

Llais Llandyrnog Voice

✉ llandyrnognews@gmail.com 🐦 [@LlaisLlandyrnog](https://twitter.com/LlaisLlandyrnog)

November 2024 – Volume 10 – Issue 2

Realising the vision



The Post Office reopened on 10 October, with managers Emma and Tina delighted to meet the first customers in the new-look shop. The first transaction of this new chapter in the life of Llandyrnog was the banking of a generous donation of £5,000 from Llandyrnog Community Council to the shop to support the final finishing touches to the facilities.



Emma, manager, and Mags, director, with a delighted customer in the newly-stocked shop!

Over 60 people attended the first AGM of The Llandyrnog Community Shop Limited held in the Village Hall on 8 October. Members posed some important questions to the current volunteer board, including clarification on the topic of audit versus independent examination, how goods for the shop will be chosen and the intricacies of supplying newspapers. By unanimous vote the meeting appointed five local residents to serve as directors for the forthcoming year: Viv Rosser, Pat Keefe, Gina Johnston, Mags Roberts and Jackie Le Fèvre.

Many local people are owed a great deal of thanks for enabling the project to have come this far, but as space is limited I will mention just three for now: Emyr Morris for having the vision and tenacity to get the whole thing going in the beginning and being the driving force behind securing £400,000 in grant aid; Ivan Butler for serving as independent chair in the formative stages of the Board and for shouldering the burden of setting up accounting processes and providing vital policy guidance; Nick Bell for bringing his considerable construction expertise to bear upon the renovation works and calling in more than a favour or two to help keep the work on track. Without these volunteers, bluntly, there would not be a shop and post office in this village today.

Emma, Tina and all the directors hope to see you sometime soon and will be interested to hear what you think of the shop so far.

*Jackie Le Fèvre
Company Secretary*

Around the village



Alma Lloyd Jones celebrating her 90th birthday last month – belated best wishes!

Congratulations to Hazel Wright's niece, Adele and husband Zach, on the birth of their second child, Ralph Arthur Wright-Fitter, on October 8th.

Welcome to Jeanette, Luca and Maisie Reaich and Grandmother (Sandra) who have moved to Fron Haul. We hope that you will be happy amongst us.

Best wishes to Rod Williams following hospital treatment and to Edith Hughes who is home following a lengthy stay in hospital.

Happy birthday to Joyce Cotterall who celebrated her 96th birthday on October 8th.

Condolences to the families of the late Terry Tynan, Denbigh and the late Elwyn Williams, Henllan, a former policeman in the village.

Also to Keith Evans and his family, Tyddyn Bach, on the loss of his father, Glyn Evans of Gellifor.



Elin and Conor Carrington-Sykes who were married at the church of St Tyrnog in October. Best wishes to the happy couple.

A huge thank you to all who supported the coffee morning for Denbigh Dementia Centre – a grand total of £849 was raised.



Llandyrnog Shop

Shop opening hours

Monday 8am – 5.30pm

Tuesday 8am – 5.30pm

Wednesday 8am – 8pm

Thursday 8am – 5.30pm

Friday 8am – 5.30pm

Saturday 8am – 12.30pm

Sunday 9.30am – 12pm

Post Office opening hours

Monday – Friday 9am – 5.30pm

Saturday 9am – 12.30pm



07301 573362

01824 790310 (not yet connected)



info@llandyrnogshop.com



ShopLlandyrnog



llandyrnogshop.com

Cocoa Room Events

Mon	4 th	Craft Group, 10am Trefoil Guild, 2pm
Tue	5 th	Book Club, 10am WI, 7pm
Mon	11 th	Craft Group, 10am
Wed	13 th	Mothers' Union, 2pm
Mon	18 th	Craft Group, 10am
Tue	19 th	Book Club, 10am Community Council meeting, 7pm
Wed	20 th	Tuesday Club, 2pm
Thu	21 st	Craft Workshop, 7–9pm
Sat	23 rd	Craft Workshop, 10am–12pm
Mon	25 th	Craft Group, 10am

To book the Cocoa Rooms, contact Emily Williams: emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk

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At the Cocoa Rooms



For further information, contact
Eleri Jones: 01824 719623,
advice@dcab.co.uk

Village Hall Events

Sat	2 nd	Craft Group	10am–4pm
Mon	4 th	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon	4 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed	6 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sun	10 th	Messy Church	3.30–5pm
Mon	11 th	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon	11 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed	13 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat	16 th	Coffee morning – Cancer Research	10-11.30am
Mon	18 th	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon	18 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Tue	19 th	Dyffryn Clwyd National Trust Meeting	6–9pm
Wed	20 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat	23 rd	Coffee morning – History Society	10-11.30am
Mon	25 th	Brownies	4–7pm
Mon	25 th	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed	27 th	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat	30 th	Coffee morning – Capel y Dyffryn	10-11.30am

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

Services at St Tyrnog's

3rd	11.15	Holy communion
10th	10.50	at the War Memorial: Remembrance service
	15.30	Messy Church at the Village Hall
17th	11.15	Holy communion
24th	11.15	Holy communion

The Italian connection

A prisoner of war at Eglwyswen Farm, Llandyrnog Road, Denbigh

It's common knowledge that prisoners of war were sent to many different camps throughout the British Isles during World War 2. The nearest camp in this area was Pool Park, Ruthin. This was opened in 1942 and it housed prisoners mainly from Italy and Germany until 1948 – three years after the end of the war.

Things changed dramatically in Italy after Mussolini's National Fascist Movement was deposed in the summer of 1943. The new prime minister, Pietro Badoglio, sought peace with the Allies and an armistice was signed in Cassibile by September 1943. From 1944 onwards, there weren't as many Italian prisoners in the Pool Park camp. Some were sent to hostels, some stayed on their various farms and some began to be repatriated to Italy. Many more German prisoners of war were kept in the camp towards the end of the war and up to 1948.

In the early years, most of the Italian prisoners would be sent by lorries to various farms in the Vale of Clwyd, and would put in a good day's work and have their food, before being picked up and taken back to the camp in the evening. Their labour was invaluable to farmers as many farm labourers had signed up and there was a dire shortage of them.

One particular Italian who came in the Pool Park lorry in 1942 to Eglwyswen Farm, Llandyrnog Road, to work for my grandfather and father was Toni Pagani – a kind, good-natured man who always had a broad smile on his face. In July 1941, he, like so many Italian prisoners, was taken after the defeat in the Middle East, and sent to Britain. This was the first wave of war prisoners to arrive in Britain.

He had left his wife and two children, Baldo and Maria, in Sezze in the region of Lazio, Italy, and would show a photo of them at every opportunity. He was very conscientious and would undertake all his tasks at the farm wholeheartedly – handling plough-horses,



Toni with Huw Wyn Jones, father of Ann Jones Evans

sowing fields, harvesting crops, milking cows and feeding all the animals at Eglwyswen Farm. It wasn't the same everywhere in the area. There was a saying in rural North Wales at that time, when farmers compared Italian and German Prisoners of war – 'Tell a German to do something and he'll do it straight away. Tell an Italian and he'll start arguing!!'

Following the Armistice in Cassibile, when Italy became one of the Allies, Toni Pagani was allowed to stay on the farm overnight and he slept in a cosy loft in Tŷ Buarth (the bailiff's house on the farmyard). By then, he was very much a part of the family and everyone enjoyed his company.

After the end of the war, it was time at last for Toni Pagani to be repatriated and go back home to his family in Sezze and he was sorely missed.

His story could have ended there. Within a

The Italian connection: ctd

few months, however, there was a letter for 'Taid Eglwyswen' with quite a few Italian stamps on the envelope. Toni had made a great effort to write the actual letter where he pleaded with 'Taid' to let him come back and work for him – this time with the whole family! As in many other parts of Italy, unemployment was rampant in Lazio and many families couldn't provide food for themselves.

By return of post, my grandfather replied that there would be a warm welcome for Toni and his family to come over and live in Tŷ Buarth, which stood empty at that time. They soon settled down, and the children went to the local school. I have a faint memory of wandering down to the farmyard and hearing Mrs. Pagani's hearty laugh – she was quite a character. My mother used to say that the only problem they had was communication – Mrs. Pagani had no English whatsoever let alone any Welsh! And so, they worked and lived happily at Eglwyswen Farm for at least ten years, until Toni found alternative work in Mold. More modern farm implements had been introduced by then, and less labour was needed.

But that again is not the end of the story. My mum still kept in touch with the family, and when Mrs Pagani lost Toni and moved back to Sezze to be nearer family and friends, she would send letters and cards via Maria,

their daughter, who still lived in Mold. As it happens, our eldest daughter Elen eventually settled in Nettuno, a seaside town in the region of Lazio – only 28 miles from Sezze!

In 2009, when we were next in Italy looking after the children, we decided to go with Elen to represent the 'old family' and pay Mrs. Pagani a visit – she was now well into her late eighties and rather frail. It was a strange feeling to recognize a familiar face for the first time in many years – in Italy! It was even stranger to listen to Mrs Pagani reminiscing about the good old times in Tŷ Buarth, Eglwyswen. She remembered how she used to baby-sit me every now and again! An Italian lady, in Italy, talking about baby-sitting a little Welsh girl in Wales many years ago. It's a strange world!

Ann Jones Evans

Denbighshire County Council

Merfyn Parry



Contact details

Mobile: 07836 208446

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

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Spotlight on... Diane Irving

What are your recollections of early life?

I was born in Caerwys in 1961. My parents were Don and Greta Lewis. My late mum was born in Caerwys and Dad was from Llanbedr.

I had a wonderful childhood. My late Dad was a steel fabricator and was well known in the farming circle. He previously worked for Jones Balers factory in Mold where Allis Chalmers balers etc were manufactured. Mam worked in Aston's furniture shop in Denbigh.

Before I started school, I used to go with my mam and auntie to deliver chicks all around North Wales. My late Auntie Glenys was from Llandyrnog – her name was Glenys Owen. I spent a lot of my childhood holidays working on the farm.

My dad, Don Lewis, used to play Summer League football for Llandyrnog in the 1950s, and also darts for the Golden Lion. Mam and Dad used to attend the dances held in the Village Hall in the 1950s and listen to music.

How were the school years?

I attended Holywell High School and I used to play hockey, tennis and netball for the school.

My dad bought me a pony when I was 11 years old. We broke it in and I trained him – a strawberry roan which I named Champion. I was very successful in the local gymkhanas, winning lots of rosettes, medals and shields.

I began working at 13 years of age, waiting on, and at 15 I started working as a care assistant in Maes Mynan Care Home at weekends and school holidays.

And after school?

I began working in Llangwyfan (Care Concern as it was then) in 1984 and moved to Llandyrnog in 1989, renting 4, Church Square. By 1992 I had started working for Flintshire Social Services.

I met my hubby Graham in 1995 and we married in 1997 and purchased our present home, 31 Maes Clwyd. Graham is an Operative Manager at McCarthys Haulage in Wrexham.



I was very involved with the community back then. I then worked in Brondyffryn School in Denbigh.

Unfortunately, I ended up with a significant injury to my knee, and the operation failed. This has left me with chronic pain and mobility issues, so I'm unable to be involved in the community as much as I would like to. My contribution is that I enjoy baking cakes for coffee mornings. I enjoy growing bedding plants from seeds, upcycling and making crafts although now it's at a much slower pace!

What places are important to you?

I spent a lot of my childhood and teens up in the Vivod and Llangollen. My Great-uncle John was the Head Shepherd for Captain Best on the Vivod Estate, and his wife Aunt Enid was a wonderful baker. We always, as a family, went with them to the Eisteddfod every year. We always spent our summer holidays in Caernarfon with my late Uncle and Aunt, and Caernarfon and surrounding areas hold a very special place in my heart as does Vivod, Llangollen and Caerwys.

Spotlight: ctd

What annoys you?

People who are ill-mannered, impatient and inconsiderate really annoy me.

What lifts your spirits?

Being with my family and friends lifts my spirits, and listening to music, and watching comedy series/films.

Who would you like to invite to your dinner party and why?

At my dinner party I would like to have Sir Alex Ferguson and Eric Cantona, because I love football and especially Manchester United; Miriam Margoyles and Paul O'Grady for the comedy; George Michael and Andrea Bocelli for wonderful music and Margaret Thatcher just to spice things up!

Finally, may I say that I love living in Llandyrnog - you couldn't ask for a better community to live in.

(Thank you Diane, and we, as a community, appreciate your unstinting support for the coffee mornings – Ed.)

Mothers' Union

In our October meeting we packed boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The first challenge is assembling the boxes! We always have great fun choosing items to include and we hope that the children who open them will enjoy using all the things we pack.

The challenge of assembling the Operation Christmas Child boxes!



Llandyrnog & Llangwyfan WI

The Annual General Meeting was held in October and the committee re-elected. Despite being a small group we have contributed well to the village community and had a very good year.

Coming up in December we have a wreath-making demonstration, willow-weaving in January, a ladies' fashion and beauty afternoon in February and a chutney-making demonstration and sale in March.

We are going to vary the venue and time to allow more people to come and try a meeting with no obligation to join or become involved in committee work.

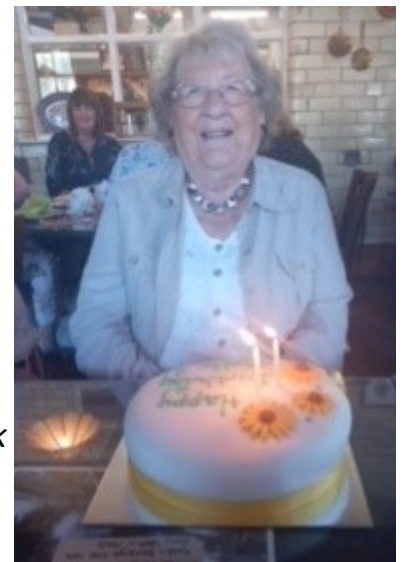
It's lots of fun and members organise nice outings in between meetings for those who like to go out and about. A small group went on the train from Llangollen to Carrog which they all enjoyed.



Members celebrated Betty's birthday with a cake at Afonwen Craft Centre.

Next trip will be to the craft exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham

Jane Borthwick



Along part of the Pilgrim's Way

If you fancy a good healthy walk, this is one I did the other day. Ok, it's not in or around the village but well worth the trip – it takes no more than half a day.

It's part of the North Wales Pilgrim's Way – a long-distance walking route running from Holywell to Ynys Enlli – the Island of 20,000 Saints. The first half of the route, which I am doing now, takes an inland route, whilst the second half from Abergwyngregyn (or Aber) to Bardsey follows the coast.

The whole path is 134 miles. However, I have completed most of the second half from Caernarfon to Aberdaron and visited Ffynnon Fair. This is the last well for the Pilgrims, which is situated precariously on the rocks above Y Swnt – the stretch of water between Aberdaron and Bardsey Island. Think of Y Swnt as the Swellies (a dangerous section of the Menai Straits) on steroids – after seeing Ffynnon Fair. I retreated pretty quickly back up the rocks to the relative safety of the lower slopes of Mynydd Mawr. Y Swnt takes no prisoners – it's a pretty mean stretch of water.

I am doing the first half in shorter distances because of the logistics involved with solo walking – car either end and a walking partner is not an option. I love walking on my own at my own pace. So, it's car one end and a bike at the other end – don't ask, but it does work. So if I walk eight miles, I have to find a road and ride back to my car. What is 'pace'? Well, if you can sing and walk, it's a steady pace. If you can't sing, it's too fast – as simple as that.

I'll take you today on a very short but extremely scenic route – my second day of walking the first half – about six miles, that's all.

Trelawnyd to Tremeirchion

I quote from my trusty handbook:

'From the village, use the pedestrian crossing to go to St Michael's Church. Follow the lane past the church to a bridge. After crossing the bridge, take the track on your left. You are now on the Clwydian Way. Follow

this path, passing on your left the entrance to a bungalow (Swyn y Mynydd), to a stile.'

That's it – after just half a mile, I was lost – seriously lost. It's only now I understand that I'm not the only one who has got lost here – barbed wire across top of gates, damaged styles, fake 'footpath diversion' signs, 'bull in field', all sorts of misdemeanour contribute to the confusion. Anyway, let's not dwell on it – the landowner must have a good reason for doing this.

After a two-mile detour, I was glad to be back on tarmac and could hear the gentle hum of traffic in the distance. After passing Pwll Halog Farm and Penisa'r Waen (Elfed Morris's home, of course) crossing the source of the noise, the A55, I faced another challenge – a field of potatoes.

Just out of interest, the farm is called Bryngwyn Mawr and the vast acreage of potatoes will be destined for McCain to make chips – they have four potato-processing plants in the UK and part of a global network of factories.



Anyway, the potato field challenge. I only have little legs and the furrows were wider than my footstep – I have 3' steps and the furrows were 4' apart, if you're still with me. I certainly had a good workout crossing that field and very glad to reach the stile leading to Bryngwyn Bach – until I read the signs.

Crossing this field was always going to be a challenge! However, the owner has had the path diverted to avoid 'Aircraft Movements' and a dinosaur. He has a life-size dinosaur in

The Pilgrim's Way: ctd



Tremeirchion – as the Pilgrims would have done and made their way to the Church – Corpus Christi.

I must say the sense of peace in these mediaeval Churches is something special. It's a place of solace, a place to thank our lucky stars and pray for loved ones. Thinking of all the atrocities in the world at the moment and living in a peaceful democratic society where, in general, others respect your views – we are so lucky!

The perimeter of the original churchyard, which is clearly visible, takes the rounded form of very early Christian sites, while the oldest of the twelve yews encircling the church yard are said to be more than 800 years old. The oldest surviving parts of the church probably date back to the 12th century – these are the north and south walls both shaped to look like a ship's sides.

After spending about fifteen minutes there, I had intended to go from Tremeirchion to St Asaph – but decided to go home instead. No rush is there? It will still be there tomorrow.

Bryn Davies

the corner of his field (see top rt corner of the above photo, if you have a magnifying glass – each to his own!)



By now I was back in the groove – the path By now I was back in the groove – the path is easily identifiable and took me to the summit of Moel Maenefa. The views from the top are fantastic – it's the most northerly of the Clwydian Hills and stands at 299m.

I think I must have erred to the right here and next thing I was in very high bracken – about six foot six high bracken – and I'm five foot five! In fact, I was doing a breaststroke just to push my way through and trying to hang on to my specs with dear life because if they would have flicked off my head here, I would have no chance of finding them. Plus if something happened to me – Anwen would never find me – funny what goes through one's mind!

Eventually, I found daylight and by now I was in completely the wrong place – I was backing onto St Beuno's college whereas I should have been following the summit of Moel Maenefa. However, after a very challenging hike, I was back on top with the wonderful views and heading towards

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Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

October seems to have come and gone very quickly!

The junior class started the month with a visit to the Llaeth y Llan factory. As part of their topic on Vikings they had tried making their own butter, viking style, and they found out during their trip about modern methods of processing dairy products.



We have been lucky to hold on to some lovely weather for our weekly forest school lessons and the children are really starting to develop great skills in tool handling.



The infants enjoyed their annual trip to the jamboree at Ysgol Brynhyfryd and sang their hearts out!



We are also incredibly proud of all our children who took part in the Llandyrnog Eisteddfod and also of our friends from Ysgol Gellifor. Everyone did a great job and it is a big achievement to get up and recite by yourself. Diolch yn fawr iawn hefyd to the Eisteddfod organisers for all their hard work and the support they show the children.



Llandyrnog Eisteddfod

A very successful Eisteddfod was held in the Village Hall on Friday 18th October with competitions of a high standard for over 6 hours. This year's adjudicators were: Music – Sioned Davies, Llanferres; Recitation and Literature – Haf Evans, Henllan; Craft – Charlotte Lloyd, Denbigh with everyone praising the high standards across the stage competitions and homework. There were over 400 entries in the craft section, with 180 entries in the Literary section. The accompanist was Ann Edwards, Prion. A special thank you was given to them all for their meticulous work.

The chair was won by Rebecca Rees, Llandysul, Ceredigion (below), and it was a joy to welcome her to Llandyrnog, and perform a ceremony to honour her achievement.



A big thank you to all the sponsors, and everyone who helped on the night. A special thank you to all the schools who supported us again this year – without this support there would not be an Eisteddfod!

Iona Davies

Eisteddfod Joint Secretary

Becky Gittins, MP for Clwyd East
becky.gittins.mp@parliament.co.uk

Tuesday Club

The guest speaker at the October meeting was Jane Borthwick. Although she has only lived among us for a few years, she is vice-chair of Llandyrnog Community Council and secretary of the village branch of the WI. She is a senior consultant teacher for primary schools in Flintshire and is very busy in her spare time.

She has been involved with the Doddie Weir Foundation, a charity that has raised over £11 million to help people living with motor neurone disease and research into the disease. Every year the Doddie Aid exercise challenge takes place at the beginning of the year, and continues until the rugby match between Wales and Scotland. Jane and her partner, Geraint, have completed the challenge, raising £2000 the first time they took part in it, and £1000 last year.

Both have raised incredible amounts of money for charities – over £10,000 between them. To raise money for Cancer Research they have completed the British Three Peaks challenge, the Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge, and swum 10 kilometres. They did the British Three Peaks again to raise money for Ysgol yr Esgob, Caerwys and the Welsh Three Peaks challenge to raise money for Parkinson's UK.

Jane showed beautiful photos of her holidays and their various outdoor activities, swimming and walking in very beautiful places.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 20th November and anyone is welcome to join us.

Trefoil Guild

Trefoil celebrated Harvest with a talk by Rev Alison Goldstein about the book of Ruth and the status of women which in parts of the world has not changed. Tins were given for the food bank, and refreshments and the raffle followed. In the next meeting we will be shown flower arranging by Dorothy Roberts.

Dyffryn chapel



A special Children's Thanksgiving Service prepared by Glesni and Siwan was held on Sunday morning October 13th. The children sang and relayed their message in a natural way. Iago and Mabon then helped Ann to show how important it is to help each other and think of all those people who have to rely on food banks. The children contributed provisions for the Denbigh Food Bank. During the service everyone received a pretty little bag containing a variety of flower seeds to take home.



Y Gymdeithas Monday 7th October, the Winter Programme started with a sumptuous buffet attended by over 60 people, organized by Catrin, Glesni, Gwenno and Siwan. Gwenno and Fiona introduced Llinos, Tŷ Capel, who had brought along the Year 10 girls' singing party from Ysgol Brynhyfryd, who sang beautifully, including exciting piano recitals. Dafydd thanked everyone for a very wonderful evening.

Services

03/11	10.00	Family Service
10/11	10.50	Remembrance Service starting at the War Memorial
17/11	9.45	Rev. Nesta Davies
24/11	10.00	Ann and Iestyn

Dyffryn Chapel
Coffee Morning
Saturday, 30 November
10–11.30 at the Village Hall
Usual stalls, raffle
All welcome!

Messy Church



In our October session, we heard the story of the Sower and the Seed, and we learned about growing plants and harvest. We did all sorts of activities on the theme, including planting mung beans so we can watch them grow into beansprouts and making a great big flower which will go into church for everyone to see. Our next session will be on Sunday 10th November and all are warmly welcome.

Concert

Eglwys Sant Tyrnog – We, as the church, would like to thank everyone who came to the concert on 12th October in the Village Hall. We were treated to a feast of music from Côr Meibion Caerwys and some incredibly talented local youngsters. There really was something for everyone to enjoy. We would like to thank all those who took part: Tudur the choir director, and Heather Powell and her team who arranged a wonderful variety of items from the young people. The event raised £820 for church funds, so *diolch o galon i bawb*.

Mary Steel

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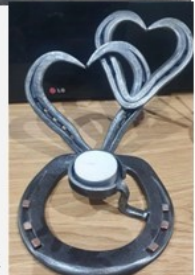
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23 November

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Recipe

Bonfire night toffee apple bread and butter pudding

Ingredients

3 dessert apples
Juice of half a lemon
3 tbsps sugar
6 brioche rolls, sliced
400g tin caramel
3 eggs
400ml full fat milk
1 tspn vanilla extract
200ml double cream

Method

Core the dessert apples and slice into thick rings.

Toss the apples in the lemon juice and two tablespoons of sugar.

Spread $\frac{2}{3}$ of the caramel into the base of a 20 x 30 cm baking dish.

Layer the brioche rolls and apple in the dish in overlapping lines. Dot the leftover caramel on the top leaving some apple on the top.

Whisk the eggs, milk, vanilla extract and double cream with one tablespoon of sugar.

Pour the mixture over the pudding then wrap in clingfilm and chill for at least 30 mins – overnight works well.

Uncover the dish, add a sprinkling of sugar to the top and bake on 170 °C or Gas mMark 3 for 45–50 minutes or until the top is golden. Serve with ice cream.

Jane Borthwick



Llandyrnog craft workshops

Monthly craft workshops for adults are held at the Cocoa Rooms. There is a new craft to learn every month, with hopefully a finished piece to take home.

Workshops are £25pp, which includes all materials, plus tea, coffee and biscuits.

If anybody is interested, please leave a message for more details. Helen
hbrookhouse@yahoo.co.uk

November: Aluminium wreath

Using recycled aluminium cans to create a decorative wreath.

Thursday, 21 November 7–9pm

Saturday, 23 November 10am–12pm

Thanks to all who have contributed to this month's edition – all articles are gratefully appreciated.

J & G TYRE SERVICES



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The Wright Stuff



Autumn officially kicks off this month with the centuries-old tradition of bonfires and fireworks seen across the nation.

Remember, remember, the 5th of November,
Gunpowder, treason and plot.

I see no reason

Why gunpowder treason

Should ever be forgot.

And the poem continues...I'm sure the Editor won't be happy if I recite the full poem, so you will have to look it up on-line.

In my house the chimney has been swept, the log burner lit, the garden put to bed and we are all spending a lot more time indoors with our loved ones, seeking warmth and comfort, well my dogs do. The 'winter' celebrations start with Halloween followed by Guy Fawkes night, Bonfire night or Fireworks night – whatever you like to call it and will continue to the winter solstice, Christmas and New Year.

It's been over 400 years since the failure of the 'Gunpowder Plot'. It follows hot on the heels of Halloween with its trick-or-treaters, sugary sweets and spooky happenings when we are truly into the long dark winter nights. My mother used to make toffee apples for us kids. The freshly-harvested eating apples were covered in a sugar candy coating with a stick inserted for the handle. My father used to provide the apples from the garden, but unbeknownst to us he used windfall apples. On bonfire night we were all excited at the sweet treats and took a large bite into them to find they had patches of rotten flesh – I soon learnt to be careful and check them before taking a bite. Another tooth destroying treat was treacle toffee – home-made, of course, and for the adults plenty of cider.

I'd forgotten the enjoyment of a sparkler, up until this summer when I went to a local wedding and as a final celebration the guests were all given sparklers. Immediately everyone was a child again, laughing and

waving their sparkler in the cool dark summer's evening. It was magical. My main memory of bonfire night were of fireworks refusing to light (despite being stored in an old Quality Street air tight tin (I hear Nestlé have changed to cardboard now as this is more environmentally friendly). Dad would get very frustrated, especially with a bunch of eager and excited kids anticipating the show and of course, the poor dogs hiding under the beds.

It's all very different now with the advent of 'silent' fireworks, pyro-musical firework displays (firework shows synchronised with music, for the uninitiated) and for the future, drone displays which allow much more creative freedom. More recently, we have all had the chance to watch in awe the aurora borealis or northern lights splashing vivid colours above the Clwydian range from our own back gardens. Who would have thought this would be possible? They are created when energized particles from the sun slam into the Earth's upper atmosphere at speeds of up to 45 million mph, with our planet's magnetic field protecting us. My brother booked a once-in-a-lifetime holiday last year to take a cruise up the Norwegian coast ending with the Northern Lights – many of us have this on our 'bucket list'. My advice, stand in your own garden on a clear night and tick this phenomenon off your list, after all it's a free show.

Hazel

Llais Llandyrnog Voice Committee:

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

***Send all news contributions and articles to
llandyrnognews@gmail.com.***

Matters discussed in the October meeting of Llandyrnog Community Council

All ten members present – one being on Zoom – a first!

- ◆ Written report from North Wales Police
 - ◆ 5th October: single accident between Llwyn Helyg and Brynlllys – driver passed roadside drugs and alcohol and no further action taken.
 - ◆ 8th October: vehicle and cyclist collided. Minor injuries to cyclist – driver failed to provide details. On-going case.
 - ◆ 13th October: reports of loud cars and boy racers. One-off, no further reports.
 - ◆ Lady walking dog had near miss with vehicle on Lôn Goch. Now has an incident number.
- ◆ Cllrs E. Williams and G. Butler (below) were thanked for giving up their Saturday morning to plant flowers on the roundabout and Cllr Griffith for attending to the Brownie boxes and Church Square.



- ◆ Cllr Butler, on behalf of Llandyrnog CC attended a Denbigh County Council finance

liaison meeting where DCC financial situation was laid bare and was not good reading. The Town Councils and Community Councils will be expected to contribute if the current level of services were to be continued in certain areas.

- ◆ Planning
 - ◆ Erection of two storey extension to side of Bryn Dedwydd, Fforddlas – no serious concerns but planning to ensure privacy and amenity of next door is protected.
 - ◆ Erection of detached garage at Green Farm – no objection.
 - ◆ Retrospective application to change of use of stable to dog day care facility and continued use of menage as mixed use of equestrian and dog exercise area, and continued use of land as agricultural and equestrian and dog exercise area – Wern Farm, Llandyrnog. There had been prolonged discussion with the case officer. However the applicant has not provided enough evidence to allow the community council to make an informed decision and therefore the decision to be left to DCC.
 - ◆ Allotment to rear of Nant Glyd – there had been little progress.
 - ◆ Base for bench – two quotations have been received and it was decided to proceed with the work – *Llais Llandyrnog Voice* having kindly offered a substantial contribution.
 - ◆ Co-option – confirmation has been received from DCC that no one had asked for an election and therefore the council be allowed to continue to co-opt a new member. To be discussed in the new year.
 - ◆ It was felt that the flood relief scheme on the road between Garth and Tŷ Coch has been a success and a great benefit to both the parish of Llandyrnog and Llanynys.