

The Puffin



FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER • PUBLISHED QUARTERLY • NUMBER 35 FEBRUARY 2021 **FREE**
LLANGOED GLANRAFON PENMON BEAUMARIS LLANFAES LLANDDONA ON-LINE

WHERE DID 2020 GO?

The Puffin 34 started with *Where did 2019 go?* We think that everybody will say about 2020 'not nearly far enough away!' What a year it was...and what a start we've had to 2021.

Inevitably, any COVID-19-related information that we give will be changing day by day, so we'll do little more than point you to **The Puffin** 31, the COVID-19 'special' which was delivered to all households in the LL58 and LL59 Postcode areas.

If you don't have a copy you'll find it on-line at www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/ as two separate documents, one in Welsh and one in English. Look for *Coronavirus Announcement* and you'll find it. The information given may well have changed, but most of the links should lead to up-to-date information.

We join with Beaumaris Chamber of Trade and Tourism in wishing you **'Blwyddyn Newydd Dda/ Happy New Year'**...one day these difficult times will be behind us, particularly once the various vaccines are rolled out...here's hoping!

Christmas 2020 People seem to have gone out of their way to make Christmas 2020 as memorable an occasion as possible.

Houses were draped with colourful lights. Beaumaris's town decorations were

beautiful, complemented by some lovely shop window displays. Capel Peniel in Llanddona had a beautiful illuminated nativity display and an evening 'cascade' of lights down its façade. Beaumaris's Church of St Mary and St Nicholas had some lovely Christmas trees in spite of the lockdown's sudden halting of the scheduled Christmas Tree Festival. There are articles and photographs in this number of **The Puffin** to show how people made the most of these uncertain times, and to show how communities pull together...examples of inclusiveness, community support and people reaching out to help each other.

Our supporters As always, we, the Editorial Team, say a big 'thank you' to all of you – readers, donors, sponsors, outlets – who make it possible for us to continue publishing **The Puffin**. This month we say a particular 'thank you' to those people who sent us some welcome donations; you'll know who you are!

Looking out for others None of us has any idea about what's in store for us as we face an uncertain few months. We had a

day's grace on Christmas Day which meant that some of us could gather – responsibly, of course – with relatives, even if only for a few hours. The writing was on the wall, though, and at the time of writing this piece (mid-January) we're well into uncertain times once more. All that we can do is keep our fingers crossed and hope that this latest lockdown and the rolling out of a mass vaccination programme will mean that we're able to return to a relatively normal life during the course of the year.

By now we know the broad effect that lockdowns will have on life generally, but all of this will affect people in different ways.



Twin Beaks...young artist Riley has captured two unsuspecting members of the Puffin family beautifully. She says: 'I'm a young local artist, born and raised in Anglesey. I particularly like nature because it's ever-changing and revolves around us, but I feel that we look at nature for ten minutes, think 'oh, that's nice', then move on with our lives.'

'My aim is to capture that fleeting moment and bring the colours and the movements into people's homes for daily appreciation.'

You'll be able to see more of Riley's art at the Beaumaris Art Quarter Gallery when the easing of COVID-19 restrictions ease.

Some of us will pass through another lockdown with little or no difficulty, considering being locked down again as no more than another inconvenience.

Others will be dreading it, having had a rough enough time of it last year...feeling anxious, lonely and isolated, and watching COVID-19's renewed advance with dismay and apprehension.

Don't be complacent; you might have been all right last time round. People you know might have been all right; this time last year we were heading for what turned out to be a glorious spring and a reasonable summer, but now we're in a chilly midwinter, a time when the fragile or vulnerable might find it much

more difficult to cope with loneliness yet again.

Keep a lookout for yourself, your family and your friends and neighbours, and anyone who might be struggling to cope, and seek help and advice if you, or others, need it.

Mind Mental health problems related to COVID-19 and the lockdown are especially hard for people with depression. Mind, the national mental health charity, is a useful source of information and help for those who need it.

📄 www.mind.org.uk/

☎ Infoline 0300 123 3393

☎ Helpline 0300 123 3011, Mon-Fri 9.00am-6.00pm

Anglesey and Gwynedd are covered by Ynys Môn & Gwynedd Mind.

📄 www.monagwyneddmind.co.uk/

☎ 01286 685279

✉ info@monagwyneddmind.co.uk

• WE ARE PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO PRINT **The Puffin** AGAIN. NUMBERS ARE LIMITED, THOUGH, SO PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PASS THIS COPY ON TO SOMEBODY ELSE TO READ. **The Puffin** IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT WWW.SEIRIOLALLIANCE.CO.UK/NEWSLETTERS/. •

The future: please note! **The Puffin** depends on advertising, sponsorship and donations. We hope to continue publishing **The Puffin** in print for as long as we can, as well as on-line, but that depends on our funds. Understandably, people are having to watch their bank balances very closely, so our finances are thin on the ground, and it may be that we have to resort to an on-line-only presence at some point, as we did in May 2020. Keep your eyes on social media, such as Facebook, for our announcements.

Stop press! Go to page 14 and read about what Medrwn Môn has done for **The Puffin!**

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WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE

Virtually nothing; we're locked down again. Before Christmas it looked as if we might have been able to start giving news about what's happening where, but that's not to be for the moment.

It's nice to be able to say that things were happening in the run up to Christmas, even if they changed at the last minute, or were cancelled. You'll read about some of them as you turn the pages.

We'll give more news about what's happening where as soon as we're able to do so. In the meantime, word of mouth will probably be the quickest way to learn about events as they start to take place.

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CYNGHRAIR SEIRIOL ALLIANCE

Steve MacVicar

Comisiwn Elusennau Mae Cynghair Seiriol bellach wedi'i gofrestru fel elusen (Elusen Rhif 1192222) gyda'r Comisiwn Elusennau. Amcan yr elusen yw cefnogi ein cymunedau lleol, yn enwedig unigolion, teuluoedd a grwpiau sydd o dan fantais gymdeithasol, economaidd neu eraill. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth, gan gynnwys copi o gyfansoddiad y Gynghrair, i'w gweld ar y wefan. Os na allwch gael mynediad i'r rhyngwyd, ysgrifennwch atom a byddwn yn falch o bostio gwybodaeth atoch. Mae croeso i chi gysylltu os hoffech gael ragor o wybodaeth, cymryd rhan, neu os oes gennych ddi-ddordeb mewn gwirfoddoli.

Os ydych chi'n awyddus yn benodol i gysylltu â Chynllun Tro Da Seiriol, ffoniwch 01248 305014 (9.00yb-5.00yp dydd Llun-dydd Gwener).

Yn ogystal â rhedeg Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol, mae'r Gynghrair wedi ceisio cyfrannu mewn ffordd fach dros gyfnod y Nadolig i helpu i leddfu rhywfaint o ddi-ddorfaint COVID-19. Rhoddodd £300 tuag at brynu teganau ar gyfer Groto Siôn Corn, £250 tuag at brydau Nadolig i bobl leol, a £300 fel gwobr ariannol ar



A suitably masked Santa stands guard by the entrance to Ena's Newsagents (Andrew Perrott)



The Bull Team with Christmas meals lined up ready for delivery (Steve MacVicar)



Volunteers Christine, Ian, Gill, Eirlys, Anne and Di collecting the meals from the Bull (sleighs parked outside!) (Steve MacVicar)



Santa's Grotto in Castle Street (Steve MacVicar)



Lotti Summers caught away from Santa's Grotto (Andrew Perrott)

gyfer achosion da lleol drwy *Talent Ni Seiriol*, *Sioe Nadolig Rhithwir*.

Cinio Nadolig gan y Bull, Biwmares

Gwirfoddolodd David Robertson, y cogydd Jason Hughes a thîm y Bull, eu hamser a'u harian eu hunain i ddarparu pryd Nadolig am ddim i 42 o bobl 'hŷn' sy'n byw ym mhob rhan o Seiriol ar 18 Rhagfyr. Dosbarthwyd y pryd gan wirfoddolwyr y Cynllun Tro Da. Diolch i bawb a gymerodd ran.

Siôn Corn a'i helpwr Diolch i dros £1,000 a roddwyd gan sefydliadau lleol, busnesau lleol, ac unigolion preifat hael, roedd Lotti Summers yn gallu prynu llawer o anrhegion o safon ar gyfer Groto Siôn Corn ddydd Sadwrn 19 Rhagfyr. Brwydrodd dros 100 o blant o dair ysgol gynradd ardal Seiriol drwy eira (drwy garedigrwydd peiriant eira'r Cyngor Tref!) i gwrdd â Siôn Corn (a'i helpwr) a dewis eu anrhegion.

Talent Ni Sioe Nadolig Rhithwir Ni chawsom gymaint o geisiadau ag yr oeddem yn obeithio, ond efallai nad yw hynny'n syndod o ystyried y pandemig ac ystyriaethau mwy difrifol. Fodd bynnag, rydym yn falch o ddweud bod gennym chwe fideo wedi'u cyflwyno ac mae'r panel beirniadu wedi penderfynu eu bod i gyd yn enillwyr ac wedi dyfarnu gwobr o £50 i bob achos enweddig!

Mae *Talent Ni Seiriol Sioe Nadolig Rhithwir* bellach ar gael i'w gweld ar YouTube drwy glicio ar www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPYDE_1SUHM.

Enillydd: Isabelle (Ysgol Llandegfan), Liam (Ysgol Llandegfan) Catrin (Codi'r Tô), Elin (Codi'r Tô), Dosbarth Lladin yn y Llinell (Canolfan Biwmares) a Castle Players (Castle Players).

Llongyfarchiadau a diolch i bawb a gymerodd ran.

Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol Mae gwirfoddolwyr Cynllun Tro Da Seiriol yn parhau i gynnig help i'r gymuned pan fo angen. Mae nifer y 'troeon da' a wnaed ers mis Mawrth 2020 bellach dros 2,500 ac, nid yw'n syndod bod nifer y galwadau wedi cynyddu'n ddiweddar ers dechrau 2021 a dechrau'r ail don o'r pandemig. Os ydych chi'n teimlo y gallwn ni eich helpu, ffônwch ni.

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🌐 www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/

♦ ♦ ♦

Charity Commission The Seiriol Alliance is now registered as a charity (Charity No 1192222) with the Charity Commission. The charity's objective is to support our local communities, particularly individuals, families, and

groups who are socially, economically or otherwise disadvantaged. More information, including a copy of the Alliance's constitution, can be found on our website. If you are unable to access the internet, please do write to us and we will gladly post information to you. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like more information, get involved, or if you are interested in volunteering.

If you specifically want to contact the Seiriol Good Turn Scheme, please ring 01248 305014 (9.00am-5.00pm, Monday-Friday).

As well as running the Seiriol Good Turn Scheme, the Alliance has tried to contribute in a small way over the Christmas period to help alleviate some of the COVID-19 gloom. It gave £300 towards the purchase of toys for Santa's Grotto, £250 towards Christmas meals for local people, and £300 in prize money for local good causes through the *Seiriol's Got Talent Virtual Christmas Show*.

Christmas dinner from the Bull, Beaumaris David Robertson, chef Jason Hughes and the Bull team volunteered their own time and money to provide a free Christmas meal with all the trimmings to 42 'older' people living in all parts of Seiriol on 18 December. The meal was delivered by Good Turn Scheme volunteers. Thank you to everyone involved.

Santa and his helper Thanks to over £1,000 donated by local organisations, local businesses, and generous private individuals, Lotti Summers was able to purchase lots of quality gifts for Santa's Grotto on Saturday 19 December. Over 100 children from the three Seiriol area primary schools fought through the snow (courtesy of the Town Council's snow machine!) to meet Santa (and his helper) and choose their present.

Seiriol's Got Talent Virtual Christmas Show We didn't get as many entries as we had hoped, but perhaps that isn't surprising in view of the pandemic and more serious considerations. We are pleased to say, however, that we had six videos submitted and the judging panel decided that they were all winners and awarded a prize of £50 to each nominated cause.

The *Seiriol's Got Talent Virtual Christmas Show* is now available for viewing on YouTube by going to www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPYDE_1SUHM.

The winners: Isabelle (Ysgol Llandegfan), Liam (Ysgol Llandegfan) Catrin (Codi'r Tô), Elin (Codi'r Tô), Latin in Line class (Canolfan Beaumaris) and Castle Players (Castle Players).

Congratulations to them all.



CHRISTINGLE CYMUNED LLANDDONA 2020
LLANDDONA COMMUNITY CHRISTINGLE
 Kate Gwilliam

Every year in Llanddona we hold a community carol service the village chapel, Capel Peniel. We live in a village full of community spirit and, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we decided to hold a Community Christingle Service on-line so we could still come together, albeit digitally, to celebrate and reflect. We hope that this service went some way to embrace that spirit.

Watch the video on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=hcE8R11Tgs4&feature=youtu.be.

We had some fabulous children taking part and some great original spoken words by our very own Steve and Meg Marsden and James Percival.

There was a video about the Nativity display's construction – see the photograph – and prayers and thanksgiving for our local services and NHS/care homes. Paul Gash was his usual brilliant communicator with a Christingle video that the children could interact with as they were all delivered a Christmas bag with all the Christingle bits in to join in and take part...it was very special.

Many, many thanks to all those who contributed to this service on- or off-screen and lent their creativity, generosity and time; it was widely appreciated. After what has been a year full of challenges for many, we hope that people found that this service shone a bright light into the darkness and brought some hope with it.

Bob bendith i chi i gyd. Every blessing to you all.



WHAT IS CHRISTINGLE?

Andrew Perrott

I'm sure that I'm not the only person who has only a hazy idea of what Christingle entails, so I searched on-line and found an interesting account on the Children's Society website. I've adapted the text, and give it below.

Christingle celebrations or services are named after the Christingles that are lit during the service. Christingles are oranges wrapped in red ribbon or tape, decorated with sweets, with a candle on the top.

There is no one way to hold a Christingle celebration; they range from large gatherings in churches and

schools to intimate events on-line, can be outdoors and sometimes even in forests.

People typically sing Christmas carols, come together in prayer and have fun. Christingles are usually held from the start of December to Christmas (Advent to Candlemas), with Christmas Eve a particularly popular time for services, but you can hold one whenever you like.

During the service, each person takes a Christingle and the candles are lit to create a warm, magical glow symbolising the light of Christ and bringing hope to people living in darkness. Christingles are home-made, using oranges and a few other bits, as you choose.

The candle is lit at the end of the service to spread a magical glow around everyone.

Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story:

- The orange represents the world
- The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
- The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations
- The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.

📖 What is Christingle?

www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/fundraise-and-events/christingle/what-is-christingle



The beautiful Nativity display outside Capel Peniel (Kate Gwilliam)



The Spar Crew, outfitted for Christmas...and masked appropriately, of course! (via Spar)



The Thanksgiving Tree (Andrew Perrott)



The Memory Tree (Andrew Perrott)



The tree decorated by Beaumaris Guides (Andrew Perrott)

BEAUMARIS'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Rev Lesley Rendle

Sadly, we were not able to hold the Christmas Tree Festival that was planned for December in the beautiful Church of St Mary and St Nicholas owing to sudden changes to the COVID-19 rules and regulations just before Christmas.

Many thanks to all those groups who were willing and eager to join in. We were able to open the church for a couple of days in December to allow people in for an opportunity to enjoy the peace of the building and to offer their own prayers. As a focus for the prayers we were able to put up two trees.

The Thanksgiving Tree was an opportunity for visitors to focus on something they felt thankful for, write 'the something' on a brightly coloured star and hang their star on the tree. Even at the end of a very difficult year, many people still felt that there were thanks to be given.

The Memory Tree gave visitors an opportunity to write a card in memory of a loved one who has passed away and to hang this memory on the tree. This tree was kindly provided by the local Marie Curie fundraising group and we are very grateful for their support. I know many people greatly valued the opportunity to remember loved ones prayerfully in this way.

One aspect of the Christmas Tree festival that was able to continue was the trees decorated by some of the businesses in town on the theme of a Christmas Song or Carol. The Town Council provided a trophy for the best tree and a completely independent team of judges (Thank you, Steve McVicar *et al!*) was employed to decide on the winner. The judging went as follows:

- Community Award: Hosbis Dewi Sant/ St David's Hospice
- Popular Song Award: Fat Face
- Craft Award: Nan's Place
- Sustainability Award: Alton Murphy and Ian Walton Art Gallery (joint winners of this category)
- Special Theme Award: Castle Garage
- Comedy Award: Beaumaris Town Hall
- Creative Award: Soulful Living

The overall winner was Beaumaris Town Hall!

Many thanks to all those who joined in and contributed. We are now thinking about this year's tree festival, so watch this space!

LLANDDONA IN 1832

Angharad Llwyd

Llanddona, in old MSS styled "Dena y Cravgoet y Môn", is situated in the hundred of Tindaethwy, about three miles and a half north-west of Beaumaris. It is a perpetual curacy, not in charge, but occasionally endowed with £1,000 from Queen Anne's bounty. Lord Boston is patron and impropiator of the tithes. This parish contains from 1,400 to 1,500 acres of arable land, and 100 of common, which being very rocky, is of

little value to the poor people. The church, a very ancient structure was built in the year 610, and is dedicated to "Dona ab Selyv ab Cynon ab Garwyn ab Brochwel Yscthyroc", who built a cell on the sea-shore. Day of celebration, i.e. wakes, kept on November 1st. The present incumbent is the Rev. William Lewis, and the resident population in 1821 was 382, and in 1831, 442. Parish rates in 1803 were at 6s. (30p) in the pound, £54 18s. 11d. (£54.95), and in 1832, £172 17s. 0d (£175.85). Above Llanddona is a high hill, with a large plat of table land upon the top, called "Bwrdd Arthur". There is a cromlech at Cremlyn. A profitable herring fishery in the season gives employment to a considerable number of people, and the numerous farm houses scattered over the parish, give it an air of cheerfulness not generally found in this part of Wales.

This is an excerpt from *A History of the Island of Mona*, by Angharad Llwyd. Published in 1832, it was her chief work, and gained her the premier essay prize at the Beaumaris Eisteddfod of 1832. She was a member of the London Cymmrodorion Society and the recipient of several gold and silver medals awarded at eisteddfodau for prize-winning essays.

OS YDYCH YN GWELD MOCHYN DAEAR MARW/IF YOU FIND A DEAD BADGER

John Briggs

Os ydych yn gweld mochyn daear marw

Nodwch leoliad y carcass a ffoniwch â'r llinell benodol ar gyfer moch daear marw llenwch y ffurflen ar-lein. Fel rhan o Raglen Llywodraeth Cymru i Ddileu TB, dyfarnwyd contract i gasglu carcassau moch daear marw at ddibenion post mortem.

Bydd yr archwiliadau post mortem hyn yn darparu gwybodaeth ddefnyddiol ar natur y clefyd ymhlith moch daear ledled Cymru.

Mae'n bwysig nad ydych yn cyffwrdd â mochyn daear nac yn ymyrryd â'r carcass mewn unrhyw fodd. Os ydych yn dod o hyd i fochyn daear sydd wedi'i anafu, dylech ffoniwch â llinell gymorth genedlaethol 24 awr yr RSPCA ar 0300 1234 999.

Peidiwch byth â cheisio cyffwrdd ag unrhyw foch daear sydd wedi'u hanafu oherwydd gallant eich anafu chi yn ddifrifol. Mae'n bosibl bod ganddynt TB buchol hefyd.

☎ 0808 169 5110

✉ badger@bfd.wales

🌐 www.bfd.wales

Gwlad Gwlad yw e-gylchlythyr Llywodraeth Cymru ar gyfer busnesau fferm a choedwigaeth a pbawb sy'n ymwneud ag amaethyddiaeth yng Nghymru.

🌐 www.llyw.cymru/cofrestrwch-ar-gyfer-newyddion-amaethyddiaeth-choedwigaeth-gwlad

If you find a dead badger Note the location of the carcass and call the dedicated *badger found dead* line or fill out the form on-line. As part of the Welsh Government Bovine TB

www.facebook.com/groups/llanddona/

Eradication Programme a contract was awarded to collect badger found dead carcasses for post mortem purposes.

These post mortem examinations will provide useful information on the nature of the disease within the badger population across Wales.

It is important that you do not handle a dead badger or interfere with a carcass in any way. If you find an injured badger you should contact the RSPCA's 24 hour national advice line on 0300 1234 999.

Do not on any account attempt to handle any injured badgers as they can inflict serious injuries. They may also be infected with bovine TB.

☎ 0808 169 5110
✉ badger@bfd.wales
🌐 www.bfd.wales

Gwlad Gwlad is the Welsh Government's e-newsletter for farm and forestry businesses and all those involved with agriculture in Wales.

🌐 www.llyw.cymru/cofrestrwch-ar-gyfer-newyddion-amaethyddiaeth-choedwigaeth-gwlad

NEUADD BENTREF LLANDDONA VILLAGE HALL

Dayle Evans

Caffi Ni Ym mis Tachwedd penderfynodd Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall agor Caffi Ni ar Ddydd Iau a Dydd Gwener i gael panad a sgwrs. Roedd yr wythnos gyntaf yn llwyddiant mawr felly fe benderfynwyd gwneud cinio cawl am £5.00 i gynnwys teisen, cawl a phaned. Roedd pawb yn teimlo'n ddiogel gan ein bod wedi ymdrin â'r holl reolau COVID.

Roedd hi mor braf clywed pobl yn sgwrsio ac yn chwethin ac yn cyfarfod â phobl newydd. Daeth grŵp beicio lleol a grŵp cerdded acw hefyd. Caewyd yr wythnos cyn y Nadolig gan ein bod yn gwybod y byddai pawb yn paratoi ar gyfer yr ŵyl anarferol iawn, gyda'r bwriad y gallu ailagor yr ail wythnos ym mis Ionawr, ond oherwydd y cyfyngiadau presennol na fydd hynny'n bosibl.

Gobeithio, pan fydd pethau'n gwella, y gallwn agor a chroesawu pobl yn ôl i Caffi Ni.

Byddaf yn postio ar safleoedd cymunedol Llanddona, Biwmares a Llandegfan felly daliwch ati i edrych. Ar ran Pwyllgor Yr Hen Ysgol, Neuadd Bentref Llanddona: diolch o galon i bawb am eich cefnogaeth trwy'r amser caled 'mha. Cadewch yn saff!

Caffi Ni In November Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall decided to open Caffi Ni on Thursday and Friday so that people in the area could come and have a chat and enjoy a panad and cake. The first week was a great success so we decided to do a soup lunch £5.00 to include soup, cake and a cuppa. Everyone felt safe as we had covered all the COVID-19 regulations.

It was so good to hear people chatting and laughing and meeting new people. A local

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cycling group came as did a walking group. We closed the week before Christmas as we knew everyone would be preparing for the very unusual festivities, with a view that we could reopen the second week in January, but due to the present restrictions that will not be possible.

Hopefully when things improve we can open and welcome people back to Caffi Ni. We shall be posting on the Llanddona, Beaumaris and Llandegfan community sites so please keep looking. On behalf of Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall we would like to thank you all through this very difficult time. Keep safe!

Pwyllgor Parti'r Henoed Llanddona

Sefydlwyd Pwyllgor Parti'r Henoed Llanddona ym 1972: cael diwrnodau i gymdeithasu wrth gael rhywbeth bach i fwyta a phanad yn yr Hen Neuadd Bentref. Weithiau gyda'r plant o'r ysgol gynradd yn ei diddori. Traddodiad arall fydda scetch digri gan aelodau o'r Pwyllgor; wel, son am hwyl. Traddodiad o gael anrheg fach 50c yr un. Sut mae'r amser wedi newid erbyn rŵan, un preis raffl oedd 100 o sigarêts. Yn 1977, dosbarthwyd 100 o 'Jubilee coins' i bob un yn Llanddona. Yn y cinio Rhagfyr 2000 roedd cyflwyniad i Mrs Gwladys Parry, Tŷ Gwyn, Post Fistras ni yma yn Llanddona er blynyddoedd maith.

2004 penderfynwyd cael cinio Dolig poeth gyda'r trimmings i gyd. Mae'r cinio erbyn hyn wedi mynd o nerth i nerth ers hynny, gyda'r cinio cyntaf yn cael ei gynnal yn yr Hen Ysgol yn Rhagfyr 2019 gyda dros 60 yn gwledda gyda ni. Mi newidiodd y drefn i 2020, oherwydd yr COVID Dolig. Dosbarthwyd dros 80 o focsys gyda mins peis, teisen Nadolig a siocled ynddynt. Wel, am ymateb ffantastig gan bawb!

Ar ran Pwyllgor yr Henoed gai ddymuno Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi gyd yn Llanddona! Cadwch yn saff a gan obeithio cawn y fraint o drefnu cinio arall lawr yn yr Hen Ysgol yn 2021. Mi fyddan yn dathlu 50 mlynedd blwyddyn nesaf...so watch out!

Llanddona Senior Citizens Committee

Llanddona Senior Citizens Committee was established in 1972: to have days to socialise whilst having a little something to eat with a panad at the Old Village Hall. The Children from the Old Primary School would come to entertain, sometime the committee would entertain. One tradition was for each person to receive a small gift of no more than 50p. How things have changed now; one raffle prize would be 100 cigarettes. In 1977, 100 Jubilee coins were distributed to all in Llanddona. At the lunch of 2000, Mrs Gwladys Pritchard, Tŷ Gwyn, was presented with flowers and a gift for her work in Llanddona as our Postmistress for many years.

In 2004 a decision was made to prepare a hot Christmas lunch for the first time. Since then the lunch has gone from strength to strength, with the very first Christmas lunch held at yr Hen Ysgol in December 2019 with over 60 people feasting with us. The arrangements all changed for 2020, due to the COVID-19



Caffi Ni: a fleeting presence because of COVID-19...we will be back! (via Dayle Evans)

Below are a few photographs of the Christmas events at yr Hen Neuadd Bentref, and a Christmas 2020 box.



Early 1970s, yr Hen Neuadd Bentref (Llanddona Through the Ages)



1998, yr Hen Neuadd Bentref: some of the organisers (Llanddona Through the Ages)



2017, yr Hen Neuadd Bentref: obviously still having a good time! (Llanddona Through the Ages)



2020: COVID-19 may have changed everything, but the delivered boxes of Christmas goodies were a really delightful surprise! (Andrew Perrott)

pandemic. Over 80 boxes were despatched with mince pies, Christmas cake and chocolates in them. Well, what a fantastic response from everybody!

On behalf of the Senior Citizens Committee can I wish you all a Happy New Year! Keep safe and hope that we will have the pleasure of organizing another Lunch down at yr Hen Ysgol in 2021. We will be celebrating 50 years next year...so watch out!

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HOPE

© Meg Marsden

When the landscape is a mire of loss
 Then you see an egret's wing
 When your heart feels raw and hollowed out
 Then you hear a blackbird sing
 When your grief becomes a stage of love
 When your tears become a prayer
 Then the sky is vast and giving
 That's when Hope is in the air.

• • • • •
LLANGOED WI: LAST MEETING FOR NOW

Anne Lindley, Press Officer

No WI meetings for now We're sorry to have to say that WI meetings across the board are suspended for now. Watch out for announcements in the media.

Llangoed WI had its last meeting in late August. About a dozen members met up in an outdoor space; we all brought a chair, cushion, broolly and a picnic.

We sat in a big circle, safely spaced, chatted and picnicked... then the sky opened, so up brollies! Some of us went home; some slowly packed up and then went home; then there were five of us left, packing slowly but still chatting. The rain eased, then finally stopped and we sat down again, the sun came out, so we continued to chat for about an hour as the sun dried us.

Llangoed Allstars Virtual Nativity

We were very happy to take part in the Llangoed Allstars Virtual Nativity film in December. Our WI group stood on the grass at Llangoed Village Hall and sang 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing', accompanied by Sue on accordion and filmed by Wendy. We were all wearing a bit of tinsel and stood with our arms outstretched, a shared bit of fun in this weird world. It was so good to be part of the Llangoed Allstars Virtual Nativity! Read more about it in *Her Nadolig...* on page 11.



A rainbow-painted scallop shell spotted at Anglesey Bait Centre, Gallows Point, Beaumaris (Andrew Perrott)



Hope... (© Meg Marsden)



The stoic women of Llangoed WI braving the elements (Anne Lindley)

Llanddona's Phantom Pebble Painter has returned! He, or she, has been leaving pebbles here and there, brightening people's lives during the lockdown...



...found by Tilly at the end of our drive (Andrew Perrott)



...and under investigation by a curious robin (Jean Matthews)

VOLUNTEERING FOR THE NORTH WALES COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL

Adrian Drake-Lee

Hoping to find something worthwhile to do with my work experience after retirement, I found myself chatting to a nurse on the Cardiff train. She told me about the work of the North Wales Community Health Council. Each Community Health Council (CHC) consists of a few permanent members of staff and volunteers, like myself.

Volunteers are based in local teams: Conwy, Gwynedd and Anglesey, for example. Even though I live on Anglesey, I am a member of the Gwynedd team where there was a vacancy. The CHC works in partnership with NHS staff, to represent the voices of patients and carers to help develop the service and resolve any issues it finds. Unresolved complaints and concerns can be taken up by the CHC permanent staff. We publicise our work by attending events such as the Anglesey Show, and hospital open days.

We make regular visits to the three district general hospitals, community hospitals and GP surgeries, asking staff and patients for their thoughts. We hold more focused meetings to address local concerns; here are three examples:

- It is vital that the highest standards of care be met, and not be allowed to slip behind those in England, for example. On our lobbying, the CHC staff interacted directly with the Health Board and Welsh Assembly members and ministers. We now have specialist PET scanning in Wrexham for the investigation of prostate symptoms.
- Mental Health care continues to be an issue. The Anglesey and Gwynedd local committees joined together to review the Hergest Unit in Ysbyty Gwynedd Hospital in Bangor. We visited three times last year and spoke with staff about their concerns. Among other things, we highlighted the in-patient environment, which resulted in much-needed improvements, such as better décor and garden spaces.
- The service for patients with vascular diseases was centralised at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd and Bangor lost its first-class service. Through workshops attended by over 300 patients, carers and staff our efforts led the College of

Across

- 1 Tone (6)
- 4 Draft animals (6)
- 9 Listed format (7)
- 10 Make false replica (5)
- 11 Inclined (5)
- 12 Illegal (7)
- 13 Top offence (4,7)
- 18 Warship (7)
- 20 Sliced meat (5)
- 22 Say "Yes" (5)
- 23 Rower (7)
- 24 Put away (6)
- 25 Bomb (6)

Surgeons of England to inspect the service. We must ensure that diabetic foot care is delivered closer to home.

Social issues and health care are intertwined, particularly in elderly care. Many residential homes are private and so are away from our eyes. This may change. There is much more to do.

For those who wish to know more, please visit our website.

- ☎ 01248 679284/01978 356178
- 🌐 www.gogleddcymrucig.gig.cymru/ (Cymraeg)
- 🌐 www.northwaleschc.nhs.wales/ (English)
- ✉ admin@waleschc.org.uk

COVID-19 IN WALES: DATA BY COUNTY

Andrew Perrott

I wanted to look at the COVID-19 data for Wales in more detail than are presented in the main news media, so I decided to search on-line using a simple search criterion, *wales covid by county*, to see what I could find.

My search brought up several interesting sources, including *CoronavirusCymru.wales*. It presents data clearly and simply, by means of:

- Graphs
- Local authority tables
- ONS (Office for National Statistics) deaths
- Hospital statistics
- Information from Public Health Wales
- Definitions.

I found it very useful and interesting, the local authority tables particularly so.

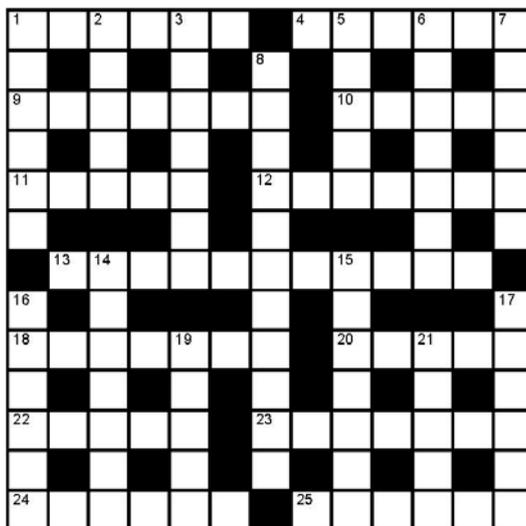
There are many other sources of useful information, including those given below.

🌐 [CoronavirusCymru.wales](http://CoronavirusCymru.wales/www.coronaviruscymru.wales/)

🌐 Local authorities in Wales: Coronavirus (COVID-19) www.wlga.wales/local-authorities-in-wales-coronavirus-covid-19

www.facebook.com/groups/llangoed

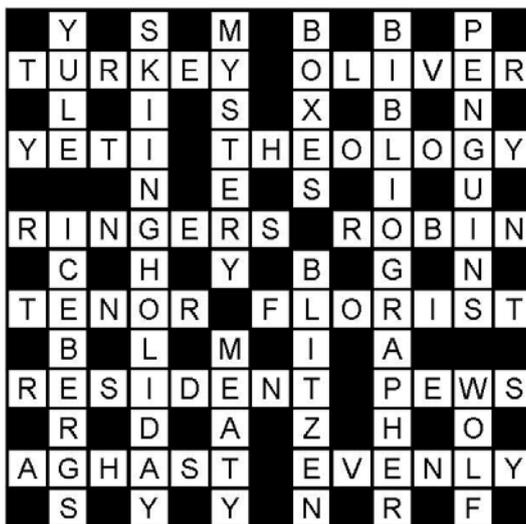
QUICK CROSSWORD NO 5



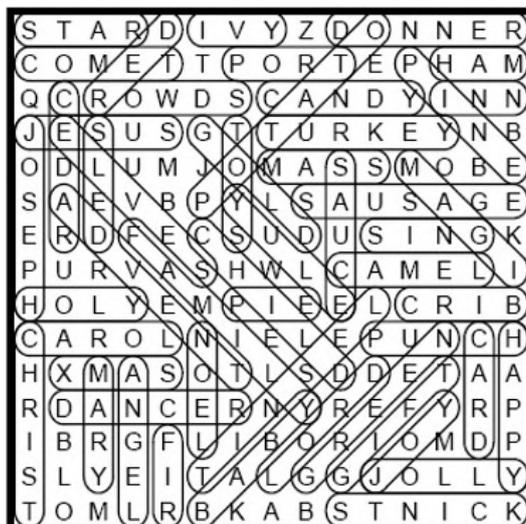
The solutions to 'the Governor's' Quick crossword no 5 (the Christmas one was no 4) will be given in *The Puffin* 36.

QUICK CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD:

SOLUTION



CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH: SOLUTION



Down

- 1 Herd animals (6)
- 2 Star sign (5)
- 3 Open (gate) (7)
- 5 GIBLETS (5)
- 6 Wind (7)
- 7 Knife protector (6)
- 8 Discussion (11)
- 14 Unnoticed (7)
- 15 Canadian province (7)
- 16 Shocked (6)
- 17 False name (6)
- 19 Overweight (5)
- 21 Punctuation mark (5)

📰 Covid-19 in Wales: What do the stats tell us?

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-52380643

📰 Coronavirus (COVID-19) www.gov.wales/coronavirus

FRUSTRATION NATURE NOTES

Roz Hattey

During a week of bright autumn days I was dismayed to discover that a sparrowhawk was decimating 'my' small visiting population of goldfinches which come to feed on sunflower seeds. It must have been flying out of the low-angle sun to ambush them, as birds of prey often do. I had found eight little piles of plucked golden, red and black feathers during that week, on walls and posts and under trees, before I realised exactly what was happening and relocated the bird-feeder.

Most of us are thrilled to see a sparrowhawk racing round our garden on a regular hunting flightpath, but we have mixed emotions when it is too successful in seizing our favourite small birds. Goldfinches do tend to gather and linger on a feeder so are easier targets than the warier flitting tits.

During November and December, it was lovely to watch a small flock (up to 20) of pale-bellied Brent geese feeding in our little estuary by Gallows Point. These smart little geese breed in Greenland and Spitsbergen. They have often been seen near Friars Bay in previous years.

This article was to have been *Reflection nature notes*, linking recent observations like these with past events or memories. That has had to be postponed, I'm afraid, as my physical abilities have been reduced by a broken wrist.

Frustratingly, I've had to move into *even slower* lane of life for a while!...so all I can offer now are a few wry comments on my sudden disability. Those of you who have dealt with similar afflictions will recognise and maybe sympathise with my frustrations. Others who have so far been lucky enough to avoid broken bones might just think how best to carry on

avoiding them, and perhaps give some thought to how they themselves would cope if their luck ran out, too.

I suppose I was careless; I was just taking a short-cut down to the beach to return a live mussel to the rocky shore! Yes, I am over 70, and yes, it was my dominant hand that ended up underneath me. I have been helping someone else (in a 'support bubble') and still need to do so.

I probably thought I was invincible: despite having had osteoporosis for many years, this is my first ever fracture.

Luckily, on the Prom that day a friend was with me, and after about 15 minutes of major shock – the pain of crashing down onto my wrist on a steep, slippery slope of concrete was excruciating and I did nearly pass out – she helped me over to her home for a lie-down and a mug of sweet tea.

No, it wasn't sensible to put off going to A&E at Ysbyty Gwynedd, but it was a public holiday and I didn't relish the prospect of waiting there for hours in the present circumstances.

Yes, that did complicate things – the bone pieces of a comminuted fracture had to be put back in place by traction – the pain of that process was reduced by a good dose of gas and air. As the charming young doctor promised, this was just like having several gin and tonics – better than Christmas Day for about ten minutes!

A week on, and I have a further five weeks with a full plaster-cast. Oh well, my snowdrops on the hill in Llandona will be out by then.

I've found that sudden disability means that:

- You need to get your mind in gear! Most importantly, don't panic, Corporal Jones! This is only temporary. You can ask for help if necessary. You usually have quite a cheerful disposition and don't often feel gloomy for long (thanks, Mum), so you'll be OK!

You can (in fact, you must) develop new skills:

- Be patient with yourself when you're trying to acquire them
- Be patient with your well-meaning friend who tries to help with everything at first, but unintentionally encourages you to feel helpless.
- If you need to scream and swear, try to wait till you're alone.
- More practically, find new ways to grip/twist/open/squeeze jar-tops, bottle-tops, cake-tins, tooth-paste tubes, etc., by employing ankles, knees or, last resort, teeth.
- Speak gently to your normally weaker hand so you don't injure it too, especially the thumb, when trying to put on socks, pull up leggings and trousers, haul on jumpers and zip up jackets.
- Shoe-laces are impossible, so get out your zip-up snow-boots.
- Accept that normal daily activities like washing and dressing will take at least five times longer than usual.
- Speak firmly to your injured, once-stronger hand which still wants to join in or take over whenever possible, through

force of habit.

- Root out or borrow larger-sized, loose-fitting vests, jumpers and pyjama tops so you can, eventually, pull them on and off over the bulky plaster-cast without twisting that painful wrist.
- Even blowing your nose or putting on a face-mask one-handed is a scramble. Try it!
- You'll probably have to abandon efforts, on safety grounds, to open tins or cut through the excessive plastic packaging on many food items (oh, and by the way, don't try getting very hot things out of your oven with one hand – the hot inner door will only swing back and burn you!).

- As always, night-time is the worst – where to put that great, heavy, rough-coated plastered arm and how to avoid knocking yourself out or falling out of bed as you flail about and try to turn over. Don't expect to feel well-rested in the morning – just get on with another day.

Other positive thoughts:

- As the smiling nurse said, "Never mind, it could have been worse; it could have been your hip!" Quite.
- Think of friends, and many others, with much more difficult challenges to face: bereavement, long-COVID, cancer, delayed surgery, mental illness and permanent disability.
- Remember to exercise: wiggle and stretch those stiff, swollen fingers and thumb on your incarcerated hand, but also exercise the whole arm, carefully, to avoid a frozen shoulder or creaky elbow.
- Extend exercise gradually to the whole body, to avoid bad back, loss of balance or confidence. Do some of your simple Pilates exercises daily ('Pilates Anglesey with Angie' on Facebook will keep you on the straight and narrow; thanks Angie!) and get out for short walks, if it's not icy, to help keep you sane.

Be positive! Get those New Year Resolutions/ plans back in order and look ahead.



Pale-bellied Brent geese in flight (birdguides.com)



15 June 2020: through the kitchen window at breakfast-time: a sparrowhawk, about 30' away. My camera happened to be on the kitchen table and I had just enough time to take one photograph before it saw me and flew off (Andrew Perrott)



24 July 2016: goldfinches feeding on dandelion seeds in the lawn (Andrew Perrott)

Finally, thank your lucky stars that you live in such a beautiful, interesting and friendly place! Our corner of Anglesey has so much to offer...

CLWB GARDIO LLANGOED GARDENING CLUB

Jean Whitehead

A very Happy New Year to all Clwb Garddio Llangoed Gardening Club members, and I hope you enjoyed Christmas. We must be positive and believe that 2021 is going to be a better year for mankind. As far as nature and our gardens are aware this year is no different from the last, and already we have signs of spring...snowdrops almost here, daffodil leaves poking through the soil and moles creating havoc in the lawns! If you walk down the Glen, there are masses of ramsons foliage bursting forth: lovely signs of hope!

In normal times we meet on the third Monday of the month at

7.30pm in Llangoed Village Hall, and we look forward to seeing all our existing members; there will be a warm welcome to new members as well.

For more information please contact Ann Donlan on 07919 031403 or Lyn Gallagher on 07857 697572. Ann and Lyn will be in touch when we are all able to meet again...until then, stay safe and take care!

• • • • •

PROFI Y BYD NATURIOL DROS EICH HUNAIN GYDA CWLWM SEIRIOL/EXPERIENCING THE NATURAL WORLD AT FIRST HAND WITH CWLWM SEIRIOL

Delyth Phillipps, Swyddog Prosiect/
Project Officer

Profi y byd naturiol dros eich

hunain Hyd yn oed yn nyfnderoedd y gaeaf, gall y byd naturiol barhau i godi calon. Os ydym yn gwisgo ar gyfer y tywydd, gall cerdded drwy fan gwyrdd fod yn wobrwyl iawn. Ddoe, oedais i wrando ar gân hyfyrd llwyd y berth a gwylio bronwen y dŵr yn chwilio am fwyd yn yr afon. Rwyf hefyd wedi mwynhau golygfeydd gwych o'r gnozell fraith fwyaf yn ddiweddar. Os ydym yn cadw ein llygaid a'n clustiau ar agor, pwy a wŷr beth allwn ei weld.

Mae prosiect Cwlwm Seiriol yn ymwneud â chodi ymwybyddiaeth o fannau gwyrdd lleol a chysylltu â chymunedau lleol i greu cyfleoedd i bobl brofi'r byd naturiol drostynt eu hunain a dysgu mwy am reoli cadwraeth.

Cyfyngodd pandemig COVID-19 ar ein gallu i ddarparu'r rhaglen yr oeddem wedi'i gobeithio ar gyfer 2020, fodd bynnag bu i ni addasu a chyflawni cryn dipyn yn ystod y flwyddyn. Roeddem eisiau rhannu rhai o'r uchafbwyntiau gyda chi a rhoi syniad i chi o beth i'w ddisgwyl eleni.

Rydym bob amser yn awyddus i gasglu eich barn a syniadau a chynhaliwyd arolwg cymunedol ar-lein ym mis Gorffennaf. Gofynnodd yr arolwg hwn gwestiynau ynghylch sut oeddech wedi ymgysylltu â mannau gwyrdd yn ystod y cyfnod clo cyntaf, sut oedd hyn wedi bod o fudd i chi a pha weithgareddau yr hoffech i'r prosiect eu cynnig wrth symud ymlaen.

Mewn ymateb i'r hyn a ddywedoch, rydym yn bwriadu datblygu a hyrwyddo mwy o lwybrau cerdded lleol, trefnu rhaglen o sgysiau ar-lein yn cynnig cyfleoedd i ddysgu mwy am fflora a ffawna'r ardal a, phan fydd amgylchiadau yn caniatáu, cynnal mwy o ddiwyddiadau yn canolbwyntio ar y teulu ynghyd â gweithgareddau gydag ysgolion a cholegau.

Ailgychwynnodd y sesiynau gwirfoddoli ym mis Awst ond ar ffurf fymryn yn wahanol gyda mesurau diogel o ran COVID-19 yn eu lle a oedd yn cynnwys cyfyngu ar niferoedd. Ar y cyd ag Wild Elements, menter gymdeithasol wedi ymrwmo i gael pobl i fwynhau'r awyr agored a chysylltu â natur, mae'r prosiect wedi bod yn cynnal dwy sesiwn wirfoddoli, ymarferol bob dydd Mawrth, un yn y bore ac un yn y prynhawn.

puffinpages@gmail.com

Pwrpas y sesiynau hyn, sydd wedi cael eu gohirio unwaith eto am y tro, oedd cynnal tasgau gwarchod ymarferol, dysgu sgiliau newydd a bod yn egniol yn yr awyr agored. Cafwyd llawer o hwyl, a chrëwyd ffrindiau newydd.

Mae'r cyfranogwyr wedi bod yn gwneud pob math o dasgau a sylwyd ar y gwahaniaeth a wnaed gyda sylwadau cadarnhaol yn cael eu gwneud ar dudalen Facebook Cwlwm Seiriol. Yn ogystal â chyflawni'r tasgau hyn, mae gwirfoddolwyr hefyd wedi cael cyfle i ddysgu am ffyngau gydag arbenigwr lleol, cynnal arolygon blodau gwyllt a chwilio am nythod llygod yr ŷd â throi eu llaw at wehyddu helyg a chrefftau traddodiadol eraill. Yn anffodus, mae'r sesiynau hyn wedi cael eu gohirio am y tro ond byddant yn aildechrau cyn gynted ag y bydd amgylchiadau yn caniatáu.

O ran ein gwaith ar lwybrau troed, mae'r prosiect yn cydweithio â'r cynghorau cymuned a Thîm Llwybr Troed Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn i ddarparu gwelliannau i seilwaith sy'n cydbwysu anghenion byd natur a phobl. Mae ychydig o waith eisoes wedi cael ei wneud ar lwybr cerdded cylchol Sant Seiriol gyda mwy o waith yn yr arfaeth. Mae gwaith hefyd yn mynd rhagddo ar greu lwybr cerdded cylchol newydd i gysylltu ardal breswyl Llandegfan â gwarchodfa natur leol Cyttir Mawr.

Ym mis Awst, bu i ni gydweithio â Plantlife Cymru i sefydlu Grŵp Dolydd Ynys Môn. Pwrpas y grŵp hwn yw dwyn ynghyd pobl sydd â diddordeb mewn sefydlu dolydd neu sy'n dymuno dysgu mwy am reoli'r math hwn o gynefin i rannu gwybodaeth a phrofiadau. Mae'r grŵp yn cyfarfod yn fisol ar-lein ac rydym yn trefnu siaradwr i siarad am bwnac o'u dewis. Mae un ymweliad maes wedi bod â Gwarchodfa Natur Tir Comin Llanddona a Llaniestyn hefyd i ddysgu am y gwaith a wneir yno.

Mae Canolfan Iechyd Biwmares sy'n gwasanaethu'r rhan fwyaf o boblogaeth Seiriol yn gefnogol iawn o'r mentrau Iechyd Gwyrdd a thros y flwyddyn ddiwethaf, mae wedi

gweithio â'r prosiect i sefydlu cynllun Presgripsiynu Gwyrdd a dreialwyd rhwng mis Medi a mis Rhagfyr 2020. Nod y sesiynau hyn yw darparu buddion iechyd a llesiant drwy weithgareddau mewn coetiroedd. Cyfeirir cyfranogwyr at y rhaglen drwy feddyg teulu.

Cynhaliwyd y rhaglen beilot yng ngwarchodfa natur leol Aberlleiniog yn Llangoed a chafodd cyfranogwyr eu cyflwyno i sgiliau byw yn y gwyllt a cherfio coed wrth ganiatáu amser ar gyfer ffurfio cysylltiadau cymdeithasol newydd. Sylwodd cyfranogwyr ar welliant yn eu hiechyd a llesiant o fod allan yn yr awyr agored, yn egniol ac mewn cysylltiad ag eraill. Pan fydd y cyfyngiadau cyfredol yn cael eu llacio, bydd y rhaglen yn derbyn atgyfeiriadau newydd.

Bydd ein cyfres o sgysiau ar-lein yn parhau gyda'r nesaf yn cael ei chynnal ar ddydd Mercher 24 Chwefror gyda Jean Matthews a fydd yn dweud popeth wrthym am famaliaid a sut



Bronwen y dŵr yn chwilio am fwyd/Dipper searching for food (Andy Shots)



Sesiwn rhagnodi gwyrdd, Aberlleiniog: rhoi sgiliau newydd ar waith/Green prescribing session, Aberlleiniog: putting new skills into practice (Delyth Phillipps)



Sesiwn rhagnodi gwyrdd, Aberlleiniog: dysgu am goetiroedd/Green prescribing session, Aberlleiniog: learning about woodlands (Delyth Phillipps)

i'w cofnodi. Rydym hefyd yn edrych ar gynnal cwrs ar-lein am dyfu helyg ar gyfer gwehyddu yn fuan. Os hoffech gael eich hysbysu am ddigwyddiadau a gweithgareddau, anfonwch e-bost atom yn cwlwmseiriol@mentermon.com.

Experiencing the natural world at first hand Even in the depths of winter the natural world can still delight. If we dress for the weather, a walk through a green space can reap great rewards. Yesterday, I paused to listen to a dunnock singing and watched a dipper searching for food in the river. I have also enjoyed some great views of great spotted woodpeckers recently. If we keep our eyes and ears open who knows what we might spot.

The Cwlwm Seiriol project is about raising awareness of local green spaces and liaising with local communities to create opportunities for people to experience the natural world at first hand and to learn more about conservation management.

The COVID-19 pandemic compromised our ability to deliver the programme we had planned during 2020, nevertheless we adapted and quite a lot was achieved during the year. We wanted to share some of the highlights with you and give you some idea of what to expect this year.

We are always keen to gather your thoughts and ideas and a community survey was carried out on-line in July. This asked questions regarding how you had engaged with green spaces during the first lockdown period, how this had benefitted you and what activities you would like the project to offer moving forward.

In response to what you said, we intend to develop and promote more local walking routes, organise a programme of on-line talks offering opportunities to learn more about the flora and fauna of the area and, when conditions allow, hold more family-focused events plus activities with schools and colleges.

The volunteering sessions resumed in August but in a slightly different format with COVID-safe measures in place that included restricting numbers. In association with Wild Elements, a social enterprise dedicated to getting people outdoors and connecting with nature, the project has been delivering two practical volunteering sessions every Tuesday, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The purpose of these sessions, which have been paused again for the time being, was to carry out practical conservation tasks, learn new skills and get active outdoors. A lot of fun was had, and new friendships formed.

The participants have been carrying out all manner of tasks and the difference made has been noticed with positive comments being made on the Cwlwm Seiriol Facebook page. As well as carrying out these tasks, the volunteers have also had opportunities to learn about fungi with a local expert, carried out wildflower surveys and looked for harvest mouse nests as well as trying their hand at willow weaving and other traditional crafts. Unfortunately, these sessions have been

paused for the time being but will resume as soon as conditions allow. In terms of our footpath work, the project collaborates with the community councils and the Isle of Anglesey County Council Footpath Team to provide infrastructure improvements that balances the needs of nature and people. Some work has already been carried out on the St Seiriol circular walking route with more planned. Work is also progressing on creating a new circular walking route to link the residential area of Llandegfan with the Cytir Mawr local nature reserve.

In August, we teamed up with Plantlife Cymru to establish an Anglesey Meadows Group. The purpose of this group is to bring together people who are interested in establishing hay meadows or would like to learn more about managing this type of habitat to share knowledge and experiences. The group meets monthly on-line and we arrange a speaker to talk about a subject of their choice. There has also been one field visit to the Llanddona and Llaniestyn Commons Local Nature Reserve to learn about the work that has been carried out there.

The Health Centre in Beaumaris which serves the majority of the Seiriol population is very supportive of Green Health initiatives and over the past year has worked with the project to set up a Green Prescribing scheme which was piloted between September and December 2020. The aim of the sessions is to provide health and wellbeing benefits through woodland-based activities. Participants are referred to the programme through a GP.

The pilot programme took place at the Aberlleiniog local nature reserve in Llangoed and participants were introduced to bushcraft and wood carving skills while allowing time for new social contacts to be formed. Participants noticed an

improvement in their health and wellbeing by being outdoors, active and connected with others. When current restrictions are lifted, the programme will be accepting new referrals.

Our series of on-line talks will continue with the next one taking place on Wednesday 24 February, when Jean Matthews will tell us all about mammals and how to record them. We are also looking into running an on-line course about growing willow for weaving soon. If you would like to be kept informed about events and activities, please e-mail us at cwlwmseiriol@mentermon.com.

BOOK SALES BRING IN FIRST £500 FOR MACMILLAN NURSES

In **The Puffin** 35, readers will have seen Anglesey writer Stephen Marsden publishing *Out of my Head*, his new selection of verse, humour and short stories, with all proceeds in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. By December, he was able to send a cheque for £500 to Macmillan Cancer Support from just the first month's sales.

"Thank you to all those who bought a copy," said Stephen, "and for the warm feedback; it would be lovely to reach £1,000! If you



Sesiwn rhagnodi gwyrdd, Aberlleiniog: dysgu sgiliau newydd/Green prescribing session, Aberlleiniog: learning new skills (Delyth Phillipps)



Sending the first £500 to Macmillan Nurses... (Stephen Marsden)

fancy some relief from all things Covid, it's now on sale at the Beaumaris Art Quarter Gallery and Awen Menai bookshop in Menai Bridge at £7.50 a copy, with all proceeds continuing to go to Macmillan Cancer Support."

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FAREWELL TO SCOUSE GEORGE...

Richard Adams

George Ernest Williams ('Scouse George'), late of Beaumaris and Llangoed, was born in Liverpool in 1931, the eldest of eight children. He was raised there, and his life was shaped by the River Mersey; he and his brothers worked on the sea or in the docks and transport, which is how he spent most of his working life.

George trained originally as a merchant seaman and travelled the world for a few years before finding the attractions of Ena too great to resist, and they married and settled in the Birkenhead area, ultimately moving on retirement to Beaumaris and then Llangoed.

George worked mainly as a long-distance lorry driver, and although life on the road suited him in some ways, as his family grew older he gave that up and worked as a health and safety officer in the chemical industry until retirement.

He and Ena had two children: Linda and George. Both lived in North Wales for many years, which partly prompted George and Ena to move here. The younger George had a number of health problems, and despite his athletic life – cycling and walking – sadly died about 5 years ago. By this time, Linda had moved to Staffordshire to be near the rest of her family, which is where George and Ena moved when they needed full-time care.

George was always good at earning a few quid on the side; from his childhood he found tricks to earn pocket money, such as small delivery jobs and swimming under New Brighton pier to entertain tourists. He was good at DIY of all kinds, from building his own garage (with bricks 'cheap from a mate') to metalwork and carpentry. For a long time he had a busy sideline in converting vans to campers, an industry that he brought with him to Anglesey and continued until about 2012. He was a regular customer at Bill's Breads for his favourite custards, the barber's shop in the Bulkeley, and Nan's place, where he made hard work for Cathy with his requirements for unusually-shaped cushions to fit in the corners of camper vans. He liked to change his cars often, and had a knack of buying cheap and selling dear, usually via Queensferry car auctions, where he was well known. About 7 or 8 years ago Ena began to show signs of Alzheimer's disease, and gradually needed more and more care, resulting first in their move to Pont y Brenin and then, when Ena's needs became too great, she needed residential care, moving to a care home near Linda in Staffordshire. George ultimately followed her, firstly into a sheltered apartment, then later

joining her in the care home, where he died on 22 December 2020.

In the business world, George would have been known as a master networker: he always had a mate who could do this for you or get something cheap for you.

He was well known in the Liverpool Arms, along with his much-loved brother Davey: they made a great double act till Davey's death two years ago. However, when Ena's illness advanced further, he didn't like to stray far from Llangoed, especially once he gave up driving. He had an endless fund of humour and wit, and told great stories about his younger life – and indeed about his older life too, as he always seemed to sail close to the wind but never quite capsized. George was always good company, generous, and full of fun, and made our lives feel better whenever we met him.



George Williams and his great-grand-daughter (Linda Williams)



Jill presents the cheque to Peter and Pat (Jill Anker)

• • • • •
BLOOMING GREAT SUCCESS FOR MARIE CURIE

Jill Anker

Marie Curie recently benefited to the tune of £200 as a result of donations received for flowers grown on a plot at Beaumaris Allotments. Marie Curie is the UK's leading end-of-life charity. It provides frontline nursing and hospice care, a free support line and a wealth of information and support on all aspects of dying, death and bereavement.

Local fundraisers Peter and Pat Thomas received the cheque from plotholder Jill Anker. Jill has a 'cutting garden' on her plot and enjoys growing flowers which she shares with friends and visitors to the site in return for a donation to the charity. Peter also has a plot on the site, and he and his wife work hard fundraising for Marie Curie in their spare time. Like most charities, this year has been a really difficult one, so the money was gratefully accepted.

Marie Curie
www.mariecurie.org.uk/

• • • • •
HER NADOLIG...

Wendy Davies

...or how the *Gŵyl Rithwir y geni gan Allstars Llangoed Allstars Virtual Nativity* came to be...

"I hope Llangoed church will find something to cheer us up this Christmas," said Gareth P when we saw him on a dog walk during lockdown. "We will all need it this year."

We like a challenge! Usually the village turns out for the Café Carols in the Village Hall, with mince pies, mulled wine and craft stalls while enjoying Christmas music and readings.

Not this year...then we thought...why can't we have a *Virtual Nativity*? We're all using Zoom and YouTube now... We can't all be together to film it, but if everyone does a little bit we can put it all together into a *Village Christmas* video. The fun will be in the making of it and everyone can watch it at home, on Facebook or YouTube...

It started with a *storyboard*: photographs of our beautiful village on Ynys Môn are followed by little clips telling the Nativity story in words and music, ending with a blessing of the Village Christmas tree. In no time there was an enthusiastic Allstars cast of local residents, including:

- Delyth, our inspiring Community Councillor
- Morus the donkey, and his owner, Dr Hywel
- Sheepdog Nan and the Cefn Farm Texels
- Baby Jesus (Mabon was conveniently born in the first lockdown)
- Cylch Meithrin
- The Year 5/6 Bubble of pupils from Llangoed school
- Llangoed WI
- Llangoed Church congregation
- Rev Robert and Rev Lesley
- John Briggs, our local photographer
- The Seiriol Wild (in all senses!) Swimmers
- Our postie and recycling men
- Members of Seindorf Biwmares

and many other Llangoed village residents...and Siôn Corn paid an early flying visit especially to deliver the village Christmas tree.

Gradually we collected the clips that people made on their phones, and Ellen Davies and Gareth Hughes (Mary and Joseph) put it all together. The best bit is that it meant people have been talking to each other about it (socially-distanced, of course), and enjoying working on their little bits.

Sadly, Gareth P, who inspired the idea of doing something to cheer us up, is recovering from a COVID-delayed heart valve replacement so we didn't get to include his guitar solo – next year, Gareth! – but we made it to S4C's *Prynhawn Da*, and we gave you a shout out!

Dw'i mor hapus achos roedd llawer o bobl yn y pentre – hen ac ifanc, Cymraes/Cymro, Dysgwyr a Saeson – yn medru ymuno.

Watch the 20-minute video, *Llangoed Xmas community film 2020*, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwWyNJ8UDT8&feature=youtu.be.

BANGOR ROTARY CLUB: SOME CREATIVE FUNDRAISING

Pauline Kenyon, Bangor Rotary Club Press Officer

As with most service organisations during the COVID-19 restrictions, Bangor Rotary Club has been



So atmospheric...Tomos as the shepherd (Lucy Low)



Socially-distanced Angels (via Anne Lindley)



Two busy Rotarians! Ian Thompson and his *Traîneau Citroën* (Citroën Sleigh) of goodies and Pauline Kenyon, ready to deliver the gifts for Santa to distribute (Kate Maskall)



This is the 'Santa Walk Past' where the toys which Bangor Rotary donated were distributed with gifts from the Maesgeirchen Community Partnership.. there was a properly socially-distanced walk-through to see Santa! (Kate Maskall)

unable to undertake its usual fund raising activities for nearly a year. Members decided that, in these difficult times, funds were desperately needed to support a range of struggling local charities and communities.

Existing funds were distributed to a number of local charitable groups, with significant amounts given to the Bangor Food Bank, St David's Hospice and Marie Curie Cancer Care among others, but funds needed to be replenished to continue to support Bangor's service to the community – and so creative thinking was required!

Thanks to the outstanding support of Morgan Evans auctioneers, and Simon Bower and his team, an on-line charity auction was organised in November. Rotarians searched their homes for suitable lots, and Morgan Evans did the community proud, enabling nigh on £1,000 to be raised and earmarked for local charities, whilst many heirlooms were donated as Rotarians searched and decluttered their homes!

Additionally a 'wine buff' Rotarian and helpers set up on-line wine-tasting events, distributing selected varieties for the exercise with profits going into our funds. There was an excellent take up, especially as a previous dedicated 'palette education' Rotary zoom meeting had taught members how to sample expertly.

Additionally, there have been some quizzes, and many Rotarians have donated the price of their cancelled meeting meals (which they couldn't eat, of course) to swell the funds.

To try to spread some real Christmas cheer, Bangor Rotarians have also become 'Santa's Elf Helpers' this year, as COVID-19 has restricted elf travel from the North Pole! Members have donated a mass of children's festive gifts for Father Christmas to distribute to youngsters in a local community to help make their Christmas just a little merrier in a difficult year.

SEIRIOL MEN'S SHED

Mike Thomas

At our Shed the social chat is often about TV programmes; a favourite with all of us is *The Repair Shop*. We are very similar: OK, our workshop is not a pretty thatched one and we don't get a huge variety of really fascinating jobs, but we've repaired and painted a boat for the Guides, and fixed the Llangoed Village Hall's noticeboard to make it

www.facebook.com/groups/llandonal

Rotary **Virtual Dog Show**
Bangor, Gwynedd

Take photographs of your pet pooches and enter them into our **Virtual Dog Show**

We're raising money in support of Guide Dogs for the Blind and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

Submit your entries before 27 February 2021

For further information, the rules and how to enter please e-mail bangorrc@gmail.com

waterproof. We've also replaced the timber on rotten benches at the sports field and replanked a table at Haulfre. These are some of our social jobs.

Like most organisations, we have overheads (our insurance costs over £500 a year, for instance), so we also do work to earn our crust; we've repaired garden furniture, doors and gates, etc. During all of this, we frequently stop for a brew and a biscuit.

Some of our members don't have the capacity to join in the work. This doesn't matter; sitting watching and joining in with the banter is fine. We will all get to sit things out eventually.

My cartoon fits with the easy eccentricities of the Men's Shed.

To the future: we hope that the constraints and miseries of COVID-19 will fade out so we can resume our happy meetings.

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A HELPING HAND DURING THE LOCKDOWNS

Mary Heeley

As a result of the COVID lockdowns something magical has happened in Rating Row, Beaumaris. In a front window, a group of animals (monkey, bear, penguin, seal, fox to name but a few) has appeared. Take the time to glimpse their daily antics; you'll be amazed at the skill that creates a different scene each day.

The animal scene is always representative of current events: during the Rugby Six Nations they were wearing their hats and cheering loudly, another time they were engrossed in playing Scrabble, but monkey had to wear his glasses. In the summer, all put on their suncream and swimsuits and flew off to sunny climes. The flight was tiring and they fell asleep in a heap. Sadly, during the snow their games resulted in admissions to A&E because all were bandaged due to broken arms and legs.

The number of props available to help the animals perform their daily tasks is quite incredible: glasses, goggles, helmets, musical instruments, caps, hats and scarves are just a few that come to mind.

The original idea for this amusing window display was to help little children who could not go to school or play with their friends; however, there's no doubt that whoever takes the time to observe the changing scene, young or old, will find their day has been lightened and a smile brought to their faces...thank you!

puffinpages@gmail.com



Members of the Men's Shed showing off their multitasking skills...drilling and thinking of other important stuff! (Mike Thomas)



Monkey and friends looking cool in the MacVicars' front window... (Andrew Perrott)



Two lovely Christmas windows in Castle Street, Beaumaris: Beau's above, and Ena's Newsagents below (Meg Marsden)



One of the signs reminding plotholders to watch out for hedgehogs on-site (Jill Anker)

HEDGEHOG HEAVEN AT BEAUMARIS ALLOTMENTS

Jill Anker

Plotholders at Beaumaris Allotments have become much more aware of the plight of hedgehogs recently.

Two injured hedgehogs were found on-site; one, unfortunately, was too badly injured, but the other, aptly named Loti, survived, thanks to the swift action of some plotholders who quickly took her to the nearby Hedgehuggles Rescue Centre. There, under the care of Sue Currie, Loti gradually recovered from her injuries and was released back onto the site under the care of Mandy (who originally found her) and Mari (whose husband Gary rushed Loti to Hedgehuggles).

One of our new plotholders, Will, made a magnificent 'hedgehog mansion' and feeding station for Loti, and we are delighted to report that she has now taken up residence on-site. CCTV cameras have caught Loti going walkabout at night and then returning to her house.

Following this success, two more rescue hedgehogs, Bella and Gizmo, have now been released by Hedgehuggles onto the site.

Gizmo is now being looked after by young Joanna and her brother David, and their grandfather built a very impressive hedgehog house for him. Bella is being cared for by Bill and Joan. It is hoped that one more rescue hedgehog, Troy, will shortly join his fellow hogs on site, being housed in another beautiful 'hedgehog mansion' built by Will.

Little Lucky Jo, who was found on the plot, underweight and with lung worm, is now on the mend and is being overwintered with Jill. They are being spaced out around the large site and we are all keeping our fingers crossed for the arrival of lots of little hoglets next year!

All those looking after the hedgehogs go every day to leave food and water out, even in some of the dreadful weather we have had recently. We are delighted to report that it looks as if other hedgehogs are also taking advantage of the feeding stations.

Signs have been erected around the site to remind plotholders to watch out for hedgehogs whilst working on their plots. All plotholders are also sent regular updates to remind them to watch out for hedgehogs when lighting bonfires, strimming, and so on. With more and more plotholders adopting organic methods of

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cultivating their plot, the idea is that Beaumaris allotments will become a perfect home for hedgehogs.

We have been able to make more plots available by dividing some large plots into smaller half plots to try to accommodate as many gardeners as possible. Although we still have a small waiting list we would welcome new applications so that we can make sure we never have an empty unused plot on the allotments.

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GREETINGS FROM AUSTRALIA

Liz Millman, Director, Learning Links International

Greetings to readers of **The Puffin** from us here in Beaumaris, Victoria.

Sorry to hear how difficult things are for you. It's OK here, but it's been a strange summer, varying from cool and wet, no fire alerts yet, then a heatwave over our holiday weekend at the end of January. COVID-wise... after 110 days in lockdown, we're now able to get on with things, but with great caution, so travel has been very limited.

The folk from the *Beaumaris: Here & There* project have kept in touch and, when the opportunity arises, we meet up, with masks on and socially-distanced... so this usually means meeting on the beach at Beaumaris or links on the phone.

Eleri Little, originally from Brynsiencyn, has lived in Beaumaris, Victoria, for many years, and always has stories to share about her time at school at Beaumaris Grammar School and the ways she helped her aunt who lived in the cottage at the base of the Marquess's column. She loves to read **The Puffin**, and it reminded her of a rhyme she recalled from her school days in the 1940s:

There is nothing quite as happy
as a puffin
When he's busy doing nothin' in
the blue.
It may strike you that a puffin
does an awful lot of nuffin
But there's nothing that a puffin
cannot do!

John Rosser keeps in touch with his mates from Beaumaris on the Beaumaris Facebook page and he loves the glorious photos that Susan Hughes posts of her walks around Beaumaris area. John lives in the hills at Healesville and he keeps active with his interest in motorbikes.

With limited options and the fact that I may be over here for far longer



Joanna and David with Gizmo ready for release (Jill Anker)

BEAUMARIS
← Here & There →



Quiet times in the Concourse at Beaumaris (Liz Millman)



The well-kept natural foreshore at Ricketts Point, Beaumaris. Local volunteers are very protective of this designated marine sanctuary (Liz Millman)



It's unusual to see the black swans flying (Liz Millman)



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than expected, through Learning Links International, friends and I have started 'Black History Friday Lunchtime Conversations' on Zoom, following up our interest in African history and our shared history.

We managed to do 12 weekly sessions before Christmas, and we are doing more sessions now in Season 2; visit www.spanglefish.com/blackhistory/ where there are links to recordings of the sessions.

The North Wales Jamaica Society now has open sessions on Zoom once a month with speakers (www.nwjsonline.com), with updates and information about our activities.

We are planning a Black History Book Club and we are developing a community research and writers group to link with the Pennants Community Research Group in Clarendon, Jamaica.

Good wishes to all and let me know if you are interested in joining any of the Zoom sessions. My e-mail is lizmillman@yahoo.co.uk.

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'THANK YOU, MEDRWN MÔN!'

We mentioned on page 2 how much **The Puffin's** finances rely on the goodwill of you, our readers, in the form of donations, and on income that it receives from advertising and sponsorship.

We're so pleased to be able to say 'thank you, Medrwn Môn' for the much-needed funding that it has allocated to us to enable us to continue printing **The Puffin** for you. This funding has come from a National Lottery grant aimed specifically at community support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

About Medrwn Môn Medrwn Môn is an independent agency whose aim is to promote and support volunteering, voluntary and community organisations by working with individuals, groups and communities on Anglesey to ensure that they play a full and prominent role in developing the potential of the island.

Medrwn Môn plays a vital role when representing the voluntary and community sector by expressing the sector's views to partnerships, local government and other statutory bodies, thus ensuring that the sector's opinion is heard.

By working in partnership with others, and by responding positively and imaginatively, Medrwn Môn aims to strengthen and empower communities throughout Anglesey.

www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/

LLANDDONA'S FOODBANK

Anglesey Foodbank/Bankbwyd Ynys Môn

When the first lockdown started in March 2020 there was a profound change in shopping habits. People turned increasingly to supermarket delivery. At first, priority was given to those who were shielding. As the supermarkets increased their capacity to deliver, fewer and fewer people visited their stores. Local businesses started delivering to their customers as well, and Seiriol Good Turn Scheme volunteers collected shopping from shops in Beaumaris to deliver to vulnerable people.

We all did what we could to minimise travel, and visits to supermarkets, but the unfortunate consequence of our good behaviour was a reduction in donations to the Anglesey foodbank made inside supermarkets. This happened just when they were most needed, as within a very short time the number of referrals to the foodbank increased sevenfold.

In Llanddona, as in other villages on Anglesey, the Community Council was asked to help by arranging places where people could donate. This was easy to set up: all that was needed was a safe site, a sign, a large pedal bin, information on the community facebook page and 'somebody in charge'. Initially, there were two sites, one near the Owain Glyndŵr pub, the other at Gorslwyd, and people in our lovely village were so, so generous. The donations were collected weekly by Sky engineers who volunteered their time and vans to collect from sites across the island and deliver them to the foodbank depot.

When the lockdown eased at the end of June there was also an easing of demand on the foodbank, although it was still more than double that in 2019. With the 'firebreak' and the run up to Christmas, there was a rapid increase in referrals. People responded wonderfully in our community: as well as food staples, we received lots of gifts for children and Christmas treats. Now we are in our second full lockdown, and demand is up sevenfold again.

At present the items most needed include tinned fruit and vegetables, rice pudding, custard, UHT whole milk and toilet rolls...although the foodbank is grateful for *any* non-perishable donations that have a long shelf life.

Everybody at Anglesey Foodbank would like to say a huge 'thank you' for all your generosity.

www.facebook.com/groups/llangoed

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Two more lovely Christmas windows in the Market Square, Beaumaris (Meg Marsden)



Two happy snowpeople, one at Beaumaris Health Centre, the other outside Paradwys, Llansadwrn (Andrew Perrott)

Anglesey Foodbank was seeded by the Trussell Trust, and opened in 2013 to ensure that no-one in our local community has to go hungry.

To find out more, please visit www.anglesey.foodbank.co.uk.

TAILPIECE: A WEARY WESTIE'S WOES IN LLANLOCKDOWN

Andrew Perrott (and, of course, Tilly Barker's dogtated piece!)

Poor Tilly has had a rough time of it since the beginning of 2021. She has a terrier problem, dry eye, which can result in sight deterioration. It won't get better, but can be arrested with drops and other forms of medication: a rest-of-life treatment.

Everything seemed to be going well before Christmas, with her left eye showing some improvement, but last month her right eye started to look sore. A visit to the vet showed that it was ulcerated. The prescribed antibiotic distressed her, so a rushed visit to the vet resulted in a change to something more powerful, and it caused no problems. It was to no avail, though; another visit to the vet towards the end of the month showed that the ulceration had worsened, another ulcer was developing, and the eye had no function: the eye would have to be removed.

Four days later, the thorough pre-operation checks showed that, astonishingly, the right eye had improved: the ulceration was lessening and healing was under way, so with luck, medication and regular checks, Tilly's right eye is safe, for the time being at least. The vets have been marvellous through this rollercoaster ride, and we'll all be watching very closely for improvements.

Tilly's now busy learning a new set of commands on the lines of *slow, stop, back, sit, wait, go* so that she doesn't hurt herself when she's out and about by bumping into things. She's learning very quickly: training a Westie involves coping with, bloody-minded stubbornness, wilfulness and selective deafness, as members of the Anglesey and Caernarfon Dog Club will know from when she was being trained, so her willingness to learn and adapt is a nice surprise. She's such a resilient little animal, and is a lesson to us all, adapting remarkably quickly to an unpleasant episode in her short life; she's just 5¼ years old.

Tilly's story of her life, and woes, in Llanlockdown is below, and you'll be able to keep up with her progress in the next number of **The Puffin**.

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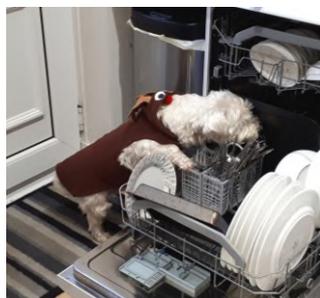
Here I am again. The Boss (he thinks!) has cornered me to make sure that I dogtate another tale about my life in Llanlockdown.

We escaped to Warrington for Christmas Day in the car...I could smell the big piece of beef in the boot...and I knew that I was going to meet my bezzie, Edie...lovely! We arrived in time for breakfast: waffles and maple syrup, which meant some lovely sticky, syrupy plates to lick...oh, yummy!...except that I had to share half the plates with Edie...nothing's perfect, is it?

Anyway, we had so much fun. Edie and I had nearly as many Christmas presents as the Boss and the rest of the family! One of them caught me on camera waiting for my prezies; the Boss managed to get into the picture as well, which was a shame because I'd had a haircut a few days before and looked very smart; at least I think that I looked smart, although my whiskers are a bit of a problem.

The Boss forgot to dress me, but Edie was wearing her Christmas outfit; I really don't know *what* she thought that she looked like, but it didn't seem to bother her. Edie's a greedy little so-and-so and thinks nothing of licking everything that goes in that noisy, splashy white cupboard thing in the kitchen before somebody closes the door. I used to do that once...when I was a pup...I'm a big girl now.

I was so tired when we got back home on



Christmas Night that I had to spend a few days recovering in some of my armchairs.

After that, everything went downhill a bit. I've been having trouble with my left eye for quite a time now, and it probably won't get much better. The Boss has been putting lots of drops in my eyes because they're often bunged up and need cleaning. I don't mind that too much, but I *hate* it when he decides to go the whole hog and wash the fur round my eyes and, worst of all...my *whiskers*! Oh, it's horrible, even though he does say nice things to me when he's washing me.

I've not been very well since Christmas. I think that I must have bumped into something sometime early last month because I've had an ulcerated right eye, and can see very little at the moment. The Boss has told you all about it already, and about my nearly losing the eye. I do have a good nose, though, which is just as well, and he's teaching me all sorts of new words. I've decided to be a good girl and learn them properly...I really wasn't very obedient at training when I was a pup, and mostly he let me get away with it because I'd flap my ears at him and make people laugh. He's putting even more drops in my eyes now, and I have drops in my food as well...and he puts fromage frais on it, which is so nice. He's being very kind to me, but I know that he'll catch me when I least expect it and make me dogtate some more stuff to him before long...

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

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EDITORIAL POLICY

- 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; we simply don't have the time to do so.
- 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 enable its production.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION DATES

- We will do our best to reply to 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.
- The word count per column is c.300 (three-column page) and c.500 (two-column page).
- The Puffin** is published in **February** (submissions by 10 January), **May** (submissions by 10 April), **August** (submissions by 10 July) and **November** (submissions by 10 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 donate by bank transfer, the details are: bank: **NatWest**; account name: **The Puffin**; account number **88609782**; sort code **54-10-01**.

SPONSORSHIP, ADVERTISING

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

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

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