

# The Puffin

**FREE**

LLANGOED

**COMMUNITY MAGAZINE**

GLANRAFON

**PUBLISHED QUARTERLY**

PENMON

**NUMBER 36 MAY 2021**

BEAUMARIS

LLANFAES

LLANDDONA

**FREE**

ON-LINE

## SPRING IS SPRUNG

Readers are bound to remember this childhood rhyme...

Spring is sprung

The grass is riz

I wonder where the birdie is

The birdie is upon the wing

No, that's absurd

The wing is on the little bird

In mid-April spring really was springing, in spite of the unseasonably cold weather, sunny though it was. Daffodils, primroses, carpets of celandine, you name it, all were brightening the verges and woodland to cheer everybody up.

We may have been locked-down on and off for months now, but we're lucky to be in a beautiful rural part of North Wales, the 'Pretty Pointy Piece of Anglesey', with the ability to get out and about, even if that's just a few steps in the lanes nearby.

It's been possible for a lot of us to venture out, applying the principles of social distancing, of course (standing on opposite side of the road and shouting at one another!).

If you go to pages 4-5 and 12-13 you'll see the sort of photographs that you can take with an ordinary smartphone when you're out and about. You don't even need the latest super-duper model; all of the flowers were taken with a six-year-old mid-range model. So...make the most of your beautiful locality and look closely at it, because it's astonishing what a simple bit of pointing-and-shooting will produce.

**Our supporters and outlets** 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 heartfelt 'thank you' to those of you who sent us some very welcome donations which means that **The Puffin's** head is securely above water for the immediate future; you will know who you are!

COVID-19 regulations and social distancing principles mean that we're still unable to deliver **The Puffin** door-to-door in its

original area, but it's available at the following outlets:

### Beaumaris

- 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 (lobby), Castle Street, Beaumaris LL58 8AP
- **NEW** ABC Service Station, Gallows Point, Beaumaris LL58 8YH

### Llanddona

- The Owain Glyndŵr, Llanddona LL58 8UF

### Llangoed

- McColl's, China House, Llangoed LL58 8NW

**Note** Please bear in mind that the opening of some of these outlets may be affected by COVID-19 regulations.

## COVID-19 INFORMATION

Even though life looks as if it's inching towards some semblance of normality, it looks as if any COVID-19-related information that we give will change day by day, so we'll simply 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/](http://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.

## LOOKING OUT FOR OTHERS

**Uncertain times ahead** We're repeating text from **The Puffin** 35 because it's important: none of us has any idea about what's in store for us. There's a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel, so to speak, but we still face uncertain times.

The national vaccination programme has gone really well, and sets an example for the rest of Europe, if not for the world.



The Puffin family are expert at publicising themselves! Here's one of the family, beautifully pictured on the stern of *Island Princess*, one of the Starida Puffin Island Cruises fleet, at Gallows Point last month (Andrew Perrott)



## ABC Service Station

Gallows Point, Beaumaris, Anglesey LL58 8YH

☎ 01248 810359

🌐 [www.facebook.com/ABC-Service-Station-947345708674543/](http://www.facebook.com/ABC-Service-Station-947345708674543/)

**The Puffin** says 'Thank you, ABC Service Station, for supporting us!'



All that we can do is keep our fingers crossed and hope that the successful mass-vaccination programme means that we're on course for a steady return to a relatively normal life during the course of the year.

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

Some of us have passed through the various lockdowns with little or no difficulty, considering being locked down again as no more than another inconvenience, whereas 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 advances and retreats with a mix of dismay, anticipation 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 spring, a time when the fragile or vulnerable might find it 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 don't hesitate to seek help and advice if you, or others, need it.

Now that shops, galleries and other visitor attractions are beginning to open up, look out for what might be on offer. The fact that we might have to observe social distancing and wear a mask needn't be a hindrance to out-and-abouting, visiting places and seeing what's on offer.

**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/](http://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.mind.org.uk/](http://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/](http://www.monagwyneddmind.co.uk/)  
☎ 01286 685279  
✉ [info@monagwyneddmind.co.uk](mailto:info@monagwyneddmind.co.uk)

**Other sources of help** The BBC has a useful *Your Mental Health Toolkit* which introduces itself thus: 'Whether it is everyday tips, sounds to relax your mind, strategies to cope with parenting right now or films to get you talking, we are here to help you look after yourself and your loved ones'. It has an introduction by Alex Scott, and covers all manner of topics, including:

- Talking about mental health
- Essential everyday tips
- Inspiring personal stories
- Escaping and relaxing
- Activities to boost your mood
- Looking after yourself and your family

📺 **Headroom: Your mental health toolkit**  
[www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/YfRzhXDKSZQxFVn30TIXBj/your-mental-health-toolkit](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/YfRzhXDKSZQxFVn30TIXBj/your-mental-health-toolkit)

There's also an information and support page with links to all manner of useful links and information.

📺 **Headroom: Information and Support**  
[www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/1qwRrh0980VfD6zG3c0MFb6/information-and-support](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/1qwRrh0980VfD6zG3c0MFb6/information-and-support)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WHERE

Things were happening in the run up to Christmas (and what a long time ago that seems), even if they changed at the last minute or were cancelled.

Things are now beginning to happen again, with shops open and other businesses looking to open in the near future. We'll give more news about what's happening where as soon as we're able to do so. In the meantime, COVID-19 rules and regulations still govern life, so word of mouth and social media will probably be the quickest way to learn about events as they start to take place.

It's so good to see people starting to get out and about again...here's hoping that it continues!

## CLWB GARDIO LLANGOED GARDENING CLUB

Jean Whitehead

It's hard to believe that it's now twelve months since Clwb Garddio Llangoed Gardening Club last met, but we hope it won't be too long before we can resume our meetings. They may be in a different format, but we look forward to seeing everyone again.

Spring is in the air, and we've had an abundance of daffodils, in our gardens and on the roadside verges, and bluebells are starting to show. The trees are just starting to show their lovely first hints of spring green, celandines are a carpet of gold and green throughout Lleiniog woods, with primroses and wood anemones coming through as well. William Wordsworth wrote a poem about the celandine which he so loved. It begins...

There is a flower, the Lesser Celandine,  
That shrinks, like many more, from cold and rain;  
And, the first moment that the sun may shine  
Bright as the sun himself, 'tis out again!

There's lots of tidying up to be done in our gardens, with cutting down and dividing plants.

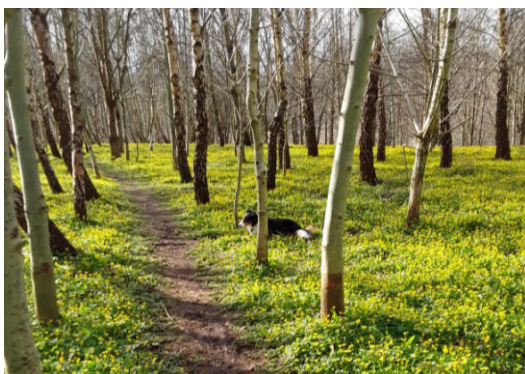
Alas, we now have to pay for our green bins for recycling garden waste, so compost heaps and bins are now essential.



Capel Peniel, Llanddona: a heartwarming Easter placard on the gate (Andrew Perrott)



Sticky Sid was spotted recently outside the Beaumaris Art Quarter Gallery in Church Street, hard at work in the sun (Andrew Perrott)



Early spring in Lleiniog woods: leafless birches and a carpet of celandines (Jean Whitehead)



We shall contact all of our members when we know exactly when we can meet again.

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 "keep on gardening"!

## STATWS DI-BLASTIG I BIWMARES/PLASTIC-FREE STATUS FOR BEAUMARIS

Cynghorydd/Councillor Carwyn Jones

**Statws di-blastig** Mae Biwmares wedi derbyn statws di-blastig: y dref gyntaf yng ngogledd orllewin Cymru i wneud hynny, fel rhan o ymgyrch elusen forol flaenllaw.

Sefydlwyd cynllun Biwmares Di-blastig y llynedd gan grŵp o bobl lleol a oedd yn awyddus i leihau defnydd o blastig ymhlith busnesau a thirgion y dref.

Flwyddyn yn ddiweddarach, mae'r dref wedi sicrhau achrediad 'cymuned ddi-blastig' gan Surfers Against Sewage (SAS). Mae'r statws yn cydnabod y gwaith sydd wedi'i wneud i gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth yn lleol ac i annog pobl i feddwl am eu defnydd o blastig.

Y cam nesaf yw annog mwy o fusnesau i gymryd rhan yn y cynllun. Ac mae hyd yn oed yn fwy pwysig rŵan gydag adroddiadau bod cynnydd mawr mewn gwastraff plastig yn sgil COVID-19.

Dywedodd Cynghorydd Seiriol, Carwyn Jones: "Rydym ni falch iawn ein bod wedi derbyn y statws yma gan SAS. Hoffwn longyfarch pawb sy'n gysylltiedig â'r cynllun, yn enwedig y busnesau a'r grŵp sydd wedi bod mor weithgar a brwdfrydig. Mi fydd yn her ceisio bod yn gyfan gwbl ddi-blastig, ond mae'n wych bod pobl Biwmares wedi dangos cymaint o ymrwymiad i leihau'r gwastraff yma o'n hamgylchedd."

**Plastic-free status** Beaumaris has become the first town on the island and in north west Wales to be awarded 'plastic-free' status by a leading marine conservation charity.

The Plastic-Free Beaumaris campaign was established in 2019 by a group of local people keen to reduce single-use plastic amongst the town's businesses and residents.

Now the town has achieved 'plastic-free community' accreditation from Surfers Against Sewage (SAS). It recognises the work which has been done to increase awareness and encourage people to think about their use of plastic.

The next step is to seek to encourage more businesses to get on board. This is even more important now with reports that there has been a huge increase in single-use plastic in the wake of COVID-19.

Seiriol Councillor, Carwyn Jones, said: "We're delighted to have received the plastic-free award from SAS. I'd like to

[www.facebook.com/groups/llangoed](https://www.facebook.com/groups/llangoed)

congratulate everyone involved, especially the businesses and community groups that have been so enthusiastic and put so much effort into it. It will be a challenge to be totally plastic-free, but it is great that the people of Beaumaris have shown such commitment to eliminating plastic waste from our environment."

Beaumaris awarded plastic-free status  
[www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/beaumaris-awarded-plastic-free-communities-status/](http://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/beaumaris-awarded-plastic-free-communities-status/)

Surfers against sewage  
[www.sas.org.uk/](http://www.sas.org.uk/)

## PIER BIWMARES YN EDRYCH YN 'RHAGOROL' WEDI I'R GWAITH DDOD I BEN/BEAUMARIS PIER LOOKING 'FANTASTIC' AS WORKS COMPLETED

Cynghorydd/Councillor Carwyn Jones

**Pier Biwmares yn edrych yn 'rhagorol'** Mae gwaith cynnal a

chadw ar Bier Biwmares wedi ei gwblhau gan sicrhau bod yr atyniad lleol hwn yn edrych yn well nag erioed.

Rhoddwyd caniatâd i gcontractwyr barhau â'r prosiect, werth £200,000, yn ystod cyfnod clo y Coronafeirws yn ystod misoedd yr haf, wrth sicrhau cyn lleied o aflonyddwch a phosib i fusnesau.

Sicrhodd y Cyngor Sir ddyfodol tymor hir y pier yn 2012 ar ôl buddsoddi £5.6m er mwyn ailwampio'r strwythur yn sylweddol fel rhan o Brosiect Amgylcheddol Arfordirol Ynys Môn.

Dywedodd y deilydd portffolio gyda cyfrifoldeb am y gwaith, y Cynghorydd Carwyn Jones: "Mae Pier Biwmares yn strwythur eiconig sy'n atyniad pwysig i'r dref a'r Ynys yn ehangach. Mae'r gwaith hwn wedi sicrhau ei fod yn edrych mewn cyflwr rhagorol unwaith eto. Mae'r Coronafeirws wedi bod yn ergyd drom i'r economi leol ond gobeithio y bydd y gwaith o ailwampio'r pier yn chwarae rhan bwysig er mwyn sicrhau y gall Biwmares a'r ynys ehangach fanteisio ar y gwaith hwn pan fydd yr amser yn iawn."

**Beaumaris Pier looking 'fantastic'**

Essential maintenance work on Beaumaris Pier has been completed,

ensuring that this important local attraction looks better than ever.

Contractors were given the go-ahead to press on with the £200,000 project during the coronavirus lockdown during the summer, whilst ensuring as little disruption as possible to businesses.

The County Council secured the pier's long-term future in 2012 after investing £5.6m to significantly revamp the structure as part of the Anglesey Coastal Environment Project.

However, continuous exposure to saltwater had led to significant rusting and a deterioration of paintwork on the pier's railings and approaches, exposing extensive sections of underlying metalwork.

Councillor Carwyn Jones, Anglesey Council Portfolio Holder responsible for the works said: "Beaumaris Pier is an iconic structure which is an important draw for the town and wider



(L-R) Gwen Evans Jones, Cllr Laura Roberts (Beaumaris Town Council), Cllr Carwyn Jones, Alwyn Rowlands (Y Ganolfan, Beaumaris), Kim Owen (owner of Happy Valley Pavilion), David Owen (owner of Mercado by The Midland), Kate Woodhouse (Assistant Manager at JackFruit), Marissa Laocharoen (Ysgol Gynradd Beaumaris) and Sioned Morgan Thomas, (Menter Môn) (Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn)



Cllr Carwyn Jones and Cllr Alun Roberts on a wet but very smart Beaumaris Pier (via Cllr Carwyn Jones)



island. These works have ensured that it once again looks in fantastic condition. Coronavirus has dealt the local economy a significant blow, but I hope that the pier's restoration will play an important role in ensuring Beaumaris and the wider Anglesey can capitalise when the time is right."

• • • • •

## ALL AT SEA

Tommy Miller, Llanddona Writing Group

Steaming south down the Davis Strait after trawling for turbot for three weeks, many of which were the size of dinner tables by the way...incredible. We coasted past Cape Farewell, Greenland's most southern point and the last finger tip of solid land before the open ocean of the North Atlantic. We were on our way home at last. It had been one hundred and twenty five days without setting foot on dry land and I was ready to go home. I'd signed on for a ninety-day contract and felt as if I'd been Shanghaied when the two other trawlers in our group had set off home without transferring me, south-west of Iceland a month earlier. It was late summer, the skies were clear and the sea calm and flat. The mesmerizing fjords were still clearly visible, ice gleaming gold against the blue sky. I watched, always with awe, our usual escort of bottlenose whales, seals, and ever present gulls slowly disperse back to their usual coastal habitats, no longer following as we traveled into deeper open waters.

It had been a trip of so many firsts for me; I had seen things that were amazing, things I'd only read about. I'd seen an iceberg. A white marble-like cathedral of blue and white sparkling ice. Towers and pinnacles, with gleaming buttresses and arches, a fiery beacon shining in the blue. A spectacle so enormous and beautiful, and I knew it was ten times more magnificent unseen beneath the surface. We'd steamed through a bloom of red algae that covered tens of square miles of ocean. It was gigantic. A thin flimsy skin but two or three millimetres thick. Nevertheless, these microscopic plants were so mind-bogglingly numerous they turned the sea bright red as far as the eye could see. It was wonderful, and surreal. I'd seen sperm whales dive. Flukes high out the water to power them down to depths where no light can penetrate, hunting for squid. Watched with delight as dolphins frolicked and played while taking fish with aplomb from our catch as we hauled in the nets. We once caught a rare Greenland shark the size of a four-tonne truck, an unfortunate casualty of mechanised fishing that had drowned in the net, but a magnificent animal nonetheless. A true leviathan from the deep and I got to run my hand over its dorsal fin, feel its dentine skin.

The most, I suppose, exhilarating and frightening 'first' whilst on my maiden voyage was a close up and personal encounter with a hurricane, hurricane Erin. I remember her well. We knew she was heading our way but could do little to avoid her, so battened down the proverbial hatches and waited for her to arrive. I was woken in the early hours by the

roller-coaster pitch and yaw of the boat. I kept my survival suit ever visible and easy to get at hanging on the back of my cabin door. My neoprene centurion, always on guard and ready for action. I often practiced putting it on as fast as I could, sometimes in the dark, in case of the need. I'd seen a safety video whilst on my survival course. It showed a large vessel being swallowed by the sea in under thirty seconds, a little disturbing. I opened my eyes to see it hanging free from the door at about forty five degrees, its rubber feet wiggling in my face. I realised the whole vessel was perilously close to being on its side and felt my stomach flip as the boat righted itself then began to roll again. I got out of my bunk and dressed. Getting thrown back onto the bunk and against the wall as I struggled for balance trying to get my legs into my jeans. Staggering to the porthole in my cabin, I was in a horror movie. I was about to open the door to where the monster was hiding and even I knew I was going to be the victim, but I was compelled, I had to look.



Slowly I drew the curtain back and looked out into the night. It was pitch black but the lights of the boat clearly illuminated our immediate surroundings with a halo of light. Good Lord, the awesome power I was witnessing was staggering, terrifying. Waves thirty and forty feet high were being decapitated by the winds and scattered like confetti. Depressions hundreds of feet across and fifty foot deep opened up before my eyes as if by magic. Our now toy-like vessel plummeting into them, surrounded by towering walls of moving water, the sky no longer visible. I found myself willing our little boat to climb out, pleading to the sea to let us escape. I told myself to "get a grip", closed the curtain and made my way to the galley to get a mug of coffee. I couldn't help laughing to myself as I bounced off the corridor walls along the way, momentarily taking me back to a child in the Fun House at a funfair. I made it back to my cabin with half the coffee I'd started out with and wedged myself into a chair. Bracing myself with my legs against the wall and the back of my chair against the desk, I began to think this wasn't so bad after all. A particularly violent throw of the boat catapulted me out of my chair following the last of my coffee, which, half-escaped and determined not to be drunk, had now formed a coffee slide on the floor ahead of me that I skidded along, hitting the wall with my face. I took it as a sign, cleaned myself up, then got back into bed, deciding it was the safest place to be.

We spent five days in fog. Five days with no

[www.facebook.com/groups/llanddona/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/llanddona/)



wind, no horizon, no sky, nothing but gray wet mist and the methodical chug of the engines. So quiet, so eerie. I took lots of photographs to try and document many of the things I'd seen. One from the bridge looking back down the length of the boat. When I got the film developed I'd caught it just right. Half the boat was in bright sunshine, the other in a blizzard. I'd captured the edge of the front, a snowstorm block of the weather as it moved across us. We caught an eagle and two snowy owls within days of each other. They had flown too far out to sea and got lost in bad weather. A clear sign to the knowing of the storm ahead of us, even though we could track it on radar. Exhausted and unable to rest on the water like a seabird, these predators were happy to crash-land on our boat rather than drown. We were able to catch them by hand, they were so weak, and housed them in makeshift aviaries made of nets to rest, rehydrate and feed up. They were wonderful companions to visit and feed every day.

In Keflavik, Iceland, I'd walked out of a bar considerably the worst for wear, having binged on the local Viking brew. It was midnight and out I went into bright daylight, bizarre. It was a tough, dangerous and otherworldly life, working out at sea, and I got a snapshot of their world, something I was grateful for and would never forget.

**Footnote** Launched in summer 2019 by Stephen Marsden, the Llanddona Writing Group was meeting fortnightly in the Village Hall until COVID-19 arrived.

Since then, he has run it via e-mail, suggesting fortnightly topics and sharing writers' responses and their feedback on each others' work.

'In one way,' Stephen says, 'it's had its benefits, as we don't have to get through everything in the hour and more when we met in person. But we look forward to when we can meet again; we miss the buzz and spontaneity of it.'

Either way, please contact Stephen on 07774 699685 if you'd like to know more.

• • • • •

## 'END OF LOCKDOWN CELEBRATION'

### WHISKY FRUITCAKE

David Huntington

Now that the end of the COVID-19 lockdowns looks as if it might be on the horizon here's just the thing to bake for your celebration...an 'End of Lockdown Celebration' whisky fruitcake.

#### Ingredients

1 cup water  
1 cup sugar  
4 large eggs  
2 cups dried fruit  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 cup brown sugar  
lemon juice  
nuts  
1 gallon whisky (for the best result use an imperial gallon rather than an American gallon)

puffinpages@gmail.com

#### Method

Sample the whisky to check for quality.

Take a large bowl.

Check the whisky again to be sure it is of the highest quality. Pour one level cup and drink. Repeat. Turn on the electric mixer, beat 1 cup butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon sugar and heat again. Make sure the whisky is till ok. Cry another tup.

Turn off mixer

Break two legs and add to the bowl and chuck in a cup of dried fruit.

Mix off the tuner. If the fried fruit gets stuck in the beaters, pry it loose with a drowscriver. Sample the whisky for tonsistency. Next, sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.

Add one table. Spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you can find.

Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin to 350 degrees.

Don't forget to beat off the turner. Throw the bowl out of the window. Check the whisky again.

Go to bed. Who likes fruitcake anyway?

(I asked the author how good the fruitcake was. He would not be drawn... AP)

• • • • •

## LLANGOED GARDEN SHOW

Mike Linford

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty of the next twelve months I have decided not to hold the Garden Show this year.

Hopefully we will be OK for next year...take photographs of your gardens this year and next year we will have a photographic competition.

Keep safe and keep gardening!

• • • • •

## CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY: A MONEY COURSE TO HELP PEOPLE

John Hay

As people feel the pandemic pinch a church is set to run free sessions to help people in Bangor and Ynys Môn get on top of their household finances.

Members of St John's Methodist Church in Bangor wanted to help their local communities to best handle the economic climate, so undertook money-coaching skills training with a UK charity, Christians Against Poverty (CAP). Now they are offering the free short course aimed at putting the joy back into money by teaching people how to chart their household income and take control of their expenditure.

Money coach John Hay, who will be co-leading the sessions (called the CAP Money Course) with Sue Eckersley, said: "With households feeling the squeeze on their disposable income, we've all got to get a bit more savvy about our money to get through these tough times. If you know how to save and budget effectively, it can have a hugely positive impact on the whole family."

St John's is one of more than 1,000 churches of different Christian traditions across the UK which are regularly offering the course, as





they work together to positively impact the communities around them.

The CAP Money Course has been found to be useful for newly retired people, soon-to-be students, parents dealing with mounting bills, families saving for a wedding and everyone in between.

John added: "We hope that we can help people, quietly and confidentially, take control rather than relying on guess work so they can plan for the future and weather the storm."

The course consists of three sessions and will take place by Zoom, 7.15pm-8.30pm on Thursday 20 May, Thursday 27 May and Thursday 3 June.

To find out more about the CAP Money Course visit [www.capmoneycourse.org](http://www.capmoneycourse.org). To book your place on the course e-mail [johnhay1964@gmail.com](mailto:johnhay1964@gmail.com) (John), telephone 07713 225028 (Sue) or book via the CAP website.

## THE MARVEL OF LLANDDONA'S MOON

Poetry and photograph © Meg Marsden

This February night  
Is Snow Moon bright  
Touching the ground  
With its lunar white light  
Like some benevolent being  
Gardeners nodding, agreeing  
Yes please shine on our planting  
As we dig the cold earth

In with the swede, potatoes and  
turnips  
Rubbing cold hands, exposing  
chapped lips

Snow Moon works its wonders  
Waxes, wanes, then it dips  
It's pushing and pulling the tide  
Through each day  
And by night what a sight  
As it blesses the land

## CANOLFAN BEAUMARIS: 'GET READY TO PLAY'

Alwyn Rowlands, Chairman, Canolfan Beaumaris

What a year it's been! Now we look to vaccination to free us from the social distancing and self-isolation that is COVID-19...yet there are many things that we can do for ourselves to improve our resilience.

In Peter Walker's book, *The Miracle Pill*, written during the COVID-19 pandemic, there's this statement: 'The answer is *movement* and the good news is that it's free and available to everyone'.

What if movement does not come easily to you, though? What if you've put on a few COVID pounds and getting out of the armchair is that much harder than it used to be? What if you no motivation to do what you know is good for you? What if

you just don't know how to get started or where to go?

There's more good news! The 'Get Ready to Play' wellbeing programme being delivered in partnership with Canolfan Beaumaris is a 12-week programme that gets you from a

*stay put* person to a *let's play* person. There are lots of activities at the Canolfan that are open to everyone, and the 'Get Ready to Play' programme is a supported introduction to getting you stronger and more confident in just giving it a go...so if you need more information about the programme e-mail Karen Begley at [neverquitplaying@outlook.com](mailto:neverquitplaying@outlook.com) or contact Canolfan Beaumaris.

It was George Bernard Shaw who said 'We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing'.

Well, there's more good news: Canolfan Beaumaris's Board of Directors has spent many hours during the lockdown behind closed doors and on Zoom defining the Canolfan's plan for the next five years, and is pleased to announce 'The Community Well-being Plan', with a five-year Social, Economic and Environmental strategy that is aligned to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to improve the health and well-being of everyone in its community.

All being well, Canolfan Beaumaris will open shortly as follows:

- Tuesday 4 May: for gym use only
- Monday 17 May: for classes of up to 15 people

We're looking forward to seeing you, and to hearing what members of our community would like to see happen at Canolfan Beaumaris.

## THE FROGS AND TOADS OF PENMARIAN, 2021

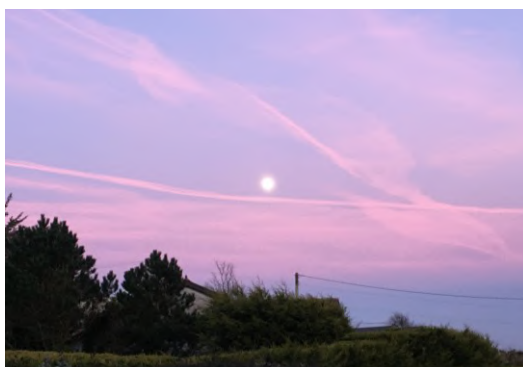
Bernard Thomas

There was a dead animal in the middle of the road recently, a sign that frogs and toads were making their way to the local pond to mate and lay spawn. It was also a call to repeat the recordings that we made this time last year. For the next 59 evenings, we noted the numbers of frogs and toads as they crossed the local lanes.

We replicated last year's count; details of the records and how we took them are given in *The toads of Penmarian* in **The Puffin** 32 (May 2020, on-line only, page 8). This

year, there was only one occasion when temperature stayed at less than freezing, and one day when the temperature reached nearly 38°C.

Remarkably, there were evenings when there was no obvious wind at all; on the other hand, there were days when wind



That marvellous moon... (© Meg Marsden)



This beautiful willow sculpture in the grounds of Neuadd Bentref Llanddona Village Hall is by Debbie Joynson of Wispy Willow Creations. It is part of a wider project with Magnificent Meadows Cymru to raise awareness of the important habitats within the local nature reserve. Cwlwm Seiriol is working on two new interpretation panels and a walks leaflet, and hopes to run workshops later in the year, if the circumstances allow.

The sculpture celebrates the connection between plants and pollinators, and draws attention to the diversity of habitats within the Llanddona Common Local Nature Reserve: species-rich grasslands are habitats that often go unrecognised, and we want people to know how valuable they are (Andrew Perrott)



George Bernard Shaw...We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing



strength and rainfall were enough to be recorded as 'gale', when it was difficult to stand up, let alone walk. Of course, small animals covered by the grass and weeds at the edge of the lanes might not be aware of such wind strength.

We recorded 59 frogs. On most evenings, frogs tended to cross the lane one or two at a time. There was a very distinct group of 35 animals which crossed on the 25th February, the warmest evening and one of the evenings recorded as a storm. We recorded 233 toads; after that first record on 31 January, there were no more records for 15 evenings.

Toads tended to cross in small groups, but there was a group of 51 animals on 14th March, and another moving over two nights, on 19th and 20th March. Each of these groups of toads moved on very windy evenings, that of 14th March in a period of 'warm' weather. 61% of frogs and 42% of toads crossed in these large groups.

This year, we made notes on other animals we observed, and we recorded 7 newts, a considerable increase on the number found in previous years; a number of bats, probably pipistrelles; a mouse; a rabbit; and we heard several owls.

We have detailed records should you wish to consult them. We were aware from previous years that these animals tend to move in sizeable groups.

Being poikilothermic (animals that are poikilothermic have a body temperature that changes with the temperature around them) toads are obliged to move in warm weather. This may be a defence mechanism: 'there's safety in numbers', but last year, we suggested that they preferred dry, or at least damp, evenings for these moving groups. This year, the finding is that they choose to move in wet weather, each of the groups of toads and frogs choosing to move in 'gale' conditions.

We can now put together the records taken over five years; the data are given in the chart above the photographs.

Populations of frogs and toads kept up well during the years 2017, 2018 and 2019; however, there was a fall in the numbers of both frogs and toads in 2020. The toad population would seem to have made a good recovery last year, 2021; but the frogs experienced a further drop in numbers.

A strong reason for beginning these records was the number of animals killed on the roads. This year we found only seven dead animals, hardly enough to warrant a survey. Of these, there were no marks on two animals; both were gravid females.

Whatever is influencing the numbers of these animals is unknown. Because of the continuing effect on frogs, it is likely to be a specific problem.

Frogs and toads eat lots of snails and slugs. Have the gardeners among you any comments, especially on the numbers of frogs? If so, e-mail **The Puffin** and they'll be forwarded to me.

## BEAUMARIS ALLOTMENTS: PLOTHOLDERS UNITE AGAINST THIEVES

Jill Anker

Following the theft of various items from a shed on the Beaumaris Allotments site, including a petrol trimmer, a gas cooker and a bag of seeds, plottolders generously donated seeds to replace those stolen.

Sulwen Roberts was overwhelmed by the generosity of her fellow plottolders as losing all her seeds at this time of the year was a real blow for her. She gratefully received the donations from Chairman of Beaumaris Allotments Society, Andrew Dixon.

Andrew said, "we are very fortunate that thefts are a very rare occurrence on our site and our on-site CCTV system has been upgraded so hopefully we won't have any further problems. As always everyone pulled together to come to the rescue and to support Sulwen."

Plottolders would normally get the opportunity to swap seeds at one of the numerous social events held annually. Obviously due to COVID restrictions the site is closed to non-plottolders and social events have been postponed, but it is hoped that the plottolders' Annual Plant Swap will be able to take place later in the year.

Year	Frogs	Toads
2017	-	206
2018	201	242
2019	235	238
2020	103	117
2021	59	230



Andrew Dixon, Chairman of Beaumaris Allotments Society, hands over the donated seeds to plottolder Sulwen Roberts (Jill Anker)



Llanddona has a Phantom Pebble Painter...now it has a Phantom Shell-and-Egg Layer as well... He, or she, has been laying shells and eggs here and there, brightening people's lives during the lockdown... (Andrew Perrott)

## BEAUMARIS GAOL AND COURTHOUSE

Jane Martin

Well...here we are in Spring 2021 already, with more to add to the pieces I contributed to **The Puffin** 30 and 32. I had hoped to have a range of anecdotes to share about what has been going on in the gaol and courthouse, but sadly we only managed to open our doors for a few months between August and November. This was really disappointing because we had

wanted to showcase our refurbishments in the reception area of the gaol properly, but the necessity of our COVID-inspired one-way system, meant that once you'd passed through it, there was no return through that area to buy gifts and more importantly chat to staff.

This is one aspect of working at the gaol that all staff and volunteers have missed: enjoying relaxed conversations with visitors, verbally sharing the fascinating history of the place and taking the time to outline all the creepy details when asked the question for the hundredth time... 'Is it haunted?'

Although visitors were allowed to visit during those months, it was very much on 'COVID terms'. Staff were only able to greet the visitors from behind a screen and, in the case of the gaol, once visitors had moved on from the reception area other staff and volunteers were able to guide and brief them from a roped-off area to ensure social distancing. Initially this worked well, but we soon found some refinements in our plans were needed to maintain absolute COVID safety because of the sheer number of visitors! We were absolutely amazed at the number of people who not only wanted to visit the gaol and



courthouse, but who were prepared to form extremely long queues to do that and on some days, uncomplainingly, in the pouring rain! Often this necessitated staff and/or volunteers nipping outside, giving a brief history of the gaol under an umbrella and even providing word searches and pencils for children, who were growing impatient to explore the dark cells and shadowy corridors. Delivering historical facts with some degree of panache, however, is just not the same when you're wearing a face mask, your glasses are steaming up and you're barely able to see the people standing some distance from you. Fortunately, late in the day, I discovered *Muc-off!* (Google it).

All went well, however, until we closed in November, and though the intention was to re-open at Christmas, sadly that was not able to happen.

We can only keep looking forward and hope that the vaccine is going to lift us out of the COVID mire and help us to re-establish some form of normality again soon. Fingers crossed.

At the gaol and courthouse we crave that normality, and maybe by the time this is published we may be back behind *our* perspex screen, welcoming visitors desperate for entertainment other than *their* TV screen. Uppermost will be the opportunity to restart tours for groups of visitors, who tell us again and again how the place comes alive to them once they hear a passionate delivery of the historical facts and a few fascinating little snippets, not contained on the information boards. To welcome again, in our full Victorian costume of course, the school parties and other groups and further build on what we already offer them on their visit, will feel great as we are always keen

for everyone to enjoy the full gaol experience. One really fun experience for us, which happened just pre-COVID (this will ever be a marker on our collective timeline now) was our visit from the popular BBC1 television programme *Bargain Hunt*,

it was broadcast on 23 March 2020. Not being a daytime TV-watcher, I knew little about this programme, so when I took a call from the producer, I was convinced it was a prank call and was maybe less warm and welcoming on the phone than I should have been. You know that feeling when you're not really listening to what's being said because you're trying to work out whose voice it is and more importantly, not be seen to fall for it hook line and sinker!

It did all turn out to be genuine, however, and they arrived and took over the gaol with lights and equipment and delighted any lucky visitors that morning, who were agog, as were we. People kept sidling up to me and asking, almost conspiratorially, 'Is that Charlie Ross?' It was, of course, Charlie Ross, dressed in a fake striped prison suit and engaged in all sorts of shenanigans with Roger, one of our volunteer Governors, in his full top-hatted regalia. Roger and I did pieces to camera (sounding like a pro now...) with him, during which we were supposed to deliver straight-faced facts, which was so difficult as he is a complete joker and a very engaging man. I think I maybe had a retake due to unavoidable smirks and giggles! In the end it all seemed to go very well, but I now completely understand actors and performers who say they never watch

themselves on TV... The most interesting outcome is that I have been contacted by people I haven't seen for years, with the same line: 'I was just watching *Bargain Hunt* and I'm sure



Charlie Ross at Beaumaris's Victorian gaol...before his encounter with The Governor! (BBC)



Charlie and Roger Vincent aka The Governor (via Jane Martin)



Charlie in the stocks (via Jane Martin)







saw you'. Ah, my 15 minutes of fame and maybe just 40 years too late!

As I touched on earlier, a common attraction for many of our visitors is the psychic phenomena to be experienced around the gaol, of which there is more than enough to go round...maybe I should save that for the next edition of *The Puffin*...

### ANN ELLEN DAVIES: SOME SAD NEWS

We are saddened to report that Ann Ellen Davies – known and loved as 'Auntie Annie' – passed away peacefully on 24 April 2021 at Haulfre Residential Home, Llangoed at the grand age of 101.

A most precious and cherished aunt, Auntie Annie will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Donations in her memory will be accepted with thanks, and shared between Haulfre Residential Home and the Wales Air Ambulance, c/o Melvin Rowlands of John O Williams & Son, Funeral Directors, 29 Castle Street, Beaumaris, Anglesey, LL58 8AP; ☎ 01248 810642.

Readers may remember the article in *The Puffin* 28: 'Auntie Annie': 100 years old last month. *The Puffin*'s Editorial Team had been to visit Annie Davies at Haulfre in Llangoed. She had celebrated her centenary on 27 July with a grand party at Llangoed Village Hall, with family, friends, staff from Haulfre and people from the village.

Annie was born in Penmon on 27 July 1919, just after the end of the Great War of 1914-1918. She trained as a welder, and was a welder for ten years at the Saunders Roe factory at Fryars, just outside Beaumaris, starting during the war, progressing to work on the first British aluminium-alloy MTB (motor torpedo

boat) P1602, on which she did all of the aluminium welding.

She lived life to the full, liked people, talking to them and helping them, keeping busy all the while. Her message to the young was 'live happily, work hard and help others'.

• • • • •

### A PIONEERING FLIGHT AT LLANDDONA BEACH: THE BAMBOO BIRD

Trefor Hughes

The first years of the twentieth century were exciting times in aviation.

In 1903 the Wright brothers made their first flight at Kitty Hawk in the United States. Seven years later, some towns in North Wales were witnessing their first ever aeroplane landings. Vivian Hewitt (1888-1965), then living in Rhyl, had inherited a fortune made in the brewing industry and was already an experienced pilot when he bought his first Blériot monoplane in 1910, just six months after Louis Blériot had made the first flight across the English Channel.

On 26 April 1912, he made a pioneering flight of his own in a Gnome-Blériot: 60 miles across the Irish Sea, from Holyhead to Dublin.

At that time William Ellis Williams (1881-1962) of Bethesda, near Bangor, was already building his own plane, the so-called *Bamboo Bird*. The son of a quarryman, William had always been fascinated by flight and aerodynamics. He had studied at the university in Bangor and had undertaken research in

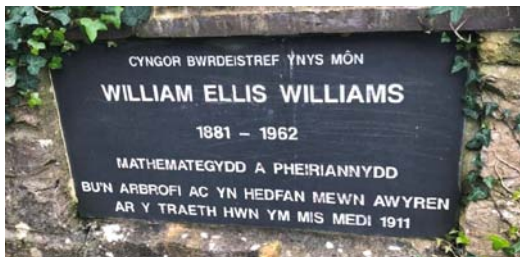
Scotland and Germany. In 1906 he became a physics lecturer in Bangor and began work on a powered monoplane with a wooden fuselage. Landowner Harry Verney allowed him to build a hangar by the beach at Llanddona, and it was there in



A lovely photograph of Auntie Annie in July 2019, chatting about her life with Will, her nephew, and the *The Puffin*'s Editorial Team at Haulfre, Llangoed (Andrew Perrott)



The *Bamboo Bird* monoplane at Llanddona beach in 1913 (via Trefor Hughes)



This commemorative stone may be found at Llanddona beach near the café (Craig Parsons)





September 1913 that the *Bamboo Bird* took to the air at last, reaching an altitude of 7 feet and a speed of 37mph.

William Williams worked for Vickers during the Great War, and later became the first professor of electrical engineering at Bangor. In the 1930s Vivian Hewitt settled at Cemlyn, where he established a private nature reserve on the lagoon. This land is now National Trust property.

1914-1918: Discover the legacy of the War in Wales: Aircraft [www.heneb.co.uk/ww1/aircraft.html](http://www.heneb.co.uk/ww1/aircraft.html)

Prifysgol Bangor University: Archives

[www.bangor.ac.uk/archives/](http://www.bangor.ac.uk/archives/)

Papers of William Ellis Williams <https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/search/archives/9114bb77-667b-3ce9-bd34-c1cba102ba81>

In the photograph of the *Bamboo Bird*, George Hartley Bryan FRS is standing to the far left; he was Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics at Bangor from 1896 until his retirement in 1926, and worked with William Ellis Williams on the stability of gliders.

The wording on the commemorative stone translates thus:

Cyngor Bwrdeisdref Ynys Môn/*Isle of Anglesey Borough Council*

Mathemategydd a pheiranydd/*Mathematician and engineer*

Bu'n arbrofi ac yn hedfan mewn awyren ar y traeth hwn ym mis Medi 1911/*He experimented and flew in an aircraft on this beach in September 1911*

♦ ♦ ♦

These two passages are taken from an interesting book, *British Aircraft 1809-1914* (Peter Lewis, Putnam, 1962).

The monoplane is the *Bamboo Bird*.

### Ellis-Williams Monoplane

The Ellis-Williams single-seat tractor monoplane was designed by W Ellis-Williams, assistant lecturer in physics at the University College of North Wales, and was built during 1910 as a design study by the Engineering Department of Bangor College. It was powered by a six-cylinder 40 hp engine. Span, 32 ft. Wing area, 200 sq. ft. Weight empty, 700 lb.

### Ellis-Williams Biplane

The Ellis-Williams Biplane of 1910 was another design study by the Engineering Department of Bangor College under W Ellis-Williams, and was of the pusher type.



A healthy mature ash (Simon Hunt)



An ash with 50% dieback (Simon Hunt)



Ash dieback in a hedgerow (Simon Hunt)



Ash dieback on ash keys (Simon Hunt)

## COED YNN IACH: CYNLLUN ADFER CLEFYD COED YNN CWLWM SEIRIOL/LIVE ASH: CWLWM SEIRIOL'S ASH DIEBACK RECOVERY PLAN

Simon Hunt, Coed Cymru: Cwlwm Seiriol Project Partner

### Cynllun Adfer Clefyd Coed Ynn Cwlwm Seiriol

Efallai eich bod wedi darllen am glefyd coed ynn, neu glefyd Chalara coed ynn, yng nghylchlythyr **The Puffin** ac mewn manau eraill.

Yn anffodus, hwn yw'r pandemig diweddaraf ym myd y coed. Mae coed ynn yn gyffredin, ac yn sylfaen at gyfer y mwyafrif o'r cysylltiadau cynefin yn Ward Seiriol. Gallai eu colli arwain at ddarnio difrifol o'r dirwedd sydd eisoes yn dameidiog.

Mae prosiect Cwlwm Seiriol wedi bod yn ystyried a allwn wneud unrhyw beth i ymladd yn erbyn clefyd coed ynn. A bod yn berffaith onest, mae'n rhaid i ni fyw gydag ef a gweld sut y gallwn liniaru'r problemau y mae'n eu hachosi.

**Y ffeithiau:** mae clefyd coed ynn yn effeithio ar y rhywogaeth hon (*Fraxinus*) yn unig. Mae'n cael ei achosi gan ffung y gall ei sborau gael eu lledaenu gan y gwynt ac yn y glaw. Gall achosi necrosis (marwolaeth) pob rhan fyw o'r goeden onnen, y dail, y rhisgl, y gwreiddiau a'r hadau. Gall lledaenu'n gyflym o'r pwynt heintio i rannau eraill o'r goeden gan achosi necrosis lleol yn amgylchynu un gangen. Gall hyn arwain at ddail yn troi'n ddu a gall fod yn amlwg iawn ym mis Mehefin, Gorffennaf ac Awst. Mae yna arwyddion eraill, llai amlwg fel coesynnau dail du neu friwiau siâp diemwnt yn y rhisgl o amgylch coesynnau dail neu uniadau cangen.

Yr amser amlycaf i weld arwyddion o glefyd coed ynn yw yn yr haf pan ddylai'r dail fod wedi blaguro'n llwyr. Mae rhai pobl yn dweud bod dail yr onnen yn blaguro'n hwyrach os yw'r goeden wedi'i heintio â chlefyd coed ynn ond gall yr amser o'r flwyddyn y mae dail yn ymddangos amrywio, weithiau cyn neu weithiau ar ôl dail coed derw – felly y dywediad '*if the ash be out before the oak we're in for a soak; if the oak be out before the ash we're in for a splash*'.

Amcangyfrifir y bydd 95% o'n holl goed ynn yn dioddef o'r clefyd gyda chyfran uchel o'r rhain yn marw, nid oes triniaeth na brechiad. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn golygu y gallai fod 5% o boblogaeth y coed ynn a all wrthsefyll y clefyd a'r rhain fydd rhiant-goed y dyfodol a fydd yn ailboblogi coed ynn yn ein tirwedd.

[www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/](http://www.seiriolalliance.co.uk/newsletters/)





**Y Cynllun:** bydd Cwlwm Seiriol yn cynnal sesiynau i'ch helpu chi i adnabod arwyddion clefyd coed ynn ac yn egluro ei arwyddocâd. Rydym eisiau cofnodi ble mae'r **coed ynn iach o fewn Ward Seiriol** felly i wneud hyn byddwn yn lansio prosiect Gwyddoniaeth Dinasyddion yr haf hwn (2021) ac yn gofyn i bobl roi gwybod i ni ble mae yna goed ynn sy'n ymddangos yn **iach**. Byddwn yn gwneud hyn ar y cyd â Chofnod, Canolfan Cofnodion Amgylcheddol Lleol gogledd Cymru. Bydd yna ffurflen bwrpasol ar wefan y ganolfan i chi lenwi'r wybodaeth sydd ei hangen arnom ac i uwchlwytho ffotograffau. Y paramedrau yr ydym am eu cofnodi i roi gwybodaeth hanfodol i ni yw: Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol (gellir gwneud hyn yn hawdd ar wefan Cofnod); uchder bras; cylchedd wedi'i fesur ar uchder y frest; lleoliad (pa un a yw'n goeden berth, coeden mewn coetir neu ardd ac ati). Byddwn yn gofyn i chi fonitro iechyd y coed dros y blynyddoedd nesaf ac adrodd ar hynny. Gobeithio y byddwch chi'n gallu dod o hyd i goed sy'n gallu gwrthsefyll clefyd coed ynn a'u helpu i oroesi ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol.

Byddwn hefyd yn gweithio gyda pherchnogion tir i helpu i blannu coed newydd i gymryd lle'r rhai a gollwyd i'r clefyd. Mae tua 30% o'r coed a blannwyd o amgylch Castell Aberlleiniog yn goed ynn. Dros y tair blynedd nesaf rydym yn bwriadu disodli tua 5,000 o goed yno ac yn bwriadu rhoi tua 000 o goed i dirfeddianwyr iddynt eu plannu fel coed newydd gyda rhywogaethau coed eraill sy'n darparu rolau tebyg ar gyfer bwyd gwyllt fel coed derw, ffawydd, gwern, pîsgwydd dail bychain, oestrwydd a choed cyll.

**Sut y gallwch chi helpu:** os oes gennych ddiddordeb mewn cael gwybod mwy, darganfod ac adrodd ar goed ynn iach neu ein helpu'n gyffredinol gyda'r prosiect hwn, anfonwch e-bost at Delyth Philipps, Swyddog Prosiect Cwlwm Seiriol, [delyth@mentermon.com](mailto:delyth@mentermon.com). Cynhelir sgwrs ar glefyd coed ynn am 7.00yp ar ddydd Mawrth 1 Mehefin a bydd y digwyddiadau i edrych am arwyddion o glefyd coed ynn ac arolygon yn dechrau ganol mis Mehefin. Cadwch lygad am ragor o wybodaeth ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol a hysbysebion eraill am ddigwyddiadau yn ymwneud â chlefyd coed ynn.

**Cwlwm Seiriol's Ash Dieback Recovery Plan** You may well have read about ash dieback, or Chalara dieback of ash, in **The Puffin** and elsewhere.

Unfortunately, it is the latest pandemic in the world of trees. Ash trees are a commonplace feature, and they are the foundations to most of the habitat connections in the Seiriol Ward; their loss could lead to serious fragmentation of an already fragmented landscape.

The Cwlwm Seiriol project has been thinking whether we can do anything to combat ash dieback. In all honesty, we have to live with it and see how we can mitigate against the problems it causes.

**The facts:** ash dieback affects only the ash tree genus (*Fraxinus*). It is caused by a fungus whose spores can be spread by wind and in the rain. It can cause necrosis (death) of all living parts of the ash tree, leaves, bark, roots and seeds. It can spread rapidly from a point of infection to other parts of the tree causing localised necrosis girdling one branch or limb. This can result in leaves turning black and can be very noticeable in June, July and August. There are other less obvious signs such as blackened leaf stalks or diamond-shaped lesions in the bark around leaf stalks or branch unions.

[www.facebook.com/groups/llangoed](https://www.facebook.com/groups/llangoed)

The easiest time to see signs of ash dieback is in the summer when the leaves should be fully out. Some people say that the ash's leaves come out later if they have dieback but the time of year that they flush can be variable, sometimes before or sometimes after oak – hence the saying 'if the ash be out before the oak we're in for a soak; if the oak be out before the ash we're in for a splash'.

An estimated 95% of all our ash trees will succumb to the disease with a high proportion of these dying, there is no cure or vaccination. However, this means that there might be 5% of the ash tree population that can withstand the disease and these will be the future parent trees for repopulating ash in our landscape.

**The Plan:** Cwlwm Seiriol will be running sessions to help you spot the signs of ash dieback and explain its significance. We want to record where the **healthy ash trees are within the**

**Seiriol Ward** so to do this we will be launching a Citizen Science project this summer (2021) asking people to let us know where apparently **healthy** ash trees are. We will be doing this in conjunction with Cofnod, the Local Environmental Record Centre for north Wales. There will be a dedicated form on their website for you to fill in the information we need along with your photographs. The parameters we want to record to give us vital information are: National Grid Reference (this is easily done on Cofnod's website); approximate height; circumference measured at breast height; location (whether it is a hedgerow tree, in a woodland or a garden etc). We will ask you to monitor the health of the trees over the next few years and to report on that. Hopefully, you will be able to find trees that are resistant to ash



A greylag goose ([www.wildfowl-photography.co.uk/](http://www.wildfowl-photography.co.uk/))



A dunlin ([www.outerhebridesbirds.org.uk/](http://www.outerhebridesbirds.org.uk/))

dieback and help them survive for future generations.

We will also be working with landowners to help replace some of the trees lost because of the disease. Around 30% of the trees planted around Aberlleiniog Castle are ash. Over the next three years we intend to replace around 5,000 trees there; and intend to give around 2,000 trees to landowners for them to plant as replacement trees with other tree species that provide similar roles for wildlife such as oak, beech, alder, small-leaved lime, hornbeam and hazel.

**How you can help:** if you are interested in finding out more, finding and reporting on healthy ash trees or just generally helping us with this project, please e-mail Delyth Philipps, Cwlwm Seiriol Project Officer, at [delyth@mentermon.com](mailto:delyth@mentermon.com). There will be a talk on ash dieback at 7.00pm on Tuesday 1 June and the events looking at signs of dieback and surveys will start mid-June. Look out for more information in social media and other advertising for events on ash dieback.

## REFLECTION NATURE NOTES

Roz Hattey

All these months of confinement have given us time for reflection, sometimes too much, perhaps. Looking up old friends or flicking through diaries and photo albums can be rewarding, though as they remind us of earlier times when life seemed to be much more purposeful!

Before I indulge in some of my own reflections this is a note of a few very local observations earlier this year:

**Mid-January:** around 150 greylag geese feeding on pasture





close to Henllys Lane on the edge of Beaumaris, with occasional honking chatter as they communicated with each other.

**4 February:** the first frogspawn in my pond.

**6 February:** more than 200 dunlin, packed closely together on the narrow spit by the little estuary near Gallows Point. Dusk was falling as I sat on a seat on the Prom; I knew they were there, just below me, only when I heard a faint twittering. Good binoculars lit up the scene and showed me the stunning detail as all the tiny birds stood facing into the strong easterly wind.

**28 February:** up to 60 pale-bellied brent geese feeding around the Gallows Point estuary, unphased by people and dogs walking along the Prom above, but disturbed by walkers on the beach. They have been feeding locally for several weeks and 51 were still there in late March before they set off to breed in Greenland or on islands off the west coast of Canada.

**14 March:** a chilly grey dawn, just before 6.00am, and a blackbird is singing. Those beautiful, mellow notes strike such a familiar chord in most of our hearts, bringing joy and hope at the end of a long and rather dismal winter.

**22 March:** the first fresh hedgehog droppings on the lawn show that hedgehogs are emerging from hibernation.

**Late March/early April:** the 'sticky buds' opening on the horse chestnut trees take me back to the school 'nature table'! The first swallow sighting was reported in Llanddona, then swallows and house martins were seen around Malltraeth Marsh/Cors Ddyga as well (I hope that it warms up again soon for them!)

I have been thinking of the many other wonderful experiences I have had relating to the natural world, but also how many changes there have been even in this country just in my lifetime. As a child, I remember waking in the spring to the sound of an almost deafening dawn chorus, first in a suburban garden on the edge of the Green Belt and later in a village setting. There were relatively few cars around in the 1950s and early '60s so the bird-song was always clear, just as it was during the Lockdown last spring. Recent research has shown that some birdsong then did indeed contain a greater range of pitches and tones and was very similar to songs recorded in the 1960s.

Sadly, though, there have in fact been great declines in bird populations and in other wildlife diversity since the Second World War, primarily as a result of land-use changes, which led to widespread habitat losses and reduced feeding and breeding opportunities for birds. Many upland moors and peat-bogs were planted up with conifers, estuaries were developed for industry and power and agriculture became much more intensive. Hedgerows were removed, flower-rich meadows, other permanent grasslands and heathlands were ploughed up and marshes and ponds were drained. Government grants were available to do this work so that food production could be increased.

Accompanying these changes was a huge

increase in the use of inorganic fertilisers and toxic chemicals on the land. Herbicides killed unwanted wild plants and pesticides were aimed at killing crop-damaging insects, but they also killed much else besides. Diverse populations of insects and other invertebrates which many farmland birds depended on have been greatly reduced. Studies in the UK, Germany and France in recent years have shown that the overall biomass of insects is much smaller than it used to be. Do you remember when car windscreens became plastered with all kinds of flying insects as you drove along in summer?

Rachel Carson's classic book, *Silent Spring* (1962), which I read as a schoolgirl, gives a very sobering account of the far-reaching impact the indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides such as DDT was having on the US environment. These 'biocides', as Carson called them, killed many non-target species, including birds, and accumulated up the food-chain and in the wider environment. She advocated using them only where essential for disease control, otherwise non-toxic biological controls should replace them on



Alexanders: a flowerhead displays its complex form (Andrew Perrott)

farmland. Her work had a powerful impact on the early world environmental movement.

As a student, I spent several weeks during the summer vacations working at the Nature Conservancy's Monks Wood Experimental Station near Huntingdon. In the Toxic Chemicals and Wildlife Section, scientists were studying the effects of agricultural pesticides and other toxic chemicals on birds of prey: how their eggs had become fragile and infertile and adult birds were being directly poisoned.

More recent changes in farming practice have added to the continuing decline of farmland birds in Britain. Many smaller, mixed farms have disappeared, unimproved wet grassland has been lost and autumn sowing of cereal crops has removed waste grain once available to birds in autumn and winter. I remember great flocks of Lapwing following the plough when I was young and I often heard the 'bread and cheese' call of the Yellow-hammer. These and many other farmland birds have become much scarcer now than in the 1960s, when birds were not competing with much traffic noise.



The golden, glossy petals of the lesser celandine and tall-stemmed, yellow-green flowers on clumps of alexanders along the lane are early signs of spring. They remind me that some decades ago many local authorities used to cut down spring and early summer growth along roadside verges or spray them annually with herbicides. Gradually protests from environmental organisations and the general public led to more enlightened management regimes which allowed wild flowers and grasses to grow up wherever possible and left cutting and mowing to as late as possible in the season.

The gradual recovery of British birds of prey over the last forty or fifty years has been spectacular. There is still illegal persecution by some gamekeepers and others, but generally we can now see all our native species, most in good numbers again.

Locally, there are buzzards soaring high overhead, sparrowhawks flashing across gardens and hedges, kestrels hovering over fields or roadside verges searching for voles and, if you're lucky, a peregrine falcon streaking across the sky as it pursues a pigeon.

To see five red kites gliding together over trees in south east Anglesey last spring was extraordinary. When I first came to work in Wales in the late 1970s, red kites in the UK were restricted to a remnant population in mid-Wales. Special research and conservation measures were underway to protect the species and to enable it to thrive in Wales and elsewhere. Now the red kite is breeding once again across Wales, and in many parts of England and Scotland as well, where it has been reintroduced successfully.

Habitat losses and toxic chemicals have not only affected birds and insects, of course. Otters disappeared from most rivers in England and Wales during the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. Poor river management destroyed their riverside vegetation cover and breeding sites. Some were also still being persecuted, until they were given legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, but toxic chemicals were a major cause of their decline. In particular, chemicals like Dieldrin used in sheep-dips were getting into rivers and killing fish and other aquatic life. As conditions gradually improved, I took part in the countrywide monitoring of rivers looking for signs of otters returning, breeding and extending their domain once again.

Bats were also affected, being poisoned unintentionally by toxic chemicals used in buildings where they roost and breed. These chemicals were mainly for treating wood-worm in roof-space timbers. I was one of many people who worked, professionally and as volunteers, with householders, church wardens, commercial timber-treatment companies and others to ensure that bats were safeguarded and alternative timber-treatment products used. Today, there are thousands of volunteers in bat groups across the country continuing to advise, to survey

and to enthuse.

By now most people will know, hopefully, that using the old-fashioned slug pellets (still widely available, unfortunately) will kill hedgehogs as well as birds like thrushes. When non-toxic methods of slug control are used, including some products now easily available at garden centres, these natural predators can survive and help to reduce the slug populations in our gardens and allotments.

It's so encouraging to read Delyth Phillipps's articles in *The Puffin* about Cwlm Seiriol's involvement with the local community in things environmental. Some events have taken place despite COVID-19 restrictions, but let's hope that the fuller programme can resume soon.

In my own teens and early 20s I enjoyed, and learnt so much from, a wide range of practical conservation 'tasks', some residential, run by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and the Wildlife Trusts. We cut and stacked reeds, 'bashed' scrub, pulled up ragwort, laid boardwalks, repaired mountain footpaths and learnt how to lay hedges and build drystone walls. It was also a great way to meet other enthusiasts and to see different parts of the country: chalk downland, the East Anglian Fens, the Scottish Highlands and the Rhinog Mountains in south Gwynedd.

In the next number of *The Puffin* I would like to look at some of the ways in which farmers and other landowners have been encouraged to protect and enhance wildlife on their land.

Now that we have left the EU, there will be major changes in Government payments to farmers. Support measures under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) will apply no longer and future Government payments, including those for positive environmental works, are still unclear.

I shall be thinking of the many farmers and their families I met in Gwynedd and Anglesey, as part of my work with the Nature Conservancy Council and the Countryside Council for Wales, as they wait for further details. The hill-farmers in particular must be very concerned to know if their businesses, even their very way of life, can continue to be viable.

• • • • •

## TEAMS4U: YMGYRCH 2020/ TEAMS4U CAMPAIGN 2020

Elizabeth Roberts

### Ymgrych T4U 2020 Anfonodd

Mrs Elizabeth Roberts o Langoed lythyr Eirwyn Vaughan atom yn rhoi gwybod am lwyddiant Ymgrych T4U 2020. Rhoddir y testun isod.

♦ ♦ ♦

Danfonwyd 48,756 bocws dros y mor!  
Aeth y bocwsus i amryw o wledydd yn  
Nhwyrain Ewrop. Dyma'r manylion:

**Belarus:** dosbarthwyd bocwsus mewn amryw o gartrefi plant amddifad. Yn y wlad mae yna 20,000 o blant amddifad cofrestredig, sydd o dan ofal y Wladwriaeth, mewn sefydliadau o



## RHYBUDD PWYSIG ynghylch Cynllun Setliad yr UE

Mae rheolau'r llywodraeth yn golygu bod yn rhaid i ddinasyddion yr UE ac EFTA sy'n byw yn y DU wneud cais am statws sefydlog neu cyn-setliad erbyn **30 Mehefin 2021**

**BRYS** Ydych chi'n adnabod unrhyw ddinasyddion o'r UE ac EFTA sy'n byw yng Nghymru?

A ydyn nw a'u teulu wedi gwneud cais am statws sefydlog?

**Er mwyn parhau i fyw a gweithio yng Nghymru rhaid iddynt wneud cais**

Am help a gwybodaeth gweler [settled.org.uk](https://settled.org.uk)

Mae pryder efallai na fydd rhai pobl y bydd y newid hwn yn effeithio arnynt yn ymwybodol bod angen iddynt wneud cais. Yn benodol, mae gwybodaeth ar wefan berthnasol y llywodraeth ([www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus](https://www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus)) yn nodi bod angen i'r bobl ganlynol wneud cais:

- **Deiliaid cardiau preswyllo parhaol y DU a roddwyd yn flaenorol.**
  - Ni fydd y rhain yn ddilys mwyach ar ôl 30 Mehefin 2021 ac mae angen i'r bobl sy'n eu dal wneud cais.
- **Aelodau dibynol o'r teulu.**
  - Rhaid i bob aelod dibynol o'r teulu, gan gynnwys plant, gwblhau cais EUSS unigol

Mae gwneud cais i'r cynllun yn rhad ac am ddim ac mae'n bwysig bod pob dinesydd o'r UE ac EFTA a allai gael ei effeithio yn gwneud cais cyn y dyddiad cau.

**Os ydych chi'n adnabod unrhyw un a allai gael eu heffeithio**, gwiriwch eu bod wedi gwneud cais. Mae hyn yn arbennig o bwysig i bobl mewn grwpiau bregus (e.e. pobl oedranus, pobl heb fynediad i'r rhwyngwyd, plant mewn gofal).

**Os credwch y gallai'r newid hwn effeithio arnoch**, gallwch gael rhagor o wybodaeth a chynghor am ddim gan y sefydliadau a restrir ar wefan EUSSWales yn [www.eusswales.com/](https://www.eusswales.com/).

**DYDDIAD CAU 30 Mehefin 2021**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE about the EU Settlement Scheme

Government rules mean that EU and EFTA citizens living in the UK must apply for settled or pre-settled status by **30 June 2021**

**URGENT** Do you know any EU or EFTA citizens living in Wales?

Have they and their family applied for settled status?

**To continue to live and work in Wales they must apply**

For help and information see [settled.org.uk](https://settled.org.uk)

There is concern that some people who will be affected by this change may not be aware that they need to apply. In particular, information on the relevant government website ([www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus](https://www.gov.uk/eusettledstatus)) indicates that the following people need to apply:

- **Holders of previously granted UK permanent residency cards.**
  - These will no longer be valid after 30 June 2021 and people holding them need to apply.
- **Dependent family members.**
  - Each dependent family member, including children, must complete an individual EUSS application.

Applying to the scheme is free and it is important that every EU and EFTA citizen who may be affected should apply before the deadline.

**If you know anyone who may be affected**, please check that they have applied. This is especially important for people in vulnerable groups (e.g. elderly people, people internet access, children in care).

**If you think that you may be affected by this change**, you can obtain further information and free advice from the organisations listed on the EUSSWales website at [www.eusswales.com/](https://www.eusswales.com/).

**DEADLINE 30 June 2021**

100-150 o blant.

**Bosnia-Herzegovina:** yma dosbarthwyd y bocsus gan y Groes Goch i grwpiau o bobl sydd heb gartrefi parhaol, IDP yn Saesneg sef Internally Displaced People. Mae'n anhygoel i feddlwl bod on bron i 100,000 ohonynt yn dal i fyw yn Bosnia, yn dilyn rhyfel 1995!

**Romania:** yma aeth y bocsus i siroedd Arad a Bihor yng Nghorllewin y wlad. Yno, mae dyn o'r enw Raul wedi bod yn arwain y prosiect ers blyneddau, ac fe ddywedodd "Eleni mi nes i ddosbarthu dros 10,000 o focsus, a derbyniais filoedd o wenau gan y plant!"

**Moldova:** dyma'r wlad efo'r incwm lleiaf per capita yn Ewrop!

- Mae rhannau o'r wlad yn byw ar gyflogau o llai na £2 y dydd.
- Dim ond 43% o'r rhai sy'n byw mewn tlodi difrifol, sy'n gallu cael at dwr glan.
- Mae 25% o'r plant heb addysg uwchradd!

Aeth y bocsus i gartrefi plant amddifad, ac i deuluoedd a ddewiswyd gan y llywodraeth, fel rhan o'i rhaglen Gofal Cymdeithasol.

Mae ffilmiau byr ar wefan T4U sy'n



Just some of the clothing sent to eastern Europe by the T4U Campaign (via Elizabeth Roberts)

dangos rhywfaint o'r dosbarthu.

I grynhoi, mae'r crynodeb uchod yn pwysleisio ein bod yn rhan o waith pwysig, a bod eich ymdrechion yn 2020 wedi cael effaith yn y gwledydd uchod.

Diolch yn fawr, ac edrychaf mlaen i gyda weithio gyda chi yn 2021. Mae gweld gwaith ac haelioni pobl yn cynhesu ac yn codi fy nghalon bob blwyddyn!

Yn ddiufant

Eirwyn Vaughan

**T4U Campaign 2020** Mrs Elizabeth Roberts of Llangoed sent us Eirwyn Vaughan's letter informing of the success of the T4U Campaign 2020. The text is given below.

48,756 boxes were sent overseas!

The boxes went to various countries in Eastern Europe. Details are:

**Belarus:** boxes were distributed to various orphanages. In the country there are 20,000 registered orphans, who are under state care, in institutions of 100-150 children.

**Bosnia-Herzegovina:** here the boxes were distributed by the Red Cross to



groups of people without permanent homes: IDPs, Internally Displaced People. It is incredible to think that almost 100,000 of them are still living thus in Bosnia following The 1995 war!

**Romania:** here the boxes went to Arad and Bihor, counties in the west of the country. There, a man called Raul has been leading the project for years, and he said "This year I distributed over 10,000 boxes, and I received thousands of smiles from the children!"

**Moldova:** this is the country with the lowest per capita income in Europe!

- Parts of the country live on wages of no more than £2 a day.
- Only 43% of those living in severe poverty have access to clean water.
- 25% of children do not have a secondary education!

The boxes went to orphanages, and to families chosen by the Government as part of its Social Care programme.

There are short films on the T4U website that show some of the distribution.

In summary, the above stresses that we are part of important work, and that your efforts in 2020 have had an impact in the countries named above. Thank you very much, and I look forward to working with you all in 2021. Seeing people's work and generosity warms and raises my heart every year!

Sincerely

Eirwyn Vaughan

Teams4U

[www.teams4u.com/](http://www.teams4u.com/)

## LLANGOED FOOTBALL CLUB: 50 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH...

Owen Williams

1971 doesn't sound long ago to a lot of us, but...

50 years ago this month Llangoed Football Club was celebrating winning the North Wales Amateur Cup and the North Wales Junior Cup as a double. It was also runner-up in the Anglesey League. In the same season the Club won the Harold Hughes Memorial Cup, a competition between Beaumaris, Llangoed and Llandegfan.

The squad at the time was: Idris Jones (goalie), Arfon Jones, Gwyn Williams, Johnny Hogan, Paul Hogan, Vic Jones, Aled Thomas, Gordon Lyle, Bruce Edwards, Adrian Jones, Tommy Williams, Robin Owen and Robin Jones.

Llangoed FC

[www.llangoedfc.co.uk/](http://www.llangoedfc.co.uk/)

## SCAMS: HOW TO AVOID FALLING FOR THEM

Andrew Perrott

The COVID-19 lockdowns have provided scammers with a captive pool of potential 'customers'. I wonder sometimes how so many people fall for things like offers by e-mail that are so

obviously a scam (the spelling and layout are sometimes so amateurish, for example), but then again...some of the stuff that comes to us by e-mail and text are so realistic and look so genuine! All that it needs is a momentary lack of attention and, bingo, we're hooked.

HMRC texted me recently to say that I'm to be prosecuted for tax non-payment. Even though I knew it was a scam, my heart did that little 'oh, my goodness' thump before reality kicked in.

It wasn't from HMRC, of course; it was a scam. The moral of that little tale is 'be careful':

- No matter what the wording says, or who appears to have sent the offer, request or threat, just stop and think.
- Step away from it for five minutes.
- Talk to a family member or a friend about it.
- Look on the company's website for information if the contact purports to be from a company like, say, BT or Barclays Bank.
- Look on-line if you can for impartial advice about how to be sure of the action that you should take...if, in fact you need to do anything other than ignore the matter.

There are many sources of advice and information on-line. Search *avoiding scams uk* on-line. These are just three examples:

Scams: how you can avoid them  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/phishing-scams-how-you-can-avoid-them](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/phishing-scams-how-you-can-avoid-them)

Check if something might be a scam  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/)

Age Concern has published a comprehensive 40-page guide, *Avoiding scams*.

Age UK information guides and factsheets  
[www.ageuk.org.uk/services/information-advice/guides-and-factsheets/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/services/information-advice/guides-and-factsheets/)

## A DOORSTEP ENCOUNTER WITH THAT WEARY WESTIE

### FROM LLANLOCKDOWN: TILLY SPILLS THE BEANS

John Nunn

I was fortunate enough to have an unplanned meeting with one of our key contributors in February.

Andrew Perrott had brought round my copy of **The Puffin** and Tilly had come with him. She climbed up our steep front door steps, not an easy job with her little legs and dodgy eyesight, to say 'hello', so I thought I'd take the opportunity to find out a bit more about her life and background (John Nunn sent this to me recently; I saw them gossiping but heard none of the conversation. AP).

"Good morning," say I. "Tilly Barker, I believe."

"At your service," says she, looking up at me. "Your front door steps are very steep."



Gallows Point then: in 2012, not long before the old sheds were demolished; the rickety boathouse character of these old buildings contributed to a strong 'sense of place', but they must have been a maintenance headache and, with all that tarred timber, something of a fire hazard (John Briggs)



Gallows Point now: looking very busy at the end of last month; the new sheds are plain and functional, but a boatyard is a boatyard, and always a place of interest (Andrew Perrott)



The Llangoed football squad...a long time ago! (via Owen Williams)

Not to be distracted, I say, "I enjoy your articles, Tilly. It's so good to get a different perspective on daily life. Sorry to hear about your eye problems, though."

"That's why I mention your bloomin' steps," says she, making her way carefully up them. "How the heck am I supposed to get back down?"

"Aah," say I (rather inspired comment, I thought...not!).

"I'll have to get my servant to give me a lift down," she said as she sat down to chat.

"Your servant?" I query.

"Yes...my man...the 'Boss'. I keep him around for just such emergencies."

"I rather think that he thinks of you as being his pet," I venture.

"Oh, indeed," says she. "...and I encourage him in that belief; it makes him feel good, you see."

"But...servant?" I ask.

"Do you not have any servants?" she asks.

"Do I look as if I can afford servants?" I respond. "Mind you, I was born in the colonies, and we did have servants there."

"And what sort of things did your servants do for you?" she asks.

"Well," say I, "the usual sort of things...you know, prepare and serve the meals, clean up around us, run the bath, some of our neighbours even had chauffeurs, make sure the beds were made...oh, I see where you are coming from."

"Exactly," says she. "My servant," she repeats quite firmly.

"One of my fellow writers, now sadly deceased, had a character in his books called Jeeves who was described as 'a Gentleman's Gentleman'. This Andrew chappie is a Gentledog's Gentleman". She grins mischievously. "But don't tell him, eh? Leave him with his illusions".

"So that's why he actually types up the articles?" I ask.

"Well, partly," she says. "To be fair, he does always credit me with them, and I would type out more of them myself...but with my eyesight..."

"Ah, of course," say I. "Well, I do hope you'll keep them coming."

"I'll do my best," she says. "You'll have seen how he tries to claim that he has to bully me into writing articles. The truth is that I have to bully him into typing them up. I can't press him too much since he does it for free. I'd like to slip him a little remuneration every now and then but since I don't get paid, I've nothing to pay him with. I mean, is J K Rowling expected to write for nothing?"

"Hmm," I comment wisely.

"I think it's 'cos I'm a dog," she says sadly, "but I'm very fond of him, anyway. He's quite good for a servant once you get to know him. Woof."

At which point our interview ended when the servant (chauffeur?) picked her up to take her back to her carriage.

Well, I think to myself as they disappear down our drive, he's certainly well trained...



Caught in the act...Tilly spills the beans to John Nunn (Andrew Perrott)

## EDITORIAL INFORMATION

### THE EDITORIAL TEAM

Richard Adams

John Briggs

John Nunn

Andrew Perrott

Owen Williams

E-mail: [puffinpages@gmail.com](mailto:puffinpages@gmail.com)

### 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