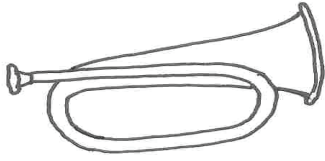


September 2011

Helgorn Taf Bugle



Next edition will be published at the end of January 2012. Last date for submission for inclusion is Saturday 22nd.



This edition of the Helgorn Taf has been generously sponsored by Karen Calas, who writes;

Ysgubor is one of Three Welsh Stone Barns once belonging to Penderi Farm Llanfallteg. Having been sympathetically restored in 2008, it is now a busy Bed and Breakfast establishment which only started trading in December 2010. It has been graded by the Welsh Tourist Board gaining 5 stars on it's first grading. The owners, Karen & Mike said that they were hoping to get a 4 star grading and are absolutely thrilled with getting the top rate. Ysgubor is a pet and family friendly establishment with purpose built dog kennels and a family room with ensuite and separate entrance affording complete privacy for Guests

SUNFLOWERS

The tail end of hurricane Katia in early September came at the worst possible time for our keen sun flower growers and the judges got very few entries for this year's competition. The winner for the tallest was Benjamin Taylor with a 10ft specimen, and William Hermitage grew the widest with one 12 inches across.

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.

THE COUNTRY CARS SCHEME

This scheme aims to assist people who find themselves without transport for essential purposes such as to the doctors, dentists etc or to a source of public transport. It is run by the WRVS, and financed and supported by Carmarthenshire County Council who pay for the fuel used by their teams of volunteer drivers. A fare is charged, much like a bus fare, with bus passes halving the cost to people using the service.

New volunteers are welcome to the scheme, which doesn't ask for more time than a volunteer is prepared to give – just a few hours a week is valued.

Contact Liz O'Neill on 01994 240717 about the scheme, bearing in mind that to use the scheme you must have genuine problems with transport.

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 new season has started on Monday evenings and numbers attending are likely to get up to a dozen once the clocks go back. Room for new members. Bowls provided..

DARTS—The Plash Darts team had a very enjoyable season in the Preseli Darts League but failed to get back to the Narberth League this season—so no darts this season!

CRAFT—The Craft Group continued to meet throughout the summer, albeit with depleted numbers, but now that there are less outside jobs to be done it has returned to full strength. As usual a warm welcome will be extended to anyone new who would like to pop into the meeting room at the Hall on a Wednesday from 1.30 to 3.30.

MORRIS DANCERS—Heb Enw, our ever popular group of stick bangers, now meet on a Wednesday evening in the Hall. Visitors welcome.

JIVE GROUP—Dance 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 Not everybody appreciates that the £1 entrance money is spent entirely on such things as refreshments, new equipment and room hire. The helpers are all volunteers who get nothing for all the hours they put in except the satisfaction of knowing that the kids have a good time.

Future Community Events

Remembrance Day

This year falls on 13th November and there will be a two minute silence outside the Millennium Hall at 11.00 am to mark the occasion.



Children in Need

The Friday Club will again be organising an evening of entertainment and fundraising on Friday 18th November from 7 o'clock. Please give this worthy charity all the support you can.

Horse Racing Night

The Community Association are hoping to organise another Race Night on Saturday 19th November starting at 7 pm. Further details when available will published outside the Hall.



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—Resumes from October 2nd.

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

.COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS



The Community Council is generally quiet over the summer but this year the “Crier” has been out and about with the shock resignation of Gideon Carpenter from the Council. He will be missed as a hard working and knowledgeable member. Fellow councillors had often wondered how he managed to fit all the things he did in, so something had to give. The Councillors all wish him well. The Carmarthenshire Local Development

Plan Continues it’s winding path to conclusion. The latest document (Available on CCC web site) indicates the areas throughout Carmarthenshire where candidate sites have been accepted for possible development. It’s no surprise that they are few and far apart!

FETE AND SHOW



The Craft and Horticultural Show in the Hall produced exhibits of a very high standard and attracted large crowds. Numbers in the children’s classes were up on previous years but numbers were down in the open classes. Cups were

won by Pat Reynolds, Gwennan Brackenbury, Lily Young, Marion Davies, Chris Lawrence, Amy College and Liz O’Neill.



Down on the field there were the usual favourites with plenty of water sloshing about, and wrestling which proved very popular. Despite the economic gloom, profit this year was just less than last, but again the sun shone and everyone had a good time. Since

that event a new storage container has been put in the park to keep the ever growing collection of tents and such. And thanks again to Mike on the mower for the exemplarily turn out of the Park.

Vortipor Stone and Millennium Hall gardens



No one can have missed the appearance of a large stone in the front of the Millennium Hall recently. In a project funded and managed jointly by the Community Association and Llanfallteg History Society, a copy of this significant stone has been made and erected at the front of the hall. The opportunity was seized on to tidy up the whole hall frontage, to make the Hall more attractive and reduce the maintenance effort as well. A time capsule loaded with local news and information together with local children’s ideas on what they saw their future to be has been buried under the triangular stone seat. The project is nearly completed, with a “nut tree” to add in the only piece of retained garden, and to install a notice explaining the significance of the Vortipor stone to Llanfallteg and Europe.

The original stone is believed to be a memorial to *Vortipor*, King of Demetia (modern Dyfed), who lived approximately AD475-540. The greenstone pillar is just over two metres high. On one face there is a Latin inscription, with an Ogham inscription along the left and top edge. The stone stood near a stile on the south side of the Castell Dwyran churchyard until it was removed during repairs to the fence in 1879. The Reverend Bowen Jones, the Rector of Llanfallteg moved the stone to his home at Gwarmacwydd, near Llanfallteg where it was used as a rubbing post in a field in front of the house. Miss Bowen Jones, the rector’s daughter was the first to recognise an inscription on this stone, and she gave it to the Carmarthenshire Museum in 1921.

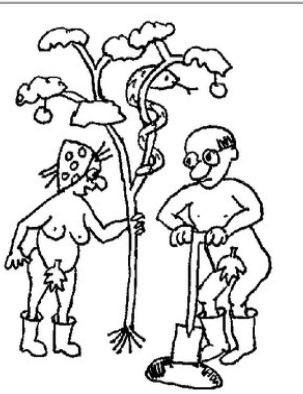
All the stones in the rockery are Pembrokeshire blue or green stones dropped back in the ice age at Eithenmaen, and it’s thanks to Mr and Mrs Bearman that the stones are in place. The artistic layout is down to a newcomer to the Community Graham Meredith, with Stuart Fry (of artefacts fame) chipping in with the finishing touches to the triangular seat. The donkey work of digging out is down to Dia Mathias and slab works and stone erection to Kevin and Karl Jones, all from Llanddewi. Those with sharp eyes will spot the carving on this replica stone was done by Dave Peterson, a long time supporter of the Millennium Hall, from St Clears. We cannot miss out Nikki and Hayden either for their help, encouragement and most importantly use of their water tap!



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

The Helgorn Taf Bugle is printed by Clayton Business Machines, Narberth





I DIDN'T EXPECT TREES OF KNOWLEDGE TO BE SO EXPENSIVE

Transitionarberth are extending their remit to Llanfallteg, and are seeking sponsors to plant a modest number of fruit and nut trees here. It costs £25 to buy a tree, including a stake, tie and landscape fabric to ensure a good start. Sponsors are encouraged to help with the planting. A site has been confirmed by the Millennium Hall, with more possible at Hiraeth Cross and on the playing field.

Anyone interested, please contact Liz O'Neill on 01994 240717.

The Plash news!

.Well, that was Summer then!

It doesn't seem 5 minutes since I wrote the last one of these back in June, but here we are, September.

Our final event of this Summer was the August Bank Holiday Beer Festival. A slow start to the weekend but by 4pm on Saturday a steady crowd of Beer "Samplers" had gathered, the Morris Dancers did us proud earlier in the afternoon with Tom on the guitar with an impromptu set in the Garden later in the day.

We are already planning the Christmas Events for The Plash with the ever-popular Christmas Quiz, Carol Night and Turkey Shoot. We also have Guy Fawkes Night to look forward to as well on Saturday the 5th of November. Our displays have grown each year with this one being our 5th display and all profits from the evening will again be going to charity (t.b.d.).

We hope to see you soon in The Plash and hope you enjoy the events as much as we enjoy putting them on! (if it's not too early!!) Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Cheers! Steve and Christie

Forthcoming Events:

Quiz Night: Tuesdays 8pm, Every Fortnight Dates: October 4th & 18th; November 1st, 15th & 29th; 2 years on and still remains as popular, with prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd, £1 per person and free food at half time.

Guy Fawkes Night: November 5th; 7pm start Fireworks, Sparklers & Lanterns in the Playing Field, Jacket Potatoes, Marshmallows & Hot Chocolate in The Plash!

Christmas Quiz: December 13th; Our Festive Quiz replaces the normal Quiz Night in December Teams of 4, £1 per person & free food at half time; Start Time: 8pm

Carol Night: December 17th Carol Singing with "Reg" on the Piano; Mulled Wine & Mince Pies. Start at 7.30pm

Turkey Shoot: December 20th Darts Knockout with the winner taking home a fresh Turkey for Christmas!

Opening Hours: Monday & Tuesday - 5pm to 11pm. Wednesday to Sunday - 12noon to 11pm



Tel: 01437 563 472

Food is available during all opening hours.



Boules Evening

The second Boules evening was held on a rainy evening on 6th August. Twenty brave players turned up with umbrellas and food and drink. The tournament was won by Witney & Stuart who were then challenged and beaten by the two youngest players, Rees & Callum. Don't forget the Boules courts are there for everybody to use all the time; you don't have to wait until the next tournament.

Community Website

The site has had a significant boost recently to bring it up to date. The task is ongoing, but do drop in and see what's new now and again. Web site <http://www.llanfallteg.org/>

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VILLAGE TRIP—Saturday 24th September

While Llanfallteg was getting soaked with rain the lucky ones went on the trip to sunny Cardiff. Some enjoyed St Fagans, some were in the Cardiff Bay area and some visited the National Museum and Art Gallery. Some photographer car parks! On the way back they wrote down their thoughts.

“A brilliant day out and well planned.” “First time to Cardiff. Lovely city. Cheese Festival excellent. Castle great.” “16,261 steps around St Fagans and still more to see. Thoroughly enjoyed it. Will be back next year.” “Roedd St Fagans yn dda.” “Good company on the bus and a great day out at St Fagans. Thanks very much”.

“Thank you for organising a grand day out in a charabanc. Good to go and enjoy the city culture but good to go home too.” “Picasso. Lowry, Zobole, Gwen John, picture after picture. Then crowded streets, Italian food market, phone shops, cafes - then Degas, Renoir, Epstein etc. Then t’bus home. Ta very much.” “Breakfast in Venice, a trip with Captain Pugwash round Cardiff Bay, Church in Oslo,

John Lewis never knowingly undersold, back to Terra Firma but a crumbling Welsh Assembly building, Prompt Bus Service. Diolch yn fawr.” “Loved the affordable housing overlooking Cardiff Bay. Big Balconies. (St David’s Hotel & Spa).” “The Iron Age house was brilliant but is 1955 really history? 1985 seems like yesterday. In the Iron Age Celtic Village house we sat by the fire under a pall of smoke hanging under the thatched roof, listening to tales of our ancestral heroes and heroines - quite unforgettable.” “Weather God was on our side again. Bay water bus well worth the trip & coffee in the Senedd good value too”. “The bus driver was looking pleased, he did not lose anyone. The rain didn’t start until we got on the bus.” “When I was taking a photo of the woolly mammoth in the Museum it started moving!” “We enjoyed looking at the cottages - a bit Smokey. The farm animals looked very cosy in their barn.” “We enjoyed everything we saw at St Fagans.” “St Fagans - so much to see we would need another trip to get round it all - something for everyone. Very enjoyable trip.” “When I was the St Fagans Museum I liked everything.” “I enjoyed going in the houses. When we were in a shop a man was talking to us about old things.”

Llanfallteg Weather this quarter.

The most common moan in The Plash this summer has been the dreadful summer.

	Dry days 2011.	Dry days average.
July	6	10.3
August	18	12.6
September	26	12.9

A dry day is defined by a day with less than 1 mm rain. Looks like this year we did well but of course there were lots of overcast “damp” days in Aug and September.

	Rain 2011(mm)	Rain average (mm)
July	73.6	83.4
August	69.6	109.9
September	114.0	122.4

Looks like we had less than average rain too! Its down on the year too by over 100 mm at the moment—about 12%.

	2011 Temp mean Max Min			Ave Mean Temp Min	
July	19.9	26	0.8	18.6	10.5
August	14.4	24	4.1	18.3	10.4
September	14.9	24	4.7	16.1	8.8

So August and September have both been cooler than average. Other than for more rain in September 2011, 2008 did worse than all these figures as measured on my weather-station. However one local builder did admit that this year he could not remember losing a day recently due to rain, so there we are. The average numbers on the right are for west Wales over period of 30 years 1970 to 2000.

The solar PV on the Millennium Hall has consistently produced more energy than predicted in each of these months, so maybe the summer of 2011 wasn’t that bad, just no very hot days!

