



# Halkyn Mountain News

Issue 171 - December 2017

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With the nights drawing in here is an atmospheric, evening view of Bellis pond, Rhosesmor, taken by Robin.

## Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema

Time flies when you're having fun! Our audiences have been enjoying films on the big screen at Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema for three years now.

We show a film every other month at our regular venue, Halkyn Parish Hall. In September, mountain residents were treated to the film 'Their Finest', showing to a full house. We had a double-header in November: 'Despicable Me 3' for the young (and young at heart - tickets for this film were just £1 each!), and 'Hidden Figures', for those that are more likely to remember the space race.

Our small band of volunteers will be presenting the next film on Sat, 13th January (check out our website and social media for details). Tickets will be going on sale early in the new year - you can pick them up from the Blue Bell Inn, Halkyn library (in the Parish Hall) or online via the community cinema website.

Come along and see the film on our huge 183 inch screen, and enjoy top quality surround sound. Tickets are only £4 in advance (or £5 on the door) and all income goes towards covering our costs (film licence fees, venue hire, insurance etc).

If you want to keep in touch with what's on the big screen in Halkyn, take a look at our website and subscribe to our mailing list, or follow us on facebook and twitter.

[www.mountaincinema.org.uk](http://www.mountaincinema.org.uk)

<http://www.facebook.com/halkynmountaincinema>

<http://www.twitter.com/mountaincinema>

We hope to see you at Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema soon!

*Rob Hughes*  
Secretary - Halkyn Mountain  
Community Cinema Committee

Issue 172 should be out in March 2018; **please submit items by February 1st.**  
You can send items to [hmnews@btinternet.com](mailto:hmnews@btinternet.com)  
or hand them in to the Blue Bell Inn, Halkyn.  
If you have any questions you can call Jack McIntyre on 01352 780377

## Editorial

Following our appeal for new volunteers, we are delighted to welcome Irene and Ken Layhe from Brynford to the "Editorial Team". This will now allow Peter Lynas to retire. Although Peter expressed a wish to retire some time ago, he has kindly continued until we were able to fill his shoes. We would like to express our appreciation to Peter for his valuable and substantial contribution since the current team took over the reins from Pat and Eirwen McDermott.

We have also received offers of help from new volunteer deliverers which are very much appreciated. We would like to thank all our volunteers new, existing and those who have recently retired.

As always, new volunteers to join the Editorial Team and the Delivery Team are always welcome.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

### The Editorial Team

## Blue Bell Walks

We celebrated the end of six months of Summer Evening Walks with a buffet at the Blue Bell. Thanks were expressed to all Walk Leaders for their continued enthusiasm and delivering an appreciated variety of walks suitable for all abilities.

Walkers appreciate the continued support of the new landlord Gary. All have expressed a warm welcome to him and his family and wish them every success and happiness.

A number of walkers have formed teams to compete in the interesting, challenging and friendly Wednesday evening quiz.

Best wishes to all walkers for Christmas and the New Year - keep healthy, keep happy and keep walking.

The annual New Year Resolution Walk, suitable for all ages and abilities, will take place on Thursday 4th January at 2pm.

John and Vicky Thomas

**The Halkyn Mountain News does not accept responsibility for, nor necessarily agree with, any of the views expressed, statements or claims made in articles or advertisements produced.**

**The Halkyn Mountain News will be available to read or download from the Halkyn Council & Community Website - [halkyn.org.uk](http://halkyn.org.uk)**

**The sender of any article and/or pictures that they do not want to appear on the website must tell the editors when submitting the article and it will be removed from the website version.**

## Remembrance

A local resident has requested that a garden of Remembrance be made in the Rhosesmor Churchyard. Another resident who has knowledge of garden design has offered her services.

A plot has been prepared and it is believed that local people and those beyond the parish who have relatives could contribute ideas to the development. The planting of bulbs and positioning of plants will be with low maintenance in mind.

To this end an invitation is extended to anyone who is interested to attend an on-site meeting on Saturdays 9th and 16th of December at 1pm, Sundays 10th and 17th December at 11am.

During December there will be a box in the Church porch for ideas and for offers of bulbs, plants or cuttings. Please leave contact details.

Thank you, John Thomas

## Santa's Float

The Flint and Holywell Rotary Club Float will be visiting our area as follows:

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

- Pentre Halkyn shop - 6.50pm
- Brynford School - 7.10pm
- Brynford Cross - 7.25.

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

- Halkyn P.O. - 6.00pm
- Rhosesmor Park - 6.20pm
- Rhes y Cae, Miners Arms - 6.40pm.

Come out & meet Santa at the designated stops. There will be street collections in the vicinity of the Float.

See [www.flintandholywellrotary.org](http://www.flintandholywellrotary.org) or Facebook for details of other stops.



## Advance Warning

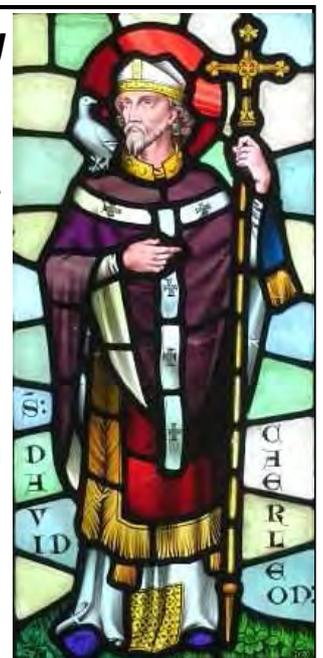
An evening to celebrate **St David's Day** at the Parish Hall Halkyn Thursday March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm.

To include Food, Music, Story Telling and Laughter

Bring your own alcoholic, soft drinks and glasses

Tickets £10 in aid of Parish Hall and Wales Air Ambulance.

Wendy Sigsworth  
01352 780394



## **Graziers News**

As you will all know by now D.P.Williams has sold his quarry to a company called CCP. We believe this is a Cheshire based company who operate a number of quarries in Cheshire and Lancashire. We will make contact with them soon, initially to ensure that they will hold regular liaison meetings so that we know what is happening, and are able to put forward our points of view.

PONT are holding an open day on Anglesey during November, where they will be using a Ryetec flail to cut gorse and scrub. The cuttings are being used by farmers as animal bedding and a visit to one of these farms is included in the open day.

Chester Zoo has made an offer of a further £3,000 for next year so we can continue the work we are currently doing on the common. The offer has been gratefully accepted.

The bid for funding from the RDP Sustainable Management Scheme has been completed and submitted.

If accepted this will give us funding for five cattle grids, further work on the common (ie gorse cutting, bracken rolling, etc). There will also be an exercise to engage local people to make them aware of the importance of the common and be pro-active in tackling inappropriate behaviour in order to keep the common in good condition and reduce the impact on the ability of farm businesses to graze.

*Halkyn Graziers & Commoners Association*

## **Halkyn WI**

Christmas time once more. This year at our December 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:15pm meeting, one of our own crafty members is demonstrating Christmas table decorations that we all could make. There will be Christmas refreshments to follow.

Unfortunately, we are saying au revoir to Christine Harris who is moving to Llandudno. She will be missed, especially by her fellow committee members.

As usual the end of the year has been busy with trips out for afternoon tea, shopping at Tweedmill and enjoying lunch and Christmas decorations at Gordale garden centre. Our Christmas Lunch this year is December 14<sup>th</sup> at The White House, Rhualt.

Our New Year Meetings, held as normal at Halkyn Library are:

January 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2:15pm - Subject; Cooking Demo

February 1<sup>st</sup> @ 2:15pm - Subject; Dyffryn Foot Care

March 1<sup>st</sup> @ 2:15pm - Speaker; Kay Millward,

Cornish myths and legends.

May I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Contact: Reta Wainwright 01352 780829

## **Grosvenor Estate Update**

As reported in the Spring edition of Halkyn Mountain News, the former primary school building in Rhes-y-Cae was put on the market earlier this year. The decision to sell the property came after no community use was identified, and the sale to a private owner has now been completed. Proceeds from the sale will be ring-fenced to support local projects on Halkyn Common.

We're always pleased to see people enjoying the Common, but equally want all who use the land to do so safely and with respect for others. The area is very popular with dog walkers, and it is clear to see why. Unfortunately, however, we've had recent reports of excessive dog fouling and dogs running across the Common. We would like to kindly remind dog owners to clean up any mess and keep dogs under close control at all times, as is set out in the Halkyn Mountain Common Code and Countryside Code.

Another recurring problem that has come to our attention of late is the illegal use of motorcycles and 4x4 vehicles in parts of the Common. The irresponsible behavior of a minority is having a negative impact on others who use the land for leisure or farming purposes, and is putting the unique and special environment of the Common at risk. Please report any sightings of illegal behavior to the Grosvenor Estate by phoning 01244 684400 or emailing us through [www.eatonestate.co.uk/](http://www.eatonestate.co.uk/) contact-us

As part of our ongoing management of Halkyn Common and commitment to the safety of all users, we will be completing some tree works over the coming weeks due to tree disease being identified in some trees in the village of Rhes-y-Cae on the green near the Village Hall and chapel. The works will include the felling of a few trees but mainly pruning of damaged limbs on others. This is to ensure the safety of people and vehicles crossing the green, in line with industry standards in tree risk safety management.

With Christmas around the corner, we would like to wish all the readers of Halkyn Mountain News the very best for the festive period from all of us at Grosvenor Estate.

## **Rhosesmor W.I.**

Our members meet in Rhosesmor Village Hall on the second Monday of each month at 7.15pm.

The following is our program for the next three months: December 11<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating Christmas with a party, Secret Santa and carols.

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 will be our crochet, knit and natter evening.

January 16<sup>th</sup> we will be going to the Crown, Lixwm for a belated Christmas lunch.

February 12<sup>th</sup> our Treasurer, Mrs Win Garroch, will tell us about her recent travels in Russia.

Your contact is Mrs. Mary North on 01352 780660 if any lady would like to join us.

## Halkyn Mountain Ranger

The all new Halkyn Mountain DVD is now available to buy. You can order your copy from Rachael Watson at Wepre Park Visitor Centre, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay, CH5 4HL.

The DVD's are priced at £5 each plus £1 P&P.

Alternatively you can pop into the Visitor Centre at Wepre Park and pick up your copy and save on the postage.

The DVD contains all the films created as part of the Lead & Lime Heritage Lottery and Aggregates Levy projects, including Victorian Halkyn – Life in a Lead-Mining Community, starring over 40 members of the local community.

*Please note that these films are available to view for free at [www.halkynmountain.co.uk](http://www.halkynmountain.co.uk) or on the Halkyn Mountain channel on YouTube.*

On a more disappointing note, I was contacted by a local resident back in November last year, who informed me that the stone sides had been stolen from the lead knocking stone located on the common between Rhes y Cae and the Billins. Now I don't claim to know a huge amount of detailed information about the common's industrial heritage, so I'll let Nick Carter from the Grosvenor Caving Club, who is a veritable mine (get it!) of information, tell you a bit more about this stone and what it was used for and some other interesting facts about the common's colourful industrial history.

*Rachael Watson  
Halkyn Mountain Common Ranger*

The knocking or crushing stone was originally found and uncovered by local stonemason, Gwyn Davies, several years ago. It was the only known intact example in the area.



Lead knocking stone before theft

During a walk last year on the mountain, I was saddened to see that it had been destroyed.



Lead knocking stone after theft

We're very lucky to have so many surviving sites and artefacts left over from these mines. Many have fallen victim to the bulldozer and the archaeological evidence and remains of this once mighty industry are now lost forever. It's such a shame to see another possibly unique piece of our history unnecessarily pillaged.

The vein stuff raised from below ground consisted of different minerals, most common of which were Galena (lead ore) Sphalerite (zinc ore) and Calcite (white crystalline material often used as the chippings for pebbledash).

Long before the days of large processing mills such as those once seen at Pen-y-Bryn and Lewis's, this mineral matrix was broken down manually on flat stones, like the one pictured, with either short handled stamping hammers or a simple stone maul (small boulder). The bigger lumps could be sorted by hand and the remainder was crushed until it was fine enough to separate using the water of a nearby man-made pond in a similar way to how gold is "panned". As the fine grits were agitated in the water, the lighter particles were left at the top and could be skimmed off and dumped while the heavier galena, which settled at the bottom, could be recovered and sold on to the smelters ready to be turned into lead. Sulphur and small quantities of silver were also amongst the by-products. This washing process was called Jigging.

The two smooth hollows in the "Halkyn Marble" base stone indicate that two people would have worked here, knelt side by side. These people could have been family of the miners working below, possibly their wives or children. The sides or kerbs around the base, which have now been dug out and stolen, were there to aid the shovelling up of the crushed material. This was an old method of ore separation. Many mines used water-powered stamping mills as time went on but the lack of running water on the mountain meant that these "old ways" may have been practised a lot later here than in other areas.

Whether the sphalerite was a valuable commodity in those days is debatable. Another zinc ore found in the mines was calamine (or smithsonite), this, although less abundant, was a far superior material for the brass making industry.

It is well documented that when hot-dip galvanising of iron and steel for rust protection became big business, most mine spoil tips and even some local roads (which at the time were tracks covered in mine waste) were dug up and re-worked to recover the now valuable sphalerite to produce the zinc needed. Many tips were worked over and over again as industrial and chemical discoveries found uses for what was once considered waste or "gangue" material, flourite and barytes are examples. These spoil tips or tailings consist of the fine light coloured gritty sand, mainly calcite while the rock piles (limestone, cherts and shales) are the product of the shaft sinking to reach the mineral veins.

*Nick Carter  
Grosvenor Caving Club*



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR 2018

### Industrial Heritage Guided Walk

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm

Discover the spectacular countryside of Halkyn and its fascinating industrial history with the ranger.

Meeting point provided when booking place.

Booking essential – Wepre Park 01352 703900.

### Wildflower Guided Walk

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 1pm

Join the Ranger and Flintshire's County Ecologist for a walk, where you will learn about the mountain's ecology.

Meeting point provided when booking place.

Booking essential – Wepre Park 01352 703900.

### Halkyn Quarry Tour

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm

A fantastic opportunity to visit the heart of a working limestone quarry, courtesy of Cemex.

Wear sturdy footwear or wellies if wet.

A very popular event so book early!

Booking essential – Wepre Park 01352 703900.

### Children's Pond Dip

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> August at 1.30pm

Join the ranger to see what creatures live in one of the mountain ponds.

Wear wellies. Dipping equipment will be provided.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Booking essential – Wepre Park 01352 703900.

### HALKYN PARISH HALL BINGO

Doors Open at 7.10pm

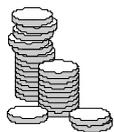
*Come along and have some fun*

*A night of Bingo for everyone*



*Light refreshments served to you*

*Cash pay outs and a raffle too*



*Halkyn Parish Hall is where it's at*

*On Wednesday night and every other after*

*December 6th & 20th and so on with me.*

*So come along. Eyes down. A fun night you'll see.*

## Halkyn Parish Hall

### Private Functions and Meetings

The hall is available for private functions including weddings, christenings, birthday parties, etc.

Bar and catering facilities can be arranged.

**For more information ring the new caretaker  
Colin Roberts 01352 781762**

## Weekly Diary

### Monday

Yoga

6:30 - 8:00 pm.

Contact Jenny 01352 780681

### Tuesday

Baby & Toddler Group 9:30 to 11:00 am

Zumba

6.00 - 7.00 pm.

Contact: zumbawithvix@gmail.com

Snooker Club

7:30 pm.

(New members welcome)

Contact Andy Wood 780159)

**The Snooker Table is also available for hire  
Contact Colin Roberts 01352 781762**

### Wednesday

Modern Line Dancing 12:45 - 14:45 pm.

Contact Julie on 07712149439

Bingo (every other Wednesday) 7.30 pm.

(For more information on the Bingo call:

Carolyn on 01352 781765)

### Thursday

Halkyn W.I.

7.15 pm April to Oct

2:15 pm Nov. to March

Halkyn Mountain Quilters

7.00 - 9.00pm on the first

and third Thursday of the month

until next March, when the day will change.

### Friday

Post Office

2.30 - 4.30 pm

Library

1:30 - 7:00 pm.

Halkyn Brownies

6:00 - 7:00 pm.

(Term time only)

Contact Karen 716027

### Weekend

Halkyn Mountain Cinema

**Saturday 13th January**

See item in HMN for contact details.

Heartfelt Art & Craft 2018 10 am - 3:00 pm.

**Saturday 14th April & 23rd June**

(Contact: Sue Thomas on 01352 781088)

or email: heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk

## County Councillor

As I was preparing to write a few notes for the Halkyn Mountain News I was dismayed to realise that much of what I wanted to say had already been referred to in the autumn issue. The same problems have not been resolved.

One of the items should have been completed satisfactorily by now, that is street lighting, or more accurately absence of street lighting. Both Phillip Parry, our most efficient and painstaking Clerk to the Community Council, and myself have been making strenuous efforts for over six months to ensure that lights are functioning properly. I believe Phillip writing about this subject more fully, but it really is an incredible and complicated situation. The principal flaw is that there is a kind of dual interest, Scottish Power erects the light poles and fittings and the County Council provides the lamp (I think!). We have phoned, or sent emails almost every week to County Hall. I even broke protocol at the most recent Environment Scrutiny Committee (including Street Scene) by presenting Halkyn Mountain's case (at committee meetings in County Hall only matters affecting the whole county should be discussed). After the meeting I was assured that the matter would be dealt with within the week and truly expected to be able to write in this issue that every lamp was working properly. Sadly, this is not the case although hopefully it will be soon. It will cost the Community Council a sizeable sum of money but will ensure that the community will have the benefit of efficient street lighting.

A regular item in past issues of this journal has been road safety and speed restrictions. Following a recent countywide survey of all roads there will at last be essential speed restrictions put in place, including a 30 mph limit through Rhes y Cae. Some people will still speed irresponsibly past play area in Rhosesmor and past Ysgol Rhos Helyg, but they will only have themselves to blame if they are caught on speed cameras. Most motorists in our community do observe road signs, it is mainly drivers from other areas, passing through, who regard Halkyn Mountain as a practice area for the Monte Carlo rally. However, some parents of Rhos Helyg pupils have been noticed breaking the speed limit.

Some time ago, youngsters from outside this area managed to break the very sturdy gate to the bus shelter in Rhes y Cae. The gate was installed to prevent sheep from using the shelter for their own comfort. A very public spirited citizen, Mr. Trefor Hollingsworth, has had the gate repaired and painted it; and made it even more attractive with the addition of metal silhouettes of Y Ddraig Goch and a pithead gear. Many thanks to you Trefor, for this generous act.

As most readers probably know, Flintshire's County Council is facing a deficit of at least £11 million, possibly more. There have been many cutbacks and redundancies already but we fear there will be even more in the months ahead. Theatr Clwyd's future is in question. It would be very sad if that centre of culture and relaxation had to close; and a great loss not only to Flintshire but to all of north Wales. One obvious solution is to raise taxes, but only in proportion.

Although it is a trifle premature, I wish everyone a pleasant and contented Christmas and a better and more prosperous New Year.

### Important postscript

I have received a letter from the Post Office, the information below was extracted from their lengthy letter. The Post Office is proposing to provide the following Hosted, Outreach services:

In Halkyn Village Hall (CH8 8BU)

proposed opening hours - Friday, 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

In Pentre Halkyn Community Centre (CH8 8JE)

proposed opening hours - Tuesday, 9.30am - 11.30am.

Local consultation on this proposal started 2<sup>nd</sup> November and ends 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

You can make your views and comments known:

Online at [postofficeviews.co.uk](http://postofficeviews.co.uk)

By email to [comments@postoffice.co.uk](mailto:comments@postoffice.co.uk)

By phone to Customer Helpline 03452 660115

By texting to 03457 22 33 55

Or Freepost your comments

I urge all those who are keen to see a postal service restored in Halkyn or Pentre Halkyn to make contact by any of the means above; and even those who do not use the service very often to support these proposals for the sake of pensioners and others who have difficulty getting to Mold or Holywell.

With kind regards,

Colin Legg

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*In addition to Colin's postscript we have been informed that, at the time of preparing this edition for the printer, Post Office outreach services were to be available at Halkyn Parish Hall, from 17<sup>th</sup> November on Friday from 2.30 to 4.30pm.*

*The following has been taken from Post Office's website (Eds)*

Everyone should be able to access our products and services but it isn't always possible to have a traditional Post Office in every single town or village. That's where our outreach services come in. In addition to running their own branch, our sub-postmasters can travel to nearby communities to provide and oversee Post Office services. You can use the Budget Card for: car tax, and other vehicle tax, gas, electricity and telephone bills, council tax and council rent payments, catalogue payments, TV rental, Post Office Home phone & Broadband, Post Office Travel insurance, Post Office Credit cards and One4all™ gift cards. You won't be able to use it for Travel money, Travellers cheques, Postal orders or MoneyGram®, where there is no permanent Post Office branch.

*Also, we have heard that a buyer has been found for the shop in Pentre Halkyn and it has been suggested that the new owner might be able to have the local Post Office re-instated there. The loss of the last shop on the mountain would have had a big impact on many residents and we would like to thank Marilyn and Norman Shuell and their staff for the excellent service they have provided over the years and wish them well for the future. (Eds)*

## **Brynford Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Brynffordd**

### **Brynford Heritage and I Beacon Project**

The above project is continuing to be developed. The Council appointed development consultant, Lorna Jenner, is working in partnership with the children of Brynford C.P. School.

The draft heritage interpretation panels will include designs being created by the school children. Two of the 10 'I beacon' locations have been developed and are being piloted, these being St. Michael's Church and Brynford Village Green. It is hoped that an official launch of all 10 sites will be held in April 2018. Further information on how to access these sites will be provided near the time.

### **Best Kept Communities Project 2018**

The Council will be entering the above competition again next year and is very grateful to all those residents who participated in this year's event. Brynford C.P. School was again highly commended for the effort and work that pupils had given to developing their school grounds.

### **Brynford Summer Play Scheme**

The Council, working in partnership with Flintshire County Council, provided a summer play scheme from 24<sup>th</sup> July – 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2017, Monday to Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm at Brynford C.P. School. The scheme was open access for children aged 5 - 12 years of age.

The Council has been informed that this year's attendance figures have increased compared to last years and that the scheme was a great success.

### **Highway Maintenance**

The Council has reported on the condition of the pedestrian footpath from Brynford Crossroads to The Wendy House and that Brynford Village Road suffers from surface water flooding during heavy bouts of rainfall.

The Highways Department, Flintshire County Council has advised that the footpath has been included in its resurfacing programme and that work was ongoing to clean and repair road surface water gullies in the area.

### **Children's Play Area Brynford**

The Council has been invited by Flintshire County Council to participate in match funding improvements to children's play areas. The Council has agreed to provide up to £5,000.00 for improvements to the play area this year.

*Alan Roberts*

*Crecas Cottage, Carmel Hill,*

*Pantasaph, Nr. Holywell,*

*Flintshire, CH8 8NZ*

*Tel. No: 01352 349849*

*clerk@brynfordcommunitycouncil.gov.uk*

# **RHOESMOR MEMORIES DAY**

### **New Facebook page 'Rhosemor History'**

Many of you are familiar with the Memories Days we have been running monthly in Rhosesmor. During these enjoyable meetings, accompanied by a delicious and free afternoon tea, we have acquired a mass of photographs of bygone days in our village. We hope to use the photos to make a variety of booklets about life in Rhosesmor in the past. To achieve this we need your stories to go with the photos. The booklets will be available on our Heritage Day on June 9<sup>th</sup> in Rhos Helyg School.

You will find the photos posted on the new Facebook page – Rhosesmor History. If you don't do Facebook and would like to be put on the e-mail list to receive the photos, for comment, then please e-mail with the subject **Rhosesmor History**, or your own photos with comments, to [lfearnhead@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lfearnhead@hotmail.co.uk)

For the foreseeable future the Memories Days are postponed until we gather enough comments and stories to draft our booklets. A very special thank you goes to those who have contributed their photos and to Rhosesmor's 'Cooks and Bottlewashers' who provided the most scrumptious afternoon teas.

## **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**

OWL Cymru Neighbourhood Watch Scheme welcomed all in Rhosesmor and surrounding area to a fun packed day in September. In the morning activities were aimed at families, including encounters with Sheriff Hug, Y Ddraig Melyn, Billy Burglar and a mass of activities and ideas to help crime prevention. Paws on Patrol encouraged dog walkers to join in the Neighbourhood Watch team and youngsters were invited to design their own local Superhero or take selfies in the jail! In the afternoon the team met with the Rhosesmor Memories group, focusing on crime prevention and protection of the elderly in their homes. Crime Buster tombola accompanied the bacon baps, cakes, tea and coffee, warmly presented by Rhosesmor's own Cooks and Bottlewashers. If you wish to know more about OWL Cymru visit them on



Facebook where you will be amazed at the energy of the team dedicate to keeping us safe.

See panel on page 10.



# Halkyn Community Council

## Rhosesmor Play Area

Some four years ago the Rhosesmor play area was updated with new equipment to the value of £20,000. This was financed with the Halkyn Community Council paying £10,000 and Flintshire County Council, funding the remaining £10,000. However, complaints have been received by the Council from residents as follows: (1) the gate ways to the play area can easily be opened by small children (2) concern in relation to the gate adjacent to the main road (3) condition in relation to the child swings, the safety flooring, including the slide being in a filthy condition (4) Further play area equipment is required, especially for toddlers. The Health & Safety concerns were rectified by Flintshire County Council in a timely manner. In relation to the older items of equipment, the Community Council have agreed further financial assistance, to be included for the financial year 2018. Other play areas within the Community will also be inspected (Halkyn, Pentre Halkyn and Rhes y Cae), to ascertain if further equipment is required. Please see Public Notice below, in relation to the Rhosesmor play area gate - adjacent to the B5123 road.

## New Bus Shelter in the Windmill

The planned bus shelter in The Windmill has been a 'continuous saga' for well over a year. Unfortunately, the project has suffered a number of setbacks. Firstly, the original agreed site was objected to - which would have resulted in just permissions from the Grosvenor Estate and Flintshire County Council. The second site (directly across the road from the first site), also required a 'Method Statement' together with a 'Habitats Risk Assessment'. Natural Resources Wales have recently agreed the following: 'Assent by the Natural Resources Body for Wales ("Natural Resources Wales") To carry out operations identified in a Notice dated 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 under Section 28H of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended. (Designated Sites: Comin Helygain A Glaswelltiroedd Treffynnon/Halkyn Common and Holywell Grasslands – Site of Special Scientific Interest Halkyn Mountain/Mynydd Helygain – Special Area of Conservation'. The bus shelter is now awaiting delivery and installation – hopefully in November! The bus shelter has been financed jointly by the Community Council and the Grosvenor Estate.

## Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions have been received from Flintshire County Council:

Application number 057049 – Siting of 6 static caravans and associated development, at Glasdir View, The Nant. Approved.

Application number: 057061 – erection of living room and bedroom extension, at Erw Mau, Wern y Gaer, Rhosesmor. Approved.

Application number: 057094 – loft conversion to create two bedrooms etc. at Delanfor, Pentre Road, Halkyn. Approved.

Application number: 056322 – variation of condition no 1 attached to planning permission Ref 049756, to allow changes to layout, at Fron Farm, Rhes y Cae Road, Hendre. Approved.

Application number: 057187 – erection of rear extension and extension to first floor, at High Bank, Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.

Application number: 057022 – for lawful development certificate, at 6, Bryn y Gwynt, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.

Application number: 056675 – for erection of an extension, at 20, Cae'r Ffynnon, Rhosesmor. Approved.

Application number: 056903, for single storey extension (orangery), at Cupola Cottage, Halkyn. Approved.

Application number: 056969 – for a lawful development certificate, at Nant Farm Barn, The Nant. Agreed.

Application number: 056904 – ground floor extension, at Lindfield, Rhosesmor. Approved.

Application number: 056966, for erection of two-storey extension and single storey rear extension, at Swallowdale, The Nant. Approved.

Application number: 057116 – for proposed ground and first floor extensions, at Moel y Crio Cottage, Foel Farm, Moel y Crio. Approved.

Application number: 057249 – for application for non-material amendment to planning permission Ref 054777, at 1 Halkyn Hall Estate, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.

## Community Street Lighting - Reporting Faults:

As winter and possible adverse weather approaches, it is the time when many of the street lights become faulty. I take this opportunity to remind residents, as to which street lights belong to the Community Council, and which belong to the Flintshire County Council. The Community Council owned street lights are generally the ones on the main roadsides, which are spaced quite far apart. Please report any faults to a Community Councillor, or myself - contact details as below. The street lights situated on the roads of the various housing estates, are administered and repaired by the Flintshire County Council. To report a fault of one of these street lights, please call 01352 701234, or complete an enquiry form on the [www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk) web site.

## Faulty Street Lights – Outstanding repairs:

Residents will be aware that there are a considerable number of faulty street lights, which have been outstanding for many months. A number of these lights are in the villages of Rhes y Cae and Moel y Crio. Others are in The Wern and The Catch area of Halkyn. There are two main reasons for the delay in repair: (1) underground faults which require Scottish Power engineers and (2) the replacement of a number of electricity poles, which also house a street lantern. These lanterns were not placed back on the new poles which have been erected by Scottish Power contractors – as they were apparently 'old models' and not covered by European rules. At the time of writing this report, all lamps have been repaired/replaced, with the exception of the Moel y Crio lights – which are inaccessible from the roadside. The Community Council is awaiting a quotation from Flintshire street lighting department, to hire a specialist vehicle to attend to the repairs.

# H.C.C. Public Notices

## (1) Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Flintshire

Halkyn Community Council provided evidence to a consultation in relation to the above named 'Public Spaces Protection Order' The Halkyn Council listed areas whereby they wished the Order to cover. The Order, in brief, is outlined as follows:

### The Dog Control and Dog Fouling Public Space Protection Order will require dog walkers to:

- Remove dog waste immediately from the ground at all public locations.
- Put their dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer. This only applies to any public land where a dog is considered to be out of control or causing alarm and distress.
- Keep dogs on leads within cemeteries.
- Have a means on their person to collect dog waste from the ground if asked by an authorised officer.

### Dogs are also excluded from entering:

- Equipped children's play areas
- The playing area of specific sporting or recreational facilities
- School Grounds
- The playing areas of marked sports pitches

Dogs will be able to be exercised in areas surrounding the marked sports pitches. There is not a blanket ban on dogs in areas with marked sports pitches. The Order is effective from Friday the 20th October 2017.

Information and maps of affected areas will be available via the Flintshire website [www.flintshire.gov.uk/psporeults](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/psporeults)

**Breach of any of the above conditions, will result in the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice of £75.**

## (2) Proposed Closing of Gate to Rhosesmor Play Area – Adjacent to the B5123 Road

Following observations from residents, together with two Rhosesmor Community Councillors, the Council has asked Flintshire County Council to provisionally consider permanently closing the gate to the Rhosesmor Play area which is adjacent to the B5123 road and bus shelter (as per photograph). The Community Council is advised, that this particular gate is rarely used, with the gate on Northop Road, being the preferred entry and exit route. Closure of this gate would also create a safer environment for the users of the play area.



Before the Community Council formally seek the approval of Flintshire County Council, to the closure of this gate, the Council Members wish to seek the views from the users of the play area – as to whether or not the gate should be permanently closed. Please either contact the Clerk to the Council by e-mail or telephone (as below) or contact one of the Rhosesmor Community Councillors to express your views.

Phillip Parry,  
Clerk to Halkyn Community Council  
Tel: 01352 720547  
E-mail: [halkyn.council@btinternet.com](mailto:halkyn.council@btinternet.com)  
[www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk)

## **New Year Resolutions: 21 Day Mythical Habits**

If you are planning on making a health related 'New Year Resolution' you may be thinking that if you can just make it through the first 21 days then you will be ok. You are not alone in believing that by performing a task for 21 days in a row it will become a habit. Unfortunately, this is not true.

The 21-day myth arises from a misinterpretation of Dr Maxwell Maltz's work in the 1950's. He was a plastic surgeon who observed that it took his patients around 21 days to adjust to their new situation, be it a nose job or an amputated limb. In 1960 Dr Maltz published a book titled "Psycho Cybernetics" and in his book he refers to 21 days being the minimum required to dissolve an old mental image and for a new one to form. This is not the same as categorically stating that it takes 21 days to form a new habit.

Over time the word "minimum" got lost, as did the fact that Dr Maltz was making an observation and not a statement of fact. It is easy to see why the 21-day myth would spread – a time frame that is short enough to be achievable and long enough to be believable. And people so desperately want it to be true.

How long it will take for your New Year Resolution to embed in your life will very much depend on where in the scale of simplicity the task sits and how resolute you are as an individual. In 2009 researchers at the University College of London (UCL) found it took anywhere between 18 and 254 days to form a new habit, dependant on the task and the individual. Apparently, resolving to drinking a glass of water after breakfast is much easier than doing 50 sit-ups after morning coffee.

When you get to day 21 and your new healthy action is not yet a HABIT, don't give up! Persevere and you will get there. The good news is that the UCL research also found that missing a day did not reduce the chance of forming a habit.

*Sue Bethell, BSc (Hons) Nutrition  
Registered Exercise Professional  
01352 780 379 / 07923 019 999*

## Capel Bethel y Nant

Do join us at 2.30 for Sunday Services

December	3rd	Angela Bebbington	E
	10th	Maureen Roberts	E
	17th	Carol Service at 2.00pm	
	24th	No Service	
	31st	No Service	

January No Services this month

February	4th	Goronwy Ellis	W
	11th	Delyth McIntyre	E
	18th	Own arrangement	
	25th	Glyn Thomas	W

*Capel Bethyl y Nant*  
*Gwasanaeth Carolau Carol Service*  
*Bilingual*  
*Rhag 17 Dec 2.00pm*  
*Paned a mins pei*

**CROESO CYNNES I BAWB!**  
**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL!**

## Capel Salem, Pentre Halkyn

Services at 2pm.

C = Communion, W = Welsh, E = English

December	3rd	Mr. Goronwy Ellis	C W
	10th	Miss Angela Bebbington	E
	17th	Christmas Service Bilingual - Mr Bryan Jones	
	24th	Rev. Jennifer Hurd	W
	31st	No Service	

January	7th	Rev. Marc Morgan	C W
	14th	No Service	
	21st	Mrs. Delyth McIntyre	E
	28th	No Service	

February	4th	No Service	
	12th	Rev. Marc Morgan	W
	19th	No Service	
	26th	Rev. Hugh Burgess	E

## More about OWL



### Flintshire & Wrexham Online Watch Link

We are a Crime Prevention Charity established 1987 that is independent of the Police, but supportive to the Police & Crime Commissioner crime plan

#### You can register for OWL crime bulletins.

It is free and easy. Visit [www.owl.co.uk](http://www.owl.co.uk) to self register or contact us if you need assistance

Could you please take 5 minutes to vote for our project '**Neighbours Together**' to have a chance for funding from Aviva Community Fund to help support our older residents.

You will need to register to be able to vote.

Vote for us now at:

<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-3404>

We thank those who have voted already and thank you in anticipation that you will vote for us.

From all at the OWL Cymru team

## Cynfaen Memorial Chapel, Calcoed

Afternoon services only at 2.30 pm  
in Welsh (W) and English (E) alternately.

(C) Denotes Communion Service.

December	3 <sup>rd</sup>	(E) Own arrangement
	10 <sup>th</sup>	(W) Parch Marc Morgan (C)
	17 <sup>th</sup>	Bi-lingual Carol Service 3.00pm
	24 <sup>th</sup>	No Service
	31 <sup>st</sup>	No Service

January	7 <sup>th</sup>	(E) To be arranged
	14 <sup>th</sup>	(W) Parch Marc Morgan
	21 <sup>st</sup>	(E) To be arranged
	29 <sup>th</sup>	(W) Parch Marc Morgan

February	4 <sup>th</sup>	(E) To be arranged
	11 <sup>th</sup>	(W) To be arranged
	18 <sup>th</sup>	(E) Rev. Marc Morgan
	25 <sup>th</sup>	(W) Mrs. Maryl Rees

*A very warm welcome to all of our services.*  
*Croeso cynnes i bawb.*



# Halkyn Mountain Parishes Service Times

The table below shows the normal service times in each church during term time.  
But please see the notes below the table.

Every Month	First Sunday	Second Sunday	Third Sunday	Fourth Sunday	Fifth Sunday
<b>Halkyn</b>	10.30 am Morning Prayer 11.15 am Communion	11.15 am Communion 5 pm Evensong	11.15 am Communion	11.15 am Morning Prayer	10.30 am Combined Service – This rotates between churches
<b>Rhosesmor</b>	3 pm <sup>1</sup> Evening Prayer	10.00 am Service for the Community	10.00 am Communion	10.00 am Communion	
<b>Rhes y Cae</b>	8.45 am Communion	8.45 am Bilingual Communion	3 pm <sup>1</sup> Evening Prayer	8.45 am Communion	

<sup>1</sup> 3.00 pm until the clocks go forward on 25th March 2018, when this service will be at 6.00 pm.

## YOU ARE VERY WELCOME AT ALL OUR SERVICES

**ADVENT:** - During advent there will be a short service each Friday evening

1<sup>st</sup> December 7.30pm Halkyn

15<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm Rhosesmor

8<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm Rhesycae

22<sup>nd</sup> December 7.30pm Halkyn

**CHRISTMAS:** Please check times of Carol Services with local notices as there can occasionally be changes.

10<sup>th</sup> December 6pm Rhosesmor Carol Service

24<sup>th</sup> December 4pm Rhes y Cae Crib Service

13<sup>th</sup> December 7pm Rhes y Cae Carol Service

24<sup>th</sup> December 11.15pm Rhosesmor Midnight

17<sup>th</sup> December 3pm Halkyn Carol Service

25<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am Rhes y Cae Communion

25<sup>th</sup> December 11am Halkyn Communion

**COMBINED AND SPECIAL SERVICES:**

The next combined service for the three parishes will be at 10.30 on Sunday, 31st December, 2017 at Christchurch, Rhes y Cae. There will be only one service in the parishes on this Sunday.

**OPEN CHURCH:** Rhosesmor Church is open every day for quiet reflection.

Rhosesmor Church also has a Facebook Page where there are further details of activities

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-Church-1002875859725430/>

In the event of illness or a request for a visit, please contact Hugh Burgess

For further details of any of these events please contact:

The Rev'd Hugh Burgess on 01352 741 646

**[hugh.2.burgess@gmail.com](mailto:hugh.2.burgess@gmail.com)**

(Please note change of email address)

## Mold and District Choral Society

Mold and District Choral Society is a mixed voice choir with around 70 members. Under the direction of our musical director Trystan Lewis and accompanist Philip Knowles we present a number of concerts throughout the year consisting of classical choral repertoire. We sing mainly in English or Welsh but also other languages as required by our chosen music. We rehearse on a Wednesday evening from 7:30pm in Bethesda Chapel, Mold. Come and join us for a good sing, or just to listen at one of our concerts. We would love to see you at our Christmas concerts this year.



### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 7.30 pm

Christmas Concert  
including: Charpentier's: 'Messe de Minuit' and a selection of carols.  
St Mary's Church, Mold. CH7 1BW  
Tenor: Alwyn Evans  
Organist: John Hosking  
Conductor: Trystan Lewis

Tickets from 01352-757195, or from choir members, or at the door.  
Price: £10 (under 16 yrs free)

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30 pm

Handel: 'Messiah'  
St. Peter's Church, Ruthin. LL15 1BL  
jointly with Cor Cymysg Dyffryn Conwy  
Soprano: Kate Griffiths  
Contralto: Katheryn Nash  
Tenor: Huw Ynyr  
Bass: Gwilym Bryniog Davies  
Organist: Graham Eccles  
Conductor: Trystan Lewis

Tickets from 01352-757195, choir members, or at the door.  
Price: £10 (under 16 yrs free)



Here is a picture of the choir singing Verdi's 'Aida' at Bethesda Chapel, Mold.

## Heartfelt Art & Craft Fairs

These continued to be held for a fourth year throughout 2017. Held at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library, the fairs supported 4 local charities, and other worthy causes.

The events continued to receive fantastic public support and superb attendance, thanks to our Heartfelt helpers and fantastic community support and engagement. Throughout the year the fairs showcased wonderful bespoke, handmade arts and crafts, exquisitely designed and created to a high standard by very talented local artisans. Delicious home baked cakes and refreshments were made and served each month by volunteers and were most enjoyed.

Throughout the 4 years we have held the fairs, we have been hugely supported by local people, small businesses, local press and media. Undoubtedly, this helped us to raise awareness of the fairs and maintain excellent footfall. Good attendance is very important to ensure the fairs are a success. A big thank you once again, to everyone who has shown support in one way or another.

I am delighted to inform you that as a result of our art and craft fairs held to date throughout 2017 a total of approximately £1600 was raised and donated to local registered charities. In addition, there have been donations to other worthy causes and other local fundraising events. Since commencement of the fairs in April 2014, Heartfelt Art & Craft have raised and donated locally, over **£13,000 and 23 registered charities fundraising at our fairs have benefited from the donations.**

We look forward to fundraising for additional charities in 2018 and to supporting local, very talented artists and crafters. The fairs will continue to be held in 2018 on Saturdays between 10am - 3pm, on **14th April, 23rd June, 13th October and our Christmas fair will be held on 8th December** at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library with Free admission. With your support, we hope to enjoy another successful year.

Finally, we look forward to offering you a warm welcome at the first fair of the year, on 14th April 2018, when we will be supporting fundraising for the wonderful charity, North Clwyd Animal Rescue. Please help us to maintain good attendance by sharing news of our fairs and the 2018 dates with your friends and family. Local support has proved to be invaluable. Many thanks.

For more information regarding Heartfelt Art & Craft fairs, please contact event organiser Susan Thomas at [heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk](mailto:heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk) or telephone 01352 781088.



## Tinytots Playgroup Ysgol Rhos Helyg Rhosemor

We are a well established playgroup based in Ysgol Rhos Helyg in Rhosemor.

We are open during term time each morning, 8.50-11.45am.

We welcome all children from age 2½!

We give your child the opportunity to make friends, develop new skills and have fun learning through play.

All staff hold childcare qualifications and have a valid CRB check.

The cost per session is £7.50

Early Entitlement (funding for three year old children) and Assisted places available.



First session free!

Contact Leanne on  
01352 780265



**Every Thursday 9.15-11.15  
at Rhosemor Village Hall  
£2 for parent & toddler(s)  
50p for parent & baby**

Find us on Facebook  
'Rhosemor Tots' or 'Rhosemor Village'

Multi sensory activities, craft and a healthy snack  
Tea/coffee and treat for mums & dads too

## HALKYN MOUNTAIN KIDS CLUB & HOLIDAY CLUB SPACES AVAILABLE NOW!

We are situated in Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School. The club is registered with CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales). All staff are CRB checked and qualified and all certificates are available to see. We welcome children from nursery age (3yrs) up to year 6.

### Holiday club

If you would like to book your child/ren in please follow the details below. (You do not have to attend the school to register at the club.)

#### Opening times for holiday club only

8am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri

(Breakfast will be provided and a healthy snack in the afternoon, packed lunch to be provided by the parents/guardians).

#### Prices for holiday club only

£22 per child for a full day

£16 per child for half a day (till 1pm)

#### Opening times for after school club only

3.10pm - 5.20pm Mon - Fri Term times only.

#### We have a large hall area where we enjoy,

(For after school/holiday club)

- Snack time
- Playing games
- Arts and crafts
- Parties
- Arranged theme nights

#### We also have outside. (For after school/holiday club)

- A Trim Trail where we enjoy climbing, balancing and swinging.
- A park with slides, bridges and balancing frames.
- A large field and playground where we also have lots of fun with scooters and football matches etc.
- A nature reserve with a round house, yurt and pond area.

#### Prices for after school club only.

Open 3.10pm till 5.20pm Monday to Friday.

First hour for one child £4.50

Second hour for one child £7.50

First hour for 2 siblings £8.10

Second hour for 2 siblings £13.80

Every child thereafter there's a 5% discount

For more information contact us on 01352 780265 or  
Email us on [Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com) or even  
visit our website at:

[www.ysgolrhoshelyg.com/tiny-tots-playgroup/](http://www.ysgolrhoshelyg.com/tiny-tots-playgroup/)



# Rhes y Cae News

## Harvest thanksgiving Service

– Wednesday 4th October at 7pm

Preparations for Rhes y Cae church and village hall took place on Tuesday morning, 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Many thanks to Brenda, Dorothy, Rita, Margaret, Ann and Colin for all their efforts. The church looked lovely! The beautiful flowers on the altar and windowsills were in autumnal colours and were arranged by Dorothy.



Margaret had arranged fruit and flowers below the font, on the windowsills and in the porch. During the service apples were taken to the altar by Gwyneth and blessed by the Reverend Hugh Burgess.



Brenda welcomed people and also took the collection to the altar to be received by Hugh.

The harvest service was organised by Rev. Hugh Burgess. Our thanks to the guest preacher, the Reverend David Miller of Llanfairtalhaearn. About twenty to thirty people came, and we enjoyed singing many popular harvest hymns. Colin Legg was the organist and a reader – many thanks to him. Also, Colin presented us with an unusual gift of a banana tree, which he placed by the font!

We decided to leave the flowers in the church and Hugh, Colin and Tom carried all the fruit and vegetables to the village hall. People were able to help themselves and give a small donation if they wished.

We had a very enjoyable evening in the Village Hall. People had brought food with them so that they could participate in a “Bring and Share” supper – it was very successful.

Diolch o galon i bawb.



## Coffee Morning Tuesday 17th October

This was organised by the Rhes y Cae Village Hall Committee – our grateful thanks to Jill, Nerys, Wendy, Eirwen and Jess. Also to Bryn and Kevin who came to clear up at the end of the morning.

It was very pleasant to go out on a nice sunny morning after the difficult weather we experienced the day before. The attendance was excellent with many people from Halkyn supporting us. The raffle prizes were varied and interesting – many thanks to all who contributed. Finally our sincere thanks to Alwena Sherratt, who had been very busy making some wonderful cards to sell, with all proceeds going to the Village Hall funds.

The Over 60's Christmas dinner will be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. Any queries please ring Jill on 780061.

A Christmas coffee morning with stalls will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

Rhes y Cae Church will also have a Christmas Coffee morning with stalls on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

## Gwasanaeth o Ddiolchgarwch (Harvest Thanksgiving service)

Held at Ebenezer Chapel Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 7pm. It was wonderful to see so many people arriving at Rhes y Cae Chapel with the weather getting dark quite early now. Many thanks to Rev'd Tom Williams of Henllan near Denbigh for giving us such an interesting Harvest Service – the theme was “Edrych a Gweld” (Look and See) and there were many readings from the book of Psalms. Also our thanks to Ieuan Ap Sion for organising this service and also to all who contributed with the fruit and vegetables, as well as the beautiful flowers on the table in front of the pulpit. Diolch yn fawr iawn.

## Future Dates

### Rhes y Cae Church Toy Service

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 8.45am.

Gifts for teenagers as well as younger children would be welcome.

### Over 60s Christmas Dinner and entertainment

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2pm

Rhes y Cae Village Hall – contact Jill 01352 780061

### Rhes y Cae Church Carol Service

To Be Announced

### Naw Llith a Carolau (Nine Lessons and Carols)

Ebenezer Chapel, To be Announced – last week before Christmas.

### Around the Crib – Rhes y Cae Church

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

### Rhes y Cae Church Christmas Day Service

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am

Please let me know of any items for the next edition by the last week in January 2018.

Many thanks, Gwyneth Hughes 01352 780371

# *A Few Words from Danny the Donkey*

How the years and seasons seem to fly by! Now that it goes dark earlier, I spend more time in my stable. I am fortunate to have a cosy stable with plenty of straw. When the weather gets rough, the wind whistles and the rain or hailstones make a noise on the roof, I count myself lucky and just snuggle deeper in my bedding.



My human friends appear to have magical powers which I don't understand. Sometimes when they come to check on me or to clean my stable they are able to make the sun shine instantly. I have never been able to understand how they make the sun shine so brightly inside the stable but when I go outside it is quite dull. They are able to make the sun go away just as quickly. It's all very strange, but I don't like the sun shining so much inside as my stable looks much tidier in the half light.

I do wonder whether my human friends are the cause of all the darkness during winter. They appear to capture the sun and take it indoors. From my stable, I can see the sun shining brightly in their stable and sometimes they carry a piece of the sun outside and shine it in the direction they are walking. Surely, it would have been better to leave the sun where it was and we could all enjoy the light? There's probably a reason for this that I don't understand. I also don't understand why their cat and two dogs are all allowed inside their stable but I never get invited in. I tried to go inside once but they didn't seem very happy and started talking very quickly so that I didn't understand. From their hand gestures I guessed that I should go into reverse - and quickly! I did spot some delicious looking apples in a bowl and also suspect that my human friends have a secret store of carrots inside that they didn't want me to see. I keep an eye open for an opportunity to make a quick dash into their stable but I need my field gate and their stable door to be open at the same time. It doesn't usually happen at the same time, but I continue to plan for the day that it does.

Strange things also happen to the stars about this time of year. For a few days they become very noisy and go pop and fall out of the sky making lots of different colours as they fall. I always look to see if any have fallen in my field but I never find anything. I find the noises rather scary so I do tend to stay inside. One of my human friends comes to muck out my stable every few days. It is strange that I have never seen them muck out their own stable. Either they must be very clean and not make a mess inside or it must be very full! I have to say they are very nice to me and bring me nice things to eat and they do look after me well. Every now

and again a man called Vet comes to give me a pedicure (my Mum taught me that word and I am proud to have remembered it). I would prefer him to ask how I'd like my hooves done, but he just trims them his own way. I do try and object but he always seems to outwit me and he is finished in a blink of an eye.

I probably spend too much time thinking during the winter months but then there is little else to do when spending evenings inside. I think of lots of questions but very few answers. Questions can stay on my mind for days. For instance, why can't cats fly? Why does the moon change shape? Why does hay smell so nice?

Well it's going dark again so I'll head back to my stable to do some more thinking.

Bye for now,

**Danny**

*Danny lives on the side of Moel y Gaer in Rhosesmor and receives many visitors*

## ***Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall***

Rhes-y-Cae village hall is available for PUBLIC or PRIVATE functions.

Children's parties for 11 year old and under.

**Reasonable Rates**

Contact Kevin Lewis  
01352 780297

## **Coffee Morning**

**Book Swap & Raffle**

**At Rhosesmor Village Hall**

**Every Other Monday Morning 10:30 - 12:00**

**Please come along and meet your neighbours for a cuppa and a chat**



## ***Halkyn Library***

The library is a facility for all local residents, young and old, and is open **Friday afternoons**

**1:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Library Online**

**Services via**

**[www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk)**



## Ysgol Rhos Helyg

It has once again been a very busy time here at Rhos Helyg. You can find out all about the school through our Twitter feed @ Rhos Helyg School.

### Commonwealth Baton Event

Pupils from years 3 and 4 were fortunate to attend a sporting event at Theatre Clwyd to commemorate the visit of the commonwealth baton to Wales. The pupils took part in a variety of sporting events such as golf, dodge ball, netball and tennis.



The adults enjoying the food.



Art drawings on the trees.

### Pentrellyncymer

Once again Years 5 and 6 have been on their annual pilgrimage to Pentrellyncymer Outdoor Education Centre. They spent two nights and three days of outdoor challenges. This year they have been doing work toward their John Muir Award, which focuses on looking after the environment. There are many pictures on Twitter.

### Historical Healers Project

We as a school were extremely fortunate to be involved in the above project for a period of six weeks with staff from Plas Derw. The project focused on trees and plants and their historical ability to heal ailments. There was a whole host of learning opportunities, the pupils particularly enjoyed looking at myths and legends and the art aspect of the project which involved making clay models of trees.

The pupils also enjoyed cooking using ingredients gathered around the school such as dandelion pesto pasta, nettle soup, leaf tea, blackberry eton mess as well as an elderberry tonic.



Pupils preparing food to be cooked on the fire.

The project finale involved parents and grandparents coming into the last session where the pupils showcased to them what they had learned. A fabulous project!

### Macmillan's Tea Party

Our annual tea party for Macmillan's proved to be another hit. Many thanks to all for making this such a tremendous family event. A fabulous sum of £800 was raised—thank you.



A big thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes and cakes.

### Pc Mark Jones

Once again Pc Jones has visited the school for his termly visit. This time he discussed behaviour and anti-social behaviour with the pupils.



## Themed Week

In preparation for our Eco Platinum Award each class participated in a themed week where each class studied a Country. For example, pupils in Year 4/5 looked at Brazil and made cheesy bread, became a Samba band and created information pages.



Pupils in Year 1 and 2 studied Italy and here we can see them cooking a pizza.

## Halloween disco

The PTA disco was really well supported. Many thanks to the PTA for organising this great event

## London Trip

Year 6 have been to London to visit The Houses of Parliament. We had a guided tour of The Lords and the House of Commons, before doing an education workshop on making laws. We then had tea at Mcdonald's before talikg in a show-Wicked! What a fab day out.

## Transition

As part of the transition process our Year 6 pupils have recently visited Mold Alun in order to familiarise themselves with the school.



## Remembrance

We have been selling various stationary items on behalf of the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

## PTA

Once again we are indebted to the PTA for funding new reading books for the school.



## Forest School



The children very much enjoy their Forest school sessions and here we can see the children enjoying some warming hot chocolate and the successful completion of the boat in the woods.



## Rhosesmor Village Hall

The hall continues to be very well used, with Jon Terry (780842) co-ordinating all bookings and openings.

Over the Christmas break, a number of 'improvements' are planned, which will be clear in time for the re-opening in January, thus not interfering with bookings.

We will be holding further Jumble Sales. However, we will not set a date until we have enough jumble to make it worthwhile for all concerned.

Any donations are willingly accepted. Phone 780660 and I will collect donations and store them in the hall cellars. Sorry, we do not take clothing.

*Geoff North,  
Secretary, Rhosesmor Village Committee*

## Pentre Halkyn

### Community Centre

**Bingo** - Every Monday for the over 50s 1.30pm  
New members welcome

**Post Office** - Tuesdays 9.30am - 11.30am

**Holywell Art Club** - Wednesdays 10am - 2pm

**Bingo** - Thursdays 7:30pm

**Line Dancing** - Fridays 8pm - 10pm

**The Community Centre over 50s  
Christmas Dinner**  
will be at the Holywell Golf Club  
Monday 11th December

**The hall is available for parties, etc.  
contact Megan on 780026**

## Hardy Plant Society Clwyd Group

Meetings are held at 7.30pm in the  
**Holywell Community Centre**  
(by the Leisure Centre)

**The winter programme is:**

**Tuesday 16 January**

Talk on Plant Hunting with Ted Brabin.

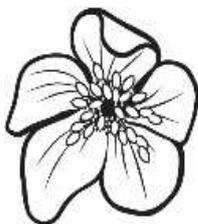
**Tuesday 20 February** talk by Tony Russell  
BBC garden writer and broadcaster.

**Tuesday 20 March** a really short AGM then  
'Over to You', a talk by HPS Clwyd members on their  
favourites.

Visitors £3 admission. Membership available.  
Programme can be subject to change.  
Information: 07768 423965

or [www.hardy-plant.org.uk/clwyd](http://www.hardy-plant.org.uk/clwyd)

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## Holywell Chess Club

Holywell Chess Club has been based at the Stamford Gate Hotel, on the road between Holywell and junction 32 of the A55, for some time now, having previously been at the Springfield Hotel, the Glan yr Afon in Dolphin and various other local pubs over the years. We meet every Monday evening, about 7.00pm onwards from September through to April, in a room to the left of the main bar area at the Stamford Gate.

We have three teams in the local Chester & District Chess

League and play home and away matches across quite a wide area from Colwyn Bay to Frodsham.



We also run various club competitions, some of them fun tournaments with handicaps for the better players.



We have a current membership of about twenty, with players from villages in the surrounding area such as Caerwys, Trelogan,

Oakenholt, Lixwm and so on, as well as from Holywell itself, but for some reason we have hardly ever had any members from Halkyn. Maybe players in this area don't realise that there is a local chess club – I think we need to advertise ourselves more!

We welcome players of any standard.



For more information please contact me on 01352 720300 or our secretary Jon Maybery on 07597 188184 or access our website:  
[www.holywellchessflintshire.org.uk](http://www.holywellchessflintshire.org.uk)

# Halkyn Mountain Sports & Other Clubs

## Halkyn United Football Team

Halkyn United manager Jay has put together a group of vibrant and exciting footballers for this season, built on Halkyn United regulars from the previous season, some of the Sychdyn side that won the league the previous season and some new players creating a lot of competition for places.



Photograph of the Halkyn United team at Airbus FC prior to claiming a hard fought 2-2 draw.

Halkyn United are currently in the North East Wales Premier League, a really competitive division. At the time of writing this article the team sits proudly at the top of the North East Wales Premier League with 22 points from 11 games and a positive goal difference of 46. We are unbeaten at home in the league with 5 wins from 5 games.

Our strikers are scoring regularly with Jon Edmonds currently the leading goal scorer in the league with 19 goals so far this season, ably supported by Terry Pughe on 10 goals. Goals have been forthcoming from all positions on the pitch making this a real team effort with almost every player chipping in with a goal or two with a team average of six goals per game.

The competition at the top of the premier League is ferocious with only 3 points between first and fifth (see table). Our recent game with Mold Town United was a case in point with Halkyn not playing well at all against a resolute defence and midfield. We conceded a sloppy penalty and trailed 1-0 at half-time but to the teams credit they persevered and Nathan Howatson bagged a goal on 60 minutes to draw level followed by a Ryan Davidson tap-in following up on a Leon Pickford free kick that was parried by the outstanding Mold Town goalkeeper. John Edmonds made it three late on to secure the win. Man of the Match was the Mold Town keeper who made three stunning saves to keep Mold in the game. It is said in football that winning ugly when not playing well is the sign of a good team and hopefully this spirit can be maintained throughout the season.

### Maintaining the Ground

The pitch at Pant Newydd suffers in the winter from poor drainage, a problem that has become more severe over the last few years and our thanks go to Don, Mick, Steve and Rhys Williams who work tirelessly to maintain the pitch. This includes significant work maintaining and repairing the drainage systems. The ground has become more susceptible to waterlogging and full refurbishment and replacement of the drainage system is becoming more necessary. We are in the process of assessing potential grants that can be obtained to fund the project.

We have access to an alternative pitch in Pentre Halkyn which was used for the Mold Town game recently and plans are progressing to bring the dressing rooms up to standard so that this pitch can be used if the drainage problems persist at Pant Newydd. However, the alternative pitch is small and doesn't particularly suit our style of play so Pant Newydd is the preferred option provided we can get a long term solution to the drainage issues.

### Sponsors

Martin and Paula of the Britannia Inn in Halkyn are proud sponsors of the club and Jay recently presented them with two photographs of the team as a thank you.



The tracksuits carry the Britannia Inn name and the team meets at the Britannia after their matches at Pant Newydd. Martin kindly provides food for our team and

the visitors. The pre-season get together at the Britannia was a great occasion with all the team contributing to depleting Martin's cellar and karaoke going strong from 4pm to 9pm. Even Ray Roberts and Steve Johnson contributed to the singing.



### Please Support Your Local Team

Supporters are always welcome at Pant Newydd and looking at our goal-scoring record the matches have been very entertaining all season. Why not join us and give the team your backing to maintain our unbeaten run at home. We look forward to seeing you at the ground. Upcoming fixtures are available on the North East Wales Premier League website [www.clwydleagueeast.pitchero.com](http://www.clwydleagueeast.pitchero.com).

#	Team	PI	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1	Halkyn Utd	10	7	1	2	59	13	46	22
2	Caerwys FC	11	7	1	3	32	25	7	22
3	Plas Madoc FC	9	7	0	2	57	21	36	21
4	Flint Mountain	10	7	0	3	51	15	36	21
5	Connahs Quay Nomads	10	6	1	3	40	23	17	19
6	Acton FC	7	6	0	1	31	15	16	18
7	Airbus Broughton Youth	11	5	1	5	31	20	11	16
8	Offa Athletic	8	4	3	1	38	10	28	15
9	Penyffordd Lions	6	4	1	1	47	9	38	13
10	Brymbo Victoria	7	3	1	3	21	18	3	10
11	Mostyn Dragons	9	3	1	5	21	24	-3	10
12	Rhosllanerchrugog	7	3	1	3	14	26	-12	10
13	Mold Town Utd	9	2	0	7	16	34	-18	6
14	Aston Park Rangers	11	1	2	8	15	41	-26	5
15	Bradley Park	10	1	1	8	13	74	-61	4
16	Bellevue FC	11	0	0	11	7	125	-118	0

## Halkyn & District Bowls Club

The club can be proud of itself this last season. We haven't won the league or any trophies but the club has succeeded. The A team, at one time, was next to bottom but somehow finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their division. The other two teams maintained their place in their division. This was in spite of the fact that they struggled to find full teams on occasion.

Several of our members have entered tournaments in Flint, Oakenholt and Bagillt - several matches, in fact. It has been a busy season. We did have players who reached finals - that's no mean feat.

Our merit winners this year were: Gladys Bunnel, Mick Carpenter and Neil Barnett. They represented us at the various finals.

We have a few new members this year. We welcome them and I must say they have added lots of extra laughs. What more could we want?

The club is going through a difficult transition time, where our future hopefully will be secure. We needed to be sure we could cope financially. So we worked hard to organise a 'Come and Buy Sale' day - very successfully raising several hundred pounds. Also, our fees were increased so altogether we are keeping the club afloat. It's worth the hard work so we can have fun playing bowls on our beautifully situated green. Have you ever seen our club? You may be surprised. As well as playing we can admire the view across to Merseyside then enjoy some good food.

The 100 club winners are E. Roberts, M. Lewis and B. Lindley. The club competition on the 5<sup>th</sup> September was won by Andrew Jones.

On September 19<sup>th</sup> we had our end of season match for the non-winners - won by Andrew Jones, who had a very successful season.

The last Bowls Get-together is my favourite. It's supposed to be Men v Ladies. After some odd games and bad maths the men tried to say they had won - but I have my doubts. Lots of school sports outfits and lots of laughs (see photograph). A great way to finish the season.



The Ladies Team



All the winners with their awards

On the 27<sup>th</sup> October we had our awards night - a great social occasion. So, you can see why there are lots of reasons to come and join us, rather than missing out.



Andrew Jones with all his awards

There's plenty of time to psyched up over the winter then, next April, you can start to enjoy the fresh air and exercise.

Contact us through:  
Bill Worrall - 710702 or Julie Lewis - 781212

*J. Woodruff*

## Sheepdog Trials

The Welsh National Sheep Dog Trials will be held at Penbedw in Nannerch from the 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> August 2018.



I have Craft Stand application forms for crafters, please apply to:

Event Secretary  
Mrs Janine Rees-Denman  
The Lodge  
Calcoed Lane  
Babell CH8 8PT

mobile: 07795 830287

## Halkyn Cricket Club

On Saturday 30th September the club held its presentation evening. Club treasurer, Roger Bellis, presented the trophies to the respective winners.

1st XI Batting - Ben Roberts  
1st XI Bowling - Ben Roberts

2nd XI Batting - Keith Williams  
2nd XI Bowling - Vishal Mony

Young Player of the Year - Josh Edwards

1st XI Trophy winner Ben Roberts also won the North Wales League Award.

### Pictures from the recent Presentation Evening.

Pic 1 - Keith Williams winning 2nd XI Batting Trophy  
Pic 2 - Vishal Mony winning 2nd XI Bowling Trophy  
Pic 3 - Josh Edwards winning Young Player of the Year  
Pic 4 - Ben Roberts winning 1st XI Batting and Bowling Trophies

### Halkyn CC Clubhouse

A reminder that the clubhouse is available for hire. A fully licensed bar, ideal for parties, christenings, wakes and weddings.

For further details please contact bar manager David Odgers mob 07768 117276

*Keith Williams, Secretary*



## Holywell Golf Club

### Lady Vice Captain's Day - 20<sup>th</sup> August

The weather stayed kind for our Lady Vice Captain, Mrs Linda Leech. There was a brilliant turn out of Holywell Ladies and visitors who played in the competition organised for her day. They then joined Linda and other guests in the club house for a meal.



The winner was one of our junior members Sian Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maureen Bibby and 3<sup>rd</sup> Janice Cain. Joanne Jones had the longest drive and Brenda Williams and guest Hazel Crane had the best scores on the par threes. The guest visitor's prize went to Christine Ferguson. Linda is also our Lady Secretary and she does a lot of work on behalf of the Ladies and this is very much appreciated.

### Holywell Members and Friends - Support Cancer

Peter Bolwell, Ben Thomas, Danny Williams and Luke Carding, better known as The Partee boys of Holywell Golf Club, took part in the Macmillan Cancer Longest Day Golf Challenge, 72 holes in one day in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

They started at 5.00am and finished at 6.55pm on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June, which turned out to be one of the hottest days of the year. It was played as an AM/AM with the best two scoring from the four and they finished 57 under par for four rounds.



They raised £1,625 and would like to thank everybody who supported them and encouraged them along the way. They would also like to thank Jane and Andi for looking after the donation sheets on the bar and helping to collect the money.

### Holywell Ryder Cup

The weather was not so kind for the members who competed for the 2017 Holywell Ryder Cup. The morning foursomes were an indication of how tight the afternoon singles were going to be. The pairings and times had to be



rearranged due to three players being unable to attend but as usual, this was no problem for the Match and Handicap team to fix.

The final score was Wales 8½ the Rest of the World 9. Captain of the Wales team, our Club Captain Ivor Pye, is pictured presenting the cup to Peter Bolwell who captained the Rest of the World.

Everyone who played had a great time and they are looking forward to next year. Thanks again, as always, to Nick, Andi and Jane for catering and bar.

#### **Vice Captain's Day Saturday 23rd September**

Our



Vice Captain Richie Alli had around 132 competitors taking part in the competition organised for his Vice Captain's Day.

Luke Carding scored an impressive 41 points. Nigel Adams and Dan Ellis both scored 39 points. Nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> was Tom Collins and nearest the pin in two on the 17<sup>th</sup> was Ian Naylor. Congratulations to all the winners. The Vice Captain's charities were The Holywell Community Hospital and Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup> Military Hospital. A total of £863 was raised on the day from golf, raffles and an auction.

#### **Junior Captain's Day Sunday 24th September**



The turnout and support was good for our Junior Captain, Zac Jones. Congratulations to Sian Jones who won the red tee event with Junior Captain coming second. Lucy Parsley won the Silver Tee competition and Haf Davies was second.

#### **More Holywell Juniors News**

Congratulations to Sian Jones who qualified for the finals of the Ping Welsh Junior Tour at St Pierre Golf and Country Club in Chepstow but unfortunately it was not her day. Sian also qualified for the Wales Mini Masters finals held at Celtic Manor and this time she won the 12+ category. Congratulations from everybody

at Holywell Golf Club.

Sian was the winner of the Centenary Trophy and Callum Owen-Jones was the runner up.

The Silver Tees winner was Haf Davies and her sister Mia Davies was runner up.

#### **August Medal**

**Red/Yellow tees** 1<sup>st</sup> Jack Parry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Callum Jones, 3<sup>rd</sup> Harrison Prior.

**Silver tees** 1<sup>st</sup> Stephen Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cameron Peters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sophie Owen-Jones.

#### **September Medal**

**Red/Yellow tees** 1<sup>st</sup> Sian Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Callum Owen-Jones, 3<sup>rd</sup> Zac Eliot-Jones.

**Silver tees** 1<sup>st</sup> Lucy Parsley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mia Davies, 3<sup>rd</sup> Hannah Wade-Jones.



#### **Wednesday 18th October**



A 10 hole competition was held for members of Holywell Golf Club and visitors from other clubs who were new to the game. They played in teams of three with the added attraction of Matt Parsley, the Holywell Professional, playing with each team over two holes. There were prizes for the winning team and a prize for the lady who was nearest the pin on the 4<sup>th</sup> hole with her second shot and for the men on the 6<sup>th</sup>. The winners for this were Ailsa Hughes of Holywell and Richard Drury from Mold.

Everyone met in the clubhouse at the end for soup and sandwiches and Matt gave a review and tips to improve their golf. The weather was fine and a great afternoon was had.

The Holywell Golf Club New2Golf scheme runs all year round. If you would like to try your hand at golf call at the Club or ring Matt Parsley at Holywell Golf Club 01352 710040.

**We would like to wish all our members and friends a very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year. Thank you for all your support during the year.**

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