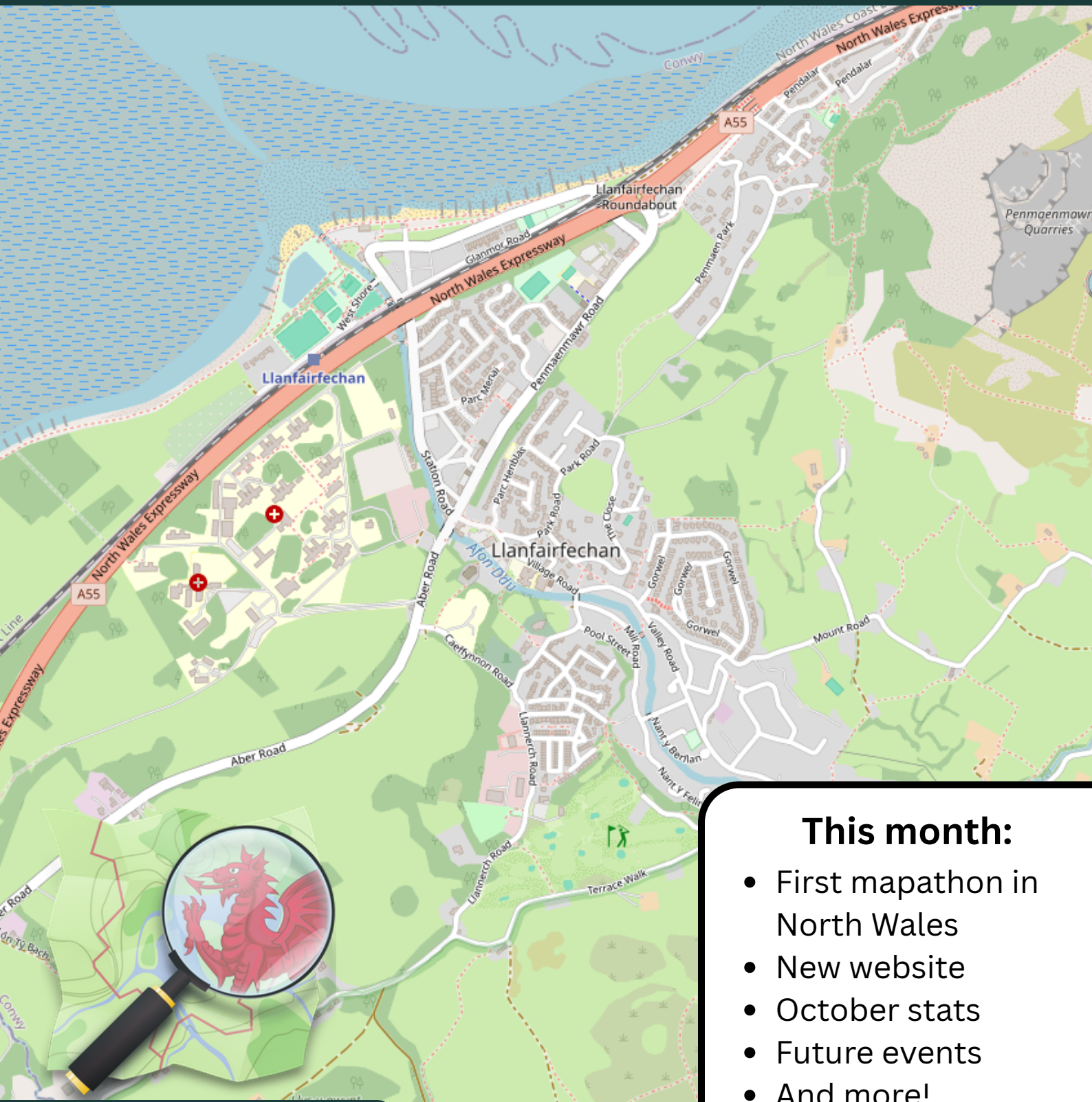
Mapwyr Cymru

3rd Edition, November 2026
3ydd Rhifyn, Tachwedd 2026

Cymru ar y Map



Map from © OpenStreetMap

This month:

- First mapathon in North Wales
- New website
- October stats
- Future events
- And more!

Rhagair | Foreword

Croeso pawb and welcome to the third edition of the monthly Welsh stats (and news)! It has felt like ages since the last one, but it is finally that time of the month again. I hope you're as excited as me!

The newsletter has changed its name to *Cymru ar y Map* to better reflect the fact that it now features more than just monthly stats. The edition has therefore been changed to aligned with the month it is released rather than the month of the stats. I hope the name is not too cringe!

This month features a lot of new changes that I hope that you will enjoy:

- Number of changesets and changes are now compared with the average over the preceding 6 months rather than last month. This makes the comparisons more stable and meaningful.
- There is now a news section with some news stories in the world of mapping in Wales that has happened over the last month.
- Improved theme (I hope 🙏 Let me know what you think!)

Other than that, the format remains as it was in the previous two editions.

Now that we have a section for stories and news, if you have any stories that you'd like to include in the next edition or on the blog, please reach out! I'm sure there are enough interesting things happening that we could have a story or two a month. Maybe you have a mapping project you want to show off?



Until next time:
Happy mapping, mapio hapus!

Preben Vangberg
Golygydd | Editor

Newyddion | News

Gwefan Newydd! New Website!



Screenshot of the homepage

In October Mapwyr Cymru got a new website. The website has information about upcoming events, articles, tools, and more. The website is bilingual and is available in both Welsh and English. Stories are often posted on the blog before they are published here

You can visit the website at: https://mapwyr.cymru

Mapathon Gogledd Cymru

In October we held our first proper mapathon as a group at Canolfan Cefnfaes in Bethesda. 7 people joined in, ranging from new mappers to experienced mappers.

Diolch yn fawr i Bartneriaeth Ogwen for allowing us to use their space!

You can find a longer event recap on https://mapwyr.cymru/blog



Picture of mappers at work at Canolfan Cefnfaes in Bethesda

Our next event will take place in Llanfairfechan on the 23rd of November. Information is at the end of the newsletter. Croeso cynnes i chi i gyd! 💚

Nodiadau | Notes

Open notes at the beginning of October: 1,086
Open notes at the end of October: 1,055
Decrease: ↓31

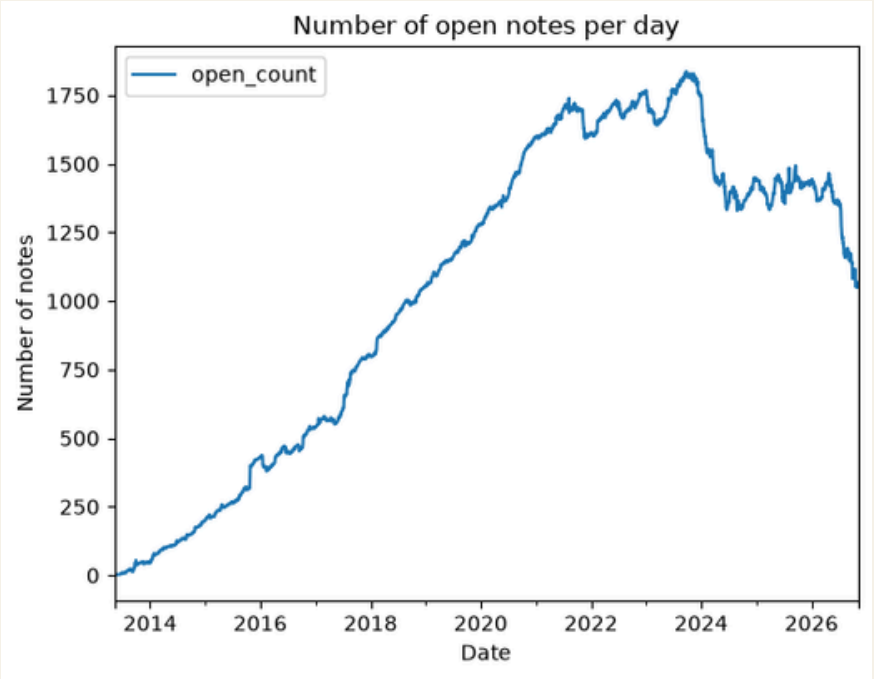
Despite the high number of created notes in October, the number of open notes decreased by 31. This is the 6th month in a row that the number of open notes at the start of the month has declined in Wales.

Churn stats

Notes opened: 277 (↑76.62%)
Notes closed: 308 (↑45.86%)
Notes from previous months closed: 104 (↑5.05%)

October saw a record number of notes opened, beating the record set in August earlier this year. It is also the month with the second highest amount of notes closed, only behind June earlier this year. Of the 277 notes opened, 73 remained open while 204 were closed by the end of October.

In general, especially following ***ceirios***' post on the forums about resolving notes, we've seen a drastic decline in the number of open notes. See the beautiful graph below:



Nodiadau | Notes

A total of 39 users opened notes in October (↑23.81%)
19 anonymous notes were opened (↓13.64%)
29 users helped resolve notes (↓7.94%)

As said earlier, this is the first time that the stats above have been compared to the previous 6 months rather than the previous month. Interestingly enough, the last 3 months (July-September) have been fairly high compared to the recent average with the number of users opening notes being stable at 38. This month, it increased to 39.

There was a modest reduction in the amount of anonymous notes opened, with only 19 opened compared to the average over the last 6 months of 22. Similarly the number of users who helped resolve notes went down from 31.5 to 29.

One user sticks out this month, ***AndrineV***. She only registered on 15 October, but managed to both open and close the most amount of notes in the month of October in her quest to fix Swansea. Llongyfarchiadau and well done! 🥳

Most active users

These are the most active users for notes in October. The changes are compared to their rank in September.

Opened most notes

Rank	User	Notes
1. ***NEW***	AndrineV	128
2. ↑12	ceirios	28
3. ↑11	TomBrandis	12
4. ***NEW***	Wholesphere	11
5. ↓2	TheUKHighStreet	9

Closed most notes

Rank	User	Notes
1. ***NEW***	AndrineV	80
2. ~	ceirios	56
3. ↓2	Preben Vangberg	45
4. ↑13	AllotmentCyclist	23
5. ↑21	dstansby	17

Newidiau | Changes

Number of changes: 502,269 (↑57.5%)
Number of changesets: 4,017 (↑37.5%)
Unique users: 312 (↑2.5%)

As with notes, this is the first time that the number of changesets and changes have been compared with the last 6 months rather than the last month. As a consequence the numbers are more stable than they used to be.

Despite this, the numbers in terms of changes and changesets are quite impressive this month, significantly outperforming the previous 6 months. It is the 9th busiest month ever in terms of changesets and 13th in terms of changes.

The number of changesets is elevated due to StreetComplete being released on iOS which has led to an increase in smaller changesets. All users in the top five are frequent SC users.

Most active users

These are the most active users for mapping changes in October. The changes are compared to their rank in September.

Most changesets

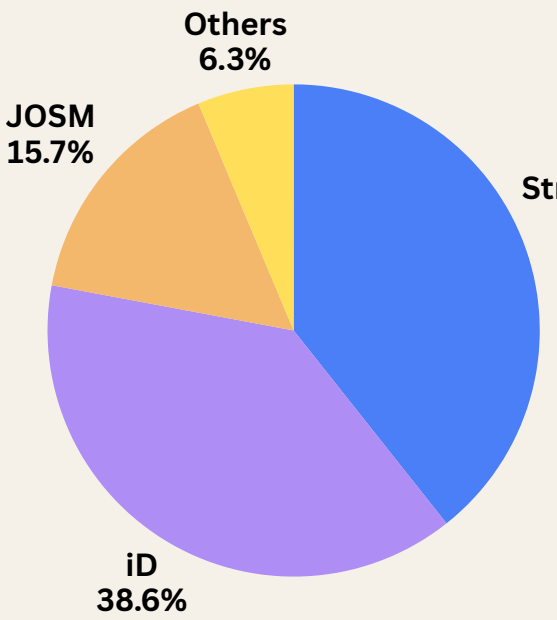
Rank	User	Changesets
1. ↑62	h0m54r	475
2. ↓1	ceirios	413
3. *NEW*	AndrineV	186
4. ↑13	Fgjgdrou	151
5. *NEW*	macoto_	143

Most changes

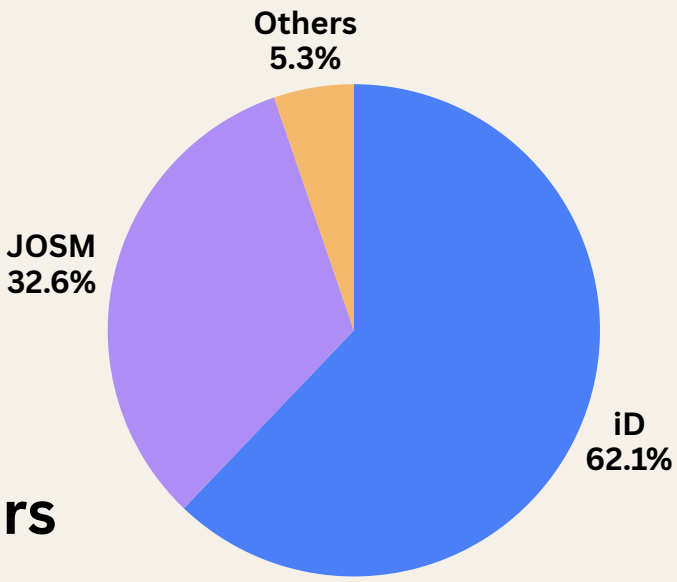
Rank	User	Changes
1. ~	ceirios	134,881
2. ↑53	mjr2295	57,970
3. ↑25	confusedbuffalo	50,159
4. ↓1	kitsee	37,312
5. ~	Beau Jonckers	35,139

Golygyddion | Editors

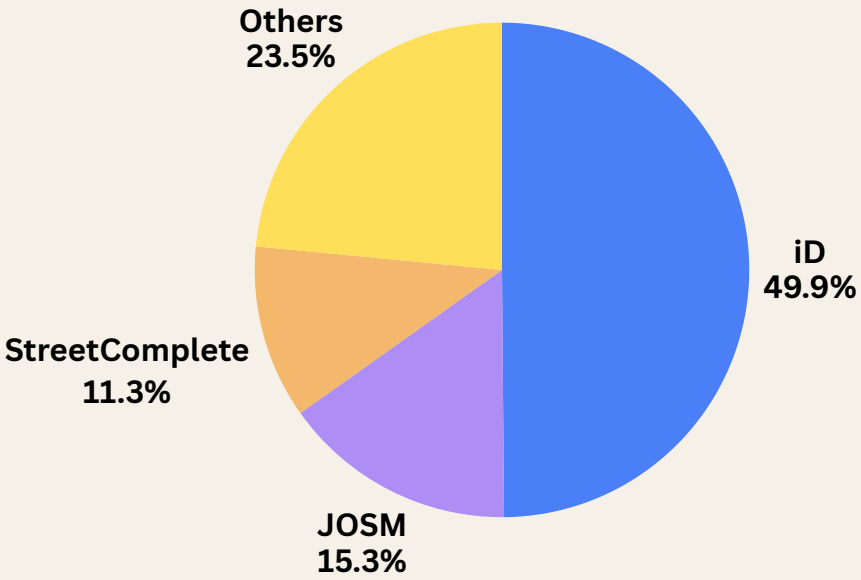
By changesets



By changes



By users



With the release of StreetComplete the number of changesets made using it has gone up drastically, making it surpass iD. Number of changes made using SC doubled compared to September and came in at 7,047. This is still far less than iD and JOSM. Bizarrely, the number of users also dipped slightly (47->43).

There is a lot that could be said about editors that I won't go into in this edition, but please let me know what types of stats you'd like to see in the future!

Defnyddwyr | Users

Users who made changes in Wales: 312 (↑2.5%)
Made their first edit in Wales: 100 (↑12.1%)
New users whose first edit was in Wales: 27 (↑28.6%)

June and August saw quite a high number of users (339 and 376) and users making their first edit in Wales (109 and 103). Despite the numbers this month being somewhat lower, it is still higher than the recent average and significantly better than September.

I'd love to do more research on retention of users. Over the preceding 6 months, 535 users made their first edits in Wales. Of these 32 (5.98%) made changes in October. 126 users made their very first edit in Wales, of these 8 (6.35%) made changes in October.

Given that I haven't calculated these stats for other months, it is hard to say whether these numbers are good or bad. OSM gets a lot of flyby contributions and, as a consequence, these numbers being low is to be expected

In the future I will work on a more stable metric for user retention. Maybe % of users that are still making edits at least 6 months later? Let me know on Discord if you have any ideas!

If you haven't joined our Discord yet, what are you waiting for? 🤔

Join today!

Cymraeg

Golygyddion

13.66% of changesets changesets that declare the locale used and were made in Wales during the month were made through the medium of Welsh. This is an increase from the previous month. StreetComplete, iD, and JOSM have all seen an increase in the number of changesets made through Welsh.

Golygyddion	Users	% of changesets using *cy*
iD	5 (↑2)	19.14% (↓1.21pp)
StreetComplete	2 (~)	11.71% (↑8.75pp)
JOSM	2 (↑2)	7.91% (*new)*

Prosiectau

The Mapwyr Cymru community has a lot of quality assurance (QA) mini-projects going on (e.g. road tagging consistency, missing name tags, etc), and several of these are about fixing Welsh language tags in Wales. If you want to be involved or know more please join the Discord server!

Y dyfodol

In the future I hope to feature more data on the number of Welsh language tags on the map, but this is a work in process. For example, in October, the number of *name:cy* tags has increased from 45,279 to 45,982 (↑1.55%) and *addr:street:cy* has increased from 316 to 986 (↑212%). Let me know what other stats you'd like to see in the future!

Is your house and street correctly mapped on OpenStreetMap?

JOIN OUR MAPATHON AT LLANFAIRFECHAN LIBRARY!

23 November, 6 pm

We're organising a free mapping event at the library, where we will show how to contribute to OpenStreetMap. Whether you have never mapped before or whether you are an experienced mapper, come along for an evening of mapping and fun!

← Scan to read more about the event

Our website→

Ydy eich tŷ a'ch stryd wedi'u mapio'n iawn ar OpenStreetMap?

YMUNWCH Â'N MAPATHON YN LLYFRGELL LLANFAIRFECHAN!

23 Tachwedd, 6 pm

Rydym ni'n trefnu digwyddiad mapio am ddim yn y llyfrgell, lle byddwn ni'n dangos sut i gyfrannu at OpenStreetMap. P'un a ydych chi wedi mapio o'r blaen neu os ydych chi'n fapwr profiadol, dewch draw am noson o fapio a hwyl!

← Sganiwch i ddarllen mwy am y digwyddiad

Ein gwefan →