

Welcome to our new bulletin. Here's where we'll bring you the latest news about Menter Môn, our projects and work across Anglesey, Gwynedd and beyond. Please contact us for more information about us or any of our projects. Our work falls into three main themes:



**Community**



**Economy**



**Energy**

## Creativity, enterprise & skills at Hwb Arloesi Porthmadog



Have you visited our Gwynedd office? Hwb Arloesi is located in Porthmadog and is a nest of activity that weaves, combines and germinates ideas - encouraging creativity and the development of new skills by nurturing our very own enterprising community on the high street. You can pop in to get support from our officers, work in the co-working space, or enjoy what the Ffiws space has to offer.



Ffiws is a makerspace - a community space to experiment, make, repair and reuse! There are various technology and machinery available to develop your skills, and over the past few weeks, our experienced technicians have been welcoming local schools to teach them how to use machines such as the 3D printer and embroidery machine. It's a pleasure to see pupils gaining confidence and learning through enjoyment.

[Click here to book your visit.](#)

## Anglesey leads the way in measuring language use

Following the success of last year's research work, Menter Môn's Language and Community Team are preparing to roam the streets again this year.

Last year, with the guidance of Soziolinguistica Klusterra, the team walked the streets of Llangefni and Porthaethwy measuring the use of social language on the streets. This year the team will spend two weeks in March measuring language data in Amlwch, Llanfairpwll and Holyhead in order to ensure an island-wide overview of the population's social language use.

[Read more here.](#)





## Welsh delicatessen celebrates successful first year

The Fork, Cork & Feathers, a Welsh specialty delicatessen based in Dolgellau, is celebrating a successful first year in business. Owned and managed by Andrew Peirson, the establishment opened its doors last year, quickly becoming a local favourite serving as a coffee shop, deli, bistro, and licensed bar.

Andrew utilised the Enterprise Hub's support, discovering it through the Gwynedd Council business support bulletin. The grant received via the Enterprise Hub was instrumental in supporting the business's marketing efforts. He has also received support from the ARFOR and SMART Towns programme.

Watch the case study video [here](#).



## Measuring impact of port closure on Holyhead High Street

On the 6th of December, Storm Darragh caused significant damage to Holyhead Port in Anglesey leading to its closure. The Port remained closed until mid January, when it partially re-opened.

The Trefi Smart Cymru team reviewed BT Active Intelligence data in order to measure the impact of this closure directly on the high street and found key considerations & next steps:

- The closure of the port had significantly disrupted Holyhead's economy, particularly the businesses on the high street.
- Without reliable data, it would be difficult to quantify the full extent of the effects.
- Businesses and decision makers must continue to monitor trends and adapt their strategies to support economic recovery.
- Further information – such as waiting time, income distribution, and visitor catchment data – can provide additional clarity on how customer behaviour evolves in the period after reopening.



SMART Towns Wales will continue to support the Cybi Business Forum in closely monitoring the recovery process, by providing businesses with data-driven information to support their resilience and plan ahead.

Contact [smarttowns@mentermon.com](mailto:smarttowns@mentermon.com) for free consultation and business support on this topic.



# Morlais expands to support green growth



The Welsh Government has taken an £8m equity stake in Morlais to ensure progress. This will help reduce costs as we scale up operations to generate clean electricity. It will help fund the Cydnerth phase, which will see the grid connection strengthened at Parc Cybi, Holyhead.

The Morlais tidal scheme is the first of its kind anywhere in the world and will be operational from 2026. The Anglesey site has the potential to generate enough energy for up to 180,000 typical Welsh households, offering a unique 'plug and play' model for developers of tidal energy devices.

Dafydd Gruffydd, Managing Director of Menter Môn said: "We welcome the Minister's announcement, which strengthens our ability to deliver clean energy and local jobs through the Morlais project. This funding supports our vision to position North Wales as a leader in tidal energy innovation, creating opportunities for growth and collaboration across the region."

**Read the full article [here](#).**



## Next chapter for Anglesey tidal energy with launch of Cydnerth

Work will soon begin on site in Holyhead to strengthen the grid connection for our Morlais tidal energy scheme. This is another important milestone for the project, which will see clean low carbon electricity generated off the coast of Anglesey. The work on the Cydnerth project at Parc Cybi will future proof Morlais enabling it to progress towards its potential generating capacity of 240 MW. The expansion aims to create new jobs and supply chain opportunities, cementing the region's position in the tidal energy sector.

Work set to begin in February involves clearing trees to install underground cables to transmit electricity from the Morlais substation near South Stack to the national grid. The land will be restored after construction, including landscaping and replanting trees.

John Idris Jones is chair of the Menter Môn Morlais Ltd, he said: "We welcome this step, which brings us closer to ensuring Ynys Môn can harness more from our natural tidal resources transforming our area into a sustainable energy hub. The work at Parc Cybi to strengthen the grid connection is a vital part of this process.

This next phase of the Morlais project is supported by Welsh Government and North Wales Growth Deal funding. The North Wales Economic Ambition Board is responsible for the Growth Deal.

**Stay tuned for updates on our progress and ways to get involved!**

