

# Clic-it Cymru

News from Wales and the World

## TO THE BEACH?



With the summer almost here many of us will be heading to the beach with our families. However, there is concern that with the pandemic another problem has risen - PPE items (Personal Protection Equipment) found washed up on our beaches.

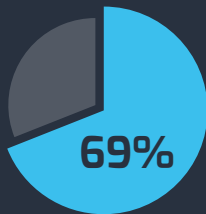
- Face masks and gloves were found on almost **30%** of beaches cleaned by volunteers.

30%



207  
items

- 207 PPE items found from 385 clean ups.
- 69% of inland clean ups found PPE items.



This is very worrying as we know that wild animals and creatures are harmed by plastic waste. To help, look out for beach clean ups organized in your area. For more information on ways you can help go to: <https://bit.ly/3a6nXjX>

## SENEDD ELECTIONS



On the 6th of May, the Senedd Elections will be held in Wales. This is an opportunity for everyone over 16 who call Wales their home to vote for who they would like to represent them in the Senedd, to make decisions about matters such as Education, Health and the Environment. Everyone in Wales has two votes in the election:

- **Constituency vote** to choose a person to represent a local area, known as a **constituency**. There are 40 constituencies in Wales.
- **Regional Vote** to vote for a party to represent a **region**; there are 5 regions in Wales.

If a party wins a majority, then it gains control of the Senedd and the leader becomes the First Minister of Wales. The leaders of the 3 main parties are:

Mark  
Drakeford  
Labour



Adam  
Price  
Plaid  
Cymru



Andrew  
RT Davies  
Conservative



To watch a video explaining more about what the Election is, follow the link <https://bbc.in/3g6VtdM>.



INFOGRAPHIC  
Oceans

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UNDER THE  
MICROSCOPE  
Amazing Bugs  
And Insects

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YOU'RE A  
STAR!  
Bees

PAGE 8

NEWS  
FLASH



NASA/JPL-Caltech/ASU

## Making Helicopter History

The 19th of April, 2021 will go down as a special day in history as the first ever helicopter flight was made on another planet. NASA successfully flew a helicopter called **Ingenuity** for a few seconds on the planet Mars, sending pictures back to earth via the **Perseverance** robot and a satellite. The thin atmosphere and lack of gravity on Mars makes flying extremely difficult and the helicopter blades had to spin at a very fast 2,500 rpm! NASA now plans to fly Ingenuity a further four times, with the aim of flying further and longer each time.

# DATES FOR THE DIARY

## APRIL

April

19 - 30

**Big Pedal** - Sustrans (for more information about this see 'Treasures of Wales' page 6)

April

**Stop Food Waste Day**

28



This is a day to raise awareness of food waste around the world. Experts believe that around one third of food produced globally is lost or wasted. Stop Food Waste Day hopes to change the way people use leftovers and make the best use of available food.

## MAY

May

**May Day**

1

May

**Dawn Chorus Day**

2

Here's a link to the RSPCA website where you can listen to the songs of commonly heard birds and learn more about them. <https://bit.ly/2NoXBBF>

May

3-9

**Screen Free Week**

May

5

**National Bike to School Day**

May

13

**Eid-UL-Fitr**

This is a religious festival for Muslims. It celebrates the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting (going without food) between dawn and sunset.



May

20

**World Bee Day**

Celebrate our striped friends!



May

22

**UN International Day for Biological Diversity**

May

31

June

4

**Eisteddfod T**

A virtual Eisteddfod, with a whole week of competitions broadcasting on S4C.

## JUNE

June

5

**World Environment Day**



June

8

**World Oceans Day**

See Infographic below.

June

20

**Father's Day**



Mehefin

21

**Midsummer's Day or Summer Solstice.**

To read about this click the link to Issue 15: <https://bit.ly/3rV0gkP> and to read about what happens at Summer Solstice at the Bryn Celli Ddu Neolithic burial chamber click on <https://bit.ly/3dKcJma>.

## AROUND THE WORLD



## WHERE? OCEANS



## OCEANS

To celebrate World Oceans Day on 8th June, here's an Ocean Infographic.



An ocean is a large body of water; oceans cover about 71% of the earth.

There are 5 large oceans on earth:

- 1 The largest is the Pacific, which holds 50.1% of all sea water on the planet.
- 2 The 2nd largest is the Atlantic, which holds 23.3% of all sea water on the planet.
- 3 The 3rd largest is the Indian Ocean, which holds 19.8% of all sea water on the planet.
- 4 The Southern Ocean is next and holds 5.4% of all sea water on the planet.
- 5 The smallest ocean is the Arctic Ocean, which holds 1.4% of all sea water on the planet.

11,034 meters

The deepest part of any ocean is the Mariana Trench in the Pacific, which is 11,034 meters deep (this is almost 7 miles!)

Mariana Trench

Mount Everest, at 8,848 meters in height, could easily fit inside the deepest point.

Look for the starfish on the map to see the location of the trench in the world.

230,000

The oceans are home to at least 230,000 species, only about 20% of which have been studied.

Only 20%!

The Pacific is also home to the largest living structure on Earth - The Great Barrier Reef, which is about 2,600 km long.

2,600km.







### You will need:

- Paper or fabric in different colours and patterns.
- Hexagon template
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue (if you want to glue them down)



## HURRAY FOR THE HEXAGON!

In this issue we are celebrating the bee, so we've looked at the cells of a beehive for some inspiration



The hexagon is an interesting shape as it **tessellates**, or fits together without a gap, and you can create patterns by fitting them together in different ways.



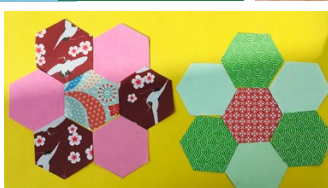
**1** Draw around the template with a pencil. Remember to draw on the wrong side of the paper, and you can make a line of hexagons without leaving a gap to get as many as possible out of your paper.



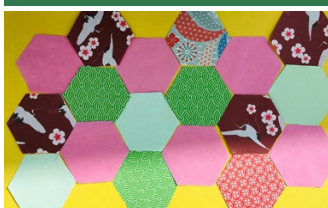
**2** Cut your hexagon out carefully with your scissors. It's important to cut carefully and follow the lines otherwise your shapes won't tessellate. You will need around 20 hexagons to make a good pattern.



**3** Lay your hexagons out on a paper or fabric background and play around until you are happy with your pattern. When you are happy you can glue them down if you wish.



You can create flower shapes.

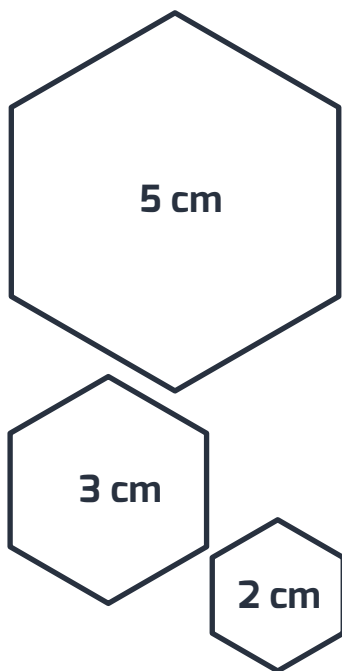


You can create rows.

You can also lay them so that they don't tessellate and leave a diamond or star shape in the gaps.

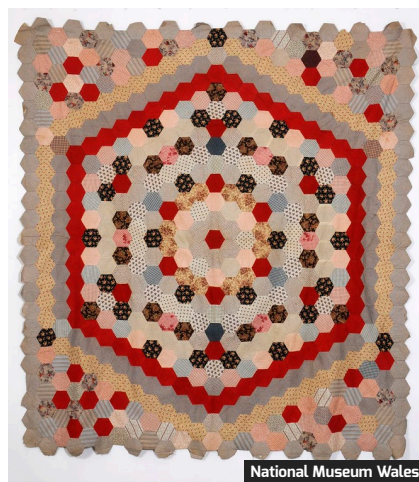


### TEMPLATES



### Did you know?

There is a strong tradition of quilt making in Wales and the **National Museum Wales** have a special collection of them that date back to the eighteenth century. People used to use pieces of old clothes and rags to create beautiful quilts, many of them using the hexagon shape.



National Museum Wales

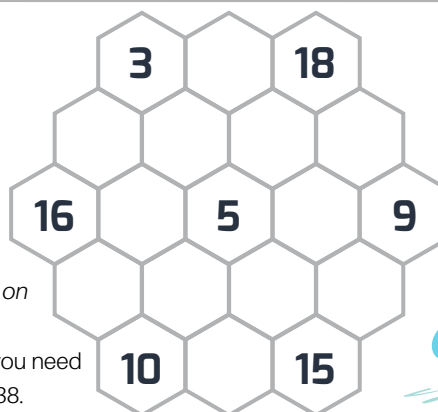
## BRAIN TWISTER

### MAGIC HEXAGON

In 1888 a man called Ernst von Haselberg discovered the 'Magic Hexagon' puzzle:

"In the following hexagon, can we place the numbers 1 to 19, such that the sum on every straight line in any direction (with 3, 4 or 5 numbers) is always 38?"

Some of the numbers have been filled for you to make things a little easier, so you need to use all numbers from 1 to 19 so that all the numbers in each row adds up to 38.





# OUR GREEN PLANET

## BIODIVERSITY

May 22nd is the U.N International Day for Biological Diversity, but what is Biological Diversity or Biodiversity?

### Biodiversity

[bi•o•di•ver•si•ty]  
all the different kinds of plants and animals that live in the world, or in a certain habitat. It is considered important and desirable to have a high level of biodiversity.

We use the word **biodiversity** to describe all the different kinds of life on earth, **animals** and **plants**. Humans depend on a healthy biodiversity to be able to survive on the planet; this is what gives us oxygen, food, fresh water, fertile soil, medicines, shelter and a stable climate.

According to experts there are 3 main things that are a threat to biodiversity:

- Loosing or changing a habitat.
- Pollution
- Climate change



## Biodiversity in Wales:

Scientists think that there are over 50,000 different species in Wales, on land and in the sea. A long time ago you would have seen animals like wolves, bears, wild boar and wild cats, but they don't live here anymore. Scientists are also concerned that other species are under threat, such as the pine marten, red squirrel and many animals that were once common in Wales, such as hedgehogs, adders, bees and otters. As well as animals, it is thought that 10% of Wales wildflowers are under threat of extinction.

There are some species that are found only in Wales and not anywhere else in the world; these include:

Spotted rock-rose



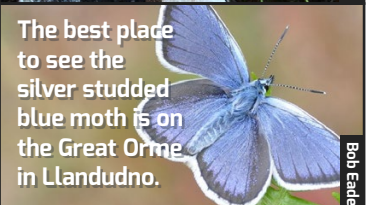
Snowdon lily



The best place to see the Marsh Fritillary butterfly is Mynydd Mawr in Carmarthenshire.



The best place to see the silver studded blue moth is on the Great Orme in Llandudno.



Wales has 20 special conservation areas for birds and 92 special conservation areas for habitats and species under threat. These help to keep a healthy **biodiversity** in Wales.

Literature

Television

Art

## IN THE LIMELIGHT

Craft

Music

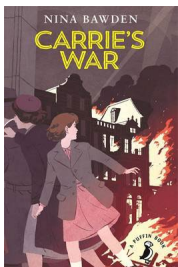
Website

## WALES IN BOOKS

Many authors have found Wales' rich landscape, history and legends a great inspiration for their work. Here are Clic-it Cymru's top picks of children's books about Wales or set in Wales:



### CARRIE'S WAR



First published in 1973, this story is inspired by author Nina Bawden's experience as an evacuee in the Welsh countryside during the Second World War.

### DRAGON GOLD



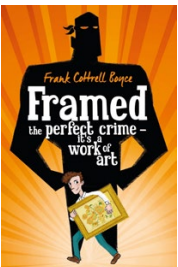
This book by Shoo Rayner combines Welsh mythology with everyday life, friendship and trust. There are 2 more books in the series.

### THE MABINOGI



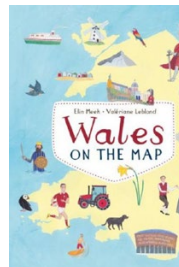
This beautifully illustrated book re-tells the old Welsh Mabinogi legends.

### FRAMED



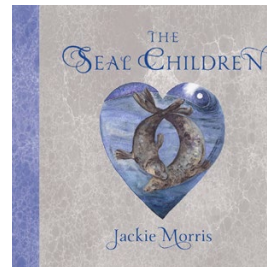
Written by award-winning author Frank Cottrell-Boyce, this is a story about great works of art and a small town in Wales.

### WALES ON THE MAP



This is a non-fiction book with maps and information about places in Wales, beautifully illustrated by Valerieane Leblond.

### THE SEAL CHILDREN



Famous for her amazing illustrations, in this book Jackie Morris bases her story on the legend of the selkie, a half-woman and half-seal creature.

# SERIES STORY

# JUST A DUMP

## CHAPTER 3/3

[Click here for chapter 2](#)

'Well?' said the black suited man staring with ice cold eyes. 'Can't you read?' he said, pointed to the sign, 'What does it say?' 'Kkk..keep out!' whispered Jo. 'Exactly - so get out of here.' the man roared. 'But...'

'But what?' scowled the man, 'What are you doing here anyway?'

'Umm... I'm looking for something.' Jo's mind raced, he tried to think of an excuse. 'Umm... someone told me that this place is haunted. Is that true?'



'What a stupid idea, there aren't ghosts here, or anywhere else for that matter.' The man shook his head and sniggered, 'So, are you saying that this is where Snow White and the dwarfs live? Or the big, bad wolf? If so, where's grandma's cottage?' He turned and headed for the old mansion, before adding, 'Just get out of here, you and your stupid ideas. GO!'

Jo didn't know what to do. Where was Mali? He made up his mind that he would have to tell Gran. She would know what to do. His heart beating fast he burst into Gran's house to tell her about Mali disappearing like that, his words tumbling out. They both immediately rushed back through the woods to the derelict house. The sun had dipped behind the trees casting long shadows over them. Jo gave a little shudder, this wasn't the place for a luxury hotel, it should be left to nature.

The car was still parked in front of the fence, and the door to the old house was open.

'He must be inside.' Jo whispered. 'But where can Mali be?'

'Come on - we'll just have to find her,' said Gran. 'We can't just leave her in there.'

They crept towards the open



door and went in. They could hear the man on the phone, the voice came from the room at the bottom of the stairs. Suddenly a screech ran through the house and a white shape came gliding down from the attic. 'Whoosh.'. It was a great big barn owl! It flew into the room at the bottom of the stairs, screeching and flapping, with talons at the ready. The man, his face ashen with terror raced out of the room and towards the open door. But there, in a long red cloak, stood a girl. 'Hello Grandmother!' called the red hooded girl. The man stopped suddenly, then with big startled eyes he stumbled past Mali.

'NO!' he screamed, and dashed to his car,. The door slammed and the tyres screeched, skidding on the muddy track. He was gone. A strange silence fell on the woods.

'Mali!' called Jo, 'Are you ok?' 'Yes!' answered Mali, flipping her hood back, 'What a wide smile you have Gran!' she beamed. They all laughed.

In the newspaper the following week there was a heading which read:

### Leaving Coed y Llys

Gran read the article aloud.

**Unexpectedly the company working on plans to Coed y Llys have decided to back out of the development. One of the developers was quoted as saying - 'We will no longer be working in Coed y Llys, due to unforeseen problems. We decided that it was not the ideal holiday destination...'**

'Not ideal for humans perhaps!' Gran laughed, 'But I think the badgers and owls will love their holiday home!'



## What's your opinion?

## THE RIGHT TO PROTEST

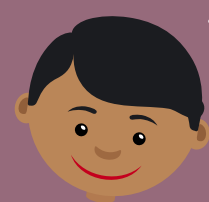
Sometimes people are unhappy about certain rules or happenings. Protests can be planned, where people can come together to show their feelings. At times protests can be very large with thousands of people marching together. At other times protests may be small with just a handful of people having their say. Some people are afraid that the politicians in London are trying to limit the rights of protestors. Others say that mass protests should not be allowed. What do you think? Here are two differing opinions:



- I don't think people's right to protest should be limited.
- The right to protest is a fundamental

human right. When protests are banned, then the right of people to have their say is limited.

- Peaceful protests have been important over the years because ordinary people are able to express their opinion without fear of being persecuted.
- The right of people to protest and express their opinions is very important - it shows that lives and opinions matter.



- I don't think people should have the right to organize large protests.

- Policing large gatherings are very expensive. The money can be better spent.
- Very often large protests get out of hand and a lot of damage is done by violent mobs.
- People can have their say by voting. In this country everyone has the democratic right to vote and that is the way to express their opinions, not by protesting.



# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



## AMAZING BUGS AND INSECTS

We share our homes and gardens with many bugs and insects. While we see some insects as pests, all insects and bugs have their place in our ecosystem, and bugs and insects can make a huge difference to the health of our planet. Here are a few amazing bugs and insects:

### Ladybirds

- Ladybirds are beetles
- Ladybirds are very welcome in our gardens because they feed on aphids.
- There are over 40 different types of ladybirds in this country, not all are brightly coloured.
- The most familiar ladybirds have red or yellow wings and dark spots.
- The most common ladybird in Wales is the seven-spot ladybird. It has bright red wings and seven dark spots.
- Their bright colour warns predators not to eat them - they shout out - 'I'm not at all tasty!'



**Fact: Beetles such as ladybirds have their skeletons on the outside (exoskeleton). So unlike humans their skeleton will not grow as they age. Adult beetles stay the same size.**

### Bumblebee

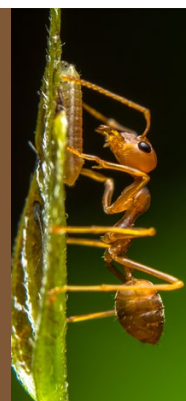
- All bees are important because as they fly from flower to flower, they help the pollination process.
- There are over 25 different species of bumblebees in this country.
- Bumblebees are black with yellow stripes.
- Bumblebees live in a family nest that can contain around 400 bumblebees.
- They are ruled by a queen and in spring the queen will wake up after her long winter snooze. She will go out looking for nectar (her food)
- Then she will decide on a suitable place to build her nest and lay eggs, the first baby bumblebees will be female workers which will go out looking for pollen and nectar to feed the rest of the family.



**Fact: Bumblebees have 4 wings which can beat up to 240 times per second.**

### Ants

- Ants live in large colonies and are very good communicators. They can relay messages to other ants by leaving scent trails and by tapping each other with their antennae.
- They are very strong and can lift twenty times their own weight, which is like a human lifting a small car!
- They don't have ears. They 'hear' with their feet which can translate vibrations in the ground into sound.



Luc Viatour



### Insects and camouflage

**Is it a flower...?**

No, it's an Orchid Mantis. An Orchid Mantis is a beautiful insect found in Malaysia. It mimics a flower in order to catch its prey. It has lobes on its legs which look like white and pink petals.



### It's just a piece of wood...Or is it a stick insect?

There are no native species here, but stick insects can be found in the southern counties of England. They live in trees and shrubs especially privet hedges. They grow by shedding their skin. From spring through to autumn, they will grow in size, so they are easier to see when they are at their largest in late September.

### Why is pollination important?

Without pollination the reproduction of plants will stop. Pollination is important because that is how plants are made - fruit for us to eat and seeds to make new plants.

# TREASURES OF WALES



## WALES' NATIONAL CYCLING NETWORK

There are 1,690 miles of cycle routes in Wales that are looked after by the Sustrans charity. Sustrans are also responsible for organising THE BIG PEDAL, to encourage children to cycle or walk to school.

Sustrans work with communities, Welsh Government and partners to ensure the people of Wales have access to safe routes for cycling and walking.



A national cycling network is important to make Wales a healthy and happy place to live, work and play. They are a series of traffic-free paths and quiet on-road cycling and walking routes, offering opportunities for

everyday travel, discovery and play, according to the charity. On the Sustrans website you will find maps and details of routes in all corners of the country; so grab your bike and helmet and off you go...!



For further details click the link: [Sustrans.org.uk](https://www.sustrans.org.uk).



# TIME TRAVELLING

WHAT?  
ON YOUR BIKE

## ON YOUR BIKE

During May many of you will be taking your bike to school as it's Bike Week.

Do you know the history of the bike? When did the first bike make an appearance?

## A VOLCANO AND THE BIKE

What's the connection?

In 1815 the Indonesian volcano, Tambora erupted. It was a terrible disaster, resulting in volcanic debris being scattered for hundred of miles. The ash was so thick it blocked the sunlight across much of Europe and because of the lack of sunlight, crops failed and food was in short supply.

The following year was known as 'The Year Without a Summer.'

### As Hungry as a Horse

At the time of course, the car had not been invented - the main form of travel was a horse. People travelled on horseback or the horse would pull a cart or carriage. However, as a result of crop failure, no food was available to feed the horses. Many had to be put down because it was too expensive to feed them.

### Replacing the horse

Another form of transport had to be found. A German called Baron Karl von Drais came up with the answer when he built himself a bike.



The Tour de France is a famous bike race and it takes place in France, the first race took place in 1903. The Welsh athlete, Geraint Thomas won the race in 2018.

## THE FIRST BIKE

### Who invented the first bike?

Karl von Drais.

**When?** 1817

**What material was it?**

Wood, it weighed 22 kg

**What was it like?**

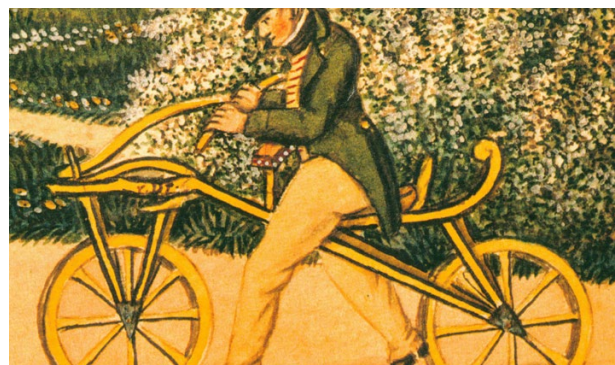
There were no pedals, instead it had to be pushed along with the feet.

**What is the origin of the word 'bike'?**

It comes from the word 'bi-kuklos'. Bi - two, and kuklos - wheel in the Greek language. Bi -kuklos - bike.



Baron Karl von Drais



## THE PENNY-FARTHING

Between 1860 and 1880 the penny-farthing bike became popular in France and the British Isles. They had a large front wheel with pedals. However, the seat was very high, it was difficult to climb onto the seat and to get back down again. The seat measured 1.5 m from the floor - if you had a fall then it would be a bad one!

### Why the name?

The front wheel was huge and the back wheel much smaller - making it similar to the ratio of a penny to a farthing at the time.

(A farthing - quarter of a penny).



### PREVIOUS ARTICLES AND DATES (Issues 1-6 Welsh only)

**500:** Saint David (Issue 1)

**1136:** Welsh Castles (Issue 3)

**1858-1920:** Sir O.M. Edwards (Issue 15)

**1859:** Royal Charter Disaster (Issue 8)

**1867-1934:** Marie Curie (Issue 7)

**1912:** Reaching the South Pole (Issue 6)

**1914:** Christmas Truce in the World War 1 trenches (Issue 5)

**1942-1945:** Anne Frank (Issue 9)

**1948:** Establishing the National Health Service (Issue 4)

**1960s:** The Sixties' Revolution (Issue 2)

**1st of November:** Calan Gaeaf

**Christmas:** Christmas Traditions (Issue 11)

**The power of water** (Issue 12)

**Animal heroes** (Issue 13)

**Welsh Health Boards** (Issue 14)

**Black history Wales** (Issue 16)

**Gods of the old world** (Issue 17)

**Unsung Heroes** (Issues 18)

**Archeologists** (Issue 19)



# SPORT

## WALES IN THE EUROS

Delayed by a year because of Coronavirus, the 2021 Euros football tournament will take place in 12 different European countries, beginning in Rome on 11th June. The semi-finals and final take place at Wembley Stadium, ending on Sunday, 11th July. At the moment some fans will be allowed in the stadiums to watch the games, and the hope is that all coronavirus restrictions on crowds may be lifted before the final.

### WALES' GAMES

	Saturday, June 21st. <b>WALES v SWITZERLAND</b> 2:00pm Baku	
	Wednesday, June 16th. <b>TURKEY v WALES</b> 5:00pm Baku	
	Sunday, June 20th. <b>ITALY v WALES</b> 5:00pm Rome	

Top two in each group plus four best third-placed teams go through.  
**GOOD LUCK WALES!**

<b>GROUP A</b>  ITALY  SWITZERLAND  TURKEY  WALES	<b>GROUP B</b>  BELGIUM  DENMARK  FINLAND  RUSSIA
<b>GROUP C</b>  AUSTRIA  NETHERLANDS  NORTH MACEDONIA  UKRAINE	<b>GROUP D</b>  CROATIA  CZECH REPUBLIC  ENGLAND  SCOTLAND
<b>GROUP E</b>  POLAND  SLOVAKIA  SPAIN  SWEDEN	<b>GROUP F</b>  FRANCE  GERMANY  HUNGARY  PORTUGAL

## YOU'RE A STAR!

### Meilyg from Pen Llŷn

Our STAR for this Issue is Meilyg from Pen Llŷn, who's been telling *Clic-it Cymru* about himself and his bees.



#### What kind of equipment do you need to keep bees?

Many people think that keeping bees is complicated and difficult and that you need lots of equipment, but actually you don't need that much. All you need is a hive, a sharp knife to cut the beeswax and a barrel, a sieve and pots for the honey.



#### Tell us about your bees....

My sister Elin, my dad and I have been keeping bees for about 8 years now. We started with one hive but now we have three hives.



#### What do you find interesting about bees?

I like the way they work and co-operate. In the summer, a normal hive can hold more than 60,000 bees. Thinking about this many in one hive is amazing. I like seeing how they create honeycomb (the little hexagons that store the honey). I also like to compete with the honey at the local Ffôr Show, I've even won first prize once or twice!

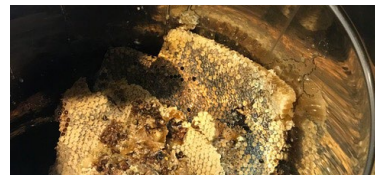


#### Why are bees so important for the planet?

We need bees to pollinate flowers and plants. Many of the crops we eat depend on being pollinated by bees.

#### Do you ever get stung?

I've never been stung, but I have seen my dad get stung more than once but it's always his fault for going near them without his beekeeper suit!



Two issues of *Clic-it Cymru* will appear on Hwb each term. The next issue will be available on Monday the 21st of June. Remember to contact us by emailing [clicitcymru@cynnal.co.uk](mailto:clicitcymru@cynnal.co.uk) - we will be delighted to hear your ideas and opinions.