

NEWYDDION DINAS TYDDEWI ST DAVIDS CITY NEWS



Gwanwyn 2016 Spring

Community Award for Paul Edey



2016
EISTEDDFOD
GADEIRIOL

Dydd Llun, Chwefror 29, 2016
Monday, February 29, 2016

Thema: Cylchoedd
Neuadd y Ddinas

Theme: Circles
St Davids City Hall

Cyflwynydd Mrs Glenys James Co-ordinator
15, Maes yr Helydd, Tydder / St Davids SA62 4QW
Tel: (01437) 720447
Ffurw 50+ Sir Benfro - Penybrenkhir 50+ Forum

Paul Edey was the winner of this year's Community Award. The Mayor, Councillor Frank John, presented him with his winning certificate at this year's Christmas Civic Reception at the City Hall.

Paul is Vice Chair of the St Davids and Dewisland Historical Society, Chair of St Davids Community Forum and an active member of the Friends of Oriel Y Parc.

The event was attended by representatives of a large number of different organisations in St Davids. Music was provided by Ysgol Dewi Sant Brass Ensemble.

Ysgol Bro Dewi pupils perform their Nativity play



The pupils of Ysgol Bro Dewi performed their Nativity play at the City Hall for the annual Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. Please see page 4 and 5 for reports of other Christmas events.



Letter from the Mayor, Cllr Frank John

Since my last letter the situation at Ysgol Dewi Sant has become much clearer, with the publication of the statutory notices confirming the future plans for the schools in our peninsula.

The first credit for all this has to go to all of you who came to take part in those initial first protests outside County Hall. Without such a strong declaration of our public concerns I do not think the county councillors would have been so prepared to listen to us.

Thanks are also due to the hard work and commitment of so many people in St Davids who worked so hard to save our schools, in particular the Schools for the Future campaign group, especially its chairman Paul Howe, also our county councillor Cllr David Lloyd, the St Davids Diocesan Education Officer Canon Brian Witt, the county council's Director for Children and Schools Kate Evan-Hughes, and so many others who gave of their time and enthusiasm.

Both Cllr Lloyd and Paul Howe have written separately in this edition of the *City News* about the outcome of the campaign and of their expectations for the future.

With regard to more immediate practical matters I am delighted that we have been able to complete some of the much needed improvements to our City Hall. The new toilets, with facilities for the disabled and for mothers with young children are now fully available, and the entrance lobby has been transformed. The new toilet block has also provided us with some much needed new storage space at the hall.

The contractors were extremely efficient in completing all the work on time and I extend my thanks to them for a job well done.

We are also delighted that the Day Centre has been able to move to the Memorial Hall for its regular events. In my last letter I referred to the need for us to take on responsibility for the flower beds in the city. We are planning to hold a meeting to discuss this further. I have also made reference to our efforts to keep the library open, and in this issue you will find information about how the county council library service is planning to recruit volunteer staff for the St Davids branch.

I would like to thank our young rugby players who proved such excellent ambassadors for St Davids during their recent tour to our Twinned community in Naas.

I greatly enjoyed all the Christmas events and would like to pay tribute to all those who contributed in so many ways. In particular I enjoyed judging the Christmas window competitions, assisted by Canon Dorrien, and also presenting the prizes to the winners, especially the highly commended prize to St Davids Care in the community who were such enthusiastic participants.

I was delighted to have the opportunity of representing the community at the special service in Haverfordwest organised by county council chairman Cllr Wynne Evans, in tribute to the work done by all the emergency services in Pembrokeshire, and am now greatly looking forward to our St David's Day celebrations, details of which are all included in this edition of the *City News*.

Since our last issue Jessica Foster has retired as our acting clerk, and Heidi Gray has returned to post on the completion of her maternity leave. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Jessica for all her hard work and commitment while she was with us, and to wish her all the very best for the future.

Frankie's Fundraiser
st Davids City Hall

LIVE MUSIC

Saturday 12th March

Tickets £10

7pm till late

Tickets available from Chris Taylor in St Davids Bookshop and Frank John

01437 721731

All proceeds from the event will go to Shalom House and St Davids Fire and Rescue Station Co-Responder Unit

Twr Y Felin Hotel

Twr y Felin Hotel is now fully open with a warm welcome at the Cornel bar and Blas restaurant extended to both non-resident and resident guests alike.



Volunteers needed to help run St Davids library

Volunteers are being sought to help with the running of our library at the City Hall.

The recruitment drive, which is being organised by Pembrokeshire County Council's Cultural Services Department, follows on from the City Council's recent decisions to support the library financially, ensuring that the library stayed open when there were fears of a cutback in the provision of services in St Davids.

The recruitment of volunteers is seen as a further opportunity to help enhance the service in St Davids, adding an additional 2 – 3 opening hours a week, and increasing the accessibility of the library for all its customers, especially children and young people.

The volunteers, following appropriate training, would be involved in the delivery of front line services to the customers, as well as making possible an increase in the number of opening hours in addition to the existing times on Tuesdays and Thursdays (10.00 am - 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm) that the library is kept open at present.

All volunteers would have to undergo some special training, at no cost to themselves, with county council library officials. A spokesperson for the county council has stressed that all volunteers will be made to feel especially welcome and accepted by the professional library staff.

Anybody who volunteers would have an opportunity to develop new skills, meet new people, and possibly enhance their employment prospects as well. Anybody who feels that this could be for them, and that they have the necessary enthusiasm and commitment, is asked to contact either George Edwards (01437 776 126) or Tracey Johnson (01437 776 638) or leave their contact details with the staff at the library.

St Davids Library Summer Reading Challenge

2016 marks 100 years since the birth of Roald Dahl - the world's number one storyteller, so this year's summer reading challenge theme is the

Big Friendly Read

You can sign up at St Davids library, then read six library books of your choice, collecting stickers and other rewards along the way - all FREE.

Thanks to the local parents, carers, teachers, and especially children 2015 saw a record number of St Davids children completing the Summer Reading Challenge. Let's see if we can do even better this year.

Support your local library/Cefnogwch eich llyfrgell leol

Tuesday & Thursday/Dydd Mawrth & Dydd Iau 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

Tel; 01437 721 170

Christmas celebrations in St Davids



The Christmas celebrations included the Christmas Tree Lighting, Santa at his Grotto, seen here welcoming Marley Vaughan, the annual Christmas Tree decorating competition, and the Civic Reception. The winners of the Christmas Tree competition were Cyclch Meithryn Crosegoch 'Great Welsh Bake Off' (*pictured right*) and Menevia WI 'Caribbean Christmas' (*pictured above*). The annual Senior Citizens Christmas lunch took place at the City Hall, where entertainment was provided by the St Davids Hand Bell Ringers, the Cathedral Choral Scholars accompanied by Simon Pearce, and pupils of Ysgol Bro Dewi (*please see our front page, and picture above*). The meal was prepared by Nan George, Paul Evans and volunteers, and served by PCSOs Naomi Harrison and Andrew Miles and members of St Davids City Council. The event was compared and Grace was said by the Mayor's Chaplain, Canon Dorrien Davies. As a thank you to the pupils of Ysgol Bro Dewi, for performing their Nativity at the lunch, the Council arranged and paid for a pantomime for all of the pupils.



Winners of Window Lights Competition



Winners of Christmas Window Lights Competition were: Business category: picture 1 - Mathias Hardware, picture 3 - St Davids Candles and Crafts and picture 4 - Care in the Community. Residential category: picture 2 - Gwenda Jenkins, picture 5 - Jeff and Vanessa Jenkins and picture 6 - Richard John. Other winners were Etcetera, Oriol Y Felin and Tom and Ruth Lavin.

A Case for Bletchley Park?

A late 17th century document

By Peter B S Davies

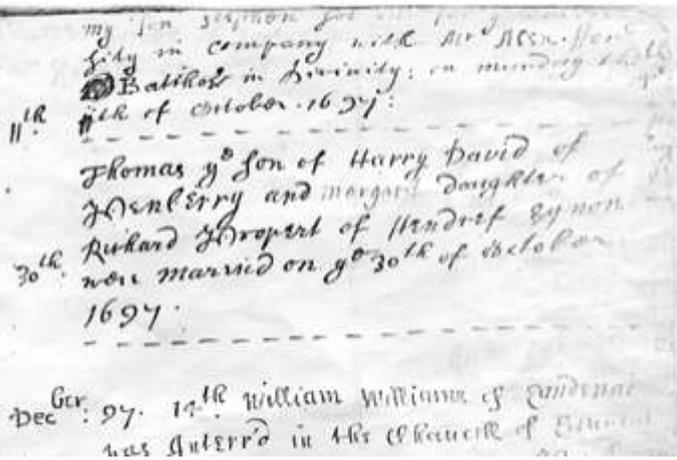
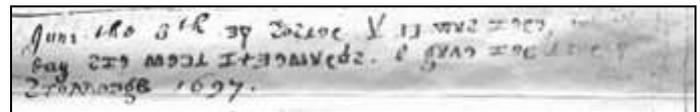
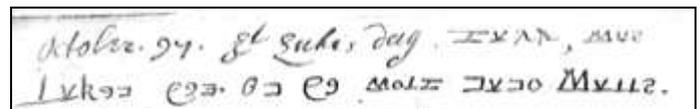
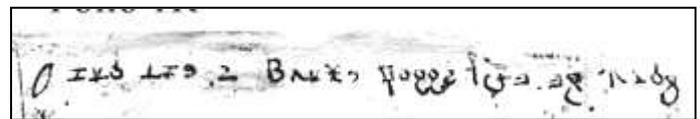
Among the documents relating to St Davids Cathedral is a volume dating from 1697-1700. Written by Peter Lewis, subchanter of the cathedral, it contains among other things entries concerning many of the baptisms, marriages and burials during that period.

But there is much more concerning (among others) information on services etc at the cathedral, names of members of Cathedral Chapter in residence, notable events involving the county gentry and local happenings of note.

There are accounts of a fatal carriage accident, a drowning in the mill pond, a disastrous fire and a tragedy in a snowstorm. One unusual feature is that some of the entries are in code; presumably so that only the writer (or someone who knew how the code worked) could decipher them. A few examples are included.

Peter Lewis held the post of subchanter for forty years; if only we had his writings from the rest of those years; a time when we have few contemporary local records. What a pity! The document is one of a number of cathedral records which have been recorded on disc or transcribed by the St Davids and Dewisland Local History Society.

Examples of encoded messages extracted from diary.



Porthclais Harbour news

The season will start with the moorings allocation meeting in March and then the boats will start to launch in April.

This year again we will be holding a Service to Bless the Boats, a Children's Fun day with the involvement of Twr Y felin, the National Trust and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. It is hoped that more local children will participate on the day, which we will be working with the local schools to promote.

We also hope this year to hold another fund raising evening again down at Porthclais, with a pig roast, music etc, following last year's very successful event. Dates for all these events have to be finalised and will be published locally as soon as they are available.

ST DAVIDS RFC

Built like a brick house.....swift
as an arrow....or just like rugby?!

1 XV Team Training Sessions
every Wednesday at the club
at 1900hrs

All new and old
players welcome

CONTACT

Team Manager Jack Dudley	07974 884238
Head Coach Taff Williams	07740178958
Assistant Coach Richard James	07854611640
Capt. Rhys Lusher Price	07791840775

St Davids Rugby Football Club: Fishguard Road, St Davids, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6BP

Progress at new Lifeboat Station



Good progress has been continuing at St Justinians to erect the new lifeboat station. However the stormy weather during October, November and December has hampered progress as the tower crane has been unable to operate in the high winds.

The steelwork for the tipping cradle has been lowered into the boat well and the sections joined together to form the cradle that will allow the Tamar lifeboat to be kept level to allow for maintenance work to be undertaken in the boathouse.

The winch, fuel tank and fuel delivery system were lowered into the cove in November before work commenced on the superstructure of the boathouse. The glulam beams were erected during late November and December and this framework now clearly shows the size and shape of the new structure. Since Christmas the contractors have been able to make some headway with the upper floor framework and recently work to the side walls of the boathouse have been started. Unfortunately the delays brought about by the weather will mean that the slipway trials have been postponed until the start of June.

Meanwhile the Tamar lifeboat “Norah Wortley” has had to seek the shelter of Milford Haven marina for several weeks as the mooring at Porthstinan has been too exposed. In January she was sailed to Poole for planned maintenance works to be undertaken and our trusty Tyne lifeboat “Garside” has remained available for service from the existing station in her absence.

2015 Service Calls

During 2015 the lifeboat crew at St Davids have responded on 43 occasions with 20 launches for the Tamar, 18 for our D-class inshore boat and 3 for the Tyne. There were also two incidents close to the station where first aid was provided.

The year has been notable for the number of incidents involving kayakers and people injured on the cliffs, often whilst coastering. Some of these incidents have resulted in serious injuries including back injuries, dislocations of shoulders, knee and ankle. This kind of rescue has become much more common in recent years and can require our crew to provide first aid in very difficult circumstances.

St Davids Royal British Legion needs your help

We are looking for new members to join the St Davids Branch of the Royal British Legion. If you are able to help and interested in joining, please contact Mary-Anne Abley for more information on 07580 589 842.

Awards presented at Ysgol Bro Dewi



Pictured above are, left to right, Mrs Samantha-Jane Vaughan, Head Teacher of Ysgol Bro Dewi, Paul Davies AM, Samantha Semaani, Tabitha Lindsey, Canon Dorrien Davies and PC



Pictured above are Paul Davies AM, local artist Cynth Weyman and competition winner Tabitha Lindsey.

Paul Davies AM, held a competition, open to all schools in Pembrokeshire, to design a Christmas card for him to use as his official card this year. Two pupils at Ysgol Bro Dewi were awarded first and runner-up positions. Paul Davies attended school assembly to present Tabitha Lindsey with her prize of a kindle and Samantha Semaani with a voucher. They also won an art workshop for their class.



The Mayor, Councillor Frank John, also joined a school assembly at Ysgol Bro Dewi to present the prizes to the winners of the calendar competition recently, and is seen here with the pupils.

The deadline for our next issue will be 12 noon Monday 6th June 2016



St Davids Under 5s Playgroup

The St Davids Under 5s Playgroup is held on Monday afternoons from 12.30pm to 2.30pm and on Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 11.30am at the Scout Hut in Ffynnon Wen. The group provides a range of activities for all children aged under five. Each session costs just £1 for the first child and then 50p per child after that. Snacks are also provided. There is a bay area and craft area to keep all ages happy and entertained. Please contact Katy Thomas on 07855 327 196 for further information.

Supporting Prostate Cancer

A full Discovery Room at Oriel y Parc and an expert, Bruce Kendrick, from Liberty Wines made for an excellent evening of wine tasting last November. An expectant crowd listened intently (most of the time!) as we sipped our way through some delicious wines from across the world. The attendees had paid for their tickets in the knowledge that every penny was going to the worthwhile charity Prostate Cymru. Also added was £120 of plastic bag money collected over the past few months making a grand total on the night of £480. Receiving the cheque on the night was John Daniels of Prostate Cymru who said "This is another wonderful example of the community of St Davids giving their support to Prostate Cymru." There will be another wine tasting in the early summer. Watch out for the posters or pop in to St Davids Food and Wine for more information.



Memory Café Dates Up To April 2016

	<p>Wednesday 2nd March 2016 Wednesday 13th April 2016 Wednesday 4th May 2016 Wednesday 1st June 2016 Wednesday 6th July 2016</p>	
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Will be held in The Discovery Room at Oriel y Parc, 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm.

Golden Wedding Anniversary



Paul and Mary Edey celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary recently and the Mayor, Cllr Frank John presented them a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the City Council.

Please contact the Clerk if you know of any couple that may be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

clerk@stdavids.gov.uk

01437 721 137

Ringing in the New Year

The Cathedral ringers rang out the old year and rang in the new! Canon Residentiary Dorrien Davies and the Dean, the Very Revd Jonathon Lean, conducted the Watch Night service at Porth Y Twr. Seen here are the ringers who took part in the event.



Stewards needed for this year's festival

Voluntary stewards are being sought for this year's Cathedral Festival, which takes place during the summer half term holiday. Festival administrator Hillary Rudge is looking for a new team to steward the event, and is hoping that a wide range of volunteers will apply. If you are over 18, or even 16 with parental consent - or a lot older, you would be equally welcome to apply. No previous experience will be necessary, as full training will be given to take part in this prestigious and exciting event, affording you an unrivalled opportunity to hear some really fantastic music.

The festival opens on Friday 27th May with the always popular Children's Chorus, drawn from our local schools, with lots of exciting, challenging and enjoyable music to follow over the following nine days. Artists already booked for this year's event include The Sixteen with Harry Christophers, The BBC National Orchestra of Wales with world renowned violinist Natalie Klein, the Cathedral Choir, the Festival Chorus and The British Sinfonietta, Goodwick Brass Band and the Haverfordwest Male Voice Choir. With this being our Royal Patron's 90th birthday year there will be lots of music with Royal themes.



There will be plenty of other exciting concerts too, with artists including the Cambrian Consort of Viols, The Galos Piano Trio and actor Sarah Gabriel, a concert version of the opera 'A Village at War', performances from Live Music Now, students from Birmingham Conservatoire and London's Royal College of Music, and the, as yet to be announced, winner of the annual Young Musician of Dyfed Competition.

Once again the Cathedral Choirs and Choral Scholars will be singing a wide range of services and concerts, including BBC Radio 3's annual broadcast of Choral Evensong from the Cathedral. If you would like to be involved contact Hillary Rudge at stdavidsfestival@gmail.com or find more information on the website at www.stdavidsfestival.co.uk

Annual Window Display and Competition

22nd February - 1st March 2016

Please take part by decorating your windows with daffodils, flags, and appropriate items for St David's Day!

Prizes and certificates for the best business and residential windows.

Judging to take place on Thursday 25th February

Winners to be announced at 2pm on Tuesday 1st March in City Hall



Children enjoy Christingle at Llanhowell



The Candlelit Service of Christingle was held in Llanhowell Church on the evening of 3rd January 2016. The service was conducted by the Reverend Mike Plant, with a number of children present. During the service, the meaning of the Christingle was explained before the children and their families were all presented with a Christingle. The children then sang "Away in a Manger" whilst gathered in front of the Christmas tree. This is a very special service, held annually in Llanhowell, and everyone is always welcome to attend.

The Day Centre continues to meet every Monday. Since leaving the Red Cross building we now meet at the Memorial Hall. We have various activities and outings during the year. The lunches will now be on Mondays with activities continuing into the afternoon. Lunch is served from 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm with activities running from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. If you would like to join, please contact Kay on 01437 720 066 or Rebecca on 07890 629 014.

St Davids Sports Hall

Have you visited St Davids Sports Hall?

St Davids Sports Hall is a friendly and welcoming facility open to all ages and fitness levels. We offer a variety of fitness classes open to anyone over the age of 13 years. For 11 to 12 year old children we run junior fitness sessions from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm from Monday to Friday after school.

We have a great range of equipment to cater for all your fitness needs

Fitness Suite Equipped with:

11 cardiovascular machines

6 fixed resistance machines

Cable machine

Smiths machine (with a range of disc weights)

Wide variety of dumbbells, kettlebells, power bags and core balls.

Our opening hours are:

Monday	8.00am - 12.00pm 4.00pm - 9.00pm
Tuesday	8.00am - 12.00pm 4.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday	8.00am - 12.00pm 4.00pm - 9.00pm
Thursday	8.00am - 12.00pm 4.00pm - 8.00pm
Friday	8.00am - 12.00pm 4.00pm - 8.00pm
Saturday	9.30am - 12.30pm
Sunday	9.30am - 12.30pm

Junior Classes

22nd February – 24th March 2016

Monday

1600-1700 Junior Fitness 11-12 years

Tuesday

1600-1700 Junior Fitness 11-12 years

Wednesday

1600-1700 Junior Fitness 11-12 years

Thursday

1600-1700 Junior Fitness 11-12 years

Friday

1600-1700 Junior Fitness 11-12 years

Adult Class Timetable

Tuesday

18:30 – 19:30 Kettle Blitz

Wednesday

09:00 – 10:00 20/20/20

10:00 – 11:00 Gentle Keep Fit

18:30 – 19:30 Power Hour

Thursday

NEW 19:00-20:00 Dance Fusion

Friday

NEW 09:30-10:30 Pilates

18:00 – 19:00 Circuit Blast!

We'd love to see you, why not pop in and come and find out more about the centre - 01437 775 506

Shalom House opens first shop

Shalom House has opened a new shop in Fishguard where the local community has been very encouraging. The shop is on West Street opposite the Post Office. The shop will be staffed by a team of volunteers and anyone wishing to join the team can contact Fran on 01437 721 344.

We are opening on Saturday 23rd of January. The shop will be open initially 10.00 am to 4.00 pm Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Donations are welcome too! We are looking for good quality items such as clothing, books, children's toys, pottery and crockery. All proceeds from the shop will go directly to Shalom House and to Palliative Care.



Dydd Gwyl Dewi 2016 - Rhaglen

St David's Day Celebrations 2016

Monday 22nd February

Launch of Window Decoration competition

Thursday 25th February

Judging of Window Decoration Competition

Saturday 27th February

7.00 am	Ras Dewi Sant Coastal Marathon	Rugby Club
10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Historical Society Exhibition	Memorial Hall
11.00 am	Dragons Parade	Oriel y Parc
11.30 am - 1.30 pm	Cawl Competition	City Hall
7.30 pm	Twmpath gan Dawnswr Glan Cleddau	Neuadd y Dref



Sunday 28th February

10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Historical Society Exhibition	Memorial Hall
10.30 am	Vintage Motor Bike Ride	Oriel y Parc
10.30 am	St Davids Mini Rugby Challenge	Rugby Club
11.15 am	Choral Eucharist	Cathedral
2.30 pm	Cymanfa Ganu	Capel Seion
4.00 pm	Teparti	Neuadd y Dref
6.00 pm	Choral Evensong and Stations of St David	Cathedral

Monday 29th February

11.00 am	Eisteddfod Gadeiriol	Neuadd y Dref
2.00 pm	Talks given by the University of Wales	Ty'r Pererin

Dydd Gwyl Dewi 1st March

8.15 am	Sending of message to Senedd in Cardiff	Cross Square
9.00 am - 4.00 pm	St David's Day Market	Cross Square
9.30 am	St Davids Ringers ring before schools service	Porth y Twr
10.00 am	Schools service	Cathedral
10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Croeso Cymraeg a Lluniaeth Ysgafn	Neuadd y Dref
10.00 am - 4.00pm	Historical Society Exhibition	Memorial Hall
11.15 am	Pilgrims Walk from St Non's to Oriel y Parc	St Non's Chapel
11.45 am - 11.55 am	St Davids Ringers ring to welcome Bishop	Porth y Twr
12.00 noon	Illumination of St David's Day stone Procession to Cross Square	Oriel y Parc Oriel y Parc
12. 10 pm	Bishop's Blessing of City and National Anthem with Ysgol Dewi Sant Brass	Cross Square
12.30 pm	Prayers at Shrine of St David	Cathedral
1.00 pm	Peal attempt by visiting band	Porth y Twr
2.00 pm	Announcement winners of Window Competition	City Hall
3.00pm	Chronicles of St David film	Oriel Y Parc
6.00 pm	Choral Eucharist	Cathedral

Wednesday 2nd March

10.00 am - 4.00pm	Historical Society Exhibition	Memorial Hall
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Friday 4th March

10.00 am - 4.00 pm	Retreat Day led by Ted Harrison	Ty'r Pererin
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Armenian genocide memorial dedicated at Cathedral

A statue to commemorate the genocide of Armenians during the First World War has been dedicated at the Cathedral. The bronze statue, by Cardiff based Armenian artist Mariam Torosyan, has been given to St Davids by the Welsh Armenian community in gratitude for the recognition by the Welsh Government and the Church in Wales of the genocide which occurred in Turkish Armenia. It stands in the recently renovated cathedral cloisters.



The statue was dedicated just before Christmas following a special trilingual service (Armenian, Welsh and English) at the cathedral, attended by His Grace Bishop Hovakim Manoukyan, Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Britain and Ireland, the Bishop of St Davids, the Rt Revd J Wyn Evans, the Dean of St Davids, the Very Revd Jonathan Lean and Armenian clergy from London.

During the service Dr Patrick Thomas, Canon Chancellor of the Cathedral, who has been an unstinting supporter of the links between the Armenian Church and the Church in Wales, was presented with a Gold Medal by a diplomat from the Armenian Embassy. The medal was presented on behalf of the Ministry of the Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia.

Dr Thomas, a prolific author, has written two books about Armenia, including one about the genocide, still a controversial subject within Turkey itself, and is now working on a new study of the history, spirituality and liturgy of the Armenian church.



Our pictures show the statue which features the Virgin Mary, the Christ child and the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, the Armenian equivalent of St Davids and Dr Thomas with his new medal which was presented at the service.

Golf Club raises over £1000 for charities



Every year St Davids City Golf Club play some of its competitions in aid of charities. This year it raised over £1000. The Club Captain Mr Bill Murray's charity for 2015 was SMA (Spinal Muscular Atrophy) which raised £400. The Lady Captain, Pat Garner's charity was the Paul Sartori Foundation and raised £450, and the Club President, Mr Joe Garner's charity was St Davids Fire and Rescue Station Co-Responder Unit which raised £180. A big thank you to the Cross Hotel and Voyages of Discovery.

The Club also raised £140 for Breast Cancer for Wales on the Captain's Breakfast/ Pink Day Competition Day. A donation was also given to the British Legion.

The Ladies Section celebrated their 25th anniversary as an affiliated club last year and would like to thank the sponsors for their kind donations on the Celebration Day. The sponsors were the Sloop, The Shed, Artramont Arms, Crug Glas, Grove Hotel and the Seniors Section.

The club sits on the beautiful Whitesands coastline overlooking Ramsey Island and is a happy, welcoming club open 7 days dawn to dusk. We would welcome new members young and old to join us at our club.

We have good joining deals for new members this year. If interested please contact Mr Anthony Morse 07964 144 983.



Forthcoming events at Ty'r Pererin

13 February - 12 March *Saints in Wales Exhibition*
Monday 29 February 2-5pm *St David and Saints in Wales*
Talks

Friday 4 March 10am-4pm *Water and the Image of St David*
Retreat led by Ted Harrison

Tuesday 8 March onwards *Risen Christ Art Exhibition*
School and Community project with Deborah Withey

Tuesday 29 March and Tuesday 5th April *Cathedral Explorers* at the Cathedral 11am-12.30pm and 2pm - 2.30pm

Lottery grant for Community Orchard

After many months of work last year to secure a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, the St Davids Community Orchard has received the news that the grant has been awarded, and that we can expect to benefit from the funding around March or April of this year.

During the application process the orchard worked closely with the Welsh Perry and Cider Society and Treginnis Farm for City Children, who kindly offered part of their land to the orchard project. Many thanks must go to Dan Jones at Treginnis, for his enthusiasm for the project, and for the amount of time and effort he put in to ensuring that the conditions laid down by the Lottery fund were met in full.

The trees to be planted at Treginnis, will be a combination of Welsh Heritage eating varieties, which will be planted in the shelter of the walled garden, and traditional cider and perry varieties, which will be planted in a field adjacent to the main building, where they will be protected from the worst of the weather by a shelter belt of willow. The grant provides funding for education and training in the maintenance of orchards, which orchard members can attend free of charge, and also for social events, such as apple identification days, fruit pressing, cider making and Wassailing.

If you would like to become a member of the St Davids Community Orchard, or are interested in learning how to make your own cider. Forms are available to download from www.stdavidshub.org or by contacting Melanie on 01437 721848 or by email at maloney.melanie@gmail.com

‘Stitchy Witches’

A new sewing group has started in St Davids, called the ‘Stitchy Witches’. The group meets on Tuesday mornings at 2 St. Nons Close, to share sewing ideas and projects and a love of fabric and all kinds of stitching. For just £2 per session, we are able to fund a number of outings to fabric shops, needlework exhibitions and other textile themed jollies.

We welcome new members of all abilities, from experienced needleworkers, to absolute beginners. There are no formal lessons given, but we are happy to help beginners with their projects, either by hand or machine.

If you are interested in joining the Stitchy Witches, contact Melanie on 01437 721848, or email maloney.melanie@gmail.com

New face for St Davids Police Station

PC 914 Trish Dixon has recently joined the Neighbourhood Police Team in Haverfordwest and has responsibility for the rural section covering St Davids and surrounding areas.



Trish has been a police officer in Dyfed Powys Police for 13 years and has worked in most of the stations within Pembrokeshire with also a time working in Powys. Most of her experience has been dealing with neighbourhood issue problems and she enjoys working within the communities themselves, including regular visits to schools and other community based bodies within them.

Trish’s zero tolerance approach to dealing with neighbourhood problem issues is to combine working closely with her team and other partner agencies in achieving and understanding what the public want and expect of her new role. She is very much looking forward to the new challenges and also meeting with the locals and visitors alike.

ST DAVIDS DAY CELEBRATIONS

CYMANFA GANU

With Children from
Ysgol Bro Dewi and
Ysgol Dewi Sant

Sunday 28th February 2016
in Zion Chapel, New Street
at 2.30pm

Conductor Mrs Jane James

Tea and Welsh cakes in the City Hall
afterwards

Enquiries to Mrs Nan George - Secretary
Preswylla, 54 Heol Dewi, St Davids, Pembrokeshire
SA62 6NZ
Tel. 01437 720 549

St Davids Day Cawl Competition 2016



Saturday 27th February

St Davids City Hall

Voting from 11.30am

Come and judge the best Cawl in St Davids

Taste all of the entries free of charge

Donations in aid of Friends of Ysgol Bro Dewi

Winner to be announced at 1.30pm

Tabernacl CM Chapel in St Davids is part of the Woodstock Pastorate of 7 churches in North Pembrokeshire.

Our pastorate now has a blog and a twitter feed.

The address for Twitter is: @GofalaethWystog

The address for our blog is:

gofalaethwystog.wordpress.com

Why not take a look?

No precept in St Davids means lowest council tax bills in the county

Once again the citizens of St Davids, in common with the residents of Caldey Island, will be paying the lowest council taxes in Pembrokeshire, and among the lowest in Wales, because the City Council has voted not to set a precept, the additional tax which most town and community councils normally have to add to the basic county council tax to enable them to provide local services for their own communities.

In St Davids, we are fortunate in that the City Council is able to obtain all the funds that it needs from the ticket sales at our car park at Whitesands. It is these revenues that enable us to provide much needed facilities in the city, such as the maintenance of the Memorial Playing Field in New Street, the repair, upkeep and improvements to our City Hall, our Christmas lights, our weekly market, the shop at Whitesands, and more latterly the provision of subsidies to maintain our library services, public toilets, and gardens following cutbacks at the county council.

It also means that we are able to provide greatly subsidised car parking for our all of our own residents at Whitesands - all without a precept. All this has to be managed responsibly by your council.

So, in an unusual inversion of the usual situation, the people of St Davids at the moment effectively enjoy representation without taxation. But this could change if for example the council were to suffer a revenue shortfall or if there was to be a popular demand for a change, or if some project in the future were to need funding that our present levels of income could not sustain.



The Rugby Club is open for all Wales' home matches.



- St. Davids 1st XV Fixtures
- HOME 20th Feb vs Milford
- Away 27th Feb vs Pembroke
- Away 5th Mar vs St. Clears
- HOME 9th April vs Cardigan
- St. Davids Youth XV Fixtures
- Away 6th Feb vs Tenby
- Away 5th Mar vs Narberth
- HOME 12th Mar vs Cardigan
- Away 26th Mar vs Pembroke
- Away 2nd Apr vs Haverfordwest
- HOME 9th Apr vs Fishguard & Goodwick

- New members and players are always welcome.
- We cater for all ages - Under 8 to Under 16, Youth and Senior.
- Just pop in – forms are held behind the bar.
- Or you can call our Membership Secretary, John Williams, on 07801 – 965393
- Website - stdavids.rfc.wales
- Facebook - St.Davids Rugby Club

The Really Wild Food and Countryside Festival 2016



Fantastic news. Following the success of last year's festival, we are pleased to announce that The Really Wild Food and Countryside Festival will, once again, be hosted at Pwllcaerog Farm - home to Celtic Camping. It will be held over the weekend 28th & 29th May 2016 from 10am - 5pm each day, with the added event of a music night on the Saturday evening.

For those unfamiliar with this festival, it is very much about community engagement and education - looking at both environmental issues and sustainable food resources. This utterly unique festival, the 'wildest' festival in Britain colourfully celebrates the food, drink and craft, pastimes, traditions, adventures and agriculture of the Welsh countryside.

The festival offers an extensive program of free events and activities for all age groups which are designed to engage, entertain and inform. Included in these are foraging, cooking demos, pond dipping, Pembrokeshire hedge building, kayaking, pole-lathing, bush craft, baking, Nordic walking, willow weaving and climbing wall. The education is delivered through a series of conducted walks, talks and workshops, which are used to inspire children and adults to become active outdoors; culinary delights, rural traditions, storytelling & countryside fun being top of our agenda. So whether you are a visitor or exhibitor we are sure that this festival will cater for all of your needs and requirements.

We have already booked our chefs who will demonstrate the use of wild and sustainable food produce, and hopefully once again Andy Holcroft from the Bug Farm - 'Grub Kitchen' will deliver an innovative entomophagy food experience. Additionally, targeting children, we are introducing two children chef demonstrational workshops

Everyone is more than welcome; we have a free bus from St Davids to the festival throughout the day and we have arranged for those requiring access for the disabled to be picked up from Oriell Parc. Additionally, we have ample free car parking here on site. For more information please visit our website: <http://www.reallywildfestival.co.uk>. Please book this date in your calendar and come along to meet Ian Griffiths, Julia Horton-Powdrill and the rest of the team.

STOP PRESS! We are also extremely pleased that we have been announced as "Champions for Wales" at the Countryside Alliances Awards Rural Oscars 2015, held in Cardiff on Tuesday 9th February 2016. More details in the next edition. Thanks to all our supporters!

finalists in the Countryside Alliance Awards, rural oscars in the Tourism Enterprise category and hope that after their visit, we are real contenders to pick up this award. Many thanks to everyone who voted for us.

St Davids and Dewisland Historical Society

The Society enjoyed a very interesting year of meetings and outings in 2015 which culminated at Christmas in a dinner at the Grove Hotel which was very much enjoyed by all members present. Mrs Sarah Gerlach from Haverfordwest, a Pembrokeshire Tourist Guide, spoke to us of her training, her past experiences and of her current work. As well as excellent entertainment, the food was good, the service efficient and the ambience cheerful. We now look forward to 2016 which has already started well with a talk by Mrs Sally Martyn on Hidden Histories of Southwood Farm.

We would like to remind everyone about the exhibition which we are mounting, in conjunction with the lifeboat crew, on the History of the St David's Lifeboats. We should be delighted to see everyone, young



Spring 2016 : COCA is looking forward to its SEVENTH growing season! How time flies ...

It seems no time at all since this Community Supported Agriculture scheme was the first of its kind in Wales. Now there are many, scattered all over country. COCA grew by another 15% this last year, bringing us up to 57 members. The collecting hubs in Fishguard and Haverfordwest have helped with this.

More than just organic veggies : many members now take the opportunity to get their organic fruit, dry goods and household stuff directly delivered to Caerhys, ordered through C and M Organics. COCA buys in extra organic produce from them as well, for example to replace our carrot and parsnip crops that were eaten by hungry badgers in last August's drought!

International volunteers : nearly 60 mostly young people from all over the world stayed and volunteered at COCA last year, through United Nations Association and WOOF (Working On Organic Farms). They helped with planting, weeding and harvesting, as well as preparing for the Harvest Party and keeping themselves entertained! Most stay only 2 weeks, but a few stay on for longer, loving the area, the happy atmosphere and the rewarding work in a community enterprise. This year in addition we have two long term French trainee volunteers through the European Volunteer Association, funded by the Erasmus Foundation. We are really looking forward to sharing this with them, and spreading the ideals of a social enterprise like this more widely, and they are looking forward to living in Pembrokeshire for a summer!

Cartref COCA : by the time you read this the straw bale building which will become COCA's new home on the farm will be complete, thanks to the Big Lottery Fund and the dedication of some very hard-working volunteers through the autumn and winter. It has a turf roof and the walls are rendered with lime. Inside it is warm and quiet. It will be our store, packing shed and veg box pick-up point. It will have a corner for meetings and volunteers can use as it a teaching hub. This will soon be our centre and powerhouse, helping COCA grow more and better into the next years.

To join COCA or learn more : Come and visit Caerhys Farm at Berea; but please first email *secretary@coca-csa* to arrange a good date and time. Also visit the website www.coca-csa.org to see our crops, our social events and topics of interest. COCA is a "csa" growing only organic produce. A variety of vegetables are harvested weekly, all year round, and shared equally amongst members' boxes. Other organic produce can be bought. Members pay the same amount every month throughout the year by standing order; minimum membership period three months, after a first trial month.

Dewi Sant Allotments

There are a small number of Allotment Plots available out at our field on the Whitesands road.

Full plots are 8m x 15m for a rent of £30 per year, and half plots of 7m x 8m for £15.

All plots will need hard work on a regular basis to bring into production, but it is therapeutic and rewarding in many ways. The site is in a beautiful quiet location, with a friendly group of non-competitive veg growers. We all use organic growing methods, and no herbicides or artificial fertilizers are allowed.

To enquire about renting a plot, please phone 01437 720557 or contact the secretary at

Churches Together

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

An Ecumenical Worship Service organised by Churches Together St Davids & District was held on Sunday 17 January in St. Michael's RC Church. The guest speaker was the Revd. Dr. Adrian T. Furse of Whitchurch, Solva and Brawdy. Two beautiful duets were sung by Alice Silverstone and Amy Barwick.

On Saturday 23 January, a Cawl and Crumble was held in the City Hall. A delicious cawl was kindly donated by The Farmers Arms and The Bishops, and a vegetarian soup and crumbles by friends. £405 was raised for The Emergency Disaster Appeal. A big thank you to all.

Penknife Club New Year's Day Swim Success

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the New Year's Day Swim and to the 100+ brave souls who ventured into the water (including Sue Charles!). It was the biggest swell we've seen for a long time and our thanks also to the St Davids RNLI Crew and the Porthmawr Surf Life Savers for keeping us all safe.

It was the perfect way for all the family to wash away the New Year's Eve cobwebs, and thanks to everyone's generosity we raised over £1,000 with more to come, all in aid of the Porthmawr Surf Life Savers Club and other local charities and community groups.



Memorial Walk in May

The club is busy planning the route for this year's Memorial Walk in early May so keep an eye out for news on exactly where and when we decide. If you have any suggestions for a route then please get in touch with one of the members. We hope to see you there with your walking boots on!

Spring Ball – April 8th

Our Spring Ball is on April 8th at Crug Glas and is open to everyone who would like to come along. There'll be entertainment from Michael Bubby (yes, you read that right) who'll be getting everyone in the swing of things on the evening.

For more information about the Club and upcoming events have a look on our website and the Penknife Club Facebook page.

Bishop cuts birthday cake for a double celebration



Bishop Wyn and Mrs Elaine Morgan cut the celebratory cake

Last October 4th was a date for a double celebration and a for special birthday cake for the Bishop of St Davids, the Rt Revd J Wyn Evans. It was his own personal birthday, but it also marked the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the St Davids Council of Churches which he had himself initiated when Dean of the Cathedral. Bishop Wyn was present to preach at the anniversary service held appropriately at Tabernacle Chapel, in the vestry of which the first meeting was held, and where a sumptuous birthday tea was held after the service.

Now known as St Davids Churches Together, the organisation has worked for twenty years to bring the denominations in the peninsula together ranging from the Society of Friends, to the Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Baptists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians and House Churches. Many thousands of pounds have been raised for charities, in particular for Christian Aid and disaster funds.

Elaine Morgan was the council's first secretary and she joined Bishop Wyn in cutting the cake, made by Mrs Mary Down. Presentations to the Bishop were made by Mr Gareth Evans, chair; Mrs Heather Gifford, the present secretary and Mrs Gwen Lyons, treasurer.

The service was attended by representatives of all the churches in St Davids, with Ysgol Dewi Sant brass ensemble contributing to the proceedings.

Citizens Advice Bureau

The Citizens Advice Bureau will be running a monthly outreach in St Davids Memorial Hall on the first Tuesday of each month, from 10am - 1pm, except in March, when it will be on the second Tuesday. All welcome, no appointments necessary.



Our county councillor, Cllr David Lloyd, has sent us these three reports outlining some of the projects with which is involved on behalf of the community, all of which we are delighted to publish in full.

Statutory notice published for new school at St Davids

Following the adoption of a recommendation relating to the provision of secondary education in North Pembrokeshire at the Extraordinary Meeting of Full Council on 26 November 2015, Kate Evan-Hughes, Director for Children and Schools, has published a Statutory Notice proposing the following:

1. The discontinuance of Ysgol Dewi Sant, Ysgol Bro Dewi and Ysgol Solfach on 31st August 2018.
2. The establishment, from the 1st September 2018, of a new all-through 3-16 school utilising the sites of the three former schools.
3. The proposed school to be a Voluntary Aided Church in Wales school with a Christian ethos but with a wholly inclusive admission policy.
4. Home to School Transport to be provided free within the catchment area, which is to be extended to include the parish of Roch.
5. With regard to admissions to the school on faith grounds, transport will be free for pupils within eight miles of their home. This distance may be increased subject to negotiations between the Governing Body, the Diocese and the County Council.

Objections to the proposals were to be submitted within 28 days of the Notice. At the closing date of 30th December 2015 only two objections had been received relating to Ysgol Dewi Sant. The Authority is required to forward the proposal along with the objections to Huw Lewis, AM, Minister for Education by the 31st January 2016. It is anticipated that the Minister will publish his final plan for the provision of education in the St Davids peninsula by the end of March 2016.

An explanatory note to the formal notice adds that A level provision will be largely undertaken at a new Sixth Form Centre in Haverfordwest, which will be the result of a formal collaboration between the County Council and Pembrokeshire College. Architectural plans for the £6.6 million centre have already been published.

Free transport to the centre will be made available to students. Some A level courses, however, will continue to be provided at Ysgol Bro Gwaun and the new school in St Davids through the 'Hub and Spoke Model' as promoted by the Future Schools campaign group. Which A levels will be undertaken by which school will be determined by the new governing body of the Sixth Form Centre, whose governance will be entirely independent of the governance of Pembrokeshire College.

An A Level Working Group has been convened to plan the operational strategy of the new centre. The group met for the first time on 16th December 2015 comprising the two Headteachers, the two Chairs of Governors, the Director of Children and Schools, the Principal of the College, Paul Howe and certain co-opted specialists in areas such as curriculum planning and finance.

Sometime in September 2017 a Temporary Governing Body of the new school in St. Davids will be established, charged with the responsibility for:

- Appointing the headteacher.
- Naming the new school.
- Establishing the vision and ethos of the school.
- Making organisational arrangements for the curriculum and accommodation.
- Managing the opening of the school, when a new Governing Body will be appointed.

Pioneering Staff Development Programme implemented at Ysgol Dewi Sant

Over the past 12 months governors have been working on an initiative to provide support for all members of staff, both teaching and non-teaching, to ensure that their total commitment over the past two and a half years since the departure of Estyn with its highly critical report is both acknowledged and made sustainable.

The remarkable effort of every member of staff ensured the survival of the school, but governors have been concerned at the possible cost to them in terms of weariness, stress and the lack of a healthy work/life balance.

On Tuesday 19th January 2016 Dr. Chinthia Dissanayake of Oxford Psychometrics (UK) began a year-long programme entitled 'Talent Development and Mobilisation at Ysgol Dewi Sant'. The programme, which is entirely voluntary, will help individual members of staff to identify training needs and to explore ways of finding a greater balance in their work in order to perform at the highest sustainable level, linking their individual goals and aspirations to the strategic goals of the school with the objective of helping Ysgol Dewi Sant become one of the best schools in Wales.

The governors are indebted to the generosity of Keith Griffiths and the Griffiths Roch Foundation which has provided 50% of the funding for the programme.

St Davids Peninsula Community Land Trust holds meeting to progress Glasfryn project.

Since the legal incorporation of the Community Land Trust on 17th July 2105 the Board of Directors, comprising Bill Preece, Chair; David Lloyd, Acting Secretary; Roger Williams, Treasurer; Andy Dixon and Len Cotton, have met, with others, on six occasions, 25th August (two meetings), 20th October, 11th January (two meetings) and 12th January.

Please note that we are urgently looking for an Honorary Secretary.

The other attendees have included members of the wider Community Land Trust Steering Committee, Mike Lawless, LA Architects, Peter Wells, Hoare Lea Service Engineers, Dave Palmer, Wales Co-operative Centre, Ian Crawley, National Community Council Network, Lyn Hambidge, Andrew Davies-Wrigley, Rob Hamer and Steve Benger, Pembrokeshire County Council, Sarah Middleton and Richard James, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, Helen Murray, Planed and Nigel Sinnott, Pembrokeshire Housing Association.

It is intended that minutes of all the meetings referred to above and all future meetings will be posted on the Community Land Trust website which is in the process of being constructed.

LA Architects have now been instructed by the Community Land Trust to undertake preparatory work with a view to issuing a pre-planning application to the National Park within the next two months. Three categories of housing are contemplated, namely, housing for rent to be developed and managed by Pembrokeshire Housing Association, affordable housing for sale reserved for local families with a residency qualification and housing for sale on the open market.

A parallel pre-application will also be made for a swimming pool to be located on a site adjacent to the St Davids Sports Hall. Funding for the pool is planned in part to be obtained from profits from sales of the houses designated for open market sales. Further capital funding for the pool will be required, the sourcing of which will be addressed in an overall business plan for the entire Glasfryn Road project. The preparation of the business plan will follow the outcome of the pre-planning application process, should it prove to be positive.

Solva Community Cinema: Film Showings, March - April 2016

Thursday, 3 March 2016 at 7.30 pm; doors open at 7.00 pm

'Spectre' (2015). Cert 12A

Agent 007 is back. The 24th instalment in the James Bond series and 2015's biggest box office hit. "Pure flamboyance".. "combines hold-your-breath action and ghosts of 007 past"

Thursday, 7 April 2016 at 7.30 pm; doors open at 7.00 pm

'Suffragette' (2015). Cert 12A

The remarkable and thrilling untold true story of the real foot soldiers of the Suffragette movement. "Riveting and hot-blooded"

Tickets £5.00 for adults / £3.50 for under 18's

Refreshments available

Solva Community Cinema is a non-profit community project. Income from ticket sales aims to cover the cost of the film licence, hall hire and other related costs as well as investment in technical equipment.

An Update from Schools for the future by Paul Howe



A little over a year on from our momentous gathering outside County Hall, when the Peninsula communities gathered to show their support for Ysgol Dewi Sant, where are we now? Did we achieve our aims?

The Schools for the future steering group, galvanised into action by the stark realities of Pembrokeshire County Council's proposals for educational reform on the peninsula, set out to develop an innovative solution to the challenges facing Ysgol Dewi Sant and inevitably its feeder schools. A declining school role, a need to raise standards, local authority cuts and pressures from Welsh Government created a dismal cocktail and ostensibly an inexorable drift towards school closure. Undaunted by a seemingly impossible task and supported by an incredible community, the group spent three months researching, consulting, engaging, cajoling and presenting and were rewarded with an almost unanimous mandate from the community to respond to Pembrokeshire County Council with their 'Plan'.

Well received by the Director for Children and Schools, many elements of the Plan found their way into the final proposal to Council and ultimately found favour with the majority of Councillors, helping to secure the future of 21st century education on the peninsula. But how much of the plan will come to fruition and what will be lost by the wayside?

The 4 key components of our plan were to have (i) a sustainable school with (ii) a transformation strategy to raise standards in a (iii) building based on educational led design and (iv) an independent sixth form college for the 21st century (<http://www.schoolsfuture.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Schools-for-the-Future-Plan-A5-210415.pdf>).

The creation of (i) a new sustainable 3 to 16 school across 3 sites will become a reality in September 2018 when Ysgol Dewi Sant, Ysgol Bro Dewi and Ysgol Solfach will all close and then be re-opened as a 3 to 16 Church in Wales VA School across 3 sites. The (ii) transformational strategy will utilise 21st century IT to deliver subjects via e-learning by virtue of a collaboration with Pembrokeshire College and investment from Pembrokeshire County Council. It will pave the way for this element of the plan to become an integral part of the school's educational strategy, working towards the delivery of a broader range of subjects, cost effectively delivered. Modifications to the (iii) building will be made, although the scope of the modifications will fall short of the vision documented in the Plan, instead focusing on the requirements for accommodating e-learning into the fabric of the school.

Perhaps the most radical element of the plan was for a new, independent 6th form for the North of the County, with scope to grow to serve the whole of Pembrokeshire and allowing a sharing of resources between schools to enable a good range of A Levels to be provided. That independence appeared to be impossible to deliver, in part due to the implied duplication of resources, and a collaboration with Pembrokeshire College proved to be the most pragmatic option for post 16 provision. A Hub and Spoke model will be implemented as part of the mix of A Level delivery, allowing a combination of A Levels to be hosted at Pembrokeshire College and the new 3 to 16 School.

Many challenges still lie ahead as the fine detail of the proposals are fleshed out and implemented but there is also an exciting opportunity for members of our communities to continue to engage in the important job of shaping education on the peninsula and I look forward to playing my part.



YSGOL DEWI SANT
PRESENTS
JOSEPH
AND THE
AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
February 25th, 26th and 27th
7pm
Adults: £7
Children and Concessions: £5
Tickets available from school reception
or call: 01437 725000



Dr. Beynon's
Bug Farm

grub
kitchen

Bug Farm Visitor Attraction

The Bug Farm is now open on weekends 10:30-4:30 and we would like to invite you all to visit our indoor Tropical Bug Zoo and even hold a giant hissing cockroach or stick insect! We are open every day during the Easter holidays, with an official launch planned for later. This will precede extended opening hours and the development of the Bug Barn Indoor Play Barn, Bug Farm Trail, Walled Garden and walk-through Native Bug House and Bug Museum.

Why not pop in to Grub Kitchen for a bite of lunch or cream tea during Bug Farm opening hours? You can now visit Grub Kitchen in the daytime without paying to come into The Bug Farm attraction, making it a perfect setting to grab a quick coffee! And for those of you not wanting to try eating bugs, you'll be pleased to hear that there are plenty of delicious bug-free options too! Grub Kitchen is also serving evening meals on Saturdays (pre-booking required).

Bug Farm Events

We want to let you know all about our exciting events and workshops. New events are being added all the time, so please do keep an eye on the website and social media, or contact us to be added to the mailing list. We are also running **Bug Farm birthday parties** and **schools / group experiences / tours** in collaboration with Grub Kitchen. They are already proving to be extremely popular and you can find out more by visiting www.thebugfarm.co.uk or following us on Facebook. For now, here's a sneak preview of what we will be offering:

Date	Event	Run by	Suitable for	Price p.p. & booking
22 nd March 11:00-1:00	Explore the world of marine invertebrates at Caerfai or Whitesands Beach	Dr Lou Luddington	Families	£9 - booking essential
31 st March 10:30-4:30	Mosaic a bug drop-in workshop (takes ½ hour – 2 hours per mosaic)	Maddie Janes	All	£5-£7 per mosaic
31 st March 6:30+	'Why Eat Insects?' Talk & Bug Grub Feast Evening	Dr Sarah Beynon & Grub Kitchen	All	Price TBC - booking essential
7 th April 10:30-4:30	Mosaic a bug drop-in workshop (takes ½ hour – 2 hours per mosaic)	Maddie Janes	All	£5-£7 per mosaic
21 st April 6:30+	'What we're up to at The Bug Farm'. Talk & local produce Feast Evening	Dr Sarah Beynon & Grub Kitchen	All	Price TBC - booking essential
23 rd April 10:30-3:30	Mosaic workshop: Includes a lesson on planning, cutting tiles/glass & grouting	Maddie Janes	Adults	£55 - booking essential
26 th May 6:30-8:00	Life in the Soil. Talk by current Bug Farm/ University of Oxford PhD student	Paul Manning	Adults, especially those with an interest in farming, land management/ conservation	£5 - booking advisable
7 th -8 th May 10:30-4:30	2-day macro-photography workshop	James Dunbar (wildlife film maker)	Adults, especially those with a prior interest in photography. No special equipment required	£100 (£80 for students)
7 th May 6:00-8:00	An evening in macro. Talk & showing of 'The Solitary Bees' short film	James Dunbar (wildlife film maker)	All, especially adults	£5 - booking essential

To register your interest in an event, please e-mail info@thebugfarm.co.uk or call 07966 956 357. To book in for a meal at Grub Kitchen, please e-mail info@grubkitchen.co.uk or call 07986 698 169

St Davids, Matsieng bring and buy sale.

The St Davids Matsieng, Lesotho, Support Group held a very successful bring and buy sale and coffee morning in the first week of January in support of the Ysgol Dewi Sant Lesotho Group, which is raising funds in support of improved toilets at its twinned school in Matsieng, Mahlonyeng High School.

The event, which was very generously supported, was opened by the Mayor, Cllr Frank John,- accompanied by the Mayoress, Mrs Carmel Bolger.

The group was delighted to be joined by members of the Ysgol Dewi Sant team, led by staff member Caroline Blair, who arranged an entertaining, fund raising, quiz programme promoting the importance of sanitation and hygiene in schools in Lesotho. We also welcomed Dolen Cymru co-ordinator Sharon Flint, who not only brought a stall of Lesotho crafts for the event, but was also able to update us on the situation in Matsieng which she had visited very recently.

Part of the good news that she brought us is that much of the remaining money raised by the Diocese of St Davids for St Matthew's Primary School in Matsieng has now been spent on wiring the school for electricity, and also providing new desks, new library shelving and improvements to the toilets for both girls and boys.

She also reported that books that have been donated will shortly be distributed in Matsieng, and that the literacy project which will benefit all schools in Matsieng will be launched in April. Matsieng's other primary school, St Louis Roman Catholic School, also now has a Pembrokeshire connection in that it has been linked to Tenby Junior School.

Plans for the next year include working with the Ysgol Dewi Sant group to enable our linked schools in Matsieng to learn to play rugby for the first time by raising funds for training to be provided by the recently formed Lesotho Rugby Academy.

We are hoping to host one of the Cathedral's Lent lunches in March, another opportunity for our fund raising efforts.



Included in our picture taken at the coffee morning are (back row, left to right) Sharon Flint, Dolen Cymru, the Mayoress of St Davids, Mrs Carmel Bolger, the Mayor of St Davids, Cllr Frank John, Caroline Blair and (front row) Angharad Price, Raven Alam and Hannah Morris.

