

WINTER STORMS



Those members hoping to join the December 'Mincepie' Meet wisely heeded red weather warnings and decided to cancel. Had they made it to Gelli Iago they would have been grounded by Storm Darragh as it arrived overnight toppling trees, snapping telegraph poles and power lines, flooding the lane and wreaking havoc, causing a three-day power cut.

Local residents stayed indoors, having never seen the likes before. Homes were lit by soft candlelight and the flicker of wood burners, water heated on gas cookers or stove tops, extra clothes layered on against the bitter east wind, and maybe stories told around the fire once batteries failed their electronic devices.

It's rare for bad weather warnings to cancel a visit to Gelli Iago. When the weather allows for the journey, even if it pours all weekend with every view obscured by mist, those who visit will take home special memories.

Since Darragh, Storm Éowyn has brought down yet more trees and closed roads, with its aftermath still being cleared from devastated slopes in Nantgwynant.

Fortunately Gelli Iago suffered little damage apart from an uprooted sapling by the waterfall, so still welcomes visitors to enjoy its simple comforts. And who knows, maybe staying there will foster an appreciation of our natural environment and its care in every way possible.



Ancient crab apple
'The Wishing Tree'
toppled by
Storm Darragh.



During the storm:
trees leaning and
hillsides awash

