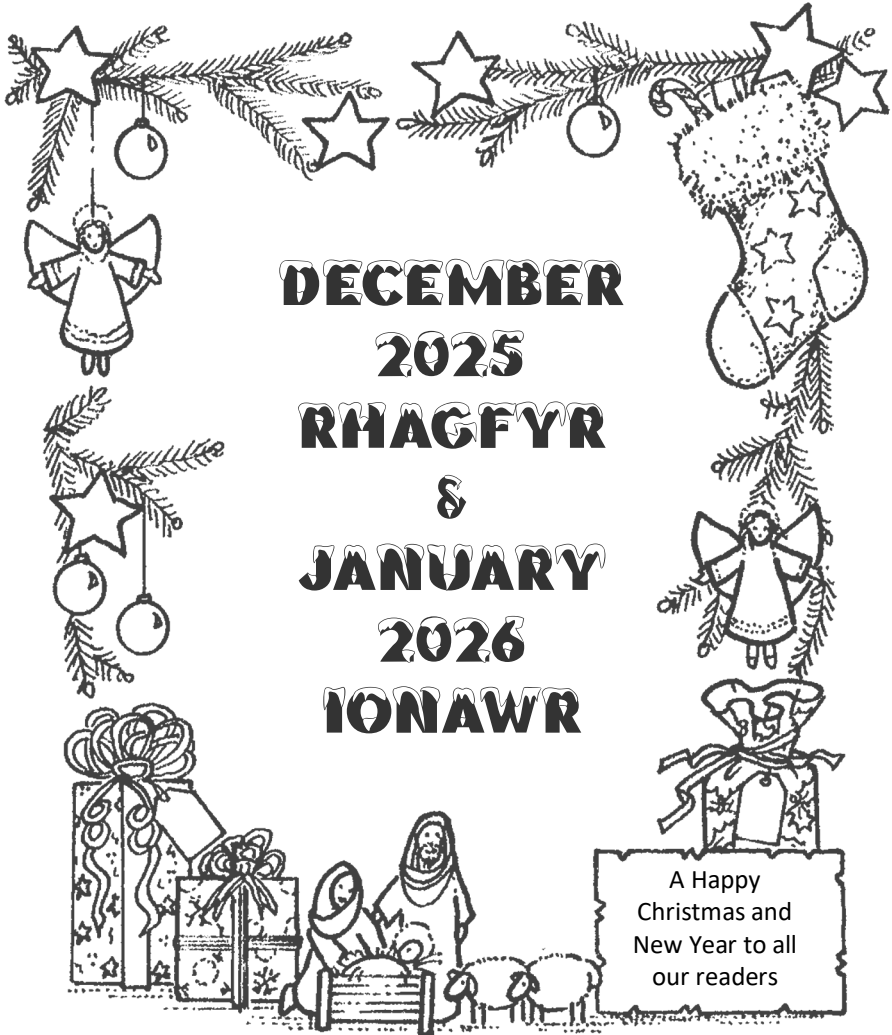


Peninsula Papers

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



DECEMBER
2025
RHAGFYR
&
JANUARY
2026
IONAWR

A Happy
Christmas and
New Year to all
our readers

Papurau Penrhyn

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 07772 312658 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

St Brides: Mary Lewis 636430, William Richards 636242

Marloes: Yvonne Evans 636251

St Ishmaels: Heather Phippen 07792 995160 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 0777 4845497 sandyhillchapel@gmail.com

LOCAL SERVICES

DALE BEACH SHOP Closed for the winter.

MOBILE LIBRARY: Friday 19th December

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 775243 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 S&S Club: Deborah Cheshire 07972 732423

dlchesh35@aol.com

Walwyns Castle Village Hall:

Jean Rees 01437 929813

Dear All,

I hope you will have and are having a joyful Christmas, full of the best things life offers. I pray that 2026 will bring us all a happier new year with far less anxiety, violence and hatred worldwide and the chance to enjoy all that we are blessed with here.

It is a hugely important time for almost everyone, but doubly so for those of us committed to our faith because, for us, it celebrates one of the key truths of Christianity which is all summed up theologically in the word 'incarnation'. We believe the almighty God who made all things chose, in Jesus Christ, to have a human life and death because he loves us.

One of the many consequences of that is that all things have the potential to be holy, to be places where we meet God- any home, even if only the temporary shelter of a stable, any birth can be sacred, any meeting between people, even if they smell of the sheep fields can bring blessing. Of course there is a lot more to faith and what we do to respond to this but at this time of year we celebrate the intense, astounding love of God for each and every one of us.

We pray that you may experience some of the wonder and joy in that sense of being blessed and loved and hallowed in these mid-winter days and throughout 2026,

With every blessing

Rhiannon, Andrew, Samuel and Gaynor



Change of Address

From around 8th December, Fr Andrew and Rhiannon will be moving out of the vicarage in Dale. They will be using small vans to prevent too much disruption to the rest of the village and because their new home is not far away. Andrew will still have primary pastoral charge of Dale, Walwyn's Castle and Robeston West until his retirement sometime next year.


Their new address (assuming it does not all fall through at the last minute) will be The Church House, Hasguard SA62 3DT. At least for now, they will be using their mobiles so, if you want to contact them, Andrew's number is 07772 312658 and Rhiannon's is 07985 176467. Their emails remain the same. The telephones at the Vicarage in Dale are not working well at present so please start using the mobile numbers as soon as you need to.



Community CAROL SERVICE

Gathering to sing our favourite carols,
and to hear again of the birth of Jesus.

Followed by refreshments



AT 2:30 PM

21

DECEMBER

Marloes Village Hall



Marloes & St. Brides Churches Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 6th December 10.00am - 12 noon

Marloes Village Hall

Teas/Coffees, Cake Stall, Produce Stall, Books/Puzzles
& Church Cards, Christmas Gifts, Local Craft Stall and
Raffle.

Donations for the Christmas Hamper to be raffled, to be
handed to Pat Krelle.

Raffle & 50 Club Draw at 11:45

Money raised will go towards the upkeep of the Marloes &
St. Brides churches.

St. Peter's & St. Bridget's Church Notices

Christmas Services & Sunday Services in December and January 2026 – please see the diary list on the centre pages.

Churchyards – St. Bridget and St. Peter's - At both churchyards, grass cutting is undertaken by Mr. Mark Gainfort. He is thanked by the Wardens & Church Council for undertaking this work. The Churchyards are kept in very good condition in spite of the difficult weather conditions experienced. Marloes & St. Brides Community Council are also thanked for their financial support.

Christmas Coffee Morning – see separate notice. The event this year, will raise funds for the general upkeep of both St. Bridget's, St. Brides and St. Peter's, Marloes. In addition to the usual running costs, the Church Council this year is undertaking the replacement of the nine heaters at St. Bridget's that have been in place for many years and are no longer effective. Donations of Cakes/Savouries and home-made preserves will be welcomed by the Cake & Produce Stalls, as will Raffle prizes. The support of the Community on the day towards this extra expense will be greatly appreciated.

Community Carol Service – Jointly organised by the Churches of St. Peter's, Marloes and St. Bridget's, St. Brides with Moriah Chapel, the service will this year be held at Marloes Village Hall. The service will commence at 2.30pm and will be followed by a Bring & Share Tea. All members of the Community are warmly welcomed. Why not attend as a family to set the scene for Christmas Week?

Christmas Eve Carol Service – St. Bridget's – 5pm – Remember to bring a torch!

Christmas Day - St. Peter's, Marloes, 11am – Community Residents and Visitors are very welcome.

ST JAMES CHURCH, DALE

CAROLS

& Mulled Wine



**CAROLS, songs, mulled wine, mince pies, the best way to start
Christmas!**

**SUNDAY
21st DECEMBER**

6.00pm



MARLOES & ST BRIDES VILLAGE HALL



* VOLUNTEER TRUSTEE NEEDED DUE TO RETIREMENT *

Marloes & St Brides Village Hall

Marloes & St Brides Village Hall is looking for a committed Volunteer Trustee to join our friendly team.

As a trustee, you will:

- Attend committee meetings twice a year
- Help make important decisions for the future of our much-loved village hall
- Support the smooth running and long-term wellbeing of this vital community space

If you care about our village and want to play a part in protecting and improving our hall, we would love to

hear from you by 16th January 2026

For more information or to express interest, please email:

gina@trehillfarm.co.uk



CRIB SERVICE

ST JAMES CHURCH, Dale



CHRISTMAS EVE,
4.00 pm

All shepherds, angels, cows & sheep are very welcome!



Dale

Items discussed at the last meeting in November included:

Parking/Highways

The white lining on the Townsend junction is looking pretty poor. Cllrs were reminded that the last time the Council re-surfaced the road it was done late in the season and was rushed, hence the poor state it's in now. Clerk is to notify PCC.

Community Councils

Village Matters

West Dale Steps

The state of the steps has been reported to PCNPA and a ranger is going to carry out a site visit.

Public Toilets

Councillors were notified that on the morn-

ing of November 5th 2025, the tanks at the water treatment facility in Dale overflowed, spilling raw, untreated sewage into the surrounding area, including the boatyard, residents' gardens and flooding the lockers underneath the boathouse building. Welsh Water (WW) were made aware and came down to assess the situation and clean the area. This is something that is not believed to have been done to the spec that it should have been. A close resident informed public health and protection via PCC. To date, no residents have formally been informed of this incident. It is believed that this event was caused due to the massive amount of rain that has recently fallen, that coincided with the high tide. However, this is still speculation. Cllrs agreed that this whole situation has been dealt with appallingly by all parties involved. Cllr George will chase to see what was done by environmental health and to see if there will be any follow up.

It was agreed to write to Will Bramble and copy in Henry Tufnell, Paul Davies and Eluned Morgan, writing to complain and to invite them to an extraordinary meeting in the village at a high tide to try and get some momentum behind this urgent issue. A separate email will be sent to WW to find out exactly what they are doing following this event and to challenge them to have the storm drain surveyed to find out exactly what leads in/out of it and to see if it is contributing to any of these issues.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 19th January** commencing at 7pm in the Coronation Hall, Jubilee Suite, Dale.

Please see dalevillage.co.uk for further Community information.

Marloes & St Brides November 4th 2025 Meeting Digital Switch Over

Following from last meeting's discussion on

Community Councils

back up battery options for broadband, Councillors agreed to make residents aware that some may be eligible for free boosters, this information will be sent to Peninsular Papers.

Footpaths and Beach

Clerk has chased PCC for a reply re dog bin emptying, no reply yet.

Recreation Area / Playing Fields / Village Hall

The Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant has been submitted. We should hear re this early 2026.

Thank you to Chris Jessop for his support in drafting the application.

Village Hall

County Councillor CG will look into if the warm spaces grant through PLANED has been applied for. If not, she will share the application process with the Village Hall secretary.

Clock Tower

Following the electricity supplier switch to Utilita, the British Gas account has been closed and a refund of £525 issued.

Chair MH has had 3 x keys cut. Cllrs approved her to be reimbursed £85.97 for the cost of this. Chair MH will look into new Christmas lights for the Clock.

Highways

County Councillor CG will investigate the Minor Works Funds and if this can be used to make Gay Lane safer.

Some repair work has been done to pot-holes previously discussed.

Chair MH has had a reply from Ken Skates MS (Cabinet Secretary for Transport). The Welsh Government will not pursue asking sat nav providers to amend the speed limits, as it is the driver's responsibility to adhere to the speed limit signposted.

MH mentioned that Apple Maps are now showing 20mph in Marloes.

Due to damage, a lamppost has been cut

down by PCC. CG will speak to a contact to ensure this replacement is prioritised.

St Brides Walled Garden

County Councillor CG, Cllrs SP and NS attended a meeting with National Parks around the St Brides Walled Garden 03.09.2025 at 6pm. Following this they were asked to submit suggestions about what the site can be utilised for.

Village Benches

We have a resident wanting to sponsor and pay for a bench in the memory of her parents. Community Council discussed different styles of benches, and will propose a composite bench as this will require less maintenance and will be safer long term as there will be risk of damaged wood etc.

Clerk has applied for Welsh Water Grant to provide further benches.

Bus Service

Cllrs confirmed the re-appointment of the coastal bus routes (puffin shuttle service) is a great success for the local community. The bus routes were re-instated due to the consultation and complaints made by the Community Council.

Correspondence received from member of the Welcome Club asking Marloes & St Brides to work with Dale and St Ishmaels on pursuing a weekly bus services in the local area. Clerk to raise this.

County Councillor CG mentioned Fflecsi bus feedback and will share the details with Cllrs. They propose to share a notice of how users can report issues to be posted in the Peninsular Papers.

County Councillor CG will arrange for a representative from Pacto to attend a meeting with the Welcome Club to discuss care share options. CG will liaise with the Welcome Club for an available date.

National Grid

Cllrs agreed to submit letter drafted by

Community Councils

Chris Jessop to National Grid re electricity grid reinforcement. Paragraph proposed by Cllr PS to be added to this. Clerk submitted the letter.

Welsh Water Meeting

Cllrs PS and NS attended meeting with Welsh Water and the local community. Following this PS has sent an email of questions has been sent to Welsh Water. We are awaiting a reply to this. Clerk emails the WI to thank them for organising the meeting.

Planning matters

NP/25/0124/LBA: Philbeach Farm, Dale, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3QU. Delegated

NP/25/0122/FUL: Philbeach Farm, Dale, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3QU Delegated

NP/25/0469/LBA / NP/25/0468/FUL:

Cranford, St. Brides, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3AJ. Installation of air source heat pump / installation of heat pump. Approved with Conditions

Next meeting: Tuesday 06th January 2026 Marloes Village Hall 19.30.

St Ishmaels

Minutes of the business meeting held on 19th November, 2025

MATTERS ARISING:

Defibrillators. Mr Smith-Gosling and Mr. Gainfort as members of the current defibrillating team for the village, explained what the duties were regarding maintenance of the machines. They expressed their desire to now relinquish their responsibility for the defibs. and were advised by councillors to advertise in Tish Topics and Peninsula Papers for volunteers.

War Memorial The councillors were shown a photograph of the new stainless steel information tablet to be built into a base by the memorial.

Hedge on the Linsday path. It was noted that the hedge had not yet been cut back by the Parks.

RESIGNATION OF CHAIR: Due to her recent hospitalization and illness, Cllr. Moira Hawkins reluctantly had to tender her resignation from the council. Many thanks and tributes were expressed by councillors for Moira's long and dedicated service to the village as councillor, with all wishing her well in her retirement.

Richard Jenkins, recently serving as vice chairman, agreed to permanently fulfil the post as council chairman. Moira Hawkin's resignation meant that there was a vacancy for a councillor to be co-opted to the council. Potential applicants are to be sought by councillors.

NOTICEBOARD: A third board had recently been delivered to replace the wooden one on the school wall and Cllrs Jenkins and Carpenter, plus Mr. Neil Orton, kindly volunteered to affix it to the school wall.

SEWAGE: The many conversations with Welsh Water over the perennial and severe sewage problems in the village were reported by the clerk. Of particular and serious concern was the overflowing of raw sewage after heavy rain, through the excessive water lifting the inspection cover on Lower Grove Road by the Brook Inn. Mr. Neil Orton also spoke to the meeting about similar problems on the inspection covers in The Furzy.

The clerk was subsequently told by the area manager of the pollution team that the final phase of lining the sewage system

Community Councils

to prevent ground water ingress is to be started soon, following additional funding for the work secured from the Welsh Assembly. He confirmed that such work should eventually solve the severe problem of contaminated water being discharged into the Monkhaven stream by the sewage works and that he will henceforth regularly keep the clerk informed of all progress of these ongoing works.

MOBILE POST OFFICE: The new electric van has not been available on the Peninsula, for a couple of weeks. On enquiry, the clerk was informed that the van had been undergoing 'maintenance' and there were difficulties with repairing its electrical system. He was told that, if these problems remained much longer, a diesel van will be made available.

A.O.B:

Memorial Hall. It was noted that the Memorial Hall had had new clear windows installed, hopefully signalling welcome further work on its now somewhat dilapidated state.

Flooding at 14, Burgage Green. Mrs. Aubrey reported that her back garden becomes awash in heavy rain, due to a blocked culvert that normally flowed under and down the adjacent Common Land Green. On contacting the PCC officer responsible for Common Land, the clerk was told that measures to rectify this problem were now in train.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: January 21st, 2026



Diary for December and January



DECEMBER

- Thu 4 1900** Dale Social and Film Evening, Dale Coronation Hall
Sat 6 1000 - 1200 Marloes & St Brides Churches Christmas
Coffee Morning, Marloes Village Hall
Sun 7 1630 Christmas Tree Lights switch on, Coronation Hall, Dale
Fri 12 1800 St Ishmaels S&S Club Christmas Bingo Night
Sat 13 1930 Christmas Quiz Night at the Lobster Pot, Marloes (see advert)
Sun 14 1730 onwards St Ishmaels, Santa in the village, and lantern parade
Tues 16 1900 "Carols at Christmas" at St Ishmaels S & S Club
Thu 18 1900 Dale Social and Film Evening, Dale Coronation Hall
Fri 19 1830 Marloes Magical Lights Walk, see advert for details
Fri 19 pm Open Mic session at the Lobster Pot
Sun 21 1430 Community Carol Service, Marloes Village Hall
Sun 21 1800 Carols and Mulled Wine, St James Church, Dale
Mon 22 1800 Christmas Carols on the Green, Walwyns Castle
Wed 24 1600 Crib Service, St James Dale
Wed 24 1700 Carols by Candlelight, St Bridget's, St Brides (bring a torch)
Wed 31 0900 Midwinter Beach Clean, meet Marloes Sands car park

JANUARY

- Tue 6 1930** Marloes & St Brides Community Council, Marloes Village Hall
Thu 8 1900 Dale Social and Film Evening, Dale Coronation Hall
Sat 17 An exhibition at the Waterfront gallery in Milford Haven of sculpture
and paintings by David and Cassia Gomersall from Marloes.
Mon 19 1900 Dale Community Council, Jubilee Suite
Wed 21 1900 St Ishmaels Community Council, S & S Club
Wed 21 1930 Coastlands History Group, "Roman Routes of Pembrokeshire" by
Martin Davies
Thu 22 1900 Dale Social and Film Evening, Dale Coronation Hall



MIDWINTER BEACH CLEAN

Community of Marloes & St Brides annual Midwinter Beach Clean

New Year's Eve, Wednesday December 31st

Set off from Marloes Sands car park at 0900

All come at own risk

U18s must be accompanied by an adult

Services for December and January

St Ishmaels

Services December 2025

14th December communion 11am

21st December communion 11am

25th December communion 10.00 am

Services January 2026

11th January communion 11am

25th January communion 11am



Dale, Walwyn's Castle and Robeston West

7th December 11.15 Eucharist, St James Dale.

3.00pm St Mary Tenby Launch of year of Mission.

14th December 11.15am Eucharist with carols. St James the Great Walwyns Castle.

21st December 11.15am Eucharist, St Andrew Robeston West

6.00pm Lessons and Carols, St James Dale.

24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Come and help set our crib, St James Dale.

10.00pm First Mass of Christmas with Mulled wine.

25th December Christmas Day

9.30am Christmas Eucharist, St James Dale. Please bring one of your presents to show.

11.15am Christmas Eucharist, St Andrew Robeston West

28th December No services in Dale, Robeston West or Walwyns Castle.

Marloes & St Brides

7th Dec 11am – St Bridget’s, St Brides – Holy Communion

14th Dec 11am – St Peter’s, Marloes – Holy Communion

21st Dec 11am – St Bridget’s, St Brides – Holy Communion

2.30pm – Marloes Village Hall – Community Carols

24th Dec 5pm – St Bridget’s, St Brides – Carols by Candlelight

25th Dec 11am – St Peter’s, Marloes – Christmas Holy Communion

28th Dec 11am – St Peter’s, Marloes – Holy Communion

4th Jan 11am – St Bridget’s, St Brides – Holy Communion

11th Jan 11am – St Peter’s, Marloes – Holy Communion

18th Jan 11am – St Bridget’s, St Brides – Holy Communion

25th Jan 11am – St Peter’s, Marloes – Holy Communion

1st Feb 11am – St Bridget’s, St Brides – St Bridget’s Day Holy Communion



16th December Carols at Christmas at 7:00 pm

at the St Ishmaels Sports Club.

with Coastland school choir, mulled wine, mince pies and raffle

Everyone welcome

Coastlands Local History Group

For our last talk of the year, those who braved a very cold night were shown the wide range of projects and aims of The Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast by the Chair of the Friends, Clare Dow assisted by her husband. It is comforting to know there are many people out there who are working hard to maintain and in some cases restore routes around our county as well as working with other agencies to try and drive through measures which are more long term as to the sustainability of the area.

In December and January, The Old Stables Heritage Centre will be open by appointment. If anyone or any group wishes to visit just contact either Yvonne or Harriet and we will arrange times and dates to suit.

We will be opening our 2026 programme with a talk by Martin Davies on The Roman Routes of Pembrokeshire on 21st January 2026 in Coronation Hall at 7.30pm. This would be an ideal chance to come and renew your membership, or to join us in the first place. Members will be sent an email to advise on the different ways they can renew their membership.

Membership still stands at £5.00 per person or a Life membership at £50.00 per person. If you would like to become a member come to the talk or contact us.

If you need any further information please contact Harriet (636668) or Yvonne (636251)

Marloes & St. Brides Aid in Sickness Fund

The above fund is a legacy from the time of the Lord Kensington, St. Brides Castle. A property was provided in the parish of Marloes as a residence for the District Nurse. When there was no longer a use for this facility, the property was sold and the capital invested through the Charity Commission. The objective of the charity is "to relieve in cases of need persons resident in the parish of St. Brides and the neighbourhood thereof who are sick, convalescent, disabled, handicapped or infirm."

Marloes & St. Brides Community Council administer the Fund with the assistance of Pembrokeshire County Council Social Care Department. Please consider whether you, a member of your family, or someone you know may benefit from this Fund.

For further information and an application form please contact:- Yvonne Evans, Tel. No. 01646 636251.



CHRISTMAS BINGO IN HERBRANDSTON

St. Mary's Church Christmas Bingo
At Herbrandston Hub
Thursday 4th December
Eyes Down 7.00
All Welcome

Herbrandston Sports Hub Christmas Bingo
Thursday 11th December



ADVANCED NOTICE – FOR YOUR DIARIES

*** FREE LIVE MUSIC ***

FESTIVE OPEN MIC SESSION @ LOBSTER POT MARLOES

FRIDAY EVENING DECEMBER 19th

WATCH OUT FOR POSTERS & SOCIAL MEDIA NEARER THE TIME

There may be mince pies...



At Walwyn's Castle village hall

**COMMUNITY COFFEE
& CHAT - The 3C's**

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



Broadband Battery Backups

Following Ofcom regulations and ahead of the national switch from traditional landlines to digital services (VoIP) by 2027, some major providers are required to provide solutions for power cuts.

You may be eligible for a **free** battery backup unit if you meet criteria such as:

- Being a vulnerable customer (e.g., elderly, disabled, or having health issues).
- Being dependent on your landline phone for contacting emergency services (999/112).
- Living in a remote area with poor or no reliable mobile phone coverage.

Action you can take:

Contact your broadband provider directly and inform them if you are a vulnerable customer or rely on your landline in an emergency. They are responsible for assessing your needs and providing a solution, which often includes a free battery backup that can power your router for a minimum of one hour, and often longer (4-7 hours for some models).

Marloes Magical Lights Walk

Friday 19th December 6.30pm



Procession starts at the East End
of Gaylane Terrace

Follow Santa on his journey to The Lobster
Pot Inn for Mince pies & Carol Singing.
Mulled Wine available.

Light the way - bring your twinkling
lights, lanterns & festive cheer

Donations for Marloes Playing Fields are
welcome.

Water & Sewage - Information & Advice from Welsh Water

Following the Dale WI Open Meeting held at in October, copies of the slides shown by the River Quality Liaison Manager – South West, have been shared with the Clerk & members of the Community Councils of Dale, Marloes & St. Brides, and St. Ishmaels.

One slide in particular highlighted what use should be made of a toilet:-

Let's Stop the Block Only flush the 3 Ps

>50% of pollution incidents are from blockages, wet wipes being one of our biggest problems. The three Ps being Piss, Poo, and Paper (Toilet). One young school-child added "Puke" to make 4 Ps!

It is stressed that even if the wet wipes packaging advises they can be flushed you should only bin them.



Walwyn's Castle Village Hall
invites you to -

'Christmas Carols on The Green'


Monday, December 22nd

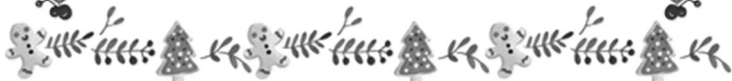
*Carol singing around the
Christmas tree,
mulled wine and
festive treats in the hall*

Starting at 6 pm.

Everyone welcome

In the case of bad weather, Carol singing will be in the hall

 Walwyn's Castle village hall



(VERY) ADVANCE NOTICE FOR YOUR 2026 DIARIES

ST ISHMAELS CHURCH FETE 13th JUNE 2026

BIG EVENT!!

At MONK HAVEN MANOR, ST ISHMAELS

Watch out for posters and social media from New Year onwards

Skokholm Island, season by season

Marloes Village Hall 26th November

Lisa Morgan (Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales) gave us a wonderfully informative talk with excellent photos. She conveyed just how hard the island wardens and seasonal volunteers work producing important reports on the nesting seabirds, passage birds which are on migration, and rarities blown off course by bad weather – sometimes right across the Atlantic. We learned how much effort is necessary to keep Skokholm's buildings in good order; it was impressive, too, to see the various innovations which are helping to improve our understanding of seabirds: "Petrel Station" nest boxes, underground puffin observation chambers, and new easier-to-see ringing systems.

There was a very good turnout, despite the weather: a great way to end our talks season in Marloes Village Hall. All attending surely appreciated Lisa's tributes to Steve Sutcliffe and Mike Alexander, both such important characters in the story of our bird islands.

NCI WOOLTACK POINT

THE LOBSTER POT

Marloes : Pembrokeshire : SA62 3AZ

Christmas

Quiz Night

SATURDAY | 13 DECEMBER | 7:30pm

**BOOK NOW
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT**

Ring Chris on 07719 046587

PRIZE FOR BEST FANCY DRESS

£2.50 PER PERSON, MAXIMUM OF 4 PER TEAM
RAFFLE AND PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM!



Thursday
Social & Film Evenings
2025 Autumn Season
Doors open 7 pm
Films start 7.30 pm
Coronation Hall, Dale

All welcome Admission and Refreshments free.
Donations of refreshments to share and towards
running costs are always gratefully received.

- Dec 4 1993 film adapted from a prize-winning novel by Kazuo Ishiguro. Set in a country house in pre and post WW2 it follows the relationship between the butler and the housekeeper with a backdrop of pro-nazi politics.
- Dec 18 1933 Marx Bros film described as a masterpiece of comedy. Followed by Christmas Party.
- Jan 8 1941 film depicting life in the South Wales coalfields in the 19th century.
- Jan 22 1968 epic spaghetti Western starring Claudia Cardinale and Henry Fonda.
- Feb 5 A funny, melancholy yarn of a folk duo reunited on an island off the Welsh coast by an oddball superfan. Released this year.

There will also be Social and Film Evenings on Feb 19, March 5, 19 & 26.

To join our e-mailing list and receive titles and descriptions of the films a week in advance, contact rosemary.meck@gmail.com



The Old Stables Heritage Centre
South Street, Dale.

DECEMBER and JANUARY
Open by appointment

Arrangements can be made if anyone
or any group wishes to visit.

Contact Harriet 636668 or Yvonne
636251

Dale WI

Dale WI continues to meet twice a month in the Coronation Hall, one a business meeting and the other a talk or activity.

November's guests were local artists Wendy and Sean Kehoe, who demonstrated and had us making Christmas decorations from colourful tinsel pipe cleaners, a variety of beads, driftwood and an old artificial Christmas tree. A highly amusing afternoon ensued, with Sean leading the way in singing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star to accompany the star making. We all left with three colourful decorations to display for Christmas.

The Pembrokeshire area WI awarded us a second place certificate for the largest percentage increase in membership last year. We welcome new members. We meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 2.30 pm in winter and 7.30 pm in summer. Please contact Gail for more information on 07854 854838.

Jennifer Thomasson



St Ishmaels Sports & Social Club

18h · 🌐

Save the date post 😊

We have quite a few events coming up with details to follow, but a heads up.

29th November- Casino Night.

12th December- Christmas Bingo

14th December- Lantern parade and Santa through the village.

Boxing day- football (under 30's v overs) and live music.

New years day party.

We are also bringing back the Christmas squares with the raffle drawn on Christmas eve.

So much to look forward to 😊

St Ishmaels Santa lantern parade, 14th December

Santa will be leaving the cross at 5.30 and making his way up to the club.

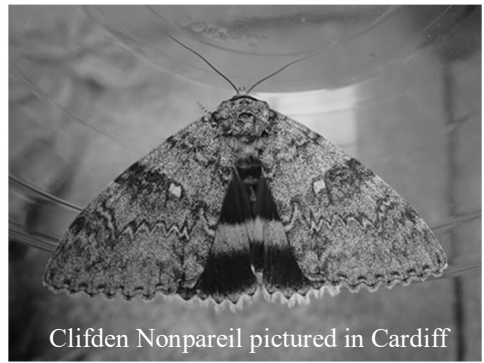
We would love everyone to make a lantern to light the way (prize for best lantern) . Party to follow in the hall, would love you all to come. 😊



You never forget your first Clifden Nonpareil!

The Clifden Nonpareil is the Victorian collector's classic all-time favourite moth, the 'Blue Underwing'

The name "Clifden Nonpareil" is derived from the location of the first British records, at the Cliveden estate in Berkshire in the 18th-century, "*nonpareil*" meaning "without equal" in French. (Or as Sinead O'Connor would have it "nothing compares")



Clifden Nonpareil pictured in Cardiff

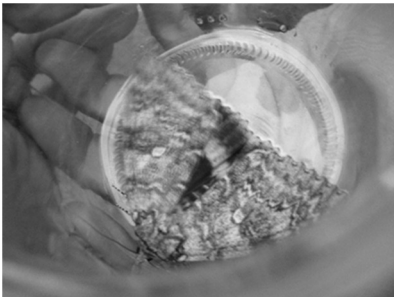
In the British Isles it was formerly resident in certain parts of Kent and Norfolk during the middle part of the 20th century, but it became extinct as a breeding species and for many years was only recorded as an occasional immigrant.

In recent years it has been increasing again and is now considered to be recolonising. Once again it is a breeding species in some southern counties. However, there are not many records for this magnificent moth in Pembrokeshire, despite there being increasing records in SE Wales, so I honestly thought I was never going to see one.

I had read all about other people's experiences and I was puzzled to see that rather than remarking on the unusual pale blue band on the underwing (blue is a very uncommon colour on lepidoptera) they remarked on the amazing size of the thing. Well, now I understand why!

It was a grey and rather miserable morning on the 1st October when I went out to check the trap at 7:30. It was situated under the porch, which is my location of preference if the forecast is wet. I always check around the nearby walls as moths often perch there – and much to my astonishment there was a very large triangular moth low down on the wall next to the downpipe. I knew immediately what it was and went to get my husband out of bed as I knew he would be interested and he is also very good at handling moths. He encouraged the moth into a jam jar – and it wasn't big enough! The moth couldn't spread its wings properly – in fact it pretty well touched both sides even with the wings un-spread. So we went to get a nice big Pyrex dish, but by this time the moth was getting a bit fed up and decided to fly off – looking like a small bird as it did so.

The moth was in pristine condition, so where did it come from? A migrant or a local breeder? The large greyish caterpillar feeds mainly on aspen (*Populus tremulosa*) but there are no aspen trees nearby. So perhaps it has diversified to sallows?? Or maybe it blew in from eastern Wales? Who knows.



In the jam jar

But just like all the others I find myself remembering the huge size of the moth rather than the lovely blue!! The wingspan 75 – 95 mm – just look at it on a ruler – it is huge! And to see the blue coloration I suggest you Google it!

Rosemary Royle

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Adverts for events should be ideally no more than 1/4 A5 page size or
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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 Mables Gate, St Ishmaels
SA62 3TL sandymorrell1@gmail.com Tel: 07544 705317

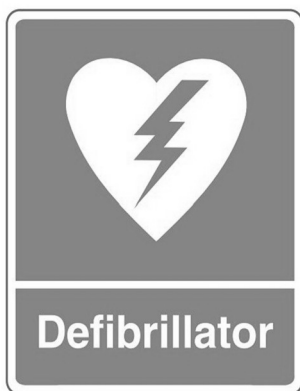
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In YELLOW CABINETS at...

- △ Dale Boat House △ Dale Castle outer wall
- △ St Anns Head (Old Light) △ Marloes (WCs)
△ Marloes Sands (WCs)
- △ Martins Haven △ Deer Park NCI Watch Hut
△ Pearson Farm main gate
△ St Brides Haven (WCs)
St Ishmaels: △ Memorial Hall
- △ Children's Play Park △ Monk Haven Church
△ Sandy Hill Chapel △ Sandy Haven slip
Walwyns Castle: △ Village Hall

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

ALL RECYCLING PLUS GREY/BLACK BAGS on these dates:
December 19th, January 9th and 30th