Welsh Headlines — 7 Oct 2026

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? Top Story: M4 junction closures and a third Menai crossing — the Welsh Government's plan for Wales' two worst bottlenecks

Junctions on the M4 in Newport could close and a third bridge could be built across the Menai Strait, under plans announced in the Senedd by Deputy Minister for Transport Mark Hooper on Tuesday (6 October).

The third Menai crossing — shelved in 2023 — returns to "development work" immediately, covering design, environmental assessment, business case development and statutory approvals. Development will take up to two years, with at least eight to ten years before any crossing is actually built, and **construction has not been authorised**: no timetable and no updated cost has been confirmed. The BBC reports the new crossing could cost **up to £700m**; Welsh Government officials put it at about **£670m** (BBC Cymru Fyw). The review found disruption when either existing bridge is restricted or closed is the key problem for communities and businesses on Ynys Môn and across north Wales. Ministers will also keep investing in maintenance of both crossings and add "resilience measures" to Britannia Bridge — wind deflectors, variable speed limits and other operational improvements. A proposed three-lane tidal-flow system on Britannia Bridge will **not** proceed after the review identified "significant safety and operational concerns".

Around Newport, ministers have concluded road infrastructure improvement is needed "alongside a range of other interventions", but no single intervention solves the bottleneck at the Brynglas Tunnels. An **18-month study** will examine a range of "roads-based" solutions — potentially including a new motorway or expanding the Brynglas Tunnels. The "black route", a new motorway across the Gwent Levels axed in 2019, has been ruled out again. Ministers are also considering closing junction 27 at High Cross entirely, and closing the eastbound slip roads at junction 26 (Malpas) and junction 25 (Caerleon) — **possibly by 2028**. A review warned closures could increase congestion and noise on alternative routes. A five-year package of shorter-term measures covers motorway maintenance, better management of the existing road, targeted work on roads and junctions around Newport, and freight resilience via the A465. On public transport, Transport for Wales will help "accelerate delivery" of Cardiff Parkway, Magor and Undy stations, improve access to Severn Tunnel Junction and strengthen bus links between Newport and Cardiff. Hooper said the measures would cut peak-hour traffic by up to around **one vehicle in ten**: "Every vehicle taken off the road helps on a motorway that is already operating at or beyond capacity at the busiest times." It is the first attempt by the Plaid Cymru-led government to tackle M4 congestion, after relief-road plans were developed in the 2010s and axed by Mark Drakeford in 2019. **Reaction:** Newport council leader **Dimitri Batrouni** (Labour) said residents "should not have to pay the price" and he will fight the junction closures; the Conservatives (Darren Millar) and Reform said they would build an M4 relief road; Huw Thomas MS questioned whether other bottlenecks (the A470, the A494) would now lose out. On ITV Wales' *Sharp End*, **Mair Rowlands MS** (Bangor Conwy Môn) said north Wales "didn't get the attention it deserved previously", while the Future Generations Commissioner said Wales needs "solutions that work for communities and nature". (BBC Wales — David Deans / BBC Cymru Fyw — Alun Jones / Nation.Cymru / GOV.WALES, 6 Oct 15:38)

?? Politics & the Senedd

? Welsh Greens' deputy leader quits over "Zionism is racism" motion

Phil Davies has resigned as the Green Party's deputy leader in Wales, saying the motion declaring "Zionism is racism" was "pointless", "imperialistic" and "idiotic". In a social media post on Tuesday (6 October) and an interview with BBC Radio Wales Breakfast on Wednesday, Davies — a Greens member for seven years — said the vote was "merely the final nail in the coffin" and that he had often felt like "the token Welshman moaning at various points". He called for the Welsh Greens to split from the Green Party of England and Wales (GPEW) and "stand on our own two feet as a Welsh party", and said he hoped members would vote to leave at their conference next month. Welsh Greens leader **Anthony Slaughter** — who is being treated for cancer and did not attend the Brighton conference — sent him a "very nice message" and has been supportive; Davies said he does not agree with elected officials resigning and staying in the Senedd: "You're voted in under your party banner." **First Minister Rhun ap Iorwerth** told the Senedd on Tuesday the policy was "ill-judged", saying he has "always advocated the two-state

solution" and stands "shoulder to shoulder with the Jewish communities in Wales" — responding to Reform Wales leader **Helen Jenner**, who alleged a "sickening antisemitism problem among left-wing parties". The motion, which supports a single democratic Palestinian state in all of historic Palestine, has been condemned by some Jewish groups and Israel's foreign ministry; Israel has banned Green leader Zack Polanski from entering the country; the Guardian reports the European Green party has said the vote breaches its policy. (BBC Wales — Oscar Edwards / Mark Palmer / Nation.Cymru — Emily Price / Guardian)

? Finance Minister leads Senedd debate on rail funding and the Wales Reserve

Cabinet Minister for Finance Elin Jones asked the Senedd on Tuesday to back calls on the UK Government to accelerate rail infrastructure investment in Wales and loosen restrictions on the Wales Reserve. The cross-party motion asks both governments to work together on three practical steps; Jones said removing restrictions on the Wales Reserve is "a simple, practical step that would let us make better use of resources that already belong to Wales". The Welsh Government notes that the current Wales Reserve restrictions have needed temporary waivers in three of the last four years, and that only **£302m** has been allocated for non-devolved (UK-controlled) rail infrastructure enhancement in Wales over the current Spending Review period to 2029-30. Jones said: "Commitments alone don't improve connectivity, what matters now is delivery, and we want to see that delivery accelerated." (GOV.WALES, 6 Oct 06:00)

?? New national safeguarding programme for Wales

"Stronger Safeguarding for a Safer Wales" — a single national programme to protect people at risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation — was launched by Deputy Minister for Social Care, Mental Health and Women's Health Delyth Jewell on Tuesday (6 October). It responds to the Strengthening Safeguarding Governance Review led by **Jan Pickles OBE** and promises improved leadership, accountability, intelligence and consistency across the system. Key elements include a new **Ministerial Assurance Board** and an intelligence hub to detect warning signs earlier and share information faster, plus stronger learning from reviews, inspections and data. The programme also creates the foundations for future consultation on an Adult and Child Protection Authority for Wales and on mandatory reporting of abuse. Jewell said every child and adult in Wales "should have the utmost confidence that any concerns of abuse are heard and acted on". (GOV.WALES, 6 Oct 16:45 / Nation.Cymru)

?? Senedd working "at pace" on smart glasses rules

The Senedd is considering "at pace" how smart glasses should be used across its estate, after Reform UK admitted one of its MSs had used the technology in the Siambr. Nation.Cymru reported last week that MSs suspected **Jason O'Connell MS** (Pontypridd Cynon Merthyr) had used a teleprompter function on smart glasses to deliver a speech; a Reform UK spokesperson later told WalesOnline: "There's nothing unusual about seeing parliamentarians reading speeches from tablets or phones. This is likely the next step in that journey." *(Update to the 3 October roundup, which covered the initial covert-filming concerns.)*

? Transport & Infrastructure

?? TaithCymru coach tickets on sale — £10 Bangor to Carmarthen

Tickets have gone on sale for Transport for Wales' new TaithCymru coach service linking north and south-west Wales, with an introductory £10 single fare between Bangor and Carmarthen. The service launches on **Sunday 25 October**, running nine return journeys daily and saving up to an hour over existing public transport; one late-night journey each day extends to Holyhead railway station and port for rail and ferry connections to Anglesey and Ireland. Coaches — operated by Edwards Coaches with Llew Jones — will call at Caernarfon, Porthmadog, Dolgellau, Machynlleth, Aberystwyth (University and Bus Station) and Aberaeron, with other promotional fares including £7 Bangor–Aberystwyth and £12.50 Holyhead–Carmarthen until early January 2027. Passengers must book ahead (tickets cannot be bought from the driver) and concessionary bus passes are not currently accepted; all coaches have Wi-Fi, USB charging, air conditioning and toilets, though not every stop is fully accessible. *(Update to the 25 September and 19 August roundups, which covered the service announcement and contract award.)* (Nation.Cymru — Mark Mansfield, 6 Oct)

?? Communities, Justice & Money

? Nearly 300 homes plan could hit one of Wales' most important bat roosts

Natural Resources Wales has objected to the proposed allocation of an 11-hectare site at Leasbrook, Monmouth for up to 270 homes in Monmouthshire's replacement local development plan, over uncertainty about a protected bat roost. The site falls within the foraging zone of the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley Bat Sites Special Area of Conservation, close to the Newton Court stable block SSSI — home to **317 Greater horseshoe bats**, up from the 80-bat

figure in an 18-year-old core management plan, according to council ecologist Kate Stinchcombe. NRW's national bat specialist **Sam Dyer** said the fields are "crucial" to the protected area, with young bats relying on dung beetles from grazed land; council officials argue case law lets them overrule NRW with reasons, and that only a small area of foraging zone would be lost. Public hearings with inspectors Claire MacFarlane and Julie de-Courcey continue this week, covering Mounton Road, Chepstow and former MoD land at Caerwent (Wed 7 Oct) and sites for up to 700 homes east of Caldicot and north of Portskewett (Thu 8 Oct). (Nation.Cymru — Twm Owen, LDR, 7 Oct)

?? Cardiff Sixth Form College founders used £5m as a "personal piggy bank", court hears

The trial of Yasmin Sarwar, 45, of Cyncoed, Cardiff — accused of stealing £5m from Cardiff Sixth Form College — opened at Merthyr Crown Court on Tuesday. Prosecutor Mark Cotter KC said the college's founders, who set up the school in 2008 and were "paid handsomely", treated its funds "as their own personal piggy bank", and described the defendant as "a manipulative woman who was a willing participant in the fraudulent activity". Sarwar, a former director and trustee, denies nine theft and fraud charges. Her ex-husband **Nadeem Sarwar** pleaded guilty to stealing £5m at an earlier hearing. A-level students at the independent college pay more than **£30,000** a year in fees. *(Update to the 30 September roundup, which covered the guilty pleas.)* (BBC Wales — Lucy Vladev, 6 Oct)

? Teenager "bled to death" after zombie-knife stabbing through the heart, court told

Tristan Kerr, 17, bled to death in the street after being stabbed through the heart and lung with a 13.5cm zombie knife in Abertridwr, Caerphilly, in February, Newport Crown Court heard on Tuesday. Georgie Mears, 19, of Thornhill, Cardiff, is accused of the attack at a house in Lower Francis Street; Connor Palfrey, 24, of Abertridwr, Ricardo Elliot, 27, of no fixed address, and Elexi Manny, 24, of Senghenydd, all deny murder through joint enterprise. Witnesses described Mears "acting like a gangster" and brandishing the purple-and-silver knife; the prosecution said text messages showed Palfrey and Elliot were dealing cocaine, ketamine and cannabis and collecting drug debts they called "straps". Kerr had gone into the house to play Fortnite and smoke cannabis with friends; he collapsed against a car and told a friend: "I'm hurting — my side. I love you, bro." The fatal attack took less than two minutes, the court heard. (BBC Wales — Colette Hume, 6 Oct)

? Fresh inquest into 1994 death after escape from Bangor psychiatric unit

A new inquest has opened at Caernarfon into the death of Anthony Whittle, 30, a forestry student who escaped from the Hergest psychiatric unit at Ysbyty Gwynedd in November 1994 and was found dead beside the A55 near Llandygai the next morning. Whittle, who had paranoid schizophrenia, had been found wandering in sand dunes near Prestatyn, wet and with one shoe missing, and was taken to the unit — where his father and brother had gone to meet him. His brother Christopher told the inquest they heard "a crash and a bang" as Anthony went out through a window and down a sloping roof. The high court ruled the original 1995 hearing inadequate; the family "fought" for years for a fresh one, but Anthony's parents died in their 90s before it was ordered. The inquest, before a jury of 11, continues. (BBC Wales — Chris Dearden, 6 Oct)

? Prestatyn murder: man arrested

A man has been arrested on suspicion of murder after a body was found inside a van that was set alight on Gas Works Lane, Prestatyn, late on Sunday 4 October. *(Update to Monday's lead story; the person's identity has still not been formally confirmed.)* (BBC Wales / UK roundup)

? Rural abuse survivors call for better support

Domestic abuse survivors in rural Wales are calling on governments to do more to reach victims, as BBC Wales told the story of farmer Tracy Lewis, 48, who was physically and emotionally abused by her father while growing up on a farm at Llanbister, Powys. Lewis recalled her father pulling her out of bed by her hair to go lambing at the age of eight, and said animals were used as "a form of control or a catalyst for abuse" — "the farming world is the best place to be... but abuse can be hidden very easily". She also claimed financial abuse: she worked on the farm for 20 years and paid rent believing it would one day be hers, then found it was not left to her in his will. The National Rural Crime Network says survivors face more barriers to reaching support; the Welsh Government said the challenges will be considered in its next national strategy. (BBC Wales — Gemma Dunstan, 6 Oct)

? Bus drivers "should refuse to move" if pupils stand up

A Monmouthshire councillor has said bus drivers should refuse to continue their journey if school pupils are standing when seats are free, amid overcrowding after Wales' £1 single fare for 16-to-21-year-olds was introduced in September. Scrutiny committee chair **Alistair Neill** (Conservative) said it was "absolutely appropriate" drivers be instructed not to move off while people stand; council officer Debra Hill-Howells said a council inspector had seen pupils on the lower deck "choosing not to go upstairs", and that there is a distinction with dedicated home-to-school buses where every pupil has a seat. The council — which gives some pupils entitled to free transport passes for public buses — will now run a direct service on affected routes. (BBC

Wales / LDR — Twm Owen, 6 Oct)

? Reform MP bought £800,000 Anglesey second home days after raising second-homes concerns

Reform UK MP Sarah Pochin bought a Grade II-listed second home on the southern coast of Anglesey two days after asking the housing minister about the impact of second home ownership on rural communities, according to the Will Hayward newsletter. Pochin — Reform's first female MP, for Runcorn and Helsby in Cheshire — submitted the written question to housing minister Matthew Pennycook on 15 June and completed the purchase two days later. (Guardian, 6 Oct 15:41 / last modified 7 Oct 02:30)

? Ceredigion has Wales' highest household energy costs, Merthyr the lowest

Households in Ceredigion face the highest effective energy price in Wales — 22.84p per kWh against 13.96p in Merthyr Tydfil, around 64% lower — according to analysis of all 350 GB local authorities by the Alan Boswell Group using Ofgem's October-to-December price-cap rates. Under the price cap the average electricity unit rate is 26.32p per kWh versus 7.97p for gas, so areas with low mains-gas coverage pay far more per unit even where headline bills look lower: Ceredigion has just 26.3% of homes on mains gas (Wales' lowest) and a modelled annual bill of £1,641.12, while Merthyr (98% on gas) has a modelled bill of £2,024.60. Anglesey is second at 21.09p, then Powys (20.33p), Gwynedd (20.21p) and Pembrokeshire (18.27p); Ceredigion ranks fifth most expensive in Great Britain under the study's dense-ranking system. (Nation.Cymru, 6 Oct)

? Wheelchair user "crawled on hands and knees" off a train

A Cardiff Met student with hereditary spastic paraplegia crawled on her "hands and knees" through a Great Western Railway train after being told a ramp could not be used to help her off at Bath Spa. Phoebe Tesoriere, 24, who lived in Caerphilly at the time, was travelling from London Paddington in December 2025 when she was directed to the only designated wheelchair space — in a carriage that stopped beyond the platform — leaving no ramp possible. GWR said it was "really sorry" and admitted "we let her down, both when we helped her board and at several points during her journey". (BBC Wales — Danielle Herbert, 5-6 Oct)

- **Gift Aid gap:** Wales "misses out on millions of pounds" in charitable donations every year, a new campaign warns. (Nation.Cymru)

- **Ram raider jailed** for stealing more than £18,000 of goods. (Nation.Cymru / BBC Wales)

? Environment & Climate

?? Environmental concerns over 2.5km solar farm cable on Anglesey

Anglesey's planning committee is considering a revised 2.5km underground cable route to connect Traffwll Solar Park to the grid, after Bryngwran Community Council objected over archaeology and wildlife. The 35MW Low Carbon scheme — approved by Welsh ministers in 2023 despite local opposition — covers about 150 acres near Bryngwran and Caergeiliog and, the company says, would generate enough power for 11,630 homes a year and save 7,161 tonnes of CO2 annually. The new route would run in a 40–70cm trench about a metre deep, south of the A55 and near the Afon Crigyll; objectors warn excavation could "damage root systems, disturb ecological corridors and create fragmented habitats". Council planning officers recommend approval, noting the principle of development was accepted when the wider solar park was consented, with conditions on land restoration and decommissioning. A decision was expected on Wednesday afternoon. (BBC Cymru Fyw — Gareth Williams, 7 Oct)

? Farmer sentenced for moving neighbour's truck with a tractor

Cerdin Jones, 53, of Llanarth, Ceredigion, has been sentenced after using his Massey Ferguson tractor to lift and move a neighbour's truck along a rural lane in August last year, causing £5,000 of damage. Aberystwyth Magistrates' Court heard the lane leads to Anwen Hughes' farm but that Jones had the right to use it to reach his own land; sentencing in September, magistrates imposed an order preventing Jones from using the lane and £800 in costs. (BBC Cymru Fyw, 6 Oct)

?? Weather

No weather warnings are in force for the UK (BBC Weather, checked 09:30 BST). **South East Wales — today:** a mixture of variable cloud, sunny spells and the odd shower, with a breezy day; remaining breezy tonight with variable cloud and scattered showers. **Thursday:** drier in the morning with some sunny spells, turning unsettled later with stronger winds and blustery rain. **Friday:** windy with blustery rain to start, clearing to largely dry and bright. **Saturday:** breezy but dry with sunshine throughout. **Sunday:** dry and calmer with plenty of sunshine. Staying generally

cooler than of late. Cardiff day-by-day (BBC Weather, updated 08:58): **Today** light rain, moderate breeze, 16°/6°; **Thu 8** sunny intervals, gentle breeze, 16°/12°; **Fri 9** light rain, fresh breeze, 18°/9°; **Sat 10** sunny intervals, 15°/7°; **Sun 11** sunny intervals, 16°/10°; **Mon 12** light rain, 18°/13°; **Tue 13** heavy rain, 18°/10°. Observations at Cardiff, Bute Park: 14°C at 07:00 BST.

?? Sport

?? Wrexham's £70m Kop rebuild approved — ready for 2027-28

Wrexham's new Kop stand has been officially approved by Wrexham County Borough Council this week and is due to be fully operational for the start of the 2027-28 season. The £70m development at the Racecourse — the oldest international football ground still in use — will add **7,500 seats** to take capacity above 18,000, with dressing rooms, media provision and hospitality, making the ground fit for the Premier League should the club go up. Chief strategy officer **Aidan Miller**, who previously worked on Everton's Bramley-Moore Dock stadium, said the club is "playing catch-up" after three successive promotions: "We've always gone to the next level from the footballing side before the rest of the club is necessarily ready to... Now we're trying to do it more proactively." (BBC Sport Wales, 7 Oct)

? Wales women: Mayzee Davies' "extra motivation" ahead of Albania play-off

Wales defender Mayzee Davies says missing Euro 2025 through injury has given her extra motivation for the World Cup play-offs — Wales face Albania in Shkoder on Friday 9 October (17:00 BST) in the semi-final first leg, with the return at Llanelli four days later. The 20-year-old suffered an ACL injury on international duty in May 2025 that kept her out for 13 months, causing her to miss Wales' first ever major tournament. (BBC Sport Wales — Mark Poyser, 6 Oct)

- **Jordan James** says next month's Norway clash is "massive" for Wales. (Nation.Cymru, 5 Oct)
- **Little-known Dutch sport** — korfbal — is growing in popularity in Wales. (Nation.Cymru, 5 Oct)

? Culture, Media & the Arts

? Welsh Music Prize 2026 decided tonight — Mary Hopkin honoured

Fifteen artists across every genre gather at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff tonight (7 October) for the Welsh Music Prize 2026, with a £10,000 award for the best album released in the past 12 months. The shortlist spans rap, metal, pop, folk, rock and indie, and includes former winner **Gruff Rhys**, international reggae star **Aleighcia Scott** (shortlisted for her first Welsh-language album, *Taith*), **Cerys Hafana** (*Angel*, her third nomination), **CHROMA** (*25 Forever*), **Ani Glass**, **Art School Girlfriend**, **Dafydd Owain** and newcomers **Dewin** and **Adjua**. Last year's winner was Don Leisure. Judge **Ifan Davies** called it "a feast of varied sounds from Wales" that made the decision "very hard". **Mary Hopkin** receives the Welsh Music Inspiration Award at the ceremony. (BBC Cymru Fyw, 6 Oct)

? Newport Rising Festival returns for the 187th anniversary

Newport Rising Festival 2026 runs from 28 October to 7 November, marking 187 years since the Chartist Rising — the last large-scale armed rising in Wales, whose demands included democracy, the vote and a secret ballot. After the rising, 200-plus Chartists were arrested and 21 charged with high treason; leaders John Frost, Zephaniah Williams and William Jones were sentenced at Monmouth's Shire Hall to be hanged, drawn and quartered — the last people sentenced to that punishment in England and Wales. This year's programme includes the Chartist Legacy Lecture by HOPE not hate chief executive **Nick Lowles**, a Chartist Cave Walk, the Chartist Convention, a Radical Book Fair, Epic Theatre performances and the traditional torchlit march through Newport. (Nation.Cymru — Amelia Jones, 6 Oct)

? Busted's Matt Willis opens a recovery café in Pontypridd

Matt Willis — co-founder, bassist and co-vocalist of Busted — has opened a new café and "atelier" called Aftermath in Pontypridd, as part of the pilot programme in his BBC documentary series *Matt Willis: The Recovery Project*. The three-part series follows Willis, who has spoken openly about his own addiction, as he develops a scheme to help people in recovery rebuild their lives through work and community support. Pontypridd MP **Alex Davies-Jones** attended the opening. (Nation.Cymru — Amelia Jones, 6 Oct)

? Cerebral Palsy films showcased for World Cerebral Palsy Day

A collection of films made over the past 12 months by people with Cerebral Palsy went online on 6 October for World Cerebral Palsy Day, in a partnership between the Old Colwyn-based charity TAPE and the Welsh culture platform Am. The clips for the #UniqueANDUnited campaign include TAPE trustee Josh Roberts, the film *Access Denied* (centred on a 20-year-old lesbian with CP) and an Easy Read report from the Social Murder Festival. (Nation.Cymru — Stephen Price, 6 Oct)

? Llais returns to Cardiff with international voices

The Wales Millennium Centre's celebration of the human voice returns for its eighth year, bringing American avant-garde pioneer Laurie Anderson for her first ever visit to Wales with a one-off show, *Friends and Teachers*. Also on the bill: the Buena Vista All Stars (directed by original members Demetrio Muñiz and Barbarito Torres), the London African Gospel Choir marking 40 years of *Graceland*, the Blind Boys of Alabama, sitarist Jasdeep Singh Degun with the BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales, and Lisa Hannigan's *Sirens* project. (Nation.Cymru — Jude Rogers, 6 Oct)

? Health & Features

? "I knew something was seriously wrong" — a sepsis near-miss

Ceredigion influencer Catrin Jones has described developing sepsis from mastitis in December 2023, deteriorating within about 20 minutes from feeling tired to being unable to control her body. She was taken to Ysbyty Bronglais where treatment began immediately — about an hour after her first symptoms — and later developed post-sepsis syndrome, which affects nearly half of sepsis survivors and which she says lacks recognition and support. "Many people assume an infection must have been there for a while and been ignored before it turned into sepsis. In my case blood tests showed it was a very new infection," she said, urging people to "listen to your body". (BBC Cymru Fyw — Angharad Rhys, 6 Oct)

? Gynaecological cancer: "time for women to know their own bodies"

Llinos Jones, a woman in her 60s from Anglesey, is urging women to seek help after experiencing both womb and cervical cancer — having first put her symptoms down to the menopause. She had a hysterectomy and 25 rounds of radiotherapy over five weeks at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd. Her story emerged as the charity Tenovus warned GPs are finding thorough gynaecological examinations difficult under pressure to keep appointments short: about half of the

100 Welsh GPs surveyed saw limited appointment time as a major concern, and a third worried about over-referring. Dr Amara Naseem said detailed histories and sensitive internal examinations need about 20 minutes, while her clinics regularly overrun. The Welsh Government said it is strengthening primary care and updating its women's health plan. (BBC Cymru Fyw, 6 Oct)

?? A 50-year-old Welsh-language protest, recalled

Former Welsh Labour Education Minister Leighton Andrews has revealed details of Welsh-language student protests he took part in at Bangor 50 years ago. Writing on his Substack, he describes how four members of the Welsh-language society Cymric — Glyn Tomos, Dafydd Meirion, Rheon Tomos and Emrys Wyn — were suspended by the University College of North Wales in 1976 after occupations and slogans accusing the administration of "the murder of the Welsh Language", followed by a 150-strong occupation of the Main Arts Building and a march through Bangor addressed by R. S. Thomas and Dafydd Iwan. (Nation.Cymru — Martin Shipton, 7 Oct)

? The fight to save a language spoken in one town

BBC Cymru Fyw carries an S4C report on Wymysiöeryś (Vilamovian), a Germanic language now spoken fluently by only a handful of people in the single town of Wilamowice, southern Poland. Speaker and revivalist **Tymoteusz Król** learned it from a neighbour he called "Nain" in the 1990s, and has spent years recording the last native speakers, building the evidence base for dictionaries and grammars and teaching a new generation that now uses it in music, theatre and social media — turning Wilamowice into a research centre for minority languages. (BBC Cymru Fyw — Siôn Pennar / Newyddion S4C, 6 Oct)

? Feel-Good Roundup

- **Wales' only working windmill is white again.** Melin Llynon on Anglesey has been repainted to its original colour after owner Richard Holt had painted the 250-year-old Grade II-listed mill in Welsh red, white and green to mark the Urdd Eisteddfod — a makeover that broke council rules. Anglesey council says the work has not yet been inspected. *(Update to the 11 August roundup.)* (BBC Wales, 6 Oct)
- **Honey Ross is learning Welsh.** Film producer Gav Murphy — who grew up in Caerphilly — told BBC Radio Cymru that his partner, Jonathan Ross's daughter Honey, is learning the language on Duolingo with the help of "bonkers" memory skills, and is being encouraged to practise with their dog, Coco. (BBC Cymru Fyw, 4 Oct)

- **A rare horseshoe bat boost** — see Environment: 317 Greater horseshoe bats now recorded at the Newton Court roost near Monmouth.

? Quick Summary

- **Top story** — The Welsh Government will **immediately restart development of a third Menai crossing** and run an **18-month study into "roads-based" M4 options**, with **M4 junctions 25, 26 and 27 in Newport potentially closing by 2028**; new Menai crossing could cost up to **£700m** and take 8-10 years.
- **Politics** — **Phil Davies quits as Welsh Greens' deputy leader** over the "Zionism is racism" motion and calls for a Welsh split from GPEW; **FM Rhun ap Iorwerth** calls the policy "ill-judged". **Elin Jones** leads a Senedd debate on rail funding and the Wales Reserve. New **national safeguarding programme** launched.
- **Communities** — **270 homes at Monmouth** could threaten a key **horseshoe bat** roost; the **Cardiff Sixth Form College** £5m theft trial opens; **zombie-knife** murder trial continues; fresh inquest into **Anthony Whittle's** 1994 death; a **man arrested** over the Prestatyn van murder.
- **Money** — **Ceredigion** has Wales' highest household energy price (22.84p/kWh) and **Merthyr Tydfil** the lowest (13.96p); a **Reform MP bought an £800,000 Anglesey second home** days after raising concerns about second homes.
- **Transport** — **TaithCymru coach tickets on sale**, £10 Bangor–Carmarthen from 25 October.
- **Environment** — Objections to a **2.5km solar farm cable** route on Anglesey; a **farmer sentenced** for moving a neighbour's truck with his tractor.
- **Sport** — **Wrexham's £70m Kop** cleared for a 2027-28 opening; **Wales women face Albania** in the World Cup play-off semi-final first leg on Friday.
- **Culture** — The **Welsh Music Prize** is decided tonight with **Mary Hopkin** honoured; **Newport Rising Festival** returns for the 187th anniversary.

Method note: compiled in cron mode. SearXNG returned a usable index-heavy mix this morning (WalesOnline's live-blog URL, BBC Wales, ITV Wales, wales247, frontpages) with zero usable individual article leads — so the sweep ran through the Playwright fetch service (192.168.178.100:8090, MarkItDown): 13 index/feed pages (BBC Wales, BBC Wales Politics, BBC Cymru Fyw, Nation.Cymru home/news/sport/culture, GOV.WALES main index, Guardian Wales RSS, BBC Weather and warnings, WalesOnline live blog and Senedd index) and 57 article pages, all successful except the WalesOnline live blog, which returned the Reach consent shell (dropped, no retry). No Welsh roundup file exists for 6 October (the page is also absent from the BookStack October chapter, page ids 1087-1111), so de-duplication was against Monday's 5 October Welsh file, this morning's UK file, and folder-wide keyword greps — which also caught that the Menai/M4 story had only ever appeared as a UK-file one-liner. Stale Nation.Cymru sport and culture cards (25-26 September: Cardiff Rugby's 150th, URC round 2, the Cardiff Half, Elfyn Evans' title) were excluded by the date sweep, as were BBC items dated 30 September-3 October (Michael Sheen's Senedd backing, the grooming-gangs inquiry expansion, the scabies feature, the M4 "crack on" and

"no jobs on a dead planet" pieces) and the Guardian's greyhound-racing and Green-ostracism pieces. Marked as updates rather than re-reports: the TaithCymru coach, the smart-glasses rules, the Melin Llynon windmill, the Cardiff Sixth Form College trial and the Prestatyn arrest. Not included: the FM's "new deal"/Burnham lines and minimum alcohol pricing (already covered on 5 October), and the WalesOnline blog (consent-walled).

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