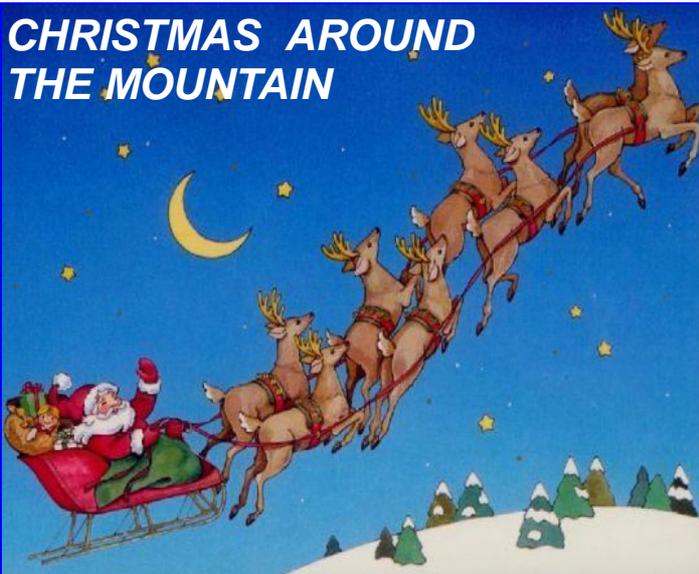


## ISSUE NUMBER 155 - WINTER 2013

### CHRISTMAS AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



#### TUESDAY EVENING 17 DEC

6.00	Flint Mountain School *
6.20	Northop Boot *
6.50	Pentre Halkyn P.O. *
7.10	Brynford School *
7.25	Brynford Cross *
7.40	St Claires Pant Asaph *

#### THURSDAY EVENING 19 DEC

6.00	Halkyn - P.O. *
6.20	Rhosesmor - Park *
6.40	Rhes y Cae - Miners Arms *
7.00	Lixwm - Top lay by* Crown *
7.15	Ysceifiog - The Square *
7.30	Caerwys Tour

**FLINT & HOLYWELL ROTARY CLUB CHRISTMAS FLOAT TIMES**  
**COME OUT & MEET SANTA AT THE DESIGNATED STOPS = \***  
 There will be street collections in the vicinity of the Float

#### Halkyn Pensioners Christmas Party Blue Bell Inn - 2013 \*\*\*WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU\*\*\*

Each year we look forward to meeting up with our local pensioners from around Halkyn and the local area. We would like to ensure all who would like to join us have the opportunity to attend these events as often as we can accommodate you. If we have not had the pleasure of your company to one of our parties and you would like to join us this year, please contact with your details one of the organisers - **Jane Carney – 01352 780088, Roger & Pam McIntee – 01352 781802, Jeannette & Phil Brookes – 01352 780712**

**Rhes-y-Cae and Moel-y-Crio Over 60s Christmas Party** will take place in the Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall on Saturday 7th December at 2pm. If you have not yet received your invitation please ring Jill on 780061, Nerys on 780004 or Margaret on 780561

**Rhosesmor Over 60s Xmas Party** This years party will be on Thursday 12th December at Holywell Golf Club in Brynford, with a traditional Christmas lunch, entertainment and free raffle. A free coach will be provided, with a pick-up time of 12-00 noon at the Post Office in Rhosesmor, and 12-10 at the Pensioners bungalows. Please contact Lynne on 781714 for details.

**We thank all our advertisers and contributors for their continued support and wish them and all our readers Very Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Nadolig Llawn A Blwyddyn Newydd Dda.**

**We also wish to say a very special thank you to all the volunteers who throughout the year have delivered the Halkyn Mountain News direct to your door whatever the weather. We wish them all Very Best Wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year. Eirwen & Pat.**

**YOUR ARTICLES MAKE THE MAGAZINE AND WE WANT TO BE ABLE TO INCLUDE THEM ALL SO PLEASE NOTE THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE, SPRING 2014, IS: 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 - MANY THANKS - EDS**

*Editors: Eirwen & Patrick McDermott, Roseberry Villa, Windmill, Halkyn. CH8 8EU  
 Tel: 01352 781057 Email: patmcd@talktalk.net  
 Jack McIntyre & John Baker Distribution by our many Local Volunteers*

## **Halkyn Walks from the Blue Bell Inn**

Once again we did not see the sunset on the Midsummer's Day evening walk but as we stood on the hill fort gazing at the lights across the Dee and the Mersey, we enjoyed a glass or two of mulled wine and some hot sausage rolls. The ritual will be repeated next year and by the law of averages it should be a glorious sunset.

The Wednesday evening walks ended with two dozen walkers enjoying a delicious Hotpot thanks to Ness.

Once again we took part in the Daniel Owen Festival with a walk highlighting the connections between life on the mountain and in Mold during his lifetime. Daniel's parents lived in Wern-y-Gaer before moving to Mold. As a youngster, Daniel came up to Rhosesmor to work on a farm – a day's work rewarded with an apple and one penny. Daniel lost his father and his brother in the flooding of the Argoed Colliery, whilst on Halkyn Mountain many were widowed and orphaned by mining accidents, the greatest disaster being at the Bryn Gwiog mine where fifteen men lost their lives through flooding.

The longer monthly walks led by Bob Mossop have become more and more popular as walkers have got fitter and wish to venture further afield.

The New Year's Resolution Walk suitable for all the family and all ages will take place on Thursday January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 at 11am and will last about sixty minutes.

2014 will see the Halkyn Walks celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Cue for a Festival. Ideas please.

*John Thomas*

## **Pentre Halkyn Community Centre**

The Management Committee would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Also, thank you to everyone who has made use of the hall since the refurbishment.

*Megan*

***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 - [www.halkyn.org](http://www.halkyn.org)***

***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.***

## **Letter from the Trustees of the Halkyn Mountain News**

This magazine has been produced since 1974, when it started as a single sheet to publicise the work of the Halkyn Countryside Committee. Rhosesmor was added when the boundaries changed and the Parish became part of Halkyn Community Council. Brynford Community Council is also now included.

It is a free publication which is printed four times a year. Thanks to the dedication of the editors and the loyal team of volunteers 1,800 copies are now delivered to homes in the area and to village halls.

The Trustees wish the magazine to continue to be successfully and regularly published and available to all on Halkyn Mountain and are therefore making an appeal for more people to be involved in the production and delivery process.

Readers and interested persons may have some questions to ask about the magazine - such as:

### **How is the magazine financed?**

It is, at present, in a good financial position. A substantial amount of money was donated by Bryn Ellis, a previous editor, from the sale of his book of local photographs. This was increased by private donations and by contributions from Halkyn and Brynford Community Councils. There is also a regular and excellent income from the advertisements printed in the magazine. Though costs are expected to increase in future there are no concerns on the financial side.

### **What are the duties of the Editors?**

The task involves the collection and collation of the material for each publication. New technology has made this an easier task than it was in the past. The content has to be given to the printers, then collected and finally delivered in bundles to the various volunteers who take it to your homes.

### **Who could be Editors?**

Any person who has an interest in the community and a willingness to be involved four times a year on the tasks mentioned in the previous question. The Editors do not have to write the magazine!!

### **How would an interested person get to know the exact procedures?**

The present Editors, Eirwen and Patrick McDermott, would be delighted to hear from anyone interested and would give instructions, help and work alongside any new Editors or Editorial Teams that could be set up.

We hope this has answered some questions.

Halkyn Mountain News keeps the people of the Mountain Communities in touch with each other. Articles are always welcome on any subjects and the magazine provides a great opportunity to inform people of the activities of the Churches, Schools, Clubs and Societies and of any special events and their outcomes.

The Trustees sincerely hope that there will be responses to this letter from future Editors and people willing to help so that the popular Halkyn Mountain News can continue to be presented to all living in this area.

*Thank you  
Shirley Walls and Kevin McIntyre*

## Bright Stars

**Bright Stars** is the children's Sunday Group of St Paul's Church Rhosesmor, serving all the Halkyn Mountain Parishes. Children who attend are aged from 4 upwards. Every third Sunday in the month we take part in All Age Worship in St Paul's Church Rhosesmor. There is plenty for everyone to do, so come along and spend an hour with us and meet the Cupcake Puppet. Fruit and drink provided.

'**BISCUITS**' is a fun group who meet in term time on Thursdays 6pm-7pm in Rhes-y-Cae village hall. Come along and have some and from time to time meet the Cupcake Puppets.

Please phone **01352 780740** or email [lfearnhead@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lfearnhead@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	All Age Service St. Paul's Church 10:00
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> , & Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	All Age Service St. Paul's Church 10:00
Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	All Age Service St. Paul's Church 10:00
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> & Mar 2 <sup>nd</sup>	HALF TERM HOLIDAYS
Mar 9 <sup>th</sup>	Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00

## BISCUITS + CUPCAKE PUPPETS

At the end of the autumn half term Biscuits attended a puppet school in Stockport. They were introduced to puppets of all sizes and shapes and learnt some very useful techniques to tell stories and perform music with puppets. Known as Cupcake Puppets the Biscuits puppet company has performed in all our churches and



started the second half of the Razzmatazz concert in Rhosesmor Village Hall at the end of November. Our main characters are Sean and Susie, but there are often surprise performances by

Bananarama and Ba Ba Barbara and Anne. Look out for further performances over Christmas in church services. If you'd like to have some fun as part of Cupcake Puppets then come along to Rhes-y-Cae Village hall 6-7pm on a Thursday evening and meet the rest of the Biscuits.

## BISCUITS TAKE PRIDE IN THE MOUNTAIN

Earlier this year Biscuits spent a number of their meetings designing and making a collage of Biscuits life on The Mountain.



Their story includes their work with World Vision supporting our sponsored child Annie from Armenia; their musical contribution to our community, seen at its best in the evening in aid of Kisiizi Hospital in April; their life as part of the community of the church and their contribution in keeping our mountain environment clean and tidy.

Three times this year Biscuits have worked with the Halkyn Mountain Common Ranger, Rachael Watson. Their first sortie was to pick up litter over the area from Rhes-y-Cae to Pentre Halkyn. During the summer and autumn half term holidays they painted the warning posts on the side of the roads. In all they painted over 200 posts. Just a few to go so if you feel like helping in the spring then give us a ring!



## Blue Bell Inn

I'm writing this thinking about your Post Office Local at The Blue Bell Inn and what to tell you all. Well best laid plans and all that, it looks like there will be a bit of a delay which would have shifted an opening date into the middle of the Christmas period. That sounds great from a business perspective but at Christmas a busy pub + a busy Post Office + my learning curve would not be the most joyous of combinations. In order to give you the great service we are known for at the Blue Bell we've decided the wisest choice would be to move our opening towards the end of January. That will give us time to recover from the festivities and give you the best service possible.

On that note, we are building on to the experience of visiting the Blue Bell and we're just about to embark on a trip to an artisan coffee roaster to see if we can broaden our coffee offering, we'll also be revisiting the 15 different teas and adding some lovely locally made cakes and nibbles too. If you fancy a natter while visiting the Post Office you'll be able to do it in front of the fire with a nice warm cuppa and a small bite to eat! Getting here is easy enough, the bus stops right by the door or you can park off-road in safety and of course we're a short walk or ride for many over the mountain.

Our last quarter was great fun, plenty of stunning music, walking, wonderful art, some face-painting, caricatures, conker championships, falconry, South African barbecues and cider making thrown in for good measure! The music was raised beyond our usual top quality by the welcome annual visit from our American friends the Ronstadt Generations (Linda's brother & sons), Cheyenne Brown (a fantastic harpist from Alaska) and four wonderful musicians drawn from our regular music evenings (Thursdays and Saturdays - David Burton, Graham Bellinger, Jim Bazley and Mick Green) who together gave us a fantastic night to remember. It's not often you hear comments from more than one source saying 'that was the best music I've ever heard in a pub!'

I hope you managed to see Jude Lloyd-Johnson's lovely artwork at Helfa Gelf here, the walls looked great festooned with all of her artwork. We hope to do some more next year and the Post Office here should have some locally themed stationery specially produced by Jude! You can see some of Jude's work on-line here [judelloydjohnson.com](http://judelloydjohnson.com) or of course you can pop in and see our lovely picture as you enter the bar.

### Christmas, Plygain, Big Carol & All

You will be aware that we run many regular community events throughout each month but this time of year brings us one or two special extras. Two regular events in our festive calendar will once again be repeated as you know we like a bit of singing!

A Seasonal Sprinkling courtesy of **Rose Price & Friends** who are delivering an evening of assorted songs and tunes they love to play at any old time of the year, but topped off with a Seasonal Sprinkling of some festive favourites too. Rose (Beatles, Paul Simon and other fun Blue Bell nights) is joined by musical chums Adrian Dear, Ian Jones, John Finnan and local young talent Ben Robertson, to bring you a gentle induction to Christmas, without laying it on with a snow shovel! We'll also have some Christmas Cupcakes from the

lovely Bev! (ah, now you're interested...). Sing along, or relax by the glow of the fire, and enjoy the harmonies and hospitality at the Blue Bell Inn on **Saturday 7th December, 8.45pm** start.

Our second event is our Plygain on Monday 16th Dec at 8pm and held for our Welsh language learners and those others of you who are interested in this ancient Welsh traditional festive celebration. This year the wonderful Gron Ellis will again be hosting the event and describing what Plygain is, where it is happening and what it entails and of course we'll get the chance to sing a few Welsh festive songs and share a mince pie or two.

The third event is our annual **Big Carol** event which is always on the last Sunday before Christmas Day (**8pm on Sunday 22nd Dec**) and raises much needed funds for Age Concern NE Wales and we set about raising it by passing the bucket while we sing from a wide repertoire of carols and festive songs. Big Carol seems to be growing and not just due to the mince pies, the two bars are usually bursting with singers. The Rev'd Hugh Burgess typically conducting operations in one bar while I (Steve) conduct operations in the other. It usually starts well with all singing the same songs in the same time and key but usually ends up with much laughter and competition to see which bar can out-sing the other.

We are hoping to sneak in at least one other event, as we are hoping the Mari Lwyd will make an appearance it this year. We'll keep you posted about them in the usual way (see below).

**More presents** - we thought you might be interested in the four new Treasure Trails we have on sale at the Blue, one of which is based on the mountain. If you fancy a few hours of outdoor entertainment with friends gathering clues and discovering new things then £5.99 will see a £2 donation to North East Wales Search & Rescue and a great day out. We also sell our wines at wholesale prices, can provide beer and cider in take-away 4-pint jugs.

### Halkyn Christmas Pensioners Party

The Christmas Pensioners' Party is run by a group of regulars at the Blue Bell Inn for Halkyn's senior citizens. We provide the premises for free and through kindly donations through various events like our conker competition and a hamper raffle. The regulars collect enough funds to gather the ingredients to cook a full Christmas meal and provide a little something for folk to take home. The team cook various parts of the meal themselves, bring it up to the Blue Bell Inn to plate up and present it to the happy throng. They just do one sitting and that obviously doesn't cater for all the pensioners on the mountain so we alternate those who are invited each year so everyone eventually gets a turn. If you are receiving state pension and you haven't been contacted about the party, ring us on **01352 780309** and we'll add you to the list and get you in as soon as we can.

### Free Guided Walks

You know walking is good for you, it keeps you fit and active and best of all here at the Blue Bell Inn, it's free! I must thank very much all our stalwart walk leaders who continue to give their time for free to give you

some free exercise. I'll not name them for fear of missing some out but John & Vicky Thomas continue to inspire many to get fit and then go on to take the free training to become walk leaders themselves. We continue to walk every Thursday afternoon at 2pm and Saturday morning at 10:30am with two walks each day, one demanding, the other demanding enough!

Vicky also holds **free Nordic walking sessions** but now on **every Saturday at 1pm**. Nordic walking is tremendous exercise and we'll teach you for free and provide some Nordic walking sticks too!

The first week in January will also see us on our **New Years Resolution Walk**. If you would like to **get fit** and would like to do it **for free**, then get down for a taster on **Thursday 2nd at 11am**.

### Quiz

The hour has moved on and the nights are drawing in so our Wednesday night walkers have turned to our Wednesday evening quiz for their fun. You should try to come and join them, they are a friendly lot!

### Music

Our music here at the Blue is of a superb quality with the majority of musicians and singers making a living from their music and of session quality and we are providing it for you for free! We've had some tremendous special events from our Beatles Birthday Bash, Simon & Garfunkel Nights, Ronstadt Generations (Linda's brother), Full House, Welcomme, Finnan & Chrimes (all of whom back next year) distributed across our equally fantastic regular events. I hope you can get down to our Seasonal Sprinkling event with Rose Price and Friends on Saturday 7th Dec and of course our folkish type music every Thursday from a variety of regular singer songwriters, our very own Roger Hampson for a great singing night every Friday, Jazz on Saturday evenings twice a month, Trad Jazz every Sunday afternoon and the Rantin' Dogs monthly on the 2nd Monday.

We've added a few more dates to the musical diary and you'll find some excellent music of a popular nature every Thursday. The musicianship is tremendous and if you like music that's melodious and easy on the ear you should come and visit or pick up a very reasonably priced CD or two at the bar! Stan & his Getz are back to give you some contemporary jazz once a month on the 4th Saturday. And we shouldn't forget Mad Ed's Hot Five who are our weekly fix of merriment on a Sunday afternoon. Did you join us on our video recording experience with Mad Ed? The Mad Ed video is just hitting the internet as I write this and later in November sees the premier of the Purple Moose video we were recording.

As if you don't need reminding yet again, Christmas is coming and if you want a lovely inexpensive present you could do no better than buy 19 tracks of the best music we have to offer here on a Thursday. The 'Out of the Blue' album is available for £5.50 from the bar with at least £4 of that going to the Hope House children's hospice Tŷ Gobaith. It will also be available in all ten of their shops too. You might even like to try a box of one of those 15 different tea's we have on sale too!

### What Nice Weather

Anticipating some challenges with the weather again this year we've instituted a couple of weather planning ideas given to us during one of our Friday night tea-time discussions. The road is always clear here as we are lucky to have the gritting depot at the bottom of the mountain, so...

**PARKING:** if you can park considerately please do use our car park if you can't park at home (leave your phone number so we can contact you if the need arises).

**PARCELS:** if we're in (and we usually are) have your parcels delivered here and come and get them during opening hours (or ring on 01352 780309 if it's urgent).

If you've any other ideas like this, let us know and we'll endeavour to help.

Books of 1st and 2nd class stamps are available and we're thinking that you might see a Post Office towards the end of Jan or early Feb with a bit of luck! Not having the room to open a shop here but we're doing our best to provide some new services. Jeff Hart of Silver Rake in Brynford (01352-714992) delivers some wonderful veg boxes, all grown to organic principles. A box could be shared between two and is enough for two people a week at £8 a box (in advance), ring them direct for a pick-up at the Blue Bell at Friday teatime. We are also looking at dry cleaning and veg deliveries to order. Let us know if you have any other ideas.

I'll sign off now by saying that the Winter Cheese & Pickled Night is at 8:30pm on Saturday 1st February 2014. We open at 5pm weekdays (closed on Tuesday) & 12 noon Sat/Sun where the log fire is lit, the kettle is boiling and our real ales & ciders are just asking for your company (we should have the pies on again soon). The best way to keep up to date with our many events (and festive opening hours) is to come and pick up and take away an events sheet from a table here or go on-line at [halkyn.org](http://halkyn.org) or search on Google for [Blue Bell Halkyn](#) to find our own calendar. You can always give us a ring on 01352 780309.

Some sad news for us is that Jeannette retired. Thank you to everyone who contributed to her treat which I'm sure she will be ready to tell you about as I don't think you'll find her cheery face too far away. Thank you too Jeannette from Ness and I for being such a tremendous asset and friend.

Thanks to all of you we've had a great year being topped of by being presented with the inaugural CAMRA Branch Community Pub of the Year 2013 award. We've also had appearances on national and local radio, national magazine and newspaper articles, more book inclusions and local news articles. Can we (the team at the Blue) wish you a warm and friendly Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda. Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Diolch i chi am eich cefnogaeth yn ystod y flwyddyn. Thank you for all your support throughout the year.

See you at the bar.

*Steve Marquis*

## **Happy Birthday to Us**

It is now five years since we held our first Village Coffee Morning and we have grown from strength to strength, with an average of twenty-four people joining us every other Monday in Rhosesmor Village Hall, some coming from the villages of Pentre Halkyn, Northop and Windmill to name a few, and we even have the local Postman calling in for a cuppa!

Over the years we have donated over £1,900 to various charities, the most recent being £217.11p to MacMillan Cancer Care.

Thanks to everybody who has supported us over the years and we are always happy to welcome newcomers for a cuppa and a chat.

*Connie, Sue and Lynne*

## **Grosvenor Estate**

The Estate has placed some 44 No. 1.5 ton limestone boulders to prevent traveller access in the Calcoed area on the edge of Holywell Golf Club. This is a well known stopping off point and these prevention methods will discourage unwanted visitors from using this part of the common.

The Lime Kiln restoration at Waen y Brodilas is now complete. Temporary safety fencing has been placed along the top of the kilns. It is anticipated that an interpretation board will be sited to explain their history and use. In conjunction with this work, the Estate has demolished the adjacent old, dangerous and ruined brick office building.

Several Consents have been granted by Natural Resources Wales (previously CCW) to cut down thistles, bracken and gorse on sites across the mountain. This work will be ongoing.

The Estate has taken over ownership of the Rhes y Cae School following its closure. It is anticipated that part of the building will be used as an emergency store and Control Centre to ensure a speedy response in the case of a mineshaft or mine feature emergency.

Work is continuing to fence, or re-fence, 66 shafts which are adjacent to footpaths, roads or property. A few fenced areas will incorporate a grid cover over the shaft as an extra safety feature and will be constructed to facilitate bat entry and exit, if required. Fences will include a small pipe to aid the comings and goings of rabbits etc. The full programme of fences has been agreed with NRW and no further fencing is proposed at this stage.

Tenders and NRW Consents are being sought to demolish the tin shed behind Bryn Rodyn near Pen y Bryn on the edge of the old North Halkyn Mine site. The adjoining redundant explosives store will be either similarly demolished or made safe by sealing up the two entrances.

Designs have now been received from Welsh Water detailing an acceptable diversion of the water mains currently adjacent to the Windmill Shaft. When this work is complete the Estate will be able to agree with NRW and carry out remedial treatment on the shaft.

*Bill Leck*

## **Halkyn Community Council**

### **Reporting Street Lights out of Order**

As winter and the 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 752121, or complete an enquiry form on the [www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk) web site.

### **Changes to Police Personnel**

The Council have been notified that a new Senior Police Officer based in Mold, has decided that the local PCSO, Rob Hill, will no longer be the sole PCSO for the area - a position that the Officer has carried out for approximately two years. The area will now be covered by a further four PCSO's on a rota basis, who will all be based in the Mold Police Station. The Council Members felt, that just as PCSO Rob Hill had been competently covering and building up his knowledge of the area, the new pool of PCSO's will not have this knowledge and experience, and the area will again suffer.

### **Highway Concerns**

The Members were, once again, concerned that the Bryn Alun Junction from Rhosesmor B5123 to the A541 - whereby the view towards Rhydymwyn was obstructed by overgrowth, which resulted in difficulty for drivers to view the on-coming traffic. The County Highways have been asked to inspect the junction, and take the appropriate action to eliminate the hazard.

### **Review of Community Areas - Community Electoral Arrangements**

The Flintshire County Council are responsible for carrying out a review of the Community Electoral Arrangements for the Communities in the County of Flintshire. The draft proposals have been issued by the County, indicating that there is an inconsistent ratio of electorate to Councillors across the wards within the Halkyn Community Council area. The draft proposals indicate the following; 'Flintshire proposes to address the inconsistent ratio of electorate to Councillors - that the wards of Halkyn, Rhes y Cae and Rhosesmor be merged, to create a new ward and elect eight Councillors. The ward of Pentre Halkyn would elect five Councillors. The overall membership of the Council would remain at thirteen'. The proposals will be for public consultation in November, for a period of nine weeks.

### **Halkyn Parish Hall Library - Further Funding Agreed**

The Community Council signed an agreement with the Flintshire County Library Service two years ago, to retain the library services at The Halkyn Parish Hall. The library was due to be closed by the County Council in their cost cutting exercise of libraries across the

**(Continued in next column, page 7)**

County. The Halkyn Community Council Members, agreed to further finance the library to the end of March, 2015 - at a cost of £4,632.00. The funding will be further reviewed in early 2015.

### **Donations and Financial Support**

The Community Council have provided the following financial donations, since the last issue of the HMN; St. Paul's Rhosesmor, Christchurch Rhes y Cae, St. Mary's Halkyn - £270.00 to each Church (towards the upkeep of Cemetery maintenance), Halkyn Sports Association £200.00 - towards a Community Halloween/Firework Event, Welsh Border Community Transport (Flintshire) - £100.00 towards hospital transport for residents in the Community, Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall Committee - £500.00, Halkyn Mountain News - £500.00 and The National Eisteddfod of Wales - £100.00.

*Phillip Parry,  
Clerk to Halkyn Community Council  
Tel; 01352 720547  
E-mail; halkyn.council@btinternet.com  
www.halkyn.org*

## **Halkyn County Council Ward**

It is not always easy to write a positive and encouraging review for the Halkyn Mountain News, especially when one has to admit failures when dealing with bureaucracy. A prime example of this has been my efforts on behalf of the long suffering people who live in the vicinity of Jerusalem Corner, Rhosesmor. I relish a fair challenge especially when I have the total support of Halkyn Community Council, David Hanson M.P., Sandy Mewies and Mark Isherwood, A.M.s. Not everyone is aware that the pillar Box at Jerusalem Corner was involved in a Road Traffic Incident some time ago. The fact that this stationary fixture suffered severe damage at all should have made the powers that be think twice about the unsuitability of the former site for human safety. Since then I have written innumerable letters requesting a replacement and supplying accurate and compelling data in favour of a replacement, as have Messrs Hanson, Mewies and Isherwood. The replies have rejected our request and have totally ignored the content of our letters. There was not even the courtesy of an acknowledgement from the Ofcom ombudsman. We shall continue to fight for a replacement pillar box because the reasons given by the Post Office for refusing our request are based on totally inaccurate facts.

The re-opening of a Post Office in Halkyn has been delayed yet again, in spite of all the work and efforts of Mr & Mrs Marquis. Is it too much to expect that things will become better now that the Post Office has been privatised?

Halkyn Community Council and I have made strong representations concerning the dangerous road junction where the B5123 from Holywell joins the Mold-Denbigh Road. Visibility there has been improved slightly by the cutting of some overhanging branches but it is still a hazard which the Highways Dept. denies, citing the fact that a 40mph speed limit is in operation there: but only if all drivers keep to the limit! There must be many drivers from the Halkyn area who,

having carefully joined the A541 find themselves being tailgated even before they reach the end of the 40mph limit. Regretfully, this situation is unlikely to be remedied until there has been a serious fatal crash.

Over the past few weeks Flintshire County Council have replenished the roadside Salt Bins. The County Council point out that the salt/grit is for use on the public highway: people are warned that it is an offence to use the salt/grit on private drives and footpaths. Bags of salt/grit can be purchased from the County Council at £5 per bag. Also should a group of public spirited citizens join together to clear snow away from vulnerable homes, it is also possible to obtain spades and brushes from the County Council for that purpose.

The County Council, obeying directives from Central Government, instituted a 'Single Status' policy, as from April 2014. This simply means equal pay for men and women doing the same job; and equal pay for people of the same gender performing the same work. There have been serious anomalies in the past. For about half the Flintshire workforce, pay/income will remain the same; for a lucky group their pay will go up (at different percentages from the present); some poor souls will have their income lowered; an unlucky few by over 10%. For those whose income will go down, this policy will not be fully implemented until 2016. The Council will do everything it can to minimise the effects of a drop in pay; or even to avoid a drop at all but there will still be losers. It is particularly unfortunate that this policy is having to be introduced (by law) when the cost of living is tending to increase (especially fuel and energy costs). There is bound to be some hardship but on top of that it will almost certainly strain the loyalty and cooperation of a small section of the workforce which will not be good for the County Council.

It was great to hear, (from far away) the sound of children's happy voices during the October half term as they enjoyed a Halloween party in the Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall. One has missed this pleasant and vital sound this autumn coming from the village school playground. It's a pity that the bureaucrats in Cardiff did not hear it, strong irrefutable evidence that there is still plenty of young life in the village yet.

People are asking 'what is going to happen to the school building?' Under a promise of confidentiality, I can only say at present that the Grosvenor Estates will be using part of the building (the Estate's property, built by a former Duke of Westminster) for their own needs; but also that they would like to see the building used for the public good, eventually.

In spite of the tone of this letter being more sombre than I would have wished, may I still wish all my constituents on Halkyn Mountain peace and contentment over the festive season, and also give a very sincere thought to those for whom this season will be tinged with sadness because of the loss of a loved one over the past year. As a community this year we seem to have had so say "Good-bye" to quite a number of highly respected and valuable members; friends and associates.

*Yours most sincerely  
Colin Legg (C.C.)*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Halkyn Mountain Cub Pack and Scout Troop

**Scouts** had a short joint summer camp at Bodfari Woodland Centre with 1<sup>st</sup> Rhuddlan Scouts and as usual the weather was wet and windy but the Troop enjoyed practicing woodland skills, cooking for themselves and a fine attempt at building a trebuchet.

In September we joined with Scouts from all over Wales for a canoeing week end at Llyn Gwynant. The first day started out wet and overcast but brightened up lovely in the afternoon. Sunday started off at 05:00 with a bang, the bang was our mess tent being blown into the river by a mini hurricane. The rest of the time was spent trying to feed and water the Scouts from the back of our trailer from a single ring gas stove as our main stove was a casualty of the flying mess tent fiasco. Guess what we're fundraising for this year!



We're bag packing at Sainsbury's and Rhosesmor Hall Committee generously allowed us to fund raise at their Jumble Sales. We've raised £120 since the summer.

### Taking a break



**Cubs** have had a much 'calmer' summer and autumn programme so far – although we haven't been quiet! We've had a lot of fun learning about new places, making cheesy bread, building fires in the woods and going on a short cycle ride (with hot dogs and squash afterwards) along the Dee Estuary cycle path. We are looking forward to a joint cinema trip with the Scouts in December and completing our Promise and Creative Challenges this term.

**Cubs and Scouts** will be attending the Armistice service and we will be carol singing on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December for pensioners in Halkyn.

Cubs meet 18.00-19.15 and Scouts meet on Friday evenings at 19:15 to 21:15 during term times at Rhosemor Village Hall (some weeks we are out and about on adventures).

Ring 01352780932(Graham Fredricks/Skip) or 07788278884 (Joss Peers/Akela) if you are interested in joining or want to be a leader or just help out.

## Macmillan Cancer Support

I would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee morning held during September at Rhosesmor Village Hall in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Thanks to your generosity we managed to raise an amazing £525!!

Thanks again  
Ceri Jones

## W.R.V.S. Rural Transport

Can you help? Drivers are wanted in the Pentre/Halkyn/Rhosesmor area with time to spare with cars suitable for transporting elderly or infirm people to appointments, etc. Mileage allowance given.

Please contact:

Mrs J Roberts on 01352 780087

## Homeopathy

Newly Established Homeopathy & Wellbeing Clinic for Halkyn Mountain Community.

### What is Homeopathy?

Homeopathy is a form of holistic medicine. The specially prepared medicines, called remedies, are given in tablet or liquid form and are made in specialist pharmacies mainly from plant or mineral sources. Homeopathy is the second largest form of medicine and is used worldwide. Some NHS hospitals use homeopathy and there are NHS-funded homeopathic hospitals.

### History of Homeopathy:

The current practice of homeopathy evolved over 200 years ago through work done by Dr Samuel Hahnemann (1755-1843), the founder of homeopathy. Through his experiments he discovered homeopathy, a different system of medicine based on the principle of 'like with like.' Dr Hahnemann realised there were two ways of supporting ill-health, the way of opposites and the way of similars (homeopathy).

### Holistic Approach:

Homeopathy considers all symptoms, mental, emotional and physical, together as a whole rather than treating specific conditions in isolation.

Homeopathy offers support, enabling and enhancing wellbeing, which may in turn improve the ability to cope with conditions or manage the distress associated with symptoms.

Homeopathic remedies are non-toxic, can be used alongside conventional medicines and are suitable for everyone including babies and children.

I offer homeopathic consultations for all within Halkyn Mountain Community and beyond.

Denise Lund. RSHom. LNWCH.

Homeopath. 01352 780966.



Registered member of

**The Society of Homeopaths**

## **Graziers News**

### **Current Situation**

It was disappointing to have failed to reach a section 15 agreement earlier in the year with CCW, but I think the meeting at which it was rejected should have left NRW (CCW) in no doubt about our feelings and should have some impact on any future agreements they intend to put forward.

Welsh Government is looking again at Glastir following a not very good report on the initial launch of the scheme. If they follow the recommendations of the report there may be something in it for us.

During a meeting at Llys Fasi College on CAP reform we learned that Welsh Government is still trying to make up their minds whether common land will receive any payments from the CAP funds.

We will try to keep abreast of what is going on in these areas and follow up any items that may be of advantage to the graziers and the common.

### **Aberdo/Bryn Mawr Quarry**

From what we have gathered so far the overall area of the quarry will be 2 or 3 hectares less when the extension project is completed. We must make sure that the area that is being returned to the common is suitable for grazing and not just a pile of rocks and thistles.

### **Scottish Power**

A number of the power lines crossing the mountain are to be put underground this will obviously mean trenches being put in across the mountain. We have spoken to NRW and they have ensured us that they will replace the turf and leave the areas they work on in a good condition when they have finished.

I also understand that there is to be some work carried out in the Pentre Halkyn area. What the work is and who will be carrying out is as yet unknown but Grosvenor Estates are going to ensure that we receive details prior to the work being carried out.

### **Agri Environment Schemes**

These schemes, such as Glastir, CAP payments etc are based on the eligible area of the common. Areas which are not included are quarries, roads and the golf course but there are a number of other areas that are of concern to graziers. For example, people putting fences up around their property and taking a few feet off the common, hard standing being laid to park cars, laying stone to improve access to their property etc. This being common land, these activities are illegal. To carry out any work on the common you have to have permission from NRW (CCW) and Grosvenor Estates and in some cases from the Welsh Government minister. But as far as the graziers are concerned you are reducing the grazing area of the common and potentially taking money from the pockets of the graziers.

*Halkyn Graziers and Commoners Association*

## **Brynford Community Council**

### **Condition of trees Brynford Hill**

For a considerable time the Council have been raising concerns with Flintshire County Council Highways regarding the condition of the trees overhanging the highway on Brynford Hill.

At a recent meeting of the Council Mr. Ian Williams, Streetscene Area Supervisor Flintshire County Council, reported that a condition survey of the trees had been completed, the findings of which had been shared with adjacent landowners. Agreement had been reached on appropriate actions and that the work would be undertaken during this autumn.

### **Best Kept Communities Competition 2013**

Further to the report of the judge's findings in this year's event, which was reported in the last issue of Halkyn Mountain News, the Council is very keen to try and introduce a best kept garden competition for 2014. In order to do so the Council is appealing to residents to come forward with any suggestions and help to organise the event. If interested please contact Councillor Jean Davies, Brynford Village Stores or myself.

### **Street Lighting**

The Council has the maintenance responsibility for most of the street lighting in the community. With the onset of long dark nights any lighting faults can be reported to any Councillor or myself who will arrange for the repairs to be undertaken.

*A. Roberts,  
Clerk to the Council  
Crecas Cottage,  
Carmel Hill,  
Pantasaph,  
Holywell,  
CH8 8NZ  
Tel: 01352 710335*

## **Halkyn W.I.**

We meet on the first Thursday of the month, time depending on the season and every other Thursday for our informal chat and craft classes.

In September we enjoyed a talk from Mrs Irene Walker about her hobby of wood turning and saw many of her beautiful pieces.

Mrs Warmsley entertained us in October with her humorous account of her trip around the coast of America in a luxurious campervan, a parting gift from the Sultan of Brunei.

Our AGM was in November and we said goodbye to Jo who has been our President for the last 9 years. We thank her and wish her a happy retirement.

We commence our Xmas celebration on Dec 6<sup>th</sup> at Bethesda Chapel, Mold with our Carol Festival attended by all the W.I.s in the Federation of Clywd Flint.

We welcome anyone who wishes to join our W.I. which recommences in February 2014. Please support our W.I. in our 80<sup>th</sup> year.

Contact Mrs Averil Woodfine 01352 780918

## Line Dancing

It was the first anniversary of the start of Line Dancing at Halkyn Parish Hall on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The Line Dancing was started by the Halkyn & District Over 50s Forum with the assistance of a grant from Flintshire County Council. Although organised by the Over 50s Forum the class, mainly for beginners, is open to all ages and is run from 12:45-2:45pm every Wednesday.

It was decided that we had to mark the day with a celebration so we decided to start early for once and everyone brought something to the party. We started with our usual fun session learning another new dance under the guidance of our brilliant teacher Julie Gabriel; she has the patience of a saint, which is sometimes needed to get us all coordinated. After a successful session we had mastered the new dance and it was time to celebrate.



Line dancers celebrating with a party tea  
( teacher Julie inset)

After eating all that lovely food Julie reminded us what we were here for, it was time to dance off all the calories we had just enjoyed. We all lined up to finish the party by performing the new dance and others we have learnt over the year.

Why not come and join us at the Halkyn Parish Hall on Wednesdays 12:45-2:45pm. It is only £4 a session, is great way to keep you feeling young and fit and at the same time enjoy a good laugh.

*Mary Broadbent*  
Halkyn & District Over 50s Forum



Also celebrating their birthday, for which teacher Julie brought in a birthday cake to share, were Maureen and Julie

## Ranger Update

As the weather returns to its customary wind and rain, so we welcome the changes of the season. The positive side of this means that the ponds on the mountain are now holding water, although due to the dry summer we may have suffered a high mortality rate of the amphibian population in the smaller water bodies, especially those too immature to have developed lungs. That though unfortunately is the nature of Nature. I'm sure she'll find a way to right the wrongs and restore the balance eventually though.

I've been busy locating, recording and monitoring a whole new list of possible mine shafts on the common in recent months. Armed with maps and a hand held GPS I've added approximately 70 more locations to the current 50-odd I already check. Don't worry though, all these won't be fenced in, unless I notice any change in them and they begin to look unsafe. If anyone does notice any suspicious looking holes that appear to have slumped at all then please get in touch with me and I can get them checked out by the experts.

The Halkyn Church Youth Group has been out on the mountain a couple of times, once in August and again during October half term. They have done a fantastic job painting the white marker posts on the side of the road, from Halkyn to Rhes-y-Cae, into Windmill and from Wern-y-Gaer to Star Crossing. It's a job that I just wouldn't have had time to do on my own; they managed in their two visits to paint over 200 posts. So well done and a very big thank you to them, from all of us I think I can say!

Winter for me means gorse and scrub cutting and pond restoration, all of which I hope to get completed over the next few months. I have a volunteer morning cutting scrub coming up on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February and a litter pick on the morning of Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. So if you are interested in lending a hand and helping out please give us a call at Wepre Park Visitor Centre on 01244 814931.

*Rachael Watson*  
Halkyn Mountain Common Ranger

## Halkyn & District Over 50's Club

Meet on the 1st Monday of every month  
At the Halkyn Village Hall  
At 2.00 pm

As a group we are striving to contact other people who want to join us.

We hold meetings to discuss various opportunities open to us and invite guest speakers to speak on various topics.

If you would like to join us or wish to give some input you would be very welcome.

Just come along to our meetings or ring Jenny on 781417 or Mary on 781412



## Rhes-y-Cae News

Warmest congratulations on the marriage of Robert Hodnett and Emma Roberts of Fron Oleu, Rhes-y-Cae.

The wedding took place at Christchurch, Rhes-y-Cae on September 19<sup>th</sup> and Rev'd Hugh Burgess conducted the service and he gave all the guests a very warm welcome. The bride's sister Heather was the bridesmaid and children Oliver and Beth were in attendance. Family and many friends from far afield, including a dog, came to the service!



The wedding reception was held at The Miner's Arms, and the room was beautifully decorated by Leanne who also decorated the church. It was indeed a very special day for everyone



**The Miner's Arms** - The Pierce family have been very busy with renovation work including a lovely new fireplace! The Miner's Arms had been open since the Rhes-y-Cae & Moel-y-Crio Sheepdog Trial and Show hoped that it will re-open early in December, please look out notices of opening dates etc. outside the pub.

**Harvest Thanksgiving Service – Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Sep** - The service was taken by Rev'd Hugh Burgess and the Dean of St Asaph, the Very Rev'd Nigel Williams, gave the Address, Colin Legg played the organ – our grateful thanks. The topic of the sermon was "You need to sow in order to reap the Harvest". Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended the service.

The church looked beautiful and our thanks to all who decorated it.

After the service the congregation went to Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall, and then they all enjoyed a delicious Hot Pot Supper provided by the Village Hall Committee – many thanks. All the fresh produce was auctioned after the supper and the proceeds were given to the Village Hall Committee towards raising funds for the Pensioners Christmas Lunch.

Finally, a special 'Thank you' to the staff at Homebase in Mold for their contributions and to the farmer, David Hughes of Rhosesmor for providing the corn used to decorate the church. Also the dried and tin goods were donated to the Food Bank in Mold.

**Joint Service – Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Sep** - Ebenezer Chapel joined us at Rhes-y-Cae Church for Evensong; and was conducted by Rev'd Hugh Burgess. After the service, refreshments were served at the Village Hall. Many thanks to the church ladies for providing such delicious cakes!

**Gwasenaeth O Ddiolchgarwch – Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Oct** - Many people supported this service from various chapels and churches on Halkyn Mountain and beyond. Our thanks to Rev'd Marc Morgan of Wrexham for taking the service with the theme of thanksgiving which started with Moses guiding the people from Egypt to the Promised Land. There were references to the modern day of contributing to the poor and needy with worthwhile charities, and more recently the food banks. Our sincere thanks to Nerys Roberts for decorating the lovely Harvest Table, and also to Colin Legg for playing the organ.

### FUTURE DATES

#### Rhes-y-Cae Church

**Dec 24<sup>th</sup>** - "Around the Crib" service at 4pm

**Dec 25<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Day Communion service 9:30am

**\*\* Watch out for posters for Chapel and Church Carol Services\*\***

#### Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall

**Clwb Salsa** - Wednesdays from 7 – 9pm

**"Biscuits"** - children and youth activities (aged 10 upwards) – Thursdays from 6-7pm (term time)

You are welcomed to all the above events

*Gwyneth Hughes*

### HALKYN MOUNTAIN DVD

There are still a number of the popular Halkyn Mountain DVDs available for sale.

You can order your copy from Rachael Watson at Wepre Park Visitor Centre, Wepre Drive, Connah's Quay, Flintshire, CH5 4HL.

The DVD's are reasonably priced at £3.00 each, plus £1.00 postage & packing.

## From The Rev'd Hugh Burgess

Rhydymwyn, November, 2013

Dear Friends

In the last edition of the Mountain News, it was announced that Rhosesmor Church would be open every day and I am delighted to say that it has been and will continue to be open. This has been a wonderful experience as many people are now able to drop in to experience this "sacred space".



One of the reasons that we opened the church was to use it as a collection point for the Flintshire Foodbank. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who is supporting the Foodbank. In Rhosesmor there has not been a day when we have not received food donations and every week we have been able to send several boxes of food. So "Thank you!" and please keep your donations coming.

Although the response to the Foodbank has been marvellous, I cannot escape from a deeper concern that in a society that calls itself the "Welfare State" the systems are such that people find themselves without sufficient to eat. This seems to me to be a scandalous state of affairs and I would encourage you, if you feel the same way, to write to your MP to say so.

While doing some work in Rhosesmor Church recently, I was brought up short when I realised that I was not actually alone. Our visitor was a homeless man who had seen the Foodbank sign and thought he should be able to get some food. Andrew and I had a long conversation and he challenged me on what it means to be "poor". I suppose I am pretty well off in comparison to many people but talking to Andrew, who had only what he could carry, I was again reminded that the more we have then the more we have to lose and so the more effort we put into keeping what we have. At the moment, I'm not quite sure where I am going with this but I am clear that there are, even on Halkyn Mountain, people for whom every day is a struggle. In the interests of social justice, that means that I have to re-assess the way I live and what I do with the things that I have.

Last Sunday, I went to a church service in Llandudno. We had "borrowed" the local Baptist Church. When I arrived, the lady from that church who met me told me that there was a homeless woman living in their vestry and would we mind if we didn't use that room? Mind? Of course we didn't mind! In the event, she joined in with us and it was good to see her with a roof over her head – even if it was in a church!

Yes! I am delighted that we are able to open Rhosesmor Church all day, every day and I hope that Rhes y cae will follow soon. There have already been quite a number of remarkable stories from people visiting, even in the couple of months that we have been open. A couple from Canada were put in touch with relatives on the Mountain, one visitor found

particular inspiration while she was staying locally, other people have found it to be a spiritual space as well as a place to meet and, of course, there is the continued generosity with their donations of food for the Foodbank. But it seems that this is only the beginning and we are being challenged to think about other needs.

As we approach Christmas, the traditional season of goodwill, it seems a particularly appropriate time to reflect again on what we have, to acknowledge the challenges in our society and perhaps to ask whether there is anything else that we might do in and for our community. That's a question only we can answer for ourselves.

In the meantime, I wish you every blessing for a warm and joyful Christmas.

01352 741 646  
07891 157 827



### **The Royal British Legion: Halkyn Branch**

The Annual General Meeting was held in Pentre Halkyn Community Centre on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013. Mr Keith Roberts was re-elected as President, with Arthur Kemp as

Vice-President. Mr Brynley Davies was re-elected as Chairman, and also as Poppy Appeal Organiser, Standard Bearer and Social Organiser. Other members were re-elected as various officials; and particular tributes were paid to Mrs Jane Gregory for her excellent work as Membership Secretary.

Mr Brynley Davies gave a short report in which he thanked the Poppy Appeal Collectors for their dedication and hard work. The Halkyn Branch has raised over £5,923 over the past three years.

The Chairman also thanked members of the various youth groups brownies, cubs, scouts, etc. who supported the Remembrance Sunday Services so well. He was very pleased to see so many attend this special occasion and was most grateful for their support, they were a credit to their groups.

Arrangements were also made for members to perform special duties at the forthcoming service, to be held in Rhes-y-Cae (last year held in Halkyn; in 2014 to be held in Rhosesmor).

*Colin Legg*  
(Hon Secretary)

## Ysgol Rhos Helyg

Once again it has been a very busy half term with lots of interesting things happening.

### Ysgol Rhos Helyg Nursery Class

A very warm welcome to the pupils of our Nursery class, I'm sure that they will be very happy during their time at the school. Also a very warm welcome to new parents at Rhos Helyg, I am sure that you will be welcomed warmly into our school community.

### Car Park

At long last we were finally granted planning permission for additional parking at the school. We are grateful to the support from the Community Council for funding this project. We are also grateful for the support we have had from the Graziers, the Grosvenor estate, the Warden and the Countryside Council for Wales.



It is hoped that this will ease congestion at Rhos Helyg.

### Yurt

We have had an additional outside classroom in the form of a Yurt at the school. It is a great place to learn. The Yurt is situated in our wooded area.



### PC Jones

PC Jones came to talk to Pupils in Years 2,4 and 6 about Social Behaviour issues as part of the National programme organised by the Welsh Assembly.



### Wind Turbine

We are very pleased that we are able to produce our own electricity here at Rhos Helyg. This will save us a considerable amount of money every year and it will reduce our carbon footprint.

### Healthy Schools Award

We have achieved the phase 4 award in Healthy Schools which is a great honour for us all at the school.

### Willow Weaving

Kate Wilson from New Wildlife has been working with all pupils at the school. The pupils have been working in

small groups down in the round house weaving with willow. A great experience for them all.



### Monster Day

The pupils had a fantastic creative day where they worked in various outside places to get inspiration to write wonderful Monster poems. All pupils made a monster mask.



### iPads

The school has purchased iPads for the Junior pupils. The Year 6 pupils have one each and other pupils share one between two. The learning is fun and the pupils are highly motivated when using the fabulous educational

apps. Many thanks to the PTA for supporting this venture.

### A visit from Switzerland

Mrs Marlene Broger, a Swiss teacher, visited the school for three weeks recently and shared some Swiss recipes with pupils from Mrs Thomas class.



Making Swiss Muesli ▲  
◀ Enjoying the Muesli

### Hockey Roadshow

Pupils from all Junior classes were fortunate to receive coaching in Hockey at the school recently.



### Money Week

All pupils have had a weeks activities on a mini project about Money. Pupils have learnt many things starting with Where money comes from. The older pupils learnt about buying a house with a mortgage. Pupils have also looked at a mini business enterprise. It has been fascinating, perhaps they will appreciate the value of things a little more!



### Chickens

There has been great excitement at the school with the arrival of our seven chickens. The children will be involved in their care and will even be allowed to purchase their eggs. This is part of our work on sustainability.



### Outdoor Learning

Every Friday afternoon the pupils in The foundation Phase go outside to learn. They are split in to six groups and do a different activity each week.



*Solving a problem ►*



◀ *Making a shelter*



*Making a shelter ►*



*Making musical instruments in the Yurt*

### Harvest Service

We finished this half term with our Harvest service, it was well attended and pupils brought in items for our Harvest display. The theme this year was food. The food items were donated to Save The Family. We collected money in for Alder Hay Hospital.

### PTA Events

Our annual sponsored walk to The Blue Bell for the Infants and to Rhes Y Cae for the Juniors took place in mid September. We as usual were blessed with a lovely day. Everybody enjoyed the walk nearly as much as their hot dogs on completion of the walk back at Rhos Helyg.

A film night was held for the first time this year and was very well attended.

We finished the half term off with a fancy dress disco. The evening was well supported and the quality of costumes was excellent.

Once again the school is extremely grateful to the PTA for their hard work which has raised well over a £500 since September.

## Ysgol Rhos Helyg PTA

Many thanks to all of the children, parents and teachers who came along for the Sponsored Walk. We were lucky again this year to have dry weather. The infants walked to the Bluebell and back to school. The juniors walk was lead by Mr Ap Sion and they walked over to Rhes-y-Cae where they had refreshments in the village hall before walking back to school. We hope everybody enjoyed the walk and the hotdogs back at the school! A big thank you to everyone who took part in the walk & collected their sponsor money. Many thanks Mr Ap Sion for co-ordinating the walk, to Rhes-y-Cae village hall committee who kindly let us use the facilities at the hall.

The junior children enjoyed a film night at school and watched "EPIC", it was a good social event for them to get together and spend a few hours.

The Christmas Fayre will be held at the School on the Friday 29th November at 5.30 p.m. There will be many stalls including crafts, tombola, raffle, cakes, refreshments, archery and we hope Santa will be in his grotto, so please do come along and support us.

*Many Thanks  
PTA Committee*

## **YSGOL BRYNFFORDD SCHOOL**

We would like to welcome you all back to the new school year, hopefully after a restful summer break. We would also like to welcome the new parents who have joined us this year. We look forward to working with you all in the forthcoming year. The children have all settled in extremely well and are keen to work.

### **Jamboree**

The children from the infants attended the Jamboree in the Civic Hall, Connah's Quay on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June. The children enjoyed singing with children from other schools in the area.

### **Sports day**

I don't think I can remember having sports day on the scheduled day or one that wasn't cut short due to rain! How lucky were we to have it all done on the original date Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June! Congratulations to all the children for trying their very best and HUGE congratulations to the winning team this year which was Celyn. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> were very close this year – well done to Alwen and Brenig too. It was lovely to see so many of you supporting the children of Ysgol Brynffordd. I didn't know we had so many fit athletes as parents/aunties/uncles etc either!!!! No wonder our children do so well.

### **MAT Workshop**

Four children from Year 2 attended a MAT workshop for cookery and fitness at Ysgol Perth Y Terfyn on the morning of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

### **Cricket**

The cricket team played very well at Carmel Cricket club on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Thanks again to Mrs Harris, staff and parents for transporting the children. I know I often say it, but without such a good team – staff, parents and children, Ysgol Brynffordd would not be able to thrive the way it is, thank you most sincerely for your support.

### **Urdd Athletics**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June took us to the Queensway stadium in Wrexham for the annual Urdd athletics. The athletics squad tried their very best and Owen won the javelin competition for Years 5 and 6 boys – llongyfarchiadau! Owen went on to represent Flint Maelor at Eirias Park on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 6pm at the Urdd finals and did well.

### **Moving up day**

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June was a very important moving up day where we meet the new Nursery for the first time. It was a very peaceful, cry free afternoon and lovely to see them all.

### **Rugby**

The rugby league team played well in the friendly tournament on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June against Ysgol Glanrafon, Ysgol Nercwys and Ysgol Nannerch. Thanks to Mrs Lovell for helping to take the children to Mold.

### **Summer Picnic**

We ended off the last week of the summer term in the glorious sunshine at the summer picnic the eve of Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. It was lovely to see so many of you

socialising and enjoying yourselves in the company of Mr Mike Owens (guitar teacher) and his talented family. Thank you very much to FOBS who organised the event and to anyone who helped out in any way to make it such a successful evening.

### **Dancefest**

The children took part in Dancefest at Theatr Clwyd on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June. It was excellent and lovely to see our young pupils on the big stage – well done children and to the staff who have spent many an hour teaching them the dance routine. Thanks also to parents for helping to take the children for their practise before the performance.

### **Beach day**

Year 5 children went to Talacre beach on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June along with Ysgol Bro Carmel. They took part in geography field work about the beach. Both staff and children thoroughly enjoy their day.



### **URDD rounders tournament**

The junior children took part in the Urdd rounders tournament on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July which was held here at Ysgol Brynffordd. Well done to all the children who took part.

### **School Trips**

The nursery children enjoyed a trip to Greenacres on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July whilst the Reception, Years 1 and 2 children had a great time in Underwater Street, Liverpool.



On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July as part of their topic the juniors visited the Imperial Museum, Manchester to the World War II exhibition. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

### **Leavers' disco**

Leavers' disco was held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July for all juniors. We wish the year six children well as they move on to their new schools.

### **ICT workshop**

An ICT workshop was held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July for all Year 5 pupils at Holywell High School. The children had a great time! Rebecca Lloyd won an iPod shuffle for her contribution to the ICT work.

### **PC Gail Sinclair**

PC Gail Sinclair came into school on the 20<sup>th</sup> September to talk to the children in Years 1 and 2 about rights and wrongs, Years 3 and 4 about cyber bullying and Years 5 and 6 about diversity.

### **Jeans for Genes**

This is a charity we now support annually. Both children and staff came into school wearing jeans on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September, once again helping to raise £70.61 for this worthy cause.

### **Fire Safety**

The Fire Service safety came into school on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September to talk to all pupils. The children underwent a fire drill and were congratulated on their calmness when they had to vacate the school and congregate in the school's designated area.

### **TATA Steel Triathlon**

The juniors took part in the TATA Steel Triathlon which was held at Mold Alun on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves swimming, cycling and then running to the finish line. All pupils received a medal and swimming hat for their efforts.

### **Ysgol Brynffordd Choir**

The infant children were invited to sing for a group of ladies at St. Michael's church. The ladies had come to visit the church from a church in Liverpool and thoroughly enjoyed listening to our little choir.



### **MacMillans Biggest Coffee Morning**

This event was greatly supported by parents and Brynford residents who came along on the morning of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September to enjoy coffee and cake in the school hall.



Thank you to all who helped by donating cakes! We raised an enormous £385.22 for this worthwhile cause, an all time record for our school.

### **Parents Open Evening**

A Parents open evening was held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Parents were invited into school to discuss how their child had settled into the new term with the class teacher. Thank you to Mrs. Andrea Oare, the school cook, who prepared samples of school dinners for both parents and children to try.

### **Harvest**

The children took part in our annual Harvest service in Calcoed chapel on the morning of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October. The service was well attended with the service led by the Reverend Floyd. Thank you to all who kindly donated tinned/packet foods which were given to Flintshire's Foodbank who distribute food packages to the people within our community who have a low income.

### **Internet awareness**

P.C. Sinclair came into school on the evening of Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October to talk to both parents and staff about Internet awareness. It is important that all parents know what their child is doing on the internet.

### **Football**

Well done to junior children who represented the school in the Flintshire rural school football team which was held at Ysgol Trelogan. The children once again behaved impeccably showing good team spirit.

### **Healthy Schools**

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October Miss Owens took three juniors with her to accept our 4<sup>th</sup> Healthy Schools leaf and also to officially accept our Green Flag status for the second time. Congratulations Ysgol Brynffordd for showcasing the fact that we are a healthy green school!

### **Design to Smile**

We received the Gold award for Design to Smile tooth brushing which is implemented with the Nursery pupils on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October. Well done to both staff who oversee the initiative in school and the nursery children!

### **Scary Disco**

Thank you to Friends of Brynffordd for organising this year's scary disco which was held on Thursday 24 October. The children had a wonderful time!

### **Date for your diary**

We will be holding our annual Christmas Fair on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm. Please feel free to come along and visit our many stalls, including hot drinks and mince pies and pop and see our special guest Santa in his grotto.

### **Carol Service**

This year's carol service will once again be held in St. Michaels church in Brynford on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 10am. We would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us.

## Halkyn Parish Hall

### Private Functions and Meetings

A reminder that the hall is available for private functions including weddings, christenings, birthday parties etc bar and catering facilities can be arranged.

For more information ring Sharon Davies 01352 781350.

### Weekly Diary

#### Mondays

Nia Dance Class 10:30 - 11:30 am  
Contact Julia 781941  
Yoga 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Contact Jenny 01352 780681

#### Tuesdays

Baby & Toddler Group 9:30 to 11:00 am  
Snooker Club 7:30 pm  
New members welcome Andy Wood 780159

The Snooker Table is also available for Hire  
Contact Sharon Davies on 781350

#### Wednesdays

Modern Line Dancing 12:45 - 14:45 pm  
Contact Mary 01352 781412  
Bingo (every other Wednesday) 7:30 pm  
(For more information on the Bingo call Carolyn on 01352 781765)

#### Thursdays

Halkyn W.I. 2:00 pm

#### Fridays

Library 1:30 - 7:00 pm  
Halkyn Brownies 6:30 - 7:30 pm  
Contact Karen 716027

#### Sunday

Nia Dancing for Birth 10:00 - 11:00 am  
For info call Alison 781579 - www.alisonnia.co.uk

## Capel Bethel y Nant

Services every Sunday at 2:30 - Do Join Us!

Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Arwel Roberts
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Cyfarod Gweddi
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Greene
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Gwasanaeth Carolau - 2pm
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Dim gwasanaeth
Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	Dim gwasanaeth
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	Robert Parry
Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	Shân Morris
Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	Eirlys Gruffydd
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Delyth McIntyre
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup>	Maureen Roberts
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	Glyn Thomas
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bryan Jones

**Croeso Cynnes i Bawb! A warm welcome to all!**

### Gwasanaeth Carolau Carol Service Bi-lingual

**Sunday 22 Dec - Dydd Sul 22 o Rag  
at 2.00 pm**

**Paned a mins pei ar ôl y gwasanaeth  
Do join us for the festive service and  
a cup of tea and Mince Pie afterwards**

**Croeso Cynnes y Bawb!  
A Warm Welcome to All!**

## Cynfaen Memorial Chapel Calcoed

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

(C) denotes Communion Service

Dec 1st	(E) Mr Bryan Jones
Dec 8th	(W) Parch Marc Morgan (C)
Dec 15th	(E) Own arrangement
Dec 22nd	Bi-lingual Carol Service 5PM Rev J Bryn Jones
Dec 29th	(E) Own arrangement
Jan 5th	(W) Parch Marc Morgan (C)
Jan 12th	(E) Mrs Delyth McIntyre
Jan 19th	(W) Mrs Maryl Rees
Jan 26th	(E) Rev J Bryn Jones
Feb 2nd	(W) Trefniant LLeol (C)
Feb 9th	(E) Rev Marc Morgan
Feb 16th	(W) Mr Arwel Roberts
Feb 23rd	(E) Mr Trefor Suddick

**Our Bi-lingual Carol Service will be held on Dec  
22nd at 5pm. A warm welcome is extended to all.**

**Do join us at any of our services.  
Croeso Cynnes i Bawb**

## HALKYN PARISH HALL BINGO

**DOORS OPEN AT 7.10 PM**

**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 ITS AT**

**ON A WENESDAY NIGHT AND EVERY OTHER AFTER THAT**



**Dec 11th, Jan 8th, 22nd AND SO ON WITH ME  
SO COME ALONG, EYES DOWN, A FUN NIGHT YOU'LL SEE**

## St Michael's Church, Brynford

The Vicar, Rev Graham Beckett, can be  
contacted via the vicarage on 01352 711675

## Capel Salem, Pentre Halkyn Services at 2.00p.m.

**C = Communion**

Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Rev Maureen Roberts (E)
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Rev J Bryn Jones (W)
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Eirlys Gruffydd Bilingual Christmas Service
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rev Marc Morgan (W)
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	No Service
Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	No Service
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Marc Morgan (W) (C)
Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	No Service
Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Delyth McIntyre (E)
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	No Service
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Eirlys Gruffydd (W)
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	No Service
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Rev Hugh Burgess (E)

**Croeso Cynnes I Bawb! A warm welcome to all**

## Pentre Halkyn Community Centre

**Is planned to reopen after its full refurbishment  
at the beginning of March**

Bingo organised by Nia Bache.

Every Monday at 1.45pm for the over 50s

Holywell Art Club - Wednesdays 10am - 2pm

Bingo - Thursdays 7:30pm

Line Dancing - Fridays 8 - 10pm

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

## 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 Alwena Thomas - 01352 780688

**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 Mountain  
Group of Parishes

## HALKYN MOUNTAIN PARISHES – SERVICE TIMES

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

Every Month	Halkyn	Rhosesmor	Rhes-y-Cae
<b>First Sunday</b>	11.15 am Communion	3.00 pm Evening Prayer <sup>2</sup>	8.45 am Communion
<b>Second Sunday</b>	11:15 am Morning Prayer	10.00 am Communion	8.45 am Bilingual Communion
<b>Third Sunday</b>	11.15 am Communion	10.00 am Family Service <sup>1</sup>	6pm Evening Prayer
<b>Fourth Sunday</b>	11.15 am Morning Prayer	10.00 am Communion	8.45 am Communion
<b>Fifth Sunday</b>	10.30am Combined Service – This rotates between churches		

### YOU ARE VERY WELCOME AT ALL OUR SERVICES

<sup>1</sup> During school holidays the Family Service may be replaced  
by an alternative service

<sup>2</sup> When the clocks go forwards in the Spring, Evening Prayer  
at Rhosesmor will be held at 6pm

**COMBINED AND SPECIAL SERVICES:** The next combined  
service for the three parishes will be on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup>  
December, 2013 at Christchurch, Rhes-y-Cae. This is  
normally a communion service but in a modern form and is  
open to everyone of all ages and you will be very welcome.

### OPEN CHURCH:

**Rhosesmor Church** is open daily. Hot drinks are available  
as well as a FairTrade stall and a collection point for the  
Flintshire Foodbank.

### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Friday evenings in Advent (6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Dec) the end of day  
service of Compline in Rhesycae at 8.15pm following Choir  
Practice.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Dec (Sunday)</b> 08.45 Rhes-y-Cae Communion and Toy Service 11.15 am Halkyn Communion and Toy Service	<b>24<sup>th</sup> Dec (Tuesday - Christmas Eve)</b> 4pm Rhes-y-Cae Crib Service 11.15pm Rhosesmor Midnight Communion
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Dec (Sunday)</b> 3pm Rhosesmor Carol Service	<b>25<sup>th</sup> Dec (Wednesday - Christmas Day)</b> 9.30 am Rhes-y-Cae Communion 11am Halkyn Communion
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Dec (Wednesday)</b> 7.30pm Rhes-y-Cae Carol Service	
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Dec (Sunday)</b> 3pm Halkyn Carol Service 8pm Carols in the Bluebell	<b>29<sup>th</sup> Dec (Sunday)</b> 10.30am Rhes-y-Cae Combined Parish Communion

**Please note that there will only be one service in the  
parishes on the Sunday after Christmas**

**If you wish to raise any matter with the church or the  
Priest in Charge personally, please contact Hugh  
Burgess and include your name and address or phone  
number. Thanks you.**

For further details of any of these events please contact: The  
Rev'd Hugh Burgess on 01352 741646,  
Email: hugh@halkynparish.wanadoo.co.uk

**You can also get details of events and find out more  
about us on our website - www.halkynparishes.org.uk**

## Halkyn Mountain Kids Club

**S P A C E S  
AVAILABLE NOW!**



We are situated in Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School. The club is registered with CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales); all staffs are CRB checked and qualified and all certificates are available to see. We welcome children from nursery age up to year 8 in high school.

**WE ARE NOW OPENING A HOLIDAY CLUB STARTING IN THE NEW YEAR!**

**Contact us now to find out more and to book a space for the February half term 2014.**



GARGOLE  
CLAY FUN

H A L O W E E N  
MASK MAKING

TRINKET/TREASURE  
BOX DECORATING

Why not pop along! the first session is free and allows children to have a 'taste' of what we do.

We also accept donations of old toys in reasonable condition as the club is a non-profit organisation so everything is great fully received.

This term we have been enjoying arts and crafts

### Opening times

3.10pm – 5.30pm Mon – Fri Term times only.

We have a large hall area where we enjoy:

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

We also have outside:

- 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.

### Prices

- First hour for one child £4.00
- Second hour for one child £7.00
- First hour for 2 siblings £7.60
- Second hour for 2 siblings £13.30
- Every child thereafter there's a 5% discount

For more information contact Sian Davies (Senior Playworker) on 01352 780265 / 07873769473 or Email us on [Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com) or even visit our website at [www.ysgolrhoshelyg](http://www.ysgolrhoshelyg) , click on 'children' then 'Halkyn mountain afterschool club'.



## Tiny Tots Playgroup, Rhos Helyg School, Rhosmor.

We are open Monday to Friday from 8.50am until 11.45am, during term time only.

We currently have places available.

Your child does not have to attend/apply to attend Rhos Helyg to enable them to attend the playgroup - **EVERYONE** is welcome.

All our staff are qualified and we are registered with the Wales PPA and Care Standards Inspectorate of Wales.

We provide a welcoming and caring environment for all children. If you have a child with a special need, however great or small, we can request additional assistance through the Wales PPA referral scheme for a one to one helper, if necessary.

If your child is eligible for three year funding this can be applied for. Also, if you receive tax credits or benefit credits there is funding available which can be applied for.

**THE FIRST SESSION IS FREE.** Why not pop along to one of our sessions and have a look around and a chat with one of our staff.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A INFORMATION BOOKLET PLEASE CONTACT LEANNE ON 01352 780265**

*We currently have places for 2014, if you require a placement with us please call in or phone Leanne on the above number for a Playgroup Starter Pack.*

*Kind regards*

**TINY TOTS COMMITTEE**



# Halkyn Mountain

## Club & Sports News

### **Halkyn Sports Association**

The Firework/Halloween party on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November was a big success, over a hundred people attended. Little did people know that at three o'clock it was looking a bit grim, when the storm came and knocked the electric off. Luckily Andy, one of our footballers who is an electrician, had just returned from an away match, he and Wayne Jones saved the day (the electric was back on with just an hour to spare). Well done Gary for setting up the disco in the dark!

The evening started off with a firework display which was purchased with the generous donation by the Community Council and Cemex quarry. Then it was indoors for disco and party games. Curry, chips, hotdogs, soup, Jacket potatoes and cakes were available from the kitchen. Thank you to everybody that helped with the catering.

There were some brilliant costumes, from cute little witches to scary vampires. Party games were played and of course dunking for apples. Lisa of Glitterbugz Tattoos was there to brighten up the children with her many colourful tattoos and also gave a donation to club funds, many thanks. The committee and their families pull together and work hard to put on these events, I would like to personally thank Gary and Amanda McLeod and their family, they are not on the committee but are a big part of the club also Jenny Butters who always lends a hand.

Thank you to everybody that supports the club, we the committee see it as a community base for all, we promote and encourage all sports and welcome old and new. By putting on these events and the regular weekly income of the groups within the club we are able to sustain the club house for the benefit of all the sports that need these facilities.

The club is going from strength to strength there is cricket, football, tug of war, Pigeon club and, recently joined us, The Halkyn Radio Hams, and they are all looking for new members. Other news from HSA the radio hams have been successful and accredited to deliver radio training at the club, which should attract those new members to the club and in order to deliver the training they will be holding a non Aerial training session in the club every Wednesday in November and will continue to January 2014.

Our next main event will be the children's Christmas party on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of December (look out for posters and face book for more info). Hope to see you all there!

*Nia Bache*

### **Halkyn United FC**

#### **The Season So Far**

Both of Halkyn United's senior teams have shown marked improvement this season with the first team sitting in mid-table in the Welsh Alliance League and the second team second in the Clwyd East League. The squad of players has evolved and could still be considered to be work-in-progress which makes the improvement all the more pleasing.

In the cup competitions the first team had a good win against Garden City to progress into the next round of the North East Wales FA Cup. On a wet and blustery day Halkyn went in front straight from the kick-off and then let Garden City quickly back into the game with two soft goals with 2 – 1 down after 11 minutes. The rest of the game was a tough battle in difficult conditions with Halkyn applying continual pressure, wasting some great opportunities, but finally running out 4-2 winners. Jimmy McGlone netted a hat-trick and Will Higginson completed the scoring. The second team defeated Flint Town United Youth in the Combination Cup winning away 2 – 0 with a goal from Aaron North sealing the game.

#### **Referees Wanted**

The Welsh Alliance League has announced that a new referee's course is now available. The North Wales Coast FA have arranged a Referee's Course for people male or female interested in becoming referees or assistant referees in the local area leagues between the ages of 14 and 70 years old.

The course will be 2 hours per week, over an eight week period and will start on MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER 7-00pm at the Community Meeting Rooms in Asda Supermarket, Llandudno.

For further information contact;

**Mark Petch 077740-284660**

Another referee's course will also start at Llanberis Football Club on NOVEMBER 12th 6:30pm-9:00pm organised by NWCFA.

For further details contact;

**Merfyn Edmunds 01248 351989 or Alun Foulkes 01248 713501.**

#### **Seasons Greetings**

*On behalf of the committee we would like to wish all our supporters, officials, sponsors and players a Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.*



## Halkyn & District Bowling Club

We have ended another season of bowls. It doesn't seem 2 minutes since we were cleaning the snow away from the green. The snow went, the sun came out and we had some sweltering hot games.



It has been a very successful season for our 'B' team who have moved up to the next division. Congratulations to them. The 'A' team held their own and stayed put. The Midweek team were a bit apprehensive having moved up to a higher division. We didn't do what a lot of football teams do and move straight back down. We did quite well finishing about half way up, in spite of losing a few games by just a couple of points.

We have had success in other areas, Bill Worrall won the Halkyn 3way tournament and Tony Kirkham won the Oakenholt tournament.

Our own merit winners for each team are Linda Kirkham for the 'A' team, Merion Griffiths for the 'B' team and Neil Barnett for the Midweek team.

In our club tournaments the winners were:

- The D Jones trophy - Betty Lindley
- The Consolation Cup - Bill Worrall
- The H Blackshaw winner's trophy – Arthur Jones

The end of season match is always the most popular, that's the Gents v Ladies. The gents (see Photo) are telling us that they won in spite of the fact that the ladies tried to hobble them. Watch out next year. It was a great day.

This season we had a big boost from the Halkyn Community Council with a generous donation enabling



us to have a veranda built. We have certainly enjoyed having this facility as it keeps us safe from the sun and the rain. Thanks again to Halkyn Community Council. The 100 club winners were C Hughes, W Worrall and J Thomas.

Our annual presentation evening and dinner was held on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Holywell Golf Club. The trophies won in the club competitions throughout the season were presented by Life Vice President Harry Lindley. The presentation was followed by a buffet supper, live entertainment combined with lots of dancing to finish off the evening.

We have a team playing at Queensferry in the indoor winter league and also a team playing at Flint. This is early in the season so hopefully later we may have some good results. At least it's keeping us out of mischief in the winter.

Our beautiful green looks wonderful. It's looking forward like us to when we can get out there to play our favourite game again.

If you want any information please ring Bill Worrall on 01352 710702 or Linda Kirkham on 01352 740454. They will be pleased to help.

*Jo Woodruff*

## Halkyn Cricket Club

### Halkyn 1st XI

After a much improved summer weather-wise ironically the crucial final two games were abandoned due to HEAVY RAIN. In the penultimate game at Bangor the 1st XI were in a very strong position but had to settle for only THREE POINTS when the rains came. The 1st XI eventually finished in FOURTH place and hopefully can secure a promotion place in 2014.



### Halkyn 2nd XI

After an inconsistent first half of the campaign the 2nd XI finished strongly with three consecutive victories and eventually finished mid-table in Division Five.

### Halkyn Junior Section

Halkyn U9 and U11 have performed well with the fine summer weather being an added bonus. New players have settled in well and more new players are always welcome. Please contact Jane Williams on 01352-781523.

### Halkyn Cc Presentation Night

A well attended evening at the Clubhouse at Saturday 21st September. A large number of Junior players and parents were present. Club treasurer ROGER BELLIS

and former 1st XI captain OWEN DAVIES presented the trophies and mementoes.

**Award Winners were (see page 22 for pictures):**

- |                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| • 1st XI Batting           | Maelor Thomas |
| • 1st XI Bowling           | Geaeme Settle |
| • 2nd XI Batting           | Paul Roberts  |
| • 2nd XI Bowling           | Kevin Jones   |
| • Young Player of the Year | Tim Davies    |

Gifts were also presented to Gail Jones, Jane Williams, Andrew Bellis and Glyn Thomas for their work throughout the 2013 season.

*Many Thanks*

*Keith Williams, Secretary*



Some members of the Junior Section

## Cricket Club Award Winners:



1st XI Bowling  
Geaeme Settle



2nd XI Batting  
Paul Roberts



2nd XI Bowling  
Kevin Jones



Young Player of  
the Year  
Tim Davies



Matthew Williams  
receiving Div 1  
Midweek Cricket  
player of the  
season from  
Gladstone Small,  
ex Warwickshire  
and England  
bowler.



## Golf Union of Wales 'Centenary Greensomes'

This year the Golf Union of Wales selected Holywell Golf Club, situated in Flintshire, North East Wales to be the venue for this prestigious Championship competition with nearly 100 lady competitors from all over Wales making their way to the venue, having competed and qualified locally for the finals of this greensomes competition. With the pairing of Ladies Captain, Carolyne Jones and Hazel Crane winning through their qualifying competition to represent their home club. The format of the competition, for the non golfers among us, is that both team members drive off, then select which drive they wish to play and then alternate shots until the 'ball' is holed out on the green. With many of the competitors staying locally and taking advantage of the practice day prior to the competition it was a busy couple of days for the staff and members at the club under the leadership of Pro/Sec Matt Parsley and Chair of Greens Kevin Carney.

Competitors on the day were greeted by dry weather with a brisk north westerly wind making playing conditions tricky on the 'inland links', which the course is noted for, with all sections of the club 'pulling together' to ensure that the Championship went ahead without any problems. At the evening presentation Club Captain Kevin Leech welcomed the competitors and the G.U.W. Championship Manager, Rhys James, who in response praised members and staff at Holywell Golf Club for all their efforts to make the event run so smoothly; he made particular comment to the number of members who volunteered as ball spotters and marshals for the Championship and thanked all those concerned. There then followed the presentation of the 'Centenary Trophy' and medals to the winning pair representing Dewstow Golf Club, Janet Warburton and Jo Burger, with a score of 39 pts. just ahead of local pairing from Rhyl Golf Club on 37 pts. Helen Knowles and Collette Miller. The final act of the day was for Rhys James to present Ladies Captain Carolyne Jones with a commemorative plaque to mark the holding of this G.U.W. Championship at Holywell Golf Club.



Pictured L to R:

Kevin Leech (Captain);  
Carolyne Jones (Ladies Captain);  
Winners rep Dewstow G.C. Janet Warburton & Jo Burger;  
Rhys James (GUW Championship Manager);  
Ray Lewis (Club President);  
Olive Stephenson (Ladies President)

## Holywell Golf Club Continued

No-one can say that we had a poor summer this year, warm all the way through to October. We had a minor problem in March when the monthly medal had to be postponed until October but after that everything was fine.

The culmination of the season, Finals Day, was played in the warmest conditions anyone could remember over the last few years. The major club championship, the Westminster Cup, was won by Ben Thomas, one of our young up and coming players.

Now we turn our attention to the winter competitions, where the hardy mountain golfers put on their layers and brave the Brynford common. There can be no better place than a round of golf on Halkyn Mountain on a clear frosty Saturday morning with the sun shining and the spectacular views over the Clwydian range as a backdrop.

Looking forward, we have Christmas golf and the highlight of December, the kids Christmas party where all members' children are treated to games, party food and Father Christmas! In January it is traditional for Holywell Golf Club to invite the senior citizens of Brynford to their own Christmas dinner and bingo.

This year the Christmas festivities' food will be provided by our new catering team, Olivia and Jim McNamara, they will take over from Angela and Graham in early December. Angela and Graham have served the club well for more than 6 years, we wish them a long and happy retirement.

Finally, if you, or anyone you know, is wavering over joining a golf club, then we have a fantastic deal, for £99 get full membership privileges until end of February 2014. A great way to try us out, there has never been a better time to join Holywell Golf Club.

Keep abreast of anything happening at the club by logging on to [www.holywellgc.co.uk](http://www.holywellgc.co.uk) and following us on Twitter @holywellgolf or Facebook.

Halkyn Cricket Club Old Boys Golf Society played at Holywell in November. Their 15 hole competition was won by Tim Brimblecombe with 31 points; the second time he's seduced us in to giving him a very generous handicap!



## **HALKYN SPORTS ASSOCIATION**

Pant Newydd, Halkyn 01352 780576

### **Function room available for:**

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Presentation evenings, Christenings, Funeral teas etc.

Also available free of charge for fund raising.  
(Enquiries & bookings please telephone Nia Bache on 780624 / 07984 124149)

### **Every Wednesday 9pm**

### **Quiz night, Jackpot & Play your Cards Right**

(General quiz, prize for winning & losing teams)  
Entry 50p includes a light supper

### **Forthcoming events**

- ★ Fri 22nd Nov - Bingo (doors open 7:30pm)
- ★ Fri 13th Dec - Bingo (doors open 7:30pm)
- ★ Sun 15th Dec - Children's Christmas Party
- ★ Wed 18th Dec - Christmas Quiz
- ★ Fri 10th Jan - Bingo (doors open 7:30pm)
- ★ Fri 31st Jan - Bingo (doors open 7:30pm)
- ★ Sat 15th Feb - Valentine Disco (Mr & Mrs)
- ★ Fri 21st Feb - Bingo (doors open 7:30pm)
- ★ Fri 7th Mar - Bingo (doors open 7:30pm)

Halkyn Radio Group meet every Wednesday at 8pm (New Members Welcome)

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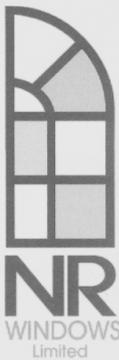
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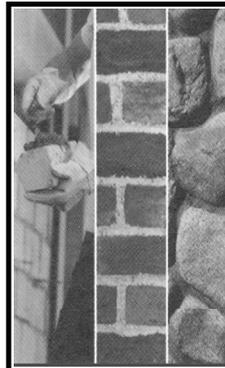


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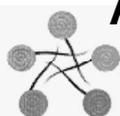


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