Halkyn Mountain News

Coronavirus Issue 182 - Autumn 2020

What's where:

Page

2 Editorial,
Halkyn Community Council,
Halkyn Christmas Party

4 Danny the Donkey,
Halkyn Cricket Club.

5 Hannah Blythyn M.S.

6 Halkyn Kids Club

7 Capel Bethel y Nant,
Rhes y Cae & Moel y Crio Show,
Chapel Services.

8 onwards - Advertising.

Holywell Museum

Here at the Holywell Museum (bubbling allowed) we have been busy preparing exhibits and hope that by now we are in restricted opening (no cafe yet) back up and running.

We have quite a few new additions and have been working on a 'living room' which we hope you will enjoy and will evoke some happy memories for you. We also have a dressing table display with some vintage costumes, kitchen and washday corner and an 'Homage to the NHS' exhibit

Still hoping to start up the 'Reminiscence group' and craft sessions.
Also we are offering to help anyone who wishes to write their family stories for their loved ones - to organise your ideas and help you to write it up.

Another new idea is "A Holywell House through Time" - did you watch the TV programme? Can't guarantee the presenter (shame) but maybe your house has had many owners and has an interesting history you would like to share with us - we would love to have it included in our archives.

You don't have to wait until lockdown is over to get involved in the family stories or the house through time project - if you are interested please call me or email me and we can start go get the ball rolling on those ideas.
If you have anything to contribute - possessions to lend or talent and experience to add to ours and would like to get involved with our happy band of volunteers please get in touch with me - Andrea on
01352 711240 or yarnell2017@gmail.com
I would love to hear from you.

Please submit items by November 1st for issue 183, which should be out in December 2020.
You can email items to **hmnews@btinternet.com**
If you have any questions you can call Jack McIntyre on 01352 780 377

Editorial

Once again we have taken the decision to publishing this edition on-line only. Again we would therefore be grateful if readers would please spread the word that there will be no paper copies delivered this quarter. We appreciate that some of our usual readers may not have online access, but we have to consider the practical issues of arranging printing and delivery which involves a large number of volunteers.

Given the lockdown and restrictions, many events have been cancelled or postponed so this also impacts on the amount of content available to us.

As with the last online edition, we have also taken the decision that there will be no charge to the advertisers appearing in this online edition. Many of the adverts have been placed in advance and not all advertisers will be currently able to operate normally.

As always welcome new contributions.

These continue to be challenging times and we hope everyone stays safe and well.

With best wishes,

The Editorial Team

Halkyn Pensioners Christmas Party

As one of the organisers of the Party each year I have been making some enquiries and it seems that due to COVID-19 this year we will not be in a position to go ahead with our usual yearly Christmas Party at the Blue Bell Inn.

Jane Carney

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

The Halkyn Mountain News will be available to read or download in full colour from the Halkyn Council & Community Website - halkyn.org.uk

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

Halkyn Community Council

Criminal Offences Reported Within the Community

The following offences were reported to the Community Council by North Wales Police:

Halkyn - 1 x Drink/Drug Driving – male tested positive for cocaine and cannabis at the roadside. 1 x Criminal Damage – BT telephone exchange by kicking the door panels. 1 x Interference with Motor Vehicle – Pant y Gof area - dents on both sliding doors. 1 x ASB Environment – off road bikers on the mountain had been unloaded from vans; Officer caught up with vans and took details. 1 x ASB Environment – 4x4 Nissan sighted driving over Halkyn Mountain; caller videoed vehicle and was able to capture VRM; Section 59 ticket to driver/owner of the vehicle and provided words of advice regarding driving on common land. 2 x Suspicious circumstances – suspicious white Transit van in the area driving up farm tracks/drives and asking about scrap metal. 1 x Dangerous Dog – sheep has been found with injuries consistent with a dog attack; no witnesses/CCTV and unknown suspect animal; rural crime team dealing. 1 x Arson - Two teenage males seen to be setting fire to a tree stump near to disused quarry in Milwr area. 1 x Dangerous Dog - Suspected dog attack on sheep resulting in death of a sheep. 7 x Dangerous Driving - Reports that a car had been driving at local walkers/ families whilst they were walking around the Halkyn area. Vehicle registration details were provided. 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour - group of youths reported to have been seen going into the Old Milwr Quarry.

Pentre Halkyn - 1 x Wounding – road rage incident involving two vehicles on A55 near Pentre Halkyn – male used a hammer to assault the other vehicle driver. 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – 3 x males viewed on CCTV by owners of building from their home address - two were arrested and taken into custody. 1 x Criminal Damage in Allt y Plas - car had been scratched 3 times since November. 1 x Theft From Motor Vehicle – back door of work's van forced open and £700 worth of tools stolen from work van in Springfield Hotel car park. 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – suspicious male walking through Pentre Halkyn at 02:48am wearing all grey and looking into people's houses. 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – stolen campervan, tracker followed by Roads Policing to area near Springfield Hotel; campervan recovered. 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – reports that 4 persons were acting suspiciously in the doorway of the Community Centre on Allt y Plas; individuals moved on and no damage was found. 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – suspicious vehicle in the vicinity of The Nant, possibly a dark colored Toyota Corola at 02.00am. 1 x Arson – at 15:00hrs a group of youths set fire to a sleeping bag at the back of a residential property which spread to the fence panel. 1 x Drink/ Drug Driver - Male stopped on A55 near to Springfield Hotel and provided positive drug swipe; male arrested and taken into custody. 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour - 6/7 males on scrambler bikes on grazing

land. 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour - group of people swimming in Pant Quarry; offenders were moved on by security. 1 x Suspicious Circumstances - 3 males suspected to be breaking into Pant Quarry. 1 x Anti-Social Behaviour – Pant Quarry, 5 vehicles and 10 males swimming in quarry pond; Police patrols increased in area.

Rhosesmor - 1 x Dangerous Dog – dog has been off the lead on common land and has been worrying sheep; Rural Crime Team involved and dealing with incident; LEAD letter issued to owner of the dog. 1 x Burglary Dwelling – rear window smashed and untidy search of unoccupied property.

Rhes y Cae: No reported criminal offences.

Vehicle Activated Signage (VAS) in Pentre Halkyn: Councillor Colin D'Arcy brought to the attention of Councillors, the concerns of himself and residents in relation to speeding traffic in the Pentre Halkyn area. Whilst the Community Council have agreed, in principle, to install Vehicle Activated Signage, the County Council have been asked to place 'monitoring tubes' in various areas of Pentre Halkyn. This will identify the areas for priority installation, including the current traffic usage in the Village.

Street Scene
The following items of concern have been reported to Flintshire County Council:

- B5123 Road - travelling from St. Mary's Church, Halkyn to area of the former Central Stores. Could the pavements be swept due to leaves which has made the hill pavement slippery?
- Road from Blue Bell to Middle Mill – missing grid by Old Chapel, which is causing water to cross the road.
- Road from Blue Bell to Middle Mill – water on road near Plas y Parc.
- Road from Blue Bell to Middle Mill – pot-holes in a number of places.
- Rhosesmor to Groes Road – pot-holes.
- Complaint received by Council: Signage on Martin's Hill. The road is named Allt y Plas, not Martin's Hill. Can the sign be changed?
- Vehicle activated speed indication sign – travelling from Halkyn to Rhosesmor – is faulty.
- Shone's Lane, Berth Ddu - pot-holes.
- Shone's Lane, Berth Ddu – gullies require cleaning.
- Cattle grid on B5123 road – St. Mary's Church Hill, Halkyn. Catch on gate is apparently defective and is allowing sheep to gain egress from the mountain area.
- Willowfield Road area in Pentre Halkyn. A number of pot-holes.
- Request for a red dog-bin in the Willowfield area of Pentre Halkyn.
- Speed signage on B5123 road – top of hill near to the Red Lion, Rhosesmor. The sign is not clearly visible due to foliage growing around it.

Planning Applications:

The Community Council passed comments in relation to the following planning applications, which had been received from Flintshire County Council:

(1) Application number 060909 – for a replacement dwelling beyond settlement boundary at The Shack, Windmill, Pentre Halkyn. (2) Application number: 061032 – for a two storey side extension to existing dwelling – for a detached garage, at Warren Bank, Wern y Gaer, Moel y Crio. (3) Application number: 060579 – for the creation of a track to provide vehicle access, at Nant Cottage, the Nant. (4) Application number: 061256 - for approval of details reserved by condition no's 22 (Restoration Scheme) and 23 (Aftercare Details) attached to planning permission reference no 98/20/01239, at Tarmac Central Ltd Pant Quarry, Halkyn. (5) Application number: 061181 – for erection of rear single storey extension and attached garage to side of dwelling, at Bryn y Maen, Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn. (6) Application number: 061227 – for extensions to roof space and side of dwelling, at Ty Groes Faen, Moel y Crio. (7) Application number: 061342 – for erection of two storey side extension, at 10 Cae'r Onnen, Pentre Halkyn.

The Community Council response to the above applications can be found in the Council Minutes - which can be viewed on the web site address below.

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

(1) Application number: 060749 – for single storey rear extension, at Noddfa, Wern Road, Rhosesmor. Approved. (2) Application number: 060353 – for approval of details reserved by condition number 8 (Great Crested Newts – handler details) (No 8 Great Crested Newts) attached to planning application number: 050710, at The Bungalow, Rhosesmor. Refused. (3) Application number: 060828 – for Lawful development certificate for the proposed erection of a rear extension, at 1 Old Hall Cottages, Halkyn. Refused. (4) Application number: 061019 – for approval of details reserved by condition no's 3 and 4 (great Crested Newt Conservation Plan and Method Statement attached to planning permission ref: 060749, at Noddfa, Wern Road, Rhosesmor. Approved. (5) Application number: 061032 – for two storey side extension to existing dwelling, detached garage, at Warren Bank, Wern y Gaer, Moel Y Crio. Refused. (6) Application number: 059596 – for change of use from shooting range to holiday lodges, at Pen y Parc Farm, Pant y Gof, Halkyn. Approved.

Donations and Financial Support:
£1,500 - Rhes y Cae Village Hall Committee - towards the installation of a new central heating boiler.
£1,500 - Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee - towards annual running costs.

Phillip Parry,
Clerk to Halkyn Community Council
Tel: 01352 720547
E-mail: clerk@halkyn.org.uk
Web Site: www.halkyn.org.uk

A few words from Danny the Donkey

I feel very fortunate to live in such a beautiful place. I have plenty of space to wander and as well as the grass there is always a variety of things to tempt my taste buds which change throughout the seasons. As I wander around, I have plenty of time to think and while most of the time they are just general day to day thoughts sometimes I have deeper thoughts which lead me on various thinking journeys.

One such deeper thought recently was about the influence that humans have on the lives of us animals. I suspect that humans don't really appreciate how much animals may be influenced by such things as an overheard conversation as they assume we don't understand. One such example is names. My human friends gave me my name, "Danny" when I was young. I like the name and visitors come to the fence and call it so I know they have come to see me and more often than not bring me a tasty treat. My late Mother Ginny always called me "Son" and other things as well when she was in a bad mood.

My human friends have two children who have now moved away to their own stables. I have known them all my life so by now I do know their names. However, when I was younger I thought they were called "Timefor" and "Dinner" as this is what my human friends called out when they wanted them to return to their stable.

Sheep however haven't showed much interest in names. Ewes and their lambs have different bleats to identify each other so a lamb's "name" may just be a unique bleat. However, following some new sheep joining the mountain flock, things have begun to change. Some ewes like to stand out by giving their lambs human names.
Returning to human influence, one such Ewe had settled herself down for the night near a human stable on the mountain called Hawthorne Cottage and she overheard a conversation between two humans. They were saying a lot of complimentary things about another person such as "She's in lovely condition", "She's looking good for her age" and "She's surprisingly powerful". They repeated the name several times and the ewe liked it, especially given the number of nice things they had said also said about the individual. So when her lamb was born, the ewe gave it the same name - "Lamb Retta". I'm not sure if I approve of these modern names, but strangely that particular lamb is indeed in lovely condition and is growing into a powerful sheep.

Another of my thoughts was about humans and ponies. Ponies often pass by my field but never have time to stop and chat as they have humans sitting on top of them. I have never been able to work out why the humans do this or why they put drinking bowls on their heads when sitting on a pony. I did wonder whether it might be that ponies have no sense of direction and need a human to guide it.

Sometimes my deep thoughts can keep me interested for a long time. An overheard conversation or something unusual passing my field can set my mind off in all directions. Time to clear my head I think and head off to look for something tasty.

Stay safe and may you always have carrots.
Bye for now,

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

Halkyn Cricket Club

Due to the covid-19 pandemic , league cricket did not commence until 25th July. The North Wales Cricket League decided to regionalise the competition. With Halkyn CC placed in an EIGHT club mini-league. The furthest trips are now to Abergele in the west and Marchwiel to the east.

The first league games of the season saw both teams face local rivals Carmel. Carmel 1st XI beat Halkyn by 58 runs. Carmel posted 145, pick of the Halkyn bowlers were captain Gareth Thomas, Ben Wilbraham and Alex North who all took two wickets. Halkyn 1stXI reply never really got goin and they were stopped on 87
Halkyn 2nd XI fared better and won a low scoring affair by the narrow margin of three runs. Halkyn 2nd XI scored 110 largely thanks to opening batsman Tony Green who top scored with 31. Carmel were just stopped short on 107, Josh Edwards took the bowling honours with 4-25.

On Sunday 26th July Halkyn made the trip to the delightful Cheshire home of Tattenhall to play in the 1st Round of the National Village Cup. Tattenhall eventually proved to be too strong and were convincing winners by 80 runs. Tattenhall posted 178 ,and Halkyn were restricted to 98. Only Timmy Davies prospered with the bat scoring a patient 35.

With nine more games still scheduled and the season extended until Sat. 19th Sept. both teams will be looking to make up for lost time ,and hopefully gain a few victories.

Halkyn CC were scheduled to include an Under 11 Junior team but unfortunately the season was cancelled.

Halkyn CC are hugely indebted to their loyal ground staff for keeping Pant Newydd in fine shape and ready to start what will prove a curtailed season. Doug Simpson ,Eric Sparks ,Earle and Robin Morris all making big contributions. Finally a massive THANKS to all our SPONSORS, it is greatly appreciated.

Keith Williams, Secretary

Hannah Blythyn SM

Much has changed since my last contribution to Halkyn Mountain News back in January – we have seen Coronavirus touch every single one of us in some way or another, impacting the way we work, shop and socialise. The impact of the virus and the measures which the Welsh Government had to take, have been unprecedented to say the least.

I would like to give my thanks to the people of Wales, including the readers of the Halkyn Mountain News, for playing your part in helping to fight Coronavirus. The way in which you have adapted, shopping differently, supporting neighbours, maintaining social distances and practicing good hand hygiene, amongst other things has significantly reduced the spread of the virus.

In response to the challenges we have faced, and continue to face, across Wales, the Welsh Government have issued almost £2 billion in support for businesses, delivered millions of pieces of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to NHS and social care staff, and supported food delivery to our most vulnerable, as well as many other things. The support from Flintshire County Council, as well as local government across Wales, emergency services and businesses who have stepped up to the plate has been overwhelming. So many people and organisations have gone over and above to support one another in recent months, a silver lining which we must do all we can to recognise and maintain in the months and years ahead.

To recognise the contribution of individuals, groups and businesses across Delyn I have launched a Community Champions scheme, which has seen a number of nominations so far. It has been touching to hear stories of how key workers have been keeping essential services going, businesses changing the way they work, donating products to support the community, and neighbours helping one another. I will be sharing the stories on my Facebook page – Hannah Blythyn MS – and will be visiting those who have been nominated to give them my thanks and present them with pin badges and certificates. If there is anyone who you feel deserves recognition for going over and above throughout the pandemic, then please get in touch with me and I'll be sure to recognise them.

Adapting to the circumstances has been key for businesses who have provided essential services in recent months, as well as for those who reopened at the end of June, after having to close. So many local businesses changed their way of working to support their customers and communities, allowing them to continue trading and making a difference to people's lives. Expanding deliveries, introducing social distancing and other measures into their shops, developing websites and even changing their production lines, are just some examples I have heard. I am a keen supporter of independent businesses throughout the year, and I know that they need our support now more than ever. That is why I have been using my platform to highlight how businesses have adapted as part of a Love Local campaign, promoting various businesses across Delyn. From hairdressers and delis, to butchers and community shops, there are so many great independent businesses in our little corner of the world. So next time you are looking to buy something I would urge you to think – "Can I Love Local and support an independent business?"

The adaptations and changes we have all had to make – individuals and businesses alike – are likely to be with us for the foreseeable as a "new normal", as the risk of Coronavirus remains very real world-wide. I firmly believe that we must seize this opportunity to make lasting, positive changes for the future, which will improve quality of life across Delyn and indeed Wales and the world. Through hosting "Future Flintshire" sessions with constituents and businesses, I have been hearing their ideas about how we can shape the future and making lasting improvements for our communities. This has included conversations about redesigning public spaces to further support businesses and promote active travel, as well as improving education and wellbeing support for children and young people, amongst other ideas. I am currently in the process of gathering all the ideas together and plan to submit them to the Welsh Government on behalf of constituents, to feed in to their plans for Wales to "Build Back Better" as we recover as a country. I am also keen to hear ideas from the more rural areas of the constituency and would encourage readers to get in touch with me if they would be interested in participating in a Future Flintshire session, on the details at the end of this column.

I will continue to champion for further investment into our communities and into North Wales, working with residents, businesses and partners in Flintshire County Council and Welsh Government. It was great to host a briefing from the Port of Mostyn in June where I and other Members of the Senedd and Parliament, were made aware of their plans to develop a tidal lagoon across the Dee Estuary. The project would create hundreds of jobs during the construction period and around 25-30 permanent jobs, the lagoon will be able to produce enough electricity to power around 80,000 Welsh homes per year. We have a proud industrial heritage here, one in which I am deeply rooted as my Taid and many members of my family worked at the Point of Ayr and I very much want to see us at the forefront of a green industrial future.

Part of our future means having the infrastructure available to help us live our daily lives, including access to good quality broadband services which, unfortunately many in our more rural communities do not enjoy. I firmly believe that broadband has become an essential utility in the 21st century and will continue to press for better infrastructure and services in our communities. If you would like to share your experiences of broadband services with me, please complete my broadband survey which can be found at www.HannahBlythyn.cymru/broadband-survey.

Finally, I have and continue to remain on hand to support constituents, organisations and businesses with any issues or ideas they may have. So if you would be interested in nominating someone as a Community Champion, or being involved in a Future Flintshire session, or just would like to chat to me about an issue, please contact me on:
01352 762102 or at Hannah.Blythyn@senedd.wales

HALKYN MOUNTAIN KIDS CLUB & HOLIDAY CLUB

SPACES AVAILABLE NOW!

We are situated in Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School. The club is registered with CIW (Care Inspectorate Wales); all staffs are DBS checked and qualified, all certificates are available to see. We welcome children from nursery age 3yrs up to year 8 in high school 14yrs.

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

£25 per child for a full day
£16 per child for half a day (till 1pm)

Opening times for After School Club only

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

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

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

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

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

Prices for After School Club only. Open 3.10pm till 5.20pm Monday to Friday Term time only
1 child for half a session (3.10pm till 4.20pm) costs £5.50
1 child for full session (3.10pm till 5.20pm) costs £8.50
2 siblings for half a session (3.10pm-4.20pm) fees are an extra £4.95 making a total for 2 children £10.45
2 siblings for full session (3.10pm-5.20pm) fees are an extra £7.65 making a total for 2 children £16.15
A 5% discount will be given to any other siblings thereafter.

For more information contact Sian Davies or Sarah Rowland (Senior Playworkers) on 01352 780265 / 07591239511 or Email us on Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com or even visit our website at www.ysgolrhoshelyg.com/holkyn-mountain-afterschool-club/

Capel Bethel y Nant

The little Chapel in the Nant has been open for over 150 years. This is the first time ever for the door to be closed except for bad weather and during the month of August.
It has been a strange experience for us all not meeting every Sunday afternoon. It will be stranger when we do open, with all the rules that have to be put in place. Doors and windows opened for an hour beforehand to allow an airflow (OK in summer). Sanitizers to be put in place. Social distancing - not a problem with so few members. No hymn singing or use of Bibles and services of just 30minutes.

Quite a few things had to be cancelled. Firstly our annual Gymanfa Ganu on June 20th. No singing echoing along the Nant, Mrs Nest Ellis' baton still at Gorsedd and Miss Margaret Williams not at her organ - a quiet night in for all.

On the 24th June we were to have a very special service, to be taken by the Reverend Eric Greene of Bala, who would have been celebrating 60 years since he preached his first service ever at the age of 18 and that in the Nant. It was not to be. However, we look forward to a better 2021.

Menna

Rhes y Cae & Moel y Crio Sheepdog Trials and Show

Normally, I would be writing a report on the 2020 show, but as everything else it was cancelled.
A quiet day at Rhes y Cae. No hustle and bustle!
The last time it was cancelled was 2001 due to the 'foot and mouth' outbreak.

We were quite lucky that the advice came down from the North Wales Sheepdog Society that all shows should be cancelled for this year before we had any of the printing done. This saved a large cost to the show.

We do hope that things will be better in 2021 and that the show will be back as usual and that we will be able to depend on all your support.

Menna

Capel Bethel y Nant

2.30 every Sunday - 2.30 Pob Dydd Sul

September	6th	Angela Bebbington
	13th	Huw Powell Davies
	15th	Maryl Rees
	20th	Prayer Meeting
	27th	Marion Simkin
October	4th	Prayer Meeting
	11th	Delyth McIntyre
	18th	Shân Morris
	25th	Eric Greene
November	1st	Maureen Roberts
	8th	Prayer Meeting
	15th	Glyn Thomas
	17th	Angela Bebbington
	22nd	Huw Powell Davies
	29th	Prayer Meeting
December	6th	Maryl Rees
	13th	Delyth McIntyre
	20th	Carol Service 2.00pm

Do join us - All welcome - Coeso Cynnes
In anticipation - Mewn Gobaith!

Capel Salem, Pentre Halkyn

Gwasanaethau/Services at 2pm.

C = Communion, W = Welsh, E = English

September	6th	Rev. Marc Morgan		W
	13th	Mrs Delyth McIntyre		E
	20th	Rev. Dr. Jennie Hurd	C	W
	27th	Rev Hugh Burgess		E
October	4th	Rev. Marc Morgan		W
	11th	No Service		
	18th	Mr David Barker Jones		W
	25th	Mr Peter Sinclair		E
November	1st	Rev. Marc Morgan		W
	8th	Miss Angela Bebbington		E
	15th	Rev. Maureen Roberts	C	E
	22nd	Rev. Dr. Jennie Hurd		W
	29th	Mrs Maryl Rees		W

A warm welcome to all.

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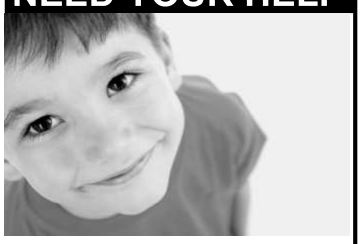

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