



Y Cross Cas-Lai Newsletter

April/ May 2025



Updates

Welcome to the latest edition of the Y Cross Cas-Lai newsletter.

Spring is now upon us, and we have some exciting developments and events to let you all know about.

On 13th March we held the Y Cross Cas-Lai Community Benefit Society AGM in Mathry Community Hall. Many thanks to those who came along and who expressed an interest in the Board member elections.

Two of our existing Directors, Shirley Bevan and Brian Griffiths have officially confirmed their resignation as Executive Directors, however Brian will stay on as Society Secretary in a non-Exec Director role, and Shirley stays on the Pub Operations team. The Y Cross Board have formally thanked both Shirley and Brian for their considerable time and dedication to making Y Cross such a success.

We are delighted to welcome Mike Hillier and Jeremy Bowen to the Board of Directors. Both bring

A wealth of experience to support our future developments. The current Board is as follows:

Executive Directors:
Sharon Williams (also Chairman)
Ellie Morgans
Steve Worgan
Mike Hillier
Jeremy Bowen

Non-Executive Director:
Brian Griffiths (Society Secretary)

Pub Developments

The pub kitchen was closed during March to enable the Board to review the food offering and pub management.

Following a recruitment process for a Pub Manager with catering experience, Shawn Smith was appointed and started in his new role at the end of March. Shawn previously worked as Y Cross Pub Manager and brings considerable pub and catering experience. Welcome to the team Shawn 😊

The kitchen opening days have been revised to offer a smaller menu and a reduction of cooking days initially to Friday evenings and Sunday lunch, with occasional additional themed food nights.

The recent curry night was a huge success, and a steak night is planned for Wednesday 14th May so get in touch and book your table soon.

Freshly cooked gluten free fish and chips are now served on a Friday evening, which are available either to eat-in or takeaway. Sunday lunch continues to be offered with a selection of meat and vegetarian options available.

Please come along and enjoy the delicious culinary offerings. We really need your continued support.

Bookings are advisable so please call ☎ 01348 840216 to secure your table.

Community Hub Developments

The various groups continue to meet on a Wednesday afternoon providing a valued place for people to meet up whilst indulging in a range of activities.

The Craft and Knit and Natter groups meet from 12.30 – 2.30pm.

The Knit and Natter group produced some lovely knitted and crotchet items to decorate the pub for Easter and are currently working on items for the upcoming VE/ VJ event.

Walking and Wellbeing Group

The walking group head off at 2pm for an hour, then return to the pub for refreshments.

Book Club

Book club is a monthly event from 1.45 - 3pm on the last Tuesday of each month.

New members are very welcome to join any group or activity. Pop along on Wednesday afternoons ☺

We were truly delighted to receive a painting of Y Cross from Carol Waters. Carol is an exceptionally talented artist, and the picture will take pride of place in the main bar area to be enjoyed by all our visitors. Huge thanks to Carol for this magnificent gift ♥



On St David's Day/ Dydd Gwyl Dewi we had a morning celebrating with children dressed in Welsh costume having great fun doing traditional Welsh crafting.

There were prizes of stunning chocolate daffodils generously donated by Dilly's Handcrafted Chocolate. The event included delicious Welsh cakes, Bara Brith, Tregroes Waffles and tea and coffee.



Cawl was served at lunchtime with donations to the RNLI. The cawl was hugely popular and we raised £105.14

CAMRA

Pembrokeshire CAMRA held its biggest monthly Branch Meeting for many years in Y Cross on Saturday March 29th. Around twenty members, several of them newly joined, got through the business swiftly and efficiently whilst enjoying a selection of excellent real ales.

Afterwards the attendees tucked into newly appointed Bar Manager Shawn's delicious beef stew.

Among the decisions taken at the Branch meeting was the election of Y Cross regular Mrs Ann Hillier, wife of Director Mike, to the newly created post of Branch Ladies' Officer. It was particularly encouraging to see a number of other Y Cross regulars at the CAMRA meeting.

CAMRA's support for the Y Cross community buyout is now clearly being returned as growing numbers of Y Cross regulars join the Campaign.

Bar Manager Shawn explained to the meeting his plan for an Y Cross Real Ale Tasting Society, a venture in which our local CAMRA pledged their full support.

Pembrokeshire CAMRA members regularly gather for a social pint in Y Cross on a Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 6 p.m. Anyone interested in finding out more about the Campaign is more than welcome to join them for a chat over a pint.

The next Pembrokeshire CAMRA Meeting will be at the Corner Piece, Rudbaxton, on the A40 at 3pm on Saturday 26th April. All CAMRA members, and anyone interested in finding out about the Campaign, most welcome.

Steve Brady, Secretary,
Pembrokeshire CAMRA

Darts League

The Y Cross darts players rounded off the season with an exceptional performance in the finals' night on 12th April, winning most of the trophies.

Gareth won the Men's singles; Iwan and Griff Roberts won the Men's doubles; Iwan won the Captain's Cup; and Angela Phillips won Ladies Player of the Year.

To add to this success Gareth scored 3x 180's with Iwan achieving 1x 180 and not to be outdone, Owen Roberts made it a family affair with the highest checkout of 139!!!

Congratulations to you all 🏆



We are really looking forward to the 2025 season and following the teams in their quest for glory.

Pub and Hub Events

We have a range of exciting events coming up in the next few months, some organised by the Pub and others organised by the Hub.

Please be sure to add the dates to your diary.

VE & VJ Day Celebrations

On Saturday 3rd May we will be celebrating VE and VJ Day with a 40's themed street party outside the pub.

There will be live music, a bake off and prizes for the best 1940's costumes for both adults and children.

Please bring your own picnic to the pub and take a seat at the tables set up outside the pub. There will be free cake, tea, coffee and squash available, but the bar will also be open.

If anyone requires transport to get to the pub, please let us know 01348 840216 and we can arrange this.

Music Nights

We continue to host a great range of bands at Y Cross.

May's band are Blacksails who join us on Saturday 17th starting from 8pm and the Duvayz will be playing on the 14th of June.

Gin & Cider Festival

From Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th May we will be hosting a Gin and Cider festival. This will be a chance to sample a range of delicious beverages and celebrate the start of summer.

Regular Events

Quiz nights hosted by Lucie continue to be held monthly on the last Tuesday at 7.30pm. The next being held on 29th April.

Macmillan Charity Event

On Saturday 19th July from 3pm - 10pm, Y Cross is hosting an afternoon and evening of music and entertainment in aid of Macmillan. The bars and beer garden will have local beers, food and lots to entertain families during the afternoon and into the evening.

The event has been organised by Ann and Mark Shuttleworth, who are working really hard to secure performers and artists for the day.

Keep your eyes peeled for more information on those performing on the day. Entry will be free but there will be ample opportunity to donate to the cause.

Community Updates

The annual Hayscastle Horticulture & Pony Show will be held on Saturday 8th August. This will be a great day for all the family so please come along and support. Admission is free with donations for The VC Gallery accepted on the gate.

BrawdyHayscastle YFC recently represented Pembrokeshire YFC CFfl Sir Benfro in Llanelli at the Wales Pantomime competition with a rendition of 'The Italian Job'. This was a fantastic achievement especially as 25 of the cast are under 16, making the group by far the youngest performing.

We sadly lost several members of our community in recent months. On behalf of Y Cross, we would like to offer our sincere condolences to the families of Sean Savage, Evelyn Evans and Jonathan Smith.

On behalf of the Board, we wish to thank you for your ongoing support.

Ellie, Sharon, Steve, Jeremy, Mike and Brian

