact that this is almost always illegal. 75% of guide dog owners say that they have experienced an access refusal in the past.

Assistance Dogs UK www.assistancedogs.org.uk The Puffin 46 • November 2023

puffinpages@gmail.com



- Open Doors
  - www.guidedogs.org.uk/how-youcan-help/campaigning/our-currentcampaigns/open-doors/

#### Don't give me slippers for **Christmas!**

**Rav Parsons** 

- Don't give me slippers for Christmas,
- Or a monogrammed tankard in pewter. Go piggy-bank raidin' and get me a trade-in

For my clapped-out mobility scooter.

Something with alloys and ABS braking Sprayed metallic orange and white. Cruise control and self-dipping headlights

And air horns to give folk a fright.

- I'll need a cup-holder for my coffee And a satnav in case I get lost.
  - I've saved a few bob from my pension So I could help out a bit with the cost.

Bishopsgate House Hotel

Nought to sixty in under six seconds,

- Acceleration that will light up the rears. Something with poke that blows out some smoke
- As I overtake all of those old dears.
- With super-soft tyres and suspension To override all the bumps in the road, A leather-trimmed heated sports seat With a built-in commode.
- A helmet and thick padded race-suit To insulate me from the frosts.
  - I'll get sponsored by the good folk of Beaumaris To help with the expenses and
  - costs.

Then once my idea gets momentum And there's potential for all to see,

With the good and the great and the **Bulkeley Estate** 

We'll start The Mobility Scooter Grand Prix.

#### A small space to fill...

We're near the end of another year, so here's a selection of thoroughly corny

- Christmas jokes to fill a small space...
- Q What do you get when you cross a duck with Santa?
- Α A Christmas quacker.
- Q How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?
- Nothing. It was on the house! Α
- Q What do you call Santa's little helpers?
- Subordinate clauses. Δ
- **Q** What do you call a crowd of chess masters bragging about their games in a hotel lobby over the holidays?
- Α Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.
- Q What did one snowman say to the other snowman?
- 'Do you smell carrots'? Α
- Q What is Santa Claus's favourite pizza?
- One that's deep-pan, crisp and even. Δ
- Why is Santa afraid of getting stuck Q in a chimney?
- Because he's claus-trophobic. Α

We are the only AA Rosette awarded restaurant in Beaumaris

- All meals are freshly prepared by our chefs, using local produce wherever possible
- £10 discount for readers of The Puffin if this banner is presented



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#### Tailpiece: a Weary Westie on bodily functions and other things Dame Tilly Barker of Llanddona (dogtated to Andrew Perrott)

I could tell that the Boss was thinking about starting work on **The Puffin** 46; I could hear him poking about on his computer and muttering to himself. Then it all came to a head one day early last month. He had a newspaper spread on the floor in front of him and was howling with laughter. *What's all that about?* I asked. He wiped his eyes and turned to me. *Did you know that dogs like to do their business aligned north-south?* he asked. He started to guffaw. *I must watch you next time you...*he said, the tears running down his cheeks.



He gets cross when I sit on his newspaper; I told him that I was looking for the article that he'd been reading, but I don't think that he believed me

Well, really, I thought, whatever next? Being watched while one does what a little Dame has to do? How unseemly. Has he nothing better to think about? Talk about lowering the tone of a magazine which features my meaningful stories about life and stuff. Anyway, I decided to humour him, and told him to put a link to the story in my article so that I can (try to) keep up standards:

Dogs are sensitive to small variations of the Earth's magnetic field https://frontiersinzoology.biomed central.com/counter/pdf/10.1186/ 1742-9994-10-80.pdf

You wouldn't know from its title that it has anything to do with bodily functions, would you? Before you ask, I won't tell you whether I use the north-south alignment or a modern *avant garde* approach. There are some things that a Dame, real or pretend, simply does *not* disclose. Would you believe it? I was eight years old last month...eight! Two of my friends bought me toys. I like toys because I can destroy them if they're small, or shake then about all over the place if they're big.



Oh, what a yawn! More dogtation on the offing ...

I did have fun: the squeaky crocodile squeaked for a few minutes, until I chewed off its nose and tail, and as for the soft pink teddy thing, I gave it a



My eighth birthday arrived on 9 October, with some prezzies... The Boss and his friends keep forgetting that I destroy soft toys

brainectomy in just a few minutes and chewed the squeak to bits. There was stuffing all over the place. The Boss was not pleased.



I stand and stare at him until he realises that I've walked far enough and really want to go *slowly* and do some more sniffing

The sunny weather in September meant that I had lots of nice walks. I stop when I don't want to go any further, and that

#### Some local Facebook links

- Anglesey Community Noticeboard/Hysbysfwrdd Cymunedol Môn www.facebook.com/groups/205528177434085/
- Friends of Beaumaris www.facebook.com/groups/521368261344315/
- Beaumaris Community Activities and Information/Gweithgareddau
  Biwmares
- www.facebook.com/groups/400365856820659/
  Ffrindiau Cwlwm Seiriol Friends
- www.facebook.com/groups/395263584239092/
- Cymuned Llanddona Community
   www.facebook.com/groups/llanddona/

- Cymuned Llandegfan Community www.facebook.com/groups/1518554195120520/
- Ffrindiau Llangoed www.facebook.com/groups/1458577214379355/
- Cymuned Llangoed Community
   www.facebook.com/groups/Llangoed/
- Pobol Llansadwrn People www.facebook.com/groups/3140572646162274/
- Hysbysfwrdd Seiriol Noticeboard www.facebook.com/groups/1600203890233039/

really annoys the Boss. I tell him that my legs are very little and that I really want to be spending more time *sniffing* things. He knows that doesn't understand that things are meant to be sniffed...



I told Edie to stop being a pussy and come in but she was have none of it...

My bezzie Edie has been to visit us a couple of times recently. We go to Gallows Point at the weekend, but she won't join me in the sea; she just dips her paws in. She doesn't know what she's missing. One Sunday late in September we met Isla the Sea Dog at Gallows Point. She gave us an 'I'm a



Isla the Sea Dog, in command of all that she sees, including the two of us

*real* Sea Dog' look because she knew that we were landlubbers.



I need a well-earned rest after a session of dogtation! It's such hard work...

There, my dogtation's done. It's tiring stuff, so I must have a rest. Goodbye!

#### Editorial information and other 'useful to know' stuff

#### The Editorial Team

Richard Adams	Andrew Perrott
John Briggs	Owen Williams
John Nunn	⊠ 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 by 1 January **May**: submissions by 1 April **August**: submissions by 1 July **November**: submissions 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, Beaumaris LL58 8YH Canolfan Beaumaris Leisure Centre, Rating Row, Beaumaris LL58 8AL

Central Bakery, 22 Margaret Street, Beaumaris LL58 8DN Ena's Newsagents, 24 Castle Street, Beaumaris LL58 8AP Spar, 11 Castle Street, Beaumaris LL58 8AB Town Hall (entrance lobby), Castle Street, Beaumaris LL58 8AP

#### Llanddona

The Owain Glyndŵr, Llanddona LL58 8UF Wern y Wylan, Llanddona LL58 8TR (at Wern y Wylan Court

Llandegfan

Siop Llandêg, Lon Ganol, Llandegfan LL59 5UA

#### • Llangoed

Morrisons Daily, China House, Llangoed LL58 8NW

• Penmon

The Pilot House Café, Black Point, Penmon LL58 8RR

#### • On-line

#### www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/

#### Some useful contacts

Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 917 7650	
Canolfan lechyd Beaumaris Health Centre	01248 810818	
Canolfan Beaumaris Leisure Centre	01248 811200	
Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol Good Turn Scheme	01248 305014	
Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water: leaks	0800 281 432	
water services and emergencies	0800 052 0130	
sewerage services and emergencies	0800 085 3968	
Electricity (SP Energy Networks):		
information about power cuts	0800 001 5400	
Floodline	0345 988 1188	
Gas: National Gas Emergency Service	0800 111 999	
Isle of Anglesey County Council:	01248 750057	
Beaumaris library	01248 810659	
Children's Services	01248 752722	
missed waste collections	01248 752860	
NHS (NHS Direct closed in 2014):		
for non-emergency medical help	111	
NSPCC:		
help for adults concerned about a child	0808 800 5000	
help for children and young people	0800 1111	
Police: non-emergency	101	
Police Community Support Officer:		
Teleri Jones	07814 646320	
Post Office: customer helpline	0345 611 2970	
Morrisons Daily, Llangoed	01248 490056	
Spar, Beaumaris	01248 810326	
RSPCA: daily, 9.00am-6.00pm	07490 642555	
Samaritans: English language	116123	
Welsh language	0808 164 0123	
Ysbyty Gwynedd Hospital	01248 384384	