Welsh Headlines — 18 Sep 2026

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Friday morning roundup · Wales-only · compiled from BBC Wales, BBC Cymru Fyw, Nation.Cymru, GOV.WALES, The Guardian, WalesOnline, BBC Weather

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? Top Story: £4.8m emergency food aid for Wales as living costs bite again

Welsh councils will share £4.8m to provide "emergency food aid" and other support for people struggling with the cost of living — announced by the Deputy First Minister as fuel prices spike and energy bills are set to rise next month.

The money, confirmed by the Welsh Government at 23:00 on Thursday, is split between all 22 local authorities, with rural councils receiving an enhanced allocation in recognition of the "added challenges" of delivering support across sparsely populated areas.

Local authorities can pass the cash to food banks, lunch clubs, social supermarkets and community cafés, hand out direct grants, and fund cost-of-living advice to help families build longer-term resilience. Capital funding is also earmarked so organisations can buy fridges, freezers and cooking equipment to store and distribute more food, including surplus supplies.

- **Sioned Williams**, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Minister for Social Justice and Equality: **"Nobody in Wales should have to go without food or struggle to make ends meet.** This funding will help local authorities respond quickly to people in crisis right now, while also building the long-term support that helps families avoid hardship in future… we're targeting support where it's needed most."
- The ongoing **US-Iran war** and pressure on oil supply in **Saudi Arabia** have pushed fuel prices up sharply in recent days. With inflation rising and energy bills going up next month, the BBC's Wales money editor reports many households face a "tough winter".

- **Down to Zero**, an allotment project near Llantrisant in Rhondda Cynon Taf run by social housing provider Cynon Taf, delivers free and low-cost vegetable boxes — 230 boxes of fresh produce last year. Site manager **Kevin Edwards**: "It's heartbreaking to hear that families are struggling to feed their children." **Angharad Rogers**, Cynon Taf's director of housing and communities, said food poverty is growing: "Families with incomes coming into the household are still not able to pay for food… we're seeing a lot of families coming to us and asking for help."
- **Reform UK Wales** said it welcomed the support but argued the government could do more.

(GOV.WALES press release, 17 Sep 23:00; BBC Wales — Felicity Evans, Wales money editor, updated this morning)

?? Senedd & Politics

? Helen Jenner set to become Reform's Welsh leader

Reform is likely to appoint Helen Jenner — its interim Welsh leader and Dan Thomas' deputy — to take over permanently, sources have told BBC Wales, with "very senior" party figures understood to have backed her.

- Jenner, MS for **Bangor Conwy Môn**, is the favourite to replace Thomas, who quit after being arrested and bailed on suspicion of **assault and controlling or coercive behaviour**. He denies wrongdoing, has not been suspended and continues to sit as MS for **Casnewydd Islwyn**.
- Chief whip **Llŷr Powell** has ruled himself out of standing. Health spokesperson **James Evans** claimed he had majority group support but decided not to stand after speaking to his family. If there is more than one candidate, Reform's 33 MSs will decide in a secret ballot — **members get no vote**. No announcement is expected today.
- If confirmed, Jenner's appointment would mean **every party group in the Senedd is led by a politician from north Wales for the first time since devolution in 1999**.
- Jenner is a former English teacher, born in Neath and raised on Anglesey, a Welsh speaker who previously stood for the Brexit Party in 2019 and was a UKIP member. She has spoken about being told online she had "no right" to attend the National Eisteddfod because she is in Reform.

(BBC Wales — Gareth Lewis, Wales political editor, and David Deans, 17 Sep)

? Defector: "I voted Remain — and I'd vote yes to independence"

Sarah Cooper-Lesadd has revealed she voted Remain in 2016 and would back Welsh independence in a referendum, in her first extended interview since defecting from Reform to Plaid Cymru.

- She called her former party **"completely chaotic"** and "falling apart at the seams", and cited speeches by Reform Caerdydd Penarth MS **Joe Martin** in June — including one making allegations about Sudanese asylum seekers — as a "flashpoint": they "just completely did not chime with the type of person that I am".
- On independence: **"I support the ability of people to choose their own future… I would vote yes, because I have seen increasingly the fact that Wales is short-changed in so many different ways, but we aren't there yet. The nation is on a political journey."**
- Her defection takes **Plaid to 44 seats**, with Reform on 33 as the largest opposition group. She has now been in three political parties since 2024, having been a Conservative before joining Reform.

(BBC Wales — Dan Moffat and Adrian Browne, Walescast, 16 Sep)

?? Senedd rejects a Wales-specific grooming gangs inquiry

A Reform motion calling for Wales to be investigated as part of the UK grooming gangs inquiry was rejected on Wednesday, along with a Welsh Conservative amendment demanding a Wales-wide inquiry of its own.

- Opening the debate, Reform's **Paul Marr** spoke about his own daughter's experience of sexual assault: **"In debates like this, victims are often talked about as a category, a number and a strategy. She's my child."** He said her attacker was "one man, not a grooming gang" and is serving 14 years — but the process "took far too long".
- The Senedd instead agreed **Plaid Cymru's amended motion**, noting Wales already falls within the scope of the statutory Independent Inquiry into Grooming Gangs. Marr noted no Welsh area has yet been included in the first investigation but said further areas will be selected.
- Welsh Conservative leader **Darren Millar** said grooming gangs are a "serious problem" and Wales must not be a "footnote", urging ministers to follow Plaid's own precedent in calling for a Wales-specific Covid inquiry.

(Nation.Cymru — Ella Groves, ICNN Senedd reporter, 18 Sep)

?? Language campaigners demand an apology over Senedd English row

Cymdeithas yr Iaith has written to Conservative MS Janet Finch-Saunders demanding an apology after she tried to pressure a minister to answer in English during Plenary.

- The row follows Tuesday's exchange in which **Heledd Fychan** replied in Welsh to an English-language question about NHS waiting lists; Finch-Saunders interrupted with "I did ask the question in English", and Fychan answered: **"Yes, and we have two languages here, so I will use the Welsh language to reply to your question."**
- **Siân Howys**, the group's language rights spokesperson, called it "a disgraceful anti-Welsh language attitude" and said Fychan "should not have to take such a stand". Cymdeithas says the recorded livestream shows the translation worked perfectly, contradicting claims the system had failed.
- It wants the Llywydd to speak to Finch-Saunders and says the Senedd Commission, Remuneration Board and Members should be brought under the **Welsh Language Standards**. The group notes **36 of the 96 MSs** have already committed to using and promoting Welsh in Senedd proceedings.

(Nation.Cymru — Stephen Price, 18 Sep)

? Reform MS reprimanded over defector jibe

Reform's Jason O'Connell was reprimanded by Deputy Llywydd Kerry Ferguson after using a tabled question to mock former colleague Sarah Cooper-Lesadd.

- The Pontypridd Cynon Merthyr MS opened with: "Can I please take the opportunity to congratulate my former colleague on her latest defection yesterday? I'm sure that her newfound political beliefs and journey to the left will have her back in the Conservative Party in no time at all."
- Ferguson intervened before the minister could answer, reminding Members that "comments like that are not appropriate in the Chamber" and that MSs should stick to the script of their tabled questions. O'Connell later posted a clip of the remarks on social media, ending with an unflattering photograph of Cooper-Lesadd.

(Nation.Cymru — Emily Price, 18 Sep)

? Leanne Wood: councillor should resign over false paedophile claim

Plaid Cymru's former leader has called for a Bridgend councillor to quit after he falsely claimed a transgender paedophile had been released from prison.

- **Owain Clatworthy** (Restore Britain), who represents Pyle, Kenfig Hill and Cefn Cribwr, posted a mugshot claiming **Scott Henwood** — who now uses the name **Scarlett Lee** — had been "released back onto the streets of Bridgend". South Wales Police confirmed Lee remains in custody until **May 2027**. The post is still live and has been shared hundreds of times.
- Wood: **"It's bad enough when random numpties on Facebook make up stories that get everyone wound up. When a councillor does it, that's another level. An apology isn't enough. It's inciting fear. He should resign."** She also shared guidance on complaining to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.
- Clatworthy has already faced several complaints this year, including one referred by Bridgend council over alleged use of council branding in a letter to a clergyman; the Ombudsman decided not to investigate earlier complaints about his social media activity.

(Nation.Cymru — Emily Price, 18 Sep)

? Economy & Business

? Cardiff's Tramshed misses rates cut by £4,000

Cardiff music venue Tramshed says it is "devastated" after being excluded from the Welsh Government's new 30% business rates relief because its rateable value has risen to £55,000 — just £4,000 above the £51,000 cut-off.

- Tramshed's rateable value has risen almost **36% in three years**, from £40,500 in 2023. Operator **Propaganda Independent Venues** warned it could not only miss the 30% reduction but face a *higher* bill under the raised higher multiplier that funds the scheme.
- Co-founder **Dan Ickowitz-Seidler**: "It feels like we have been pushed over a cliff edge… Our exclusion from the permanent business rate relief offered to the vast majority of live music venues in Wales is patently unfair and will have a direct impact on culture in Cardiff."
- The **Music Venue Trust** welcomed the announcement but warned mid-scale venues face paying full rates without relief, and that a 30% cut "does not fully restore the protection previously offered by the 75% relief scheme". The Welsh Government pointed to its Town Centres Taskforce.

(Nation.Cymru — Amelia Jones, 17 Sep. The 30% cut itself was covered in the 15 Sep roundup and today's UK file.)

? Nine Welsh games companies head to Tokyo Game Show

Nine studios are exhibiting at Tokyo Game Show as part of Creative Wales' first visit to the global showcase, alongside a Welsh Government trade mission to Japan.

- The delegation includes **Breaking Change, Cloth Cat Games, Dragon Scale Studios, Goldborough Studio, Muscle Cat, Rarebit Studios, Sammy Snake Studios and Worldviper Studios**. Creative Wales has invested more than **£5.7m in over 100 games businesses since 2020**.
- **Huw Millward** of Cardiff's Worldviper Studios, developers of *Slumbox*: "I'm very excited for this opportunity to break into one of the World's biggest and most prestigious gaming markets."
- The parallel trade mission involves 16 businesses across sectors, with Welsh goods exports to Japan totalling about **£280m in 2025**. Cabinet Minister **Adam Price** called Japan "one of Wales' most important international partners".

(GOV.WALES press release, 18 Sep 00:01)

? Welsh Government and councils renew partnership deal

The Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association have renewed their Strategic Partnership Agreement, launched at the WLGA Conference.

- It reaffirms "trusted partnership, fair funding and reducing bureaucracy", and adds new collective commitments on **Welsh-speaking communities** and economic development and regeneration, alongside updated pledges on equity, inclusion, health inequalities, poverty and abuse in politics.
- Cabinet Minister **Siân Gwenllian**: "Councils are on the front line of delivering the services people rely on every day, and I want them to know that we will work with them, not around them." WLGA leader **Cllr Anthony Hunt** said the decisions made together "affect people's everyday lives".

(GOV.WALES press release, 17 Sep 16:45)

? Health

? NHS waiting lists rise for a fourth month in a row

Just under 709,700 cases were waiting for planned treatment in July, with more than 4,700 people waiting two years or more — a 15% rise in a month and 82% higher than at

the end of March.

- Health Minister **Mabon ap Gwynfor** called the figures "disappointing" and said performance is "not where we want it to be": **"The inherited waiting list backlog remains too high, and tackling it remains our top priority."** Reform, Labour and the Conservatives accused Plaid of being more focused on independence than the NHS.
- Because of a lag of about seven weeks in reporting waiting-time data, it will be several months before the impact of the government's new plan is visible. The plan includes scrapping automatic follow-up appointments unless clinically needed, which ministers hope will free up "tens of thousands" of appointments.
- A&E figures for August showed just under **97,700 attendances** (3,151 a day, 204 fewer per day than July). **63.8%** of patients spent under four hours in emergency departments — an improvement on July but still far below the 95% target, which has never been met. The government has put **£145m** extra into NHS Wales this year, including £100m for waiting times.

(BBC Wales — Owain Clarke, Wales health correspondent, 17 Sep; GOV.WALES ministerial response, 17 Sep 09:35)

? "A historic day": cancer drug Enhertu approved for new patients

Presenter and campaigner Mari Grug has called it a "historic day" after NICE approved the cancer drug Enhertu for patients with incurable HER2-low breast cancer — two years after it was rejected as not offering value for money.

- Patients **in England** will get access first, with **Wales following within two months**. The drug does not cure patients but can extend life by several years; around **1,000 people a year** are expected to be affected by the decision.
- Mari Grug, who lives with incurable HER2-positive cancer and already receives Enhertu every three weeks, said it "enables me to live a full life" — "to be a wife, a mother, a television presenter". She said the reversal "shows the value of speaking up" after two years of campaigning by thousands of people.
- The Welsh Government said: "Once the manufacturer confirms the terms of the agreement apply to NHS Wales as we expect, all health boards should ensure Enhertu is available to those eligible."

(BBC Cymru Fyw / Newyddion S4C — Gwyn Loader, 17 Sep)

? Rural & Environment

? Food strategy expert group appointed

Members have been appointed to the Expert Working Group developing Wales' National Food Strategy, with its terms of reference published setting out four pillars for a "resilient and sustainable food system".

- The government says it plans to **fast-track early action on school food, edible horticulture and the meat supply chain**.
- Cabinet Minister for Rural Resilience and Sustainability **Llyr Gruffydd** holds the brief. The strategy itself was launched at the Royal Welsh Show in July, with Simon Wright appointed to chair the expert group.

(GOV.WALES press release, 17 Sep 15:23)

? Culture & Media

?? Eighty-three-year-old artist from Powys wins £15,000 international drawing prize

Yvonne Crossley, from Llandrindod Wells, has won the Trinity Buoy Wharf Drawing Prize for *Octogenarian Dancer* — a suspended wire figure of a dancer with no arms or legs.

- Crossley beat more than **2,500 entries from over 1,400 artists across 48 countries**. "I'm on sticks, OK, I've got replacement hips, but I'm still dancing," she said. She deliberately left out the limbs: "It's enough that it dances without the whole figure."
- Selector **Sook Kyung Lee**, director of the Whitworth art gallery, said the work concerns "an ageing woman's body, and how it changes through different stages" — a subject art has largely left alone. Crossley: **"It's never over till it's over."**

(BBC Wales — Antonia Matthews, 17 Sep)

? Cân y Cymoedd: songwriting in place of doomscrolling

A project from Wales' national folk arts organisation has turned the stories of valleys communities into two dozen new songs.

- **Trac Cymru's** *Cân y Cymoedd (When Valleys Sing)* has paired musicians, historians and volunteers with community groups and schools in Rhondda Cynon Taf and Neath Port Talbot, uncovering local stories at heritage sites and museums and setting them to music.

- Participant **Liz Puleston-Jones**: "Now instead of watching rubbish TV or doomscrolling I'm being drawn to songwriting and playing my violin after years and years. It feels much healthier." At **Llwyncelyn primary school** in Porth, a Year 6 class recorded a music video for *Ein Cân Fach Ni* at Rhondda Heritage Park.
- The songs are being professionally recorded for an album the organisation hopes will become a resource for future generations.

(The Guardian — Bethan McKernan, Wales correspondent, 17 Sep)

? Also in culture & media

- **Dafydd Owain**, winner of Welsh Album of the Year at this year's Eisteddfod, brings *Ymarfer Byw* to life in two immersive concerts on **9 and 10 October** at The Studio Swansea and Cardigan's Mwldan. *(Nation.Cymru, 18 Sep)*
- **My New Band Believe** — the new collective led by former Black Midi bassist Cameron Picton — headline **The Globe, Cardiff on 27 October**, as part of a UK, Europe, North America and Asia tour. *(Nation.Cymru, 18 Sep)*
- **Marina** has backed **Macklemore** after he was dropped from Ed Sheeran's US tour over "free Palestine" comments at a New Jersey stadium; the Welsh pop star reposted his statement. All of Sheeran's remaining support acts pulled out in solidarity. *(Nation.Cymru — Amelia Jones, 17 Sep; the row itself was in the 16–17 Sep UK files)*
- **Peter Hain's** new thriller *Smuggler Kingpin* — centred on a Zimbabwe-based tobacco and gold trafficking gang — exposes how much global corruption drains from developing economies. The former Neath MP and Welsh Secretary told Nation.Cymru he began researching it in 2017 through work on corruption in South Africa under Zuma. *(Nation.Cymru — Martin Shipton, 18 Sep)*
- **Cardiff's Christmas programme** is announced: lights switch on **12 November**, a Winter Wonderland ice rink and big wheel at the castle and City Hall Lawn, a new **Victorian Christmas Market on Queen Street (12–15 Nov)**, and the Bute Park light trail from 19 November. Pantomime at the New Theatre stars **Gethin Jones**. *(Nation.Cymru, 17 Sep)*

? Sport

? Wales open WXV campaign against South Africa tonight

Wales face South Africa in the WXV Global Series opener at Cardiff Arms Park this evening (19:15 BST, live on BBC One, iPlayer and the BBC Sport website).

- Wales have won six of eight meetings, but have lost **nine consecutive Tests** and slipped to **13th in the world**; South Africa are up to 10th after a first World Cup quarter-final and wins over Fiji and the USA.
- Head coach **Sean Lynn** names three uncapped players in the matchday squad, with **Keira Bevan** at fly-half for the first time and **Amy Williams** starting on the wing. This is the first season of World Rugby's new WXV Global Series, with Wales also hosting the USA before travelling to Japan. *(The team selection was covered in yesterday's roundup.)*

(BBC Sport Wales — Ceri Coleman-Phillips, today)

? Elfyn Evans one rally from the WRC title after Saudi cancellation

The final round of the World Rally Championship season, due to be held in Saudi Arabia in November, has been cancelled because of conflict in the Middle East — making Sardinia next month the last round.

- **Elfyn Evans**, from Dinas Mawddwy, leads the championship by **17 points** from Sami Pajari, with a maximum of 35 points available in Sardinia. The Welshman has finished runner-up five times, including last year when he led going into the final round in Saudi Arabia.
- The FIA cited "continued uncertainty in the region and the impact on arrangements". Rally Sardinia takes place in early October.

(BBC Cymru Fyw, 17 Sep)

? Wrexham's owners aim a Spygate dig at Southampton

Ryan Reynolds and Rob Mac have taken a light-hearted jab at Saturday's opponents Southampton in a social media video, referencing last season's spying scandal.

- The video, promoting shirt sponsor Firefox, opens with Reynolds emerging from behind a tree: "Today, for no particular reason, we want to talk about the importance of privacy." Southampton visit the Racecourse Ground on Saturday (15:00 BST) — the club was docked four points and kicked out of the play-off final after an intern was found observing opponents in training.

(BBC Sport, 17 Sep)

?? Local & Community

- **Tributes to "deeply caring" dad killed in Swiss Alps crash. Owain Davies, 55**, managing director of Burry Port engineering firm **Amcanu**, was one of three people killed when a Cirrus SR22T crashed near Leukerbad in Valais on Tuesday, about 10 minutes after taking off from Sion. His son **Aron** said the family had "suffered an unimaginable loss". Amcanu, founded by his father **Spencer Davies OBE** in 1975, described him as "strong-willed, spirited, determined and deeply caring"; he was a **Wales Air Ambulance** trustee since 2017 and served nearly 25 years as a helmsman with **Burry Port Lifeboat**. Formal identification of the other two victims, including another Briton, is under way. *(BBC Wales — Jessica Johnson and Danielle Herbert, 17 Sep)*
- **A stranger's kidney gift. Karen Davey, 41**, of Brynna, Rhondda Cynon Taf, posted a plea for a kidney on Facebook after her family and friends were not matches — and **Gary Summerfield**, a security guard from Tredegar, saw it, turned out to be a match, and donated in July. Karen, a mother of four who had a heart transplant 10 years ago, said she feels "100 times better". Gary: "This lady needs one of my kidneys more than I need two of them." *(BBC Wales — Matt Murray, 16 Sep, updated 17 Sep)*
- **3,000-year-old gold bracelet declared treasure.** Metal detectorist **Idris Thomas** found the late Bronze Age bracelet on farmland at **Llanuwchllyn, Gwynedd**, less than 20 minutes into a search. It is **92.8% gold**; auctioneer **Brett Hammond** estimated its value at £15,000–£20,000. A Caernarfon hearing heard it would have belonged to someone of high status, and **Storiel Museum and Art Gallery** has expressed an interest in acquiring it. *(BBC Wales and Cymru Fyw — Rowenna Hoskin and Gwydion Edwards, 17 Sep)*
- **Gold panner fined £4,700. Brian Wright, 68**, was found guilty at Llandudno Magistrates' Court of environmental offences after being caught panning in the protected **Afon Wen** near Dolgellau in October and December 2024. Natural Resources Wales called him a repeat offender and warned that illegal panning damages river habitats in **Coed y Brenin Forest**. *(BBC Wales — Paul Pigott, 17 Sep)*

?? Weather

Cardiff — Friday 18 September: light cloud and a moderate breeze, high **18°C**, low **15°C** (south-westerly, 17 mph). *(BBC Weather, last updated 09:00)*

Day	Forecast	High / Low
Fri 18 Sep	Light cloud, moderate breeze	18° / 15°
Sat 19 Sep	Light rain, moderate breeze	20° / 13°
Sun 20 Sep	Sunny intervals, gentle breeze	19° / 11°
Mon 21 Sep	Sunny intervals, gentle breeze	21° / 13°

Day	Forecast	High / Low
Tue 22 Sep	Sunny intervals, light winds	22° / 13°
Wed 23 Sep	Sunny intervals, light winds	21° / 11°
Thu 24 Sep	Sunny, light winds	21° / 11°

- A band of rain crosses on **Saturday** before high pressure builds from Sunday: winds drop light and temperatures climb to **22°C by Tuesday** — a warm end to September after a record-breaking summer.

? Quick Summary

#	Story	Where	Why it matters
1	**£4.8m emergency food aid for councils**	Wales	Rural premium; food banks, lunch clubs and advice; fuel prices spiking
2	**Helen Jenner set to lead Reform in Wales**	Cardiff Bay	No members' vote; would mean every Senedd party led from north Wales
3	**Defector voted Remain and backs independence**	Cardiff Bay	Cooper-Lesadd's first extended interview; Plaid now on 44 seats
4	**Senedd rejects Wales-specific grooming gangs inquiry**	Cardiff Bay	Reform's Paul Marr spoke about his daughter; Plaid's amended motion passed
5	**Cymdeithas yr Iaith demands apology**	Cardiff Bay	Fallout from the Welsh-language answer row; 36 of 96 MSs have signed up
6	**Tramshed misses rates cut by £4,000**	Cardiff	Rateable value up 36% in three years; MVT warns mid-scale venues lose out
7	**NHS waits rise for a fourth month**	Wales	709,700 cases; 4,700+ waiting two years or more, up 82% since March
8	**Cancer drug Enhertu approved**	Wales / England	"Historic day"; Wales follows England within two months, ~1,000 patients a year
9	**Nine Welsh games studios at Tokyo Game Show**	Tokyo	Creative Wales' first visit; £280m of Welsh exports to Japan in 2025

#	Story	Where	Why it matters
10	**Food strategy expert group appointed**	Wales	Four pillars; early action on school food, horticulture and the meat chain
11	**83-year-old wins £15,000 drawing prize**	Llandrindod Wells	Yvonne Crossley beats 2,500 entries from 48 countries
12	**Elfyn Evans one rally from the WRC title**	Dinas Mawddwy	Saudi finale cancelled; Sardinia is now the last round, 17-point lead
13	**Wales v South Africa in WXV opener tonight**	Cardiff Arms Park	19:15 BST; Bevan at fly-half, three uncapped players in the squad
14	**Tributes to Owain Davies, killed in Swiss Alps crash**	Burry Port	Amcanu managing director, Wales Air Ambulance trustee, lifeboat helmsman
15	**Stranger donates kidney after Facebook plea**	Rhondda Cynon Taf	Karen Davey's second lifesaving transplant
16	**3,000-year-old gold bracelet declared treasure**	Llanuwchllyn	92.8% gold, valued at up to £20,000

Compiled Friday 18 September 2026, ~09:40 BST by Emrys □□ (Hermes cron) · Sources: BBC Wales, BBC Wales Politics, BBC Sport Wales, BBC Cymru Fyw, BBC Weather, Nation.Cymru, GOV.WALES (media.service.gov.wales), The Guardian, WalesOnline.

Method note: the Hermes browser remains unavailable on this host, so the whole sweep ran through the Playwright fetch service (192.168.178.100:8090, MarkItDown) — 10 index pages and 48 article/release pages fetched in two batches with a 100% success rate (BBC Wales and Wales Politics indexes, BBC Cymru Fyw, four Nation.Cymru sections, GOV.WALES main index, the Guardian's Wales RSS feed, Senedd Cymru news and BBC Weather for Cardiff). Two GOV.WALES slugs guessed from headlines 404'd and were recovered from the index hrefs; the food strategy release's own index href is a broken `/news/test` *link, so that item is written from the index card detail (date, minister, three bullet points). SearXNG (:8086) was again in mixed mode — mostly index and aggregator pages (NewsNow, ITV Wales, the Senedd site) with a few usable leads (the 30% business rates cut, the BBC Wales index, the Nation.Cymru defence-alliance piece) which were cherry-picked and corroborated by the direct index sweeps. WalesOnline article pages and its live blog remain cookie-walled/geo-blocked; its* `/all-about/senedd` *index was last updated 17 Sep 13:35 and carried nothing new. Skipped as already covered: the Dan Thomas resignation, Cooper-Lesadd's defection, the Reform whip decision, the Fiscal Framework summit, the Flying Start budget red line, the Welsh-language Senedd clash itself, the Powys consultation, the salmon rivers, the monopole pylons, Y Mochyn Du, Carol Vorderman, John Humphrys, Gresford and the hospices (all 16–17 Sep); Matthew Rhys's Emmy history, the learner-driver YouTube story, the Reform £72m donations row and the Bank of England decision (today's UK file); and, after checking their own publication dates, the constituency-names review (13 Sep), the Zeta-Jones "nepo baby" interview*

(13 Sep), the Bellamy/Burnley interview and Wales Nations League squad (15 Sep), and the giant Pembrokeshire jellyfish (14 Sep). Reddit, Nitter, Phice and FlareSolverr steps were skipped — services down.

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