Welsh Headlines — 3 Oct 2026

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? Top Story: Plaid sets 500-firm growth target and an FTSE 100 ambition

The Plaid Cymru government has set a target of 500 "high-growth" Welsh firms within 10 years — and says hitting it would create the conditions for a second Wales-headquartered company in the FTSE 100, where only Admiral Group currently sits. Enterprise, Connectivity and Energy Minister **Adam Price** sets out the plan at Plaid's conference in Llandudno today, in the party's first conference since it took office in May. The programme is called **Sbardun** — an "intensive" two-year scheme for an initial 20 firms, with applications opening this autumn and the first cohort starting in April. Participants will receive investment from the **Development Bank of Wales**, guidance from an entrepreneur who has already scaled a business, and support from each other, with each firm given a plan to address the obstacles blocking its growth. "Scale matters. We should want more Welsh firms to succeed, to grow and to compete on the world stage. But scale is a means, not an end — the end is good jobs everywhere," Price is expected to tell delegates. He will add that success "is not measured simply by the number of companies that reach the summit. It is measured by whether people in every part of Wales can build a good life through good work." The 10-year target would bring Wales into line with the UK for the number of high-growth firms relative to population, the minister says, and boosting small-to-medium and medium-to-large firms would give a stronger base from which a Welsh company could reach the FTSE 100. The first Sbardun cohort will be used to establish which support works before it is expanded through the planned **Welsh National Development Agency**: "Twenty is a start. We will learn what works. And what works for twenty, the new agency will take to scale." It forms part of ministers' wider ambition to halve the productivity gap between Wales and the UK within a decade — an August update showed output per hour worked in Wales was **84.9% of the UK average in 2023**. No overall budget for Sbardun, or per-business investment figure, has been

announced. The announcement was trailed by a Welsh Government **written statement on 2 October**. (BBC Wales — David Deans / Nation.Cymru / BBC Cymru Fyw / GOV.WALES)

?? Senedd & Politics

?? "Our wings have been clipped for too long" — FM's first conference keynote

First Minister Rhun ap Iorwerth told Plaid's conference on Friday that Wales' "wings have been clipped for far too long", in his first keynote since Plaid ended 27 years of Labour government. Speaking at **Venue Cymru in Llandudno** — where he proclaimed victory in May — he said: "That election wasn't the end of a campaign, but the beginning of our work to give flight to a nation whose wings have been clipped for far too long." He said the UK constitution "now sits within a very different constellation", after elections in Wales, Scotland and the north of Ireland produced three governments that share a principle — "to ensure that it is the people of our nations who decide their own future". On his letter to PM **Andy Burnham** setting out the case for devolving powers such as **policing and justice** (covered in Friday's roundup), he said: "I've looked him in the eye and said do not undermine Wales as a nation, do not bypass our Senedd. He looked me in the eyes and promised he would not — I will hold him to that, Wales will hold him to that." And he warned: "If he fails, Wales will know again that our best interests will never be served by Westminster, and that it matters little whether who lives in Number 10 Downing Street is an Evertonian or an Old Etonian." (Nation.Cymru / Press Association — Eleanor Storey; BBC)

???? Plaid to debate devolving equalities law to boost trans rights

Plaid Cymru members will debate a motion at conference today committing the party to seeking the full devolution of equalities legislation to Wales — a move that could let the Senedd change how equalities law applies here. The motion, proposed by **Plaid Pride**, calls on the Cabinet Minister for Social Justice — Deputy First Minister **Sioned Williams** — to set up a working group of "appropriately qualified people" to determine a legal and political route forward, with a "clear, actionable roadmap" agreed and initiated **by the end of the current Senedd term**. It argues that "successive Westminster governments have consistently failed to protect and advance the rights of marginalised groups" and that devolving equalities would let Wales "lead on progressive human rights legislation". **Cathy Larkman** of the gender-critical group **Women's Rights Network Wales** urged the party to "firmly reject this motion", calling it "a costly distraction from the pressing needs of the NHS, schools and the economy" and "nothing more than a Trojan horse". (Nation.Cymru — Martin Shipton)

?? Smart glasses in the Siambr spark covert-filming concerns

Senedd Members have raised concerns about covert filming devices in the Welsh Parliament after several MSs said they suspected a Reform MS used smart glasses with a teleprompter function to deliver a debate speech last week. MSs told Nation.Cymru they caught glimpses of **text moving across the lenses** of **Jason O'Connell** (Reform, Pontypridd Cynon Merthyr) as he opened Reform's debate on Wales' 20mph default limit on Wednesday (30 September), and that his eyes appeared to track left-to-right as he spoke. O'Connell was contacted and did not respond. There are currently **no rules** barring Members from using aids while speaking — laptops and printed notes are permitted — but questions are being asked about whether the Senedd should regulate emerging technology. Several female Members raised deeper concerns about covert recording. One MS said "formal concerns" had already been raised with Senedd chief executive **Manon Antoniazzi** about covert recording devices on the estate, following a surreptitiously taken blurry image of journalist **Will Hayward** while he interviewed Plaid MSs in the Senedd canteen — an image posted by Reform Wales and reposted by then-Reform Wales leader Dan Thomas and MSs Francesca O'Brien and Claire Archibald before being deleted after a backlash. Some MSs now fear being secretly filmed in private areas at work, including the Senedd's toilets. (Nation.Cymru — Emily Price)

?? 1,720 died homeless in 2025 — charities demand action

Charities are calling for more resources after research by the Museum of Homelessness found 1,720 people — including 51 children — died while homeless in 2025 across the UK. In Wales the recorded figure **fell from 90 to 62**, but the charity says the numbers should be treated with caution because some large local authorities, including **Bridgend and Newport**, did not supply figures. Nationally deaths rose 6.8% year on year, with more than 10,000 documented since 2017. More than 30% of 2025 deaths happened on the streets or in accommodation for rough sleepers, and "deaths of despair" — drugs, alcohol or suicide — accounted for 52%. The charity also found evidence of **44 people dying preventable deaths shortly after release from prison**. "This year's findings mark a devastating milestone," said director **Jess Turtle**, who said the system "pours billions of pounds into substandard emergency and temporary accommodation without the support in place to give people a fighting chance". (Nation.Cymru — Martin Shipton)

? Conwy cabinet backs closing two rural schools despite opposition

Conwy council's cabinet has recommended closing two rural primary schools despite a public consultation that showed communities opposed — Ysgol Betws-y-Coed and Ysgol Ysbyty Ifan would shut on 31 August 2027. Officers concluded there was no new evidence

justifying a change of plan, after a **600-signature petition**, 24 formal objections and more than 100 online objections. At the time of the consultation **Ysgol Ysbyty Ifan had 14 pupils in space for 40**, and **Ysgol Betws-y-Coed 14 in space for 100**. Estyn has previously said there appeared to be "very little evidence" the council had adequately considered the impact on pupils' learning and wellbeing, though it accepted the authority had justified the plans on low pupil numbers, surplus places and financial pressure. Cabinet members meet on Tuesday at Coed Pella, Colwyn Bay. (BBC Cymru Fyw)

?? "There are no jobs on a dead planet" — Howe defends scrapping the M4 relief road

Sophie Howe, the world's first future generations commissioner, has defended helping scrap the M4 relief road around Newport, telling a BBC podcast: "There are no jobs on a dead planet." Howe, who held the role from 2016 to 2023, made the comment on BBC Radio 4's *Radical* podcast when it was put to her that the cancelled 14-mile motorway could have boosted the economy. She said the six-lane scheme conflicted with the Welsh Government's own "wellbeing goals", and noted **25% of the lowest-income families in the region do not own a car** — asking whether the government should spend its entire borrowing capacity on something benefiting "only the already better off". The road was cancelled in 2019 by then-first minister **Mark Drakeford**, after **£114m** had been spent on planning; the inquiry he commissioned had found the economic need for a road outweighed environmental concerns and criticised Howe, saying her suggestion the inquiry had not properly considered future generations legislation was "wholly unwarranted". Howe said money that would have funded the £16bn stretch has since helped pay for a "range" of public transport schemes including the **South Wales Metro**, with rail passenger numbers up 19.1% in 2024-25 and a further 9.9% in 2025-26. She also said she asked the government to apply wellbeing tests to every "pre-approved" road scheme, leading to most being cancelled — including a third Menai crossing and a "red route" in Flintshire. The Welsh Government says it is reviewing options for the M4 around Newport, and the Flintshire road was revived in a 2025 transport plan while the Plaid government is said to be reviewing options for the third Menai bridge. (BBC Wales — Adam Hale)

?? Courts & Policing

?? Jealous husband who strangled wife in bed jailed for life

Michael Davies, 58, has been given a life sentence with a minimum term of 14 years for murdering his wife Tracey Davies at their home on Bryn Terrace, Cefn Cribwr, Bridgend. Davies, who had admitted manslaughter but denied murder on the grounds of diminished responsibility, was found guilty by a jury at Newport Crown Court last month. Jailing him, judge

Daniel Williams said "the fact is your anger was born of insecurity and exacerbated by mental illness". The court heard Davies was working in logistics in Abu Dhabi when he learned his contract was ending, became depressed and anxious while living alone in a flat with no windows, and feared he could not repay a £30,000 loan. The judge said he did not accept Davies was "telling the whole truth", and that he had never said what caused him to kill his wife. "Tracey's work was a source of insecurity and resentment… I'm sure that there was a trigger… and you're keeping that to yourself." After killing his wife Davies took an overdose and stabbed himself in the throat and chest; the couple were found by a family member and paramedics. Tracey's daughter **Danielle Young** said the family would "always be tormented by the thoughts of mum's final moments", and her sister **Julie Reeve** called Davies "a coward". (BBC Wales — Annell Dyfri / Cymru Fyw)

? No further action against man arrested over 1993 Tooze murders

A man arrested last year in connection with one of Wales' most notorious unsolved murders is no longer under investigation, police have said. Harry and Megan Tooze were shot dead and found in a cow shed at their farm in Llanharry, Rhondda Cynon Taf, on 26 July 1993. South Wales Police arrested an **87-year-old man** as part of a forensic review of the cold case launched in 2023; he will now face no further action. The couple were shot in the back of the head from about 3ft and covered in carpet under hay bales. Their daughter's boyfriend **Jonathan Jones** was convicted of the murders in 1995 and spent a year in prison before being freed on appeal, when three judges took five minutes to reach their decision; the original trial judge was criticised and it emerged police had failed to seal the crime scene properly. Det Supt **Mark O'Shea** said the force remained "committed to solving these dreadful murders", and the Major Crime Investigation Team's review continues. (BBC Wales — Owain Evans)

? Llanfairfechan crash: driver released under investigation

The driver of the van involved in the death of a six-year-old boy in Llanfairfechan, Conwy, has been released under investigation, police have confirmed, as flowers and soft toys were left near the scene. Officers were called to **Mill Road** shortly after 17:00 BST on Thursday to reports of an incident involving a black-and-white **Ford Transit Tipper** and a child; the boy was pronounced dead at the scene. North Wales Police said the arrested **39-year-old man** was later released under investigation while enquiries continue, and the family is being supported by specially trained liaison officers. The force has renewed its appeal for witnesses. (BBC Wales / Cymru Fyw)

?? Communities, Health & Money

? GP surgery found with expired emergency drugs and a urine sample in a vaccine fridge

Healthcare Inspectorate Wales found expired emergency medication and equipment at a GP surgery where 85% of patients and carers who responded to a survey rated the service poor. Inspectors visited the **Amman Tawe Partnership's Gwaun Cae Gurwen surgery** on 2 June; their report, published on **1 October**, has prompted calls for urgent action from MP **David Chadwick** (Liberal Democrat, Brecon, Radnor and Cwm Tawe) and Senedd Member **Jane Dodds** (Brycheiniog Tawe Nedd). Of **531** patients and carers who completed questionnaires, **85%** said they could not get an urgent same-day appointment and the same proportion reported difficulty accessing routine appointments; **79%** could not easily get regular support for ongoing conditions and **72%** could not contact the practice when needed. Nearly three-quarters did not feel listened to. Inspectors also found **a urine sample in an overstocked vaccine refrigerator**, an unsecured oxygen cylinder and no emergency pull cord in the accessible toilet. The practice's improvement plan says weekly checks on emergency drugs have been strengthened, equipment is to move to the main hallway and a pull cord was installed in June. Chadwick said the report was "a vindication of local residents who have been raising the alarm for years"; Dodds said patients "have waited long enough". (Nation.Cymru)

? No prosecutions under Haverfordwest anti-social behaviour order — now set to be scrapped

Not a single prosecution has been brought under a town-centre anti-social behaviour order in Haverfordwest that councillors now want to scrap. A Pembrokeshire County Council scrutiny committee backed ending the town's **Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO)**, approved in 2022 to restrict public drinking and tackle persistent anti-social behaviour, after officers said it was not "fit for purpose in its current form". Dyfed-Powys Police told the council it no longer issues fixed penalty notices and instead pursues breaches through prosecution — of which there have been none. A report said there was "currently insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the continuation of the existing... order remains necessary, proportionate and justified". Full council makes the final decision. Police recorded **656 incidents across Pembrokeshire** between last June and this May, 162 of them in Haverfordwest — but fewer than a third involved alcohol. (Nation.Cymru / LDR — Bruce Sinclair)

?? Withyhedge landfill allowed to take 50,000 more tonnes despite odour row

Natural Resources Wales has approved changes to the permit for Withyhedge Landfill near Haverfordwest, allowing an extra 50,000 tonnes of waste soil and stone a year

despite objections from Pembrokeshire County Council. The material must be suitable for restoration work such as engineering and capping rather than general waste disposal; the site's previous permit allowed 250,000 tonnes of non-hazardous waste a year. The revised permit also imposes tighter controls on landfill gas, leachate, groundwater and surface water monitoring. A separate NRW investigation into permit breaches continues. Pembrokeshire council said it was "disappointed", and MS **Paul Davies** (Ceredigion Penfro) said residents needed evidence that the new requirements would be enforced: "After everything communities surrounding Withyhedge have already endured, words about stronger controls will not be enough." NRW's **Nicholas Bettinson** said: "Where an application meets the required standards, we are obliged to issue the permit." (Nation.Cymru)

? £200m carbon capture plant planned at Deeside waste site

A £200m carbon capture facility that would capture 241,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year is seeking approval from Flintshire County Council. The proposal is an extension to **Enfinium's Parc Adfer** waste processing site at **Connah's Quay**, which turns non-recyclable black-bin waste from Flintshire, Denbighshire, Conwy, Gwynedd and Anglesey into energy for 45,000 homes. The extension would process **232,000 tonnes of residual waste a year** but capture more CO2 than it processes — a statistical quirk caused by oxygen being added in the process; the plant would capture **95%** of the carbon it handles. Captured carbon would feed into the **Hynet pipeline**, carried underground to Point of Ayr and stored in spent gas wells under the Irish Sea. The scheme would create eight jobs; officers recommend approval, with a condition that the plant may only operate until **31 December 2050**. Councillors decide on **Wednesday 7 October**. (Nation.Cymru / LDR — Alec Doyle)

? Campaigners hopeful for Maindy Velodrome after Charity Commission letter

Campaigners trying to save Cardiff's Maindy Velodrome say they are encouraged by a ruling that the council has no right to make decisions about the facility, which is owned by a charitable trust. Jeremy Sparkes of the Save Maindy Velodrome Campaign said a letter from the Charity Commission shows the velodrome — associated worldwide with cyclists **Geraint Thomas** and **Elinor Barker** — "is not part of the council estate… but is an asset of the charitable trust", meaning the council must keep full and accurate records of the trust's income and expenditure, which he says it has failed to do for over a decade. The campaign says a valuation prepared for a proposed land swap may have been an undervaluation because it failed to recognise the velodrome's income-generating potential, and that a successful swap would have let the council bulldoze the track. (Nation.Cymru — Martin Shipton)

? Alzheimer's families: months-long waits leave carers "not knowing what help is there"

Families caring for relatives with Alzheimer's say waits of months for a diagnosis make it hard to know what support is available — and the Alzheimer's Society is calling on the Welsh Government to set a 12-week diagnosis target with a care and treatment plan to follow. A recent charity survey found almost half of those asked had waited more than six months for a diagnosis. The Welsh Government said it knew "more needs to be done to improve dementia care in Wales" and that it had recently consulted on a draft dementia strategy, with the final strategy due early in 2027. **Megan Jones Roberts** of Aberystwyth, whose husband **Pete** has lived at a care home in Llanrhystud for four years, said the medical support at diagnosis was good but "there was nothing telling you what help was available — and that was what we wanted most", describing repeated form-filling and being asked the same questions by successive social workers. She said the care she herself now receives while being treated for cancer has been "fantastic" by comparison. (BBC Cymru Fyw / Newyddion S4C — Elen Wyn)

? Porthmadog's Cob Crwn path reopens after upgrade

The **Cob Crwn path** in Porthmadog has reopened after being extended and made accessible, funded by the Welsh Government's **Transforming Towns** programme and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and delivered by Cyngor Gwynedd. The informal route had uneven sections unsuitable for pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs; planning permission for the upgrade — with improved gradients and slip-resistant surfacing — was granted unanimously in March 2026. Council leader **Nia Jeffreys**, the local member, said an official opening event is planned. (Nation.Cymru / LDR)

? Culture, Language & Life

? Dolly Parton sings Jolene in Welsh on posthumous single

A new version of Dolly Parton's *Jolene*, with parts sung in Welsh by Parton herself, is to be released on 9 October — recorded before her death on 25 August. It is a collaboration with Neath-born Welsh singer-songwriter and BBC Radio Wales presenter **Bronwen Lewis** and Parton's niece **Jada Star**, and is the second posthumous release from Parton, who was of Welsh descent. Lewis, a proud Welsh speaker, had started translating favourite songs and posted a video of *Jolene* in Welsh two years ago: "I never expected it would go viral and definitely didn't expect it to attract the attention of Dolly's family — especially her niece Jada." A friendship followed, with

Star visiting Wales and joining Lewis at Pride Cymru. Star suggested recording the song in Welsh, and later told Lewis her aunt would sing on it too. "I think I fell to the ground," said Lewis. "Definitely cried happy tears, and called my mother immediately. To hear Dolly sing in another language, and in Welsh for the very first time, was unbelievable." (BBC Wales — Ellie Carter and Miriam Barker / BBC Cymru Fyw)

? Casting director Lauren Evans to be honoured at BAFTA Cymru

Lauren Evans, the Hendy-born casting director behind *Sex Education* and *Lost Boys and Fairies*, will receive BAFTA Cymru's Special Contribution Award this weekend — after almost binning the email telling her. Seeing a message headed "*Confidential BAFTA*" while at work, she assumed it was junk: "I almost sent it to the spam folder and then I read it and thought, 'Oh my good grief!' I didn't think it was real." She told BBC Radio Wales's Dot Davies the news still "feels like some sort of prank... I didn't get awards or honours growing up, so it feels very overwhelming." The award follows her win in the casting category at last year's BAFTA Cymru awards for the film *I Swear*, where her short, honest acceptance speech won hearts. (BBC Cymru Fyw — Lois Jones)

? More "forgotten" war heroes' photos found after BBC Wales appeal

Photographs of Welsh soldiers buried at a war cemetery in the Netherlands have been found after a BBC Wales appeal — including a long-sought picture of a Monmouthshire man — but the search continues for others. Volunteers in **Venray** have adopted the graves of more than 600 British soldiers; hundreds of photos have been placed on graves through social media connections. **Albert Henry Wheeler** of Clydach, Monmouthshire, was 28 when he died in November 1944 serving with the South Wales Borderers, and his photo has now been shared. His relative **Catherine Travis, 66,** of Tredegar said she had found out "so much about Albert Wheeler... it's taken over my life", and will travel to Venray this month to meet grave adopter **Lotte Scharn, 29**. **Jackie Pryce-Elias, 60,** of Carmarthen, plans to travel for a ceremony on **18 October** marking the town's liberation: "If my mother were still alive and knew people in the Netherlands were looking after their graves, she wouldn't believe it." (BBC Wales — Meleri Williams / Cymru Fyw)

? First look at The Last Detectives, filmed on the Pembrokeshire coast

The BBC has released first-look images for *The Last Detectives* (formerly *Old Town Murders*), a six-part crime series filmed in Tenby, Cardiff and along the south Wales coastline. Starring **Mark Lewis Jones** as DI Glyn Walsh and **Steffan Rhodri** as DS Sion Dearden,

with **Bethan-Mary James**, **Jordan Davies**, **Julie Graham** and **Catherine Ayers**, it follows two detectives "finding a new beginning after they are thrust together by circumstance", with each case spanning two episodes. It is written and executive-produced by **Matthew Barry** (*Men Up*), made by Quay Street Productions for BBC iPlayer and BBC One in co-commission with **BBC Cymru Wales**, and supported by Creative Wales. (Nation.Cymru)

? Panedeni weave Welsh and Arabic music together

Panedeni, a north-east Wales band led by composer Yasmine Latkowski, blend Arabic and Welsh culture — singing in Welsh to Egyptian rhythms and playing Turkish-style melodies on Welsh instruments. Latkowski grew up in Lincolnshire with British and Yemeni heritage and moved to Wrexham five years ago, only exploring Arabic music in her twenties: "I think a lot of people don't look at the other part of their identity until they're a bit older," she said, drawing a parallel with people who decide to learn Welsh later in life. (BBC Cymru Fyw — Llio Rhys)

? Three Welsh coasts in UK's top 10 scenic road trips

Pembrokeshire Coast has been named the fourth most scenic autumn road trip in the UK and Ireland, with the Anglesey Coastal Path seventh and the Ceredigion Coast ninth. The ranking, by holiday provider **Away Resorts**, draws on Instagram posts associated with each destination. Pembrokeshire's entry highlights Tenby, Saundersfoot, St Davids, Solva and Fishguard plus beaches such as Barafundle Bay and Whitesands; Anglesey's takes in Beaumaris, Holyhead, Rhosneigr, South Stack Lighthouse and Newborough; Ceredigion's spans Aberystwyth, New Quay and Aberaeron, with Cardigan Bay's dolphins. (Nation.Cymru)

? Sport

? Cardiff 40-27 Zebre: bonus point and a Bowen double

Cardiff continued their promising start to the URC season with a six-try, bonus-point home win over Zebre at the Arms Park, wing Tom Bowen scoring twice. Cardiff led 40-8 midway through the second half before the Italians hit back with three late tries. Tries came from **Teddy Williams**, **Javan Sebastian**, **Taine Basham**, **Alex Mann** and **Bowen (2)**, with **Callum Sheedy** landing four conversions and **Dan Evans** one. The crowd of **7,231** was similar to the opening Welsh derby in Llanelli. It was a first competitive home game for lock Teddy Williams after a serious foot injury in October 2025, and 18-year-old hooker **Tom Howe** made his senior debut.

Cardiff made four changes from the side that beat the Scarlets, with James Botham producing a player-of-the-match display; fly-half Sheedy, who went viral for heading the ball last week, set up Bowen's second with a clever grubber. (BBC Sport — Gareth Griffiths / Nation.Cymru)

? Price fights back to reach World Grand Prix semis

Gerwyn Price came from two sets down and saved match darts to beat fellow Welshman Jonny Clayton 3-2 and reach the World Grand Prix semi-finals in Leicester. Price, who had not dropped a set earlier in the tournament, will play **Nathan Aspinall** in the last four. Aspinall beat Ryan Joyce 3-0, while world number two **Luke Humphries** — who whitewashed Dave Chisnall and Jermaine Wattimena in earlier rounds — beat Niels Zonneveld 3-0 and faces James Wade, who knocked out third seed Gian van Veen. "To make four World Grand Prix finals on the trot would be super special," said Humphries. (BBC Sport)

? Evans stays on WRC title course despite tough Sardinia day

Elfyn Evans remains on course for a first World Rally Championship title despite losing time to both rivals on a difficult opening day at Rally Italia Sardegna. The 37-year-old from Dolgellau lies **sixth after seven stages**, one place behind **Sami Pajari** and three behind **Oliver Solberg**, having lost more than 55 seconds to Solberg — but the positions still leave him as **virtual championship leader**. Running first on loose gravel hampered him; he is 1min 08sec behind rally leader Thierry Neuville. "We're here, let's see," said Evans. "I guess tomorrow will be the test of how we are going to respond to the road position." (BBC Sport)

? Wales v Denmark: the Bellamy turning point?

Wales host Denmark at Cardiff City Stadium on Sunday looking to build on Thursday's 2-1 Nations League win over Norway — their first win in seven games and their first ever in Nations League A. BBC Sport Wales's Chris Wathan asks whether the Norway win was "the end of Craig Bellamy's summer of discontent", after a year that brought World Cup heartbreak against Bosnia-Herzegovina and a dalliance with the Burnley job. "We need to improve; I need to improve," Bellamy admitted before the Norway game. Wales' **Neco Williams** has said the side must build on the result against Denmark, and praised striker **Lewis Koumas**. (BBC Sport / Nation.Cymru / Cymru Fyw)

? Adams targets a third World Cup

Wales wing **Josh Adams** says he is "desperate to go" and has "never been to Australia", targeting a third World Cup as the countdown begins to Wales' tournament opener against Zimbabwe in Adelaide next October. Adams, 31, was the 2019 World Cup's top try scorer with seven. (BBC Sport)

?? Weather

No weather warnings are in force for the UK (BBC Weather, checked 09:20 BST). For South East Wales and Cardiff: **today** will be a dry and fine day with plenty of sunshine — high **19°C**, low **7°C**; **tonight** dry with plenty of clear spells and a few patches of cloud; **Sunday** thicker cloud building from the north-west but remaining dry, with a few brighter spells — 19°C/12°C; **Monday** largely cloudy with the odd light shower drifting in from the west — 19°C/13°C; **Tuesday** a cloudy start with patchy rain, turning drier with sunny spells later — 19°C/11°C; **Wednesday** largely dry and fine but cooler, with northerly winds — 16°C/6°C. (BBC Weather — South East Wales forecast, updated 09:00)

? Quick Summary

- **Top story** — **Adam Price** sets out Plaid's **Sbardun** programme at conference today: **500 high-growth firms in 10 years** and the aim of creating a second Wales-headquartered **FTSE 100** company, with 20 firms in the first cohort from April.
- **Senedd** — **Rhun ap Iorwerth** tells Plaid's first conference as the governing party that Wales' "**wings have been clipped for too long**"; members debate a motion to **devolve equalities law** to boost trans rights; MSs raise **covert filming fears** after a Reform MS was accused of using **smart glasses** in the Chamber; **1,720 people died homeless** in 2025.
- **Courts** — **Michael Davies** jailed for life with a **minimum 14 years** for murdering wife **Tracey** in Cefn Cribwr; **no further action** against an 87-year-old arrested over the **1993 Tooze murders**; the **Llanfairfechan** van driver is **released under investigation**.
- **Communities** — **Sophie Howe** defends scrapping the **M4 relief road** ("there are no jobs on a dead planet"); a Neath Valley **GP surgery** is criticised over expired emergency drugs and a urine sample in a vaccine fridge; **Withyhedge landfill** can take 50,000 more tonnes of soil; a **£200m carbon capture plant** is recommended for approval at Connah's Quay.
- **Culture** — **Dolly Parton** sings **Jolene in Welsh** on a posthumous single out **9 October**; casting director **Lauren Evans** gets BAFTA Cymru's special award; more photos of **Venray war dead** found after the BBC appeal.
- **Sport** — **Cardiff 40-27 Zebre** with a Bowen double; **Gerwyn Price** fights back to beat **Jonny Clayton** 3-2 and reach the World Grand Prix semis; **Elfyn Evans** sixth after day one in Sardinia but still virtual WRC leader; **Wales host Denmark** on Sunday.

Method note: compiled in cron mode. SearXNG (:8086) returned an index-and-aggregator mix — usable only as corroboration, no individual article leads — so the sweep ran through the Playwright

fetch service (192.168.178.100:8090, MarkItDown): 13 index pages (BBC Wales, BBC Wales Politics, BBC Cymru Fyw, Nation.Cymru news/home/sport/culture, GOV.WALES main index, gov.wales/announcements, Guardian Wales + RSS, BBC Weather and warnings) and 55 article pages, all successful. The Guardian's Wales RSS had nothing later than 2 October (the FM's New Deal letter — covered), so it added only corroboration. De-duplicated against the 02 October Welsh file, this morning's UK file and a folder-wide keyword grep: the ***FM's New Deal letter to Burnham, Badenoch's budget comments, the 20mph "blanket" rebuke, Newport Bus, the Church in Wales equal-marriage delay, the Educating Cardiff teacher, the baby on the Bangor shoreline, the Prince of Wales's Skenfrith visit, minimum alcohol pricing, the early prisoner releases, the grooming-gangs inquiry, the scabies feature, the bog grass moth, the idling fine and Michael Sheen's Owain Glyndŵr/Traitors items*** *were all dropped as already covered. Two stories are genuine follow-ups and are framed as such:* ***Michael Davies's sentencing*** *(the 12 September guilty verdict was covered then) and the* ***Venray photographs*** *(the August appeal was covered on 5 August). The UK roundup's claim that "Wales were swept aside by Denmark" is stale — that defeat was in September; the return fixture is* ***Sunday 4 October at home****. The BBC Cymru Fyw and BBC Wales versions of the Llanfairfechan crash, the war-heroes appeal, the Dolly Parton single and the strangling sentence are written up once and tagged to both sources. The UK file's Eluned Morgan conference quote is not repeated: the "looked him in the eye" line is attributed by Nation.Cymru's own report to Rhun ap Iorwerth. BBC articles were mostly published late on 2 October (after the previous compile) and two — the Sophie Howe M4 podcast and the war-heroes follow-up — were updated this morning.*

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