

SERVING THE
COMMUNITIES
ON AND
AROUND
HALKYN
MOUNTAIN

Halkyn Mountain News

ISSUE NUMBER 157 - SUMMER 2014

Come along and support **THE ONLY
ANNUAL VILLAGE SHOW ON THE MOUNTAIN**

**Rhes-y-Cae &
Moel-y-Crio
Sheepdog Trials
Gymkhana & Show
Friday & Saturday 25th & 26th July 2014**



**Special Attraction Fri 6:30 p.m.
Terrier Racing**

**Bring Your Dog Along
Any Breed - Any Colour - Any Size!!
It will be a Fun Night.**

Schedules available from mid June at
Tyddyn, Rhes-y-Cae or Phone 780992
Or any committee member.

For Details of Handicrafts Section Classes See Page 2

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

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Distribution by our many Local Volunteers

From your Editors – Thank You

We are very pleased to be able to say that the response to our appeal in the last issue for someone to take over the Halkyn Mountain News was brilliant. Thanks to this response the Halkyn Mountain News should continue to be published and delivered to everyone on the mountain for many years to come.

Our thanks, in no particular order, go to: Jack McIntyre, Robin Smith, Jay Owen, Vanessa Warrington, Yendle Barwise, Liz Gray, Eileen Tunnicliffe, Jane Loudon and Peter Lynas who together will form the team that will ensure your newsletter continues.

We would like to thank all our contributors and advertisers for their support over the past 14 years. We would also offer a special thank you to each and every one of our volunteer deliverers for braving all the elements could throw at them as they ensured everyone got their copy delivered to their door.

We trust you will continue to support the new editorial team and we wish them every success and hope that they get as much pleasure and satisfaction from producing the Halkyn Mountain News as we have.

Patrick & Eirwen McDermott
Editors
01352 781057

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

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.

Rhes-y-Cae & Moel-y-Crio Sheepdog Trials & Show

Two dates to put in your diary now! JULY 25th & 26th

Do come along on Friday the 25th July, the Sheepdog Trials start at 9:00am. The Terrier Racing starts at 6:30pm and last year we had record entries which we would love to exceed this year. Start training your dog NOW!! Any breed, any size, we cater for all!! Come and see if your dog is the fastest on the mountain.



On Saturday the Sheepdog Trials start at 8:00am and go on all day.

If you have a horse do bring him/her along and enter into the competitions, Showing, Jumping or Gymkhana. See if you can win one of our special rosettes!!

Gardeners I hope that all the fruit and vegetables are growing well, give them a special boost in the next month!!

Cooks start to practice with your jam making, pickle making and cooking!!

These are the competitions for the Handicraft Section as more time is needed to make these items

Handicraft Section

- 1 Knitted scarf
- 2 Knitted toy
- 3 Embroidered article
- 4 Craft item – any material
- 5 Small item in cross stitch
- 6 Handmade jewellery
- 7 Cushion cover out of material
- 8 Snap shot with amusing caption
- 9 Photograph of an animal
- 10 Photograph of a local landmark
- 11 Make a 3D card for any occasion
– Under 16s
- 12 Decorate a jam jar – Under 16s
- 13 Design a treasure map (A4)
– Primary schools
- 14 Draw and colour a spaceship (A4)
– Primary schools
- 15 Paint a stone as a paperweight
– Under 7s
- 16 Colour the picture in the schedule – Under 5s

Good luck - start NOW !!

Do support us !! This is your show !!
The only one on the mountain !! It is all good fun!!

Keep an eye out for the schedules they will be out at any time now and will be available from The Secretary, Mr Keith Jones, on 780992 or any committee member. They will also be available in local pubs and shops.

Bette and Billy Hughes

Landlords Blue Bell Inn 1955-1969

I've just heard some sad news about a very well remembered former landlady of the Blue Bell and her famous husband. We had the privilege to be able to contribute to a book in 2009 that featured Bette called Enigma Variations by Philip Johnson, Flintshire U3A. I've copied much of his text here for you to reminisce and enjoy.

Bette spent some time at the famous wartime code breaking school Bletchley Park with her role to train new entrants for the RAF. In 1946 Betty left the forces.

Her husband, Billy Hughes, was playing for Luton Town at the time, but after only 8 months was then sold to Chelsea for £12,000, for whom he made nearly 100 appearances in the 1948-51 seasons.

Billy was a Welsh international making his debut in 1937. He also played in 1947 for the Great Britain XI against the Rest of Europe, dubbed 'Match of the Century'. The side included Frank Swift, Stanley Matthews, Wilf Mannion, Tommy Lawton and Billy Liddell. In 1951 he moved to Hereford United, then playing in the Southern League.

During the period 1951-54, Bette and Billy took on the 'Old Harp' hotel in Hereford.

On the death of Bette's father, they successfully applied to move to the Queen's Head hotel in Llanrwst, particularly to be nearer to Bette's mother.

During 1954-55, Billy was player-manager for Flint Town United, taking them to victory in the Welsh Cup in 1954.

In the mid-fifties Bette became the licensee of the Blue Bell Inn here in Halkyn. In much the same way we found the Blue Bell Inn, Bette said it was very run down when she first started, but she could see the potential. The Blue then had three coal fires and three bedrooms. After much hard work the Inn established a fine reputation as somewhere to enjoy good beer, in good company and with excellent hosts. Customers came from as far away as Wrexham for a pint.

They remained here at the Blue until well into the sixties and during this time Billy 'hung up his boots', and scouted for Chester.

Bette and Billy moved to Birmingham where, sadly, Billy died in 1981. Bette said she brought him back to New Brighton Cemetery in Bagillt, so that he could be with his mates.

Bette died on April 2nd just three days before reaching her 91st birthday. Reunited, Bette now rests alongside Billy in Bagillt where she was buried on 10th April. We hope Bette would approve of what we've achieved at the Blue Bell Inn, bringing it back to her high standards and wish her family and friends our sincere condolences.

*Steve & Ness Marquis
Blue Bell Inn*

Graziers News

It has been a very quiet three months, no complaints or requests from NRW (they have had the number of personnel reduced and they have been busy with the flood defenses along the Dee Estuary).

As regards the Nature Grant funding, we have applied for we as yet have no news. I hope it will not be too long as there is a time limit as to when the scheme has to be completed (some time in 2015).

We have recently been tying up with Grosvenor Estates looking at some of the things that are going on around the mountain, e.g. using parts of the mountain for storage areas, dumping rubbish, fences on the common. All the usual things.

The main project is the work Scottish Power are carrying out, although this work is needed they are making a bit of a mess of the common especially as they seem to be carrying out the work at the wettest time of year.

Our Common and The Law

There are over twenty pieces of legislation which are relevant to our common land and this does not cover the fact that we have to comply with the regulations that come with it being:

A Site of Special Scientific Interest
An area of Open Access
Special Areas of Conservation
Geological Interest
Plus a number of Historical Sites

Basically all you are allowed to do on the common (unless you have rights of common) is walk across it with or without a dog. Anything else you wish to do including playing sports, cutting grass, putting up fences, laying hard core and a whole list of other activities must have the permission of Grosvenor Estates, NRW, The Halkyn Graziers and Commoners Association and in some instances the relevant Government Minister.

The Graziers are trying to keep the common in a reasonable state i.e. we do not want it to become a jungle, but like everyone else if we want to do anything outside the things we have rights for we have to seek the relevant permission. It would help greatly if the people who used the common complied with the legislation and regulations that apply.

There is a list of the operations which NRW consider likely to damage the common on the Halkyn website (Halkyn.org)

Halkyn Graziers and Commoners Association

**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 Community Council

North Wales Police - Attend Council Meeting

At the March Council meeting the Chair Councillor, Mrs. Wendy Sigsworth, welcomed to the meeting North Wales Police Inspector Sharon McCairn, District Inspector for the area of Flintshire South, together with Sergeant Matthew Mitchell, Neighbourhood Police Sergeant.

The Members were advised of the following crime related incidents within the Community for the last three months; (a) thefts from sheds and outbuildings (b) theft of petrol and heating oil. Council Members enquired in respect of the following issues/concerns; (a) the riding of bikes on the mountain (b) sales personnel and other people knocking on doors, especially during evening time - concerns in respect of the elderly residents (c) people on private land during the night time, sometimes 7 to 8 people, including dogs (d) vehicles parked with no excise licence (e) concerns in respect of night time car rallies (f) parking of vehicles in narrow lane on corner in Moel y Crio. The Inspector and Sergeant provided advice in respect of the above concerns, with the Members being referred to the non-emergency contact number for the police - 101, unless it was an emergency, then to dial 999.

Burglaries in Pentre Halkyn

Towards the end of the month of March, there were three burglaries of dwellings reported in Pentre Halkyn. The Community Council sought the views of the Inspector, in respect of increased police presence in the area. The Council were informed that increased patrols had been allocated to the area, house to house enquiries were being made, the distribution of leaflets to residents, including working alongside the Neighbourhood Wardens. At the time of writing this report, the police confirmed that 'they were investigating the linked crimes, but to date the offender (s) had not been apprehended'.

Litter (Pentre Road) & Dog Fouling (Martin's Hill)

Following complaints in respect of the amount of litter

and other items deposited in the grass verges and hedgerows, including the amount of dog fouling in the Martin's Hill area - the Council wrote to the Flintshire County Council Street Scene Department. At the April Council meeting the local Street Scene Supervisor attended, and advised the Members of the following; (1) extra cleansing patrols to remove litter and other items (2) dog fouling - to contact the Animal & Pest Control Officer - who is able to issue fixed penalty notices. (3) Grass cutting (4) Waste and re-cycling (5) the clearing and repairs to roadside gullies in The Windmill, The Barracks area, and outside Ysgol Rhos Helyg.

Notice Boards in Rhes y Cae and Rhosesmor

The notice boards in both Rhes y Cae and Rhosesmor have recently been repaired and refurbished. The local joiner contracted by the Council has also placed magnets on the doors. This will ensure that the doors remain closed without the necessity of using catches/bolts.

Donations and Financial Support

The Community Council have provided the following financial donations, since the last issue of the HM News; Flintshire Diabetes Voluntary Group (Holywell) £50.00 / NSPCC Wales £100.00 / Marie Curie Cancer Care (Rhyl) £100.00 / Kidney Wales Foundation - Walk for Life £100.00 / Halkyn & District Over 50's Club (towards line-dancing classes) £100.00 / Rhes y Cae & Moel Crio Show (towards prizes) £250.00 / KIM (Knowledge Inspiration Motivation) Holywell £100.00 / Caerwys Agricultural Show £100.00.

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

Grosvenor Estate Update

As some of you may be aware, the building that housed Rhes-y-Cae school for many years was originally gifted by the Duke of Westminster to the local diocese in the early 1900s. Ownership of the former school building is currently being transferred back to Grosvenor Estate. Once this has been finalised we will be considering potential uses for the building.

We're very happy to be maintaining the Millennium Garden planted by pupils at Rhes-y-Cae school prior to its closure at the end of the summer term last year. We look forward to seeing it continue to grow as a lasting sign of the legacy left by the school within the local community.

Since we wrote to local residents in 2012 to inform them about a programme of physical and environmental studies around Halkyn Common, we have identified a number of improvement works which are ongoing with the improvement of fencing scheduled

during May and June.

We often hear about local concerns from people across the common about traveller occupation, especially over the summer months. To address some of these concerns we have placed a series of boulders in Calcoed to prevent travellers from parking there. This has proved successful in the main, but we are looking to install additional boulders on the adjoining piece of land. This will hopefully be completed within the next two months.

Grosvenor Estate recently donated money to the Halkyn Cricket Club towards upgrading their grounds and practice facilities. The Club is one of many local groups that add to the vibrancy of life on the common, and we were delighted to be able to support them. We wish them all the best over the 2014 cricket season, and hope for a dry and sunny summer for all to enjoy the common!

Halkyn County Councillor

Dear Constituents,

For this issue of the Halkyn Mountain News the items will be of a more positive and encouraging nature than is usual.

It is with much pleasure and satisfaction that congratulations and best wishes are offered to Steve and Ness Marquis on the opening of the new Postal facilities in the Blue Bell Inn. The process of preparing for this welcome service to the community has been an extremely protracted and tortuous one. Several letters were sent to me giving a proposed date of opening, followed by a series of apologies for the repeated postponement of that occasion. Ironically, Postal Services “forgot” to inform me of the real, actual opening, much to my disappointment. The vital point I want to make is that it is absolutely essential that we make as much use of this invaluable facility as we possibly can. In the coming weeks, you will become aware of an alarming number of closures of Post Offices throughout the country; an extraordinary policy of self destruction which the Post Office seems to be intent on executing. Not only do I urge people to support the postal services at the Blue Bell, but also to make the best use of the Post Office in Pentre Halkyn which serves the community so well and willingly.

Although it may take some time yet, there is a real probability that the length of the B5123 running from Pentre Halkyn to Rhosesmor (approx 3 miles) will be subject to a 30mph speed limit. This will then make it possible to have an advisory 20mph speed limit on the stretch of road running past Ysgol Rhos Helyg. These speed limits are crucial for **Road Safety**; especially for children. Some people may feel this limit is an unnecessary restriction but very simply, a vehicle travelling at 40mph would take roughly four and a half minutes to cover three miles, but still only six minutes to travel the same distance at 30mph – one and a half minutes extra time is a small price to ensure road safety for everyone. (Where the conditions are appropriate there is a strong case for 80mph on a motorway).

Within the next few months, extraneous factors like the weather permitting, the new car park for Ysgol Rhos Helyg should be in operation. In the meantime we must all try to show consideration and understanding for others. It is a real nightmare for parents bringing children to school and collecting them at the end of the day but it is also a real inconvenience and even a hazard at times to residents whose cars are parked on the private tracks, i.e. those serving the bungalows at Pen y Parc, and also off Shones Lane. It is a sad reflection on our times that it is necessary for parents to have to bring their children to school by car, for reasons of safety. Except in inclement weather, it would be so much healthier for our children to walk to school; and far less stressful for their parents.

The petition regarding the wind turbine was presented to the full County Council and it was rather heartening to receive much support from fellow councillors. We still await response.

You may be aware that Local Councils have been directed to review local government boundaries and

the quotient of electors to individual councillors. Our own Halkyn Community Council was consulted but was unable to agree to any recommendations: (7.71 “Review of Community Areas & Community Electoral Arrangements, Flintshire”). There is an inconsistent ratio of electorate to councillors and Flintshire’s Draft Proposal is to merge the Wards of Halkyn, Rhes-y-Cae and Rhosesmor into **one** Ward to be called Halkyn Mountain with 8 councillors. The Ward of Pentre Halkyn will have 5 councillors. (The Ward of Pentre Halkyn is part of the County electoral division of Brynford – which can be very confusing!). There would be a serious anomaly in an election, the Halkyn CC pointed out, which could leave Halkyn and Rhes-y-Cae without a resident councillor.

Present situation

Halkyn Comm. Council

Ward	Electorate	Seats	Ratio of Electors per councillor
Halkyn	422	3	140.7
Pentre Halkyn	931	4	232.8
Rhes-y-Cae	297	2	148.5
Rhosesmor	685	4	171.3

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Proposal

Halkyn	} 1404	8	175.5
Rhes-y-Cae			
Rhosesmor			
Pentre Halkyn	931	5	186.2

It is difficult to understand why so much time (and expense!) has been spent on this consultation because by 2017 or 2018 it may well be changed again, with the proposed joining of Flintshire County with Wrexham Borough Council – a suggestion opposed almost unanimously by Flintshire County Council. One good reason for opposing such a union is that the ration of electors to councillors could be doubled, thus making the new local government area less democratic; for example, Halkyn could be joined with Sychdyn or Northop, but with only half the number of councillors. Moreover, although Flintshire County Council has managed to achieve an acceptable Budget with the minimum of reduction of staff and services, the union would presumably mean that the rate payers of Flintshire would also have to subscribe to the shortfall of approx £40million which is Wrexham’s present deficit.

Finally, a plea for help. One of the service cuts that Flintshire has had to make has been to withdraw the mowing of individual lawns belonging to bungalows in sheltered accommodation. This is totally unacceptable when one considers pensioners, some in their nineties, and others suffering from arthritis, rheumatism and other physical handicaps, are expected to cut their own lawns (not the Community ones). Please could relatives, friends or neighbours help with this almost impossible chore?

May I conclude by wishing you all a very pleasant summer (though I am rather apprehensive that it will be all we could wish for after such a mild winter)?

Yours most sincerely

Colin Legg, County Councillor

Brynford Community Council

Parking of vehicles adjacent to Brynford C.P. School.

The Council has been made aware of concerns raised by residents over the traffic congestion during drop off and collection times at Brynford C.P. School.

The Council has been asked if additional parking could be provided on land opposite the school, and has raised this matter with the Highway Authority who are currently investigating this proposal.

Rural Public Bus Services

Miss Ceri Lloyd, Rural Transport Officer, and Ms Katie Wilby, Transport Officer Flintshire County Council, were invited to attend the March meeting of the Council. Members had requested the Officers attendance to discuss the current and future rural bus service provided to the Brynford Community. The Officers advised that subject to bus operators agreement there may be scope to make small modifications to improve the current service. Survey questionnaires for residents to provide their observations and comments have been left at Brynford General Stores for residents to complete. The Officers further advised that following reduction by Welsh Government to the Rural Transport Budget the Council was currently undertaking further reviews of its service and Transport Policy. The Officers agreed to report the findings of the completed questionnaires back to the Council later this year.

Best Kept Communities Competition 2014

Members of the Council attended a recent meeting at County Hall, Mold. The purpose of the meeting was to meet with the organisers and judges of the competition. Members reported back to the Council that consideration should be given to extend the judging area for the competition from the centre of the village to include the Pet Cemetery and Golf Club. The Council has written to the proprietors of this establishments seeking their approval.

The event will be judged week commencing 30th June, 2014 and we wish to encourage as many residents as possible to participate in this year's event.

Community Policing

It was reported at the April meeting of the Council that PCSO Rob Hill had been successful in obtaining full time employment as a Police Constable with North Wales Police. The Council has written to PCSO Hill thanking him on behalf of the community for all his support and commitment he has provided to policing our community over the past 2 years and wish him every success with his future career with the Police Authority.

Street Lighting Maintenance

Many of the amenity lights within the community are provided and maintained by the Community Council. The Council has a lighting contractor who normally deals with reported faults within 7 working days. However, should the fault be found to be an energy supply fault this needs to be reported to and repaired by Scottish Power. Over the past few months the Council has been experiencing long delays in the time taken by Scottish Power to respond and rectify these supply problems, causing some frustration to local residents who depend on the lighting being in good working order. Scottish Power have been made aware of this problem and have advised that whilst amenity lighting does not rank high on the work priority it is hoped that the service can be improved now that weather conditions are more favourable.

Summer Play Scheme 2014

As in past years the Council has agreed to work in partnership with Flintshire County Council, Leisure Services Department and provide the funding of £898.00 for this year's scheme.

The scheme will run for 3 weeks commencing on Monday 21st July, 2014 to be held at Brynford C.P. School playing field.

*Alan Roberts
Clerk to the Council
Crecas Cottage,
Carmel Hill,
Tel No. 01352 710335*

PCSO Moving On – April 2014

Hello, I hope you are all keeping well.

I have some news for you with regards to my current posting on my patch consisting of the wards - Caerwys/Brynford/Halkyn and Lixwm & Ysceifiog. As I mentioned a while back, I had applied for promotion to become a Police Constable with my current force. I have now been confirmed to start my new position in April so unfortunately will be moving on from this area. My last shift as a PCSO will be on Thursday 24th of April 2014. Hopefully I should be re-emerging to cover this area and the rest of Flintshire South as a PC following my training period.

I just want to thank you and all the other members of the councils and residents as a whole. It really has been a pleasant experience being the point of contact to this community. I have always enjoyed my patrols here and hope that I have made a positive contribution to the community. I feel that I have made some valuable friendships along the way. As well as this the

time I have spent here has been a valuable experience which I feel has helped with my promotion process.

A few days back I met with Inspector Sharon McCairn and Sgt Matthew Mitchell with regards to my replacement. An officer has not yet been confirmed but it is looking likely that an officer who is a good friend of mine and who already holds a semi-rural patch will be taking the reins. This officer will be working with me during my last few weeks to get a feel for the patch. I will also pass on any valuable contacts that I have gathered in the last two years and as much local knowledge as possible to aid the transition.

Please could I ask that you pass this information on to other council members and residents.

*Again, many thanks
Rob Hill, C3040*

(We have reproduced Rob's email in full as we felt it the best way to pass on what he felt about his time on the mountain. Eds)

County Councillor Matt Wright

Brynford & Pentre Halkyn Ward

BT continue to install superfast broadband on the Mountain and I know some residents are now getting letters saying it is operational. It is a roll out process through the year so everyone will not come on stream at once. A vast sum of money was allocated by the UK Govt and matched by the Assembly Govt and it is a major infrastructure task across Wales. Flintshire, I am glad to report, was one of the first areas. A very important thing for residents to note is that once the superfast broadband is in you will have to contact your provider to upgrade to superfast broadband, it does not come on automatically until you trigger it with your provider. I would advise you to bargain a bit with them by telling your provider you do not wish to pay more or you will switch providers. Communications is at least one of the sectors where the UK is ahead of Europe in competition and low prices so let's keep it that way. Having fast speeds will not only mean we can do new things in our homes but will help the nation compete and support the more agile way that small businesses and professionals work today. We need to keep up with other countries and to provide the latest technology.

In addition to the day to day issues that residents bring to a councillor, there are the bigger issues that councils need to tackle. Councils can have an important role in the local economy and doing their bit to help town centres. I chair a committee that looks at these issues and we are due to undertake a review of the various ways we are able to encourage town centres to thrive and in some cases to adapt and change. A whole host of factors affect a town centre from planning policy, demographics and road networks to business rates, ownership profiles, types of shops and parking. Parking is often the one that excites the most controversy though. In fact even that is complicated. After much public pressure the County Council introduced more free parking in off street car parks in some towns although we gave towns an option as to what they wanted to do as each town can vary in terms of the problems they face. Mold chose to have a scale of charges designed to encourage turnover of visitors and discourage people parking all day and blocking spaces. The lower scale of those charges still out compete almost anywhere else. Holywell chose to have free parking and it transpired that there were major concerns about spaces being blocked. This is just one aspect of what impacts on town centres but what is certain is that every issue must be considered carefully, in detail and without jumping to simplistic conclusions.

With the better weather the roadworks come! If it's on the A55 it drives us nuts but on the smaller local roads this is probably something we can bear if it means improvements. I have pushed for ongoing repairs and safer speeds in villages so work will be going on to get this done. Finally if you have an issue you need to raise with me my numbers are below.

Best regards,

Cllr Matt Wright

Mobile: 07791 804599 Home: 01352 741835

E-Mail: matt@valeofclwyd.orangehome.co.uk

Moriah Chapel Organ Relocated

If you should visit Trearddur Bay this summer I would strongly recommend you visit St Ffraid's Church, which is found on the right hand side, just before entering Trearddur Bay from the Valley roundabout. I am sure you will receive a welcome and perhaps a cup of tea as I did last year. I called in to see the flower festival they were holding and picked up a booklet about the church. Later while sitting on the beach, to my surprise, I read about the organ which had come from Moriah Chapel in Halkyn.

The Moriah Chapel was demolished in 1994 and the organ became available free of charge for anyone willing to pay for its removal, restoration and reassembly. Mr Eric Newbound, organ builder from Penmaenmawr was engaged to dismantle the organ. It took three days to remove it to his workshops.

Picture below shows the organ in Moriah Chapel before removal.



In September the same year it started to arrive at St Ffraid's in boxes and various bits and pieces. It took eight days to re-assemble and was first used on Sunday 9th October 1994. For past members of Moriah Chapel I am sure you will be pleased to hear the organ is greatly treasured and is very much used in St Ffraid's Church.

Picture right shows the restored organ in St Ffraid's Church.

If anyone is interested to know any more, I have a booklet on the history of the Church and would be happy to let you see it.

Sylvia Jones
Davies – 01352
780279



Blue Bell Inn

A special celebration, ten years of walking for health and getting fit for free!

Ten years ago we met with two very special people, John & Vicky Thomas, who kick started the free guided walks here and launched the Blue Bell Inn to a wider community and helped give us a national presence. The walks continue to be a tremendous regular attraction on Thursdays 2pm, Saturdays 10:30am, summer Wednesdays 7pm and monthly history walks on Summer Sundays at 11am and now, thanks again to Vicky, Nordic Walking Instruction every Saturday at 1pm. We've also created three UK national award winning walks with walking leaflets (available on the website) for those that can't make the many fixed walking events.

To celebrate 10 years of free guided walks we are holding a Blue Bell Halkyn Walking Festival during the week of Monday July 14th to Sunday July 20th. There will be walks every day with most of them starting from here. Keep your eyes peeled for more information elsewhere in HMN.



Other (musical news)

Like us, our walkers enjoy a bit of music, not the loud stuff, but fantastic quality acoustic music. We now have three weekly musical events, Folk, Rhythm & Blues of various kinds on Thursdays - our very own Andy Hickie (who started our folkie Thursdays many years back) returns to us on the 4th Thursday every month with Andy Hickie's Folk on the Mountain, Roger's Friday Singing Night and Mad Ed's Hot Five every Sunday afternoon. We also add in music on the occasional Saturday from contemporary jazz to virtuoso guitar, add more celtic folk monthly with Rantin' Dogs on a Monday and enjoy occasional soirées with Morris Dancers and other groups, Beatles Nights, Simon & Garfunkel nights, Cheese Nights and lots of other entertainments too. Pop in and pick up an events list while you pick up your parcels or post while having a pint!

Post Office Local at The Blue Bell Inn

We're well and truly open now and would like to remind you of our services with the bonus of safe off-road parking and a cuppa (or something stronger) while you sit and have a comfortable chat with your chums.

Postal Services/Mails

All Royal Mail® (up to 30kg)
Parcelforce® UK
Free Personal Banking
Any bank – withdrawals
Many banks – balance inquiry
Some banks – deposits
come and check what you can do with your debit card – more being added all the time!
Free Business Banking
E.g. Santander (all services)
Post Office® Card Accounts
Pay your Bills
Utility bills, phone bills, rates bills, etc
Gas card top-up or electricity key
Travel Money
Buy & sell your travel currency
E Top Ups
Postal Orders
Moneygram
Send cash around the world quickly & safely

If we can swipe it, bar code read it, or chip and pin it, chances are we can do it! To help us service you better, please quote our branch number 2514583 with any product you take up on-line at postoffice.co.uk! The Post Office is open every day & night (hours vary) except Tuesday and all day and most of the night on weekends and Bank Holidays, do pop in for a leaflet with our opening times and events.

Events in the pipeline include midsummer's day walking (around June 21st), Morris dancers, treasure hunters with NEWSAR) and many more over the summer so do come and pick up an events list from the bar or call 01352 780309. For those of you internet connected (we've free wi-fi here too) all our dates are on-line at www.BlueBell.uk.eu.org and Halkyn.org where you can share our Google Calendar and get much more detail.

We'll sign off now by wishing you well for the summer and hopefully see you at the bar, stamps and all.

Steve & Ness Marquis

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

Heartfelt Art and Craft - update

Saturday 5th April saw the launch of Heartfelt Art and Craft fairs. The event, held at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library enjoyed an excellent turn out, with people attending from both the local community and further afield.



There were many, varied stallholders exhibiting their hand crafted work, including homemade jewellery, bags, cards, ceramics, homemade jams and original art pieces to name only a few.

Volunteers from Claire House Children's Hospice served and sold refreshments and Homemade cakes were enjoyed throughout the event. A raffle with donated prizes was also held to raise additional funds towards the charity. The event enabled the charity to raise in excess of £225.

I was thrilled to see so many people attend and support the event. My whole intention is to interact and engage within the community and to support local charities, artists and crafters within Flintshire and surrounding areas. The quality of art and craft exhibited was outstanding and very unique.

I look forward to the future monthly events to be held at the Parish Hall & Library when each month a different charity will be in attendance and the events will support fundraising for their worthy causes.

As a reminder, the events are held every second Saturday of each month between 10-3pm with FREE ADMISSION.

If anyone is interested in attending as a stall-holder or would like to assist in any way such as baking cakes for the charities to sell with refreshments or to give up an hour to sell raffle tickets, then please contact myself, Susan Thomas on 01352 781088 or email me at: heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk.

I look forward to meeting you at the next event on 14th June 2014.

Pentre Halkyn Over 50s

The Over 50s enjoyed a lovely meal followed by Bingo at the Springfield Hotel on 25th November 2013.

We hold Bingo every Monday afternoon at 1:45pm in the Pentre Halkyn Community Centre. New members would be very welcome.

Megan

The Neutral Spine

Neutral spine is the correct alignment of the body. In its natural alignment, the spine is not straight. It has curves in the thoracic (upper) and lumbar (lower) regions. There is a slight forward curve in the lumbar region (lordosis), a slight backward curve in the thoracic region (kyphosis) and a slight extension in the tiny cervical vertebra at the top of the spine. In addition, the ears, shoulders, hips, knees and ankles are aligned as if a plumb line was running from the ears down through the torso into the legs and the feet.

Why The Neutral Spine Is Important

With a neutral spine, the body is in its strongest, most balanced position. Stress to the joints, muscles, vertebrae and tissue is minimized. Maintaining neutral posture will help decrease the risk of injury and increase the efficiency of movement or exercise.

The Neutral Standing Alignment

FEET: hip width apart, with weight evenly distributed between big toe, small toe, and heel. Toes spread wide, no grip pressure.

KNEES: knees should remain soft, not locked. Think a micro-bend.

PELVIS: find your neutral triangle in the vertical position by tilting the pelvis back and forward, finding the middle position, where the hip bone and pubic bone are in the same plane.

SPINE: think long and light through the spine, like there is a piece of string lifting you towards the ceiling, without lifting the rib cage.

SHOULDERS: imagine someone pulling your collar bones out to the side, and feel how this opens the chest. Gently roll the shoulder blades down and back, keeping them away from your ears.

HEAD: make sure your chin is gently tucked in, not jutting forward.

BREATHE: inhale using your diaphragm; you should feel your rib cage move to the sides and your tummy move outwards. Keeping your shoulders relaxed, focus your awareness on the pelvic floor muscles as you exhale.

You may need to work to relearn this posture, but keeping a posture should never be an effort. In the neutral spine position you should feel comfortable and relaxed. If you find yourself using any effort to hold yourself straight then ease off! Set an intention to increase your awareness of neutral posture in your daily activities, and keep making the micro adjustments required to return to neutral postures. It takes time to be become automatic, but it's well worth the effort.

Stephen Massey
St Asaph Chiropractic Clinic
01745 535854

Kung Fu on Halkyn Mountain

Having lived in Pentre Halkyn for the last 16 years and been regular recipients of the Halkyn Mountain News, I thought it was about time that I told your readers of our passion for the martial art of Kung Fu. Both I and my son Ryan had trained in different styles of martial art before, but nothing inspired us as much as Kung Fu and our journey began seven years ago.

Instantly a passion was born, first to learn and then to pass on that knowledge. For Ryan though his personal journey would take him to the Henan Province in China where he would learn from Shaolin masters who had spent most of their lives perfecting their art. It's hard to put into words the impact this had upon him and he trained up to sixteen hours a day to maximise this opportunity. The effort paid off when his skill was assessed and he was awarded the title of Sifu (teacher) and given permission to take home what he had learnt to pass on to others. An important philosophy within Kung Fu is to give something back, and Ryan continues via e-mail to teach English to a Henan temple's young disciples.

As our passion for Kung Fu grew we found we wanted to pass on our knowledge to others and we decided to set up our own small business called 'FIRST CONTACT Personal Safety and Self Defence' in a small studio at our home. We found that the more we taught others, the more we enjoyed seeing their confidence and self esteem build.

In life we often put limitations upon ourselves and many I'm sure would assume that they were too old or maybe not physically suited to learning a martial art. This is simply not true; we can provide a syllabus to suit everybody. We also understand that quite often the impetus to learn comes from a person's lack of confidence and a desire to change their life for the better, or maybe a victim of bullying wants to learn how to stand their ground. In these circumstances a fast track self defence course is suitable, that covers the psychological aspects of conflict as well as the physical.

Maybe by now you are beginning to think that maybe that secret desire to learn a martial art can actually be crossed off your bucket list after all. If that's the case then what are you waiting for? It does help to be clear about what you realistically want to achieve; also you need to find an instructor with a strong sense of ethics whose system/style is flexible enough to take account of any limitations you may have. Whilst these factors have a bearing upon the style of martial art that you choose the benefits truly are endless; improved strength, muscle tone and flexibility, increased confidence, self awareness, and an overall sense of well being.

We offer individual training or can accommodate small groups in our fully equipped studio. Age, as long as you are over 16 years, and physical ability is also not an issue and we can tailor our syllabus to suit everybody's needs. It's all about helping people achieve their potential.

I'd also like to put something back into the community and would like to offer a 'one off' free session in 'Walking Stick Self Defence' if there is enough interest.

This would be aimed specifically at our elderly community members, and I'd seek to show them how they can also learn to defend themselves and open their minds up to the concept of staying safe by increasing their awareness of their surroundings. All you would need to bring is an open mind, a sense of humour, and of course your stick!

If you are now suitably inspired then start your own journey today! Contact me or Ryan on 07786 008534 for advice and we will be happy to help you on your way.

Phil Griffiths

Halkyn W.I. - 80 Years

May was a special month for us as it was our 80th Anniversary. We celebrated it with a splendid lunch at The White House, Rhualt and marked the event with an 80th Birthday cake at our meeting on 8th May. Our



speaker at the meeting was Mrs Beverley Webber from St Asaph Archeological Society who gave a fascinating presentation chronicling the history of Tan-y Llan farm, Ysceifiog.

Photograph shows Halkyn WI's longest serving member, Mrs Muriel Jones cutting our Anniversary cake below is the whole group

For our Guest Night in April we were entertained by Mr Stephen Galoway and Miss Ruth Lewis discussing and demonstrating the art of Ti Chi. Members and guests were encouraged to participate and did so enthusiastically. Afterwards we all enjoyed a good homemade buffet.

We now look forward to a full and varied programme. In June we have Sheila Stewart coming who will tell us about the amazing work they do at Capricorn Animal Rescue and in July we will have a demonstration from Mr John Coulhard of Sugar Craft.

In addition to our regular meetings we also have a few trips planned including Nantclwyd y Dre, Wales' oldest dated timber town house, High tea at Llandudno, Shopping at Cheshire Oaks and a demonstration of agility dog training at Halkyn.

Halkyn WI meet on the first Thursday of the month at Halkyn Village Hall at 7:15pm. For the rest of the month we have a craft group each Thursday afternoon.

We always welcome new members and if anyone is interested please contact Averil Woodfine on 01352 780918.



Blue Bell Walks

Kidney Research Walk for Life

The Halkyn Community Council Walk in aid of The Kidney Wales Foundation took place on Saturday 26th April, a mild morning with good views all round. We welcomed the company of Mark Isherwood A.M. His support and that of all the walkers and sponsors of this very worthy cause is much appreciated. The sum of £341 raised will be Gift Aided.

Councillor John Thomas

Blue Bell Walks 2004 – 2014

The first 'Walks for Health' started on a Wednesday Evening in July 2004. The walks covered 2miles in just over an hour and incentive badges were awarded to encourage perseverance in regular exercise. The Saturday morning walks were started to satisfy those wanting to continue to earn their 25, 50 and 100mile badges. The walkers got fitter and walked faster and now cover 4 miles in the same time.

We would like to thank our wonderful team of Walk Leaders who give us the chance to vary the walks and cater for all ages and abilities. Some of the Walk Leaders lead walks in other parts of the county and these walks will be included in the July Walking Festival celebrating ten years of walking from The Blue Bell Inn. Our thanks go to June Brady, Tim Guy, Gill Harrison, Stan Jones, Tracey McVey, Bob Mossop, Alan Pritchard, Gareth Parry, Jayne Stevens and Jim Williams. Thanks also to our hosts Steve and Ness for their hospitality.

Halkyn Walking Festival

Monday 14th July – Sunday 20th July

Mon 14th 7pm BAGILLT The Upper Ship Inn - Coastal walk past two ports to the Milwr Tunnel entrance.

Tue 15th 11am WEPRE PARK - More details to follow.

Wed 16th 10.30am FLINT Leisure Centre - Part of Coastal Path passing Flint Docks; once used to ship out Halkyn lead.

2pm CAERWYS Golf Club -

Walk to Old Caerwys abandoned about 1450.

7pm HALKYN The Blue Bell Inn.

60 min walk to the Hill Fort.

90 min walk to Moel Fagnallt and Rhes-y-Cae.

Thu 17th 2pm HALKYN The Blue Bell Inn.
90 min walk – Industrial Landscape.
60 min walk to the Buffalo Farm.

7pm To the Shooting Lodge, once a chapel schoolroom for the children of the Banks Estate. Walk along Nant y Flint valley and stream. Return via Halkyn Castle Woods.

Fri 18th 2pm HALKYN Blue Bell Inn.
60min Practise your Welsh whilst walking.
6.45pm LIXWM The Crown Inn - Walk the limestone ridge through scrubland typical of Halkyn Common centuries ago before trees were cut down for the lime kilns and onto a fine example of a limestone pavement.

Sat 19th 10.30 HALKYN The Blue Bell Inn.
6mile Woodland walk.
90 min Quarries and lead mines walk.
90min The Churches and churchyards of Halkyn. See the polished Halkyn marble showing a multitude of fossils.
1pm 45mins Basic Nordic Walking Instruction - Have a go. Poles provided.
2pm 60mins Nordic Walk to the Trig Point (Non Nordic Walkers welcome).

Sun 20th HALKYN The Blue Bell Inn.
10.30am 2hrs - Moel Gaer Hill Fort, Moel-y-Crio, Esker, Moel Ffagnallt and The Billins.
2pm 60 mins - Family Treasure Hunt.

We will be celebrating the Summer Solstice with a walk to Moel Y Gaer with the hope of seeing the sunset SATURDAY 21st JUNE.

Halkyn Mountain Irish Night

Irish Stew's second concert in aid of Rhosesmor church was a greater financial success than the first, with an audience of 120 packed into Halkyn village hall on Saturday 22nd March. The band was supported by Hefina playing the harp, pupils from The Emma Mae School of Irish Dance, the Mountain Churches Choir and the Cupcake Puppets, all of whom were warmly received.

It was really gratifying to have so many people say "you must do it again". The band (all from Halkyn Mountain) would like to thank everyone for their support.

Watch this space for our next event.

Irish Stew Folk Band.

Brownies

Once again we have been as busy as ever in Brownies. The girls are working hard towards their Fire Safety Badge with a visit from the fire service planned before the summer holiday. As part of the Brownie Centenary challenge we are looking for volunteer projects on the mountain to help with. If you can think of anything please let me know. The girls are very enthusiastic to help in the community.

As well as craft and finishing our Agility Badges the girls are busy planning an adventure for the summer.

If you have a daughter aged 7 to 10½ who enjoys games, craft, fun outside and making new friends we meet each Friday (term time) between 6 and 7:30 at Halkyn Parish Hall. If you have a daughter who would like to come along please give Brown Owl a call on 01352 716027 (weekends only) or email on Karen.Morgan-Read@fco/gov/uk.



Photo of Rhosesmor School 1935 sent in by Esmor Bellis (third row)



Back row L-R Blodwen Hughes, Maggie Jones, Beatrice Williams, Hazel Thwaite, Doris Blackwell, Katie ??
 4th Row L-R W.T. Jones (Headmaster), Glenys Owen, Myra Nuttall, Morfydd Parry, Freda Nuttall, Gwen Hughes, Connie Heath, Eric Woodward (Teacher)
 3rd Row L-R Bob Blackwell,, Roynan Webster, Esmor Bellis, Gladys Jones, Vera Bellis, Joy Chester, Marjory Heath, Beryl Powell, Hilda Powell, Megan Jones, Oswald Blackwell, Manley Webster, Walter Thomas
 2nd Row L-R Albert Barclay, John Davies, Howell Blackwell, John Blackwell, John Kenneth Williams, Tommy Price
 Front Row L-R John (Jackie) Thwaite, Arnold Williams

Rhosesmor Village Hall

The hall continues to function as a viable entity with hirings providing funds enough to meet our regular bills, and the Jumble Sales giving us a back-up when repairs/decoration are necessary.

At present we can still hold regular "Giant Jumble Sales", but it is likely these will reduce or even stop in 2015. At the moment we are looking to hold two more in 2014; one on Saturday July 26th, and another towards the end of November.

Our last sale was again a tremendous success thanks to all our helpers on Friday laying out the hall, and then standing behind the stalls Saturday afternoon, we received £840 towards the hall funds.

Geoff North
 Secretary, Rhosesmor Village Hall Committee

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.

Rhosesmor W.I.

Our illustrated talk on Peru by our member Mrs Penny Manning in March was absorbing. She really brought her holiday experiences to our meeting so that everyone could enjoy them.

Our 57th Birthday/Guest Night was enjoyed by everyone, especially the Côr Cilcain singing and the delicious buffet.

On the 9th June we shall be holding our annual outing when we are going, by coach, to Bridgemere Nurseries.

Our Picnic on July 14th has yet to be arranged.

Although August is our holiday month several members will be putting entries into the W.I. Section of the Denbigh and Flint Show on August 21st.

Any lady can come and join us and we meet in Rhosesmor Village Hall on the second Monday in each month.

Your contact is:
 Mrs Mary North on 01352 780660

Rhes-y-Cae News

Condolences - We wish to extend our sincere sympathy to the families of:

ERYL MAUD THOMAS of Carmel, loving mother of Michael and Christopher, daughters-in-law Dawn and Susan, grandmother and sister-in-law of Rita, who died on 15th February 2014. On 27th February, family and many friends attended the funeral service which was conducted by the Rev'd Hugh Burgess at Christ Church, Rhes-y-Cae, followed by Internment in the church cemetery.

DAVID BRASSEY, The Croft, Rhes-y-Cae, loving father of Mike and David, and father-in-law to Wendy, grandfather of six children and great grandfather of nine children, who died on 1st February 2014. The funeral service was held at Chester Crematorium on Thurs 20th February. Derek moved to Rhes-y-Cae in 2004 and lived here for seven years until 2011 when he went to Marlyfield Care Home, Buckley.

Rev'd Kath Trimby (Nee Southerton) Returns from Ireland - After leaving Halkyn Mountain Parish Churches about 10 years ago, the Rev'd Kath Trimby accepted a new post in the ministry of Co. Sligo in Ireland. We were please to hear that she was coming back to the Border Parishes, near Oswestry. Her father, Canon Clive Southerton, helped the three churches to keep open until the Rev'd Hugh Burgess was appointed in 2006.

The special service to celebrate a New Ministry was held at Morton on Monday 7th April for the Institution and Induction of the Rev'd Kath Ruth Trimby as Rector of the Border Group of Parishes consisting of Llanyblodwel, Llanymynech, Morton and Trefonen by the Bishop of Lichfield.

It was a very happy occasion with some friends from Halkyn Mountain attending the service. As the congregation gathered, the choir sang; followed by a welcome from the Bishop. The declaration of Oaths, and the Installation and Induction of the Rev'd Kath Trimby took place. The Bishop's procession departed with the sound of "The Irish Blessing" sung by the choir. Refreshments were served at the back of the church and everyone had the opportunity of greeting Kath.

Condolences - It was with sadness that Kath's mother, Marion Southerton of Meliden, Nr Prestatyn died the following week after being ill for many months. Marion was able to attend her daughter's special evening at Morton Church – it was such a joyous occasion. Our sincere sympathies to Canon Clive Southerton, Kath, Chrissie, Andrew and all the family.

A service of Thanksgiving and Celebration for the life of Marion Jessie Southerton, who passed away on Tuesday 15th April, was held at Prestatyn Parish Church on Wednesday 30th April. Many, many friends from Meliden and Prestatyn and further afield, including Halkyn Mountain, attended a very uplifting service. The Rev'd John Harvey of Meliden Church conducted the service, with family and friends contributing with

tributes and prayers. The congregation was invited to join the family for refreshments at Prestatyn Church Hall.

Joint Service – Sunday 16th March - Our friends from Ebenezer Chapel came to join us at Rhes-y-Cae Church for Evensong. Our grateful thanks to John Foxlee for conducting the service. Afterwards, the church ladies had prepared refreshments in Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall and we all had an enjoyable get together.

Easter Coffee Morning – Tuesday 22nd April - The Coffee Morning was well attended and a special "Thank you" to our friends from Halkyn. There was quite a selection of produce, including plant and cake stalls. The Raffle Prizes were excellent – thanks for all the donations. John Thomas kindly announced our Annual Church Walk which will start from the Upper Shippe Inn, Sandy Lane, Bagillt from 10:30am on Saturday 24th May followed by a free buffet lunch at the pub. All are warmly welcomed. (This event will have taken place before the HMN is published. Eds) Total amount raised was £220 for church funds.

FUTURE DATES

Sat 26th July – Church Stall at Rhes-y-Cae & Moel-y-Crio Show

FINALLY - If anyone has information or news regarding Rhes-y-Cae please get in touch with me by the 3rd Week of July, Tel 780371. Thank you.

Gwyneth Hughes

Halkyn Library

The library is a facility for all local residents, young and old, and is open
once a week -

Fridays - 1:30 pm. - 7:00 pm.

**Library Online Services via
www.flintshire.gov.uk**



From The Rev'd Hugh Burgess

Rhydymwyn
May, 2014



Dear Friends

This year Spring has been an exceptionally busy time it seems in the life of the local parishes. There have been quite a number of Christenings, which has been wonderful for me personally as I enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and meeting lots of happy and interesting people. Although I haven't counted, the number of Christenings booked for this year seems to be at a much higher level than in previous years which is very exciting.

Christening (or Baptism, to give this service its more usual name) is the service at we welcome people into the community of the Christian Church. It is, as the service says, an occasion of great joy for the church and in this short service promises are made by the person being baptised, if they are old enough, or by parents and god-parents on behalf of the child being baptised. In the modern service there is also a promise made by the whole congregation to "uphold" the person. The reasons why people are brought for baptism are many and varied but often it is because parents believe that it is the "right thing" to do. I agree (he would say that, wouldn't he?). We cannot know what lies in store for us in the future and baptism gives us a connection with the community of Christian people throughout the world. The choice of whether or not we engage or become more involved with that community is very much a matter of individual decision and while it is always my hope and prayer that people will find peace, hope and indeed love in the Christian family, I believe that this is ultimately a personal choice.

Apart from baptisms, sadly we have also been busy as we have come to say farewell to many members of our community who have died over these past few months. For me it is a source of some sorrow that I am not physically able to spend more time with bereaved families but it is always a privilege to walk with them and I hope that they may find some comfort in the time we spend together and in the funeral service itself.

One of the great lessons I have learnt over my eight years in this community, is that this final journey of life can often be made easier when the vicar has been

asked to visit well before someone is in the final stages of life. There is often reluctance, I know, to make this contact early, perhaps because it seems like giving up hope, but just as baptism is about belonging to a Christian community, so in the crises and difficult times of life (and, I hope in the joyful ones too) the church is here to support and walk with people on their life journey. I am very pleased to be asked to visit or meet people, whatever their situation, but generally I wait to be asked – so please do feel free to ask me to call.

On a different subject, we recently set up a bell-ringing band in Halkyn church to bring the silent bells back to life. On Easter Monday the tower was visited by a group from the Wirral and it was a delight to see among them three youngsters (a nine year old and two ten year olds) who handled the bells very skilfully indeed. We now have ten adult ringers in Halkyn who are beginning to be able to ring on their own but if you are an adult or a teenager and are interested in learning to ring, please do get in touch. The bell-ringers practice in Halkyn Church on Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 if you fancy turning up to see what it's all about – you will be made very welcome. Just come to the back door and climb the stair up to the ringing chamber – or call me first!

Also the Halkyn Mountain Churches Choir, which started under the leadership of Huw Davies a couple of years ago, is always delighted to welcome new members. The choir meets on Friday evenings in Rhosesmor Church between 7 and 8.30pm and sings a range of music. No previous musical or singing experience is assumed so don't be put off coming along!

One of the great joys of the last 18 months or so, apart from the choir and the bells, has been the success of the open church in Rhosesmor. There have been many visitors who have come for a whole variety of reasons and all have been most welcome. In particular we are pleased to be able to offer a quiet space for reflection for those who face challenges in their lives and we continue to offer this space to you, the community of Halkyn Mountain, as a place of peace and sanctuary. Please feel free to use it.

I wish you every blessing for a pleasant and relaxed summer.

01352 741 646
07891 157 827

	BLUE BELL INN	
Glass & Paper Recycling		
Steve & Ness Marquis want all to know that they have glass and paper recycling facilities for everyone's use in the car park at the rear of the inn. This will save the longer journey to Mold, Holywell, etc as we try to help the environment through recycling.		
Rhosesmor Rd Halkyn	BlueBell.uk.eu.org 01352 780309	

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 a Family Service in St Paul's Church Rhosesmor. There is plenty for everyone to do, so come along and spend an hour with us. Fruit and drink provided. Please phone Lynn on 780740 for more information.



Sunday - Bright Stars

Jun 1st HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Jun 8th Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Jun 15th All Age Service St. Paul's Church 10:00
Jun 22nd Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Jun 29th Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Jul 6th Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Jul 13th Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00
Jul 20th All Age Service St. Paul's Church 10:00
Jul 27th - Aug 31st SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Sep 7th Bright Stars Rhosesmor Village Hall 10:00

'**BISCUITS**' is a fun group who meet in term time on Thursdays 6pm-7pm in Rhes-y-Cae village hall. CUPCAKE PUPPETS are part of the Biscuits group. All are welcome.

Please contact Lynn Fearnhead 01352 780740 or email lfearnhead@hotmail.co.uk for further information

Tinytots Playgroup

Ysgol Rhos Helyg Rhosesmor

We are a well established playgroup based in Ysgol Rhos Helyg in Rhosesmor. We are open during turn time each morning at 8.50 - 11.45.

We welcome all children from age 2½!

We give your child the opportunity to make friends, develop new skills and have fun learning through play! All staff hold childcare qualifications and have a valid CRB check.

The cost per session is £7.

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

First session free!

Contact Leanne on 01352 780265



Halkyn Mountain Kids Club



SPACES AVAILABLE NOW!

We are situated in Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School. The club is registered with CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales); all 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.

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

Opening times for holiday club only

8am – 5.30pm Mon – Fri
(Breakfast will be provided and a healthy snack in the afternoon, packed lunch to be provided by the parents/guardians)

Prices for holiday club only

£21 per child for a full day
£15 per child for half a day (till 1pm)

Opening times for after school club only

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

We have a large hall area where we enjoy; (For after school /holiday club)

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

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

- A Trim Trail where we enjoy climbing, balancing and swinging
- A park with slides, bridges and balancing frames
- A large field and playground where we also have lots of fun with scooters and football matches etc.

Prices for after school club only.

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 or even visit our website at www.ysgolrhoshelyg/holkyn.asp

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

Saturday

Heartfelt Art & Craft 10 am - 3:00 pm
5th April and from May 2nd Saturday of the month
(For more info contact Sue Thomas on 01352 781088)

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

A number of the Village Hall Committee members after many years of valuable service are now retiring from the committee. We thank them for all their hard work over these many years and now appeal to members of Rhes-y-Cae to come and join us on the committee and ensure the continuation of this valuable village asset.

Please Contact Kevin Lewis - 01352 780297

Pentre Halkyn Community Centre

Bingo 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.

Cynfaen Memorial Chapel Calcoed

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

(C) denotes Communion Service

June 1st Cyf Pregethu/Anniversary
(W) Parch T.E Williams 2.30pm
(E) Rev T.E Williams 6.00pm

June 8th (E) Mr Gron Ellis (C)
June 15th (W) Dr Philip Davies (C)
June 22nd (E) Rev. Marc Morgan
June 29th (W) Mr Tudur Hughes

July 6th (E) Own arrangement
July 13th (W) Parch Marc Morgan (C)
July 20th (E) Rev Eirlys Griffiths (C)
July 27th (W) Mr Tegwyn Williams

August 3rd (E) Rev David Harrison
August 10th (W) Mr Brian Jones
August 17th (E) Rev Marc Morgan (C)
August 24th (W) Parch J.Bryn Jones (C)
August 31st (E) Mr Dafydd Barker Jones

Our Annual Gymanfa Ganu/Songs of Praise
will be held on Tuesday 3rd June.
A very warm welcome to all 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



Jun 11th, 25th, Jul 9th, 23rd AND SO ON WITH ME
SO COME ALONG. EYES DOWN, A FUN NIGHT YOU'LL SEE



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
First Sunday	11.15 am Communion	6.00 pm Evening Prayer ²	8.45 am Communion
Second Sunday	11:15 am Communion 5 pm Evensong	10.00 am Communion	8.45 am Bilingual Communion
Third Sunday	11.15 am Communion	10.00 am Family Service ¹	6pm Evening Prayer
Forth Sunday	11.15 am Morning Prayer	10.00 am Communion	8.45 am Communion
Fifth Sunday	10.30am Combined Service – This rotates between churches		

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME AT ALL OUR SERVICES

¹ During school holidays the Family Service may be replaced by an alternative service

² When the clocks go back in the Autumn, Evening Prayer at Rhosesmor will revert to 3pm

COMBINED SERVICE: In months where there is a fifth Sunday we have a single service for the three parishes. The next combined service will be held in Rhosesmor at 10.30am on Sunday, 29th June and the following one at Halkyn at 10.30 on the 31st August.

Pentecost (Whitsun) is the great birthday celebration of the Church and this year there will be a special celebration Songs of Praise service in St Mary's, Halkyn at 5pm on Sunday, 8th June.

OPEN CHURCH: Halkyn Church is open regularly on Saturday mornings from 9:30am between April and September. The church may be opened at other times by arrangement.

Rhosesmor church is open daily, normally from about 8.30am to 7.00pm (although the opening and closing times may vary slightly). There is a small Fairtrade stall with a selection of coffee, tea, biscuits, chocolate and various ingredients. In addition you are welcome to help yourself to a cup of tea or coffee or simply feel free just to drop in and spend a little time in the peace of the church.

If you would like a visit or wish to raise and matter with the church of the Priest in Charge personally, please contact Hugh Burgess and include you name and address or phone number. Thank 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

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

Capel Bethel y Nant

We meet every Sunday at 2:30 - Do Join Us!

Jun 1st Noel K Owen
Jun 8th Delyth McIntyre
Jun 15th Cymanfa Ganu Y Nant 8:00
Jun 22nd Own Arrangement
Jun 29th Noel K Owen

Jul 6th Tom Williams
Jul 13th Goronwy Ellis
Jul 20th Bryn Jones
Jul 27th Huw Powell Davies

No Service during August

Croeso Cynnes i Bawb! A warm welcome to all!

CAPEL BETHEL Y NANT CYMANFA GANU (Bi-lingual)

**NOS SUL - Sunday
MEHEFIN 15 JUNE**

AM 8 O'R GLOCH

**Conductor :- MRS NESTA ELLIS
Arweinydd :- GORSEDD**

**Eitimau :- Ben Simm
Items :- Treffynnon**

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

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

Jun 1^{at} Mr David Barker Jones (W)
Jun 8th Rev Marc Morgan (W)
Jun 15th Rev J Bryn Jones (W) (C)
Jun 22nd Mr Bryn Jones (W)
Jun 29th Rev Eirlys Gruffydd (W)

Jul 6th Mr Peter Sinclair (E)
Jul 13th Rev Maureen Roberts (E)
Jul 20th Rev Marc Morgan (W) (C)
Jul 27th Rev Thomas Evans Williams (W)

August No Services

Croeso Cynnes I Bawb! A warm welcome to all

Ysgol Brynffordd School

Ysgol Brynffordd are celebrating after the publication of our recent successful Estyn report, giving the school the accolade it rightly deserves. We would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter as we close today for the Easter holidays.

Eisteddfod yr URDD

The children have been very successful with their entries to this year's Eisteddfod, competing in reciting, group dancing, individual dance, arts and craft work and woodwind.

Urdd Arts and craft results

Local Eisteddfod: Zac B – 1st 2D painting, Zac B – 3rd jewellery, Rhys – 1st 3D creative, Holly – 1st 3D textiles, Harvey – 2nd 3D textiles, Brooke – 3rd 3D textiles, Jasmine B – 1st puppet, Shelby – 2nd jewellery. Holly – 3rd jewellery, Glyn – 1st 2D design, Rachel – 1st 3D textiles, Lucy – 2nd 3D textiles, Laura – 3rd 3D textiles, Laura – 1st weaving, Dewi – 2nd weaving, Ffion – 3rd weaving, Lara – 1st puppet, Emma – 2nd puppet, Laura – 3rd puppet, Lara – 3rd jewellery, Dewi – 2nd computer graphics, Glyn – 1st animated film, Emma – 2nd 2D creative, Rebecca – 2nd jewellery, Grŵp Brooke – 1st puppets, Grŵp Rebecca – 1st puppets,

County Eisteddfod: Zac B – 1st 2D painting, Zac B – 3rd jewellery, Grŵp Analeigh – 3rd 3D creative, Jasmine B – 3rd puppet, Lara – 1st puppet, Emma – 2nd puppet, Laura – 3rd puppet, Grŵp Brooke – 1st puppets, Grŵp Rebecca – 2nd puppets, Harvey – 1st 3D textiles, Holly – 2nd 3D textiles, Rachel – 1st 3D textiles, Laura – 2nd 3D textiles, Lucy – 3rd 3D textiles, Glyn – 1st animated film, Zac B – 3rd jewellery, Holly – 1st jewellery. All the 1st go forward to the National Eisteddfod to be adjudicated throughout Wales. Ardderchog – da iawn chi – fantastic results.

Dydd Gŵyl Dewi

A St. David's Day celebration was held in the school hall on the morning of Friday 7th March with the pupils showcasing their talents they were competing in at the local Urdd Eisteddfod.

The children were also able to come into school wearing anything that means Wales to them – wearing a daffodil, leek, Wales rugby/football shirt, traditional Welsh costume, or anything in the colours of Wales red, green or white giving a £1 donation towards the Urdd. £25 was raised towards the Urdd, thank you!

Visit to the Council Chambers

Four school council members were fortunate enough to accompany Mrs Harris to visit the Council Chamber in Mold for a Question Time with a councillor. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were given an insight into how the Council Chamber functions.

Visitor to Ysgol Brynffordd

We had the great pleasure of a visit from Flintshire County Councils chair, Carolyn Thomas who came into school on the morning of Wednesday 19th February.

School Council help fundraise for Hospice of the Good Shepherd

The School Council helped to raise money for Mrs. Karen Brambles and Mrs. Clare Jones, parents and Governors in school, who will be running the London Marathon for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. The School Council decided to organise a sporting event which was held on the morning of Friday 21st February in school. To enter, they asked for all pupils (except nursery) to pay £2 to enter in the event and all money received was donated to this worthwhile charity. The School Council raised £139. Thank you.



We would like to wish both Mrs. Karen Brambles and Mrs. Clare Jones 'Good luck' as they take part in this weekend's London Marathon!

Ysgol Brynffordd celebrates 50 years

Ysgol Brynffordd celebrates 50 years in its current building this year! We are planning on having a celebration day on Saturday 18th October 2014, where past and present pupils and staff are invited to attend an all day event. The pupils will be involved in a performance of the school through the ages, commemorative mugs will be given by the Community Council, a commemorative booklet about the history of Brynford school and the village will be produced and distributed within the village and many more activities. Please pass the word around if you know anyone who has had connections with the school in any way. We are also in need of old photographs for display and any stories about the school (that are suitable to print!) to put in the booklet – memories of the school days or how the village has changed. If you know any elderly past pupils who could be interviewed by the children or could write down their memories, we would love to hear from them. No matter how small the memory, we would like to hear it please. They will be chosen to be included in the booklet. Please bring anything that you have with your name on it so that we can return the items to the rightful owners at the end of the celebration. So please get searching! Thank you.

We are pleased to announce that Ysgol Brynffordd have been successful in our application from the Heritage Lottery Fund with an award of £4,900. This funding will be used to finance this very important milestone in the school's history.

Glan Llyn

The children from Year 6 had a fantastic learning experience when they participated in a residential visit to Glan Llyn 10th – 12th March. Mrs. Shickell went along with the children and was delighted with the children's behaviour and enthusiasm. The children took part in canoeing, abseiling, orienteering and were given the opportunity to brush up on their Welsh language skills.



Parents Evening

Parents were invited to come into school on the evening of the 17th and 18th March, giving them an opportunity to see their children's work and progress. Both evenings were very well attended.

Nursery & Early Entitlement Children

The parents of the nursery and early entitlement children were invited into school for a drop in session on the afternoon of Tuesday 18th March giving them an opportunity to take a look at their child's learning journey. The parents were able to see the children in their learning environment and have an informal chat with the teaching staff in the foundation phase unit.

Rural North Netball tournament

The juniors took part in the rural north netball tournament on the 7th March. Well done to the children who took part in the netball tournament coming 2nd overall – excellent again! Thank you to all who helped with the transport.

More able and talented

Two children from the juniors took part in a mathematics More Able and Talented workshop which was held at Ysgol Maesglas on Thursday 20th March.

Easter Bingo

Thursday 10th April was eyes down for our annual Easter Bingo held in the school hall by Friends of Brynffordd. The bingo was very well attended with the hall full. FOBS raised a whopping £371.60 for school funds. Thank you to all who donated and helped with this successful fundraiser.

Easter hat and egg decorating competition

It has been a tradition at Ysgol Brynffordd for several years to hold an Easter hat and egg decorating competition. This was held today, Friday 11th April, the last day of term. There were lots of colourful and imaginative hats and egg entries brought into from the children.

Ysgol Rhos Helyg

Find us at Ysgol.rhoshelyg.com

Visit our website to discover school life.

Once again we have had a very busy but very enjoyable term here at Ysgol Rhos Helyg.

Junior Gardens

One recent exciting development at the school has been the creation of a garden area for each junior class. We were grateful to our parents for helping us to fill our newly created raised beds with 14 tonnes of soil and compost. This daunting undertaking took just over an hour one Saturday morning, many hands ...



Pupils from Mrs Thomas' class with Mr Robinson discussing plans for their garden.



Pupils planting seeds ready for their new raised beds.



Outdoor Learning

We make use of our fabulous grounds as often as we can. We currently have a wonderful Literacy project here at the school which involves working outdoors. This stimulating environment motivates the pupils to create lovely work.

The Children having lots of fun in their mud kitchen as part of their Forest School learning.



Ysgol Rhos Helyg - continued



We have also been busy creating a bug hotel. This will be a fabulous habitat for us to study creepy crawlies in our woodland area.

Planting Trees

In order to further develop our grounds the children have planted over 60 Hazelnut trees.



Urdd Eisteddfod



To prepare for our School Eisteddfod we had a Welsh day which proved very successful. One activity was writing poetry. Art and Craft activities were probably

the most popular events though!



Making Welsh cakes also proved very popular.



The children dressed smartly for Welsh day activities.

The Welsh Cakes were cooked over a fire in our outdoor area.

As you can see they were devoured – yum yum.



Techniquet Trip

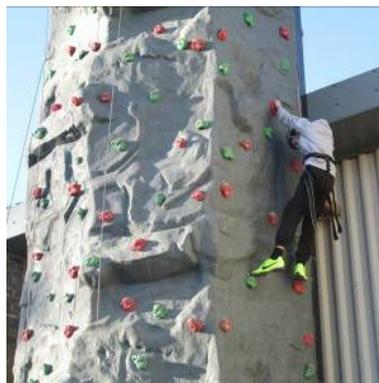


Another highlight of the term was a visit to Techniquet to experience lots of hands on science activities.

Glan Llyn

Once again pupils from Years 5 and 6 have visited Bala for their bi-annual visit. The pupils used the course to practice and develop their welsh language skills through adventurous activities.

Archery was a new skill acquisition for them all.



Climbing the 10 meter tower.



Canoeing on the lake. A fabulous time was had by all, and new friends were made.

Evacuees



Pupils from Year 6 dressed up as evacuees as part of their topic work on The second World War.

They were a sight to behold and had a great day. They even practised their gas mask drills.



A visit to the coast

Pupils from Year 6 spent the day at Talacre beach with the Forest School Team from Flintshire. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves doing many team building activities whilst learning about many environmental aspects about the coastline.



Easter

Last years egg decorating competition was



cancelled due to heavy snow, therefore it was a pleasure to see the eggcellent standard in this year's competition. Many thanks to the PTA for supporting this event as they donated Easter eggs to the winning designs in each class.

Alex warded 'Elite Cymru' Acknowledgement

Former Ysgol Maes Garmon pupil and Halkyn Mountain resident, Alex Taubman, has received a boost prior to entering this seasons PTC competitions from which he aims to turn professional. Alex has been invited by Sport Wales to be part of its prestigious 'Elite Cymru' scheme. Halkyn based Alex, who supports his snooker ambitions by working both as a sessional carer for NEWFOCAS an Independent Fostering Agency, and also working as a Personal Assistant for a 15 year old youngster who needs support in the community and wanted to learn snooker. Alex has spent a lot of his work-time activities coaching youngsters in the rudiments of the game. Inaugurated in 1997, the Elite Cymru scheme has solely covered non-Olympic sports such as motor racing and snooker, Commonwealth Games sports such as squash and bowls or sports which medal on a world level, such as golf, since 2006. Receiving National Lottery funding, and supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, Sport Wales works tirelessly to champion all sports while nurturing and helping to develop the best young talent the country has to offer.



In 2013 Alex was part of the winning 4 man Welsh Snooker team who brought back the winners trophy to Wales. Having recently been ranked 18 in the Latvian World Championships - Alex has played in several international venues over the last twelve months as well as playing in the 6 reds championships in Southern Ireland where he received accolade for finishing his match in a record 25 minutes. This was written up thus : Alex Taubman from Wales finished his 6 Reds match against Sander Tierolf (Netherlands) in record 25 minutes. Alex produced two breaks of 70 (TC) and 67 points to outplay Sander. Sander managed to get only 7 points in third frame as a foul from Alex. Eventually all frames remained blank for him. Scoreline: 70(70)-00, 43-00, 67(67)-07, 48-00

Fittingly notified of his selection for the Elite Cymru program in the aftermath of St David's day and a week after his 25th birthday Alex is determined to bring snooker to the forefront in Wales. He feels that it is an honour to have been invited onto the Elite Cymru scheme and that it recognises all the hard work he has put into improving his game. He practices 8 hours each day and has dedicated his life to snooker. He feels that with the backing of Elite Cymru and the WBSW this could well be his year to turn professional. He is seeking local sponsorship to allow him to continue with this ambition.

Halkyn Mountain Club & Sports News

Halkyn Cricket Club

Halkyn CC members turned out in force to take part in the Nat West Cricket scheme. The rain kept at bay and members worked hard giving the ground and the dressing rooms some TLC.

Meanwhile back to cricketing matters, the season starts shortly with the 1st XI making the short trip to Hawarden Park 2nd XI. The following day the 1st XI travel to HAWK GREEN, Stockport in the 1st Rd of the National Village Cup.

Halkyn 2nd XI begin their campaign with a home game against Rhewl.

Halkyn's midweek team will again be competing in the 1st Division of the Chester Midweek League. Home games, in a 20/20 over format, take place at Pant Newydd on Wednesday evenings.

Junior Cricket

Outdoor training sessions will commence on Thursday evenings at the club @ 5.45pm. Children aged SIX and upward are most welcome, for further information please contact Jane Williams on 01352-781523 or 07732325033.

Sponsorship

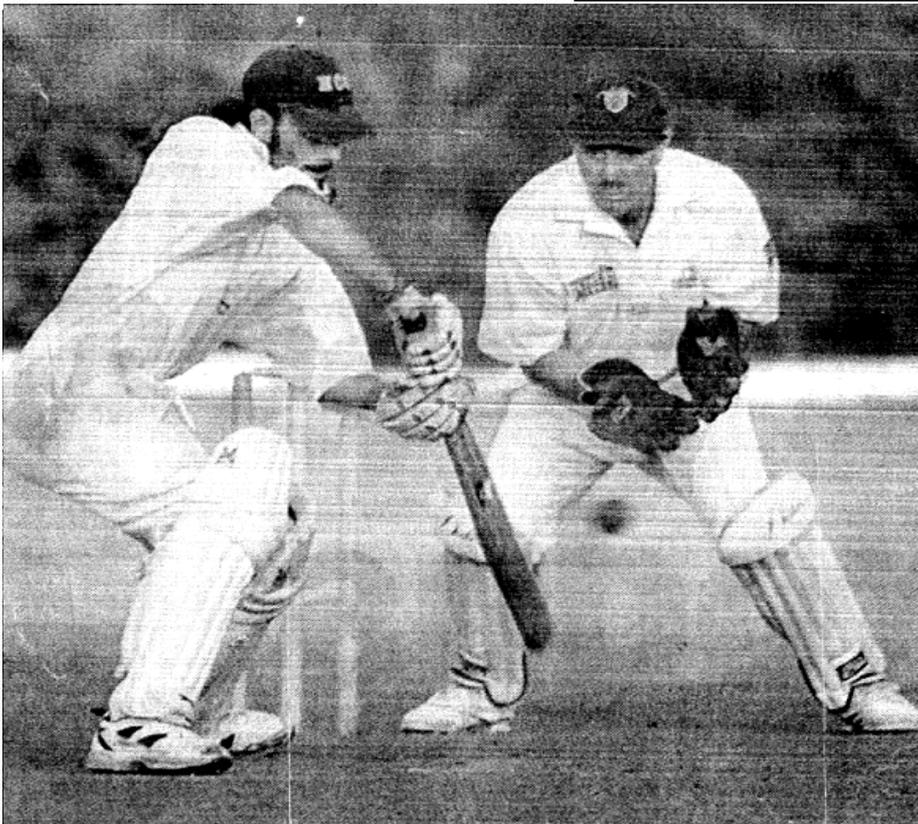
Halkyn Cricket Club are asking if any local companies would be interested in providing an advertising board for display at our ground at a cost of 40 POUNDS a season or alternatively we have Match Ball sponsorship at a cost of 25 POUNDS per game. For further details please contact Keith Williams on 01352-781523 or 07510296479.



Halkyn Cricket Club Members
Pre-Season Work Party

Halkyn's hour

From June 1977 cutting courtesy of Keith Williams



CLUBBE CLASS: Halkyn's Charles Clubbe steers a single down to third man during his team's Flintshire Knockout triumph on Tuesday.

FLINTSHIRE KNOCKOUT

HALKYN sprang a surprise to lift the Flintshire Knockout Trophy on Tuesday.

Trailing Northop Hall by 14 runs after the first leg, the Pant Newydd outfit fully utilised home advantage in the second to land the trophy for the first time since 1969.

Halkyn team manager Tudor Jones had no illusions about the threat Halkyn posed having seen them equal his side's feat of reaching the semi-finals of the Welsh Cup by beating Liverpool Competition sides Marchwiel and Colwyn Bay and North Wales champions Brymbo.

The writing for the favourites was well and truly on the wall once they had stumbled to 82-7 from their ration of 20 overs. Paul Trickett seemed poised to produce one of his vintage performances as he laid into the Halkyn attack, but just when he was at his most threatening, he was dismissed for 25.

And when dangerman, Adam Smith, followed for 24, Halkyn had the scent of victory in their nostrils.

Halkyn's own Aussie import, Glen Lalor, was one of the men to cause problems with the ball, taking 2-17 off his five overs, while Hywel Morris picked up 3-21.

Taking into account the Hall's 14 runs lead from the first leg, Halkyn were left chasing 97 runs at 4.85 runs an over.

Lalor, 20, produced the telling display steering his side towards their total with an innings of 53, which included six fours.

Despite dipping to 56-4, a vital innings of 19 from Flintshire colt Gareth Thomas, took Halkyn home.

Elated skipper Maelor Thomas received the Cup to the delight of the home support, while Lalor was named man of the match by the neutral umpires.

Holywell Golf Club

The club Annual General Meeting took place in March with Chairman, Kevin Carney, reporting that the club continued to be in a healthy financial position. Membership numbers were balanced whilst almost every club in the area was losing membership. New captain, Don Fergusson from Nannerch, was duly elected into office together with Jan Cain as Lady Captain. Halkyn Mountain News editor, Pat McDermott, was proposed and elected as Vice-Captain for the year.

Winter has been extraordinarily kind to us, in April and May, Spring appeared, the grass began to grow leaving our course looking in excellent condition. The greens as ever are in fantastic condition. Over the last few months we have been in discussions with Grosvenor Estates leading to the signing of a new 25 year lease term. Grosvenor Estates are rightly concerned about the ongoing risk of redundant mine shafts and workings sinking and becoming a hazard to people and livestock. We have agreed to be their eyes on the part of the common where the golf club is situated, actively watching for unusual landslip or indentations, providing 'first fix' fencing and reporting accordingly.

Membership fees at Holywell continue to be the best value in North Wales, with £490 for a full adult. Two new members joining from the same address get two for one in their first year. We still have a new members fee of £200 in the 18-30 age group.

Keep up to date on our latest offers, social events and results on our web page www.holywellgc.co.uk, Facebook or Twitter @holywellgolf.

2013 Club Captain's Charity Presentation

Members of Holywell Golf Club raised £1634.70p in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research which was the chosen charity of 2013 Club Captain Kevin Leech. On April 30th 2014 the local Branch Chairperson Debbie Hickmott and her husband Tony attended at the golf club for the handover of the cheque for the Charity. The photograph shows Tony receiving the cheque from Kevin also at the presentation were Club President Ray Lewis and Club Secretary Matthew Parsley.



2014 Club Captains Drive In

As is tradition every year the incoming club Captains start their year by "driving into office". Unlike last year when three feet of snow had to be cleared from the tee the Captains posed for the club photo with the Flintshire County Captain on a bright clear March day.

First to tee off was Junior Captain Tara O'Boyle who sent her drive straight down the fairway. The Lady Captain Janice Cain was next to tee off and she too sent her drive straight down the fairway. The Club Captain Don Fergusson then took his place on the tee and after calls of "follow those" bravely took his couple of practise swings sent his tee shot flying down the middle of the fairway.

Picture shows L-R Lady Captain Janice Cain, Club Captain Don Fergusson, Junior Captain Tara O'Boyle, Flintshire County Captain Frank Tweedle.



Fastest Round

Immediately after the Captains Drive In the club stages "the fastest round" for 18 holes. This event was started in 1994 by the Captain for that year, Alan Schofield and all shots are taken under the rules of golf, including penalties where applicable. Club Members, Gents, Ladies and Juniors, are placed strategically round the course on tees, fairways and greens before the Club Captain tees off and the clock starts and counting begins. Each shot must be taken by a different player which can and usually does end up with players running all over the course when the shot ends up nowhere near where it was expected to be!!! Once the ball does finally go in the hole it is grabbed and raced to the next tee by a fit young Junior. This continues until the ball finally ends up in the 18th hole.

Captain for 1995, Ray Lewis took and held the record until 2007 when Peter Lewis beat it and held it for the next 2 years. The 2009 Captain, Mark Chacksfield established a new record completing the round in a time of 23 mins 9 secs taking exactly 100 strokes. 2014 Captain, Don Fergusson, and his team tried in vain but were unable to beat on the record so it remains with Mark for another year. All the money raised from the "guess the time and numbers of shots taken" competition will go to Guide Dogs for the Blind which is the Captain's chosen charity for 2014.

Flintshire Past Captain's Annual Breakaway

As ever Holywell's Past Captains were the prime supporters of the Association's Annual 'Breakaway' to the Hereford area when 9 went along viz. Captain Don Fergusson, President Ray Lewis, Frank Tweedle, Kevin Carney, Brinley Edwards, Mark Smale, Peter Lewis and Geoff Evans with association Secretary Bert Moore going along to check the quality of the various beers wines & spirits (it was all OK!) as well as to act as a Buggy Driver/Caddy.

A great time was had by all and reasonable golf was displayed by most but overall Geoff Evans represented

Holywell Golf Club News continues

Holywell in great fashion and played some super golf despite not being 100% fit. Geoff carded 35 points at Sapey GC on Day 1, 36 at Ross-on-Wye on Day 2 and topped it off with an excellent 36 on the final day at Llangollen to amass an overall total of 107 points, 8 points ahead of the runner-up. Well done Geoff who, therefore, took home the John Roberts Trophy which was presented in memory of John Roberts who died suddenly in 2002 when he was Association Treasurer.



Annual Club Outing 2014

Having travelled west to the Welsh coast, Porthmadog, for last years outing this year Club Captain Don Fergusson with club professional Matt Parsley took 32 members east into England for this year's outing to "The Tytherington Club" near Macclesfield. After a hearty full English breakfast a great days golf was had by all with good weather and the course and greens in great condition.

Overall Winner was Mark Johnson with an excellent score of- 42 pts.

Winner of Div 1 was club professional Matt Parsley with 36 pts and Div 2 was won by Steve Whipday with 38 pts.



Several years ago Dave Wise turned up at a club outing with 'a fine trophy' which has become 'adopted' as the winning trophy on the day and has travelled far and wide with various members over the years and has been affectionately named as 'Little Tim'.

Picture shows Captain Don Fergusson presenting "Little Tim" to Mark Johnson

Halkyn United FC

Halkyn Cup

Halkyn United Second Team beat a very good Holywell Town Reserves team 1 – 0 in the final of the Halkyn Cup played on 24th April at Flint town United's ground. A glancing header in the first half by Richie Hughes was enough to win the game although both teams played well in a very competitive game.

End of Season Presentation Evening

Halkyn United held their presentation evening on 10th May at Halkyn Sports and Social Club.

This was the last season for first team manager, Eddy Barry, who has supported local football as a long serving referee and a football coach and manager. Eddy was presented with a piece of Waterford glass to commemorate his services to local football.

The awards for season 2013-2014 were:

First team:

Managers player of the year jointly won by Richie Hughes and Will Higginson

Players player of the year was Damon Griffiths
Committee and supporters player of the year
Richie Hughes

Second team;

Managers player of the year Darren Jones
Players player of the year Jason Bowden
Young player of the year Ashley Sinclair
Committee and supporters player of the year
Jason Bowden

Clubman of the year Andy Butler

A presentation of flowers was made to the wives of those involved in managing the club to thank them for their understanding and continued support for the club. Thanks to all the club officials, supporters and players who helped to make this a successful season.

Seasons Results

The first team completed the season finishing in sixth place on 38 points in the Welsh Alliance League Division 2 with Penrhyndeudraeth the runaway winners of the league and deservedly so as they were the best team Halkyn came up against by far.

The second team competing in the Clwyd East Reserves League finished mid table on 19 points with Holywell Town reserves finishing top. This confirms that the team played exceptionally well to defeat Holywell in the final of the Halkyn Cup.

Halkyn Bowls Club

We are up and running again, not literally but certainly enjoying our bowls.

We had a successful opening day. It was a bit cold and damp but that didn't stop us playing and of course eating. The ribbon was cut by our Harry Lindley. Harry has been one of our successful stalwarts over many lots of years. He has won countless matches and coached many grateful learners. That's as well as being captain of the 'B' team and Midweek team. Unfortunately this week he has decided to hang up his bowls. No doubt he would still prefer to be leading his teams out to play. The club says "well done and thank you Harry".

Our league matches have started but it is too soon to gauge how the season will pan out, we have our hopes of course.

The club tournaments are fun. The first one was the Britannia Shield for mixed triples and was won by Betty Lindley, Gladys Bunnell and Bryn Evans. The next tournament was the G Davies Round Robin. This is a different sort of tournament with lots of short matches and was won by Arthur Jones.

The 100 club winners have been A Morris, M Hughes and C Hughes.

Our call for help has been answered we had several visitors interested in the bowls. They seem to like it and want to proceed. So just keep your eye on our club – who knows where we will be this time next year.

Anyone interested in playing please ring Bill Worrall on 710702, Linda Kirkham on 740454 or me, Jo Woodruff on 781276



FORTHCOMING EVENTS ON HALKYN MOUNTAIN

Halkyn Mountain Common Heritage

Sunday 8th June 2pm - 4pm

Booking Essential (Adults only)

Discover the spectacular countryside of Halkyn and its industrial heritage

Children's Pond Dip - Halkyn Mountain

Sunday 8th June 2pm - 4pm

Booking & Wellies Essential

Halkyn Quarry Tours - Pant y Pwll Dwr Quarry

Thurs 26th June 5.30pm - 7pm

Thurs 17th July 5.30pm - 7pm

Booking Essential Very popular so book early.

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

Wear sturdy footwear or wellies if it's wet.

Please let us know in advance if you would like to attend any of these events by ringing Wepre Park Visitor Centre on 01244 814931

Halkyn Sports Association Summer Club News

- North Wales Caravan rally 6\7\8 June.
- Bingo Friday 13 June all welcome.
- Car Treasure hunt Saturday 14th June meet at the club for 7pm, find treasure across Halkyn, Brynford, Rhosesmor.
- HSA fun day Sunday 27 July from 11am in aid of Macmillan charity - stall holders welcome contact Debbie Paul.
- Halkyn Radio Group will be holding examinations every Wednesday throughout the summer months, after gaining accreditation.
- Memberships are due, cost to remain the same £5 per person and £10 per family.
- New committee members are welcome meetings every 2 weeks at club, contact Debbie Paul.
- Quiz nights every Wednesday from 8.45, cash prizes, new teams welcome for any further information contact Debbie Paul.
- Tug of war Training throughout the summer on Thursday nights contact Don Barker at the club.
- Pigeon club meeting every Friday throughout the Summer from 6pm.
- Cricket every Saturday throughout the summer bar open from 4pm.
- Football on summer break, pre season will start early July at the club.
- Congratulations go to Halkyn Reserves who have won the Halkyn Cup against Holywell.
- Club has changed brewers from Sam Smiths, we have installed on draft Brains SA Bitter, Fosters - Carling Lager and Symonds cider.
- Function room for hire please contact Club and leave message on answer phone or contact Debbie Paul on 07990550612.

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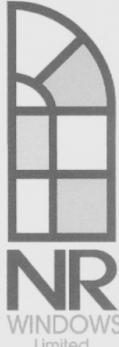
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