

# Llais Llandyrnog Voice

✉ [llandyrnognews@gmail.com](mailto:llandyrnognews@gmail.com)    🐦 @LlaisLlandyrnog

October 2024 – Volume 10 – Issue 1

## Residents on their travels



Sardinia, Germany and Tanzania – people from Llandyrnog have been spreading their wings. Thanks to those who have shared their story with us.

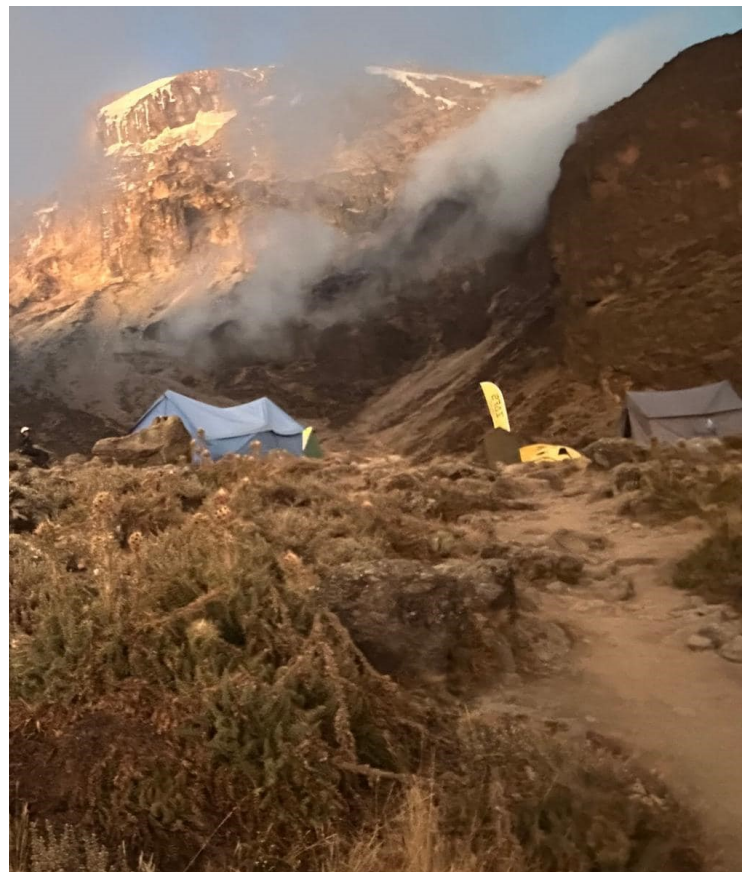
### First Annual General Meeting

**The Llandyrnog  
Community Shop  
Limited**

**Tuesday  
8 October at 7pm**

**Llandyrnog  
Village Hall**

**All shareholders invited and guests/  
visitors also welcome**



## Around the village

We're pleased to hear that Elwyn Evans, Malcolm Hughes and John Hugh Roberts are recuperating after receiving hospital treatment. We also send our best wishes to Edith Hughes and to Ruby Grace, Craiglea following hospital treatment.

Birthday greetings to Elfor Morris who will be celebrating his 50th birthday on 12 October.

Congratulations to Conor and Elin Carrington-Sykes on their wedding at St Tyrnog's.

Also to Dafydd Roberts and Ron Davison on reaching the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro. They raised £3500 towards Prostate Cancer UK and Lawcare, the mental health charity for the legal profession.



A very big thank you to all who supported the coffee morning to raise funds for Llandyrnog Eisteddfod – a grand total of £536 was raised.

### **LLANDYRNOG EISTEDDFOD**

**5 pm, Friday, 18 October  
at the Village Hall**

***Come to support local talent – all welcome!***

## Factory Update

We've still got a lot of work to do at The Creamery, but we have actually been producing there for the past five months now, albeit with a small workforce.

The main production and warehouse facilities should be completed by the end of the year. We are hoping to have the welfare block finished by mid-October and the offices should be finished by the end of October.

We should have some new signage in place in 3-4 weeks time, to replace the Arla signs that we're all familiar with.

The plan will be to have everybody moved over for the New Year.

Harvey Jackson  
Managing Director

## **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**

The coffee and cake drop-in event at the Cocoa Rooms raised £345 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thanks to all who attended.

**DBP** 

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## Cocoa Room Events

Mon	7 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Group, 10am Trefoil Guild, 2pm
Tue	8 <sup>th</sup>	Book Club, 10am
Wed	9 <sup>th</sup>	Mothers' Union, 2pm
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Group, 10am
Tue	15 <sup>th</sup>	Community Council meeting, 7pm
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Club, 2pm
Mon	21 <sup>st</sup>	Craft Group, 10am
Tue	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Book Club, 10am WI, 7pm
Thu	24 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Workshop, 7–9pm
Sat	26 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Workshop, 10am–12pm
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup>	Block of the month, 7pm

To book the Cocoa Rooms, contact Emily Williams: [emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:emilylloyd1@tiscali.co.uk)

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## Village Hall Events

Wed	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat	5 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Group	10am–4pm
Sun	6 <sup>th</sup>	Craft fair	10am–3pm
Mon	7 <sup>th</sup>	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon	7 <sup>th</sup>	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Tue	8 <sup>th</sup>	Llandyrnog Community Shop and Post Office AGM	7–9pm
Wed	9 <sup>th</sup>	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Sat	12 <sup>th</sup>	Caerwys Male Voice Choir Concert	7–9pm
Sun	13 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	3–6pm
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup>	History Society AGM Guest speaker: Gareth Evans, Landed Estates in the Vale of Clwyd	6.30 7pm
Fri	18 <sup>th</sup>	Eisteddfod	5pm
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday party	
Mon	21 <sup>st</sup>	Brownies	5.30–7pm
Mon	21 <sup>st</sup>	Choir	7.30–9.30pm
Wed	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pilates	7.15–8.15pm
Fri	25 <sup>th</sup>	School halloween disco	
Sat	26 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee morning – Dementia UK	10-11.30am
Sun	27 <sup>th</sup>	Birthday party	
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup>	Brownies	4–7pm
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup>	Choir	7.30–9.30pm

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

# What's in a field?: continued from September

Items found in the Parks, Llangwyfan, spanned a period from 1100 BC, about 3100 years ago, up to the present day, illustrating the occupants, visitors and travellers across that field and the ones adjacent!

- ◆ Coins from many historical periods, from the reign of George VI (1936-1952) and as far back as the Roman era. Other forms of currency and tokens were also found, including an Italian Soldino coin – used during a shortage of English-struck halfpennies in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, and Anglesey Druid Tokens – struck for the Parys mining company on Anglesey.
- ◆ Several Roman, Medieval and Bronze Age items, along with buttons, jewellery, badges, toys, buckles, cutlery, and smoking and equine items.
- ◆ Several war/military items, mainly from WWII.

Items found during the detectorists' visits show an occupation in the area from the bronze age. Most coins and artefacts were found near the known sources of occupation in the lower fields and where the Roman artefacts appeared. The area around the church would indicate a long-term use of this site, given the number of coins from different centuries that were found.

The bronze age spear tips date to the late bronze age era with one being potentially older. There is damage to both and this may have been deliberate (a killing). They could possibly be near an unknown bronze age burial. The source of the copper may have originated from the mines of the Great Orme and smelted the other side at Pen Trwyn. Both of these sites were the only known operations in the late bronze age at this time.

Not many artefacts have been found at the Iron Age fort at Penycloddiau, so the two spearheads may prove important. They show Bronze Age activity around the slope of this hill and it is near a water source.

The track is locally known as a Roman road

but it could predate the Romans and used to connect the iron age forts. The Romans will no doubt have followed existing tracks in search for lead and gold in the mountains.

The (Roman) track leads to Moel Arthur upon which rests another Iron age fort, and may have a potential bronze age burial mound in the centre. This hill was explored for gold in the short lived Cilcain gold rush. A hoard of Roman coins and red pottery was found in 1849 excavations along with arrowheads, flint etc. A rainstorm in 1962 revealed three bronze age axe heads.

The finds in the Parks and other Llangwyfan fields show that they have been used, worked and farmed for at least the best part of 3000 years and we are sure there is much more history still to be discovered and uncovered in the fields in the future!!

*Julia Hughes*

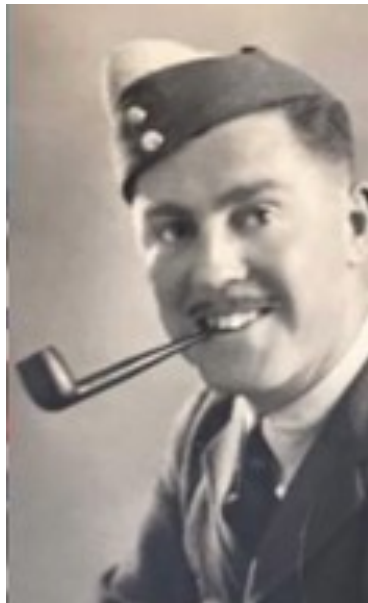


# A poignant visit

In September, we visited Sardinia to remember my Great Uncle, Cornelius Keefe who died 80 years ago on 13 September 1944. With our grandson Rowan, our children and my parents we had four generations of the Keefe family going to remember a fifth. I last went with my dad and brother for the 65th anniversary.

Cornelius and his brothers (including my grandfather, 'Pop') were exempt from service as they worked for Brymbo Steelworks, but as the eldest, Cornelius felt one of them should serve and he volunteered so his younger brothers would not have to.

He was the private secretary of Henry Beyer Robertson who owned the Steelworks before the war. The Robertson family's seat was Palé Hall, now a lovely hotel. Cornelius was engaged to be married and also an accomplished pianist who held concerts in Wrexham.



Having joined the RAF and completed 25 missions, Cornelius' plane crashed on their final run. From Mike Napier, 14th Squadron Association... 'the aircraft took off from Alghero (N. Sardinia) at 0550 hrs and flew into some high ground as they turned onto course for their patrol; the accident was down to "pilot error" in that the airfield procedures forbade turning in that particular direction during the hours of darkness because of the risk of flying into that very hill. Quite why the pilots should have made such an error is unclear. All the crew were killed... I do have a photo of Squadron personnel on their way back from a funeral on Sardinia.'

*Pat Keefe*



*Four generations of the Keefe family at the grave of Cornelius Keefe in Cagliari Communal Cemetery, Sardinia*

**Denbighshire County Council**

**Merfyn Parry**



Contact details

Mobile: 07836 208446

E-mail: [merfyn.parry@denbighshire.gov.uk](mailto:merfyn.parry@denbighshire.gov.uk)

Or leave a message on Facebook

# Spotlight on... Jackie Le Fèvre

*What is your background?*

I'm an Essex girl, born in Romford. I attended secondary school in Derbyshire then the University of Sheffield. Two and half years of voluntary work followed the Zoology degree: first, with Woolly Monkeys in Cornwall and then reintroducing chimpanzees to the wild in The Gambia, West Africa. I stayed in nature conservation and charities in mainland UK and Northern Ireland for 20 years before starting my own business, Magma Effect.

When our girls were young we lived in Lancashire, then Cheshire, spending many half-term holidays in North Wales. We fell in love with the country and the people, so seized an opportunity during the difficult days of 2020 to move to this beautiful part of the world to Greenfield.

*What three places have particular significance for you?*

First: Pays de la Loire in France from childhood camping holidays and adventuring with my own children, whether exploring a chateau, paddling a canoe downstream or sipping fizz on the terrace at Gratien & Meyer. It's also home to my favourite 'attraction' – Le Grand Parc where gladiators race chariots, Viking ships launch and battlements are defended before your very eyes.

Second: my garden, particularly where the fruit and vegetables grow, even though this last season has been a nightmare with the slugs producing lettuces that are more holes than leaves. Happily my first attempt at grafting heritage Welsh apples seem to be working out ok.

Finally Ireland: north, south, east and west – a beautiful land with great people, superb food and although I don't drink it, I am reliably informed, the Guinness is fantastic too.

*What annoys you?*

Intolerance. We have one planet, we are one human race. This life is no dress rehearsal. So

let's just do what we can do to help one another and the environment upon which we all depend.

A lesser frustration: at 5ft 3" I'm not that tall but surely it could be possible for more of the things I want to buy in supermarkets to be at a height I can reach????

*Who would you invite to your dinner party, whether they're still with us or not?*

How big a table can I have? First has to be my Dad (no longer with us), a great storyteller and I'd sit him next to Spike Milligan who he loved. My scientist-self would invite Dr Jane Goodall, whose pioneering work with chimpanzees still inspires me and Sir David Attenborough, because everything he does, plus brilliant British astro-physicist Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocok who would love Llandyrnog's dark skies. As a theatre-goer it would be amazing to sit between Judi Dench and Martin Sheen, two of my favourite actors. From the past I would value listening to Nye Bevan on the origins of the NHS and Mary Keating Hill on the fight for women's suffrage in Wales. Finally, Shirley Bassey and Freddie Mercury (probably popular music's best voices ever) as it would be nice to end up in a bit of a sing-song. Of course, my Dave would be there having made us all an amazing curry to share.

*What are your plans for the future?*

Our house is very much a work in progress (as I think many people realise) so it would be nice to finish all that work and end up with as carbon-neutral a way of life as possible. I am excited about the opening of the Llandyrnog Community Shop and its potential to be popular with local residents and visitors. Finally, once our house and garden are finished, there will be a dog (or two), probably a rescue, maybe a German Shepherd (Dave's choice) or a potty Springer Spaniel (for me).

*What are you most proud of?*

It might sound daft, but I was delighted to win first prize for my shallots at the Llandyrnog

## Spotlight: ctd

Flower and Produce Show. It is great fun to enter and I encourage everyone to give it a go next year.

I am pleased that my original research in psychology into the connections between human values and well-being saw me awarded my PhD last year. It is also quite good fun, when sales agents ask 'is it Mrs or Miss?' to reply, 'it's Dr actually'.



*Dr Jackie at her graduation ceremony*

## Mothers' Union



In our September meeting we welcomed some of the volunteers from Blood Bikes Wales and learned more about the very special service they provide to support the NHS. We were all very impressed with their dedication to this vital service, which has no funding and all their activities are funded by donations.

**Thanks to all who contributed to the coffee morning which raised £321 for the Trefoil Guild funds.**





**Rural Connections Advice Service Denbighshire**

The service will include advice on how to maximise income, welfare benefits advice, debt advice, household energy advice, family law, housing advice and wider holistic advice. Most advice will be available in Welsh and English.

Every Friday from 10am to 12pm - Starting Friday 23rd August 2024  
At **Cocoa Rooms**, Llandyrnog, Denbigh, LL16 4HG

**Advice is offered by appointment only**

Please contact Eleri Jones on 01824 719 623 or email: [advice@dcab.co.uk](mailto:advice@dcab.co.uk)

# A visit to Biebertal

For the last fifteen years or so we have been members of the Denbigh/Biebertal Twinning Association. This is run by Enys and Peter Davies Gwaenynog supported by a hard-working committee.

Biebertal is a municipality of villages just north-west of the University City of Giessen (which was completely demolished in WW2) an hour or so north of Frankfurt, so more or less in central Germany. It is a municipality of some ten thousand people, slightly larger than Denbigh. What appeals to us about Biebertal is its rural location and the very friendly nature of the inhabitants who give us such a generous welcome (if I could think of a word for very very generous I would have used it!) when we visit on alternate years. In September, eighteen of us yet again accepted their kind hospitality and spent a week getting to learn more about this very attractive part of Germany.

In the past we have visited many small towns in the area full of character and antiquity. Our week is full of various opportunities – for example one of our hosts was a Forestry Specialist and he encouraged a couple of us to be in a forest hideout at the crack of dawn to view deer and other wildlife but sadly all we saw was a deer's tail between some bushes.

This part of Germany is dotted with small family farms and over the years we have visited many businesses engaged in many activities such as engineering, growing leeches for the medical industry, underground metal ore-mining and of course vineyards and breweries, to name just a few.

This illustrates that whilst the area is largely agricultural, a very wide spectrum of activities also provides good employment prospects for youngsters. Since Giessen is only a short drive away from Biebertal, many locals are employed in the city.

During our recent visit two day trips were extremely interesting:

Eberbach is one of the oldest and largest

monasteries in the area dating back to the twelfth century. It was a large active home for some one hundred monks and a similar number of supporting staff until the sixteen hundreds when it was looted by Swedish and Hessian troops. A successful vineyard was established by the monks and still produces a fine quality Riesling wine today.

After the monks departed, the magnificent building went into disrepair and was used for a very wide variety of purposes including cattle housing!

There has been ongoing repair over the centuries and the monastery came back to prominence with the filming of *The Name of the Rose*, starring Sean Connery during the mid-eighties. We were shown a fake pillar made of hardwood, which was made for the filming and stills looks very authentic even today. The monastery is now in excellent condition and is managed by a non-profit ownership by the local community and is a magnet for tourists.



*Margaret (far lt.) and Mary (far rt.) at the monastery*

Another interesting tour was that to the fortified city of Koblenz. The city is a living fortress heritage at the confluence of the rivers Rhine and Moselle. The Rhine is one of the most important chemical manufacturing areas worldwide, with materials imported



## A visit to Biebertal: ctd

and exported through Rotterdam. Despite the industrial importance of the area, Koblenz remains one of Germany's most beautiful cities with vineyards, forests and four mountain ranges forming a picturesque backdrop.

Koblenz old town offers a variety of charming squares and restaurants but the most interesting spot is where the two rivers meet. This is known as the 'German Corner' (seen in the photograph on the front page) from where you can take a cable car – an aerial lift opened in 2010 which is almost a kilometre in length. It lifts you to a height of over 100 metres to the fortified castle and provides magnificent views of Rhine and Moselle.

Ehrenbreitstein is a hill with an enormous fortress overlooking a wide area and was historically a very important fortress when France and Germany were in conflict some three hundred years ago.

Once again our hosts had arranged a most interesting week with several other tours arranged in and around the Biebertal area.

The week strengthened the bonds between us and now must consider appropriate visits when they travel to the Vale of Clwyd this coming May. Each year we are always told, 'Can you bring more members next time?' So why not join us?

*Rod and Margaret Williams*

*Mary Mars Lloyd*

## Trefoil Guild

The members welcomed Mary Steel who spoke about the girls from Guernsey who were evacuated to Denbigh and spent the Second World War years at Howells School. They were well-looked after and educated by their own teachers. The Denbigh people were very kind to them.

The raffle was drawn and refreshments enjoyed. The coffee morning raised £321 for Funds. The next meeting is Harvest, with donations for the food bank.

## Messy Church

In our September session we talked about all the creatures God made and how important it is to take care of them all. We also learned that we need to be kind to other people too, especially those who are lonely and have no friends.

We did all sorts of activities about animals and we made a big ladybird hotel to go in the churchyard at St Tyrnog's Church.



Our next session will be on 13th October at 3.30pm at the Village Hall and all are welcome.

### Useful telephone numbers

Denbighshire CC Customer Service Centre  
01824 706101

Out of hours: 03001 233068

North Wales Police: 101 (Non-emergency)

Report dog fouling free 0800 2300 2345

### 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](mailto:llandyrnognews@gmail.com).**

# Hello from the Rectory

The Trefnant Rectory that is! My name is the Rev'd Rebecca, the Mission Area Leader for Denbigh Mission Area and currently looking after all twelve of our churches until our new priests, Rev'd Sam and Rev'd Dan, come to join us at the end of November. I am sure that many people in our communities will already be missing Rev'd Martin and his family after they have made the big move into army chaplaincy in England, and they will be in our thoughts and prayers as they start on this new adventure.

I am looking forward to getting to meet lots of you over the next few months and will hopefully be at a number of community events, particularly the village coffee mornings and Messy Church, as well as celebrating with you in weddings, Christenings and other church services.

For those of you who don't know me I am a mum to three children. The eldest has left home, one is at college and the youngest is doing his GCSEs. We have a large, overfriendly dog, who whilst rather lacking in the brains department, is amazing in the over-generation of slobber department. Envisage Hooch in *Turner and Hooch* and you will get the idea. I love to write, particularly imaginative retellings of bible stories, and recently have discovered a love of different craft activities from painting to rug making.

Whilst I have a great love of all the seasons, I think if I had to pick just one, Autumn would probably have to be my favourite. Although I might just change my mind again on a snowy day in winter. But as I am writing, looking at my window onto the Rectory garden, this year's ducklings are just starting to properly find their wings and taking great pleasure dive-bombing into the pond. Three squirrels are happily gathering acorns from the oak trees and burying them around the garden. Blackberries have been gathered from the brambles for crumbles. I love not just the sight of the amazing flower

displays at church harvest festivals, but the beautiful aroma on entering church. But my favourite thing about autumn has to be conkers.

I am always very excited when I discover horse chestnut trees. And even more excited to realise that no one else apparently seems to collect conkers anymore. So every year have a wonderful collection. What I like best about conkers is that they are constant reminder to me about our relationship with God, our relationship with our friends and our relationship with our church community. When I first find and pick up a conker it is beautiful and shiny brown. But it doesn't take long, when it has been separated from the tree, to start to dull, and eventually it shrivels and wrinkles. This is what happens to us and our relationships when we don't spend time with the people we care about, when we don't spend time with God. But if we plant that conker in the ground, and keep it fed and watered, it will start to sprout into strong and thriving tree and produce its own conkers for generation after generation to enjoy. A beautiful metaphor for the church, our relationships with one another, and God's love for us.

Every blessing

Rev'd Rebecca

Tel 01745 421424

Email [RebeccaSparey-Taylor@cinw.org.uk](mailto:RebeccaSparey-Taylor@cinw.org.uk)

## Concert

Saturday, 12th October at 7pm  
in the Village Hall

**Caerwys Male Voice Choir**  
and talented local young  
musicians

Tickets £10; children free  
Proceeds to St Tyrnog's Church

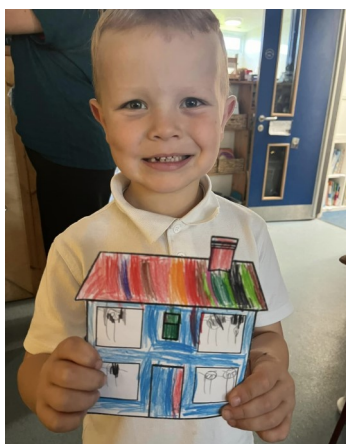
# Ysgol Bryn Clwyd

We have had a wonderful first day back after our big classroom transformations over the summer. We now have a new-look junior classroom. Thanks to the former staff of Costa Coffee Ruthin for donating their furniture to the school when they sadly closed in July, and to The De-Part-Mental Store, Mold for giving us some bargains on their furniture.

The Babanod have a brand new home too, where the children can feel happy, relaxed and ready to learn.

Already, a Viking has been to talk to the children – thanks to Viking School Days for the fantastic visit.

Dosbarth Babanod went to Pets at Home to find pets for their class, and decided on four fishy friends! They also went for a walk around the village to find special landmarks to help make maps of where they live/go to school.



Pupils enjoyed making abstract bookmarks in the after-school art club.



One of our pupils, Aiden, has been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia. He is currently in Alder Hey Hospital receiving fantastic care from all the doctors and nurses, alongside his Mum and Dad. Aiden is showing tremendous spirit and resilience and as a school, we could not be prouder of him!

Due to the nature of Aiden's condition, it has been impossible for the family to continue to work due to Aiden's low immunity and risk of picking up illness. We at Ysgol Bryn Clwyd and Ysgol Gellifor want to help in any way we can in supporting his family. Our Headteacher, Ben Lindquist, has had his hair shaved by Aiden and has run the Caernarfon half marathon for Aiden and his family. So far, £5,615 has been raised via the GoFundMe page – to donate, visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/aiden-alder-hey>.

**Becky Gittins, MP for Clwyd East**

[becky.gittins.mp@parliament.co.uk](mailto:becky.gittins.mp@parliament.co.uk)

## **Townsend Supplies**

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## Tuesday Club



The guest speaker in the September meeting was Helen Murphy of Maes Llan. If you have looked at the display in the window of Tŷ Ceffyl Bach recently, and noticed the beautiful copper jewellery that's for sale – those are Helen's creations. She recently moved to Llandyrnog to be nearer to her family and is very happy here.

She graduated in Applied Arts from Wrexham University, and went on to be awarded a Master's degree. She works using many materials and recycled materials, but copper and wool are her favourites.

She brought many examples of her work to show us, including the items she made particularly for each year of her course.

Her work has been displayed in numerous settings, including the Aran Art and Craft Fair at Dolgellau in April this year. Also photographs of her work have been in the magazine, *Artist Talk*.

If you would like to learn a craft with her – she organizes workshops at the Cocoa Rooms every month. The details are on page 14

Helen was thanked sincerely for her very interesting talk, light refreshments were served and the raffle drawn. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 16 October at 2pm in the Cocoa Rooms. A warm welcome awaits new members!

## Dyffryn chapel

### A Musical Presentation

A very successful meeting was held at Capel y Dyffryn on Sunday 22 September. Rev Robert Parry B.Mus., B.D., Liverpool, guest organist, introduced some of the hymns in *Caneuon Ffydd* (the Welsh Inter-denominational Hymn Book) based on classical music e.g. by Handel, Mozart, Schubert and others before concluding with Ralph Vaughan Williams. The congregation in turn sang a few of the hymns associated with those composers.

Professor Elwen Williams, KC, (formerly of Ty'n Llan, Llandyrnog) was the President and spoke briefly about her upbringing in Llandyrnog, and the importance of Capel y Dyffryn in her life. Nic Parry compered in his unique style, and thanked the Rev. Robert Parry and Professor Elwen Evans for a wonderful evening. He also thanked everyone who contributed to the success of the evening, especially Gwyneth Evans, the organiser. £1100 was raised towards St Kentigern and Capel y Dyffryn.



Lt.-rt.: Rev. Robert Parry, Professor Elwen Evans, Nic Parry

### Services

06/10	10.00	Prayer Meeting
13/10	10.00	Children's Thanksgiving
20/10	10.00	Bryn and Anwen
27/10	10.00	Circuit Service Trefnant

# Highfield Park News

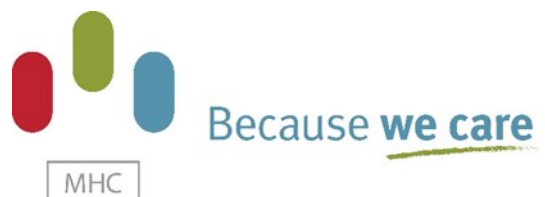


## Rosettes for Elm

Highfield Park residents received a special invite to the Llandyrnog Flower Show on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August, with an early entry before the public opening. The organiser asked if any of the residents fancied participating in the competition. Two residents from Elm entered the cake competition, making brownies and cupcakes. Although they did not win, they each received a rosette for entering, and we are all incredibly proud of them. Well done.

## Highfield Park Summer Fest

was a fantastic day at Highfield Park on the 24th of July as the team held its annual Summer Festival. Good music, karaoke, delicious food, ice cream, afternoon tea, and epic games were all that we needed for the perfect fun-filled summer afternoon!



# Recipe

## Focaccia at the Double

This is a wet dough, so you may prefer to use a mixer with dough hooks if you don't like messy hands!

Toppings here are olives, and rosemary and sea salt, but you can choose your own.

## Ingredients

500g strong white bread flour

10g salt

10g instant yeast

40ml olive oil

360ml cool water

About 20 black and green olives

Handful of chopped fresh rosemary

Sea salt

## Method

Put flour in a large bowl. Add salt to one side of the bowl, yeast to the other.

Add olive oil and 250ml water. Turn the mixture round to pick up all the flour, adding the rest of the water as you go.

(You may not need all the water, or you may need more. The dough should be soft.)

Form a rough dough then knead on an oiled surface for 5-10 minutes to form a smooth skin.

Put the dough in an oiled bowl, cover and prove in a warm place for 1-3 hours until doubled in size.

Line two baking trays (about 25×20cm) with baking parchment and brush with olive oil. Carefully turn out the dough onto an oiled surface, keeping the air in it.

Divide the dough in half and stretch out to cover the baking trays.

Put each tray in a plastic bag and prove for another hour.

Heat oven to 220°C (200°C fan).

Use your finger to press dimples right through each focaccia.

Drizzle each with oil. Sprinkle one with the rosemary and sea salt and place olives on the other.

Bake for 15 minutes or until you have a hollow sound when tapping the bottom of the bread. Sprinkle with olive oil and leave to cool on a wire rack.

*Ivan Butler*

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## 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

### October: Copper wire bracelet

Make your own copper and glass bead bracelet.

Thursday, 24 October 7–9pm

Saturday, 26 October 10am–12pm

# The Wright Stuff

October can mirror April in many ways; we can have a glorious hot 'Indian summer' or it can be ghastly. I harvest the Bramley apples before any high winds and they are stored for Bob to eat through the winter, but a lot of my apples have already been eaten by unexpected animals – my hens. Cheeky Mrs White worked out that if she jumps into the tree, she can gorge herself on apples. The rest of the flock soon learnt that when she does this, they get the odd fallen apple too. A team effort – hens aren't so stupid.

As the weather turns, I sit in my spare greenhouse as it extends the enjoyment of the garden. I don't have a conservatory and this acts as mine. I recently had a couple of long-time friends to stay and it can be refreshing when you have visitors as you get the opportunity to see our beautiful part of the world through their eyes. My friends were from Germany and came with their 'wish list' – fish and chips and a cream tea, and they wanted ordinary tea bags and salad cream, so a trip to Morrisons was made. It was a real break, but now it's back to the everyday routine and the garden needs its autumnal tidy before the winter.

To cheer up the place for the visitors I decided that a number of my containers needed refreshing as the summer flowering annuals had finished. A winter container display can give a garden space such a lift, and I have them by my back door, greeting visitors and myself every time I pass. Many times, I will buy small young shrubs for a container and then later plant them into the main garden, prolonging their enjoyment. Cyclamens give the best colourful display and are available in pink, red, purple and white and afterwards they can be planted into a shady part of the garden, I pair them with grasses which produce warm reds as they mature into the winter.

Conifers give added height to a container as well as being evergreen and work well with most other plants. There are numerous

varieties with some fantastic shapes and colours to compliment any planting scheme and again they can be transplanted into your garden to mature. I have a variegated conifer bought years ago which was originally in a pot and is now over 5 ft tall.

My other favourites are Hebes. I have a few large shrub Hebes in the garden, but you can get some smaller ones which add structure and will flower in the spring. Of course, there are always winter pansies, which seem to go on and on, but these will eventually succumb to frosts. I don't feed winter containers, unlike summer ones, but just make sure they are in a good peat-free compost. I use any type of pot or container, even old sheep lick boxes where I sow carrots and winter lettuce. This year I had extra sweetcorn plants and I planted them into these boxes, they have produced sweet cobs of corn. To ensure fertilisation I had to frequently wobble them so the pollen reached the flowers. Why not plant up a container yourself and brighten up your outdoor winter space?

## Hazel



# Matters discussed in the September meeting of Llandyrnog Community Council

Nine of the ten councillors were present together with two members of the public. PCSO Mathew Evans attended the meeting to give an update of reported recent incidents which included:

- Dog bite but on private property
- Numerous threats on-line via social media
- NWP have a schools liaison officer whose remit includes child cyber safety
- ♦ Drink driving – NWP relies heavily on local intelligence to assist with this matter and will act if there is sufficient evidence of a persistent offender.
- ♦ Denbighshire County Council has granted a licence for the community council to place a bench opposite the Creamery. It was decided to request quotations for laying base. Llais Llandyrnog Voice has very kindly offered a substantial donation towards the cost of the bench.
- ♦ There was a request from the Llandyrnog

Shop Ltd for financial assistance and after a very constructive discussion it was decided to offer the sum of £5000.

- ♦ The notice of co-option has been uploaded onto the website and displayed publicly.
- ♦ There was a retrospective planning application to change use of barns to dog day care and boarding at Wern Farm but there was insufficient information to allow members to decide whether to support the application or not.
- ♦ Whilst the potholes on Llangwyfan crossroad have been repaired, the deep rut heading towards Rhiwbebyll remains in a dangerous condition. The task will be undertaken when resources are made available.
- ♦ Small scale production has started on the former Arla site and full production in due course.
- ♦ The Kinmel Arms – planning permission will not be released until the unilateral agreement has been signed by all parties and this is in the process of being prepared.
- ♦ The surface water drainage around the Cross Keys area is still an issue. It was explained that since the outlet in Coed y Waen is lower than the level of the ditch, the cleaning needed to ensure free flow and access is near impossible.
- ♦ It will soon be time to plant winter bedding on the roundabout – the Clerk to co-ordinate.

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## Services at St Tyrnog's

- |      |       |                                  |
|------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 6th  | 11.15 | Holy communion                   |
| 13th | 11.15 | Holy communion – Harvest         |
|      | 15.30 | Messy Church at the Village Hall |
| 20th | 11.15 | Holy communion                   |
| 27th | 11.15 | Morning prayer                   |