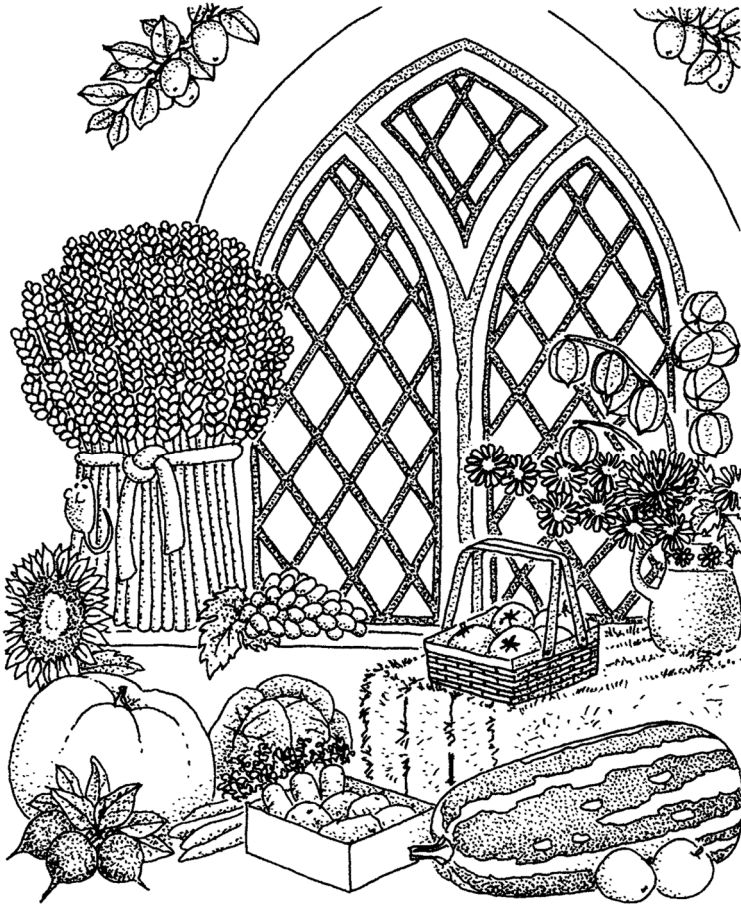


Peninsula Papers

Information and news for the communities of St Ishmaels, Hasguard, Robeston West,
Walwyn's Castle, Dale, St Brides and Marloes.



Papurau Penrhyn

OCTOBER 2023 HYDREF

Gwybodaeth a newyddion am gymunedau St Ishmael's, Hasguard, Robeston West,
Walwyn's Castle, Dale, St Bride's a Marloes.

The Church in Wales

Dale, St Brides, Marloes, St Ishmael's, Walwyn's Castle, Robeston West

Fr. Andrew Johnson, Rev'd Samuel Patterson,
Rev'd. Dr Rhiannon Johnson, Rev'd Gaynor Ford

Contact Details – for Dale, Walwyns Castle, Robeston West

Fr. Andrew Johnson 01646 636966 frandrewj@outlook.com

Contact Details – for Marloes, St Brides

Rev'd Samuel Patterson 01646 690565, SamuelPatterson@cinw.org.uk

Contact Details – for St Ishmaels

Rev'd Gaynor Ford 01646 693452 gaynorford2846@btinternet.com

Church Wardens

Dale: Peter Morgan 636625 Harriet Bishop 636668

St Brides: Mary Lewis 636430, William Richards 636242

Marloes: Yvonne Evans 636251

St Ishmaels: Heather Phippen 562711 Christine Llewellyn 07813 960637

Walwyn's Castle: Jayne Edwards 01437 781575, Kate Morgan 01437 781270

Robeston West: Gill Thorne 01437 890693

Baptist Chapels: Moriah - Marloes Paul James 01646 636241

Aenon - Sandy Hill Rev'd Jon Brewer 01646 635876, sandyhillchapel@gmail.com

LOCAL SERVICES

MOBILE LIBRARY:

Next visit **Friday 13th October (probably - no schedule available yet)**

St. Ishmaels Burgage Green Layby - 10.50 am to 11.20 am Dale - Blue Anchor

Way - 11.35am to 12.05am Marloes - Toilets - 12.15 am to 12.45 am

Contact 01437 776126 or 07774 230200 (van) or Pembs CC website for info

MOBILE POST OFFICE:

Tuesday: St Ishmaels 14:00—15:00 Dale 15:15—16:15

Thursday: St Ishmaels 11:15 - 12:15 Marloes 13:00 - 14:00 Dale 14:15—15:15

FOR HIRE

**THE CORONATION HALL AND JUBILEE
SUITE DALE**



BOOKINGS: WENDY KEHOE 01646 636721

EMAIL— wendykehoe@yahoo.co.uk

CONTACTS FOR HALL HIRE:

Marloes: Emma Truelove 07896
719409

mvhbookings@hotmail.com

St Ishmaels Sports & Social Club:

Sports Club: 01646 636444 or

Claire Sheil 07768 968016

Walwyns Castle Village Hall:

Jean Rees 01437 929813

Dear All,

Autumn is upon us. After an unexpectedly warm and humid start to September I have started noticing a bite in the morning air. The evenings have galloped in. The roses are trying desperately to bloom again before the first frosts, fighting all the way and 'pumpkin spice' is suddenly the flavour shops are offering in almost everything.

In church terms all this means Harvest Festivals and Creation Season. We hold services to say thank you to God and sometimes to each other as well for another year, for all that has blossomed and been fruitful in it and especially thank you for the land we love, and those whose work creates our diverse and delightful countryside. Harvest reminds of the strengths needed to survive as a farmer, especially wisdom, endurance, courage and hope.

Creation Season in its turn reminds us that human life depends on topsoil and the fact that it rains, on bees and sunlight, on so many things we take for granted. We also depend for our daily needs on the work of many others we will never know and can never thank in person. The season brings us face to face with the reality that even the richest, most able person could not flourish if we let the world become inhospitable to us all. Elon Musk on Mars could not cope without air, water and food that have their origin in Earth.

So, thank you for all you do to bless this place and help those who live around you. We hope that this year has been fruitful for you and next will be blessed as well,

With Harvest blessings,

Andrew, Rhiannon, Gaynor and Samuel

Apple Day at St Brides Orchard

**Saturday 30 September,
10am-3pm**



FREE. No need to book. Children must be supervised by an adult.

Come and join us for a seasonal celebration of apples at St Brides Orchard! A unique opportunity to visit the heritage orchard for a family day out. Get involved in hands-on activities, or take a self-guided trail and explore the different varieties of trees grown in the orchard. Chat with National Park Rangers to learn more about apples and how they benefit wildlife.

ST JAMES CHURCH HARVEST FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 8th OCTOBER at 4.00pm

Tea and cakes available as well!



Come and join us as we celebrate
the Harvest

ALL MOST WELCOME

HARVEST HYMNS

Many of our Harvest and Creation hymns are old favourites we have been singing in church since all the fields were ploughed by horse and by hand.

But farming has changed almost completely since then and so many more people live in towns with little access to, or knowledge of, the countryside. As a result, there have been various attempts at updating the hymns we sing. 'We plough the fields with tractors' has in some schools and churches replaced 'We plough the fields and scatter/ The good seed on the land'. Since I was a child the hymn 'Autumn Days' has been popular. It lists among the special things of this time of year 'smell of bacon as I tighten up my laces' , 'a win for my home team' and 'jet planes meeting in the air to be refuelled'.

My favourite of these new hymns is by Shirley Eerena Murray and has lines that seem very relevant this year, with all the news of wildfires and other climate caused disasters. It has a lovely lilting tune and I offer it to you as a present for these days-

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
Nourish the life of the world in our care:
Gifts of great wonder, ours to surrender,
In trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
Water that blesses and air that is sweet,
Health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
Regeneration that peace will complete.

Rhiannon

Marloes w St. Brides 50 Club: Sept 2023 Draw Results

First Prize:	£95	Jane Dixon
Second Prizes	£45	Geoff Lewis
		Pat Ward
		Richard Hayman
Third Prizes	£25	Mary Lewis
		Philip Owen
		Doreen Duffy

ST JAMES CHURCH, DALE.

This is the season to celebrate the harvest. We have watched as our farmers and fishermen have brought in the results of all their labour and we now need to show our gratitude for the food they have produced and their hard work, on our behalf, to achieve it. There will be a Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St James on Sunday 8th October at 4.00 pm. Come a bit early and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake!

The roof is now being addressed in that an architect is now drawing up plans for the project and it is hoped we may be seeing work start on it early next year, so watch this space.

A notice of any services held at St James is placed in the notice board on the road-side outside the church. You may be sure of a warm welcome should you wish to join us at any of these services - or all of them!



COFFEE MORNING
with
TABLE TOP SALE

Come and enjoy a
BREW, BROWSE and BANTER!

Have a cuppa and/or Welsh cake, browse the tables for the
item you always knew you needed, while catching up with friends

SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER
MARLOES VILLAGE HALL
10 - 12

ADMISSION FREE
DONATIONS WELCOME

In aid of St Peters Church Marloes and St James Church Dale



INTRODUCING THE PENINSULA PAPERS SUPPORTERS CLUB

Following on from earlier articles discussing ways of financing Peninsula Papers we have decided to implement the “Peninsula Papers Supporters Club”. This is how it will work:

Residents in the PP distribution area will be invited to become a Peninsula Papers Supporter. There will be two options. Firstly to join a twice-yearly draw scheme for £20 per annum where 70% of the money goes to PP. Secondly to make a regular yearly donation of any amount where 100% of the money goes to PP. It will be perfectly possible to join both options!

The November issue will include an application form to join the Peninsula Papers Supporters Club (PPSC). There will also be the facility to join PPSC by email, and the form will be downloadable from the Marloes website.

The first draw will be made in early March 2024. The second draw will be made in late August. Results of the draw will be published in PP in the next edition after the draw.

Prizes will be paid in cash. There will be two or three prizes in each draw and the amounts will depend on the number of subscribers to the scheme. As an example, if there are 50 members of the scheme then there will be one £100 first prize and one £50 second prize.

Look out for the application form which will be provided as a pull-out centre spread in the November PP. Please help us by joining the scheme!

PP Management Committee

Birthday Thank You

I would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who wished me well, sent cards or presents and to those who came to celebrate with me - what a genuine surprise it was! A special thanks to Shelley and her fabulous team at Coco's Brasserie for hosting such a wonderful party. Here's to the next decade!

Tony Parlor

Community Councils

Dale

No meeting in September

Marloes

Notes from the September meeting:

Broadway Fibre Broadband

A complaint email has been sent from Marloes and St Brides Community Council to Stephen Crabb, Paul Davies and Pembrokeshire County Council regarding:

- 1) Safety issues concerned with the non-marking of poles to supply contact details
- 2) Poor performance
- 3) Residents in limbo with installations being promised but not delivered.
- 4) Issues regarding poles

Footpaths and Beach: Cllr CJ pointed out the issues with dog mess on the Musslewick path. Action Point ongoing with dog rubbish bin due to Vicky Sewell PCNPA being on maternity leave. Action point ongoing.

Recreation Area / Playing Fields / Village Hall: Cllr CJ confirmed the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant was under review by PCC. Once the review was complete and grant request forms were available Community Council would work with the Playing Field committee to support the park gate renovation. Cllr MH to speak with playing field committee to organise a QR code to support fundraising for the park.

National Trust: The damaged Car Park hut has been removed and a replacement shed from the National Trust has been installed.

Toilets: Clerk has replied to PCC recommending the National Park take responsibility at St Brides. The Community Council Cllrs will not be taking financial responsibility for the potential closure of the toilets. No further updates from PCC, National Parks / Trust and Welsh Government on the toilet closure. PCC made residents

aware they will re-visiting toilet closures and funding following the local community dislike of the closure proposals.

St Brides Walled Garden: No updates – action points ongoing. Cllrs not happy with the responses / lack of action from PCNPA. Cllr CJ to email Yvonne to discuss a joint approach with the Church committee to approaching PCNPA regarding the St Brides Walled Garden. Cllr SP to take photos of lack of up keep to buildings to support Cllrs CJ action above.

Village Benches: Cllr CJ confirmed the Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant was under review by PCC. Once the review was complete and grant request forms were available Community Council would work with the Welcome Club to support the village bench proposal.

Community Council boundaries were discussed as part of the Clerks report / recent correspondence from Cllr Reg Owens. Marloes and St Brides would not be open to an amalgamation. Cllrs agreed the large amount of work already discussed / actioned in current Community Council meetings. Cllrs would be happy to hold a meeting with local community councils Tish and Dale to discuss the potential new community council boundaries item.

Planning matters:

NP/22/0314/FUL: Philbeach Farm, Dale, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3QU. Conversion of redundant RAF wireless building which has been used for agricultural storage but is now in a bad state of repair into holiday let use. Declined

NP/23/0380/FUL: Anchor Cottage, Marloes, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3AZ. Proposed alterations, extension & cladding and retrospective permission for removal of chimney. Comments added

NP/23/0395/FUL: Winterton, Dale, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3AS.

Community Councils

Farm diversification to convert redundant store shed to ancillary storage/plant. Comments added

NP/23/0397/LBA: Winterton Farm, North Lane, Dale, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3AS. Dismantle & remove two modern farm buildings & grain silo, convert stone workshop. Comments added

Next meeting: Monday 13th November 2023. Marloes Village Hall 19.30

St Ishmaels

In line with the bi-monthly policy of the council, there was no business meeting in September.

However, at a single-issue meeting called on September 6th, and after welcoming Messrs Stuart Carpenter and Graham Ninnis as newly co-opted members, councillors received a progress report on the activity of the War Memorial Action Group. Significant progress has been made, funds ring-fenced, time-line agreed, design criteria approved. Thanks were extended for the efforts of the voluntary WMAG and it was reminded that Community Council is keen to see project completion a.s.a.p.

The next scheduled business meeting of the council is on Wednesday, 18th October at 7.00 in the Sports Club

WHAT'S ON THIS AUTUMN AT ST ISHMAELS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Saturday 4th November BONFIRE NIGHT

6 pm start

Food from 6pm - 8pm



Saturday 2nd December CHRISTMAS BINGO

Eyes down 7:30pm



Sunday 17th December CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

More details later

Saturday 23rd December TURKEY AND TINSEL NIGHT With Christmas Draw at 8pm Turkey rolls from 6pm - 9pm



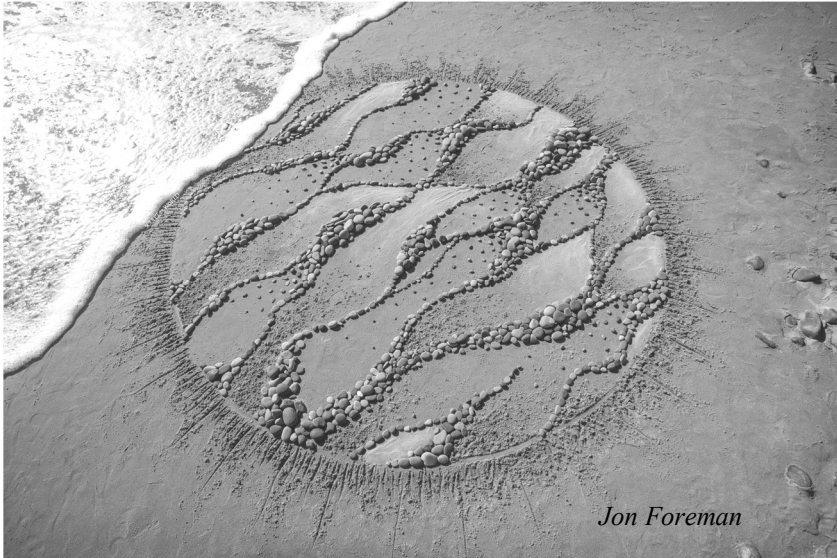
Windfall for 18-year olds

Do you know anyone who has recently turned 18 or will be doing so shortly?

Did you know they will have had a Child Trust Fund set up in their name which is now worth about £2,000?

The money can be taken out or re-invested on the 18th birthday and applies to anyone born between 1st Sept 2002 and 2nd January 2011.

Some parents will have been involved in setting up their child's Trust Fund so will know about it but others may not – lost funds can be tracked down here:
findctf.sharefound.org.



The Old Stables Heritage Centre



**OPEN
BY
APPOINTMENT**

Contact Harriet 636668

Diary for October



SEPTEMBER

Fri 29 1000 - 1200 MacMillan Coffee Morning, Marloes Village Hall

Sat 30 1000 St Brides Apple Day, The Old Orchard, St Brides

OCTOBER

Thu 5 1930 Musical Evening, St James Church, Walwyn's Castle, see advert

Fri 6 1830 British Heart Foundation Pie & Chip Supper, H'west Cicket Club

Sat 7 1430 Hog Roast, Live Music, Corn Dolly competition - Coronation Hall Dale

Sat 7 1000 - 1500 Walwyn's Castle Apple Juicing Event, see advert

Mon 9 1930 "Filkins Drift" at Sandy Haven Chapel, see advert opposite.

Thu 12 1900 Film and Social Club, Dale Coronation Hall

Wed 18 1930 Coastlands History Group, "The Romans on our doorstep" a talk by Mike Garlick and Henry Jones, Coronation Hall, Dale

Wed 18 1900 St Ishmaels Community Council, Sport and Social Club

Thu 26 1900 Film and Social Club, Dale Coronation Hall

Sat 28 1000 - 1200 Coffee morning and Table Top sale, Marloes Village Hall

Sun 29 1600 - 1900 "Open Shop" at Marloes Village Stores

Tue 31 1600 - 1900 Halloween Grotto with Witch at Marloes Village Stores

NOVEMBER

Wed 1 1900 LIFE ON ICE: Living, working, and scuba diving in Antarctica, a talk by Ali Massey, Marloes Village Hall

Sat 4 1800 Bonfire Night at St Ishmaels Sports and Social Club

Mon 13 1930 Marloes and St Brides Community Council, Marloes Village Hall

STOP PRESS:

Pembrokeshire County Council have just made two announcements which affect us all:

1) The Fflecsi bus scheme will finish on October 31st. See

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-66884517>

and <https://newsroom.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/news/fflecsi-bwcabus-service-to-end>

2) Grey plastic sacks for non-recycled rubbish will no longer be supplied by PCC. We will be expected to supply our own black plastic sacks.

<https://newsroom.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/news/council-announces-changes-to-residual-waste-collections>

CHURCH SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Marloes & St Brides

1st 11am - St Peter's, Marloes – Harvest Festival
8th 11am - St Bridget's, St Brides – Holy Communion
15th 11am - St Peter's, Marloes – Holy Communion
22nd 11am - St Bridget's, St Brides – Holy Communion
29th 11am - St Peter's, Marloes – All Souls Memorial Service. *A chance to come and remember loved ones who have passed away, to light a candle in their memory and reflect on hope. If you'd like the name of someone in particular remembered at the service please call or email Rev. Samuel with their name.*

St Ishmaels

8th October Harvest Festival 11am Communion
22nd October 11am Communion

Dale, Walwyn's Castle, Robeston West

1st October 2023 11.15am. Walwyns Castle Harvest Eucharist. Coffee before the service from 11.00am.
8th October 2023 4pm. Dale, Harvest Thanksgiving Service.
15th October 2023 11.00am. Robeston West, Harvest Eucharist.
22nd October 2023 11.00am. Walwyns Castle, Morning Prayer and Church Council.
6.00pm Dale, Holy Eucharist.

Aeon Sandy Hill

Sundays in October:

1st 10:30am All Age Worship & Communion.
8th 10:30am All Age Worship
15th 2:30pm **at Broad Haven Beach for Baptisms.**
22nd 10:30am All Age Worship
29th 2:30pm Afternoon All Age Worship.

All welcome. Free Refreshments are served after Sunday services.

Monthly:

Come and sing together... At *HYMNINSPIRATION* Thurs 19th Oct 2pm followed by Tea & cake. Need a lift? Ring Jon 01646 635876.

BREATHE Worship Nights. Next one is Friday 27th October 7:30pm.

Weekly:

Tuesdays 10:30-12noon Coffee Morning for all the Community. Open to all. Free. Donations welcome for the mission jar.

Wednesdays 7:30pm Rivers Of Life Groups in various locations.



Filkin's Drift folk duo in Concert at Sandy Hill Chapel

Monday 9th October 7:30pm as they walk the whole of Wales Coast Path for charity as part of their CERDD // ED Tour. As heard on BBC Radio Cerys Matthews Show and Pure West Radio.

Tickets are £5 each available from Jon 01646 635876, online at Event-Brite website search: "Filkins Drift Cerdd at Sandy Hill".

Link on our fb page "Sandy Hill Baptist chapel".

At Walwyn's Castle village hall

COMMUNITY COFFEE & CHAT - The 3C's

Check out the
Walwyn's Castle Village Hall
face book page for more
information, or
Tel: 07496001932.
We are a 'warm space hall'.

**Every 1st. Tuesday
of the month,
10am -12pm.**



Everyone welcome, come along to catch up with
colleagues, make new friends, or simply drop in
for a coffee.

Hot and Cold refreshments available.



ADVANCE NOTICE
MARLOES SANDS MIDWINTER BEACH CLEAN
New Year's Eve, Sunday 31st December 2023
Depart car park at 2 pm

Community Apple Juicing Day
Walwyns Castle Village Hall
Saturday 7th October
10am - 3pm

Walwyn's Castle Village Hall
Saturday October 7th
10am - 3pm



Bring along washed, unbruised apples and some bottles (glass or
plastic, well washed) and we'll turn them into juice for just 60p
litre.

Plus Family activities for all.

Hot and cold refreshments available, including seasonal bakes,
soup and cakes

St James the Great church,
Walwyn's Castle

Presents a

'Musical Evening'

Thursday October 5th, 7.30 pm

Featuring :-

Neyland Ladies choir,
Harpist - Isabel Harries
Soloist - Clive Edwards

Followed by light refreshments in the village hall,
plus raffle

Tickets/ entry £10.00.

Contact 07787734586 or 07464481286

All proceeds to church renovations

A cash only evening.

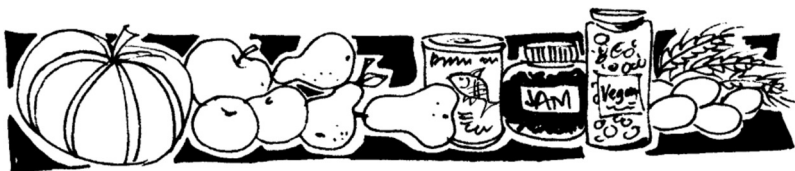
Peninsula Songsters



A friendly singing group for
all adults from across the
Peninsula. We meet Mondays
at 7.15pm at Coronation Hall
at Dale.

It's best to check time and
place first if you're a new
member with Emma Halls
01646636932.

We sing a wide range of
stuff and enjoy a coffee
break. The aim being to have
fun whilst singing. Why not
try us out?



MARLOES VILLAGE HALL AUTUMN TALK LIFE ON ICE: LIVING, WORKING, AND SCUBA DIVING IN ANTARCTICA

A TALK BY ALI MASSEY

Before joining the Skomer Marine Conservation Zone team, Ali worked for the British Antarctic Survey. Over 15 years, in scientific and logistical roles, she spent 3 winters and 13 summer seasons in Antarctica and South Georgia.

WEDNESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 7 PM

Coastlands Local History Group

The September meeting comes way after the deadline for this months PP, so it is not possible to give any clues as to how it went! However it is a fair bet it was well received by those who attended.

In October we have a home grown talk as one of our members Mike Garlick will be talking about "The Romans on our doorstep". Mike has been doing Roman re-enactments for a number of years and has gained an extensive knowledge as to how they operated. It should be an interesting glimpse into a not too well documented area of our local history. The talk will be in Coronation Hall on Wednesday 18th October at 7.30 pm.

The exhibition in The Old Stables "Three is the magic number" is now officially closed, but still in situ in The Heritage Centre. If you did not manage to get to it during the season and would like to come contact one of the names below.

For more details about the History Group please contact Yvonne (636251), or Harriet (636668).



DALE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY NEXT SHOW LAUNCH MEETING

**Variety Show Dale Coronation Hall
Saturday February 17th 2023**

First meeting in the Coronation Hall Jubilee Suite, Wednesday October 11th at 7.30 pm. All welcome, old hands or Peninsula newcomers: the more ideas, the better! N.B. it takes many others as well as actors, singers, and dancers to put on a show. *Under 16s accompanied please.*

Chris Jessop 01646 636789 Anne Meeke 01646 636716



**Thursday
Social and Film
Evenings
2023 Autumn Season
Doors open 7 pm
Films start 7.30 pm
Coronation Hall, Dale**

All Welcome Admission free Refreshments Donations for running costs gratefully received.

Oct 12 - 2022 comedy based on a Paul Gallico novel starring Lesley Manville as a widowed cleaning lady who longs for a Dior dress. Having an unexpected windfall she travels to Paris to buy one.

Oct 26 - Ken Loach's 2016 depiction of two people supporting each other whilst trying to survive the benefits system.

**Film evenings will also be held on
Nov 9, Nov 23 and Dec 7.**

If you are on our mailing list you will be sent an email about your choice of films for the rest of 2023 and into 2024. Please reply. To be added to our mailing list please email rosemary.meck@gmail.com

FIGUREHEAD MYSTERY

Further to my Sept PP piece about ship timbers Mr Matthew Raggett got in touch, telling me about a carved figurehead his family possesses. Found floating in Solva harbour in the early 1960s, it is thought to come from either the Bristol paddle-steamer *Queen* (sank off Skokholm September 1st 1843, see my article) or the schooner *Victoria*, wrecked near Solva November 20th 1846. The figurehead is currently on loan to the Maritime Museum in Pembroke Dock.

Chris Jessop



MARLOES VILLAGE STORES UPDATE!!

NEWSPAPERS

We need some indication of papers required as the history of Marloes Village Stores has been deleted by Menzies.

Please could you let us know via the email address

MarloesPapers@outlook.com with the following information:

Name (optional)

Preferred paper(s)

Prepared to order in advance? (Yes/No)

This will give us a chance to set up the correct paper contract!! THANK YOU

SHOP OPENING

We plan to do an '**Open Shop**' on the **29th of October** where **from 4pm-7pm** you can come for a look around the shop, meet us and our retired Guide Dogs, try some of the basic sandwiches and coffees that we will have on offer and add your input!! FREE in return for feedback

Then we will open as best we can from **Monday the 30th of October - from 9am to 1pm with a golden 'forgotten tea' hour 4pm - 5pm**

HALLOWEEN GROTT

Our resident Witch will be in the shop from 4pm - 7pm on 31st of October to hand out trick and treats - will you get a trick or a treat???

Many thanks to those who have already offered help over the last few weeks. It means a lot.

Glenn and Liz

Hoopoe update

Marloes residents will probably be aware that Hoopoes are quite regularly seen on Marloes lawns in the spring, when they overshoot on their northern migration and finish up in the UK. What is slightly more unusual is that there have been a few Hoopoes around this autumn – I can't imagine what they are doing here or where they have come from! Anyway, there has been one on each of Dale air-field, Skokholm and Skomer, and they have been seen in a couple of other

places too. The one on Skokholm managed to finish up in a Heligoland trap and so it was ringed – it was obviously a bit cross and it gave the most impressive display with its crest.





New Craft Club



Join us at
Marloes Village Hall, Marloes
on the First & Third Thursdays each month
from 2pm - 4pm

*Bring your own craft project to work on whilst
enjoying a chat and a cuppa amongst friends
for just £10 per term (to cover hall rental)*

Upcoming dates:

5 & 19 October

2 & 16 November

December dates to be decided

Marloes Village Hall talks

A very good attendance for the last Summer Talk, "Seals", given by Kate Lock of Skomer MCZ on September 20th. Kate took us through the life of grey seals season by season, emphasising just how remarkable the development of pups is. Gaining weight so fast, they can be weaned and off on their own in under a month. This fact, and the long pupping season, ensures that even storms severe as Ophelia (16.10.2017) do not noticeably affect the seal population long term: it is steadily rising. From tagging, we know that "our" seals travel widely in the southern Irish Sea and the outer Bristol Channel ; but they don't venture much into Scottish or Breton waters.

Next stop – ANTARCTICA! Marloes Village Hall Wednesday Nov 1st 7pm.

Less in the grey sack = less to landfill

Did you know? You can take soft plastic packaging like polythene fruit/veg/bread wrapping back to Tesco stores, for them to recycle. Far better for the environment than going into the PCC grey sack. If the supermarket you use doesn't offer this service, apply pressure!

Wet summers are by no means a new phenomenon.

The Weather Song by Flanders and Swann

January brings the snow
Makes your feet and fingers glow.



February's ice and sleet
Freeze the toes right off your feet.

Welcome, March with wint'ry wind
Would thou were not so unkind.

April brings the sweet spring showers.
On and on for hours and hours.



Farmers fear unkindly May.
Frost by night and hail by day.

June just rains and never stops,
Thirty days and spoils the crops.

In July the sun is hot,
Is it shining? No it's not

August, cold and dank and wet
Brings more rain than any yet



Bleak September's
mist and mud
Is enough to chill the blood

Then October adds a gale
Wind and sleet and rain and
hail



Dark November brings the fog
Should not do it to a dog

Freezing wet December then...
B..... January again!

A Wrangle of Wrynecks

Unfortunately there does not seem to be a collective noun for Wrynecks so I have just invented one. I need a collective noun because this year there have been loads of them – up to 4 on the Deer Park, 2 on Skokholm, 3 on Skomer and singles in various other places around Pembrokeshire. This all happened in the first fortnight of September when Wrynecks are regular here. But why are they here?

They breed from northern Spain right through eastern Europe to China and eastern Russia, and from Scandinavia south to Italy. They spend the winter in warmer places such as central Africa, India and SE Asia. Any sensible bird flying from north to south in a straightish line would not come anywhere near Pembs, but they do – and it appears, from ringing recoveries, that it is Scandinavian birds that take this scenic trip. I often wonder if they have a slight compass error and set off in more of a westerly direction than they should. When faced with the Atlantic they put the brakes on and finish up in Pembrokeshire.

Whatever the reason, they are truly interesting birds. They have extraordinary plumage which looks like tree bark – a mixture of grey, brown and black with white spots which makes them very hard to see when hiding in a gorse bush. They perch at unusual angles and can rotate their heads through almost 180°. They use this facility when defending their nest, accompanied by loud hissing – it is thought that they may be imitating a snake. They are a member of the woodpecker family and like a number of woodpeckers they often feed on the ground, mainly on ants, but also on insects in decaying wood. They nest in old woodpecker holes.

Wrynecks like to live in sunny, dry country-side with scattered trees – think orchards and olive groves. They used to breed in the UK but have declined rapidly so that they were virtually extinct here by the 1990s. Numbers have also fallen rapidly in western Europe and by 50% in Scandinavia. The decline is possibly associated with wetter summers but is probably also due to increase in pesticide use, loss of orchards and unimproved meadows plus intensive farming practices in general.

I'll finish by including pictures of two of the Wrynecks seen recently in the area: with thanks to Richard Brown and Dave Astins.

Rosemary Royle



POTATO PRAYERS

August 27th 2023

Last week a child, shoulder riding Owen's path,
Their view over hedgebanks clear,
Might have peered across my paddock and pointed,
'Why is that man praying on his potato patch?'

So indeed it could have seemed:
There I was on a yacht cushion kneeler
Carefully forking up my crop and, such the season,
Sorting tubers from lusty weed roots.

Maybe you could say this was prayer of sorts:
Certainly, with the year we've had,
I felt strong gratitude for the yield –
Erratic though it was from plant to blighted plant.
And, from pilot diggings
I knew the flavour of all three varieties
Would be strong, grown in this unchemicaled soil
Enriched by seaweed, fallowing, and fire.
Furthermore, despite the recent rain,
All I lifted surfaced cleanly,
Which omened well for taste-strengthening storage
Far into next Spring.

So I say that all you reading this
Should offer up Potato Prayers of sorts;
For where would any of us be without these faithful plants?
Whose seeds we keep to bury as the good land warms again,
Each annual cycle seeming to better acclimatise –
Surely, such benign alchemy.

Now I do not ask that you direct your thoughts
To one god, or another, or to any;
But somehow, by all that's decent,
Please be sure to humble your thanks.

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For a really interesting read about the life and times of Guillemots check out this link below:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/sep/16/we-have-underrated-what-these-birds-can-do-the-secret-life-of-skomers-guillemots-tim-birkhead>

The article is by Prof. Tim Birkhead who has been studying Guillemots on Skomer for many years.



British Heart
Foundation
Cymru

**Haverfordwest & Milford Haven
British Heart Foundation Branch**

Pie & Chip Supper



At Haverfordwest Cricket Club

Friday October 6th, 2023

from 6.30pm

Tickets £18

This event is ticket only

For tickets contact Alan Carrington on

07710 475 978

ABSOLUTE COPY DEADLINE FOR THE
November ISSUE IS
Saturday 21st October 2023

This is **your** church & community publication - so why not contribute something?
Articles should ideally be no larger than 2/3 A5 page or about 350 words.

Adverts for events should be ideally no more than 1/4 A5 page size or maximum 1/2 A5 page

Please submit all copy (in English or Welsh) by email or hardcopy as follows:

For Dale, Marloes & St Brides, Walwyns Castle: **Rosemary Royle:** see below

For St Ishmaels & Hasguard: **Sandra & Steve Morrell:** 2 Mabes Gate, St Ishmaels
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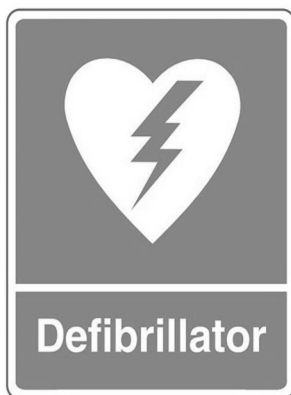
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In YELLOW CABINETS at...

△ Dale Boat House △ Dale Castle outer wall
△ St Anns Head (Old Light) △ Marloes (WCs)
△ Marloes Sands (WCs) △ Martins Haven
△ Pearson Farm gate △ St Brides Haven (WCs)
St Ishmaels: △ Brookside Green
△ Children's Play Park △ Monk Haven Church
Sandy Haven: △ Sandy Hill Chapel
△ (West) Skerryback Farm △ (East) Car Park
Walwyns Castle: △ Village Hall

ALL RECYCLING: Every FRIDAY from 6:30am (check locally for actual times).

ALL RECYCLING PLUS GREY BAGS on these dates: September 22nd, October 13th