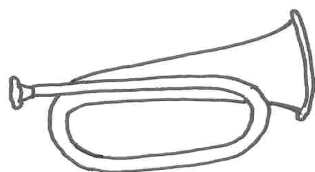


October 2010

# Helgorn Taf Bugle



**Next edition will be published at the end of January 2011. Last date for submission for inclusion is Saturday 15th.**



## Village Trip 2010

**Due to very poor interest, this years trip was cancelled. The Community Association trustees will be investigating why the lack of interest over the next few weeks. If you have any views please let us know.**

## SUNFLOWERS

Sadly there were only 4 entries this year but they provided some impressive specimens. Tom and Helen Best had a superb row of flowers and won the largest diameter flower with a huge 11 inch bloom. The tallest sunflower was 118 inches tall and was grown by Jennifer Hermitage. The full results were Tom & Helen Best (114 inches high, 11 inch diameter), Jennifer Hermitage (118 ins, 8 ins), Linda Cooke (80 ins, small flowers), Nikki Browne (75ins, 10 ins).

*The newsletter for the communities of Llanfallteg, Henllan Amgoed, Cwmfelin Boeth, Hiraeth, Llangan and Rhydywrach.  
Web site <http://www.llanfallteg.org/> Produced by Henllanfallteg Community Association.*

## SHERRI & STEEL CONCERT

The Community Association is delighted to announce that on Saturday October 30th Sherri is coming to The Millennium Hall to do a Country and Western evening. Why not come and dance the night away or just visit the bar and sit and listen to the music. Tickets cost £8.50 (from committee members) include a full buffet. Children under 16 can come free provided they are with a paying adult. Doors open 7.30.

## Future Community Events

**Remembrance Sunday, 14th November—11.00 AM outside  
The Millennium Hall**

**Bingo—Friday December 10th at 7.00PM in The Millennium Hall.**

## CLUB PAGE

If you have a local club or group or team with news of interest, please pass this to the editors in good time for the next edition.

### BOWLS

The indoor short mat Bowls Club have started off the new season with a convincing win at home in a friendly match with Clynderwen which made up for the heavy defeat it suffered when it went there earlier in the year. New members always welcome – Mondays at 7.30

### DARTS

After many years in the Narberth League the Splash Darts team have decided to try visiting a set of new venues in the Preselli League. Further details from The Splash or Peter Scolfield.

### CRAFT

They describe themselves as “a happy bunch”. They meet at 1.30 on Wednesday afternoons in the hall and do their own thing. New faces welcome.

### MORRIS DANCERS

The “Heb Enw” Border Morris Dancers meet every Tuesday evening in the Millennium Hall. If you’re interested in joining why not call in and see what’s going on.

### JIVE GROUP

A new group has started up in the millennium hall where dancers can practise the jive steps they have been taught at sessions in the Whitland Dairy & Social Club.

### FRIDAY CLUB

The Club has begun its winter programme in the hall. Activities will include various crafts and some cookery as well as the usual table tennis, pool, air hockey etc. The Club is looking forward to a visit from Aled Owen who will be working on alternative energy sources. Hopefully there will be a night with “Silent World” bringing their animals. On Friday November 19th there will be the “Children in Need” event and support to help raise money for this very worthy cause would be appreciated. Children, parents and grandparents will also be very welcome at the special Bingo Night on Friday December 10th.

### FETE and SHOW 2010

Once again there was overwhelming support from the community for our annual Fete & Show in July. This year the profit was £3201.25 which far exceeded previous years. The money will be shared between the Playing Field Association and the Community Association which has responsibility for the Millennium Hall. On the day the weather was kind and both the activities on the field and the show in the hall attracted large crowds all afternoon. The organisers were particularly grateful to the members of the public and the organisations who contributed a huge array of prizes for the draw etc. The evening auction in The Plash, raised no less than £954. With the Fete and Show getting bigger each year a call is going out for more volunteers to help in 2011.

The number of entries in the open classes in the Show were up on previous years but there were fewer children's entries. Cup winners were Shirley Lee (Art & Craft and Best in Show), Sian Jones (Best Child Entry), Marion Davies (Cookery), Linda Cooke (Fruit & Veg), Sarah James (Flowers) and Sam Browne (Photography).

One of the stall-holders at the Fete was Stuart Fry and here is his account of the Fete as published on his Blog - [welshwaller.wordpress.com](http://welshwaller.wordpress.com).

"I attended to re-pay some of the kindness of my sister and her friend Eve who had helped me enormously over the past years. I took a small display of strange and obscure farming tools from my collection and folk pay a quid to enter a competition to name / explain them. Of course out of the ten I list some are totally incomprehensible and hence the winning score was 6 ! But it raised £25 to go into the Playing field fund and I am well appreciated, and most importantly, I get to meet some interesting old folk and glean more tales of yesterday's farming for my oral history project. The fete, which all the village are involved in, features the old favourites such as the biggest onion, best runner beans etc., photographic and art competition, a "There was an old man from Llanfallteg, who sat on a very large tent peg, da dee da dum dum, etc etc., competition, coconut shy's and white elephant stall (where's that come from ?) and much more. In the evening the local pub, the Plash Inn, is packed to overflowing for an auction which is conducted by a 'village character' who boasts amongst his close friends, the irrepressible 'Jethro', so you can imagine the crack ! I drove home on Sunday, a little bleary eyed and tired out - the truck is still full of tools....."

### WORLD WIDE CHURCH OF GOD

One of the regular users of the Llanfallteg Millennium Hall is the Worldwide Church of God. The Church meets at 2 pm every Saturday (except the fourth Saturday in the month) and worshippers come from all over west Wales. There are 46 congregations in the British Isles and two in Wales - the other Welsh one being in Cardiff - and they belong to a worldwide fellowship with member churches in 90 countries. Services in Llanfallteg are in English but the singing is bilingual with Welsh and English being sung simultaneously. Worshippers are evangelical Christians who believe in "salvation only through the grace of God by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ". The church's website is - [www.wcgwales.org.uk](http://www.wcgwales.org.uk).

### A DAY OUT WITH DAVE

At the Village Fete we were lucky enough to put in the highest bid for "A Day Out With Dave" in his car. We could have chosen the route, but we decided we would like a mystery trip. Our only request was that we preferred to go inland rather than the coast.

So one morning in August just before 9.00, Dave collected us for a drive into the unknown! We hurried past Carmarthen to join a quieter route which took us to Dryslwyn Castle. We stopped for a while to enjoy the river atmosphere and two king fishers gave us a quick flash of blue as a treat. Next stop was Talley Abbey, then on to Llyn Brienne along tiny lanes with almost no traffic. The biggest hold-up was a flock of sheep which the farmer had sent the wrong way.

We ate a late lunch in Rhayader before driving up the Elan valley to enjoy spectacular views of the reservoirs. Soon we passed the boggy source of the Elan and Ystwyth rivers which flow away in opposite directions. Moving on, we found the barren landscape of the Teifi Pools very atmospheric - isolated but beautiful. Last but not least we visited the ruins of Strata Florida tucked away from the main road. There in the cemetery we saw Dafydd ap Gwilym's yew tree. This is supposed to be the resting place of Wales@ greatest poet.

We arrived home about 8.30 after a wonderful day, full of ideas of places we would like to revisit.

Thank you Dave.  
Don & Stella

**Would you be prepared to sponsor a future edition of the Helgorn Taf Bugle?  
Please contact the editors.**



**YOUR FETE NEEDS YOU!**

**Volunteers Wanted  
of All Ages**

If you can help make the 2011 village Fete as successful as 2010

**Call John Cooper on 01437 563938 for a chat**

We would also welcome your ideas for new stalls and events.



#### OPEN GARDENS

People who came to the Open Gardens afternoon on July 4th had an abundance of things to see. First there was a range of wonderful gardens to walk round in all parts of the parish. Next there was a Green Energy Trail to go on to see properties with renewable energy installations including solar thermal panels, underground geothermal pipes, and solar thermal evacuated tubes. And finally the Millennium Hall was packed with exhibitions with a variety of displays on all aspects of promoting sustainable living to say nothing of the cream teas being served. The Community Association Trustees expressed their thanks to everybody who so kindly opened their homes and gardens to the public, and to all the other helpers on the day.

#### Llanfallteg Meat Draw

Lamb or Beef or Gammon all from local producers. Home made cake for the second ticket drawn.

Proceeds to Llanfallteg Memorial Playing Field Funds

Held alternate weeks.



**Next draw Saturday 30th Oct in The Plash at 9.00PM**

Tickets on sale during the week before  
see Mike or Silvia, Swallow Cottage.

#### Editors

Dave King  
davemking@clara.co.uk  
Tel 01437 563087  
Peter Icke.  
ickewatersreach@btinternet.com  
01437 563917  
Webmaster James King  
info@jamieking.co.uk



#### The Plash news

On the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of August we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Beer Festival of the year, this time to raise funds for equipment for our sons' school in Llanboidy. The sunshine, which had yet to be confirmed in the last newsletter, turned up which was a great start! We had 4 cracking ales and, as always, the "Old Rosie" scrumpy was popular and the Bouncy Castle never ceases to keep our younger clientele entertained and the BBQ ticks over nicely, soaking up the Ale when required! The entertainment this time came in a variety of guises; we had Heb Enw Morris Dancers and the "New Jersey" tribute band performing on the Saturday, the latter being a little too large for the Pub, so we were very kindly allowed to make use of the Millennium Hall. A big "Thank you" to the Hall Committee for that. On the Sunday we had Whitland Fire Brigade with Engine in the afternoon, I'm not sure who enjoyed setting the Siren off more, the kids or the grown up's. Then we had Simon Hart along as our "Guess the Guest" to perform the task of releasing our name tagged Balloons (we are still waiting on this one!!). Once again, a big thank you to everyone who came along, we hope you enjoyed the Beer's and the Entertainment and we shall now start planning the next one!!  
Cheers, Steve & Christie

**New Opening Hours** starting the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. They are:

Monday & Tuesday - 5pm to 11pm  
Wednesday to Sunday - 12noon to 11pm

#### Forthcoming Events:

Quiz Night: Tuesdays @ 8pm, Every Fortnight; £1 per person, Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Free Food for Teams at half-time  
Dates: October 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>; November 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>; December 7<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Quiz). After December the 7<sup>th</sup> the Quiz will take a break until the New Year

**Hallowe'en:** In the last newsletter we listed Hallowe'en as an event, however we have decided to focus our attention more on Guy Fawkes' Night, 5 days later.

#### Guy Fawkes Night:

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of November Sparklers & Fireworks @ 7.30pm in Llanfallteg Memorial Playing Field  
Jacket Potatoes, Hot Chocolate & Marshmallows on the Fire back at The Plash (All profits will go towards the Sensory Kit for Ysgol Bro Brynach, Llanboidy)

**Christmas:** We have a few events on over the Christmas period including:  
Christmas Quiz – December 7<sup>th</sup>; 8pm  
Turkey Shoot Darts Knockout – December 15<sup>th</sup>; 8pm  
Carol Night with Mulled Wine & Mince Pies – December 18<sup>th</sup>; 7.30pm

**THE PLASH INN**  
Llanfallteg, Whitland, Carmarthenshire, SA34 0UN

For full details on any of the above events please call into The Plash

**Tel: 01437 563 472**



## MILLENNIUM HALL NEWS

Earlier this year The Hall celebrated its first ten years. One of the consequences of this passing of time is maintenance. The Trustees have been prudent in managing their finances in anticipation of this requirement, and over the past two years money has been spent on refurbishment of the windows and repainting of the external walls.

This year the front doors have been replaced and also some of the smaller windows along the side. With the news of a substantial price rise in the cost of glass and impending rise in VAT, an order has been placed to have the remaining windows replaced before the year end.

As part of Carmarthenshire County Councils initiative on saving energy and using less carbon fuel, The Millennium Hall has been selected to have 4KW of Solar PV installed on the roof. Securing this project has been quite a challenge and the Trustees are very grateful to Gideon Carpenter in particular for the many hours he put in filling in forms, and producing the drawings required for the planning submission. The planning application is under consideration now. If granted the installation will demonstrate how much energy can be recovered from the sun with a live indication at the front door. It will also allow The Association to sell the power generated to give a steady year on year income towards the running costs of The Hall.

As part of the same initiative CCC have been in conjunction with our Community Council and The Association run an exhibition on open garden day to bring awareness on what is possible to save energy, and also ways to move towards self sufficiency in energy production. There will be a series of follow up events over the new few months.

In November there is an intention to hold a workshop day in The Millennium Hall covering all aspects of using wood as a sustainable fuel for heating. Watch out for further details nearer the time.

### Community Council News

The Community Council has co-opted an extra member Bryan Haddon and is now at full strength of seven for the first time for a long time. He has already made some telling contributions to the work of the council. Welcome.

A few of The Council members met with Kay Swinburne, one of our euro MPs to discuss funding for the proposed sewerage scheme. It was a very useful meeting and she was very supportive. Kay suggested that successful funding was more likely for a bigger scheme, with a substantial sustainable element "bolted on". She suggested getting Carmarthenshire County Council to look at embracing other communities in a county wide approach but use ours a pilot scheme. As a consequence, a further meeting was held with Cllr Meryl Gravel, leader of Carmarthenshire County Council, to discuss moving forward on this project along the lines suggested by Kay. The matter has been discussed by the county executive and we await news. Parking on the Railway Bridge has been a running issue for many years, and a recent incident resulted in the police being called and the driver warned. HCC has again written to Network Rail, with an emphasis this time on compliance with Health and Safety at Work requirements.

The condition of St Malleths churchyard has again surfaced. The Church of Wales have acknowledged they have a responsibility for the upkeep and recently contractors have undertaken some tree surgery there. The next stage is under consideration.



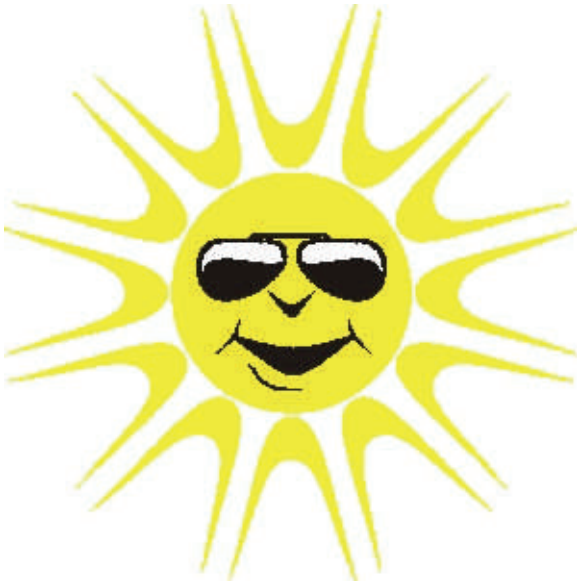
### COUNTY COUNCIL ASSET MEETING

There was a strange meeting in the village on July 15th. The County Council had booked the Millennium Hall for an "Area Property Review" and had invited local groups and the public to discuss with officers the future use of everything the County Council owned in our area. What made the meeting strange was that the Council owns absolutely nothing in our parish. People from Whitland and elsewhere had plenty to talk about but for us in Henllanfallteg the meeting was a complete no-no. However the Council paid for the use of the hall and the officers were very impressed with the facilities and will certainly be coming again when they need a meeting place in west Carmarthenshire.

### MEETING PRINCE CHARLES

In September some of us had the opportunity of smartening up and meeting Prince Charles at the Botanic Gardens. Carmarthenshire County Council was launching a Community Challenge at the "Start Wales" Festival and the Henllanfallteg Community Association was invited because of our green energy efforts. Other communities included Ferryside with allotments and Brechfa with its community shop. Prince Charles inspected our little display with photos of all the houses on our Green Energy Trail and the wind turbine made by the children from recyclable materials. He told us he didn't like wind turbines – too controversial for my Duchy – and then asked us how we'd got lumbered with the name Henllanfallteg. We told him how 80 years ago some civil servant telescoped together the names Henllan Amgoed and Llanfallteg and created the monstrosity of a name.

## Henllanfallteg £ million sunshine bonanza!



We all like to see the sun but few of us see it as providing a source of income for our homes. Well now it can. You may have noticed some impressive sets of solar panels going up in the community and there is a good financial reason why.

Did you know that to encourage investment in renewable energy systems, utility companies now pay a premium rate for electricity generated from solar panels?

Called the 'Feed in Tariff' or FiT, a householder who installs photovoltaic solar panels (solar PV or those that make electricity) can earn 41.3 pence per unit (kilowatt hour/kWh) of electricity generated. You even get paid that if you use the electricity in your home, thereby saving on your energy bills as you import less from Swalec! You also get an extra 3 pence per unit if you export power to the grid.

A householder who installs a well sited 2.5 kilowatt (kW) solar system could generate 2000 kWh of electricity and earn just under £1000 per year from their roof. This size of system would cost about £13,000 to install but the Feed in Tariff guarantees the premium, index linked rate per unit for 25 years.

We are hoping to install a 4 kW solar system on the village hall in Llanfallteg which will be available as a demonstration system.

Just think – if 150 houses in the community had such a system the income for the community would be a fantastic £3.7 million over 25 years. Now wouldn't that be nice.....the sky's the limit - or perhaps that should be the sun.

*For more information on solar PV and Feed in Tariffs see:*

Centre for Alternative Technology – free information service <http://info.cat.org.uk/>

Energy Savings Trust <http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy>

Department for Energy and Climate Change <http://www.decc.gov.uk>

### Llanfallteg Weatherstation news

During September, the weatherstation has been upgraded and now provides a more accurate but more importantly more repeatable and reliable data. The anemometer is now 2 metres higher than before, and additional detectors have been added so that solar energy, and UV are now measured, as well as wind speed and direction, rainfall, barometric pressure, temperature and humidity. Sunshine hours can now be recorded using the software, triggered by a solar energy lower limit.

The data is now downloaded to a logger so there is no longer a need to rum a computer 24/7 to retrieve and store the collected data.

The software on the previous weatherrstation was very unfriendly to use, and took about 40% of my computer capacity to collect and display the information. The community web page will be modified soon to take on the revised data.

Rain is always a topic of discussion and the table shows the rain in 2009 and 2010 until September.

| Rain       | J   | F  | M   | A  | M  | J  | J   | A  | S   | TOTAL so far this year |
|------------|-----|----|-----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|------------------------|
| 2010 in mm | 32  | 58 | 103 | 36 | 29 | 63 | 103 | 47 | 225 | 696                    |
| 2009 in mm | 176 | 32 | 32  | 82 | 74 | 76 | 159 | 92 | 20  | 743                    |

Nearly all the rain in September 2010 fell on 4 days, and this accounts for almost 1/3 rd of the rain so for this year. This year has been dryer than last so far, but nature will sure to bring a balance to this so I guess we are in for a very wet period in the near future! DK

### West Wales 4x4 Group

The group was officially formed in 1984 when it registered with the Motor Sports Association of Great Britain which is the governing body of most motor sport in the UK. It was originally a Land Rover based club but by natural progression all makes of 4x4's are now used by our members.

Our main discipline is Trialing which involves driving over challenging terrain in specially prepared vehicles at slow speed in between a pair of canes or "gates", there are ten gates on a section and these are numbered from ten down to one the one gate being the most challenging.

We rely on the good will of land owners mainly farmers with a few acres of rough ground where we can host an event. We meet on the last Sunday of the month anywhere in the three counties but sites are becoming hard to find. If there are any land owners who think they might have a suitable location then give me a call.

The Committee, of which I have been Secretary for ten years, now meets in the Millennium Hall where we enjoy the comfortable surroundings.

Myrddin Pynn

### YOGA CLASSES

Yoga classes are once again being held in the Millennium Hall on Wednesday mornings from 10am to 12pm and on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 pm. The type of Yoga is Ashtanga and classes are run by Surender Saini. If you want to book a place ring 07833693106 or 01994 419701.

